



Great Falls CONNECTION

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After a quick game of tag football with friends, families sit on picnic blankets to watch the Great Falls Fireworks launch over Turner Farm.

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PHOTO BY CHRISTINA TYLER WENKS

AUGUST 23-29, 2017

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

Archery Program Starts Sept. 9

County will use regulated archery hunting to help manage deer population.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The county-managed program to control the deer population in Fairfax County via regulated archery hunting in designated areas starts on Sept. 9, not the first of the month, as previously reported in the Connection. When making note of the error, Dr. Katherine Edwards, wildlife management specialist for the county, stated that the Sept. 9 was “intentionally set as the start of the program to avoid overlap” with the Labor Day holiday weekend.

The deer maintenance program is managed by both Edwards and Sgt. Earit Powell through the Fairfax County Police Department. The comprehensively regulated archery program is the method most widely used by the county to keep the deer population in check. In last year’s deer harvest, 1,092 deer were taken through the archery program, while only 53 deer were harvested during sharpshooting operations.

At a recent public meeting to discuss the program, area residents Melissa Klein, Kathie Sowell, and Phil Church brought up concerns about the use of archery as the main method of population control. Church

was particularly disturbed about what he called “the wounding rate for these animals.”

Edwards, Powell, and Kevin Rose of the Bureau of Wildlife Resources, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, explained why the costs and logistics for sharpshooting operations and managed firearms hunts were shown to make those options untenable and not equal to the task.

Edwards also wants the public to know that “the county investigates reports of wounded deer,” saying that there was no information about the one incident related by Sowell, of Vienna, that could attribute the deer injury she described to the program. “All archery tackle ... is marked with unique hunter identification numbers so that each shot can be traced back to the individuals in the county program.”

As for the “wounding rate” concerns expressed by Church, Edwards notes that any “incident of non-recovered deer must also be reported to program management” and that investigations of injuries were determined to be “non-hunting [program] related based on the type of archery tackle used.”

According to county data collected about each hunt in the Deer Management Program, Edwards says that between FY 2014-2017, Fairfax County reported non-recovery/wounding rates of approximately 4-7 percent using modern archery tackle, and that these rates are “similar to or lower than wounding/non-recovery rates reported in more recent published studies for hunters using modern archery equipment.”

SEE DEER CONTROL, PAGE 7



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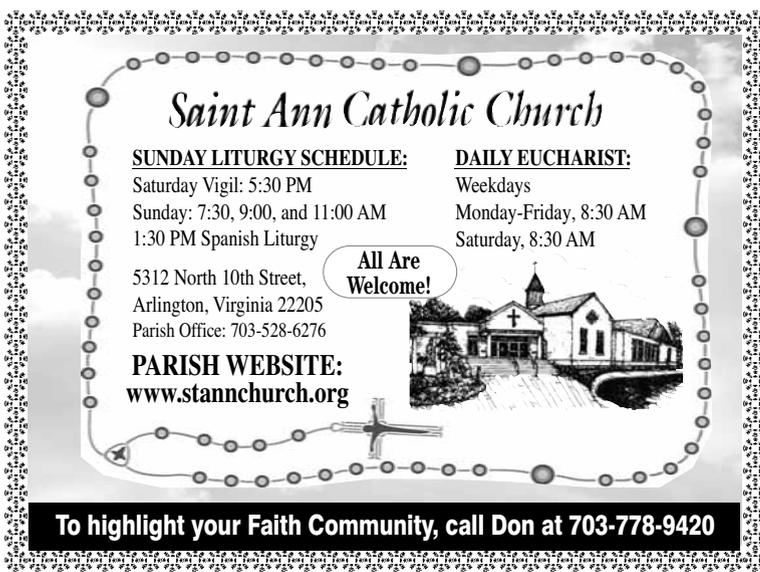
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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Summer Horse Show Held at Turner Farm

Equestrians raise funds for maintenance and upgrades to The Turner Farm.

By MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Turner Farm Events is a nonprofit organization created to raise funds to support maintenance and improvements at The Turner Farm, a Fairfax County Park, located at 625 Springvale Road in Great Falls. On Sunday, Aug. 20, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., the organization presented their Summer Horse Trials, Combined Test, and Dressage Show, in support of their mission.

Horse trials or “eventing” is where a rider and horse combination compete against others, in the same divisions, across three disciplines – dressage, show jumping, and cross-country. For very young or inexperienced riders, there is a leadline division and the cross-country part of the competition may be omitted.

According to Kirstin Parisot, one of the two show organizers, the purpose of Sunday’s show not only supported the nonprofit’s fundraising mission but offered younger junior riders an inviting introduction to horse trials. Referencing what could be the most challenging aspect of a horse trial, the cross-country course, Parisot spoke about the straightforward jumps on The Turner Farm’s short course, “It’s not something too complex. It’s really great for first-time eventers.”

The youngest equestrians were first to compete. Together they entered the ring shortly after 8 a.m., each accompanied by a handler who controlled the animal with leadline-in-hand while the young competitor held the reins. The ponies (and a few horses) walked and trotted with their riders, both judged in dressage and show jumping, or rather “show stepping” as poles were set on the ground. Judges award ribbons to the riders and ponies based on their equitation. Later in the morning, the children could be seen holding their ribbons or attaching them to their pony’s halter.

Next up, were the more experienced junior riders. They entered the fenced-in ring



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

The Turner Farm is a recreational and educational park on the site of a former 52-acre dairy farm.



Frankie Schofield 2, of Round Hill shows off her sister Ryleigh’s pony at Turner Farm Events’ Summer Horse Trials, Combined Test, and Dressage Show held Sunday, Aug. 20 at The Turner Farm.



Allison Snowden with her horse, As You Wish, completed the dressage, show jumping and cross-country disciplines on Sunday, Aug. 20 at The Turner Farm.

by division – elementary through novice. They competed in dressage and show jumping, then negotiated the cross-country course of small jumps.

Martha Figuero, of Reston, appeared to keep her horse on the bit through the dressage movements and handled the small stadium jumps with ease. Before heading down to the cross-country course, Figuero said, “This is my first event in five years...I came back to the sport because I missed it too

much. There’s nothing like a relationship [with an animal] as part of the sport. No other sport is like that.”

Turner Farm Events thanked all their competitors via Facebook for coming out and supporting the fundraising effort. The organization posted on their Facebook page, “We couldn’t have done it without our fabulous volunteers.” For more information about Turner Farm Events, visit www.facebook.com/turnerfarmevents/

“This is my first event in five years...I came back to the sport because I missed it too much. There’s nothing like a relationship [with an animal] as part of the sport. No other sport is like that.”

— Martha Figuero of Reston



From left: Melanie Crowley, 8, and Coriander Houser, 8, hold the place ribbons they won at the Summer Horse Trials, Combined Test, and Dressage Show held at The Turner Farm, Sunday, Aug. 20.

Fairfax County Park Authority operates The Turner Farm. The park features a unique mix of recreational and educational facilities. For recreation, there are tot lots, picnic areas, nature observation, and horseback riding and jumping facilities. The area encompasses 40 acres of fenced open fields with a novice level cross-country course, round pen, and outdoor arena surfaced in the all-weather footing. Stadium jumps and dressage markers are in the ring. All the equipment and grounds require ongoing maintenance and improvements, hence Turner Farm Events, the non profit organization.

For educational purposes, there is Fairfax County Park Authority’s newly dedicated Roll-Top Observatory, celestial telescope, and classrooms. The observatory is supported in part by the nonprofit organization, The Analemma Society that offers astronomy courses and on Friday nights, public stargazing at the moon, stars, and deep sky objects.

OPINION

Expand Medicaid Now

It's too late to get back the \$10 billion Virginia turned down, but not too late to gain coverage for 400,000 and boost the economy.

Virginia's General Assembly has refused to accept one of the key provisions of the Affordable Care Act, expansion of Medicaid at almost no cost to Virginia that could have covered 400,000 uninsured Virginians and would have brought more than \$10 billion into the state. It has also cost

EDITORIAL

Ironically, the failed efforts to "repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act included changes to Medicaid that would have penalized states, like Virginia, that did not expand Medicaid, permanently reducing federal funding.

"In all of the bills proposed in the House and Senate to repeal the ACA, none of them left the non-expansion states better off," said Gov. Terry McAuliffe on Monday, Aug. 21, in calling again for Virginia to expand Medicaid, al-

most entirely paid for by the federal government.

"I have called for Virginia to expand Medicaid for three and a half years now. In that time, we have forever forfeited a whopping \$10.4 billion of our federal tax dollars," McAuliffe said. "We have missed an opportunity to cover 400,000 low-income Virginians."

More than 140,000 residents of Fairfax County have no health insurance. More than 40,000 residents of Arlington and Alexandria have no health insurance. That's more than 12 percent of the people who live in one of the wealthiest areas in the nation.

A Harvard Medical School study determined that the decision by 25 states to reject the expansion of Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act would result in between 7,115 and 17,104 more deaths than had all states opted in. In Virginia, the number of

deaths due to failure to expand Medicaid: between 266 and 987.

Refusing to accept federal funds to provide healthcare to uninsured Virginians makes no more sense than declining federal funds for transportation or education.

In Virginia, 102,000 uninsured people with a mental illness or substance use disorder could qualify for coverage if Medicaid were expanded under the Affordable Care Act.

As Virginia wrestles with heroin and opioid addiction, expanding Medicaid would allow for expanding treatment programs. One of the big obstacles to helping people who are fighting addiction is the availability of treatment when it is most needed. More people die of opioid overdoses in Virginia than in vehicle crashes.

It is beyond cruel that an ideologically driven General Assembly can turn away health care for so many. It's beyond understanding why the General Assembly would turn down billions of dollars in direct health care dollars, plus the tremendous boost to the economy and jobs that federal investment would generate.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Governor's Perspective

Remarks by Gov. Terry McAuliffe to General Assembly money committees Aug. 21, 2017:

I have called for Virginia to expand Medicaid for three and a half years now. In that time, we have forever forfeited a whopping \$10.4 billion of our federal tax dollars.

We have missed an opportunity to cover 400,000 low-income Virginians.

Thirty-one states from across the political spectrum have expanded Medicaid. This isn't a political issue. These are people's lives.

I believe in the radical notion that health care shouldn't be a privilege for the rich. And in the wealthiest nation in the world, one medical event shouldn't send a family into financial ruin.

Just a few weeks ago, I went to the Remote Area Medical Clinic in Wise for the fourth time as governor. I want to thank Dr. O'Bannon for providing his services at the clinic.

There, you will see the stark reality of what it means to lack access to affordable health care. People were waiting in the animal pens, separated by bed sheet "curtains" to get the only medical care they'd have this year. Many

of them slept overnight in the parking lot just to get a spot in line.

I met a woman who pulled me aside to tell me that the clinic literally saved her life by catching her cancer in time. Another man had been driving for a year without proper eyeglasses. Yet another told me that, at 39 years old, he visited the dentist for the first time ever that day. Sadly, he was too late, and needed all of his teeth pulled.

These folks should get the exact same level of care that you or I do.

That's why I will be including Medicaid expansion once again in my biennial budget proposal this year.

