



Springfield
CONNECTION

Franconia ❖ Kingstowne ❖ Newington

Grace deValle and her daughter Sofializ, of Springfield, love the peacefulness of Hidden Pond Nature Center. It has become their favorite place to visit since moving to the area.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2016-2017

A healthy body starts with a healthy mouth!

At Peter K. Cocolis, Jr. and Associates, we believe optimum oral health is key to total body health and well-being. These days, going to the dentist is not just about taking good care of your teeth; it is about taking good care of your health. Problems in your mouth can be signs of trouble elsewhere in your body. Your oral exam reveals important early warning signs for many total-body conditions including diabetes, oral cancer and high blood pressure.

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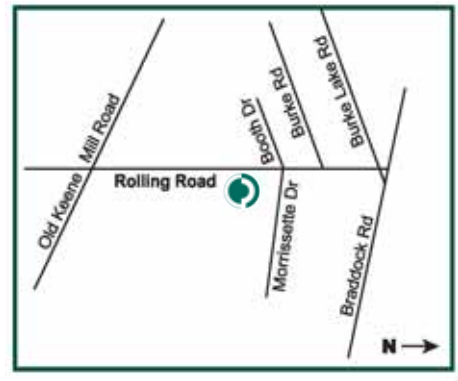
Consistently named "Top Dentist" in *Northern Virginia* magazine and among the "Best Dentists in the Metropolitan Area" in



Washingtonian magazine, Drs. Cocolis and DaSilva exceed industry standards in the time they dedicate to continuing education and service. Our skilled and compassionate team pairs patient education with the latest dental techniques and technology, offering an extensive array of dental services including digital x-rays, injection-free laser procedures, CAD-cam same-day porcelain crowns, tooth whitening, Invisalign, and veneers. We offer a variety of sedation options including oral sedation and nitrous oxide (sleep dentistry) and are dedicated to easing all aspects of your dental experience.

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"Top Dentist"
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- Nitrous oxide
- Crowns, bridges, inlays, onlays
- Extractions
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- Periodontal (gum) therapy including scaling and root planing
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- Custom occlusal and sport guards
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- Bonding and veneers
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Peter K. Cocolis, Jr., DMD

& Associates

Peter K. Cocolis, Jr., DMD, MAGD

Emily A. DaSilva, DDS, FAGD



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Welcome to Fairfax County

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN, FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS



Northern Virginia Community College are located just down the road for affordable higher education opportunities in many different subject fields. Our business-friendly economy ensures career opportunities for both our older and younger residents.

Welcome to Fairfax County, one of the greatest places in the nation to live, work, play and raise a family. Fairfax County is home to a thriving business community, vibrant entertainment and shopping destinations, a world class university, beautiful parks, and a diverse population of engaged residents. Whether you are a long-time resident or are new to the county, I hope you'll take some time to visit some of our most popular spots to enjoy what Fairfax County has to offer.

Tysons Corner and Fair Oaks Malls, Reston Town Center, Fairfax Corner, Springfield Town Center and the Mosaic District are great places to shop, eat and spend time with friends. For cultural destinations, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts are two of my favorites. And for enjoying the arts along with community gatherings like Springfest and Brewfest, the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton is a must. For fresh air and exercise, I recommend our extensive network of trails, parks and RECenters.

While there are a lot of fun things to do in Fairfax County, our community is notorious for our "work hard, play hard" ethic. Time Magazine has described us as the epicenter of the Washington region's job boom and one of the great economic success stories of our time. Fairfax County is home to eight Fortune 500 company headquarters, more than 8,400 technology firms, and over 116.2 million square feet of office space.

Fairfax County has one of the best public school systems nationwide with a graduation rate topping 90 percent. Our school system is the 10th largest in the country with nearly 187,000 students and 196 schools and centers. After high school graduation, George Mason University and

On the local government level, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is constantly hard at work to ensure quality public services for our residents. Our 10-member Board of Supervisors strives to maintain positive community engagement, while strategically planning for the future with land use and infrastructure decisions.

Some recent accomplishments include updating many of our police policies, establishing a Diversion First program for people with mental illness who become involved with law enforcement, and successfully extending Metrorail to Tysons and Reston, with Phase 2 of the Silver Line currently under construction all the way to Dulles Airport and into Loudoun County.

Fairfax County offers opportunity and quality services for residents of all ages. People from all over the globe have made Fairfax County their home, enriching our community with their diverse cultures and entrepreneurship. Please visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov or www.fxva.com to learn more about what Fairfax County has to offer you and your family.

As chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I am elected at-large by Fairfax County residents. My office is here to serve you. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or give my office a call at 703-324-2321. I hope you will sign up to receive my monthly Bulova Byline newsletter that will keep you up-to-date on what is happening in your community! Welcome to your new home.

County Schools: Teaching for 21st Century

What's new at Fairfax County Public Schools.

BY DR. KAREN K. GARZA
SUPERINTENDENT, FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

different ways to design instructional practices to support the development of these essential skills.

We are also working to define contemporary teaching and learning practices while better integrating technology. For



Welcome to the 2016-17 school year in Fairfax County Public Schools.

With each new school year, we have the wonderful opportunity to build upon our previous successes and continue to improve our work with our students.

We are continuing to look to our Portrait of a Graduate and our strategic plan in shaping our future work. Our most pressing challenge is making this vision a reality for every child in our system. How do we refine what we do to ensure that all of our students graduate well-prepared for this rapidly changing world? We acknowledge that this is a daunting challenge, but there is no school system in the United States more well-prepared and well-equipped to effectively respond to these important issues.

The goals of education can no longer simply be to provide the basic literacy skills for the majority of the students, while reserving the teaching of skills for higher order 21st century thinking for a select few. As we learn more about the skills our students will need for success in this changing world, we recognize the need to innovate — to consider new and

example, through a pilot program we are calling FCPSOn — this year we begin evaluating how digital resources can best scaffold that model — and how we provide teachers and students with the tools and policies needed to facilitate the use of that

technology.

One change you will see this school year is a new central website and a new FCPS logo. Our new website will better serve everyone — it is mobile responsive, features more modern design — and search will work. As we modernized our website, we also believed it was time to reimagine the FCPS logo. While the previous logo has served us well for 40 years, we heard from many that it was time to transform our logo to one reflective of who we are now and who we aspire to be in the years to come.

Our new logo includes a tie to our legacy, while representing our role as a catalyst — sparking curiosity, learning and excellence for our students, employees and community.

I wish all students, teachers, parents and the entire FCPS community a very successful and fulfilling school year in FCPS where all are engaged, inspired, and thrive.

'Insider's Tip' to New Businesses

Fairfax County Economic Development Authority helps in starting or expanding business in the county.

BY GERALD L. GORDON
PRESIDENT AND CEO, FAIRFAX COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

If you are new to Fairfax County, welcome to one of the world's most interesting places to live and work. If you are new to the county and are interested in being part of our dynamic business community, here is an "insider's tip" that you will want to know: The Fairfax County Economic Development Authority

(FCEDA), works with everyone who wants to start or expand a business in the county.

For aspiring entrepreneurs, we host "Entrepreneurship 101: Starting a Business in Fairfax County" workshops almost every month. Some 4,000 people have attended one of these workshops since 2003 and you will find a wealth of local, state and federal resources to help you map out starting a business here. If you need office space, the FCEDA helps businesses find the office space they need so they can grow in the county.

We have a complete database of office space options in every part of the county, and we can help you navigate that process so you become an established part of the business community.

Why do we do this? The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors charged the FCEDA with building a business community — help companies create jobs and fill office space — to build the commercial tax base. This generates revenue that the Board of Super-



COURTESY PHOTO
**Gerald L.
Gordon, Ph.D.**

visors uses to fund the full range of high-quality public services for which Fairfax County is well-known. Building the commercial tax base means that residents don't have to pick up all the costs of providing those services.

The FCEDA has been working for more than 50 years with entrepreneurs and owners of businesses of every size to enlarge the commercial tax base and make the Fairfax County economy one of the strongest anywhere. Visit www.fairfaxcountyyeda.org to see how the Economic Development Authority can help you.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Helping to End and Prevent Homelessness

Nonprofits around Northern Virginia help with chronic homelessness, homeless families, victims of domestic violence, homeless youth and more.

New Hope Housing

Location: Alexandria and Fairfax County
Executive Director: Pamela L. Michell
Contact info: 703-799-2293 – admin@newhopehousing.org
Annual Budget: \$5,900,000

How to get involved: Contact Nicole Dillon to learn about volunteering opportunities at shelters & housing programs or to take a tour: ndillon@newhopehousing.org

New Hope Housing provides homeless families and individuals shelter, housing, and the tools to build a better life. It operates shelters and housing programs that serve more than 350 people each day in Alexandria, Fairfax County, Falls Church, and Arlington. Last year, more than 400 people moved from homelessness to housing through one or more of its programs.

Northern Virginia Family Service

Multiple locations all over Northern Virginia; Headquarters – Oakton .

Executive Director: Stephanie Berkowitz (CEO/President)

Contact info: 10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124, 571-748-2500, info@nvfs.org

Annual Budget: \$33.35 million

How to get involved:

Volunteer: NVFS is committed to engaging volunteers in meaningful opportunities that encourage innovative ideas, unique perspectives and specialized expertise. Visit nvfs.org/volunteernow to search for current opportunities and greatest needs.

Shop bargains that benefit NVFS: When you shop at our Centreville, Falls Church or Manassas Thrift Shops, all proceeds benefit NVFS. Donations of gently used clothing and household items are welcome at any of these locations. For hours and directions to its Thrift Shops, visit nvfs.org/thriftshops.

Become a foster parent: Many children in the community need a loving, safe home. NVFS's experienced caseworkers carefully match each child to a trained foster family to ensure each child reaches his/her full potential. Learn more at nvfs.org/fostercare.

Through its comprehensive, holistic approach to services, Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) helps more than 34,000 individuals and their families each year find housing and emergency services; health and mental health services; early childhood education and child placement services; intervention and prevention programs; job training; and legal services. More than half of NVFS clients live below the national poverty level (\$24,260 annual salary for a family of four). NVFS's needs vary greatly, depending on programs and locations. Visit nvfs.org to learn more about the organization, as well as nvfs.org/wishlist for a full list of donation requests.

