

# Murphy vs. Parisot, Double Sequel

NEWS, PAGE 3

The crowd in the Alden Theatre before the debate on Oct. 18, featuring the candidates for hotly-contested 34th District Virginia House seat — incumbent Kathleen Murphy (D-34) and challenger Craig Parisot (R).

## Woman's Club of McLean Gearing Up for Homes Tour

NEWS, PAGE 11

## Meet the Candidates for Supervisors, School Board

NEWS, PAGES 14-16



**MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

In town convenience! Stunning new home built by Madison Homes. Open floor plan, nine foot ceilings, three finished levels, five bedrooms, five and a half baths. Expansive master suite. \$1,990,000  
 Anne DiBenedetto 703-615-1897



**MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

New construction! One block from downtown McLean. Over 5,500 SF of living space on 4 levels. Elevators standard! Upgraded features & top craftsmanship. 5BR, 5.5BA. 2-car garage. \$1,798,000  
 Anne DiBenedetto 703-615-1897



**MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

Stunning new home by Novella Homes. 3 beautifully finished levels with wonderful attention to detail throughout. White gourmet kitchen opens to FR. Wonderful master suite. \$1,675,000  
 Diane Lewis 703-973-7001



**MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

Gorgeous colonial with inviting front porch. Custom craftsmanship & designer touches. Gourmet kit with new appliances & granite opens to fam rm & breakfast rm. Walk to downtown McLean. \$1,425,000  
 Diane Lewis 703-973-7001

**WE ARE PLEASED  
 TO WELCOME  
 INDUSTRY LEADERS**

**Diane Lewis  
 &  
 Barbara Lewis**

**TO OUR FIRM**



**MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

Beautiful, Williamsburg colonial on .5 acre lot backing to trees. Rich mouldings, two fireplaces, luxury master suite and Southern style screened porch. Minutes to Tysons Metro. \$1,299,000  
 Marianne Prendergast 703-676-3030



**MCLEAN, VIRGINIA**

Beautiful 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath townhouse in the center of McLean. Open floor plan with gourmet kitchen adjoining family room. French doors to Georgetown patio. \$1,125,000  
 Marianne Prendergast 703-676-3030



**VIENNA, VIRGINIA**

Attractive colonial with 5BR on upper level. Spacious screened porch. 2-car side load garage. Beautiful, large backyard. Lots of updates. Close to Downtown Vienna. Wolf Trap Elementary. \$739,000  
 Barbara Lewis 703-887-5000



**FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA**

Beautiful and sunny condo with spectacular views. 1BR, 1.5BA + spacious & private den. Large balcony. Lots of upgrades. Premier building in Falls Church. Walk to shops and restaurants. \$450,000  
 Barbara Lewis 703-887-5000

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# Murphy vs. Parisot, Double Sequel

**34th District has history of close elections.**

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he 34th-District House of Delegates race between Kathleen Murphy (D) and Craig Parisot (R) is a rematch of the special election triggered last November when Barbara Comstock (R) was elected to the U.S. Congress.

Murphy received 51.23 percent of the vote, and defeated Parisot who received 48.63 percent in the low-turnout special election.

Murphy received 6,419 votes to Parisot's 6,093 votes.

"I was elected in January in a special election on a very cold snowy day," said Murphy at the Great Falls Grange debate with Parisot in late September. "I was elected on a Tuesday, sworn in on a Thursday, and went to work immediately. My first session in the the General Assembly, I demonstrated commitment to working across party lines, to listening, to advocating on behalf of this community. My priorities have been and continue to be growing our economy, supporting our public schools, addressing our infrastructure needs and keeping our families and children safe."

She and Parisot debated again at the McLean Community Center on Sunday, Oct. 18, a forum hosted by the McLean Citizens Association.

"I am proud and very honored and I can tell you when I took the oath of office it was overwhelming," she said. "I take this very seriously. I look at this job as a commitment to this community to represent you in the strongest way I can."

Craig Parisot also gave voice to the importance of public service.

"It has a long tradition in my family. I have lived my own version of the American Dream, starting life with little and building successful companies. I'm grateful for these opportunities that I had, and I want to make sure this and future generations have the same," he said. "My entire professional career has involved identifying trends, determining strategy and devising solutions. Virginia can and should be number one for business, number one for jobs, and number one for quality of life."

**THE 34TH DISTRICT** has a history of close elections.

In 2013, Murphy lost to Barbara

**Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) at the Oct. 18 debate in McLean.**



PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

**"When I took the oath of office it was overwhelming. I look at this job as a commitment to this community."**

— Kathleen Murphy (D-34)

Comstock 50.64 percent to 49.21 percent. Murphy received 14,540 votes to Comstock's 14,962.

In 2012, Barack Obama and Mitt Romney literally tied in the district, each receiving 18,688 votes, according to according to Virginia Public Access Project.

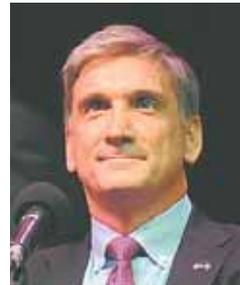
The 34th district is made up of 69 percent Fairfax County and 31 percent Loudoun County. U.S. Sen. Mark Warner carried the district by a little more than 1,000 votes in 2014. The 34th district is Gov. Terry McAuliffe's home district, and he carried the district over Republican Ken Cuccinelli 51.86 percent to 42.28 percent in his 2013 race for Governor.

**"I'M A BUSINESS LEADER.** Having built two advanced technology companies in highly competitive start up environments, I deployed life-saving technologies for our soldiers and first responders, promoted women into key executive leadership roles, and provided salaries and health benefits for hundreds of families," said Parisot. "I have first hand experience in big data, cloud computing, analytics and cybersecurity, all technologies central to the Northern Virginia innovation economy and essential to our future."

Parisot has received \$273,697 in cash contributions of more than \$100 each, and \$13,199 in contributions of \$100 or less for his 2015 campaign, according to Virginia Public Access Project vpap.org.

Top donors for Parisot in 2015 include \$22,500 from T. Christopher Roth of McLean; \$20,000 from the House Republican Campaign Committee; \$15,700 from Lorna J. Gladstone of McLean; \$12,500

**Craig Parisot, Republican challenger for Delegate in the 34th District, at the Oct. 18 debate.**



**"Virginia can and should be number one for business, number one for jobs, and number one for quality of life."**

— Craig Parisot (R)

from Dominion Leadership Trust set up by House Speaker Bill Howell (R); \$10,000 from himself; \$10,000 from the Republican State Leadership Committee (which also gave \$50,000 to Delegate candidate Danny Vargas running for the 86 district seat vacated by Tom Rust).

**"ONE OF** the things I love the best about this community, is all the people who sit here. We are not all here because we agree, we all sit here because we care," said Murphy at the McLean debate Sunday.

"I have been your neighbor for over 25 years. I have lived here, worked here, raised my children here and my children have attended your public schools, our public schools."

Murphy has received \$304,117 in cash contributions of more than \$100 each, and \$42,683 in cash contributions of \$100 or less for her 2015 campaign.

Murphy's top donors in 2015 include \$25,000 from Karen Schaufeld, a Leesburg attorney; \$18,000 from Suzann W. Matthews of McLean; \$12,500 from Edward Hart Rice of Vienna; \$10,000 from Muslim Lakhani of D.C.

Murphy and Parisot each added just over \$100,000 in cash contributions during the month of September. Murphy showed \$233,143 cash on hand, and Parisot had \$66,512 cash on hand as of Sept. 30, according to VPAP.

**THE RACE SEEMED FRIENDLY** at the Grange even when Parisot said his opponent supports the tolling of I-66 when seconds before she said she did not.

Her words:

"Public private partnerships have been the answer in some instances but not when they get away from us like they did on the Greenway. The Greenway turned into a nightmare for everybody because nobody could afford it. ... We can't let that happen again," she said. "I know that there is a movement here to repair, rehab I-66. ... People sure don't have another way to go if you slam on another \$7 toll and no I wouldn't support that."

After Parisot made his claims, Murphy said, calmly, "I didn't say that I supported it. I didn't come here to slam Craig. He's a nice guy. We're opponents and we're not enemies and this should be a friendly debate."

Parisot countered, "I believe this is absolutely a friendly debate but we're here focused on the issues, demonstrating the contrast between myself and my opponent so you can be clear that there is a real choice," he said.

At the McLean debate on Sunday, there was more edge when the two candidates were asked what they would do about the gun store located next to Franklin Sherman Elementary School property.

"My brother was murdered. ... I don't think a gun store has any place next to a school," said Murphy. "We're working every day trying to move him to another location so he can move and parents can take a deep breath again."

**PARISOT SAID** he would handle the gun store issue differently.

"The big difference is how do we solve problems. I do it quietly. I meet with people," he said. "If we are going to do something, let's do something meaningful, let's not just wave our arms and get everybody all excited."

Parisot said, "I have three primary goals: Grow and diversify Virginia's economy, invest in education, and reduce commute times by alleviating transportation bottlenecks," he said.

He asked voters to look at his seven step economic growth plan to move Northern Virginia forward.

"We all know someone who is unemployed, underemployed, been struggling to find work or who has had their privacy compromised, and that's why it is imperative we act now," he said.

But he has the uphill battle.

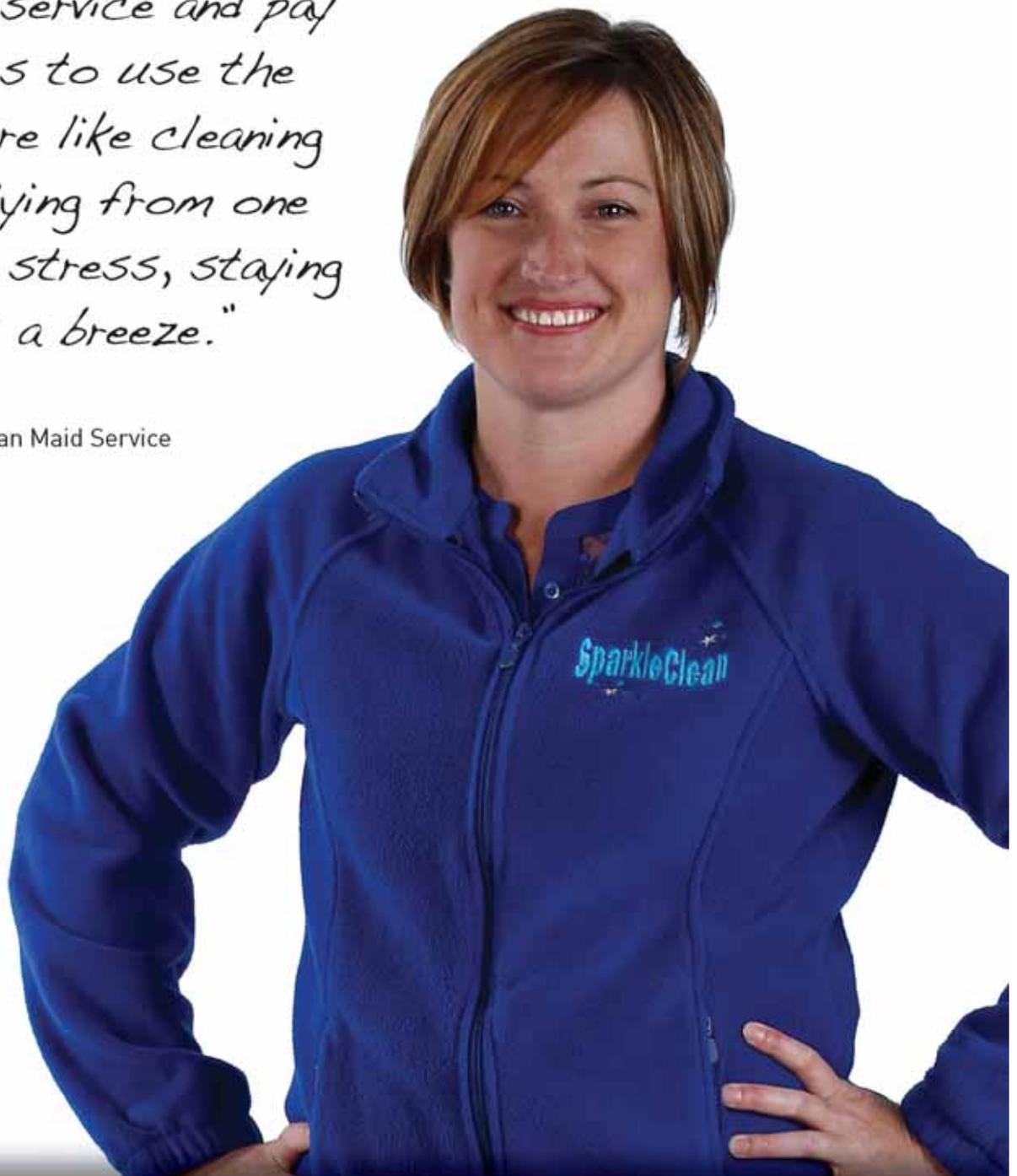
"I have a deep commitment to this community and a first hand understanding of what it takes and what the issues are that are so important to our families and our businesses here in Northern Virginia," Murphy said.

"I am Kathleen Murphy and I am your delegate," said the incumbent.

— REAL STORIES FROM THE EXPRESS LANES —

*"I own a small maid service and pay for all my employees to use the Express Lanes. We are like cleaning superheroes now, flying from one home to the next, no stress, staying on schedule, it's a breeze."*

- Sarah P.  
Owner, SparkleClean Maid Service  
Alexandria, VA



Sarah, owner of SparkleClean Maid Service, says her team loves the Express Lanes. Now, instead of sitting in traffic, they drive from home to home with ease, staying on schedule throughout the day. Then, after a busy day, the maids return home quickly via the Lanes, able to meet babysitters on time and prepare healthy meals for their families. Sarah says her maids feel spoiled by the Lanes, which in turn makes them spoil their customers. All of which has helped Sarah's business become one of the area's highest-rated maid services.