And even if you don't believe that the ACA is here for good, let me also remind you that in all of the bills proposed in the House and Senate to repeal the ACA, none of them left the non-expansion states better off. In fact, in one of the proposals, non-expansion states would cover costs for the expansion states for the next five years.

So, I ask you this: Are you willing to let Virginia be block granted or capped at our current Medicaid levels? Are you willing to risk

losing out on expansion dollars forever? And are you willing to hamper our state finances by turning away these federal dollars, given the uncertainty we face?

I ask you these questions in earnest, and I hope we can find a workable solution together.

I have formally invited General Assembly leadership to meet with my team to start this process as soon as possible so that, perhaps, consensus can be reached in the budget development process.

I welcome your input and I remind you that I have consistently supported a business-like approach that allows us to bring this money back at no cost to Virginia. If you pursue expansion the way I've presented it to you, it could save the state hundreds of millions of dollars.

Further, it could protect us from the potential negative financial impacts of future federal caps on the Medicaid program.

It's not too late. There's still more than \$2 billion a year on the table that we can benefit from, and I hope we can agree on an approach to do the right thing.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Responsibility Makes You Responsible

To the Editor:

As a rising senior in high school, I feel that I have matured greatly from my freshman and sophomore years. As many seniors would agree, a lot of this personal growth has taken place through extracurricular activities. What I've found, however, is that I've grown most by putting myself into positions of responsibilities in these extracurricular activities. In the

rush to secure a leadership position to put on one's resume or college application, we commonly forget that leadership is innately rewarding, especially for high school students.

The thing about leadership that no one tells you, is that it takes a lot of time to do a good job, no matter your position in the leadership of a club or team. And the thing is, it doesn't really matter what your position is because collaboration is almost always required to do a good job leading these sorts of organizations.

In short, the capacity in which you lead doesn't matter. All that matters is that you put

yourself in some position of responsibility and that you then put in enough time to fulfill your responsibilities. If you fail, put in enough time to understand why you failed and to remedy the situation. Always ask observers what you can do to improve your leadership, no matter your performance. If you put yourself in a position of responsibility and work hard in that capacity, you will become more responsible — I know I have.

John Krause-Steinrauf
McLean

Great Falls CONNECTION

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ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

Great Falls Farmers Market.

Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Music, vendors, fresh produce, fresh prepared food, delightful bakery, spices from around the world, wild-caught fish, grass-fed, free-range meats, organic-fed poultry and eggs. Email kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org.

Free Tai Chi.

Every Saturday, from 7:55-9 a.m., Introduction and Beginners' Practice, meet on the outdoor basketball court located directly behind the Dolley Madison Public Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. in McLean Central Park, McLean. Call 703-759-9141 or visit www.FreeTaiChi.org.

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

Fishing Rod Rentals 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Rentals available during visitor center hours. Fishing tackle and live bait are available for purchase. Reservations required for group rentals. \$6/rental (2 hour max). Valid driver's license required. Rod/reel combinations are perfect for beginners and children. A Virginia or Maryland freshwater fishing license is required for those 16 years or older. The park does not sell fishing licenses. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/

Colvin Run Mill open 11-4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Fairfax County's operational 19th century water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily tours, school programs and special events. Fees: \$7/adult, \$6 students 16+ with ID, \$5 children & seniors. Admission to park is free except for some special events.

Fundamentals of Watercolors.

Mondays 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Artist Lorrie Herman will help students get comfortable working with watercolors and understanding this medium. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

Still Life Painting. Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Still life provides a great tool to hone skills. Recommended for students of all levels. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

Evening Painting. Tuesdays 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Jill Banks focuses on oil painting fundamentals with two sessions each of still life, landscapes, and portrait/clothed figure from a live model. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

Intro to Jewelry Design. Tuesdays 9 a.m.-noon at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. JJ Singh teaches a class for anyone interested in exploring the world of metal clay and its design possibilities. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

TUESDAY/AUG. 29

Dance Open House. 4-6 p.m. at Cuppett Performing Arts Center, 135 Park St, SE. Beginner through pre-professional dance classes in ballet, tap, jazz, modern, lyrical, hip hop, acro and musical theatre. Visit CuppettePAC.com or call 703-938-9019.

Toastmasters Humormill Club. 6-8 p.m. in the McLean Bible Church, Ground Floor Community Room, 8925 Leesburg Pike. Humor and improv help develop spontaneity and speaking skills. Experience laughter



Open House

On Tuesday, Aug. 29 the Cuppett Performing Arts Center is having a dance open house, 4-6 p.m. at 135 Park St, SE. Beginner through pre-professional dance classes in ballet, tap, jazz, modern, lyrical, hip hop, acro and musical theatre. Visit CuppettePAC.com or call 703-938-9019.

and a speech contest. Visit humormillclub.toastmastersclubs.org.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 30

Back-to-School Quote-Along

Movie. 7 p.m. at the Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road. The Alden begins a series of quote-along movies with a back-to-school viewing of "Mean Girls," Tina Fey's 2004 high-school comedy. Call 571-296-8385 or visit www.mcleancenter.org.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 5

Lecture on Downton Abbey. 12:15 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The McLean Woman's Club presents food and travel writer CiCi Williamson describing the food and its preparation on the 6-year show, along with the history of Highclere Castle, where the filming took place. Free. visit www.mcleanwomansclub.org or call 703-556-0197.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 6

McLean Newcomers and Neighbors. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Community Room, Regency at McLean, 1800 Old Meadow Road, McLean. Visit www.McLeanNewcomers.org.

SEPT. 7-9

Quarterly Book Sale. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Tyson's Library, 7700 and 7704 Leesburg Pike. Large selection of books and media for all ages and interests. Visit tysonslibraryfriends@gmail.com or 703-338-3307.

SEPT. 9-20

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Various times and locations, more than 50 different events taking place at more than 25 venues across Northern Virginia. Call 703-403-5360 or visit www.nvso.us.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 13

Riverboat Cruise. 10-11:30 a.m. at Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) 541 Marshall Road SW, Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna hosts day trip to Georgetown Harbor via riverboat cruise from Alexandria to Georgetown for shopping, exploring and lunch. Will return by

riverboat to Alexandria, then the bus trip home to Vienna. \$85 includes transportation and riverboat cruise. Call 703-281-0538 or visit www.scov.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 15

Chillin' on Church. 6:30 p.m. at Church St., Vienna. Water games, Chump Change band playing rock. Visit www.viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.

MONDAY/SEPT. 18

W&OD Railroad Historian Lecture. Noon-2 p.m. at 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. W&OD Railroad historian and former manager of the W&OD Trail, Paul McCray will talk about the history of the rail line, how it came to be and why it didn't

survive. Call 703-281-0538 or visit www.scov.org.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 19

Antiques Road Show. 10 a.m.-noon at Colvin Run Historic Schoolhouse, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. To have an item evaluated, attendees must provide a picture and description of the provenance (how long it has been in the family, what is already known about it) by Aug. 31. Pictures and details should be sent to Yasha Arant at yasha_arant@yahoo.com or Yasha Arant, 104 Sue Ann Ct, Sterling, VA 20164. Visit greatfallsseniorcenter.gfsc.wildapricot.org/.

Colonial Tobacco Harvest. 1-4 p.m. at the Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Help the farm family harvest their tobacco

crop. Gather the cut plants and hang on sticks to cure in the Tobacco Barn. Visit www.1771.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 20

Dining with Dorothy. 12:30 p.m. at Bonaroti Restaurant, 428 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Join Dorothy and the group for laughter and conversation over lunch. Call 703-281-0538 or visit www.scov.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 23

Fun Fall Bazaar and Market. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls UMC Annual sale Shops, bake sale, books, silent auction, children's activities, Appraisal Roadshow, and BBQ dinner. Call Lois 703-759-2843.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 24

Teddy Bear 5K and 1K. 2-6 p.m. at Pimmit Hills Park, 7230 Idylwood Road. All proceeds from this event go to Falls Church-McLean Children's Center. Visit potomac.enmotive.com/events.

MONDAY/SEPT. 25

Charity Golf Tournament. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Westfield's Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton. Annual Family PASS golf to benefit the working homeless Families of Fairfax County. Visit www.familypassfairfax.org.

SEPT. 29-OCT. 1

Annual Used Book Sale. Friday 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday noon-4 p.m. at the Spring Hill Recreation Center, 1239 Spring Hill Road, McLean. Hosted by the McLean Area Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) featuring the auction of a signed Washington National Max Scherzer shirt and cap. Visit www.aauw.org/.

FRIDAY/OCT. 6

2017 Community Leadership Award Presentation. 6:30 p.m. at McLean Hilton Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive. Honoring Mark and Brenda Moore. Visit www.leadershipfairfax.org/.

OCT. 6-9

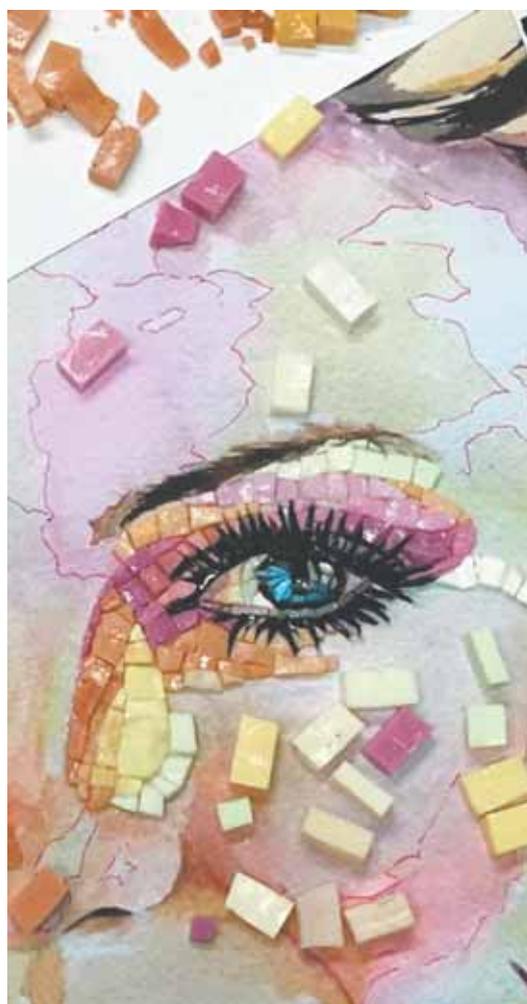
Glass Art Exhibit. Various times at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant Street, NW. "Catching Eyes with Watercolor and Glass" with Carole Choucair Oueijan.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Stuff the Truck Food Drive. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Safeway, 9881 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Benefit for Committee for Helping Others (CHO) and Artemis House to provide emergency food aid to those in need in Vienna, Oakton, Dunn Loring and Merrifield. Artemis House is Fairfax County's only 24-hour emergency shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence, stalking and human trafficking. Sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the Great Falls Baha'is as part of the regional Day to Serve initiative. Visit www.daytoserve.org/.

SATURDAY/OCT. 28

Arlington Free Clinic Annual Benefit Gala. 6 p.m.-midnight at Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner Tysons Galleria, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Cocktail reception and silent auction, which includes getaways, art and photography, sports items, and much more. \$300. Visit www.gala.arlingtonfreeclinic.org.