Homestretch, Inc.

Location – Fairfax County
Executive Director – Christopher Fay
Contact info – Christopher Fay, direct 703-992-

9584, email cfay@homestretchva.org

Annual Budget - \$2.5M

How to get involved – Visit Homestretch's website or call 703-237-2035 to become involved. Homestretch has a vast number of volunteer opportunities.

The mission of Homestretch is to empower homeless families to secure permanent housing and to attain the skills, knowledge and hope to achieve lasting self-sufficiency. Homestretch provides an intensive array of services designed to provide a comprehensive and personalized approach to helping homeless parents with children to undertake the process of securing housing, increasing income, reducing debt, acquiring skills, building savings, enrolling in and completing education, and restoring health. Homestretch has earned many awards and regularly produces outcomes that lead the nation in terms of families' ability to escape homelessness forever.

Shelter House

Location - Serves all of Fairfax County
Executive Director & CEO - Joe Meyer
Contact info - (703) 935-1542 / Joe.Meyer@shelterhouse.org

Annual Budget - \$5.6 million

How to get involved - Individuals or groups can donate time, items and/or money. visit shelterhouse.org for more information

Shelter House is a private non-profit organization serving homeless families and victims of domestic violence. Currently, Shelter House operates two family shelters and the only 24/7 crisis shelter for victims of domestic violence. Most of Shelter House's work is done "outside" of the shelter where it provides financial support and services to families leaving the shelter and sometimes preventing families who are at-risk of becoming homeless. Its current needs that support the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness — willing landlords to rent to homeless families. Also, household items that will furnish homes for families ending their homelessness after leaving our shelters.

Alternative House - Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge

Location: Northern Virginia
Executive Director: Judith Dittman
Contact info: 703-506-9191

Hotline on runaway/homeless youth: Call 1-800-SAY-TEEN or text TEENHELP to 855-11.

www.thealternativehouse.org

Annual Budget: \$3.3 million

How to get involved: Alternative House relies heavily on donations and volunteer support to meet the critical needs of at-risk children, youth and families. You can make a monetary contribution, volunteer, or donate goods or services. You are strongly encouraged to attend an Open Door Information Session held the second Tuesday of each month at our Emergency Teen Shelter in Vienna. Learn more

SEE HOMELESSNESS, PAGE 5

About the Connection

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Springfield Connection's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to try to make sense of what is happening in your community, to gather information about the best things in and around your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an updated version of our award-winning Insider's Guide to the Parks, plus details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

We invite newcomers and long-time residents alike to let us know how we're doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, send us an email or call us, contact us on Facebook or send us a tweet. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an email with feedback about our coverage.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque,

KEEP IN TOUCH

- ❖ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/
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synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo.

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

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

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

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM,
[@MARYKIMM](http://WWW.TWITTER.COM/MARYKIMM)

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Homelessness

FROM PAGE 4

on its website, www.thealternativehouse.org.

Alternative House's vision is of a community in which all young people are safe, live in a nurturing environment and have the opportunity to reach their full potential. Founded in 1972, Alternative House transforms the lives of children and youth, helping them stay safe, make positive decisions, achieve educational success, and overcome personal crises. It offers children, youth and families hope for brighter futures by providing counseling, shelter and neighborhood-based support. Its hotline served 2,000 callers last year, and its emergency shelter housed nearly 200 youth in crisis. Alternative House always welcome the support of our community.

FACETS

Location – Main office located at - 10640 Page Avenue, Suite 300 Fairfax VA 22030
Executive Director – Margi Preston
Contact info – 703-352-5090/
www.FACETSCares.org
Annual Budget – \$3,300,466

How to get involved: Every other month FACETS offers an information session and tour to individuals interested in learning more about our impact in the community. Upcoming sessions take place on the first Tuesday of each month to include – Oct. 4,

Dec. 6, Feb. 7, April 4 and June 6. Monthly volunteer orientations are also held at FACETS' main office. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.FACETSCares.org or contact Josh D'Antonio at JDantonio@FACETSCares.org.

FACETS works to prevent and end homelessness in Fairfax County by offering a variety of services and supports for people who are homeless, unstably housed, or experiencing poverty. In 1988, FACETS began as a hot meals program, serving nutritious food to people who were homeless in Fairfax County. Since then, FACETS has evolved to meet the changing needs of the community. Today, FACETS serves over 2,000 people, with programs that help families and individuals break the cycle of poverty. Its team provides intensive case management services to help its client's gain life skills to enable them to enjoy a more stable future.

Many volunteers opportunities exist with FACETS, including helping families at an emergency shelter in Alexandria. Here FACETS volunteers work at the front desk and pantry, assist with childcare, and provide a transportation support for program participants enrolled in FACETS' employment readiness program. In addition, as it gear up for the holiday season, FACETS relies on volunteers to provide neighbors in need with positive holiday memories. Individu

SEE HOMELESSNESS, PAGE 7

Welcome to...
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John C. Cook

Braddock District Supervisor



Braddock Neighbors:

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

I send out a monthly newsletter, the Braddock Beacon, and periodic Cook Advisories updates. Sign up for our email newsletters and keep up with your community. You can also stay informed by visiting my website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock.

Every one of us has the exciting opportunity to shape our

neighborhoods and make Fairfax County an even better place to work and live. That's why, here in Braddock, I continually encourage folks to become active participants in their community and their local government. So come on out, step up and become an involved Braddock District resident.

Remember, I am here to serve you. Please keep in touch and let me know what more I can do for you.

Come in and see us!

We are located at:
Kings Park Library
9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, Virginia 22015

Call us at: 703.425.9300
Visit us online at:
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock

Places to See in Springfield District

Supervisor Pat Herry recommends some of the many places worth visiting in his district.

BY SUPERVISOR
PAT HERRY
(R-SPRINGFIELD)

There are so many quality places to visit in the Springfield District, it is hard to pick the “top ones.” Here is my attempt.

Burke Lake Park is the most visited park in Fairfax County’s Park system, and after going there you will see why. The park contains a trail that goes around the lake and is great for walking, with or without your dog, running and cycling. There is also fishing, boat rentals, camping, disc golf, mini-golf, an 18 hole golf course, a driving range, volleyball courts, a miniature carousel, and miniature train. There’s something for everyone. Burke Lake Park is located at 7315 Ox Rd, Fairfax Station, VA 22039

Make sure to catch your fill of **Friday Night Lights!** The Springfield District has some of the best high schools both academically and athletically in the country. As a West Springfield High School alumnus, there’s few things I enjoy more than getting to a football game in the fall where there’s a buzz in the air and a little snap of cold from the changing seasons. So cheer on your local high school team at West Springfield, Lake Braddock, South County, or Robinson.

The newly opened **Children’s Science Center Lab** in Fair Oaks Mall is a fantastic museum that allows children, and their parents, to get hands on experience with STEM concepts (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Education is so important, and this museum which is designed for kids between 2 and 12 years old does an excellent job of challenging and shaping young minds. Be sure to stay and shop and/ or eat at one of the best malls in the area. The Fair Oaks Mall is located at 11948 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax, VA 22033.

Attention history buffs: **Ox Hill Battlefield Park** is the site of the only major Civil War engagement in Fairfax County. Interpretive kiosks at the park present information about the battle and its significance and offer insights into some of the men who were wounded on this land. The park does a great job quickly orienting visitors and explaining where they stand in relation to the events that occurred on the battlefield. Ox Hill Battlefield Park is located at 4134 West Ox Rd, Fairfax, VA 22033.

Perfect for a cyclist, kayaker, hiker, or mini-golf enthusiast, **Fountainhead Regional Park** is the best place to escape from the hustle and bustle of Northern Virginia. Bikers at all ability levels will enjoy



PHOTO BY MARTI MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield), center, leads the first of many PokéQuests Aug. 5 in Burke Lake Park at a ‘Pokémon GO’ safety awareness event he co-sponsored with Fairfax County Police.

the loops and features of the mountain bike trail and kayak, power boat, and canoe rentals are available. Don’t forget your fishing pole! The reservoir is regularly stocked and is home to largemouth bass, catfish, crappie, perch, and bluegill. **Fountainhead Regional Park** is located at 10875 Hampton Rd, Fairfax Station, VA 22039.

One of our most visited “one-stop shops” is **South Run RECenter**. Not only does it feature a two-story fitness center with heated indoor pool and pool side spa, but the surrounding park offers soccer and baseball/softball fields, two tennis courts, two outdoor basketball courts, a field house with newly installed athletic turf playing surface, accessible playground, and an off-leash dog area. **South Run RECenter** is located at 7550 Reservation Dr, Springfield, VA 22153.

Peterson’s Ice Cream Depot is a family owned and operated business in Historic Clifton. And, let me tell you, they serve some of the best gourmet ice cream in Northern Virginia. While you’re there, make sure to pick up a Pat Herry Root Beer Soda Shake – it’s not your usual ice cream float! Peterson’s Ice Cream Depot is located at 7150 Main St, Clifton, VA 20124.

Acres of undisturbed woodland, quiet trails, splashing streams and a tranquil pond are just a few of the reasons to visit **Hidden Pond Nature Center**. The nature center, which is accessible to everyone, features exhibits and live displays which orient you to the park and the natural world of Fairfax County. In addition, the center has a small sales area featuring books and other items for the nature enthusiast and nature study areas for group visitors. Hidden Pond Nature Center is located at 8511

Greeley Blvd., Springfield, VA 22152.

Don’t miss Fairfax’s own little slice of paradise: the award-winning **Paradise Springs Winery**. The land the winery was built on has remained in the same family since Lord Fairfax granted it to them in 1716. Head down on Friday nights between 5 and 9 pm to hear live music and best wine in Fairfax County. Paradise Springs Winery 13219 Yates Ford Rd, Clifton, VA 20124.

One of the region’s largest shopping destinations in Fairfax, **Fair Oaks Mall** features a collection of 200 shops, services and dining establishments in an enclosed, two-story retail center. The mall offers one of the most diverse and compelling retail and dining collections under one roof and is the perfect destination on a sweltering or rainy weekend afternoon. Fair Oaks Mall is located at 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax, VA 22033.