See more real stories from the Lanes at [ExpressLanes.com](http://ExpressLanes.com)



Sarah's story was one of our winning entries in our "Express Lanes Love Story" promotion.

President Joan Morton, of the McLean Woman's Club, presents a check for \$1,500 to Yolanda DeMark, Captain II, commander of the McLean Fire Station. From left: Woman's Club First Vice President Cecilia Glembocki, Station Commander Yolanda DeMark, Woman's Club President Joan Morton and Woman's Club members Laura Sheridan and Grace Harkins.



PHOTO BY FIREFIGHTER DALE SHORD

## McLean Woman's Club Donates \$1,500 To McLean Volunteer Fire Department

On Saturday, Oct. 10, the president and members of the Woman's Club of McLean presented a check for \$1,500 to the McLean Volunteer Fire Department. Station Commander Yolanda DeMark received the donation on

behalf of the department.

The fire station held its annual open house on Saturday to display its equipment, conduct rescue demonstrations, provide fire safety information and offer fun activities for families.

## Cardinal Bank Names Fabiola Tapia Branch Manager of Greensboro Office

Cardinal Bank has announced that Fabiola Tapia has been promoted to Assistant Vice President, Manager of Cardinal Bank's Greensboro Banking Office. Tapia will oversee the business development efforts and client relationship management in the Tysons Corner market. Her office is located at 8270 Greensboro Drive, McLean. Tapia joined Cardinal's retail banking team in 2013 as a float branch manager. She brings over 16 years of financial services experience to her new role at Cardinal with particular expertise in relationship management, client satisfaction and community outreach in the retail branch network environment. Prior to joining Cardinal, Tapia worked in a similar position at Wells Fargo Bank and its predecessor,



PHOTO BY MATTOX PHOTOGRAPHY

Fabiola Tapia

Wachovia Bank, advancing to positions of increased responsibility. A long-time resident of Northern Virginia, Tapia has actively participated in financial literacy outreach programs to the Hispanic community over her career.

## JOHN FOUST IS LEADING THE WAY for Fairfax County Schools



### • Supervisor for Dranesville.

John fought to fully fund the School Board budget without raising taxes — and led the bipartisan agreement which got us 99.8% of the way there!

### • Increasing funding for our schools.

John worked with the School Board to develop a plan to increase funding for school system infrastructure - without increasing taxes - and led the effort to get it passed by the Board of Supervisors.

### • Delivering full-day kindergarten.

John worked with parent advocates, School Board Members, and others to bring full-day kindergarten to ALL Fairfax County schools.

### • Protecting critical programs at local schools.

From sports to language education to the arts, John has defended many critical school programs.



**"If you care about education, John Foust has earned your vote."**  
— Fairfax County School Board Chair Pat Hynes



# Re-elect Supervisor John Foust

**He listens. He leads. He delivers.**

PAID FOR AND AUTHORIZED BY JOHN FOUST FOR SUPERVISOR

# 'They're Not Alone' New domestic violence victims screening tool launches in Fairfax County.

BY TIM PETERSON  
THE CONNECTION

**F**airfax County is taking a step forward to reduce the deaths among victims of domestic violence.

According to the police department, county domestic violence hotlines receive over 240 calls each month. Of those, victims request 64 family abuse protective orders and 13 families are able to escape to an emergency domestic shelter such as Bethany House of Northern Virginia. Within a month, police make around 160 arrests for domestic violence-related offenses.

On Oct. 1, Fairfax County Police Department Chief Edwin Roessler and Sexual Violence Services director Ina Fernández held a press conference at the Historic Fairfax Courthouse to announce the launch of a new Lethality Assessment Program. The announcement coincided with October being declared Domestic Violence Awareness month.

The model, which originated in



**Fairfax County Police Department Chief Edwin Roessler and Sexual Violence Services Director Ina Fernández announced the launch of a new Lethality Assessment Program.**

Maryland, calls for more collaboration between the police department and domestic violence service providers, as well as a screening tool for officers to more quickly and effectively respond to and refer victims to services.

A Fairfax County Domestic Violence Fatality Team found in 2013 that domestic violence accounted for about half of all murders in the county.

A response and referral tool within the Lethality Assessment Program features an 11-question

screening for patrol officers responding to domestic violence calls. The first three questions are:

1. Has he/she ever used a weapon against you or threatened you with a weapon?
2. Has he/she threatened to kill you or your children?
3. Do you think he/she might try to kill you?

If the victim answers "Yes" to any of the three, or to four of the next four in the sequence, they're determined to be "high risk" of being seriously injured or killed by

their partner and the officer then initiates a referral process using a domestic violence services hotline-dedicated phone. The victim may choose to be connected with an advocate and additional services such as shelter, or not.

Police and service providers are hoping this will empower more people in abusive situations to ask for help.

"We're concerned about unreported cases, there's a lot of trust-building we need to develop," said Chief Roessler. "We want to help victims self-initiate to take a stand and get away from violence, we want people to know they're not alone."

"It's such a tragedy those victims had not reached out," said Amy Carlini, a spokesperson for the Department of Family Services in Fairfax County. "A lot of times the most dangerous thing for a victim is trying to leave a situation."

All Fairfax County Police patrol officers received training in the Lethality Assessment Program in spring of 2015 and the department began implementing it in July. Since then, the department re-

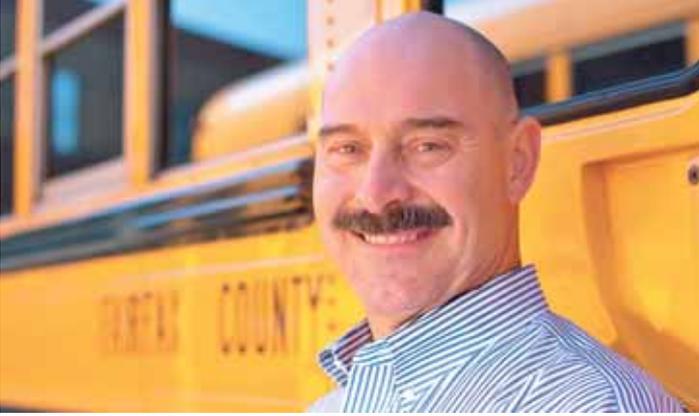
ported their findings that:

- ❖ Over half of the cases were determined to be high-risk
- ❖ 33 percent of the high-risk cases involved a firearm
- ❖ 64 percent of the cases involved a history of strangulation
- ❖ 55 percent of the cases involved a history of stalking

Fernández said an internal committee comprised of representatives from the police department and victims services, office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, Domestic Violence Action Center, office for Women & Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, Bethany House of Northern Virginia and other organizations will continually review the program and complete assessments at the three, six, nine and 12-month marks.

"It's in the beginning stages," she said, "but we're hopeful we can continue to reevaluate it."

For more information on Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/domesticviolence/#Announcements](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/domesticviolence/#Announcements).



**PETE Kurzenhauser**  
SCHOOL BOARD  
FRESH VIEW. FAIR SHARE.  
[www.KurzenhauserForSchoolBoard.com](http://www.KurzenhauserForSchoolBoard.com)

VOTE FOR PETE TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3RD

**McLEAN, GREAT FALLS, AND HERNDON SCHOOLS DESERVE NEW LEADERSHIP ON THE FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD.**

**PRIORITIES FOR DRANESVILLE SCHOOLS**

- Fair share of the budget
- Reduce overcrowded classrooms
- Retain teachers with competitive pay
- Close the \$70m budget gap responsibly

"I WILL LISTEN TO YOU, BECAUSE MY KIDS ATTEND FCPS, TOO"

FACEBOOK.com/PeteKurzenhauserSchoolBoard  
[www.KurzenhauserForSchoolBoard.com](http://www.KurzenhauserForSchoolBoard.com)  
Paid For and Authorized by Friends of Pete Kurzenhauser

Re-elect  
**John T. Frey**  
Clerk of the Court



**Experienced leadership making our circuit court work for YOU!**

- Reduced the time citizens serve as jurors by 75%
- First in the Commonwealth to develop procedural brochures for the public
- Automated the jury management, probate, marriage license, and land records processes

**During his 24 years of service John Frey has:**

- Received recognition as a Virginia Leader in the Law (2015)
- Received a Freedom of Information Award the Virginia Coalition For Open Government (2013)
- Received recognition as the Public Official of the Year (2006)

**Vote Tuesday, November 3rd**  
PAID FOR AND AUTHORIZED BY FRIENDS OF JOHN FREY

**BULLETIN BOARD**

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to north@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication.

**THURSDAY/OCT. 22**

**How-To Immigration Seminar.** 10:30 a.m.-noon. Moss and Company, 1750 Tysons Blvd., Suite 1500, McLean. Complete your marriage petition and adjustment of status application (Green Card) guided by an attorney. Hands-on seminar where you will be guided in building your package and preparing it for filing. Must register to reserve a spot. Limited space. \$150. Call 407-342-6605 or rmoos@mossimmigration.com to register.

**SATURDAY/OCT. 24**

**Community Shredding Day.** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Long and Foster parking lot, 1355 Beverly Road, McLean. Here's your opportunity to clear your office of dated papers. Bring your friends as well, if they have papers that need shredding in preparation for a move, or just want to shred old documents to make more space in an office.

**DEADLINE SATURDAY/OCT.31**

**Poetry Contest** Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Arts and Letters Committee is sponsoring a poetry contest for Fairfax County Public Middle School students. The poetry title is: Silhouette of a Woman: An Influential Female in My Life. The submissions will be reviewed for awards of \$125 for first place, \$75 for second place, and \$50 for third place. www.fcacdst.org. Poetry Contest deadline for submission is October 30th. Email entries and inquiries can be sent to: artsandletters@fcacdst.org. Mailed entries must be postmarked by October 30th and sent to: Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. P.O. Box 221224 Chantilly, VA 20153-1224.

**TUESDAY/NOV. 10**

**Red Cross Blood Donation.** 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Long and Foster Realtors, 1355 Beverly Road, McLean. McLean is holding a blood drive. Please sign up today at www.redcrossblood.org and search by Sponsor Code: LONGANDFOSTERMCLEAN or call 1-800-REDCROSS to schedule your appointment.

**Fire Station Open House.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Great Falls Volunteer Fire Station, 9916 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Firefighter demonstrations, station tours and fun instructional activities will be available for children and adults alike. Come learn about fire safety and why it's so important.

**ONGOING**

The **Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna** has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area seniors to medical appointments 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 or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 703-281-5086 or email volunteer@scov.org.

**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.

# CHINESE ART AND ANTIQUES



Beijing HH Art International Fund  
北京萬通國際藝術品基金

## Free Appraisal Day & Cash buying Event

Beijing HH International Art Fund is the first art foundation in China dedicated to the preservation and collection of Chinese art & Antiques. Base in Beijing and founded in 2004, we now have over \$75 million under our management. We are excited to launch our newest venture in the US by hosting Free Appraisal and Cash Buying events in Connecticut, Massachusetts & Rhode Island. Please check our website frequently for updates on event schedules. We welcome collectors, scholars, dealers and institutions to participate in our event and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Top price will be paid for the following items: Chinese jade, ceramics, bronzes, Cloisonné, Buddhist figures, robes, embroideries, Snuff bottles, photographs, furniture, watercolors & paintings etc. and we are interested in purchasing art works from one piece to an entire collection.

**Flexible Payment Methods:** Cash, Check & Wire Transfer.

We are always buying Chinese Art and Antiques from one piece to entire collection. If you missed our event, please call us and we can arrange a date to see you



• Earn 10% Referral Fee if you refer a friend or family to us.

Free in home appraisal available for larger pieces

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# Delegate Kathleen Murphy is working hard for us!

Kathleen Murphy is working with Democrats and Republicans to get things done.

- ✓ To give every child a world-class education.
- ✓ To grow our economy.
- ✓ To keep our community safe from gun violence.

Re-elect Delegate Kathleen Murphy.  
**Vote Tuesday, November 3rd**

www.MurphyForDelegate.com @KMurphyVA  
/KathleenMurphyforDelegate

Paid for and authorized by Kathleen Murphy for Delegate

ENDORSED BY:  
Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce's NOVA BizPAC  
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Trees • Shrubs • Perennials • Mums • Pansies  
Bulbs • Sod • Ornamental Cabbage & Kale

Pumpkins • Gourds • Cornstalks • Fall Decorating Ideas

**6th Annual Dog Halloween Costume Contest**  
Saturday, October 31 – Gainesville store  
Registration begins at noon - Contest at 1 pm  
Grand prize \$100 Merrifield Gift Card  
Plus Additional Prizes – Rain or Shine

**FREE SEMINARS**  
Saturday, October 24 at 10 am  
Merrifield: Trends in Urban Gardening  
Fair Oaks: Four Season Gardening  
Gainesville: Prune Like a Pro: Part 1  
Full schedules available in our stores and on our website

Look for unadvertised plant specials throughout the nursery!

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Fall Hours: Monday – Saturday 8 am – 7 pm, Sunday 9 am – 6 pm

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McLean Ward and Bill Carlos Z.

**WASHINGTON INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW**

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LONGINES

**WEEK**

**PTA Resolution Calls for Gun Store Free Zone**

The Franklin Sherman Elementary School (FSES) PTA approved a resolution last week that signals the parents' strong support for a gun store free school zone near the McLean elementary school. The resolution states that FSES PTA favors a gun store free school zone and will support efforts to relocate a gun store that recently opened next to the school of 420 students.

Franklin Sherman PTA parents believe federal and state law allowing gun stores near schools, and the Virginia open carry gun law, make it more difficult for officials to assess a threat to the school and deal with it effectively.

NOVA Firearms opened its store at 1389 Chain Bridge Road on Sept. 26. The rear of the gun store is located approximately 100 feet from the school building. The two properties are separated by a simple chain link fence.

The arrangement is allowed because the Federal Gun-Free School Zones Act permits the sale of firearms, ammunition and accessories, as well as, the carrying and transportation of loaded firearms, on private property that is within a school zone.