Art Exhibit

Catching Eyes with Watercolor and Glass with Carole Choucair Oueijan, Oct. 6-9 at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW.

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Obituary

Sally Elizabeth Hoffman Huthwaite, 88, of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, wife of the late Winton Miles Huthwaite for 49 years, died Tuesday, August 8, 2017. Her Memorial Service will be held Saturday, August 26, 2017 in St. Andrews Historic Church Mount Pleasant, 440 Whilden Street at 1:00 PM. Arrangements by J. HENRY STUHR, INC. MOUNT PLEASANT CHAPEL..

Sally was born November 11, 1928 in West Caldwell, New Jersey, daughter of the late Harry Higgins Hoffman and the late Elizabeth Sylvia Young Hoffman. She was a retired Medical Office Manager and a nanny. She volunteered and worked in the electoral process/voting booths, enjoyed gardening, reading, the arts and travel. She was a former member of Fourth Presbyterian Church of Bethesda, Maryland.

She is survived by three sons, Daniel Huthwaite (Connie) of Great Falls, VA, David Huthwaite (Naomi) of Leesburg, VA and Dwight Huthwaite (Bethany) of Mt. Pleasant, SC.

Memorials may be made to the Office of Clinical Research (for Alzheimer's), Medical University of South Carolina, 125 Doughty Street, Suite 170, MSC 195, Charleston, SC 29425, or Alzheimer's Association SC Chapter, 2090 Executive Hall Road, Suite 130, Charleston, SC 29407.

A memorial message may be sent to the family by visiting our website at www.jhenrystuhr.com.

BULLETIN

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

SENIOR VOLUNTEERS

RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 23

Candidate Forum. 7 p.m. at McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. Learn more about the candidates running in the Aug. 29 election for the open At-Large seat on the Fairfax County School Board. Visit <http://bit.ly/2vmlxLD> for more information.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 2

Open House. 10 a.m.-noon at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. The Vienna branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold a free, informational open house. AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Membership dues discount for those who join at this event. Refreshments. Visit www.aauw.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 7

Shepherd's Center Caregivers Support Group. 10-11:30 a.m. at UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. This support group is designed for caregivers of adult family members. For more info contact facilitator, Jack Tarr, 703-821-6838, jtarr5@verizon.net.

Adventures In Learning. 10 a.m.-noon at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Open House to see what's on the Shepherd's Center's fall semester of Adventures in Learning. Call 703-281-0538 or visit www.scov.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 14

Good Morning McLean. 7:30-9 a.m. at J. Gilbert's Wood-Fired Steaks and Seafood, 6930 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. The second Thursday of each month is the McLean Chamber of Commerce "Good Morning, McLean breakfast." Visit www.mcleanchamber.org or call 703-893-1034 for more.

Deer Control

FROM PAGE 2

Much of the reporting is self-regulated, but Powell expressed his confidence in the program and in the reporting, noting that many of the group leaders are well-known to the organizers and veterans of the program. "We take every aspect of the program seriously," he said at the meeting, and added that hunters who had failed to properly complete mandated recordkeeping in the past had been removed from the program, as the result of reports by peer hunters.

Information about the Deer Management Program is available on the county's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

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Two, Hopefully for Won



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Being diagnosed with cancer; then having cancer/living with cancer, is like having a second job. A job that unlike many, requires and/or imposes a 'round the clock-type 24/7 adherence to protocol, policy, procedure, presumptions and principle. To live not like you're dying takes more than scoffing at a country music song that twangs an alternative vision. Believing in what routines you're following and any lifestyle changes you've made allows (I didn't say enables) a cancer survivor to thrive under the most difficult and demanding of circumstances.

Unfortunately for those reading this column looking for answers/guarantees, there aren't any other than: if you abuse the privilege of post-cancer-diagnosis survival, the ends will likely justify the means; meaning, you are responsible for your own actions and "inactions." The prognosis one is given at diagnosis is a reasonably thought out prediction. However, as grim as those words sound and seem at that moment, that prediction is not cast in stone. I'm living proof of that. The words you hear are based on the past. Your ensuing treatment is more about the present and future and what you decide to do living forward. Being open and unassuming, and by 'unassuming' I mean: not taking anything for granted, presuming facts not in evidence, considering that which has happened to somebody else - either good or bad, could happen to you and of course, asking as many questions in as many ways as necessary to get the answers you need, will help you co-exist with this terrible burden. Being diagnosed with a heretofore "terminal" disease presents one with innumerable challenges but not the slim pickin's (choices not the actor) of yesteryear.

Integrating/assimilating all of the facts, fiction and philosophy into one's daily cancer conundrum is a task often complicated by one's day job/intention to remain on that job. The thinking being, at least in my mind/experience: living as normal a life as possible and staying as true to one's usual and customary self as well as to one's wishes, desires, hopes, prayers, etc., will enable (not 'allow' this time) you potentially to live longer and prosper more and trek "where no man has gone before." For us cancer survivors/patients, where we hope to 'trek' is beyond the prognosis given to us by our oncologist.

I can boast of such an accomplishment, but I'd rather write it quietly and consistently as encouragement to others similarly diagnosed and "prognosed" than brag about it loudly. However, the changes/choices I've made might not suit another's personality. I regularly receive suggestions about additional anti-cancer pursuits. Some I embrace, some I don't. Some are conventional (Western), some are alternative (Non-Western). Many sound reasonable and "integratable" into my lifestyle. Many others don't. But given that my life is at stake, how can a suggestion's incompatibility with my personality matter? We're talking life versus premature death here; not sit-down Italian versus take-out Chinese. And though food certainly matters, it is of course to no comparison to living versus dying. Still, I don't always say "yes."

This is the yin and yang of my life and probably the lives of many other survivors of serious/terminal-type diseases. I want to feel like I'm winning. But I'm deathly afraid of losing.

Moreover, I want to live my life as normally as possible, but not if it has adverse consequence. And how would I know anyway? Symptoms can be misleading and scans are quarterly. And though I remain positive about my very negative circumstances, occasionally the reality of those circumstances interfere with that normalcy. When that happens, I usually put pen to paper and try to write myself out of it.

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



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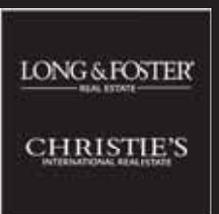
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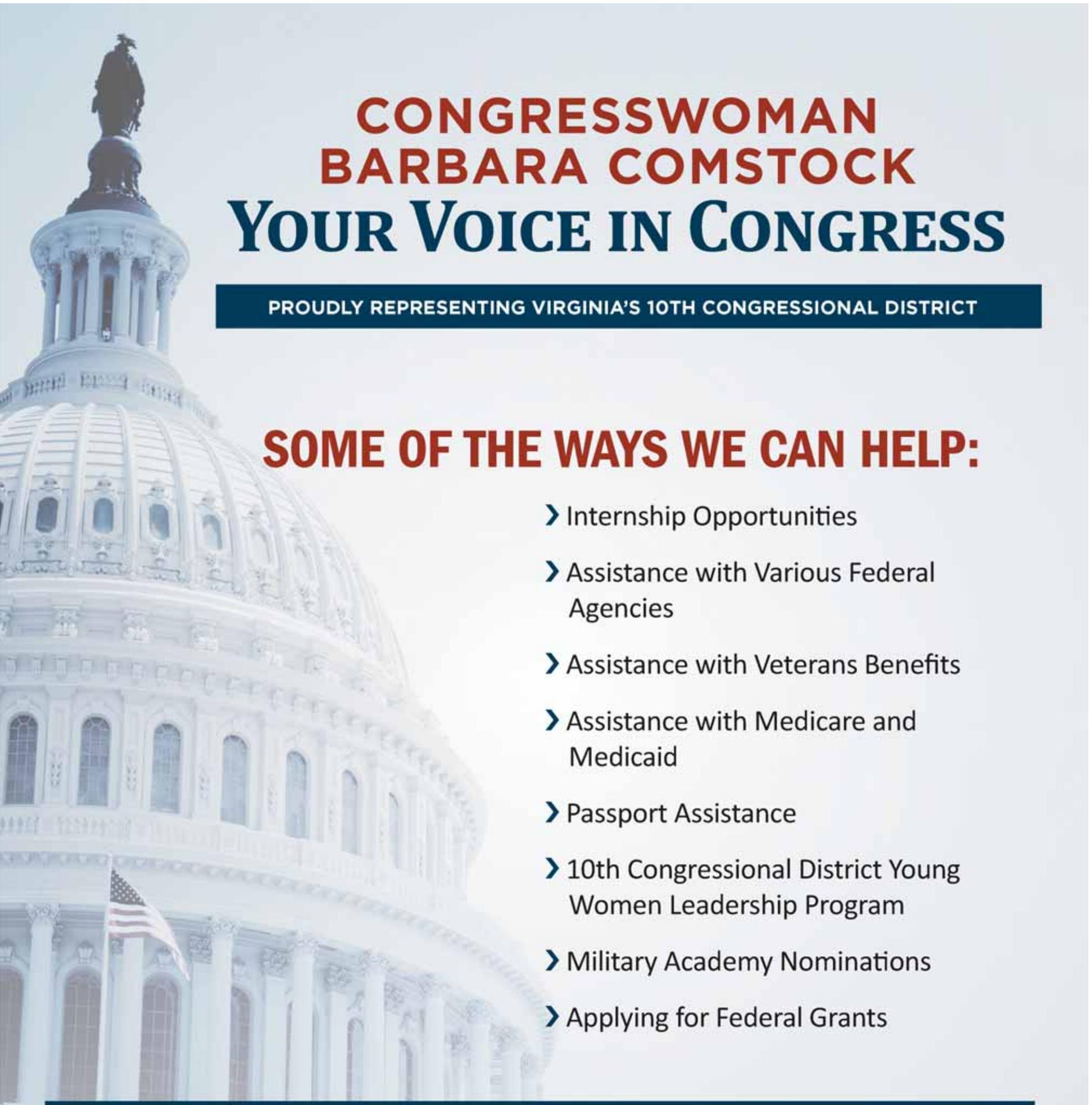
NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2017-2018

Robin Mogle sets off to explore Great Falls National Park with her children - Nora, 3, Rory, 5, and Sarah, 6. The park, located in Great Falls, is popular enough on nice weekend afternoons that the wait to get to the park entrance can be as long as an hour.

PHOTO BY MARK MOGLE/THE CONNECTION

Great Falls
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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

GREAT FALLS CONNECTION EDITOR
KEMAL KURSPAHIC
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Forestville Elementary School band members played holiday music during the Celebration of Light at the Village Center in December 2016. This volunteer effort is coordinated by Celebrate Great Falls.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINA TYLER WENKS



Proud parents snap photos while the 2016 Great Falls Little League All-Star Softball Team throws candy and necklaces to parade onlookers during the Fourth of July festivities in Great Falls.

Enriching Ourselves, Our Community, and Our Home

Each of us has a unique story about making Great Falls home. Its people make Great Falls great.