Fairfax Station Railroad Museum is Fairfax County’s “Little Gem”. It was the last operating railroad station in Fairfax County, closing in 1973. It was built primarily to transport farm products to the Potomac River area. Museum displays and events help preserve the local history. Come and explore the fascinating story of our local community. The Museum may also be rented out to hold special events. **Fairfax Station Railroad Museum is located at 11200 Fairfax Station Rd, Fairfax Station, VA 22039.**

Learn valuable collaboration skills at **Hemlock Overlook Regional Park**, a fully equipped Outdoor Education Center. Take your family, friends, or co-workers to navigate the challenging rope course and zip line. Designed to bring school groups,

Contact

Office of Supervisor Pat Herry, Springfield District, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is located at 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152, Phone 703-451-8873, Springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield

office teams and community groups alike together to collaborate and solve real life challenges in the outdoors. Hemlock Overlook Regional Park is located at 13220 Yates Ford Rd, Clifton, VA 20124.

Any golfers in your family? **Twin Lakes Golf Course** offers golfers the opportunity of a full day of golf with two 18-hole courses. The Oaks’ par 71 and 6,715 yards challenge all golfers with multiple tees to ensure a fair test for all playing abilities. Every hole except one is tree-lined on both sides of the fairway, making accuracy the primary goal off the tee. The Lakes Course features a par-72 and 6,695-yard experience that requires more distance off the tee, but is much more forgiving than the Oaks Course. Twin Lakes Golf Course is located at 6201 Union Mill Rd, Clifton, VA 20124.

Most importantly, if there is ever anything my office can do for you, do not hesitate to ask. I have always agreed with Thomas Jefferson’s notion that government closest to the people is best, and you cannot get much closer to the people than being a Supervisor. Our jobs are multi-faceted; I would go as far to say that somewhere around 80 percent of an individual’s contact with government at any level is at our level. Whether it’s land use, transportation, public safety, or taxation related, my staff and I are always here to answer your questions.

Homelessness

FROM PAGE 4

als can support this effort by volunteering at a holiday party, or donating Thanksgiving Baskets or holiday gifts. For details on volunteer and in-kind opportunities, visit www.FACETSCares.org or contact FACETS' Volunteer and Events Manager, D'Ivonne Holman at DHolman@FACETSCares.org or 703-865-4251.

United Community Ministries (UCM)

Location: Serving Region 1 Fairfax County, its main office is: 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria VA 22306

Executive Director:
Nichelle A. Mitchem
Contact info: 703.768.7106,
info@ucmagency.org

Annual Budget: \$4.4 million
How to get involved: UCM is truly a network of connection and engaged individuals, supporting each other, helping neighbors in need, to create a successful Mount Vernon community. Community support to donate, volunteer, and advocate is needed and deeply appreciated. Visit www.ucmagency.org



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Welcome All to Lee District

There are a number of sites and experiences for you to encounter in the area.

By SUPERVISOR JEFFREY C. MCKAY
(D-LEE DISTRICT)

I wanted to take a minute to welcome you to our great community. Once you get settled in to your new home, I would encourage you to drop by my office at 6121 Franconia Road to visit with my staff and me. We'd love to say hello and provide you with some materials highlighting our district and are more than happy to assist you with anything you might need during this time of transition.

Once you've done that, there are a number of sites and experiences for you to encounter in the area. A top destination here in Lee District in the newly revitalized Springfield Town Center. Home to a number of shops and restaurants, the town center has become a shopping and dining destination and continues to spark much redevelopment activity in our area.

Lee District is also home to the Hilltop Shopping Center, which houses a number of small businesses, restaurants, and a Wegmans grocery store. Finally, I would encourage you to visit the Kingstowne Towne



Center. Only minutes away from the Springfield Town Center, it is also home to many restaurants and offers a variety of stores to meet your shopping needs.

Our area is also home to a number of great parks and recreation facilities. There is the award-winning Huntley Meadows Park, the crown jewel of Lee District, which features thousands of acres of forest and a boardwalk over the wetlands. We're also the home of Lake Accotink Park, a beautiful park which offers boat rides and other watersport activities for you and your family. Not far from there is the Lee District Recreation Center. It offers camps for kids, picnic areas, workout facilities, and so much more. Something I'm particularly proud of and a destination I often frequent with my family, is the RECenter's accessible treehouse playground and spraypark. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/> for all of the great events and activities to attend in our area.

Of course we are also very proud to have excellent public schools throughout Lee District. I can't think of a better place to raise kids than right here in our community.

All of these things contribute to what makes Lee District a great area to live. I grew up here and my wife Crystal and I are now raising our family here. As you settle into the area and get acquainted with all of the great things that are available to you here, I hope you too will be able to enjoy what Lee District has to offer.

Springfield Area Nonprofits: Making Community Work

GIVE

GIVE (Growth and Inspiration through Volunteering and Education) is a nonprofit organization founded and operated by high school students, which works towards promoting leadership of youth through volunteering time for a free tutoring program for children. Last year, GIVE ran 11 centers in both libraries and community centers, and is looking forward to expanding further this year with more support. The GIVE center at Richard Byrd Library, which has served over 1,000 students, has over 100 students and 60 tutors that meet every Saturday from 1-3 p.m. www.giveyouth.org.

Ecumenical Community Helping Others - ECHO

Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Provides food and financial assistance to those in short-term emergencies, and provides clothing and household goods to low income families. ECHO is constantly seeking donations and volunteers. 703-569-9160 or www.echo-inc.org.

South County Cares

South County Church congregation members and south county area community members work together on local and international projects like National Night Out, Operation Christmas Child, and local and international aid efforts. www.southcountycares.org.

National Capital Food Bank

A group of food banks serving all of Northern Virginia seek monetary donations and general volunteers. 703-541-3063 or www.capitalareafoodbank.org.

Northern Virginia Family Services

Offers employments and job training, health care, housing, mental health, foster care and home visitations to new parents. 703-385-3267 or www.nvfs.org.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia

An all-volunteer organization that clothes, feeds, educates and nurtures those in need. Working through six elementary schools and Inova Fairfax Hospital, Assistance League touches the lives of some of the most needy in Northern Virginia. The schools involved include Dogwood Elementary in Reston, Lynbrook Elementary and Garfield Elementary in Springfield, Cora Kelly Elementary in Alexandria and Pine Spring Elementary in Falls Church. Volunteers and donors are always needed. Contact ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com or www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.

Lamb Center

A day center for the homeless, currently seeking donations and general

SEE NONPROFITS, PAGE 13

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SPRINGFIELD DEMOGRAPHICS BY ZIP CODE

22153

Population: **31,285**
 Race: **White-21,039 (67.2%), Black/African American-3,311 (10.6%), American Indian and Alaska Native-94 (0.3%), Asian-4,309 (13.8%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-3,517 (11.2%)**
 Total housing units: **10,849**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **8,951 (85.5%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **4,403 (42.1%)**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **1,904 (18.2%)**
 Median household income: **136,561**
 Mean family income: **157,918**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **28.9%**

22152

Population: **28,500**
 Race: **White-19,323 (67.7%), Black/African American-2,252 (7.9%), American Indian and Alaska Native-105 (0.4%), Asian-4,548 (15.9%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-3,778 (13.2%)**
 Total housing units: **10,503**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **8,535 (82.1%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **3,879 (37.3%)**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **2,347 (22.6%)**
 Median household income: **113,135**
 Mean family income: **142,586**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **28.6%**

22151

Population: **17,456**
 Race: **White-10,512 (60.2%), Black/African American-973 (5.6%), American Indian and Alaska Native-82 (0.5%), Asian-3,777 (21.6%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-3,529 (20.2%)**
 Total housing units: **6,033**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **4,648 (80.6%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **2,246 (38.9%)**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **1,625 (28.2%)**
 Median household income: **98,779**
 Mean family income: **118,938**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **45.3%**

22315

Population: **26,202**
 Race: **White-16,870 (64.4%), Black/African American-4,217 (16.1%), American Indian and Alaska Native-89 (0.3%), Asian-3,180 (12.1%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-2,494 (9.5%)**
 Total housing units: **10,978**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **7,650 (72%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **3,614 (34%)**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **1,487 (14%)**
 Median household income: **120,517**
 Mean family income: **149,932**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **28.4%**

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How to Vote

Every year is election year in Virginia; mechanics and details of voting require attention to detail.

While the Presidential election will take top billing, every seat in the U.S. Congress is on the ballot, with one hotly contested race in Northern Virginia.

In Fairfax County, voters will decide whether to enact a four percent meals tax, a topic voters will hear a lot more about in coming weeks.

The Town of Herndon will have its first November election, moving from May in past elections, with the office of Mayor and six Town Council seats on the ballot.

Fairfax County voters will decide on three bond questions, including \$120 million in transportation bonds for Metro; \$107 million in bonds for parks; and \$85 million for building and renovating senior and community centers, and homeless shelters. More at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/>

Absentee Voting in Person in Fairfax County

Voting begins Sept. 23, and with record turnout possible, voting early if you qualify is a good choice.

There are 19 valid reasons to vote absentee in Virginia, including working and commuting to and from home for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day. Check the Virginia Department of Elections list to see if you are eligible. <http://elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/index.html>

There are two ways to vote absentee, in-person and by mail. To do either, you should first check your voter registration status to make sure it is up-to-date. Then you will need to apply for an absentee ballot. Note: If you vote absentee in-person you will fill out the application when you arrive at the in-person absentee location (see locations below). Voting absentee by mail? Read below for the process of applying for your mail-in ballot.

You can now apply for an absentee ballot online with the state's new Citizen Portal. You will need your Social Security Number and information on your Virginia Driver's License to complete the application. Information is also provided on how to apply if you do not have a driver's license.

Absentee Voting Begins Sept. 23

Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 2/3,
12000 Government Center Parkway,
Fairfax, 22035

Weekday Schedule:

❖ Sept. 23 to Oct. 14, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Thursday: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Closed, Monday, Oct. 10, Columbus Day.

❖ Oct. 17 to Nov. 4, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday Schedule: Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and November 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 5 is the last day to absentee vote in-person.