The federal statute would allow state and local government to regulate gun stores, but Virginia law expressly prohibits local government, including Fairfax County, from stopping gun stores from opening near schools. Virginia law also allows the open carry of guns in public areas.

The resolution reads: the FSES PTA supports a gun store free school zone within 1,000 feet of the school property and will take necessary actions to relocate The Gun Store an appropriate distance from the school to provide a safe learning environment for students, families, and staff.

**Registration Open for McLean WinterFest Parade**

McLean WinterFest parade is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 6. To register to be in the parade, go to the WinterFest site at [www.mcleanwinterfest.org](http://www.mcleanwinterfest.org). It's fun to relive last year's parade with the slideshow of entries while planning for WinterFest 2015,

SEE WEEK, PAGE 9

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

**RE-ELECT DEMOCRAT**

**STATE SENATOR BARBARA FAVOLA**

- WOMEN'S HEALTH**  
Endorsed by Planned Parenthood and NARAL and chairs the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee
- HEALTH CARE**  
A fierce advocate for Medicaid Expansion and passed several consumer protection bills
- EDUCATION**  
Endorsed by the Virginia Education Association
- INCOME DISPARITY**  
Sponsored legislation to allow localities to raise the minimum wage
- ENVIRONMENT**  
Endorsed by the Sierra Club and the Virginia League of Conservation Voters
- GUN SAFETY**  
Fought to take guns away from those convicted of certain domestic violence crimes. Working to prohibit gun shops near schools
- LGBTQ EQUALITY**  
Sponsored legislation to report LGBT-related hate crimes. Endorsed by Equality Virginia

**vote**  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD  
POLLS ARE OPEN 6AM-7PM

Paid for and Authorized by Favola for State Senate

# NEWS

## Annual Teddy Bear 5K and Walk/Run at Pimmit Hills.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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

## Adopt Donate Volunteer

lostdogandcatrescue.org





**NVHG**  
Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild

**8th Annual South Run Art & Craft Show**

October 31  
9am - 4pm  
November 1  
10am - 4pm



**South Run RECenter**  
7550 Reservation Dr.  
Springfield, VA 22153

**\$3 Admission**  
**Free Parking**  
[www.NVHG.org](http://www.NVHG.org)

## 300 Compete in Third Annual Teddy Bear 5K & 1K Walk/Run

More than 300 runners and walkers of all ages turned out for the Third Annual Teddy Bear 5K & 1K Walk/Run on Sunday, Sept. 27, to benefit the Falls Church-McLean Children's Center, a nonprofit, early childhood education program in which children from low-income, working families build the skills they need to be ready for success in school. Male and female winners of the 5K Race were Jeff Homens, 26, of Washington, D.C., with a time of 18:46, and Nicole Mancini, 33, of Warrenton, Va., who came in at 19:55 on the race's new course through Pimmit Hills neighborhood. All 5K and 1K runners and walkers received a teddy bear as they crossed the finish line from elected officials Fairfax Supervisor John Foust and Virginia Del. Kathleen Murphy, and officers of the McLean Community

Foundation, a long-time supporter of the Children's Center.

The event raised \$30,000 for the Children's Center's annual fund to keep the full-time, year-round educational program for children ages 2 thru 5 affordable and accessible to all families. While their parents work, 73 children each year build the language, cognitive, physical, and social-emotional skills through the Center's bilingual curriculum to avoid a learning gap that otherwise prevents children from low-income families from academic success.

Other winning runners included: 15-17 Division, Ginny Brough, McLean, 26:06; Adults 19-39 Division, Erica Losito, McLean, 25:33; 50-59 Division, Ted Poulos, McLean, 19:51; 60-69 Division, Jan Bojo, Vienna, 25:51.

Visit [www.fcmlcc.org](http://www.fcmlcc.org) for more photos and race results.

### WEEK

FROM PAGE 8

McLean's only community parade.

Again this year, WinterFest will present a check to Share of McLean, the local organization that does so much to help families in need. "We'll be asking parade observers and participants to share their good fortune with those who have fallen on hard times by bringing grocery, pharmacy or clothing store gift cards to the parade for Share volunteers to collect," said Trish Butler, chair of the parade steering committee. "We'll also be looking for local businesses to become sponsors of the parade to help underwrite the costs."

The parade route will be the same as previous years: Old Chain Bridge Road from Fleetwood Road to Elm Street. The parade route will be closed 2:15-5:30 p.m. on Dec. 6. The only exceptions to the road closure by the police will be

in the event of emergency.

- ❖ There is still no fee to be an entry in the parade, but any business or group wanting to participate must register by Nov. 23.

- ❖ WinterFest 2015 will have food trucks again this year in the Langley Shopping Center.

- ❖ Peggy Fox from WUSA/Channel 9 will call the parade from the Fairfax County Showmobile situated in Langley Shopping Center. Pre-parade entertainment will be provided by local schools and will be introduced by Bill DuBose.

- ❖ The pre-parade entertainment begins at 2:30 p.m.

- ❖ The parade will step off at 3:30 p.m. sharp.

Individuals, who might like to participate in the planning of this year's WinterFest or who would be interested in volunteering as marshals on parade day, should contact Trish Butler at 703-917-0611. For more information on WinterFest and this year's rules, go to [www.mcleanwinterfest.org](http://www.mcleanwinterfest.org)

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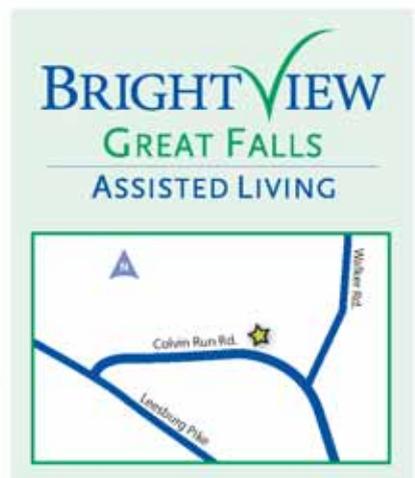
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## Election Coverage for an Informed Vote

Find stories, candidate questionnaires, letters and photos.

EDITORIAL

This week and next week are the last two publication dates before Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3. Our pages and website are full of coverage, letters, candidate questionnaires and photos of the campaign trail in an effort to help voters decide to vote and which candidates hold

views closest to their own.

Virtually every state and local office is on the ballot. Find previous coverage and complete coverage on our website [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com), click on Elections. Because many districts in Virginia resemble spiky amoebas, it is sometimes diffi-

cult to include every race that might impact a town or community in the print editions.

Please take the time to vote, it matters. In Virginia, key races that have affected policy have been decided by fractions of one percent. Your vote can make a difference.

We will not be endorsing in any race this year. I'm keeping this short to allow more room for letters to the editor.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Endorsing Incumbents

To the Editor:

Why would NOVABizPAC endorse the candidate who has bragged about being in politics her whole life over the candidate who has built two startups, is a current CEO, and is greatly respected across Northern Virginia's business community? The answer is actually quite simple.

NOVABizPAC likes to retain a positive relationship with all current lawmakers so that it can more easily persuade them in its lobbying efforts. That's why they have a policy to endorse incumbents. NOVABizPAC endorsed Del. Kathleen Murphy not because of what she has done, but because of the position she holds - the result of a close election on a snowy day in January. Had less than two hundred votes swung the other way in that contest, NOVABizPAC would be supporting delegate Craig Parisot, just as they supported candidate Craig Parisot when he and Murphy interviewed for the endorsement in December.

Nadia Ayoubi  
McLean

The answers that the candidates gave on a simple question were instructive.

Supervisor John Foust and Delegate Kathleen Murphy directly answered that they opposed the location of that gun store next to Franklin Sherman and were working to find another location for the store.

In contrast, while claiming to possess leadership qualities warranting your vote, Craig Parisot and Jennifer Chronis decried the "politicizing" of the issue, and then in discussing what they'd do about it "ducked and dodged" like Mohammed Ali at his finest. Indeed, Chronis spent most of her answer defending the rights of the gun store owners! Instead of demonstrating leadership, they were a profile in cowardice. Why don't parents and the community have the right to be upset, and to ask their leaders to take a stand? Why didn't Parisot and Chronis just say they support the rights of the gun store owners over the safety of our children, and let voters decide? On this simple issue alone, Parisot and Chronis have clearly demonstrated why they don't deserve your vote this fall.

Steven Bloom  
McLean

Barnett, president of the MCA, gently reminded me, my boos did not comport with community standards. So, out of respect to Jeff, the MCA and the audience, I ceased my aberrant behavior. It was hard and I had to go to a "quiet place" inside my brain when Jennifer Chronis spoke, but I did it.

Contrast my behavior with that of NOVA Firearms, the gun store located less than 100 feet from Franklin Sherman Elementary School on Chain Bridge Road in downtown McLean. Yes, the current law allows them to be there, but it comes at a great cost to the concerns of the students, parents, teachers and administration at Franklin Sherman. Is that customer toting that new gun to his car a danger to the school? Is there a risk to our students and staff? Out of respect to the community, NOVA Firearms should move to another location at least 1,000 feet from any schools, churches, synagogues, mosques or other places of worship. Constitutional rights are one thing, but community standards should also be considered when locating gun shops.

Greg Brandon  
McLean

especially important because the best predictor of future abuse is past abuse. That bill died in Committee; looks like the majority is more sympathetic to the gun rights of violent offenders than to the safety of victims of domestic violence.

Linda Burchfiel  
McLean

#### Chamber Endorses Incumbents

To the Editor:

NOVABizPAC declined to interview the 34th District's two candidates for delegate this year. Instead, they made it their default position to endorse Del. Kathleen Murphy. To understand why, we need to understand how political organizations like the Fairfax Chamber operate. Many of them, including this one, have a longstanding policy to endorse incumbents. They do this so they can have a working relationship with all current lawmakers, regardless of party. When there is an open seat, however, their endorsement process is much more rigorous. Last year, because there was no incumbent running, NOVABizPAC interviewed both Murphy and Parisot. Based on that interview and the experience of the two candidates, they endorsed Craig Parisot. Craig Parisot hasn't changed since he received their endorsement in December. His is still the best choice for Northern Virginia's businesses.

Priscilla M. Griffith  
McLean

#### Chronis and Parisot Fail on McLean Gun Store

To the Editor:

I had the pleasure to witness democracy in action on Sunday at McLean Community Center during a series of debates by our local candidates for Supervisor, Delegate, and School Board. One issue that frequently came up in the questions was whether the Northern Virginia Firearms store should be located next to Franklin Sherman Elementary, a school which all three of my children attended.

#### Community Standards Apply to All

To the Editor:

I admit it — I was the fool booing Craig Parisot at the recent McLean Citizens Association (MCA) debate when he talked about Medicaid Expansion (he's against), guns (he has an "A" rating from NRA), and I-66 (he wrongly says that Delegate Kathleen Murphy is for tolls on I-66; she is emphatically against them).

I was merely exercising my 1st Amendment rights to free political speech. However, as Jeff

#### Kathleen Murphy is on Our Side

To the Editor:

Re-elect Delegate Kathleen Murphy so she can go back to the General Assembly and continue to push for common sense gun safety laws. McLean residents are shocked that the state allows gun stores next to elementary schools. Kathleen Murphy is all too familiar with Virginia's cavalier attitude about guns and she is ready to work to reduce gun violence. She started last session by authoring a bill that would keep guns out of the grips of those convicted of domestic abuse — for just two years —



Conventional modern-design home



PHOTOS BY LAURA SHERIDAN/WOMAN'S CLUB

# Woman's Club of McLean Gearing Up for Homes Tour

McLean Holiday Homes Tour tickets now available.

With the final selection of the tour homes and the printing this week of the tour tickets, the Woman's Club of McLean is almost ready for its 49<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Homes Tour in December. Remaining tasks are the festive decoration of the homes and the finalizing of plans for a Homes Tour Boutique that will run concurrently. The tour is set for Thursday, Dec. 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The boutique will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The homes are in three neighborhoods of west McLean: McLean Hundred, two houses in conventional architectural styles; in Woodside Estates, a home with a unique conservative design; and in Millwood, a four-level contemporary home. McLean Hundred and Woodside Estates are just off Lewinsville Road. Millwood is located along Swink's Mill Road, between Lewinsville Road and Old Dominion Drive. Ample street parking is available near each of the four houses.

The Homes Tour Boutique will take place at Historic Pleasant Grove Church, a 19<sup>th</sup> century church and museum at 8641 Lewinsville Road, close to three of the houses. The boutique will feature holiday decorations and gift items, jewelry, scarves, handbags, treasures from the Claude Moore Farm Gatehouse, home-baked items, drinks and desserts, tour tickets and a silent auction.

Tickets for the tour will be \$25 until the day of the tour, when they will be \$30. They are available at Mesmeralda's Gifts of McLean, 1339 Chain Bridge Road; Karin's Florist, 527 Maple Ave. East, Vienna; and Great Dogs of Great Falls, 9859 Georgetown Pike. They can also be bought at the boutique and the tour homes. Admission will not be required for the boutique.

All proceeds of the tour and boutique will be donated to local charities and nonprofits, such as Share, Inc, Alternative House, the McLean Project for the Arts (The Children's Outreach), Claude Moore Colonial Farm, the McLean Volunteer Fire Department, Fisher House and the McLean Symphony, as well as



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— LAURA SHERIDAN

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# Getting In: The Private Schools Admissions Process

**Navigating the application and increasing the chance of getting an acceptance letter.**

By MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Although the school year just started, the application process for the 2016-2017 school year is underway at more than 80 local independent schools. From open houses, school tours and applicant interviews to transcripts, essays and teacher recommendations, the process can be arduous, say parents, especially with application fees that can soar higher than \$100 a piece. Making sure a child's abilities and interests are in line with a school's offerings and requirements can narrow down the list.

"Parents need to be realistic about their child's strengths and weaknesses and learning style," said Mimi Mulligan, assistant head and director of admission and enrollment management, Norwood

School in Potomac, Md. "Have an open and honest conversation with schools during the application process. Schools will tell you whether they can or cannot meet any special needs your child might have."