BY CHRISTINA TYLER WENKS

An offer to house-sit in Great Falls determined our family's future home and sense of belonging. Throughout my husband's mobile military career, we dreamed of settling into the lifestyle our Great Falls friends had — living close to work, meaningful community involvement, good schools, and room for a garden.



Rolling hills leading to the Potomac and winding roads canopied by hardwoods made Georgetown Pike seem a world away from work on Capitol Hill. After a few days of traversing I-395/I-495 from Alexandria's Old Town, we pined for the greenery of our getaway off Riverbend Road. Fast-forward 20 years and several addresses. We seized an opportunity to return to Great Falls and call it ours.

Home is more than where we hang our hats. Home is where we hang our hearts. Home is where we feel welcomed and we belong.

As a journalist, I've witnessed and experienced that newcomers begin to feel a part of a community when they become involved. Before we had keys to our house, our Holly Knoll neighborhood greeted us with Supper Club, Book Club, holiday park parties and more. Kevin and I found engaged citizens and civic opportunities fostering personal and community growth.

NEWCOMERS PARENTS to Northern Virginia find ease giving time to their children's schools where professional strengths are welcomed. In addition to parent-teacher associations and special events, parents may contribute constructive time to a Junior Achievement program or the Reston-based GRACE Art program, which serves 40 local schools. Volunteers teach curated art lessons about famous artists while students produce projects that may also discreetly reinforce math, science, or history. Sometimes parents learn as much as the kids do.

The heart of our village is our library —

About the Author

Christina Tyler Wenks is an adjunct professor of journalism at George Mason University who scribes with the Great Falls Writer's Group, digs into the Fairfax County Master Gardeners, and supports the Great Falls Historical Society and other volunteer commitments that benefit cystic fibrosis patients, ocean health, satiate curiosity, feed minds, and inspire creativity.

Top 10 Places/Events in Great Falls (In no particular order)

Great Falls National Park: Trails lead visitors to vistas of historic Matildaville, old canal passages, wildlife, and churning water rushing through falls.

Riverbend Park: Strolls along the Potomac feature native flora and fauna such as native plants, seasonal bluebells, and nesting owls.

Colvin Run Mill: As the last fully functioning grist mill the Washington, D.C., area, Colvin Run Mill is a snapshot of the region's past. Visitors watch a blacksmith's hammer strike red-hot iron, hear the roaring whir of stone wheels, and taste corn ground using old-world techniques.

Great Falls Children's Spring Festival and Egg Hunt: Children race to collect eggs containing candies and real gems. This community treasure is hosted by the Optimist Club and Adeler Jewelers.

Fourth Of July Parade and Fireworks: The parade route circles downtown. Celebrate Great Falls fundraises and promotes the fireworks display at Turner Farm. Volunteers make it successful.

Nike Field: History and sports enthusiasts converge on Route 7. Youth baseball and softball, soccer, and lacrosse rally fans and families. Great Falls Little League puts its money on teens and trains and pays them to umpire. This historic site once housed Nike anti-aircraft missiles intended to defend the nation's capital in the event of Soviet air attack.

The Village Green at the Great Falls Village Center: Residents bring picnic blankets and chairs to enjoy movies, concerts, and celebrations.

Turner Farm: The Analemma Society's hosts star-gazing events at the roll-top observatory. Fairfax County Park Authority continues master plan work for this site that includes horseback riding and more.

The Great Falls Library: At the village's center, civic groups host meetings and special events at the Great Falls Library, which features a September 11, 2001, memorial and garden. The Grange next door was built in 1929 and is a community meeting and event site. Virginia's last unaltered grange hall and its neighboring Forestville Schoolhouse are sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

home to many local groups, such as the Great Falls Historical Society, from which we've learned much about the area's founding families, Civil War battles, and several small communities that became ZIP code 22066; art exhibits; and the Great Falls Writer's Group (GFWG), which hosts authors' events and organizes an annual writing contest for sixth graders to encourage the next generation of writers.

Soon after author Kristin Clark Taylor started GFWG several years ago, the GFWG writing family started planning its first writ-

ing contest. Parent-volunteer work in schools proved valuable. The now annual contest resulted in a partnership with Friends of the Great Falls Library and schools to inspire young readers and writers.

Such alliances among community groups pair skills, goals, and provide networking opportunities, resulting in vested fellowships and friendships. Involvement deepens one's purpose and makes the town as a whole richer.

Locals jest that the boardroom for most

civic organizations is the Old Brogue Pub or its adjacent coffee shop, Katie's. For years, restaurant owner Mike Kearney's energy and activism generated business support and fundraising efforts. Anyone listening to Kearney rally folks to invest in our community knows his efforts aren't business decisions. They're personal because he lives here.

Other local business owners share the same passion. Pairing with the Great Falls Optimist Club, Jorge Adeler coordinates the annual Great Falls Children's Spring Festival and Egg Hunt on the Village Green and donates thousands of dollars of jewels hidden in eggs. Adeler is one of many citizens who strive to make this part of Fairfax County more than a Washington, D.C., suburb — but someplace special. He accepts challenges of making historic properties such as The Grange available and useful to all who live here. He's one of our many village gems.

Celebrate Great Falls coordinates volunteers and centralizes fundraising for more than a dozen annual events, such as the Fourth of July Parade and Fireworks Display and the December's Celebration of Light. Director Erin Lobato moved to Great Falls five years ago and embraced opportunities to get long-time residents and newcomers involved. Elementary school choirs and bands perform at the Celebration of Light so young families watching the performance adopt the holiday tradition.

Our village strives to preserve its history and keep its small-town feel among a changing landscape and population. Local organizations evolve with citizens' needs, too.

A FEW YEARS AGO the Great Falls Woman's Club and Newcomers of Great Falls merged to become Great Falls Friends and Neighbors, which supports cultural outings, speakers, and philanthropy. With the robust group of artists, Great Falls Senior Center, the Great Falls Garden Club, weekly farmer's market, and youth sports, our locale offers opportunities for everyone to contribute.

When we share our histories, languages, and foods we share ourselves. When we volunteer in our community we beautify and personalize our collective home — and we all benefit.

Each of us has a unique story about making Great Falls home. Its people make Great Falls great.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Welcome to Fairfax County: 'Work Hard, Play Hard'

By SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS



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 new to the county, I hope you'll take some time to visit some of our most popular spots and enjoy what Fairfax County has to offer.

Tysons Corner Center, Fair Oaks Mall, 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, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts and

the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton are some of my favorites. 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 nine Fortune 500 company headquarters, approximately 9,000 tech businesses and over 116 million square feet of office space.

Fairfax County has one of the best public school systems nationwide with a graduation rate of nearly 93 percent. Fairfax County Public Schools is the third largest employer in Virginia and the 10th largest school system in the country with more than 189,000 stu-

dents. After high school graduation, George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College are located just down the road for affordable higher education opportunities in many different subject fields. Our business-friendly economy offers a wide array of impressive career opportunities for both our older and younger residents.

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 Fairfax County 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. Phase 2 of Metro's Silver Line is currently under construction and

will extend 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. In Fairfax County, we believe we must all do our part to set a positive tone of acceptance, inclusiveness and kindness.

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 new community. I also encourage you to visit fairfaxcounty.gov and fxva.com to see what Fairfax County has to offer you and your family every season and every day. Welcome to your new home.

Service for Seniors Who Want to Serve

RSVP is the region's largest volunteer network for people 55 and older, providing individualized support to seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria.

RSVP offers opportunities for volunteers including providing rides, support and meals to older neighbors, assisting local veterans in need and helping prepare communities for disasters. RSVP also recruits volunteers for community events throughout the year.

RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to group projects and social gatherings with other RSVP volunteers.

To sign up for an upcoming RSVP orientation email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403-5360. To learn more about

RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

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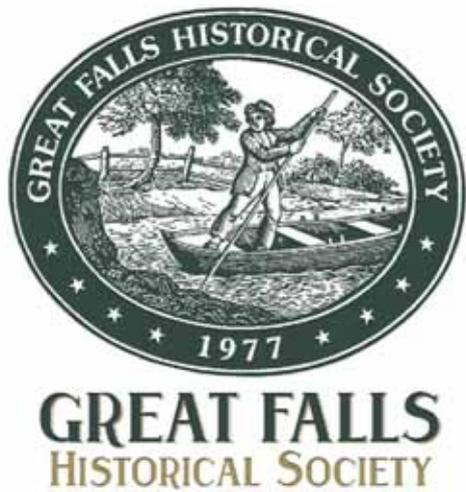
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Some Amazing National Historic Treasures in Great Falls

- 1737 Four Stairs
- 1750 The William Gunnel House
- 1786 Potomac Canal Historic District
- 1811 Colvin Run Mill
- 1813 The Georgetown Pike
- 1831 Cornwell Farm
- 1852 The John Gunnel House
- 1889 The Forestville Schoolhouse
- 1929 The Great Falls Grange
- 2012 Georgetown Pike

Listening to the legacy...



Marking annual traditions...



Re-enacting...



Enjoy Local History

Celebrate Local Events

Wednesday, 13 September, 7PM

The Best Kept Secret in American History, The Women's Suffrage Movement, by Patricia Wirth, Executive Director of Turning Point Memorial Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike

Wednesday, 11 October, 630 PM

Oktoberfest Potluck Dinner - Program-Loudoun and Fairfax Counties Finally Agree on a Boarder Jim Lewis, Lover of History-Grange

Wednesday, 8 November, 7PM

The Restoration of the Best Little School House in Great Falls and the Experience With Our First Vineyard, in Great Falls, Joan Wehner and Son John Wehner, Grange and Olde School House

December

Happy Holidays

Wednesday, 10 January, 7 PM

Experienced Advice in Starting Your Family Genealogy using the Internet, by Elaine McRey, Virginia Room Genealogy Librarian Great Falls Library

February TBD

Tibbets Award Banquet
 The Olde Brogue Restaurant
 760 Walker Road
 Great Falls

Wednesday, 14 March, 7 PM

12,000 Years in Our Upper Potomac, by Karen Washburn, GFHS Historian Great Falls Library

Sunday, 8 April, 4 PM

Private John S. Mosby, First Virginia Cavalry, Picketing Fairfax County before Becoming the Gray Ghost, by Greg Wilson Talking About His New Book Great Falls Library

Sunday, 9 May, 7 PM

May 9, 7:00 : "Washington in Flames", presented by Carole L. Herrick author and historian, the sacking of Washington during the War of 1812 and the escape of President and Mrs. Madison through our area-Great Falls Library.

Saturday, 9 June

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Contact: Norma Baker Membership Chairperson 703-759-3790 normakbaker@gmail.com or Glen Sjoblom President 703-434-2608 sjoblomglen@gmail.com

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

About the Connection

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

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we report on the character of your community, we include details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

In 2016 alone, Connection papers won dozens of awards, including the top Virginia Press award — for Integrity and Community Service, for our coverage of police reform and related issues.

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. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an email with feedback about our coverage.

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

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo.



Local Media Connection writers and photographers won 37 Virginia Press Association awards for work in 2016, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service. Pictured here from left: John Bordner, Mark Mogle, Mary Kimm, Shirley Ruhe, Tim Peterson, Vernon Miles, Eden Brown, Andrea Worker and Jeanne Theismann.