Absentee Voting at Satellite Locations

Upcoming Deadlines

On Election Day Polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

To determine whether you are eligible and registered to vote in this election, visit the Virginia Department of Elections website at <http://elections.virginia.gov/> or call Fairfax Elections office at 703-222-0776.

❖ Sept. 23: In-Person Absentee Voting Begins <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm>

❖ Oct. 17: Voter Registration Deadline - In-Person: 5 p.m., Online www.vote.virginia.gov 11:59 p.m.

❖ Nov. 1: Last Day to Apply for an Absentee Ballot by Mail, Fax, Email or Online: 5 p.m.

❖ Nov. 5: Final Day for In-Person Absentee Voting

❖ Nov. 8: Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: 7 p.m.

For more information on voting in Fairfax County:

Voter Registration: 703-222-0776, TTY 711

Absentee Fax: 703-324-3725

Email: voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

Election Officer Info: 703-324-4735, TTY 711

ON THE BALLOT in Fairfax County:

❖ President and Vice President

❖ U.S. House of Representatives, 8th, 10th, or 11th District

❖ Meal Tax Referendum

❖ Three Proposed County Bond Questions

❖ Two Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Saturday Schedule: Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Weekday Schedule: Oct. 17 to Nov. 4, Monday - Friday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Satellite Voting Locations:

❖ Providence Community Center - 3001 Vaden Dr., Fairfax, 22031

❖ Franconia Governmental Center - 6121 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, 22310

❖ McLean Governmental Center - 1437 Balls Hill Rd., Community Room, McLean, 22101

❖ North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Dr., Community Rooms, Reston, 20190

❖ West Springfield Governmental Center - 6140 Rolling Rd., Springfield, 22152

❖ Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, 22003

❖ Mount Vernon Governmental Center - 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, 22306

❖ Sully Governmental Center - 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly, 20151

❖ Lorton Library - 9520 Richmond Hwy., Lorton, 22079 SATURDAYS ONLY (Closed Weekdays)

Ballot Question, Meals Tax

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mealstax/>

Fairfax County voters will vote yes or no on establishing a 4 percent meals tax. The Connection will publish stories and letters in coming weeks on both sides of this issue.

QUESTION:

State law authorizes counties, cities, and towns to levy a tax on prepared food and beverages, commonly called a "meals tax," subject to certain restrictions. Most coun-

ties, including Fairfax County, may levy a meals tax only if the voters approve the tax by referendum.

The question presented in this referendum asks Fairfax County voters whether the Board of Supervisors should be authorized to levy a meals tax, at a rate not to exceed four percent of the amount charged for the taxable food and beverages.

70 percent of the net revenues would be dedicated to Fairfax County Public Schools; 30 percent of the net revenues would be dedicated to County services, capital improvements and property tax relief.

The question also states that the Board of Supervisors' reason for seeking authority to impose a meals tax is to reduce the county's dependence on real estate taxes. Currently, nearly 65 percent of Fairfax County's General Fund budget relies upon real estate taxes. State law limits what the county can tax and how it may otherwise raise revenue. Almost 90 percent of Fairfax County non-property tax revenues are capped, limited, or controlled by the state. A meals tax would give the County a new source of revenue, which would help diversify the County's revenue base. At the maximum four percent tax rate, a meals tax would generate an estimated \$99 million per year, with a significant percentage paid by non-county residents.

A number of area jurisdictions already impose a meals tax, including Arlington County, the cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, and Fairfax, and the towns of Herndon and Vienna.

Four Bond Questions

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/>
TRANSPORTATION BONDS, Yes or No
Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax

County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds, in addition to bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$120 million to finance Fairfax County's share, under the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Compact, of the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation improvements and facilities, including capital costs of land, transit facilities, rolling stock and equipment in the Washington metropolitan area, and to finance improvements to primary and secondary State highways and ancillary related improvements and facilities?

PARKS AND PARK FACILITIES BONDS, Yes or No

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds, in addition to bonds previously authorized for parks and park facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$107,000,000: (i) \$94,700,000 principal amount to finance the Fairfax County Park Authority's cost to acquire, construct, develop and equip additional parks and park facilities, to preserve open-space land, and to develop and improve existing parks and park facilities; and (ii) \$12,300,000 principal amount for Fairfax County's contribution to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority to acquire, construct, develop and equip parks and park facilities?

HUMAN SERVICES/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BONDS, Yes or No

Shall the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$85,000,000 to provide funds to finance the cost of human services facilities and community development facilities, including the construction and reconstruction of community centers and shelters and the acquisition of land and equipment or interests therein?

❖ Replace the Sully Senior Center and a build new Lorton Community Center (\$37 million)

❖ Renovate, expand or replace four emergency shelters for people who are homeless: Patrick Henry, Embury Rucker, Eleanor Kennedy, and Bailey's (\$48 million)

Virginia Voter ID

Virginia has a stringent voter identification requirement, plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether that is absentee or on Election Day.

Among accepted ID: valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; other government-issued photo identification cards issued by the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Com

SEE HOW TO VOTE. NEXT PAGE

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

How to Vote

FROM PAGE 6

monwealth; valid college or university student photo identification card from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia displaying a photo; 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.

Any registered voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification can 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 complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter.

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

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters Who Arrive Without Identification

If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, don't panic or give up. You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted.

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

Also by noon on Friday follow-

ing the election, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to suffice the identification requirement.

Constitutional Amendments

Two proposed Virginia Constitutional Amendments will also be on the ballot:

Ballot Question 1: Should Article I of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to prohibit any agreement or combination between an employer and a labor union or labor organization whereby (i) nonmembers of the union or organization are denied the right to work for the employer, (ii) membership to the union or organization is made a condition of employment or continuation of employment by such employer, or (iii) the union or organization acquires an employment monopoly in any such enterprise?

The proposed amendment places the provisions of Virginia's right to work law into the Constitution of Virginia. While Virginia law may be amended by any future General Assembly, a constitutional prohibition can only be changed by a future constitutional amendment approved by the voters.

Ballot Question 2: Shall the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to provide an option to the localities to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving spouse of any law-enforcement officer, firefighter, search and rescue personnel, or emergency medical services personnel who was killed in the line of duty, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried?

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- Kidfit*
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SPRINGFIELD CONNECTION ♦ NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE 2016-17 ♦ 11

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Greater Transparency in Policing

BY COLONEL EDWIN C. ROESSLER JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE



Dear Community Members:

The Fairfax County Police Department was established on July 1, 1940 and today we have an authorized strength of 1,406 sworn law enforcement officers. Our greatly engaged community exceeds 1.1 million residents which continues to assist us in preventing and fighting crime, increasing the culture of safety to preserve the sanctity of life for all, and to keep pace with rapid urbanization.

Your Police Department proactively undertook an independent review of its use of force training, and related policies and procedures conducted by the Police Executive Research Forum. A further review generating additional change recommendations has been conducted by the County's Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. The core theme of change is adopting the philosophy of the sanctity of life in all we do. As I have discussed in multiple public forums to include the Public Safety Committee of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, your police department embraces reengineering the law enforcement profession and we are proud to be national leaders truly engaged with creating change with an engaged community.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has endorsed our reengineering of the policies governing the use of force which value the sanctity of human life. The Police Department has adopted policies and practices which utilize the Critical Decision Making Model to ensure that all actions are proportionate, lawful, accountable, necessary, and ethical. Your Police Department has mandated annual in-service training on use of force critical decision-making because the essential knowledge and skills are considered "perishable," therefore rendering training on an annual basis a necessity.

The final report issued by the Ad Hoc Commission included recommendations made by its Independent Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee. These recommendations, the subject of current deliberation by the Public Safety Committee of the Fairfax County

Board of Supervisors, propose the creation of a Police Auditor position and establishment of a Civilian Review Panel. The Police Department welcomes immediate implementation of both as they maximize accountability through transparency, and will lead to higher levels of public trust and confidence in the Police Department.

The Police Department is committed to enhancing its transparency at all levels and we have established policies and procedures in coordination with the Board of Supervisors to achieve maximum communication with the communities we serve. Throughout the remainder of 2016 and into 2017 we will continue to reengineer our profession in many operational and administrative areas to achieve effective change while increasing community engagement.

In 2014 the Police Department began a self-assessment process to align its policies and procedures to comply with 484 national standards established by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). The required on-site assessment was conducted by assessors from outside Virginia in early 2016, and CALEA accredited status was awarded on July 30, 2016.

The Police Department, along with the Community Services Board, other public safety agencies, and mental health advocates partnered to implement the Diversion First program which provides a viable jail diversion alternative for those in mental health crisis. Our police officers receive Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training to prepare them to recognize when persons are experiencing a mental health crisis and how best to de-escalate such initial encounters. Our CIT-trained officers now have the Merrifield Crisis Response Center, as well as two Mobile Crisis Units, enabling them to offer persons in crisis the mental health services they may require.

Welcome to Fairfax County and we encourage you to engage with your Police Department as we all continue to make our County a great place to live, work, play, and grow old. To learn more about the Fairfax County Police Department, please visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/>

Keeping Youth Safe, Healthy and Drug Free

Looking for ways to keep Fairfax County youth and young adults safe, healthy and drug free? Then check out getting involved with the nonprofit Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County (UPC).

UPC will hold its school year kickoff meeting on Monday, Sept. 26. Come to "Taste of UPC" and learn about the programs offered by UPC to educate parents and youth about the issues of underage and binge drinking, marijuana and prescription medicine abuse as well as the growing problem of heroin in the community. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m., followed by the program at 7 p.m. at the Fairfax County Public Schools' Gatehouse Administration Center (First Floor

Café), 8115 Gatehouse Road in Falls Church.

High school youth are invited to learn more about the UPC Youth Council, which aims to include two representatives from each high school. Youth Council members help create youth-directed prevention activities, develop leadership and advocacy skills and gain volunteer and service hours by becoming active and helpful members of the community.

UPC partners with more than 60 organizations and needs your help to make a difference. For more information, contact UPC at 703-938-8723 or check out the group's website at www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org. Donations are appreciated and can be made online via the group's website.

County Schools: Teaching for 21st Century

What's new at Fairfax County Public Schools.

BY DR. KAREN K. GARZA
SUPERINTENDENT, FAIRFAX
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Welcome to the 2016-17 school year in Fairfax County Public Schools. With each new school year, we have the wonderful opportunity to build upon our previous successes and continue to improve our work with our students.