**ADMISSIONS DIRECTORS** say that practical considerations of all sorts should help parents whittle down their list of schools. "Do they want a big or small school? How far are they willing to travel each day? Does the school offer academic support if their child needs it? Can they afford their tuition?" asks Mary Herridge, director of enrollment management, The Madeira School in McLean.

Getting to know a school's culture and paying attention to the school's mission can also help families choose a school.

"School structure, single sex versus co-ed, dress code, religious af-

iliation, teaching pedagogy and parent involvement all influence school culture," said Mulligan. "Each school has a distinct and intentional mission statement. Sometimes that distinctiveness may be subtle so parents should also look at school mottos, belief or promise statements and portraits of a graduate, too."

An example, says Herridge, is a parent who values being deeply involved in helping a child with their homework. "As a school we value the student doing their own homework, managing their homework and coming to the teacher and self advocating if they need help," she said. "We encourage parental participation, but in high school we wouldn't expect a parent to sit and help with every single aspect of their homework. We can have that conversation early on and decide that this is not a good fit."

"If they come to a school with a rigorous academic program, are [parents] going to be OK with their student being really challenged in class and having that reflected on their transcripts?" she continued.

**"Parents need to be realistic about their child's strengths and weaknesses and learning style."**

— Mimi Mulligan, director of admission and enrollment management, Norwood School, Potomac, Md.

"Nowadays, in school literature and marketing materials, all schools say they're good at certain things and offer certain things like small class sizes and low student teacher ratios, but nothing can replace going and sitting in a classroom and seeing how the teachers teach and how the students react with one another," said Herridge. "Talk to the math teacher. Have a conversation with the coach."

If a school boasts hands-on learning, are students engaged in experiments in a science class or are they sitting behind desks and looking at a chalkboard?

A tour, Herridge said, is crucial for students and parents. "When they see other students and meet the teacher they'll be able to say, 'Yes this is a good place for me,' or '... we can take this school off our

list because it doesn't make sense for our family."

"Most tours will give you an 'aha' moment that clarifies why independent education is worth the investment," added Benita Cathey, director of admissions, Grace Episcopal School in Alexandria.

Patti Culbreth, head of school, Grace Episcopal School, said, "A look at the curriculum to include the 'specials' offered will give you an overview of the opportunities for your child."

Delve deeper than a tour organized by the school, however. "Talk to parents [of students] who already attend the school," Mulligan. "If you don't know anyone, ask the admissions office to provide a few families you can contact."

**EVEN AFTER A FAMILY** has



Independent schools such as St. Stephen's & St. Agnes in Alexandria require an extensive application process aimed at familiarizing the applicant and the school with one another.

whittled down their list of potential schools, the road to admission can still be long. Competition can be fierce, with many schools receiving 10 applications for every available slot. Most require not only an application, but test scores, essays, interviews and letters of recommendation, a process that can baffle many parents.

In preparation for the interview, admissions officials suggest applicants think about their own interests and attitudes toward academics.

"It's a good idea for a student to reflect on what they love about school, what they like to do outside of the classroom and how they see themselves as part of the school community," said Jon Kunz, director of middle and upper school admission, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria. "We don't approach it as an interview. It's more of a one-on-one conversation. We want them to be themselves and to be comfortable."

Students should use specific and concrete examples to demonstrate passions and talents. "For example, if a student is passionate about science they might say, 'I started this project on my own and created this amazing invention.' That helps us see their passion," said Linda Stratton director of communications, St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School.

"We're looking for students who are intellectually curious and excited about taking advantage of the opportunities here," Kunz added. "We're looking for students who demonstrate a strong sense of character who are respectful and ... who care about the world around them."

Admissions officials also want to evaluate whether applicants have the potential to meet the school's expectations, and scrutinize scores on tests such as the SSAT (Secondary School Admissions Test) and ISEE (Independent School Entrance Examination) and transcripts, looking for strong and consistent academic achievement.

In the face of such a confusing and competitive process, many parents have turned to educational consultants for advice and assistance.

"With the workload that school guidance counselors now have, there are a lot of families that are using independent consultants and that number has increased, and it has definitely increased over the last five or 10 years," said Sarah Brachman, manager of

communications, Independent Educational Consultants Association.

In fact, Mark Sklarow, the association's chief executive officer, said 5-10 percent of families looking for an independent day school use an independent educational consultant, while 40 percent use one to find a boarding school.

Getting to know the child helps educational consultants identify schools that are a good match. "Does the student do better in a hands-on environment or sitting at desk and the teacher writes on a blackboard?" said Leigh Ann Cahill of Independent School Options, an educational consulting firm in Alexandria. "We have so many wonderful schools in the area. We come up with five to seven schools that are the best fit for the family."

**AFTER HELPING** families decide where to apply, education consultants sit down with families to review test scores, transcripts, teacher evaluations and other application requirements.

"It's important to have an open and honest conversation with the parent," said Cahill, a former teacher. She stressed that educational consultants cannot sway admissions decisions. Instead, "we look at the areas of strength. Rarely do you have a child who doesn't have any areas of strength."

She stressed that low test scores or blemishes on an academic transcript don't mean automatic rejection by independent schools. "Maybe the art teacher or science teacher says really great things about the child. We try to build a realistic profile of who the child is as a learner and where they have a spark. If you're a great photographer, let's link up your website if you've been posing photographs or bring your portfolio."

The essays are sometimes a bit daunting for parent and child, she added. "What do we say here? What do they mean when they ask this question? We don't write essays, but talk through ideas with parents and student and help them figure out what the admissions offices are looking for."

In the end, everyone's goal is to find the best matches for both the students and the schools. "It's something that the parents don't have any control over," said Cahill. "One thing we really try hard to work with the parent is seeing this as a learning adventure. ... Their child will end up in a school somewhere."

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## Celebrating International Walk to School Day

PHOTOS BY RANIA RAZEK



Spring Hill Elementary School students are hoping to be in this "multiple selfie" being taken by fifth grade teacher Stacey Greene (left) on last week's International Walk to School Day. The students look happy to be on their way to another great day at school.



Spring Hill Elementary School students who walk to school are shown en masse along with some supportive teachers.

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# Candidates for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

## Sharon Bulova (D)

### Incumbent

**Town of residence:** Fairfax  
**Age:** 67

**Family:** Married. Between my husband and I we have: four adult children and seven grandchildren.

**Education:** AAS Degree in Business Management from Northern VA Community College, attended business classes, UVA evening program, previously held Real Estate license

### Offices held, dates:

Elected Braddock (then called Annandale) District Supervisor in 1987. In February 2009 elected Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Re-elected in 2011.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** I am a full time Chairman. Prior to elected office I held positions in business.

**Community involvement:** I came to local government through my work as Civic Association president of Kings Park West. I have been a member of the Annandale Rotary, how serving as an honorary member. I am a founder of Faith Communities in Action and collaborated on two community history projects: A Look Back at Braddock and the Asian American History Project.

**Website:** <http://sharonbulova.com/>

**Email address:** [sharonbulova@gmail.com](mailto:sharonbulova@gmail.com)

**Twitter handle:** [http://twitter.com/sharonbulova](https://twitter.com/sharonbulova)

**Name three favorite endorsements:** FEA (Fairfax Education Association), Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, Sierra Club

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

I love local government and feel strongly about community engagement. In my roles as Braddock Supervisor and now Chairman I have been committed to making sure our community is at the table with local government to participate in resolving issues and addressing our challenges. A major challenge right now is the sluggish recovery we are experiencing from the Great Recession. My goal is to strike the right balance between maintaining taxes that are affordable to our residents while investing what is needed to ensure a world class school system, safe streets and neighborhoods, compassionate human services, a clean environment and quality of life services like libraries and our fantastic park system.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I have the experience, the commitment and the enthusiasm to serve as Fairfax County's chairman. I believe I have the collaborative skill set needed to lead our Board and our community on an even, positive course.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

Education continues to be my highest priority. It is however, not my only priority. It is critical that we continue to be the safest jurisdiction of our size in the U.S. and that we maintain the quality of life our residents value. Beginning in January our newly elected Board will engage in a multi-year Lines of Business process to examine all of our services in order to identify opportunities for efficiencies and savings. We have invited the School Board to participate with us in this process. I am hopeful that, working together, we will find new ways to economize on resources and improve on the delivery of services to families and students.

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

I am a full time Chairman. I work well over 40 hours per week plus countless hours of community and regional activities.



## Glenda Gail 'for Rail' Parker (I)

### Town of residence:

Alexandria, Fairfax County

**Age:** 68

**Family:** Three grown children, four Grand-children

**Education:** MBA with a certificate in Software Engineering Administration

### Offices held, dates:

Elected to Vice- Chair, Independent Greens of Virginia (2007 to Present); elected to COG TPB CAC (2007-2010)

### Occupation and relevant experience:

Governmental Budget Analyst, Businesswoman  
Community involvement: Fairfax Federation Civic Association Committee, Public Safety Chair (approximately 2009-2010)

**Website:** [www.GailParker.US](http://www.GailParker.US)

**Email address:** [ggailparker@cox.net](mailto:ggailparker@cox.net)

**Twitter handle:** @ggailparker

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Independent Greens of Virginia



### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

The Independent Green Party Green New Deal will get us on the right track. The Green New Deal means double- digit job growth in Eco jobs for the economy. Solar jobs. Wind jobs. Geothermal jobs. Rail jobs. The Green New Deal means Bike share for Fairfax County. Bikes, like rail, increase the value of our homes, businesses, and communities. The Green New Deal will bring Electronic VRE signs for commuters. The Green New Deal means New Tracks, More Trains, More often to More Places. The Green New Deal is solar panels, and geothermal heating and cooling for every public building. Renewable energy makes money for taxpayers.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

My advocacy for Rail and renewable energy. Investments in Green Energy make money. The solar age is here and we want on-board! It is past time to bring the Green Revolution to Fairfax County.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

The infrastructure budget has too many subsidies to big oil, big asphalt, big auto, fossil fuels. Giving a half a trillion dollars in taxpayer subsidies annually worldwide to big oil is fiscal lunacy. Cut and reprioritize the infrastructure budget to invest in free solar energy and geothermal energy. Work harmoniously with the School Board to place money where it will do the most good, fund education costs and teacher salaries rather than administration costs. Build Rail: Rail will grow revenues by growing the economy. Rail increases the value of our homes, businesses and communities. Every \$1 invested in Rail returns \$20 to the community!

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

The new salary voted by the Board will allow me to devote full time to BOS duties.

## Arthur Purves (R)

**Town of residence:** Vienna

**Age:** 66

**Family:** Married 42 years, two children, seven grandchildren

**Education:** BA, MS, MBA University of Pennsylvania

**Offices held, dates:** N/A

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Computer Programmer

### Community involvement:

-President, Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance since 1996  
-Member, Fairfax County Meals Tax Task Force (2014)  
-Member, Hunter Mill Citizen Budget Committee (2013)  
-Treasurer, Fairfax Committee 100  
-Member Fairfax Branch, NAACP  
-Past member of three Fairfax County Public Schools advisory committees  
-Scoutmaster

**Website:** [votepurves.org](http://votepurves.org)

**Email address:** [Arthur@votepurves.org](mailto:Arthur@votepurves.org)

**Twitter handle:** [agpurves](https://twitter.com/agpurves)

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Del. Tim Hugo and Loudoun Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Only 59% of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) seniors are prepared for college, and the percent prepared varies from 75% for Langley High School to 20% for Lee and Mt. Vernon High Schools. In a quarter of a century FCPS has made no progress in closing the minority student achievement gap: only 35% of Hispanic and 20% of African-American FCPS seniors are prepared for college. Even if you don't go to college, being prepared for college makes you better qualified for a good job. The solution is better instruction in the basics; not more money. As county chairman I would hold the school board accountable for achievement when the school board makes its annual \$2B budget request.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

The incumbent chairman:

For 16 years has raised real estate taxes three times faster than household income, which is unaffordable, especially for seniors;

Does not hold the schools accountable for achievement;

Is indifferent to the disproportionate incarceration of Hispanics and African-Americans in the county jail;

Sat silent for 17 months while the police department refused to disclose the details of the shooting of an unarmed civilian by a police officer on August 29, 2013;

Neglected maintenance of the now unsafe and unreliable Metrorail system to build the Silver Line;

Since 2000 cut staffing of libraries and parks by 112 positions while adding 145 clerks to handle public assistance applications, for a total of 354 public assistance positions.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics job growth in Fairfax County was close to last of the 342 largest U.S. counties last year. I will grow jobs by cutting taxes; using the chairman's pulpit to advocate for higher achievement, including Hispanic and African-American achievement, through better curricula; being transparent; and making Metrorail repairs my highest transportation priority.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

For FY2017 the county and schools want to increase spending by \$240M while revenues are projected to increase only \$20M without a real estate tax hike. This predicament demonstrates the need for new leadership. Seventy percent of the spending increase is for raises (3.5% for county and 4% for school employees), Cadillac health plans, and pensions with retirement at 55. My opponent would raise real estate taxes 9%, pushing the typical homeowner's real estate tax from \$5,700 to \$6,200. She raised real estate taxes 8% last year. For 16 years the supervisors have been increasing taxes three times faster than household income. Since 2000, while school enrollment has increased 22%, the school budget increased 100%. County and school spending for health and pension benefits increased \$700M since 2000; that is \$400M more than needed to keep up with inflation, population, and enrollment. For 16 years the average annual raise for 30,000 county and school employees has been 4%. To pay for these raises and benefits, the supervisors have been increasing real estate taxes three times faster than household income. The revenue from the tax hikes was not enough to pay for the raises and benefits, so park and library staffing was cut and class sizes increased. And now teachers and police cannot afford the \$6,000 real estate taxes that were increased to pay for their own raises and benefits. To make Fairfax County affordable again, we need to cut taxes by reducing benefits and giving smaller raises, as is the case with private-sector employees.

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

I can retire and be a full-time chairman.