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.

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- ❖ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/
- ❖ Events to list in the calendar, www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/

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- ❖ Past issues of the Connection back to 2008 are available at www.ConnectionArchives.com/PDF/
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— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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 NEWCOMERS
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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Helping Keep Great Falls Great

The Great Falls Citizens Association welcomes you to town.

BY LAURIE ROWE
GFCFA COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Great Falls Citizens Association (GFCFA) is an all-volunteer association representing roughly 5,000 households in Great Falls. Our board of directors and community volunteers advocate with local government on issues and solutions that improve our community while working hard to retain our semi-rural character. We regularly deal with a range of projects from traffic, zoning, county and school budgets, beautification, to ground and stormwater issues, trails, parks and the environment.

As just one example, over the past year, GFCFA worked very closely with SunTrust Bank on plans for its new bank building in town. The bank sought a special exception from the county and our Supervisor, John Foust, looked to GFCFA to evaluate it. Working closely with his office, the bank and residents, we achieved changes to the architecture ensuring compatibility with the neighboring Village Centre, additional landscaping, and accommodations to protect several large oak trees.

GFCFA has worked diligently to achieve the completion of an interconnected trail system that will allow residents to walk and bike from their neighborhoods safely to



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GFCFA

The Great Falls Citizens Association participates in 2017 July 4 parade in Great Falls.

other parts of Great Falls. The trail connects our neighborhoods with our schools, parks, and main commercial center in the Village. Next year the section of the trail along Georgetown Pike from Seneca Road to Utterback Store Road will be complete, and in the year to follow, we expect the trail to extend all the way to the Village.

Since 1968, when the GFCFA was founded, we have had many other successes including:

- ❖ Raised funds to purchase and restore the town's century old school house

- ❖ Prevented the county from building a heavy equipment maintenance facility at the intersection of Georgetown Pike and Route 7

- ❖ Held a petition drive that stopped the downgrading of Riverbend Park and its programs

- ❖ Prevented a two lane left turn off Route 7 onto Georgetown Pike at Seneca Road

- ❖ Protected our well water by obtaining a commitment for cleanup of MTBE contaminants at the old Exxon station

- ❖ Worked with Fairfax ReLeaf to offer

native tree and shrub seedlings to residents.

The GFCFA board and community volunteers are currently working on the following major projects:

- ❖ Addressing neighborhood and traffic issues with the widening of Route 7 to Tysons

- ❖ Working with the county on the possible transition of Grange management to the community

- ❖ Ensuring that county playing fields are safe for soccer and lacrosse players

- ❖ Looking for solutions to calm increasingly dangerous driving on Georgetown Pike and neighboring streets

- ❖ Identifying new improvements in the Walker Road/Georgetown Pike intersection for pedestrian and traffic safety

- ❖ Working with our Supervisor and the National Park Service to address unacceptable traffic backups onto local roads at the entrance to the park.

If working to improve our town, and "Keeping Great Falls Great" is of interest to you, we encourage you to become involved in GFCFA and any of our other local organizations. Our website has all of the details at www.gfca.org. You will also find resources helpful to new residents, and a good source of information about current events in Great Falls.

Welcome to the neighborhood!

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Celebrating Great Falls Year-Round

The key to making Great Falls your home is to get involved

Celebrate Great Falls Foundation is the umbrella organization behind a number of long standing Great Falls traditions. Community events like the Summer Concerts on the Green held every Sunday evening during the summer from 6-8 p.m. on the Great Falls Village Centre Green (behind the Old Brogue) or the upcoming Halloween Spooktacular held on Oct. 31 from 5-7 p.m. in the Village as a way to provide our youngest residents with an opportunity to trick-or-treat and visit a “not too scary” Haunted House (run by Boy Scout Troop 55).

We have a small army of volunteers who deliver those iconic Blue Welcome Bags to all of our new neighbors along with a personal welcome and invitation to an upcoming New Neighbor Social.

As winter approaches, we look forward to the lighting of our community Christmas Tree at the Celebration of Lights. Local school choral groups serenade

us, local businesses provide hot cocoa and cookies and children enjoy pony rides and a petting zoo as we eagerly await the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus on the antique fire truck to light the tree! Local businesses compete each year in our annual Holiday Decorating Contest to see who can light up the night better than anyone.

In February, we enjoy an annual Winter Wine Tasting that will be held at the Great Falls Grange for the first time this year. We are always looking for new traditions to keep our community vibrant and were thrilled to spearhead the return of the Great Falls Fireworks in 2015 as part of our Fourth of July festivities that have included parades and celebrations throughout the day for decades!

The key to making Great Falls your home is to get involved. We promise that if you do, you will get to know your extended neighborhood quickly and likely make some lifelong friends along the way. Our community spirit makes us unique and all of this is 100 percent volunteer driven!

Many residents are surprised to hear that we do not receive any state or county funding. All of our events are privately funded by our generous sponsors and organized by our volunteers — neighbors like you who may have lived here for 30+ years or just moved in not long ago. Come be a part of it!

For more information about our events and ways to volunteer contact Erin Lobato at erinlobato@celebrategreatfalls.org or visit our website www.celebrategreatfalls.org.



PHOTO BY MAGGIE GIORDANO

The Great Falls Freedom Memorial hosts annual ceremonies to honor those who have served and sacrificed.

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GREAT FALLS CONNECTION ❖ NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE 2017-18 ❖ 9

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

The Best of Dranesville District

BY SUPERVISOR JOHN W. FOUST
(D-DRANESVILLE DISTRICT)

We are fortunate to have many wonderful parks, historical features and community events in the Dranesville District. The following are some of my favorites.

Clemyjontri Park, 6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean

Since opening in 2006, more than 200,000 visitors have enjoyed this unique playground where children of all abilities can play side-by-side. Equipment allows children who have physical, sensory or developmental disabilities to have a parallel playground experience of fun and exploration. The park also includes a carousel and picnic pavilion.

Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills, Great Falls

This park offers over 400 acres of forests, meadows and ponds. Trails include a 2.5 mile portion of the Potomac Heritage Trail that links national and regional parkland. Kayaking, canoeing and fishing are all available on the Potomac River. The nature center and picnic shelter are available for rent.

Colvin Run Park, 10017 Colvin Run, Great Falls

Colvin Run Mill offers visitors a chance to step back in time. There are tours of the restored mill, which was built around 1811. A general store offers stone ground cornmeal, wheat flour, grits, "penny candy" and snacks and drinks. Trails are available for quiet walks. Live music, craft demonstrations, ice cream making and seasonal activities are available from February through December.

Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls

Originally the site of a dairy farm, the 52-acre park offers a mix of educational and recreational facilities. In 2016, a new roll-top observatory opened in Observatory Park at Turner Farm. The observatory offers the public a chance to see the night sky from one of Fairfax County's darkest spots through permanently mounted telescopes. The Analemma Society partners with the Park Authority to provide astronomy programs at the observatory. Equestrians can enjoy a cross country course and a large multi-purpose arena with stadium jumps and dressage makers. Small children can enjoy a tot lot.

Runnymede Park, 196 Herndon Parkway, Herndon

The Town of Herndon is located in the Dranesville District. The town owns and maintains this 58-acre park. It is the site for many community nature-related events such as the annual Nature Fest. Situated near the Sugarland Run Stream, the park attracts over 100 species of birds, deer, fox and other wildlife. Two park shelters are



Clemyjontri Park: A unique playground where children of all abilities can play side-by-side.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF
SUPERVISOR JOHN FOUST'S OFFICE



Riverbend Park offers over 400 acres of forest, meadows and ponds.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts offers performances and musical education year-round.

available for rental.

Scotts Run Nature Preserve, 7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean

One of the few nature preserves in the County. The 336-acre preserve, formerly known as the Burling Tract, had at one time been slated for development. Scotts Run offers wonderful hiking trails of varying difficulty, some of them leading to the bluffs of the Potomac River.

Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna

Known simply as Wolf Trap. The 117-acre park is home to the beautiful Filene Center, The Barnes and the Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods. Each summer there are over 100 performance across all genres. There are also year-round recreational opportunities, including hiking trails, picnic areas, and sledding.

Supervisor John W. Foust on places he would like newcomers to see.

Spring Hill Recreation Center, 1239 Spring Hill Road, McLean

Visitors can take advantage of the indoor swimming pool, a two-story fitness center and a gymnasium with an elevated running track. The gym features a single high school-sized basketball court with two overlay basketball courts and a volleyball overlay court.

MPAartfest, McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean

Every October, the McLean Project for the Arts converts McLean Central Park into a free, one-day festival of the arts. Thousands of area residents attend. Vendor tents display the works of numerous juried artists, which are complemented by the exhibitions of children's and seniors' artwork, an Open Studio demonstration, and performances by local musicians.

Great Falls Freedom Memorial, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls (behind the library)

Dedicated in 2004, the memorial plaza on the library grounds honors local military personnel, firefighters, police officers, the six Great Falls residents who died in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and others who have made the ultimate sacrifice to defend our liberty and freedom. The service on 9/11 is very moving.

McLean Day, Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean

Sponsored by the McLean Community Center, McLean Day is held on the third Saturday in May. The festival features live entertainment, carnival rides, exhibitions and delicious foods for visitors of all ages. The event also includes booths where artisans, local businesses, civic organizations, nonprofit groups, and local officials showcase their wares.

Great Falls Park

This National Park consists of 800 acres along the banks of the Potomac River. The park is a wonderful place to hike, picnic and simply view the majestic falls and rapids, often navigated by kayakers. Entrance is at the intersection of Georgetown Pike and Old Dominion Drive, Great Falls.

Dulles Station Community Park, 13707 Sayward Blvd., Herndon

This recently completed 2.6-acre park includes playgrounds for preschoolers and elementary-age children, as well as a seating area, fitness area, multi-use court, trail and a dog park with a shade pavilion.

Farmers Markets

In addition to the Fairfax County Farmers Markets held from May through November in Herndon and McLean on Thursday and Friday mornings, respectively, the Great Falls Community Farmers Market is held on Saturday mornings year-round. The Farmers Markets are a great way to shop local. Visit fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/ or greatfallsfarmersmarket.org/

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



The current president of Great Falls Rotary Vishal Chawla and current vice president Butch Sevilla pictured with the Club's float at the Fourth of July celebration in Great Falls.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



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Great Falls Rotary on Mission to 'Give Back'

Great Falls Rotary is part of the oldest service organization in the country, tracing its origins to the original founding of Rotary in 1905. Today there are over 1.2 million members, 30,400 clubs in over 200 countries all united with a simple mission – "Service Above Self." Since the founding, the Great Falls club has worked on multiple local, national, and even international projects. In addition, their Rotary Youth Interact program has been a valuable asset to the club and provides young men and women an opportunity to get involved with multiple projects throughout the year as well.

The Great Falls Rotary club meets weekly for breakfast from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. at River Bend Golf and Country Club in Great Falls. Each meeting features various guest speakers throughout the year. Their first guest speaker six years ago at the inaugural meeting was Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Since that time they have heard from local artists, authors, activists, entrepre-

neurs, state and county officials, Congressmen and even Presidential candidates.