We are continuing to look to our Portrait of a Graduate and our strategic plan in shaping our future work. Our most pressing challenge is making this vision a reality for every child in our system. How do we refine what we do to ensure that all of our students graduate well-prepared for this rapidly changing world? We acknowledge that this is a daunting challenge, but there is no school system in the United States more well-prepared and well-equipped to effectively respond to these important issues.

The goals of education can no longer simply be to provide the basic literacy skills for the majority of the students, while reserving the teaching of skills for higher order 21st century thinking for a select few. As we learn more about the skills our students will need for success in this changing world, we recognize the

need to innovate — to consider new and different ways to design instructional practices to support the development of these essential skills.

We are also working to define contemporary teaching and learning practices while better integrating technology. For example, through a pilot program we are calling FCPSON — this year we begin evaluating how digital resources can best scaffold that model — and how we provide teachers and students with the tools and policies needed to facilitate the use

of that technology.

One change you will see this school year is a new central website and a new FCPS logo. Our new website will better serve everyone — it is mobile responsive, features more modern design — and search will work. As we modernized our website, we also believed it was time to reimagine the FCPS logo. While the previous logo has served us well for 40 years, we heard from many that it was time to transform our logo to one reflective of who we are now and who we aspire to be in the years to come.

Our new logo includes a tie to our legacy, while representing our role as a catalyst — sparking curiosity, learning and excellence for our students, employees and community.

I wish all students, teachers, parents and the entire FCPS community a very successful and fulfilling school year in FCPS where all are engaged, inspired, and thrive.



PHOTO BY MICHELLE MILLER

Members of the Youth Council of the Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County joined students from around the state in July at the annual Youth Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project (YADAPP) at Longwood University. This is the fifth year UPC has sent its students to the annual leadership conference.

Springfield Area Nonprofits

FROM PAGE 8

volunteers. 703-691-3178 or
www.thelambcenter.org.

Food for Others

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

Britepaths

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

Fairfax Families for Kids

Fairfax Families4Kids gives youth ages 12 to 21, currently living in foster care or out of foster care, the opportunity to participate in group and individual mentoring, and spend quality time in the community engaged in regularly scheduled, structured group activities. Sample group activities include: chess tournaments, bowling, basketball camps, fitness and dance classes, badminton, horseback riding, 5-K walks, etc. The youth also participate in community service projects such as: packing school backpacks for children in Haiti, sending boxes to soldiers, raising money for the homeless, etc. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/fairfaxfamilies4kids.htm.

Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington Fairfax Area

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

FACETS

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

Pathway Homes

Established in 1980, Pathways focuses on providing housing and support services to individuals with serious mental illnesses, with the mission to help these individuals reach their full potential and lead stable lives. They offer both in-home programs, semi-independent houses and assisted living facilities. www.pathwayhomes.org/.

Well Spouse Association

The Well Spouse Association, a national nonprofit which provides peer support to those caring for a chronically ill or disabled spouse, has free support groups in various northern VA locations. For more info, go to www.wellspouse.org or call 800-838-0879.

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Neighborhood Development Outlook Update

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

The Connection keeps a running list of land use projects being planned, under construction and nearing completion in the community. The list is updated quarterly.

Kingstowne Town Center — 5920 Kingstowne Town Center, Alexandria

Developer Halle Cos. aims to develop 886,000 square feet in four buildings for up to 800 new apartments and condos. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved the updated plan Tuesday, June 21 this year. As part of the mixed-use community-building, the Kingstowne Towne Center redevelopment would be comprised of 52 percent residential space, 29 percent retail space and 19 percent office space, along with underground parking. The full site plan should be submitted by next year, with construction following and taking anywhere from two to three years.

Corbet Manor subdivision — Around 7717 Gambrill Road

Seven single-family homes by Christopher Companies are going into 4.5 acres of what were previously unconsolidated parcels of land. Construction began in July, 2016. The first model is expected to be completed early in 2017.

Corridor study of Van Dorn Street — From Kingstowne to Alexandria city

Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) is interested in tapping into an Alexandria study of the corridor, extending it to Kingstowne and potentially bringing a bus rapid transit system to Van Dorn. The County is working with Alexandria to make sure the stretch is part of the conversation.

Transportation.

GSA Warehouse — 6808 Loisdale Road, Building A

The large warehouse off Loisdale Road in Springfield is still a candidate for future home of FBI headquarters. The building, owned by the General Services Administration (GSA) is competing with sites in Greenbelt and Landover. Environmental



IMAGE COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A rendering of the completed renovated West Springfield High School.



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

The Keene Mill Elementary School renovation project is on track to be completed in time for the first day of school in September.

impact statements for the three sites have been completed and the final contract is scheduled to be awarded around fall 2016.

Keene Mill Elementary School Renovation — 6310 Bardu Ave

An 18-month full renovation of the school includes a two-story addition on the left side of the building in the rear, an addition for administration in the front and an addition for a cafe-kitchen in the rear on the right side. The project is on track to be completed in time for the first day of school in September.

Liberty View — 13.45-acre site near Beulah Street and the Fairfax County Parkway

This still-vacant site was approved for single family home neighborhoods, four office buildings and fifth structure that would be either a hotel or office building. It was rezoned in 2011 and previous structures have been demolished. However the future of the property is still in limbo.

Long Branch development — Within the Island Creek Community on Beulah Street corridor

The plan for 35 new townhomes has passed the planning commission. No site plan submitted yet, while the engineers are being organized.

Park Pointe subdivision — East side of

Gambrill Road, near the Fairfax County Pkwy

Project development for 18 single-family homes on 7.7 acres is mostly complete, including wrapping up a bond at the rear of the site. Homes are being sold, with two constructed so far.

Piney Run by Elm Street Development — Area of Telegraph Road and Piney Run Drive, Alexandria

259-unit residential development specifically for individuals 55 and older. When completed, the development should include 32 single family units, 103 townhouses and 124 multi-family condominiums and apartments — all age-restricted, not assisted-living. A second site plan for the development has been submitted and should be approved soon. Site work is underway, including grading, tree preservation and stormwater management.

Springfield Town Center 6500 Springfield Mall

Next to open at the 1.35 million square-foot revitalized shopping center is Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5TH discount fashion retailer. Later stages of redevelopment planning for the area include residential, office and hotel space — the timing of which is all market-dictated.

Topgolf — 6625 S Van Dorn St

One possible next step for the property is townhouses, which would require an amendment to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan.

West Springfield High School

Renovation is underway with an estimated cost of \$82,958,090, according to the Fairfax County Public Schools Comprehensive Plan and Capital Improvement Program. Additional information and answers to frequently asked questions about the renovation are available on the West Springfield High School website at www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/about_wshs/renovation.html#pic.

SOURCES: SUPERVISOR JEFF MCKAY (D-LEE) AND LAND USE AIDE, SUPERVISOR PAT HERRITY (R-SPRINGFIELD) AND LAND USE AIDE, SUPERVISOR JOHN COOK (R-BRADDOCK) AND LAND USE AIDE.

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

MORE AREA NONPROFITS

GrandInvolve Seeks Volunteers

GrandInvolve is recruiting older adults as volunteers who would like to become mentors, reading and math helpers, and classroom helpers. This intergenerational volunteer program has been successful in bringing many new volunteers to our Title 1 Elementary schools. If you'd like to have a rewarding volunteering experience, with flexible hours and varying responsibilities, join us at one of 5 schools this

year. Schools with the GrandInvolve program are located in Springfield, Lincolnia, the Route 1 area of Alexandria, Chantilly and Herndon. For more information, contact one of the team members at GrandInvolve@gmail.com

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area LWVFA is a volunteer organization composed of passionate men and women who are dedicated to making democracy work. It encourages

active participation by citizens, but it does not support or endorse candidates. It conducts studies of important community issues, has monthly meetings during which members discuss these issues, and uses education and advocacy to influence public policy, at the local level, in the interest of the public. It conducts candidate forums so that citizens can ask the candidates questions, candidates can answer those questions and also interact directly with the public. LWVFA also registers voters and provides them with unbiased information about the voting process, issues of interest, and elections. To learn more about this organization or to join please go to its website, www.lwv-fairfax.org.



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PARKS

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO MAJOR PARKS IN THE AREA

PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES.
FEATURING MEADOWLARK BOTANICAL GARDENS
MAP BY LAURENCE FOONG AND DESIGN BY JEAN CARD

National Parks

GF Great Falls National Park

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

GW George Washington Memorial Parkway

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

WT Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

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

State Park

MN Mason Neck State Park

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

Regional Parks

BR Bull Run Marina Regional Park & Atlantis Waterpark

7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville
www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run/
www.atlantisbullrun.com/
703-631-0552
Main park open all year for picnicking, hiking and family camping. Bull Run Public Shooting Center open all year. Group Camping open daily Jan. 7 through Nov. 11. Mini and disc golf open April through October. Atlantis Waterpark features pools, a giant dumping bucket, waterslides, and fun-filled activities for all ages. Atlantis is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, and is a member of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority family of Waterparks. Neptune Reef snack bar sells food, beverages and sweets.

CR Cameron Run Regional Park/Great Waves Waterpark

4001 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria
www.nvrpa.org/park/cameron_run/
www.greatwaveswaterpark.com/
703-960-0767
Cameron Run Regional Park offers a variety of recreation facilities in an urban area, including Great Waves Water Park. Catch a wave in the wave pool, twist and turn down four-story water slides, take a plunge down speed slides, play with friends in the shallow waters of the play

pool. The park also features a deluxe miniature golf course, a nine-station batting cage, picnic shelters, and a special events pavilion.

CH Carlyle House Historic Park

121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle_house_historic_park/
703-549-2997
The historic Carlyle House was completed in 1753 by British merchant John Carlyle for his bride, Sarah Fairfax of Belvoir, member of one of the most prestigious families in colonial Virginia. Their home quickly became a center of social and political life in Alexandria and gained a foothold in history when British General Braddock made the mansion his headquarters in 1755. On the National Register of Historic Places, Carlyle House is architecturally unique in Alexandria as the only stone, 18th-century Palladian-style house. Daily tours of the house, programs for schoolchildren, special events, exhibits and lectures explore the life and times of John Carlyle in pre-Revolutionary Alexandria. The site may be rented in the evenings for private functions and weddings.