# Candidates for Dranesville District Supervisor

## Jennifer Chronis (R)

**Town of residence:** Great Falls  
**Age:** 48  
**Family:** Husband: Brian Dickson; Stepson: Riley Dickson, Stepdaughter: Jordan Principe  
**Education:** BS, Commerce, University of Virginia  
**Offices held, dates:** N/A  
**Occupation and relevant experience:** Vice President, IBM; Lieutenant Colonel (Retired), US Army; Board of Directors, Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association, Washington DC Chapter; Information Technology Fellow, American Council for Technology-Industry Advisory Council  
**Community involvement:** Northern Virginia Literacy Council Volunteer Tutor  
**Website:** JenniferChronis.com  
**Email address:** info@jenniferchronis.com  
**Twitter handle:** @JenniferChronis  
**Name three favorite endorsements:** Congressman Frank Wolf, Congressman Tom Davis, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock



27%, when we are keeping our teachers' salaries practically flat. This is not what I learned as leadership in my military and business career and I will make better decisions for Dranesville residents.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

My top priority is to ensure that our schools remain the best in the country. I will work closely with the School Board to focus resources on students and teachers first. We need to reduce administrative costs and invest more in our teachers, as many of our best teachers are departing Fairfax for neighboring school systems that offer higher salaries.

My second priority is to strengthen the County's fiscal and economic health. The Board has continuously raised property taxes, to compensate for weakness in our commercial property market. We must fill the 19 million square feet of empty office space in the County to grow our commercial tax revenue and relieve the tax burden on homeowners. We must make the County more business-friendly by streamlining our permitting and regulatory processes and partnering with our EDA to attract new industries like cybersecurity, healthcare, and IT to the County.

Finally, I will apply commercial best practices to county spending. We must consider implementation of shared services for administrative functions like HR, IT, finance, accounting, and contracting between the County and FCPS. Secondly, we must closely examine our pension system for new employees to determine the most financially viable system for the future. We should also consider eliminating duplicative functions; for example, Fairfax County is the only county in Virginia to operate a Consumer Affairs division, which largely replicates what the State Agency does. Responsibly managing the County's resources is a critical responsibility for our Board of Supervisors. Doing so more effectively requires fundamental changes to the way the County manages its budget. I would implement outcome-based program reviews every two years for all county programs.

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

I will be a full-time Supervisor. I will devote all of my talents to the residents of Dranesville.

## John Foust (D)

**Incumbent**  
**Town of residence:** McLean  
**Age:** 64  
**Family:** Married to Dr. Marilyn Jerome Foust. We have two sons, Matthew and Patrick  
**Education:** BA in Economics (Univ. of Pittsburgh); Master's degree in Business Administration (W.Va. College of Graduate Studies); Law degree (George Washington Univ.)  
**Offices held, dates:** Dranesville District Supervisor, January 2008 to Present.  
**Occupation and relevant experience:** Current: full-time County Supervisor. Prior: 30 years in private law practice and 8 years as investment analyst with large public utility.  
**Community involvement:** Current: County Supervisor since 2008 working 60 to 80 hours per week to represent my community. Prior: McLean Citizens Association (President); Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (Legislative Committee Chair); Fairfax County Medical Care for Children Partnership Advisory Council (Advocacy Committee Chair); Cub Master of Cub Scout Pack 1134 (4 years); Chairman of the Change District of the Boy Scouts of America (3 years); McLean Planning Committee (President); Member of two Citizen Advisory Committees to the Fairfax County School Board; Youth Soccer Coach; Timberly South Homeowners Association Board Member.  
**Website:** www.foustforsupervisor.com  
**Email address:** SupervisorFoust@gmail.com  
**Twitter handle:** @johnfoustva  
**Name three favorite endorsements:** Fairfax Education Association ("Teacher Endorsed"); Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce's NOVABIZPAC; Fairfax County Professional Firefighters and Paramedics.



their lives, and deliver great results for them. I have a track record of working to strengthen, diversify and grow our local economy; fund essential services in a fiscally responsible manner; support our schools; and, deliver real transportation solutions like Dulles Rail and Route 7 widening. This election should not be about

partisan agendas and political ambitions. It should be about who has the best record serving our community. Fairfax County and the Fairfax County Public Schools face serious challenges. We need proven leaders who listen to their constituents and deliver results for them. I have proven that I am that leader.

**3. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system. A significant budget gap looms for the next budget cycle, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top county priorities and how will you assure funding and manage the budget? What ideas do you have for increasing revenue? Name two areas/items you would cut or reduce.**

Budgets should reflect a community's priorities. Education funding has been the community's, and our Board's, number one funding priority — 53% of the County's budget funds our schools.

During my 8 years in office, I have handled the significant fiscal challenges caused by a terrible recession as well as significant state and federal budget cuts. As Chairman of the Board's Audit Committee and Vice-chairman of the Board's Budget Committee, I have saved us millions in spending and made government more efficient and accountable to taxpayers. I kept the tax burden on homeowners affordable while protecting the County's Triple A bond rating and ensuring that critical programs and services, like education and public safety, are funded.

I am Chairman of the Board's Economic Advisory Commission. To increase County revenues, I am working with the County's partners in the business community, civic leaders, academia, non-profits and regional partners to implement the County's strategic plan for economic success. As a Board, we are also working to generate more revenue for the County by advocating for the County's fair share from the state.

Regarding possible cuts, since the recession in 2008, the Board of Supervisors has cut many costs and increased efficiencies in county government. The School Board has done the same for the schools. Going forward, our best opportunities for significant additional cost savings will require both Boards working together to consolidate support functions found in both county and school departments. I have specific proposals to consolidate and cut costs by sharing systems for Human Services, computer operations and IT support, social work, mental health services, building maintenance, capital projects and transportation services.

**4. How many hours a week of outside employment do you anticipate while serving on the Board of Supervisors?**

None.

### QUESTIONS

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Public service is central to my life. I served my Country and my community as a US Army officer for 21 years. As Supervisor, I look forward to continuing my life of service. Our greatest challenge in Fairfax County is the need for stronger fiscal management and prioritization of our County's resources. With property tax increases of nearly 17% in the last three years alone, over \$200M in projected 2017 deficits (\$100M in FCPS), and an economy that saw only .4% job growth in 2014, we face serious challenges to sustain our quality of life. Our Board needs strong leaders with business experience who can make tough decisions about how to prioritize spending while also growing our economy. I have both the military leadership and business experience to bring people together to address these challenges, and to hold the County and Board accountable for executing on actions and programs that deliver tangible results.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I am a military leader who knows how to make tough decisions, put the needs of others before my own, and get things done. I am also a business executive who understands the importance of achieving financial targets and delivering value for every tax dollar. I will bring a fresh perspective to the Board and a business-minded approach to solving our greatest challenges and ensuring that we deliver measurable results for taxpayers. Unlike my opponent, I would not have voted for tax increases amounting to 17% over the last three years while also underfunding our schools by \$100 million. And I would not have voted to increase my own pay by

## Election Day Nov. 3

Election Day is Nov. 3, and on that day, virtually every state and local office is on the ballot. In-person absentee voting is underway. 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.

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, three members of the School Board At Large, one District member of the School Board, 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>

## Voter Identification

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.

# School Board Candidates At-Large

## Omar Fateh

**Town of residence:** Annandale  
**Age:** 25

**Education:** MPA from George Mason University

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Former Campaign Finance Analyst at FEC, Former Academic Advisor/Assistant Instructor at Northern Virginia Community College

**Community involvement:** Co-organize youth basketball league, Assist in developing tutoring programs at local mosques

**Website:** www.fatehforschoolboard.com

**Email address:** fateh4sb@gmail.com

**Twitter handle:** Fateh4sb

**Name favorite endorsements:** Fairfax Education Association

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

The achievement gap. Our minority and economically disadvantaged students continually score 20-30 points below their peers on standardized tests. The dropout rate among economically disadvantaged students has nearly doubled in the last four years. First, standardized test scores should not be the main indicator of student progress or potential. Second, rather than having teachers teach to the tests, it is important for the School Board to give teachers the freedom to identify their students' strengths and interests. Finally, we must get parents involved, and to place responsibility on the students to succeed as well.

**2. Why should voters choose you?**

The qualities that separate me most from the other candidates for School Board include the perspective I bring as a member of some of the County's many underrepresented communities (including the Somali and Muslim communities), as a former Fairfax County Public Schools student, and also as a former advisor to countless area students at Northern Virginia Community College.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

Many parents in Fairfax County must work multiple jobs, and are not able to provide the full support needed by their children, such as attending school meetings and checking their children's work. It is critical for us to get parents as involved as we can, in part by meeting them on their terms and as much as possible. I will ensure that I am easily accessible to the entire community. Having worked with my local mosque to develop a tutoring program for our County's youth, many people within our community are willing to donate their time and efforts to help both academically, and in developing them as professionals.

Increased funding is necessary to meet the needs of an ever-expanding student body.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

To begin addressing the issue in earnest, the School Board first needs compassionate representatives willing to understand and serve the needs of the full range of County students with new energy and ability.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

Board members must also better engage their fellow elected officials to seek additional funding. The majority of the Board of Supervisors wants to fully fund our schools, but the dollars simply are not coming in from Richmond. We need to work with state representatives to bring back our tax dollars. We must work first and foremost to provide additional funding. We must get both Boards on the same page, and put education—in other words, our children—first in Fairfax County.



## Jeanette Hough

**Town of residence:** Fairfax  
**Age:** 36

**Family:** Husband, Charlie (Oakton graduate '97); Ryan (4th grade), Keri (2nd grade), Ethan (Kindergarten), Vader (rescue puppy)

**Education:** B.A. in Economics; University of Virginia, Masters in Physical Therapy; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Physical Therapist (Senior Therapist – mentor and leader role)

**Community involvement:** Volunteer in children's elementary school, local homeless shelter, church, and with meals and holiday gifts through Our Daily Bread, volunteer with kid's sports and activities, Manna Meal coordinator, PTA member

**Website:** jeanetteforschoolboard.com

**Email address:** Jeanetteforschoolboard@gmail.com

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Class Size Counts, Former Congressman Tom Davis, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Responsibility to the community defines my call to serve. That responsibility comes with engaging the community members, being fiscally responsible and setting clear priorities. Authentic engagement includes holding office hours and citizen town halls throughout the year, not just showing up to ribbon cuttings and planned events. Our community deserves more transparency with FCPS' \$2.7 billion operating fund. I will prioritize reducing large class sizes, not with one-time fixes the way my opponents have, but with long-term planning. I will prioritize competitive teacher salaries. Our teachers' salaries have fallen behind compared to surrounding counties. Instead of making it a real priority, the Board raised their own salary by 60%.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponents, why should voters choose you?**

My opponents either do not have children or have not had children in FCPS for a long time. As the mother of children in graduating classes of 2023, 2025, 2027, I bring a unique insight into our school system. I bring an Economics degree when we face a shortfall of over \$70 million for FY17 due to failing to enact budgeting best practices.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

Part of the growing divide comes from parallel decisions made by the Board of Supervisors. It is imperative to have a new School Board that can build trust with the Board of Supervisors. With a better relationship, the two Boards can work together for our community and all of our children.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Under current leadership, the achievement gap continues to be substantial. We cannot keep electing the same people and expect a different result. We need to provide a rigorous curriculum to all students and allocate resources for objective gains. We need to work with the community to provide wraparound services and empower parents to help their children at home.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

FCPS' projected shortfall is 2.5% of the operating budget. The current School Board took five years to hire an auditor general and has refused to do a line of business review. My top priority is to ensure clear metrics and objectivity so we base cuts on educational impact and effectiveness, not on bias and popularity. We also need to look at FCPS' contract procurement practices. I will bring leadership to the Board so we cut waste and inefficiency, not proven programs.



## Manar Jean-Jacques

**Town of residence:** Fairfax  
**Age:** 31

**Family:** My family is originally from Egypt and my wonderful husband, Thierry, is from Haiti. We have been married for 7 years and we have a two children, Thomas is 2 and Mary is 8 months.

**Education:** I hold a B.A. in Sociology from George Mason University

**Occupation and relevant experience:** I work at the Refugee Processing Center as a contractor for the Department of State. Since starting there 8 years ago, I have been known as a solution-driven, out-of-the box thinker with creative solutions. In addition to my analytical skills, I bring a parent's perspective to the board. As a mom of two future FCPS students, my priority is ensuring the best education for children in FCPS.

**Community involvement:** I participate in local volunteer opportunities though my church, I spent time on the ground in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina assisting in disaster relief efforts and I spent time helping at an orphanage in my husband's hometown of Port-au-Prince, Haiti after the devastating earthquake in 2010.

**Website:** www.ManarForFairfax.com

**Email address:** Manar@manarforfairfax.com

**Twitter handle:** @Manar4FFX

**Name favorite endorsements:** I have am officially endorsed by the GOP and Arab Community Radio.

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

As a first generation American, I cherish the importance of a government that listens to its people. I feel called to serve in my local government because the current school board is unresponsive to its constituents. I plan on involving the community in all board-related matters through regular town halls, PTA meetings, setting special time aside to meet with teachers and making myself readily available to the residents of Fairfax County via office hours, email and phone.