The recently elected president of the Great Falls Rotary, Vishal Chawla, sums it up best: "Great Falls Rotary Club is now six years strong. We are a friendly group of approximately 55 members that is non-political, non-religious and whose members come from a wide range of occupations. Like all Rotary Clubs, we aim to serve the community (locally, nationally and internationally) and to have some fun."

The Great Falls Rotary always welcomes inquiries from like-minded people who want to "give back" and be involved in community. If you would like to know more about what they do, attend one of their weekly breakfast meetings or one of monthly happy hours. The friendships and camaraderie that's grown over the years through this club is reflected in the many service projects they undertake and the multiple causes they support each and every year, as a team. Visit portal.clubrunner.ca/8198 for additional information.



Great Falls Rotary Interact youth group raised \$5,000 for Lynchburg's habitat program

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COMMUNITY GUIDE

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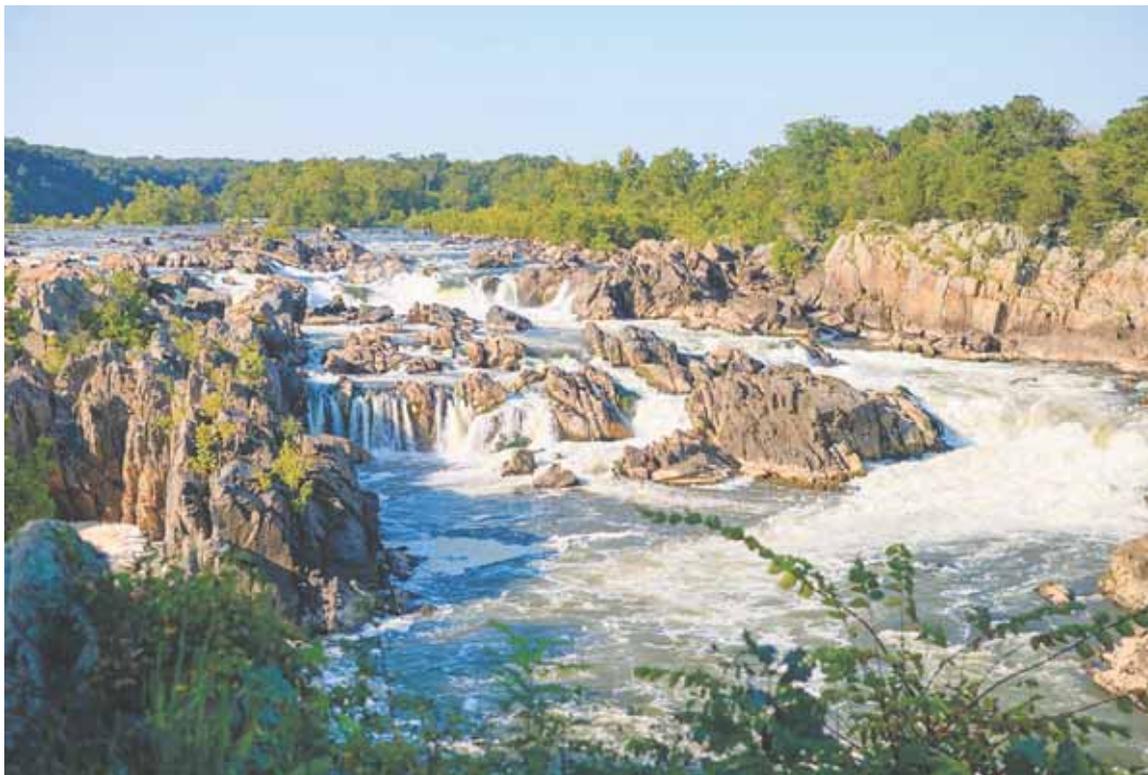
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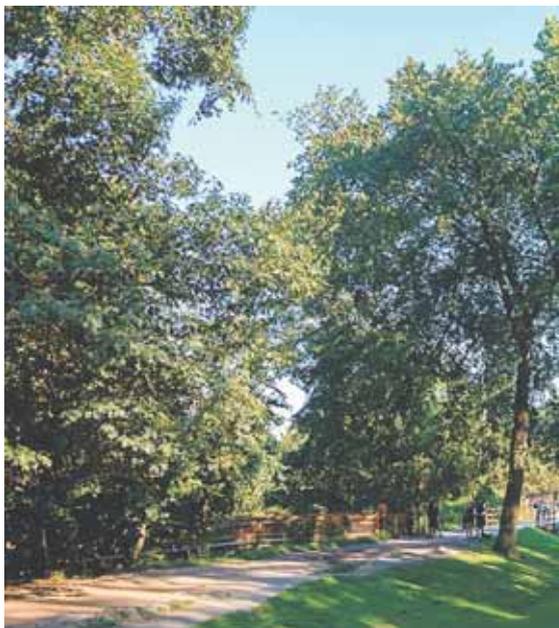

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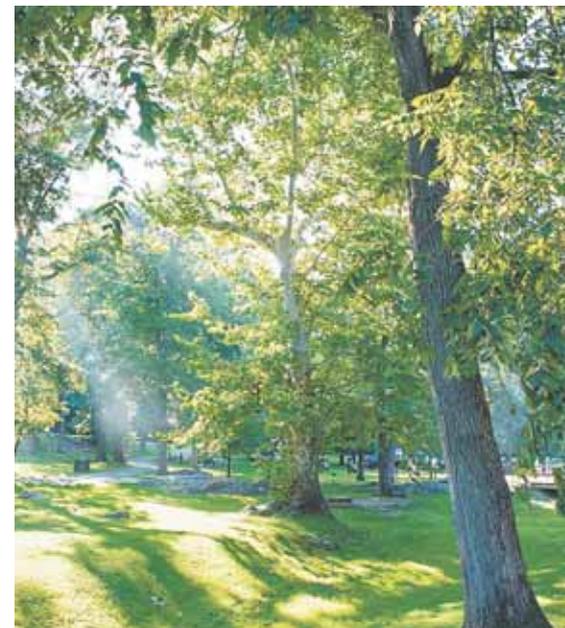


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Norah Mogle, 3



Sarah Mogle, 6



Rory Mogle, 5

NEWCOMERS

Great Falls Nonprofits: Making Community Work

Celebrate Great Falls

Celebrate Great Falls hosts annual events such as the Celebration of Lights Christmas tree lighting and a Fourth of July Parade, and raises funds for the three local elementary schools with a charity golf tournament. Celebrate Great Falls is currently looking for volunteers to help with general tasks, event planning and marketing. 571-293-0474, www.celebrategreatfalls.org

Great Falls Rotary Club and Foundation

Now in its fifth year, the Great Falls Rotary Club has volunteered at community parks, planned shoe drives and supported the USO. Members come from a variety of different professions, and it is not necessary to live in Great Falls to join. gf.interact@gmail.com or www.rotarygreatfalls.org/.

Friends of Colvin Run Mill

Friends of Colvin Run Mill is dedicated to assisting the Fairfax County Park Authority enhance the Colvin Run Mill Historic Site and its educational programs. The restored Colvin Run Mill, a working example of 19th century water powered grist milling technology, serves as an educational focal point for visitors, children and families. 703-759-2771 or <http://friendsofcolvinrunmill.org/>

Friends of the Great Falls Library

Friends of the Great Falls Library is a group that raises money to expand community events and programs for children and at the Great Falls Library, located at 9830 Georgetown Pike. 703-757-8560 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/friends/gf/

Great Falls Area Ministries, formerly Great Falls Ecumenical Council

The Great Falls Area Ministries has members from eight churches in Great Falls. The members share a commitment to worship, fellowship and service. The GFAM support various social and outreach programs and sponsor joint worship on Good Friday and Easter. They meet on the first Thursday of each month September through June in alternating member church buildings. Email Carol Wesley Wright at: c.wright@longandfoster.com

Great Falls Optimist Club

A group of individuals committed to programs that educate youth and help them expand their horizons and avoid pitfalls as they mature. The Optimists run a "Just Say No" program and an oratorical contest and have sponsored the Adeler Jewelers Children's Festival. They sponsor boys and girls softball and baseball teams and Operation Smile. www.optimist.org/ClubDetail.cfm?club=16080

Great Falls Trailblazers

The Trailblazers support development and maintenance of multi-purpose trails in Great Falls. They have secured close to \$2 million in grants to construct the Georgetown and Walker Road trails, sponsor annual stream clean-ups, and are looking for volunteers to help with trail maintenance. They monitor devel

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Walt Lawrence

Visit the Great Falls Village Centre!

The Great Falls Village Centre is located around the lovely village green in the heart of Great Falls, Virginia. We have been part of Great Falls, Virginia throughout its extensive growth and development and have worked hand in hand with the residents of Great Falls to enhance and build the sense of community that is prevalent today. We offer boutique shopping, delicious restaurants and quality services right in the center of town.

There is always something fun going on at the Village Centre, from weekend events like Cars & Coffee and the Farmers Market to Summer Concerts on the Green, 4th of July Parade, annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Halloween Spook-tacular, art exhibitions and more! Visit our Website: www.GreatFallsVillageCentre.com or just stop by and see why the Great Falls Village Centre is not only located in the center of town, but truly is the "heart" of the community.

American Health Care Professionals (AHCP), for over 20 years has provided home health care and hospice for all of Northern Virginia. Founded in 1995, AHCP is a Community Based Organization (CBO) and is Joint Commission Accredited. AHCP specializes in Skilled Nurses (RN), Physical Therapists (PT), Mental Health Nurses and Home Health aides. They are providers of medicare/medicaid and all major insurances. The company provides a comprehensive, patient-centric model inclusive of: Home Health, Telehealth, Mobile Health, Global Health, and Wellness Programs. AHCP's expert staff also serves as great resource concerning health care needs for you or your family.



Your most reliable choice for computer repair in Great Falls Village Centre and surrounding northern Virginia. At GeekABC Computer Repair, fixes Windows and Mac desktop and laptop computers, and provides network support for homes and businesses. They understand that computers are a vital part of your life, and they know how everything can come to a standstill even if the slightest problem occurs in your computer or network. GeekABC technicians are experienced in repairing both PC and Mac computers, upgrading and replacing memory, addressing issues with operating systems, hard drives, motherboards, power supplies, viruses, spyware, and malware, and configuring software, data backups, data recovery, network security, wireless networks, and more with in-shop, on-site, and remote tech support. Services provided at a low price and no hidden fees.



River Nails & Spa is a new kind of neighborhood nail salon founded on the idea that getting a manicure and pedicure should be downright lovely. River is your new luxury nail care destination that will redefine what a mani/pedi means to you. Sanitation and satisfaction is our priority. Collaborations with our favorite beauty companies ensure our signature services and exclusive products deliver results. Get River Nails & Spa treat you!