FH Fountainhead Regional Park

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

HO Hemlock Overlook Regional Park

13220 Yates Ford Road, Clifton
www.nvrpa.org/park/hemlock_overlook/
800-877-0954; 571-281-3556;
Hemlock Overlook Regional Park offers a variety of outdoor and environmental education. Programs at Hemlock Overlook are open to the public and groups by reservation. Only the hiking and horse

trails may be used without prior arrangement.

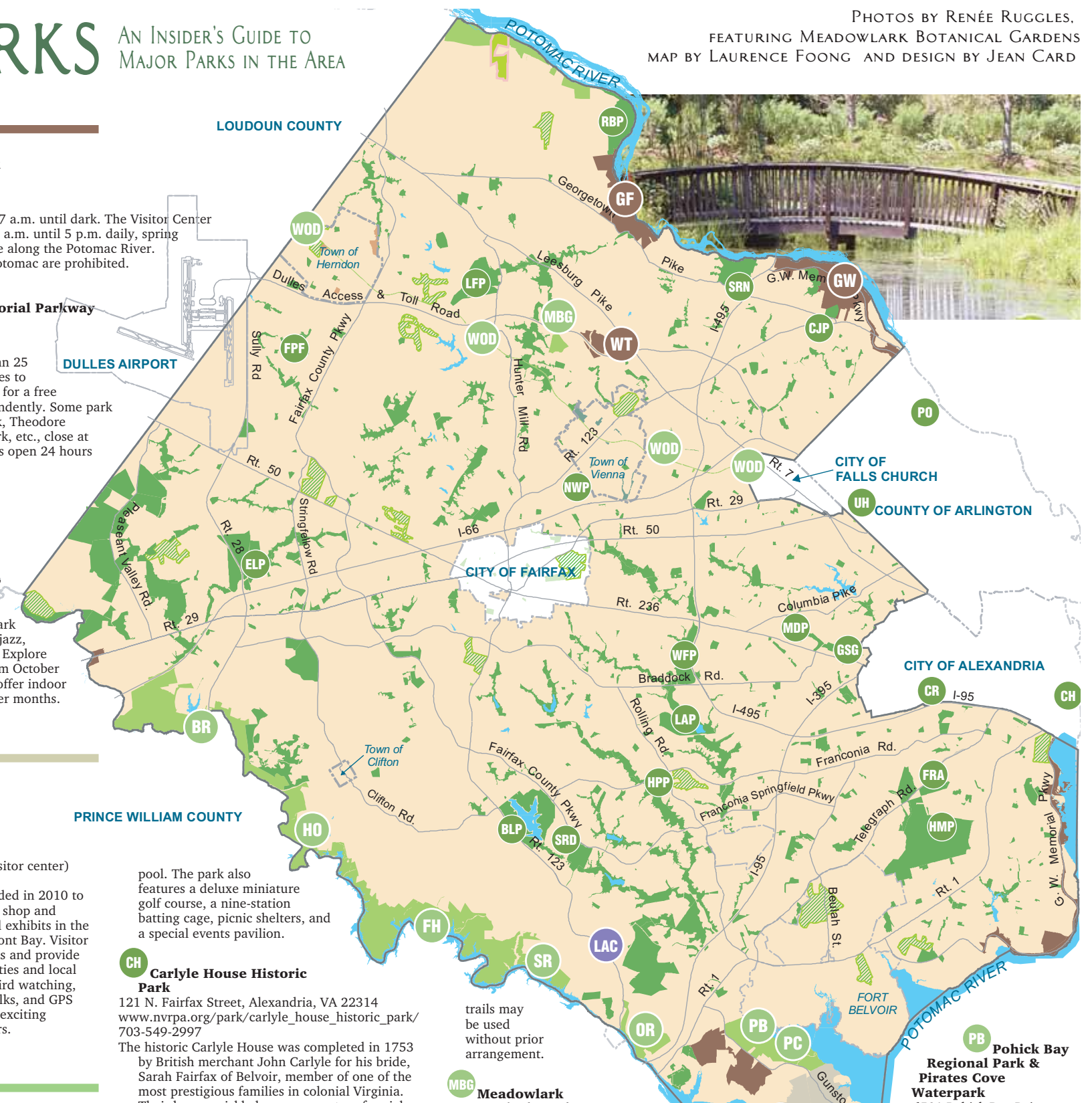
MBG Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

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

OR Occoquan Regional Park

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

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





also features picnic pavilions, a deck for sunning and playing, as well as plenty of shade. Captain's Galley snack bar features food, beverages and sweets. Pirates Cove is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

PB Pohick Bay Golf Course

10301 Gunston Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay_golf_course
703-339-8585

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

PO Potomac Overlook Regional Park & Nature Center

2845 Marcey Road, Arlington, VA 22207
www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac_overlook/
703-528-5406

On the Potomac Palisades in north Arlington, Potomac Overlook offers 70 acres of peaceful woodland, trails, educational gardens, a small picnic area and a Nature Center. The Nature Center features brand new exhibits called the "Energerium," offering visitors a fun and accessible way to learn energy basics and ways they can help create sustainable energy solutions. The Nature Center also houses live animals and natural history exhibits.

SR Sandy Run Regional Park

10450 Van Thompson Road, Fairfax Station
www.nvrpa.org/park/sandy_run/
703-690-4392

The park is open to the public for the purpose of education, training, practice, and racing for competitive and recreational sculling and rowing. Only shells and other boats authorized by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority may be launched from the docks or shoreline of Sandy Run. Sandy Run offers a facility for team training and competition for Olympic, college, high school and club canoe, kayak and crew athletes.

UH Upton Hill Regional Park & Ocean Dunes Waterpark

6060 Wilson Blvd., Arlington
www.nvrpa.org/park/upton_hill/
www.oceanduneswaterpark.com/
703-534-3437 or UptonHill@nvrpa.org

Upton Hill Regional Park offers visitors a wooded oasis in the heart of the most densely populated area of Northern Virginia. A large outdoor water-park complex is a sparkling attraction in this wooded, urban park, which straddles the boundary line between Arlington and Fairfax counties. The deluxe miniature golf course boasts one of the longest mini golf holes in the world; the batting cages include nine baseball and softball cages. The park is open every day for hiking, picnicking, playing on the playground and enjoying the outdoors. Located within Upton Hill Regional Park, Ocean Dunes is loaded with fun features for adults and children.

Arts Center

LAC Workhouse Arts Center

9601 Ox Road, Lorton
www.lortonarts.org
703-584-2900

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

Major Fairfax County Parks

BLP Burke Lake Park & Golf Course

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



CJP Clemyjontri Park

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

ELP Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

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

FPF Frying Pan Farm Park

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

BSG Green Spring Gardens

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

HPP Hidden Pond Park

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



HMP Huntley Meadows Park

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

LAP Lake Accotink Park

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

LFP Lake Fairfax Park

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

FRA Lee District Park

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

MDP Mason District Park

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

NWP Nottoway Park

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

RBP Riverbend Park

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

SRN Scotts Run Nature Preserve

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

SRD South Run District

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

WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter

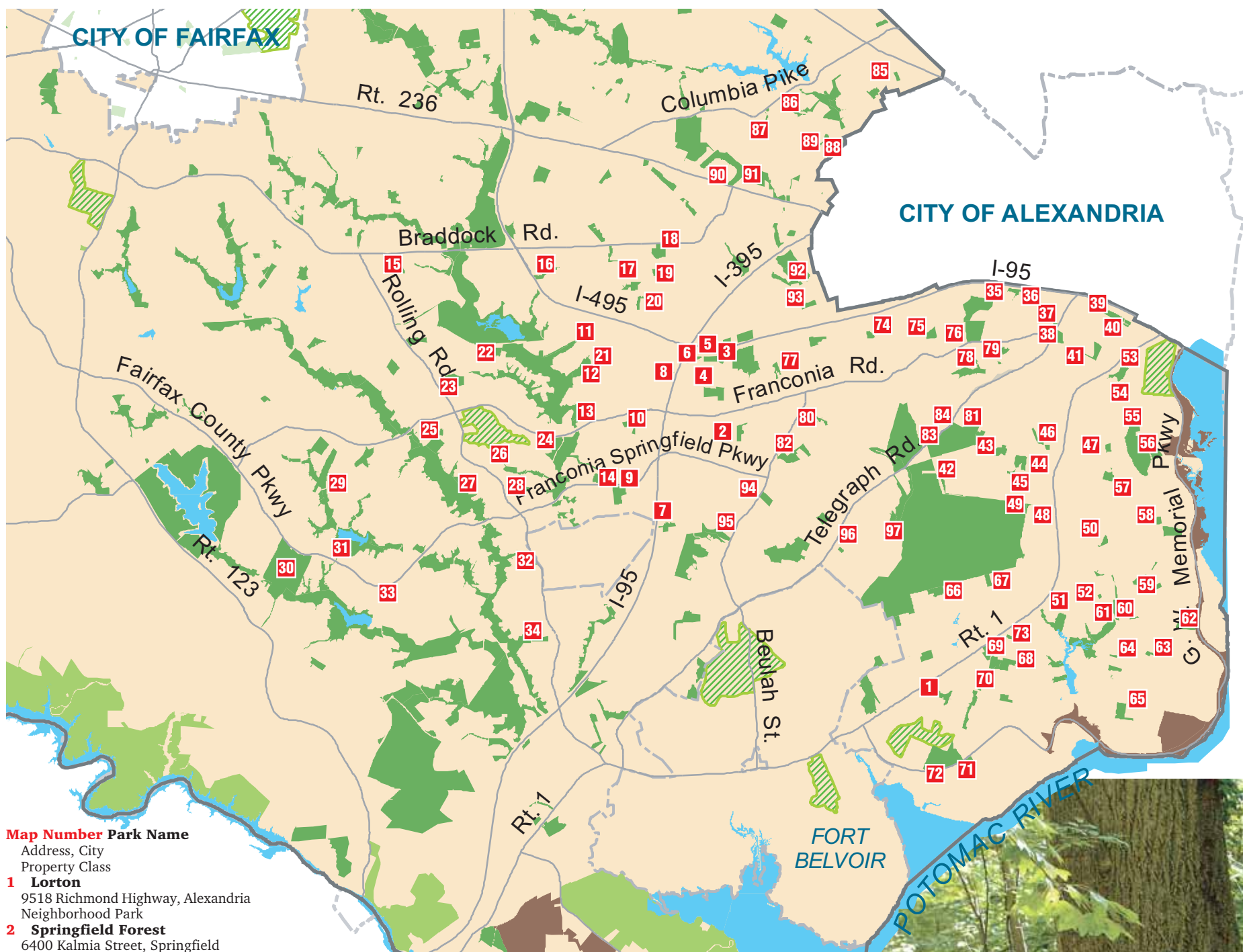
8100 Braddock Road, Annandale
softball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, biking, fitness trail, skate park
292.6 acres, multiple resource park