**2. Why should voters choose you?**

The incumbent at-large candidates either have children that have already graduated from FCPS or do not have children at all, the only way they take their decisions home with them is in their pockets. As a mom of two future FCPS students, my priority is ensuring the highest quality education for FCPS students so that our children have the best opportunities to thrive and be successful. I understand the frustration parents have with class size disparity, the need for more rigor in the classroom and the need for parents of this next generation to be respected and recognized as the primary educators of their children ... that is a perspective needed on the school board and it is one that the incumbents cannot offer.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

It is important to keep rigor, class size disparity and staffing formulas at the heart of the conversation with the community. Working together, we can create solutions that address our county's challenges and needs. It is the responsibility of FCPS to educate all students in the county and shape them into productive members of the community.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Coming from an immigrant family and working daily to bring refugees to the U.S., I understand what education means for those seeking a better future for themselves and their families in the U.S. I am very concerned that the needle hasn't moved on closing the minority achievement gap in years, despite \$65 million being poured into projects targeting the issue. The current board continually changes the name of these projects (Excel, PSI, Momentum, etc), making it nearly impossible to

SEE QUESTIONNAIRES, NEXT PAGE



## Ryan McElveen

**INCUMBENT**  
**Town of residence:** McLean

**Age:** 29

**Family:** Married  
**Education:** M.A. in International Affairs, Columbia University; B.A. in Anthropology and East Asian Studies, The University of Virginia

**Offices held, dates:** School Board Member, At-large, January 2012-Present

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Assistant Director, John L. Thornton China Center, The Brookings Institution

**Website:** www.ryanforschoolboard.com

**Email address:** voteryanmc@gmail.com

**Twitter handle:** @RyanLMcElveen

**Name three endorsements:** Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, Fairfax Education Association, Fairfax County Democratic Committee

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

I will remain a voice for the voiceless who don't know how to best resolve their concerns with the school system. One of my first actions on the Board was to push for the creation of a system to allow community members to submit YouTube video testimonies to be shown at our meetings. We became the first public Board in the country to implement this kind of feedback mechanism. I will continue engaging with the community in a transparent manner and with an open mind while working to improve our communications.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I have a track record of bringing significant and positive change to the school system in a short amount of time. I have focused on three major initiatives — improving school food (including the creation of a fresh food pilot kitchen and the system-wide study of our Food and Nutrition Services program), the internationalization working group (to help guide our work on implementing world languages and study-abroad opportunities), and the alumni networking action group (which has helped us map a path to create an FCPS alumni association). In my next term, I hope to see all of these efforts through to implementation.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

FCPS is a tale of two counties, and this unquestionably has emerged as one of our biggest challenges. In Fairfax, more than half of our elementary schools sit above the socio-economic tipping point, proving that Fairfax has moved beyond localized poverty. To address this divide, the School Board must maintain its long-standing practice of targeting these communities with needs-based funding. Co-location of school and human services facilities, as has been piloted in Mount Vernon, is another way to tackle this community issue without spending significant additional county resources.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Our Board has remained steadfast in our support of needy students and those who speak other languages at home by directing budget resources to these at-risk populations. We have made expanding early childhood opportunities one of our priorities, because we know that investments in the education of students at an early age pay dividends later in their educational careers (thus saving our system money). We must continue working with the county to creatively fund and house these programs.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to**

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# School Board Candidates At-Large

## Ilryong Moon

**INCUMBENT**  
**Town of residence:** Fairfax  
**Age:** 58  
**Family:** Father of 2 FCPS graduates  
**Education:** Harvard, B.A.; William and Mary Law School, J.D.



**Offices held, dates:** At-Large School Board Member, 07/1995-12/1995 & 2004-present; Braddock District School Board Member 1996-1999; At-Large Planning Commissioner 2000-2003.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Attorney since 1984; Member, Board of Directors, American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras, 2000-2010; Member, Board of Directors, Montessori School of Northern Virginia, 1994-1995

**Community involvement:** Youth soccer coaching, Fairfax-Falls Church Regional Council of the United Way, Police Chief's Diversity Council.

**Website:** www.moon4schools.com  
**Email address:** moon@moon4schools.com  
**Twitter handle:** @Moon4Schools

**Name three favorite endorsements:** My family, Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, and Democratic Party

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

We should prepare our students for global competition. They will not only lead our country in the future, but must be able to compete with the students from the other nations. I want Fairfax County to be the best place to live, work, and raise children. We need good teachers and must support them. We should challenge our students to do their best, meet their individual needs, and provide them with a broad curriculum, including in STEM and foreign language education.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponents; why should voters choose you?**

Experience and unique perspectives. I have served on the school board for 16 years, including 3 years as chairman and 2 years as vice chairman, and also chaired budget, governance, personnel, and policy committees. Furthermore, I bring unique perspectives as an immigrant grown up in poverty, an English language learner, an attorney, and a small business owner.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

All students should have resources per their needs. We should work more closely with the parents to help their children succeed. For the parents with language, cultural, or employment barriers, we should reach out to them more proactively. All students should have adequate access to digital devices and internet capability. We must also work with the County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission on housing issues not to concentrate high poverty students on certain areas.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Adequate resources, closer work with families, and high expectations for all students are needed. I support needs-based staffing. Resources should follow students' needs whether in opportunities, special education, or learning English as a second language. We need to equip, train, and educate parents to help their children succeed. Also, everyone should have high expectations for all students. We should expand early childhood education opportunities, working with the County, State, private sector, and community organizations.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

A community consensus on the school funding level should be built. I support the superintendent's work with the budget task force to gather commu-

## Burnette G. Scarboro

**Town of residence:** Alexandria (Fairfax County)  
**Age:** Over 21  
**Family:** Luther, husband; Children – Syreeta, Seneca and Stefanie  
**Education:** Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, NC; NOVA Community College; and George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.



**Offices held, dates:** No elected office held

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Fairfax County Public Schools – Family Engagement Representative; African Heritage Early Literacy Project Leader. Co-founder South County Youth Network a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Member, Lt. Governor's Commonwealth Council for Childhood Success

**Community involvement:** Northern VA District PTA Director; Member, VA State PTA Board; Member, Chairman Bulova's Ad Hoc Police Review Committee; Coordinator, West Potomac-Mount Vernon School-Community Coalition

**Website:** www.burnette4schoolboard.com  
**Email address:** friendsofburnette@gmail.com  
**Twitter handle:**

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Dr. Larry Bussey; The Faith Community; and Mattie Palmore, Community Activist

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

My desire to have equitable education for all students drives me to run, along with character education in all school pyramids.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

Voters should choose me because I am embedded in the school system as an employee; family oriented and believe that students and families should not be judged by their geographical location.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

First, we need to address the increase in families placing their children in private schools or homeschooling; second, the economic divide is a direct correlation of the type of businesses in a community, i.e., fast food establishments vs. Fortune 500; and, third – work on changing the mindset of judging others by zip codes.

**4. How will you address the achievement gap?**

The achievement gap should not exist. The history of public education clearly shows that that public education was not designed for people of color. The achievement gap came on the scene when schools were integrated. I can only address the problem when all stakeholders understand why the problem exists.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

FCPS and the BOS must work together to develop strategies to bring more businesses into the area and reduce the reliance on real estate taxes. Teachers know where cuts can be made and that is the group that I would begin my inquiries.

**6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?**

A school system with a stellar reputation is sought by businesses and former school graduates to return and give back to the community. Taxpayers want to see "more bang for their bucks." Elect me to the school board and you'll see the plan in action!

## Theodore J. "Ted" Velkoff

**INCUMBENT**  
**Town of Residence:** Chantilly  
**Age:** 61  
**Family:** Wife, Dr. Patricia Velkoff; Daughters Catherine (South Lakes H.S. 2007), Elizabeth (Chantilly H.S. 2009)



**Offices held, dates:** At-Large member of the Fairfax County School Board, January 2012 to present. Have served as Vice Chairman of the Board, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Budget Committee.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Senior Software Architect at Integrity One Partners, Reston VA; previously with Lockheed Martin and IBM in Manassas, VA. M.A., Computer Science, Indiana University; M. Music, Conducting, Indiana University; B. Music, Composition, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

**Community involvement:** PTSA President, Chantilly H.S.; PTA Treasurer, Chantilly H.S., Rocky Run M.S., Poplar Tree E.S.; Treasurer, Pleasant Valley Preschool, Girl Scout Troup 2829. Volunteer, stage manager and occasional human prop, Fairfax Ballet.

**Website:** http://www.tv4sb.org  
**Email address:** ted@tv4sb.org  
**Twitter handle:** @TedVelkoff

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Supervisor John Foust, Senator Chap Petersen, Delegate Ken Plum.

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Eliminate high stakes testing and replace with authentic assessments. We must restore the joy of teaching and learning that comes from projects, inquiry and communication. Recently inaugurated Portrait of a Graduate defines success not in terms of what students know, but what they can do with what they know.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponents and why should voters choose you?**

I am proud of the work accomplished by the board of which I have been a member for the past four years. We hired a visionary and transformational leader in Dr. Karen Garza. We made much-needed changes to student discipline practices; solved the high school start time problem; and instituted full-day instruction in elementary schools on Mondays. My opponents have seldom, if ever, attended school board meetings or work sessions, and appear to have been motivated solely by disagreement with one action of the board last May. I have been an effective member of the school board by building relationships and brokering agreements on potentially contentious policy decisions.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

We need to expand innovative programs in schools throughout the county, especially those in economically challenged communities. We must insist on rigorous instruction for all children in all schools, whether wealthy or poor, gifted or disadvantaged. I am deeply opposed to the punitive accountability measures imposed by the state and federal government, which are counterproductive. I am just as deeply committed to the principle that we in FCPS must do everything we can to meet the needs of all children.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

The most important thing we can do is to achieve universal pre-school in Fairfax County. Nobel Prize economist James Heckman has demonstrated that high quality pre-school yields a 7 to 1 return on investment in less remediation and discipline issues over the career of a student.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS**

QUESTIONNAIRES CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE AND THIS PAGE

## Manar Jean-Jacques

evaluate the effectiveness of the programs. I would begin addressing the achievement gap by engaging teachers in the conversation and seeking their expertise.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

If elected, I would like to put a motion before the board to vote on giving back the 60% raise they voted themselves in the midst of this budget gap. I would also like to look at outsourcing FCPS jobs that do not directly impact the education of children inside the classroom. Outsourcing gives businesses in the community an opportunity to thrive and frees up money that we would have been paying into pensions to now be redirected back into the classroom.

## Ryan McElveen

**fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

FCPS cannot remain the system it is today at current levels of funding, and we won't realize that we've hit the breaking point until it's too late. It is well past time to diversify local revenue streams.

Beyond Fairfax, the School Board must take advocacy to the next level by coalition building with similar, like-minded districts and umbrella organizations throughout the state to push for a change to our state funding mechanisms. Additionally, both Boards need to continue exploring legal recourse to obtain the education funding guaranteed by the Virginia constitution.

## Ilryong Moon

nity input. Both the School Board and the Board of Supervisors need to know where the community stands. We should also review our programs, practices, and operations to find savings. My priorities are to increase teacher salaries, lower class sizes, and challenge all students to do their best and prepare them for the postsecondary education and employment.

## Ted Velkoff

**and Fairfax County. What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

Because Virginia's antiquated form of government concentrates power in Richmond and marginalizes Fairfax County, the Board of Supervisors and School Board are pitted against each other by design. The Supervisors control school revenue; the School Board controls school spending. The County Executive proposes a revenue-based budget; the Superintendent proposes a needs-based budget.

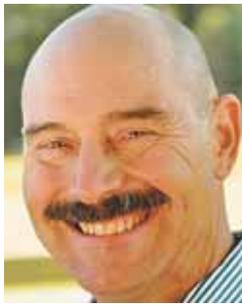
The County Executive has told FCPS to "live within its means." In accordance with that budget guidance, the Superintendent will have to cut \$72M from the operating budget. The School Board has closed similar gaps by increasing class size and limiting employee compensation. This year I will not support a budget that is balanced on the backs of our employees.

Questionnaires have been edited for length. Full questionnaires are available at [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) click on Elections.

Neither Peter Marchetti nor Robert Copeland, both candidates for Fairfax County School Board At Large, returned their questionnaires for publication.

# School Board Candidates for Dranesville District

## Pete Kurzenhauser



**Town of residence:** Great Falls  
**Age:** 58  
**Family:** Pete and his wife have lived in Great Falls for 20+ years. Their children attend Langley HS.  
**Education:** U.S. Naval Academy '79 (mechanical engineering). US Naval Aviation School, 1980-81. Numerous continuing engineering education and professional education courses and seminars.  
**Offices held, dates:** No previous elected offices

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Several decades of managing programs and working with budgets in Dept. of Defense, US Intelligence Community, and corporations.

**Community involvement:** Youth sports coach, Boy Scout Troop 673, Great Falls Citizens Assn., McLean Citizens Assn., Great Falls Freedom Memorial, FCPS parent volunteer, Haddad Youth Ballet, Great Falls Volunteer Fire and Rescue.

**Website:** <http://kurzenhauserforschoolboard.nationbuilder.com>

**Email address:** [PetekforSchoolBoard@gmail.com](mailto:PetekforSchoolBoard@gmail.com)

**Twitter handle:** None

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Class Size Counts; Steve Stuban, chair of the task force to revise the FCPS Student Rights & Responsibilities; supported by Congresswoman Barbara Comstock and retired Congressman Frank Wolf.

### QUESTIONS:

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

I decided to run for the school board because I have children in school and have seen trends over the past 10 years that threaten the quality of education delivered by FCPS. Those include very large class sizes and excessive teacher turnover due to low pay and working conditions. I also was inspired by my AP Chemistry and AP Physics teacher at Fort Hunt High School, here in Fairfax County, 40 years ago. Like Colonel Jacoboski, I spent several decades serving our nation in the military and intelligence community. I now want to continue serving our republic in a different but equally important way — by ensuring that our public schools continue to prepare students for not just college, but also their adult lives and the responsibilities of citizenship.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?** I will ensure that all students in the Dranesville District get their fair and equitable share of FCPS resources. For over 20 years, the incumbent has voted for budgets that short-change the bulk of the students in our district, despite being a member and chairman of the audit or budget committees for nearly all that time. We have ended up with the largest

class sizes in the county. She started as an at-large School Board member in the 1990s, and she never made the transition to representing the people of this district. In contrast, I have worked with corporate and federal agency financial and budget documents for decades, and I

understand that getting a fair allocation of the budget requires fighting for it. I will have no difficulty parsing FCPS financial reports and budget documents quickly and asking incisive questions. That's what this district, and the School Board, needs.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?** The economic differences across the county are outside the control of FCPS. The county and state must improve economic growth and make Fairfax more attractive to businesses. FCPS can contribute by delivering well-educated and well-trained graduates to those businesses.