SHOP GREAT FALLS! Great Falls Village Centre

www.GreatFallsVillageCentre.com

- Adeler Jewelers..... 703-759-4076
- AdGen Telecom..... 703-757-6757
- Allstate Insurance/Doug White..... 703-759-7700
- Aquarian LLC..... 703-438-8838
- Artists on the Green..... 703-609-3092
- Arts of Great Falls..... 703-232-1575
- Capital Realty Services..... 703-759-4900
- Dent Asset Management..... 703-286-7555
- Dr. C. Ayers..... 703-757-6445
- Executive Suites at Great Falls..... 703-865-2500
- First Line Financial, Inc..... 703-757-7393
- Geek ABC..... 703-828-1649
- Georgetown Learning Centers..... 703-759-3624
- Great Falls Creamery..... 703-272-7609
- Great Falls Cycle Studio..... 703-585-5631
- Great Falls Family Dentistry..... 703-759-4707
- H2O Pools..... 703-250-5585
- Jinny Beyer Studio..... 703-759-0250
- Katie's Coffee House..... 703-759-2759
- Lauren Liess Interiors..... 571-926-7825
- Loebig Chiropractic..... 703-757-5817
- New Paradigm Capital Mgmt..... 703-757-4802
- Old Brogue Irish Pub..... 703-759-3309
- Pilates Place, LLC..... 703-405-3371
- Pio Pio Restaurant..... 703-865-7700
- Postmodern Foods..... 213-440-2257
- River Nail and Spa..... 703-746-8886
- Robert Mobley, AIA Architect..... 703-759-1927
- School of Theatrical Dance..... 703-759-5652
- Spectrum Property Management.... 703-307-2965
- The Great Falls Salon..... 703-759-4758
- Village Centre Mgmt Office..... 703-759-2485
- Village Retreat/Massage Therapy.... 703-638-4852
- Wells Fargo Bank..... 703-757-1040
- Wild Ginger Restaurant..... 703-759-5040



Follow us on Facebook for event announcements!
[Facebook.com/GreatFallsVillageCentre](https://www.facebook.com/GreatFallsVillageCentre)

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How To Vote

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

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: 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.

Virginia Voter ID

Virginia has voter identification requirements, 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 Commonwealth; 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 ID

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 following 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.

General Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 7

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

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

To vote on Tuesday, Nov. 7, 6 a.m.-7 p.m. (General Election)

❖ Register/update address by: Monday, Oct. 16.

❖ Request absentee ballot by mail by: 5

p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31.

❖ Vote early (in-person absentee ballot by appearing in person by 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4.

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

School Bonds on Ballot

There is a \$315 million public school bonds referendum on the Nov. 7 general election ballot. If approved by voters, the Fairfax County Public Schools' current plans to use this bond money are to:

❖ Plan and/or construct two new elementary schools, one in Fairfax/Oakton area and another in the Northwest county area.

❖ Relocate one modular building

❖ Plan additions at three existing high schools to add capacity at Madison, Stuart and West Potomac.

❖ Plan and/or construct renovations of 10 elementary schools, three middle schools and two high schools.

See www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/facilities-planning-future/2017-school-bond-referendum.

Special Election

Aug. 29, 2017 Special Election, School Board At-Large

All county polling places will be open on Aug. 29 to fill a vacancy for member, School Board At-Large for the remainder of the present term of office which expires Dec. 31, 2019.

In-Person Absentee voting is underway until Aug. 26

❖ Aug 26: Final Day In-Person Absentee Voting

❖ Aug 29: Absentee Ballot Return Deadline, 7 p.m.

Four candidates are on the ballot:

Chris S. Grisafe

Sandra D. Allen

Karen A. Keys-Gamarra

Michael H. Owens

For more on the school board race, see www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jul/31/low-turnout-high-stakes-special-election-school-bo/

ON THE BALLOT in Fairfax County:

Governor

Ralph S. Northam (D)

Edward W. "Ed" Gillespie (R)

Clifford D. Hyra (L)

42nd District

Kathy Tran (D)

Lolita Mancheno-Smoak (R)

Lieutenant Governor

Justin E. Fairfax (D)

Jill H. Vogel (R)

43rd District

Mark Sickles (D) incumbent, unopposed

Attorney General

Mark R. Herring (D)*

John D. Adams (R)

44th District

Paul Krizek (D) incumbent, unopposed

House of Delegates (100) (2-year term)

34th District

Kathleen Murphy (D) incumbent

Cheryl Buford (R)

45th District

Mark Levine (D) incumbent, unopposed

46th District

Charniele Herring (D) incumbent, unopposed

35th District

Mark Keam (D) incumbent, unopposed

47th District

Patrick Hope (D) incumbent, unopposed

36th District

Ken Plum (D) incumbent, unopposed

48th District

Rip Sullivan (D) incumbent, unopposed

37th District

David Bulova (D) incumbent, unopposed

49th District

Alfonso Lopez (D) incumbent
Adam Roosevelt (R)

38th District

Kay Kory (D) incumbent

Paul Haring (R)

53rd District

Marcus Simon (D) incumbent
Mike Case (I)

39th District

Vivian Watts (D) incumbent, unopposed

67th District

Karrie Delaney (D)
Jim LeMunyon (R) incumbent

40th District

Donte Tanner (D)

Tim Hugo (R) incumbent

86th District

Jennifer Boysko (D) incumbent
Linda Schultz (R)

41st District

Eileen Filler-Corn (D) incumbent, unopposed

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Postcards from Great Falls

The Old Brogue, located at 760 Walker Road C, is a common spot for community members to relax and socialize with great food and drinks.

PHOTOS BY
MAGGIE GIORDANO/
THE CONNECTION



The 5 star restaurant, L'Auberge Chez Francois, located at 332 Springvale Road, gives residents a taste of France.

Summer's Over — Mom, It's Your Turn

Check up
Whitening
Smile Makeover

Now that
the kids are
back in school,
It's time for
moms to get
their smile on!



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like family"

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Saturday

That special time when neighbors gather...
Beholding the fruits of our local farmers' labor...
Appreciating artisan creations... Greeting each other...
Enjoying community... Honoring local...



Great Falls Farmers Market

Treasuring Heritage, Home, Habitat

Local farmers • One-of-a-kind vendors • Community matters

Fruits, Vegetables, Grass-Fed, Pastured Meats, Wild-Caught Salmon & Other Fish, Mushrooms Spices, Herbs, Curries, Zaatar, Extra Virgin Olive Oil, Empanadas, Quiches, Souffles, Pot Pies, Soups, Vegan Fresh Prepared Organic Meals, Pastries, Breads, Pies, Cakes, Artisan Crafts, History

Great Falls Village Centre

778 Walker Road

Saturdays

9:00 AM to 1:00PM

www.GreatFallsFarmersMarket.org

www.Facebook/GreatFallsCommunityFarmersMarket

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

YEAR-ROUND FUN

Cars and Coffee. Every Saturday morning, 6-9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Come grab a coffee and enjoy the many cars on show. Antique, classic and new ... they are all here. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org/cars-and-coffee/

September 2017

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 2-3

24th Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival. Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Saturday: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Sunday: noon - 6 p.m. Smell the aromas from the outdoor grills, partake of Shawarma, Chicken Kebabs, Falafel, Fattoush, Hummus, and Stuffed Grape Leaves, or any number of other delicious menu choices, including a Roast Lamb Dinner served on Saturday from 6-9 and all day on Sunday. Then relax with a cup of coffee and mouth-watering pastry. Once you've satisfied your appetite, join in the Debke dance (instructors will teach you how), participate in a game of backgammon or chess, visit the vendors, or take a tour of the church. The Festival will be held rain or shine. Admission and parking are free. Call 703-734-9566 or visit middleeasternfoodfestival.com/festival/

SEPT. 7-9

Quarterly Book Sale. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Tysons Library, 7700 and 7704 Leesburg Pike. Large selection of books and media for all ages and interests. Visit tysonslibraryfriends@gmail.com or 703-338-3307.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 9

Food for Others Tysons 5k and Fun Run. 8a.m. Food For Others is an important part of Northern Virginia's safety net for those needing food when an emergency strikes and for the growing number of working poor who are unable to make ends meet and need to supplement their inadequate food supplies. Registration: \$35 through Sept. 7 at 8 p.m. \$40 during packet pick up and on race day. Visit www.foodforothers.org/5k/

Virginia Indian Festival. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. 10 a.m. The festival includes eight American Indian tribes from Virginia including the Rappahannock dancers and drummers. Enjoy hands on activities and live demonstrations including American Indian storytelling, shooting bow and arrows, throwing spears and making stone tools. Also, assist in building a dugout canoe and visit our marketplace of American Indian crafts, pottery and jewelry. Tickets: \$7-\$9. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/

Movies on the Green. Beauty and the Beast (Live action version). 7:30 p.m. Come join us on the Village Green, on these Saturday evenings, to enjoy a free movie and popcorn courtesy of our sponsors. Blankets, chairs and picnics are all welcome for a family-friendly evening of movies under the stars! Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org/movies-on-the-green/

SEPT. 9-20

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Various venues around Northern Virginia. Events include badminton, volleyball, bocce, miniature golf, and many more. The



Santa Claus rode on top of the McLean Volunteer Fire Department's fire truck.

basic registration fee is \$13. A fee of \$1 is required for each event. Additional fees may apply. Visit nvso.us/.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 16

McLean Fall Community Garage Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 1420 Beverly Road, McLean, behind Staybridge Suites Hotel. Admission is free. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, Sept. 13, or until sold out. Call 703-744-9365 or email registrar@mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 23

Fun Fall Bazaar and Market. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls UMC Annual sale Shops, bake sale, books, silent auction, children's activities, Appraisal Roadshow, and BBQ dinner. Call Lois 703-759-2843.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 24

Teddy Bear 5K and 1K. 2-6 p.m. at Pimmit Hills Park, 7230 Idylwood Road. All proceeds from this event go to Falls Church-McLean Children's Center. Visit potomac.enmotive.com/events.

SEPT. 29-OCT. 1

Annual Used Book Sale. Friday 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday noon-4 p.m. at the Spring Hill Recreation Center, 1239 Spring Hill Road, McLean. Hosted by the McLean Area Branch of the



Skaters waltz on an imaginary iced pond; some slip and fall at Meadowlark Gardens' Winter Walk of Lights.

American Association of University Women (AAUW) featuring the auction of a signed Washington National Max Scherzer shirt and cap. Visit www.aauw.org/.

October 2017

SATURDAY/OCT. 1

McLean Project for the Arts ArtFest. 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean, VA 22102. The park is transformed into a lively landscape of mini art galleries showcasing and offering for sale the work of acclaimed artists from the Mid-Atlantic region. Visit www.mpaart.org

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Stuff the Truck Food Drive. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Safeway, 9881 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Benefit for Committee for Helping Others (CHO) and Artemis House to provide emergency food aid to those in need in Vienna, Oakton, Dunn Loring and Merrifield. Artemis House is Fairfax County's only 24-hour emergency shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence, stalking and human trafficking. Sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the Great Falls Baha'is as part of the regional Day to Serve initiative. Visit www.daytoserve.org/.