PARKS

A GUIDE TO FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKS IN THE
SPRINGFIELD & MOUNT VERNON AREAS

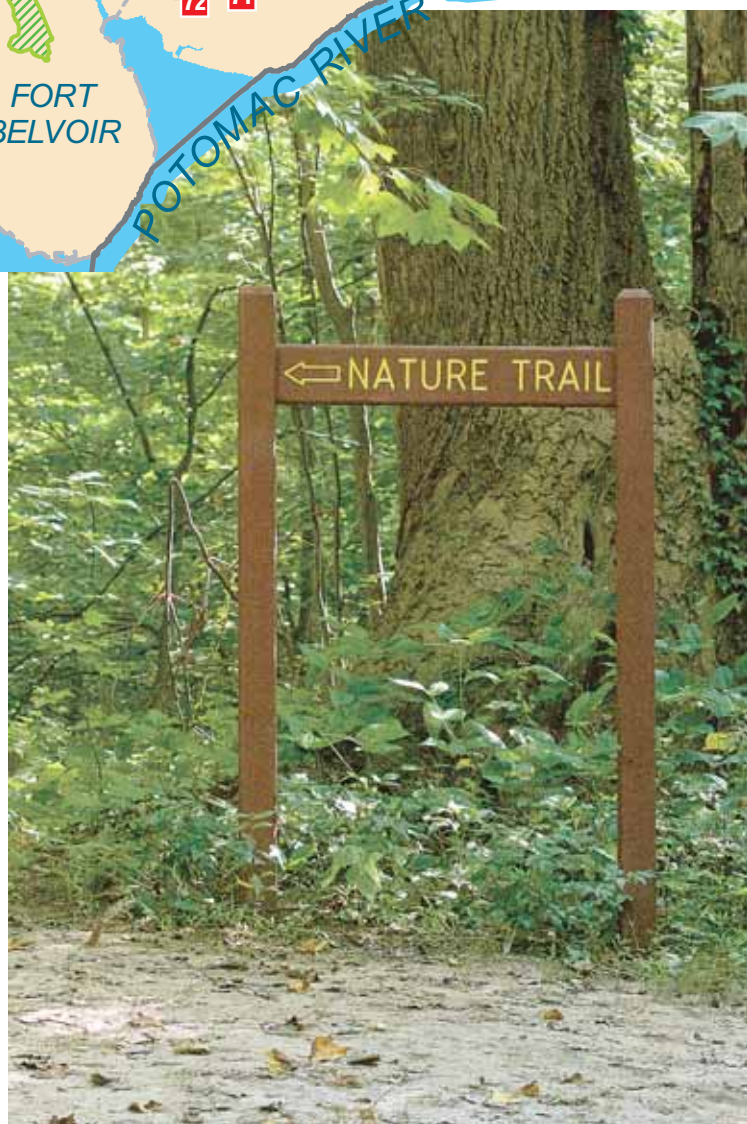
PHOTOS BY RENEE RUGGLES
FEATURING HIDDEN POND NATURE CENTER
MAP BY LAWRENCE FOONG; DESIGN BY JEAN CARD



Map Number Park Name

Address, City
Property Class

- 1 Lorton**
9518 Richmond Highway, Alexandria
Neighborhood Park
- 2 Springfield Forest**
6400 Kalmia Street, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 3 Franconia**
6432 Bowie Drive, Springfield
Community Park
- 4 Lee High**
6501 Deepford Street, Springfield
Community Park
- 5 Monticello Woods**
6444 Northanna Drive, Springfield
Community Park
- 6 Trailside**
6000 Trailside Drive, Springfield
Community Park
- 7 Loisdale**
7419 Loisdale Road, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 8 Lynbrook**
6005 Augusta Drive, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 9 Hooes Road**
7233 Hooes Road, Springfield
Community Park
- 10 Springvale**
6508 Spring Road, Springfield
Community Park
- 11 Lake Accotink**
7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield
Multiple Resource Park
- 12 Brookfield**
7417 Floyd Avenue, Springfield
Community Park
- 13 Byron Avenue**
6500 Byron Avenue, Springfield
Community Park
- 14 Hooes Road School Site**
7336 Hooes Road, Springfield
- 15 Kings Park**
8717 Trafalgar Ct., Springfield
Community Park
- 16 Flag Run**
7620 Elgar Street, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 17 Leewood**
7111 Woodland Drive, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 18 Deerlick**
6821 Braddock Road, Springfield
Community Park
- 19 Edsall**
6845 Edsall Road, Springfield
Community Park
- 20 North Springfield**
7025 Leesville Boulevard, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 21 Royal Ridge**
7417 Floyd Avenue, Springfield
Community Park
- 22 Carrleigh Parkway**
8020 Carrleigh Prkwy, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 23 Cardinal Forest**
6121 Roxbury Avenue, Springfield
Community Park
- 24 Hunter Village**
7700 Jansen Drive, Springfield
Community Park
- 25 Hidden Pond**
8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield
Community Park
- 26 West Springfield**
6805 Caneel Street, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 27 West Springfield Village**
6910 Loudoun Lane, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 28 Rolling Forest**
7019 Flax Street, Springfield
Neighborhood Park
- 29 Cherry Run**
7001 Cottontail Court, Springfield
Neighborhood Park





- 30 South Run District**
7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield District Park
- 31 Huntsman**
9150 Dorothy Lane, Springfield Community Park
- 32 Rolling Wood School Site**
7511 Chancellor Way, Springfield Community Park
- 33 Chapel Acres**
7900 Giles Street, Springfield Neighborhood Park
- 34 Saratoga**
8121 North Umlerland Rd, Springfield Community Park
- 35 Loftridge**
5549 Janelle Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 36 Burgundy**
5516 Norton Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 37 Heritage Hill**
5744 Telegraph Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 38 Jefferson Manor**
2909 Farmington Drive, Alexandria Community Park
- 39 Huntington**
2121 Fairfax Terrace, Alexandria Community Park
- 40 Farrington Avenue**
2213 Farrington Avenue, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 41 Mt. Eagle**
5919 North Kings Highway, Alexandria Community Park
- 42 South Kings Forest**
4505 Lantern Place, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 43 Stoneybrooke**
3900 Stoneybrooke Drive, Alexandria Community Park
- 44 Groveton Heights**
3429 Clayborne Avenue, Alexandria Community Park
- 45 Huntley Historic**
6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria Natural Resource Park
- 46 Lenclair**
6625 Lenclair Street, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 47 Bucknell Manor**
2223 Beacon Hill Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 48 Hybla Valley**
3431 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria Neighborhood Park

- 49 Huntley Meadows**
3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria Natural Resource Park
- 50 Hollin Meadows**
7603 Elba Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 51 Martin Luther King Jr**
8115 Fordson Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 52 Stephen S. Foster Intermediate School Site**
2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria Community Park
- 53 Belle Haven**
6036 Grove Drive, Alexandria Community Park
- 54 Fort Willard Circle**
6625 Fort Willard Circle, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 55 Mount Vernon District**
2017 Belle View Boulevard, Alexandria Multiple Resource Park
- 56 Westgrove**
6801 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 57 White Oaks**
7100 Devonshire Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 58 Gilbert S. McCutcheon**
7509 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 59 Hollin Hall School Site**
1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria

- Community Park
- 60 Kirk**
2206 Collingwood Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 61 Williamsburg Manor**
2213 Collingwood Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 62 Collingwood**
8200 West Boulevard Drive, Alexandria Community Park
- 63 Carl Sandburg School Site**
8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 64 Stratford Landing**
2301 Stirrup Lane, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 65 Fort Hunt**
8822 Linton Lane, Alexandria Community Park
- 66 Muddy Hole Farm**
7941 Kidd Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 67 Mount Vernon Woods**
4014 Fielding Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 68 George Washington**
8426 Old Mount Vernon Road Special Purpose Park
- 69 Walt Whitman School Site**
8333 Richmond Highway, Alexandria Community Park
- 70 Mount Zephyr**
8601 Richmond Avenue, Alexandria

- Neighborhood Park
- 71 Washington Mill**
4341 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy, Alexandria Community Park
- 72 Grist Mill**
4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy, Alexandria District Park
- 73 Vernon Heights**
8225 Central Avenue, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 74 Bush Hill**
5417a Waycross Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 75 Mark Twain**
5920 Larpin Lane, Alexandria Community Park
- 76 Clermont School Site**
4100 Franconia Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 77 Franconia Forest**
6013 Bitternut Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 78 Ridgeview**
4111 Duvawn Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 79 Wilton Woods School Site**
3701 Franconia Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 80 Tara Village**
6417 Joyce Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 81 Virginia Hills School Site**
6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 82 Manchester Lakes**
6775 Beulah Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 83 Greendale Golf Course**
6700 Telegraph Road, Alexandria Special Purpose Park
- 84 Lee District**
6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia District Park
- 85 Dowden Terrace**
5616 Bradley Boulevard, Alexandria Community Park
- 86 Glasgow**
3935 Arcadia Road, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 87 Parklawn**
6454 Lincolnia Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 88 Glen Hills**
6090 Larstan Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park
- 89 Heywood Glen**
6210 Larstan Drive, Alexandria



- Neighborhood Park
- 90 Pinecrest Golf Course**
6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria Special Purpose Park
- 91 Green Spring Gardens**
4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria Special Purpose Park
- 92 Bren Mar**
6324 Edsall Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 93 Backlick Run**
5590 First Statesman Lane, Alexandria Community Park
- 94 Beulah**
7119 Beulah Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 95 Amberleigh**
7516 Beulah Street, Alexandria Community Park
- 96 Hayfield**
7611 Hayfield Road, Alexandria Community Park
- 97 Wickford**
7331a Wickford Drive, Alexandria Neighborhood Park



NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Year-round Fun

Batting Cage Occoquan Regional Park 9751 Ox Road Lorton, VA 22079. Open through Oct. 30 Occoquan offers a baseball/softball batting cage, perfect for hitters of all levels, from beginner to expert. Cost: 14 balls \$1.50 Team Rentals Per Cage: 30 min. \$18 60 min. \$34 Visit: <https://www.novaparks.com/parks/occoquan-regional-park/things-to-do/batting-cage>

AREA CALENDAR

Kayak Rental Occoquan Regional Park 9 - 6 p.m. daily through Sept. 30 This park offers hourly and daily kayak rentals for

those interested in exploring the river and surrounding. Kayaks are launched from shore and are available in one or two seat configurations. Please note: Pets are not permitted in rental boats.