**4. How will you address the achievement gap?** Despite decades of our best efforts and large expenses, gaps between low-SES and high-SES students stubbornly persist. Unfortunately, most critical factors that influence achievement lie outside the school house. Schools will continue to engage parents as much as possible and provide extra services to students in need, but wisdom indicates that fixing the root causes of low achievement goes beyond the scope and charter of FCPS. These problems must be tackled by county and state polices and programs.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?** This needs much more response than the 500 word limit set for this questionnaire. However, we should first start by using the \$158M surplus cash in the operating budget carried forward from previous years. This can fund several years of "budget gaps" before we need to take actual cuts in expenses, and will give more time for economic recovery and business growth, which are absolutely necessary for long term budget stability.

**6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?** More than half the taxes collected in the county go to FCPS. However, a reputation for excellent schools significantly increases property values. FCPS provides an increase in value in return for those taxes.

## Janie Strauss



**Incumbent**  
**Town of residence:** McLean  
**Age:** 68  
**Family:** Mother of 4 FCPS graduates, grandmother of 2 current FCPS students, mother-in-law of an FCPS teacher  
**Education:** BA (GWU), Master of Arts in Teaching (Harvard)

**Offices held, dates:** School Board member At-Large, 1991-1993, Dranesville representative, 1996 to present  
**Occupation and relevant experience:** former elementary teacher, PTA president, president of the FCCPTA, board chair, The Country Day School, board chair, The Cappies (a high school theater and journalism program)

**Community involvement:** McLean Project for the Arts, Healthy Families Fairfax

**Website:** [www.janiestrauss.com](http://www.janiestrauss.com)

**Email address:** [jkstrauss@cox.net](mailto:jkstrauss@cox.net)

**Twitter handle:**

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Democratic Party, Fairfax Education Association, Fairfax County Federations of Teachers 10

### QUESTIONS:

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Our investment and oversight of our public schools is critical to the future success of our children our county, our state and indeed, our nation. With the challenges facing the next generation — from global instability and an integrated global economy to climate change and energy sustainability — our children's education is more important than ever. We must keep our highly regarded public schools strong. We must improve teacher pay, reduce class size, close achievement gaps, and emphasize high-level thinking, literacy and communication skills. We must maintain our rigorous programs for ALL students in the STEM fields, the arts, humanities and athletics. While we must continuously evaluate programs shedding what is no longer needed or effective, we must understand how to prepare our children for their future. Their success will come not from what they know but what they can do with what they know.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

I have spent 40 years in the field of education. I understand teaching and learning, the use new research, budget prioritization, and the changes needed to prepare our children for success in a high tech globalized world.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

All schools regardless of the socio economic background of the surrounding community must have the needed resources to sustain high standards, employ excellent teachers and offer

all students a rigorous well rounded, rich curriculum. We must also urge the Board of Supervisors to avoid as much as possible, housing patterns that tend to over-concentrate high poverty in certain regions.

#### 4. How will you address the achievement gap?

Our schools must provide the expectation and needed resources for all children to succeed. We must continue weighted staffing formulas, provide targeted help to teachers, and insure all students are taught a rigorous well rounded rich curriculum. We must expand community-wide initiatives such as Communities at Hope in Herndon and Opportunity Neighborhoods in Mt. Vernon and Reston and continue the county/schools coordination of social services that provides wrap around help for families.

#### 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

The priorities must be improving teacher salaries, lowering class size in non-Title 1 schools and maintaining our rigorous well rounded programs for all students. We must work collaboratively with the Board of Supervisors to understand total county needs, listen carefully to citizen input and continuously look for efficiencies and cost savings. I agree with Supervisor John Foust that school needs must be considered at the very beginning of budget planning rather than toward the end in March/April when adjustments are limited and difficult.

#### 6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?

Good schools sustain property values, attract businesses and jobs to the county which can increase the percent of commercial real estate and decrease the county's reliance on residential real estate for county revenues.

## Voting Requirements and Information

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 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; 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.

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m. You can check your registration status online by going to [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov).

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, three members of the School Board At Large, one District member of the School Board, Soil and Water Conservation Board (vote for 3), School Bond for \$310 million, Public Safety Bond for \$151 million.

### 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; email [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov)

SPORTS ROUNDUPS



McLean sophomore outside hitter Madison McArthur had 12 kills against South Lakes on Oct. 19.



Senior setter Autumn Brenner and the McLean volleyball team are off to a 3-1 start in Conference 6 play.

### Langley Field Hockey Earns Regional Berth

The Langley field hockey team beat South Lakes 4-0 on Monday in the opening round of the Conference 6 tournament, earning a regional tournament berth. The Saxons will compete in the conference semifinals on Wednesday, Oct. 21.

### McLean Field Hockey Beats Yorktown

The McLean field hockey team secured a regional tournament berth with a 5-2 win over Yorktown on Monday in the opening round of the Conference 6 tournament. The Highlanders will compete in the conference semifinals on Wednesday.

### Herndon Field Hockey Falls to Westfield

The Westfield and Herndon field hockey teams entertained those in attendance Friday night for a makeup game originally scheduled for Oct. 2. Westfield was clad with white jerseys and pink writing as part of Cancer Awareness Night. Mackenzie Karl's goal in the second half provided the only goal of the game and Westfield held on to win 1-0 against visiting Herndon. Westfield improved to 14-2 and Herndon fell to 12-4. The Conference 5 tournament started Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The VHSL State Finals will be held in Virginia Beach at the National Training Center, Nov. 13-14.

— WILL PALENSCAR

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## McLean Volleyball Falls to South Lakes

The McLean volleyball team had its five-match win streak snapped on Oct. 19, losing to South Lakes 3-0 (25-20, 25-23, 25-23) in Reston.

The Highlanders won 11 of their last 12,

but Monday's loss dropped their record to 18-5 overall and 3-1 in Conference 6.

Sophomore outside hitter Madison McArthur led McLean with 12 kills. Senior middle blocker Karen Shedlock had three kills, and sophomore outside hitter Leona

Ng and senior middle blocker Josephine Oakley each had two.

The Highlanders will return to action Wednesday, Oct. 21 when McLean hosts defending state runner-up Madison at 7:15 p.m.

## Great Falls Courage Blue Team Wins Virginia Beach Tournament

The undefeated Great Falls Courage Blue soccer team keeps the streak alive by winning the Virginia Beach FC U12 girls tournament over Columbus Day weekend. The girls went 3-0 in bracket play, outscoring their opponents by 11 goals.

They defeated Central Virginia United from Lynchburg, Va., in the championship game (2-1). The team is coached by Rado Pletka and assisted by Courtney Kim.



From left, front row: Caitlyn Shumadine, Avery Perez, Gianna Russo, Maya Kanaan, Elizabeth Rothenberger, Allie Wakeman, Olivia Walke, Isabelle Brittin. Back row: Zoe Malekzadeh, Alexa Gianoplus, Casey Kerrigan, Lynley Birchard, Theresa Ryan, Lexie Perez, Coach Courtney Kim. (Not pictured Coach Rado Pletka)

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

# CALENDAR

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

## ONGOING WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY

**Weekly Storytime.** 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.

## ONGOING

**The 53rd Annual James A. Bland Contest.** Through Monday, Feb. 15. Vienna Assembly of God Church, 100 Ayr Hill Avenue, Vienna. Sponsored by the Vienna Host Lions Club, the contest will include school age (elementary and high school) vocalists and instrumentalists who will each present a song or piece of no more than eight minutes and will be judged by local experts in their field. Cash prizes will be awarded to 1st and 2nd place winners in each category. Contest will be on Saturday, Feb. 20, at 1 p.m. Information and an application can be obtained by contacting Lion Susan Stiles at [sandcs89@yahoo.com](mailto:sandcs89@yahoo.com) or 703-938-1142. The deadline for applications is Monday, Feb. 15.

## ONGOING

**Two Simultaneous One Man Shows.** Through Saturday, Nov. 14. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Frame Factory, 212 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. Figurative artists David Cochran's and Joseph Sheppard Rogers' work will be on display.

## THURSDAY/OCT. 22

**Haunted Gingerbread Houses Workshop.** 6:30-8 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Tickets: \$35-\$45.

**Halloween Bunco Night Benefit.** 7-9 p.m. The Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant Street NW, Vienna. Games, food and wine, and art works. Come in costume, if you like. Space is limited and a \$20 donation reserves your seat. <http://viennaartsociety.org/events-exhibitions/>.

**Classic Books Discussion Group.** 1 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Join writer/scholar Amanda Holmes Duffy for a discussion of The Legend of Sleepy Hollow by Washington Irving. Adults and teens.

**Alka Dhillon.** 7 p.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Local Businesswoman and author Alka Dhillon will sign copies of her book The Om Factor: A Woman's Spiritual Guide to Leadership. Free admission.

## FRIDAY/OCT. 23

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

**McLean Art Society Meeting.** 10 a.m.-noon. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. Jan Ponder, landscape artist will give a demonstration of the use of encaustics, a burn in technique with hot wax. 703-790-0123.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 24

**Great Falls Farmers Market.** 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. [www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org](http://www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org)

**Road Dahl Double Feature.** 2 & 7 p.m. Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. George C. Marshall's drama department will open the 2015-2016 Season with a Road Dahl Double Feature including "The Twits" and "Danny, the

Champion of the World." Tickets \$5-\$15. <http://statesmentheatre.org>. 703-714-5400.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 24-25

**Autumn Harvest Show.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. In time for the festivities ahead, potters offer tabletop items fit to grace a Thanksgiving table or haunt a Halloween spread. Credit card, cash, checks accepted.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 24-NOV. 1

**Reston Zoo's Zooboo.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Reston Zoo, 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Designed for a younger audience, Zoo Boo offers four days of scare-free fun. Join their safe zoo neighborhood of Halloween entertainment, with kid-friendly fun around every corner.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 24

**D.C.'s Dancy Stars Gala.** 6 p.m.-12 a.m. Hyatt Regency, Tyson's Corner, 7901 Tysons One Place Tysons. The 2nd annual charity ballroom dancing competition launched by Fred Astaire Dance Studio-Fairfax's owners and gala co-chairs, Jim David and Maria Coakley David will bring together some of D.C.'s hottest celebrity names and notable regional dancers to compete for the 2015 DC Mirror Ball Championship trophy and \$10,000 for the charity of their choice. Chelsie Hightower from ABC's "Dancing with the Stars," Lamont Easter from "House of Cards" and Shane Lewis from "Naked and Afraid," will be some of the celebrity judges who will crown the winning couple. Dress black tie. [www.dcsdancingstarsgala.com](http://www.dcsdancingstarsgala.com).

**Candlelight Tour of Historic Cemetery.** 6 p.m. Tour starts at 7 p.m. Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Road, Oakton. Local historian Jim Lewis will discuss the history of the cemetery, which dates to the Civil War, and will detail the lives of some of those interred there. Cemetery is located at 2845 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Donation of \$10. [www.flinthillcemetery.org](http://www.flinthillcemetery.org).

**Biscuit.** 2 p.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Biscuit comes to Barnes & Noble at Tysons Corner! Join for a special storytime and a chance to meet this beloved classic character. Free admission.

## SUNDAY/OCT. 25

**Stand-up Comedy.** 3 p.m. Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna. An afternoon of side-splitting stand-up comedy with world-class performer, Mack Dryden. For tickets visit <http://scov.org/fundraiser> or call SCOV 703-281-0538 - \$25 in advance; \$30 at the door.

**Concerts at the Alden.** 3 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Free.

**Trunk or Treat.** 11 a.m. Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Community event. Children 5th grade and under. Free. [youth@greatfallsumc.org](mailto:youth@greatfallsumc.org).

## MONDAY/OCT. 26

**Spanish Chat.** 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Drop in conversation with native Spanish speaker.

**Tiny Tots.** 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Story time featuring stories, rhymes and songs. Ages 13 - 23 months with adult.

**Small Wonders.** 10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. An early literacy enhanced story time, featuring



**Judy Gold and Bruce Vilanch perform at The Alden, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, on Saturday, Nov. 7. The comedians pair up for separate stand-up sets united by their gay, Jewish identities and raunchy, sidesplitting observations. Mature audiences.**



**Martina Boone celebrates the release of her latest book "Persuasion" at Barnes and Noble in Tysons Corner Center on Friday, Oct. 30.**

maintaining, customizing and coding drones. All levels welcome. Ages 8 and up.

## Halloween Calendar

*Halloween events in the area*

### THURSDAY/OCT. 22

**Haunted Gingerbread Houses Workshop.** 6:30-8 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Tickets: \$35-\$45.

**Halloween Bunco Night Benefit.** 7-9 p.m. The Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant Street NW, Vienna. Games, food and wine, and art works. Come in costume, if you like. Space is limited and a \$20 donation reserves your seat. <http://viennaartsociety.org/events-exhibitions/>.

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**Reston Zoo's Zooboo.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Reston Zoo, 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Designed for a younger audience, Zoo Boo offers four days of scare-free fun. Join the safe zoo neighborhood of Halloween entertainment, with kid-friendly fun around every corner.

### SUNDAY/OCT. 25

**Trunk or Treat.** 11 a.m. Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Community event. Children 5th grade and under. Free. [youth@greatfallsumc.org](mailto:youth@greatfallsumc.org).

### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 28

**69th Annual Vienna Halloween Parade.** 7 p.m. Maple Avenue, Vienna. With the theme of "Celebrating 125 Years of the Town of Vienna" come in costume to celebrate Halloween. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 30-31

**Water Pumpkin Patch.** Friday, 5-7 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Tysons YWCA, 8101 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. Come ready to have fun, swim in the pool with the pumpkins and pick one to go. \$6 per person, \$20 per family. [karen@neptune-aquatics.com](mailto:karen@neptune-aquatics.com).

stories, rhymes, songs and activities for you and your child. 12-23 months with caregiver.

### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 28

**69th Annual Vienna Halloween Parade.** 7 p.m. Maple Avenue, Vienna. With the theme of "Celebrating 125 Years of the Town of Vienna" come in costume to celebrate Halloween. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

### Great Falls Historical Society

**Photo Review & History Gathering.** 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Great Falls Library Meeting Room. Review archive of digitized photos to gather history and local memories. All are welcome. [www.gfhs.org](http://www.gfhs.org)

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

### THURSDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 29-31

**"The Cherry Orchard."** Thursday-Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. Madeira Chapel Auditorium, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Anton Chekhov's play on the rich tapestry of human emotion, ambition and desire in a small-town Russian community coming to grips with the reality of changing times. \$5, \$10. Purchase tickets at <https://www.madeira.org/arts/performing-arts/drama-theatre/buy-tickets/>.

### THURSDAY/OCT. 29

**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.

**Da Vinci Drone Coders Network.** 6:30 p.m. Learn about building,

### FRIDAY/OCT. 30

**Ellis Paul.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Ellis' songs have been featured on Hollywood soundtracks in films such as: "Me, Myself and Irene," "Shallow Hal" and "Hall Pass," as well as TV shows and documentary films. He has performed on stages at the Newport Folk Festival, Carnegie Hall, and clubs, coffeehouses all over the world. \$20-22. All ages. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**"Persuasion" Book Launch.** 5-9 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons Corner, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Award-winning YA author and teen literacy advocate Martina Boone is coming to celebrate the release of her new book. Q and A, costume contests, crafts and book signing.

**Book Fair.** 5-9 p.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Join as they welcome the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia to the store for a book fair. This Halloween themed book fair will feature interactive story building sessions, a costume contest for younger children and another one for teens, storytimes, crafts and various other activities. Free admission.

**Family Game Time.** 3:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Drop-in and play assorted board games. All skill levels and ages welcome.

### FRIDAY/OCT. 30

**2015 Arts Awards.** Noon-2 p.m. Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. Jim Vance of NBC 4 will emcee the event honoring four awardees, Earle C. Williams, Rebecca Kamen, Vienna Jammers, Richard Hausler. Great Falls sculptor Jonathan Fisher designed custom awards, commissioned by the Arts Council. For tickets and information, <http://artsfairfax.org/artsawards>.

### SATURDAY/OCT. 31

**"The Man Who Laughs."** 2 p.m. The Alden, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Based on a Victor Hugo novel, this sad, horrific and swashbuckling film is a great way to start off Halloween celebrations. \$12, \$8. [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

# We Can Do Better

## Opposition to I-66 tolls inside the Beltway.

BY STATE SEN. DAVID MARSDEN (D-37)  
DEL. DAVID BULOVA (D-37)

Having both been raised here in Northern Virginia, we have seen first-hand how the chronic congestion problems on I-66 have affected our economy and quality of life. Like most people in our area, this is personal. Traffic on I-66 has stolen countless hours that could have been spent with family or at work. That is why we were proud to support the bipartisan transportation package passed by the Virginia General Assembly in 2013 that is now generating billions for infrastructure improvements in our region. However, the way revenue is generated does matter, which is why we feel compelled to express our current opposition to the Virginia Department of Transportation's plan to toll I-66 inside the Beltway. While legitimate concern has been raised with regard to the cost to commuters, there is a much deeper principal at stake. No one likes the idea of tolls. But like water and sewer service, there should at least

be a strong link between who pays and the services delivered. The idea of tolling I-66 inside the Beltway without a solid plan for creating new infrastructure that directly benefits the toll payers simply fails to meet this basic test. Likewise, we are concerned that this project violates the concept of first do-no-harm. A recent study by Fairfax County found that while those using parallel roads won't be affected in the direction of rush hour traffic, those who go the opposite direction will see significant increases in traffic. Even if this can be absorbed in the short-term, we have serious doubts about whether this is sustainable in the long-term. The days of one-way rush hour traffic are quickly going the way of the dinosaur as areas like Tysons, Herndon, Chantilly, Reston, and Centreville continue to develop. VDOT's actions mean that those who are using these local roads will see their commutes lengthened. This will include neighborhoods both inside and outside of the Beltway.

We applaud VDOT for coming up with some promising and creative solutions — including the active traffic management system recently implemented outside of the Beltway. But the current plan to toll I-66 inside the Beltway without increased capacity is the wrong way to go. It is a matter of principal.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 10

should be re-elected supervisor. A supervisor should focus on the community he serves, listen to his constituents, and support the decisions that best promote the education, safety, and communal environment of Dranesville District and Fairfax County. John does exactly that. He knows the community, he listens to us, he works hard for us—and gets results. John Foust is the superior candidate and should be re-elected.

**Caroline and Ed Pickens**  
McLean

## Leading the Way on Education

To the Editor:

John Foust is a strong candidate for Dranesville Supervisor, as he has repeatedly demonstrated while serving in this position. He has a record of balancing eight straight county budgets. Foust has shown his strong support for full funding of county schools. More than any supervisor, he is leading the way on education. It is not surprising that he has indicated his endorsement by Pat Hynes, Chair of the School Board, 10 Members of the Board, and the teachers' union.

Foust's record is solid. He has earned my vote. His opponent, who did not even show up at a recent "Meet and Greet" at the McLean Community Center, seems

to be uninterested in the race or is not prepared to stand up against a formidable incumbent. I will support and vote for Supervisor John Foust.

**Vicki Portney**  
McLean

## Foust Delivers for Dranesville

To the Editor:

I find much of the campaign literature that comes to my mail box this time before an election to be immediate waste can material. I was surprised recently to get a mailer entitled "Meet a Good Neighbor" from Supervisor John Foust. The piece included no attacks on his opponent or unsubstantiated guarantees of tax savings or uncovering wasteful programs. Instead it contained a list of 40 projects that Supervisor Foust implemented over his past two terms in office. This included numerous projects which have improved traffic flow, trails, sidewalks, and turf fields. However, also included were major projects such as: Widening Route 7 west of Tysons, funding for Metro Silver Line, major expansion of Spring Hill Rec Center, a new Fire Stations in Great Falls and Herndon.

This level of accomplishments is quite impressive. I recommend that voters check out Supervisor Foust's web site: FoustforSupervisor.com, to learn more about his record. I

know his opponent who has no experience in Fairfax County public affairs can't come close to matching Foust's record.

Supervisor Foust has delivered and should be re-elected Nov. 3.

**Susan Sachs**  
McLean

## 'The Best Supervisor We Have Ever Had'

To the Editor:

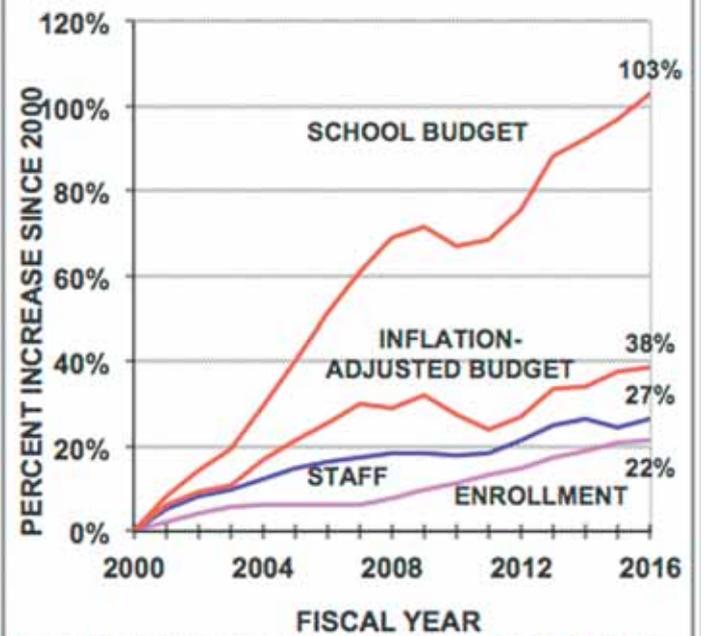
The forum held at the McLean Community Center on Wednesday, Oct. 14 and hosted by the League of Women Voters was superbly moderated and very informative. Participant debates were around issues thus providing attendees with a comparison from which to choose.

John Foust was asked many questions on a broad range of subjects. He responded without hesitation and gave in depth answers. He knows the Dranesville District and he knows Fairfax County. My own contacts with his office have consistently been met with very professional handling of the issue in a timely manner.

As a 43 year resident of McLean I say without reservation that John Foust is the best supervisor we have ever had. He will continue to get my vote.

**Joyce Schuman**  
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## Deeper Look at School Spending

To the Editor:

The editorial ("Closer Look at School Spending," The Connection, Oct. 14-20, 2015) cites a draft report from the Virginia Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) to say that Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) reduced spending by 6.5 percent between 2009 and 2014.

It turns out that 2009 was the end of the decade-long housing bubble, during which the real estate tax paid by the typical Fairfax County homeowner increased 100 percent, from \$2,400 to \$4,800.

Between the start of the housing bubble in 2000 and 2016, while FCPS enrollment increased 22 percent, FCPS spending increased 100 percent. Even after adjusting for inflation, FCPS spending increased 38 percent. FCPS staff increased 27 percent.

FCPS has claimed that since 2008 its budget was cut by \$500M and 2,000 positions. In fact, its budget increased by \$350M and 1,000 positions.

The JLARC report notes an increase in health insurance spending. It could have included pensions, too. Since 2000, FCPS and Fairfax County spending for pensions and "Cadillac" health plans increased by \$700M. If that spending had increased at the same rate as enrollment and

inflation, the increase would have been \$400M less.

The editorial notes the increasing number of FCPS students living in poverty. However FCPS has failed over the last 30 years to raise minority (Hispanic and African-American) achievement. Children in poverty are not getting educated, and a disproportionate number of them end up in jail. The problem is not the children or their families but the FCPS K-3 curriculum. The minority student achievement gap evident in 12<sup>th</sup> grade is evident in fourth grade. By fourth grade, children should have mastered reading and arithmetic. FCPS fails in both because it does not use phonics-based reading instruction and has inadequate drill in arithmetic. In addition it bores children with social studies. Virginia, U.S., and world history instruction should begin in Kindergarten instead of waiting until fourth grade. Younger children enjoy learning history.

Higher achievement resulting from better curricula would reduce disciplinary and special education costs and save FCPS and the taxpayers tens and perhaps hundreds of millions of dollars.

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## I'm Fine Until I'm Not



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I title this column within the context of yours truly waiting for the results from my most recent diagnostic scan, a PET Scan in fact, a scan which offers more detail and clarity than the usual and customary CT Scan – without contrast (for those of you in the diagnostic loop) – that I have scheduled every three months going on nearly seven years now. I'm not stressing about it particularly, even though a post-scan (Wednesday appointment)/pre-weekend e-mail notification providing the results (especially the good kind) might have de-bumped the weekend road, but we've been down this dusty trail before so we (Team Lourie) will manage. Ergo the title.

My philosophy with respect to life in general and being a cancer patient in specific has been: "It's nothing until it's something." And if a follow-up explanation has been required, I've usually added something like: "It will be bad enough when it's actually bad, so I don't see the need to make it bad when so far as we know, it might be good." (Sounds like a mnemonic device trying to explain the difference between its and it's.) And continuing to be relatively/comparatively (speaking of grammatical/word usage; both apply here, I think) asymptomatic has certainly been a good/make-that-great thing; nevertheless, I can't help but remember that my original emergency room visit on January 1st, 2009 was precipitated by pain in my rib cage which had migrated from right to left and the associated shortness of breath. Three days later however, after being prescribed six pills to be taken over three days – for a possible pneumonia, my symptoms disappeared and remained so until I began chemotherapy a week after my diagnosis was confirmed on February 27th by my new best friend, my oncologist. That's when the fun really began: side effects of chemotherapy. But that's a whole 'nother series of stories, past and presumably future.

And since there's no guaranteeing one's future, all I can do, especially as a non-small cell lung cancer patient originally characterized as "terminal," with late/the latest stage – stage IV – is to minimize the complications I can control: diet, exercise, nutrition and stress, and accept the ones I can't. Stress is our four-letter word and maybe even a killer, too. And it serves no real purpose other than to create pain and suffering, when the complete opposite is what's needed and much preferred. Fortunately, my personality enables me to live life – emotionally – as if I'm not living on the precipice and about to be robbed of a reasonably normal senior circuit, given the fact that both my parents lived beyond their mid-eighties. (My limited knowledge and presumption of such lineage-related subjects was that as the son, I would likely have the same or better life expectancy.) Being told instead, at age 54 and a half, that I had "13 months to two years to live" was disappointing to say the least and downright dehumanizing to say the most.

It certainly becomes a not-merry-go-round existence on your date of diagnosis/prognosis and for the seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and even years ahead (if you're lucky?); but eventually one, at least this one, finds a level on which one can live, love and laugh and not be constantly overwhelmed by less-than-ideal medical circumstances. Am I pretending? Am I presuming? Am I hoping and praying? Am I fighting back my internal demons? Am I compartmentalizing? Yes! Yes! Yes! Yes! and Yes! Every chance I get. But as the doctor treating Capt. Augustus McRae in Miles City, near the end of part three of "Lonesome Dove" advised Gus to let the doctor amputate his remaining leg, Gus replied: "Sawbones, you can't have that other leg. Now how would I kick a pig?" To which the doctor responded: "I assure, sir, the alternative is gloomy."

Well, I don't want to be a gloomy Gus – which Augustus wasn't, any more that I want to be a dismal Jimmy, which I rarely am. However, this cancer diagnosis presents all sorts of challenges – some I can overcome, some I can't. Most of all though, I'm trying to stay in the present, and deal with my future one day/result at a time.

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



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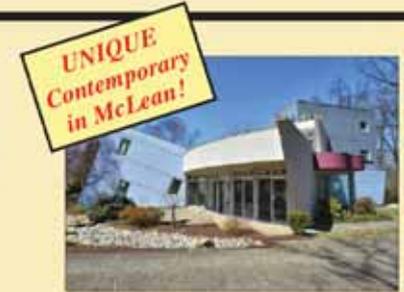
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