Rock The Block Free Concert Series 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Old Town Square 3999 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Recurring monthly on the 4th Friday through Oct. 28. Call: 703-385-7858

English Conversation Groups weekly at George Mason, Burke Centre, and Lorton Libraries Practice and improve your English. Day and start times vary. Visit: <https://va.evanced.info/fairfaxcounty/lib/eventcalendar.asp>

Stories From Strawberry Park 10 - 11 a.m. Tuesdays in **Mosaic - Strawberry Park** 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22031. Enjoy a live interactive performance each week taught by a group of unique storytellers. For ages 10 and under. Held outside in Strawberry Park. In inclement weather and October through April, storytime will be held in Angelika Film Center. Recurring weekly on Tuesday. Visit: <http://www.fxva.com/listing/mosaic-district/2326/>

August 2016

FRIDAY/AUG. 26, 2016

City of Fairfax Band "Alte Kameraden German Band" 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Oberfest, featuring the Blaskapelle Alte Kameraden Bavarian Band, invites you to end your summer in oktoberfest style with authentic fest musik. Admission: Free. Visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances

September 2016

MONDAY/SEPT. 5

Great American Labor Day 5K Run 8 a.m. 11895 Grand Commons Avenue Fairfax, VA 22030. This year's race beneficiary will be Robinson High School Cross Country and Track & Field team. Cost \$35: Visit: <http://www.tantracking.com/>

SATURDAY/SEPT. 10

5k at the Bay 9 a.m. 6501 Pohick Bay Dr Lorton, VA 22079. There will be race day registration. Benefits the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. This race will take you on a scenic trip through the woods at Pohick Bay. Now offering a virtual run option for those who cannot make it on race day. You will receive a custom medal. Cost: \$25, until Aug. 31: \$30

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 10-11

Burke Centre Festival. Saturday: 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Conservancy Festival Grounds, 6060 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke. Enjoy face painting, food, rides, and other amusements at the Burke Centre Festival. Visit



PHOTO COURTESY OF CELEBRATE FAIRFAX! FAIRFAX FESTIVAL

Celebrate Fairfax! Fairfax Festival attracts thousands of area residents to the the Fairfax County Government Center in June each year.

www.burkecentreweb.com
Fine Arts Festival. 11 - 7:30 p.m. Sunday 11 - 5 p.m. 9518 Workhouse Way Lorton, VA 22079. The festival is juried to include only the best fine art, no commercial or mass produced objects, including; painting, ceramics, glass, fiber/clothing, mixed media, wood, precious metal/jewelry, printmaking, photography, furniture, sculpture. Admission & Parking: Free. <https://www.workhousearts.org/?s=fine+arts+festival>

SATURDAY/SEPT. 10-

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 21, 2016

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Online registration open. Various venues around Northern Virginia. Events include badminton, volleyball, cycling, a 5k road race, and many more. \$12 per person. Visit www.nvso.us for more.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 13

125 Year History of Little Zion Baptist Church 7p.m. Burke Centre Library 5935 Freds Oak Rd, Burke, VA 22015. Join author Corazon Foley for a conversation on the history surrounding Little Zion Baptist Church, a 125 year-old historic landmark in Burke. Co-sponsored by the Burke/West Springfield Senior Center. Age(s): Adult. Call 703-249-1520 or visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

SUNDAY/SEPT. 18

Shane & Shane Concert 4 - 9 p.m. Fairfax United Methodist Church - 10300 Stratford Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22030. Come on out for some great food and amazing music. Free.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 24

The Kids Ultimate Fitness Challenge 10 - 6 p.m. George Mason University - 4400 University Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030. Kids Ultimate Fitness Challenge is the nation's largest mobile fitness event travelling from coast-to-coast dedicated to helping keep kids healthy and active. At the Kids Ultimate Fitness Challenge, kids of all ages get the opportunity to flex their physical fitness by participating in a time-based obstacle course that includes sprinting, jump roping, wall crawls, hurdles, jumping jacks, sit

ups, and tunnel crawls, before finishing off the course with a 20 foot confidence climb and 60 meter dash to the finish. Visit: <http://allstaractive.com/video.html>

SUNDAY/SEPT. 25 - 30

Fairfax's Fall for the Book Festival. 4400 University Drive, Fairfax and at other locations throughout Virginia, DC, and Maryland. Enjoy literature and hear authors give readings at the Fall for the Book Festival. Visit www.fallforthebook.org

SUNDAY/SEPT. 25, 2016

21st Annual CÉ Irish Folk Festival. Noon - 7:30 p.m. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax and The Auld Shebeen Irish Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. All are invited to enjoy, free of charge, the "pure drop" - the beauty and depth of Irish music, dance, language and sport as it has taken root and come into full flower in our community. Visit <http://www.ccepotomac.org/irishfest.html>

October 2016

SATURDAY/OCT. 8

Fall Festival in Old Town Historic Fairfax. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 10209 Main Street, Fairfax. What started out as a small market for artisans has grown to a festival with over 400 arts, crafts and food vendors, children's activities and entertainment for all ages. Visit <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/fall-festival>

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

SUNDAY/OCT. 9, 2016

Clifton Day. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Town of Clifton, corner of Main Street and Chapel Road. The town's annual arts and crafts fair. Visit: <http://www.cliftonday.com/>

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 21-23, 2016

Annual Craftsmen's Fall Classic Art & Craft Festival. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Features original designs and work from hundreds of talented artists and craftspeople from across America. Visit http://www.gilmoreshows.com/craftsmens_classics_chantilly_fall.shtml

November 2016

SATURDAY/NOV. 5-6

Cox Farms Pumpkin Madness. 10 - 5 p.m. Cox Farms, 15621 Braddock Road, Centreville. Come out and smash, throw, and launch those old pumpkins. Bring back your used Jack-o-lantern...We'll help you recycle it. Last admission 4 p.m. Visit: <http://www.coxfarms.com/fallfestival.aspx>

TUESDAY/NOV. 8, 2016

Election Day. General election. Visit www.sbe.virginia.gov/ and www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm

SATURDAY/NOV. 12, 2016

The Robinson Marketplace. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 5305 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Shop at over 80 vendors at the Holiday Market, raffle and silent auction sponsored by the Robinson Secondary School PTSA. Visit <http://www.robinsonptsa.org/marketplace.html>

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 19-20

30th Annual Holiday Craft Show 10 - 3 p.m. at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax, VA 22030. What started out in 1987 as a very small show has grown to become a premium arts and crafts festival. Artisans from all over the United States, including many local artists, are participating in this year's show and we are delighted to be able to offer you so many wonderful holiday gift choices. There really is something for everyone on your shopping list. Visit: <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/holiday-craft-show>

December 2016

FRIDAY/DEC. 2

My Gym Community Event 10:30 a.m. Burke Centre Library 5935 Freds Oak Rd, Burke, VA 22015. Develop your child's large motor skills with physical exercise and games. Funded by the Friends of Burke Centre Library. Age 1-3 years with adult. Visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

SATURDAY/DEC. 3

Creative Writers Group 2 p.m. Burke Centre Library 5935 Freds Oak Rd, Burke, VA 22015. Do you enjoy writing fiction, poetry, non-fiction and/or memoirs? Join us for sharing, discussion and feedback of works in progress. Teen volunteer facilitates. Ages 13-18. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

Holiday Book Sale 10 - 4 p.m. Burke Centre Library 5935 Freds Oak Rd, Burke, VA 22015. Peruse and shop a selection of gently used holiday-themed books collected by the Friends of the Burke Centre Library. Visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

City of Fairfax Festival of Lights and Carols. Time TBA Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Come enjoy live holiday music, hot cider, s'mores by the Yule log, petting farm, ferris wheel, caroling and lighting of the Christmas tree in the winter wonderland. Visit <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/festival-of-lights-and-carols> for times and locations.

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2017

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 4

Read Build Play 10:30 a.m. Let's read a story, build with DUPLOs, and play with friends! Have fun with your little one while building early literacy skills. Age 3-5 with adult child minder. Visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

TUESDAY/JAN. 3

S.T.E.A.M. 2 p.m. Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. Each month we will focus on one of these subjects with stories and activities appropriate for preschoolers. Age 4-5 with adult. Visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

SATURDAY/FEB. 11

Second Saturdays with Supervisor Storck 9 a.m. Lorton Library 9520 Richmond Hwy, Lorton, VA 22079. Meet with your Board of Supervisors representative, Dan Storck, to discuss your concerns. Visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

SATURDAY/MAR. 4

GIVE 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library 10360 North Street Fairfax, VA 22030-2514 GIVE- Growth and Inspiration through Volunteering and Education. Volunteers from Thomas Jefferson H.S. and Robinson H.S. offer tutoring in math, reading, writing, science, social studies and ESL. Visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/bc/>

SATURDAY/APRIL 22-29, 2016

Historic Garden Week. Visit www.vagardenweek.org/

SATURDAY/JUNE 18

Father & Daughter Dance 6 - 9 p.m. Sherwood Community Center 3740 Old Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22030. Admission: \$30 per person. Visit: www.fairfaxva.gov/parksrec