Oktoberfest. 11a.m.-7 p.m. Historic Church Street. Enjoy a traditional Oktoberfest Festival with drinks,

food, entertainment, and games for families. Visit www.viennaoktoberfest.org/

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/ OCT. 21-22

Claude Moore Colonial Farm 1771 Market Fair. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. In the fall, warm yourself by the fires and enjoy the splendor of autumn with crisp local apples, warm savory meat pies and hearty breads. Let Market Fair entertainers, tradesmen, and the militia amuse and educate you. Visit 2017.1771.org/marketfair/

TUESDAY/OCT. 31

Halloween Spooktacular. 5-7 p.m. Trick or treat! Children up to age 12 are encouraged to wear their favorite Halloween costume, experience the Haunted House, and enjoy trick or treating with local merchants in a safe environment right in the heart of town. Pets, on leashes, are welcome to join in the Pet Parade (4-4:45pm) dressed up in a favorite costume. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org/spooktacular.

November 2017

TUESDAY/NOV. 7

Election Day. General Election and Special Elections. Visit www.elections.virginia.gov/voter-outreach/upcoming-elections.html

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 18-19

Alden Fall Production: "Peggy the Pint-Sized Pirate." Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Peggy is a small pirate with big dreams but has bigger pirates standing in her way. When a sea monster captures her friends, can Peggy find a way to save them? Free admission. Young actors who are interested in participating in the show can find detailed information under Theatre. Classes for Children at mcleancenter.org/alden-theatre.

SUNDAY/DEC. 3

McLean WinterFest Parade. 2-5p.m. The parade route will run down Old Chain Bridge Road from Fleetwood Road and ending at Elm Street. Visit: www.mcleanvfd.org/winter-fest-parade/
Home for the Holidays Chamber Music at the Barns. 1635 Trap Road Vienna, VA 22182. 3p.m. The WSB promises a resounding celebration of the holiday season. \$45. Visit www.wolftrap.org/

2018

SATURDAY/FEB. 24

2018 Winter Wine Tasting. Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 7-10 p.m. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org/winter-wine-tasting/

FRIDAYS-SUNDAYS/MARCH 9-24

McLean Community Players "Harvey." 8p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2p.m. on Sundays. The Grange Theatre, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. "Harvey," the 1944 Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy is a whimsical "forget-all-your-worries" flight of fancy, principally powered by the endearing eccentricities of Elwood P. Dowd, a middle-aged bachelor who, in his own words, wrestled with reality all his life but "finally won out over it." Tickets for "Harvey" at the Grange may be purchased at the door, online, or by phone through Brown Paper Tickets at 800-838-3006. Visit www.mcleanplayers.org.

SUNDAY/MAR. 25

Annual Children's Spring Festival. Tickets on sale at 12:30 p.m. Join us for this long-running annual favorite at Great Falls Village Centre, 776 Walker Road, Great Falls. This event is sponsored by Adeler Jewelers and the Great Falls Optimist Club. Visit www.greatfallsvillagecentre.com.

APRIL 21-28

Historic Garden Week. Visit www.vagardenweek.org/

SATURDAY/MAY 19

McLean Day. 11a.m-5p.m. Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Admission: Free. Bring the family and enjoy McLean's biggest annual event. This event draws approximately 11,000+ patrons throughout the day. Vote for your favorite MCC candidate, enjoy live entertainment, exhibitors, sponsors, food trucks, large and small carnival rides, amusements, games, balloon animals, a tennis clinic and more. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY-MONDAY/MAY 26-28

Viva! Vienna! A family and community oriented celebration of Memorial Day and the greater Vienna Community spirit. Visit vivavienna.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 8-10

Celebrate Fairfax! Northern Virginia's largest annual three-day festival and community-wide celebration at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Visit celebratefairfax.com/ or call 703-324-3247.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

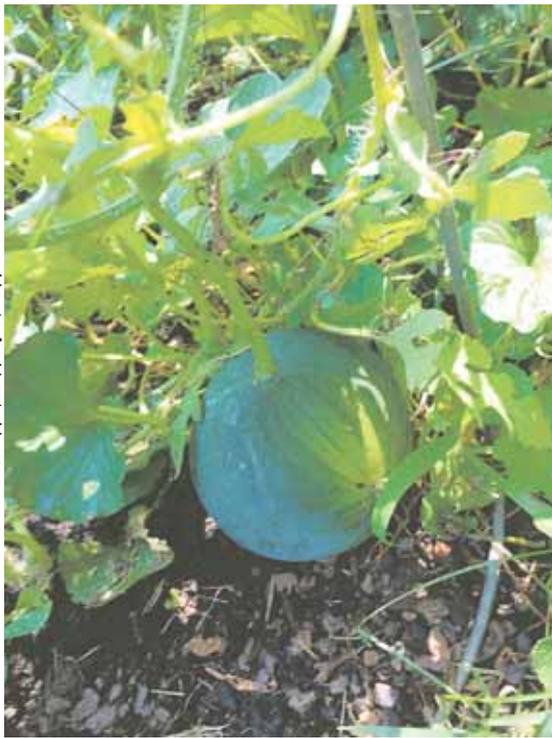
4th of July Hometown Celebration, Parade and Fireworks. 5K, Parade and Hometown Celebration at Great Falls Village Centre, 776 Walker Road, Great Falls. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org/4th-of-july-celebration-parade/.

AUGUST

VietFest. The Plaza at Tysons Corner 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Saturday: 10a.m.-10p.m. Sunday: 11am-8pm. Entrance to festival is free. Events include Miss VietFest Pageant, Mister VietFest and VietFest's Got Talent. Visit www.vietfest.com/

NEWCOMERS

My very first home-grown watermelon – so far, about the size of a grapefruit, but still growing.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

To Your Health!

Fruitful wishes from the Great Falls Community Farmers Market.

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY
MARKET MANAGER

We are very proud of our community. Many families have been growing their own vegetable gardens this summer. Many have had successes beyond their wildest dreams. However, some had hoped for more, while others are a bit disappointed. The food-to-table goal is to collapse the number of players involved in the supply of your family's food from the garden to the dinner plate – the simpler and more direct, the better. Bringing a tomato in from your backyard is about as seamless as you can get!

We know you have many excellent choices for healthy food this summer. Procuring beyond your backyard, there are farmers markets just about every day of the week throughout Fairfax County and surrounding areas. There are excellent organic, grass-fed, pastured, whole plant supermarkets and grocery stores just a short drive away, and the local supermarket has added organic produce to satisfy your family's requirements. Further, there are also delivery services that provide all the ingredients for a farmers-market quality meal all boxed up and proportioned and delivered right to your door.

SEE HEALTH, PAGE 19



My very first cantaloupe.



OAKCREST SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017
2:00 - 5:00 PM

Visit our beautiful new campus in Vienna and learn more about our stellar academic program and how we challenge and inspire young women.

OAKCREST.ORG/GIRLSTHRIVE



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Independent Living: It's the carefree retirement you've dreamed of! At Brightview, all you have to do is what you want to do.

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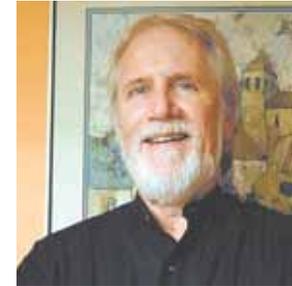

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

VIEWPOINTS

What are some of the greatest things about living in Great Falls?

Leslie Byers, Educational Administrator at Georgetown University, 22 years in Great Falls

"I love the natural beauty of Great Falls. The open space allowed our kids to grow up with a great open back yard and great schools as well."



David Evans, Psychotherapist, Private Practice, 22 years in Great Falls

"What I enjoy is the national park, good schools, and the Brogue. It is such a great community with good neighbors."

Christopher Davis, Retired Lawyer, 26 years in Great Falls

"The high end vendors and stores have the best of everything. You don't have to shop around. You know if they are good enough for Great Falls, they are good enough for me."



Linda Waitkus, Owner/ Manager of Great Dogs of Great Falls, 13 years in Great Falls

"I love the community and the different annual events such as Fourth of July and the Halloween parade. There are different reasons to get together in Great Falls to celebrate community."

Jackie Collins, Therapeutic Riding Instructor and Yoga Teacher, 20 years in Great Falls

"The fact that it is so close to D.C. and yet it is still in the country. I think being outside in the woods and nature is beneficial to everybody. It helps your state of mind and your physical health outside of work. Also, there is a big dog and horse community, two of my loves, which allows me to meet a lot of people with similar interests."

PHOTOS BY
MAGGIE GIORDANO/
THE CONNECTION



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Dogs, cats, puppies & kittens for adoption
Reduced adoption fees for alumni
Bake Sale & Raffle ... and more!

More info at lostdogrescue.org

Labor Day Weekend
Sunday-Monday, Sept. 3-4, 12-3 p.m.

Seven Corners PetSmart
6100 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA

In collaboration with

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR HERE

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter

Great Falls Nonprofits: Making Community Work

FROM PAGE 13

opment to ensure compliance with the trails designated in Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan trails map and actively work to complete trails on Georgetown Pike and Walker Road. greatfallstrailblazers.org/ or greatfallstrailblazers@gmail.com

Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Club

Are you a woman living in the Langley High School District or The Estates of Lowes Island? If so, we invite you to check out Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Club (GFFN) at www.gffnva.org. The purpose of GFFN is to establish and foster an atmosphere in which new and current residents of the Langley High School District and the Estates of Lowes Island can develop new friendships and community contacts through social, educational and cultural activities. In addition, the club provides service, support and donations to philanthropic and civic organizations in and around the Great Falls community. For more details about the club email info@gffnva.org or visit

www.gffnva.org.

Turner Farm Stakeholders

Formed in 2014, Turner Farm Stakeholders is a group of volunteers that developed from Save the Farm, a volunteer organization founded in 1996 to raise money and community awareness to preserve the Turner Farm in Great Falls as a public park. Stakeholders support The Turner Farm's equestrian jumping and dressage arena, cross country course, Observatory Park, July 4 fireworks, barn and farmhouse, resident curator program and itinerant individual pursuits like walking, jogging, observing nature and experiencing open space. www.facebook.com/TurnerStakeholders, turnerstakeholders@gmail.com, Betty Nalls Swartz: 703-759-2378 or Beverly Bradford Crawford: 703-406-2487

Save Marmota Farm

Save Marmota Farm (SMF), formed in July, 2015, is dedicated to preserving as a public park the 22.8 acre Marmota Farm located at 9800 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls. Marmota Farm has about 1,000 feet of road frontage on Georgetown Pike (Route 193), which

was named Virginia's first official "scenic byway" in 1974.

A \$94 million park bond referendum that will go before Fairfax County voters on Nov. 8, 2016 could provide funding for acquiring part of it. SMF is constructively working with the landowner's agents and the Fairfax County Park Authority to preserve this beautiful property as "natural open space for public benefit."

Visit Save Marmota Farm on Facebook or email organizer Andrew Roesell at andrew.roesell@gmail.com

Traveling Players Ensemble

Traveling Players Ensemble is a not-for-profit professional theatre company based in Great Falls-dedicated to bringing great theatre into the great outdoors through a thriving summer camp and year-round acting classes and workshops. Volunteer opportunities include working in the office, assisting with costume and set construction and helping with special events. 703-987-1712 or www.travelingplayers.org/.

NEWCOMERS

To Your Health!

FROM PAGE 17

AND THEN THERE IS US ... Great Falls' own in-town community farmers market. We like to think of ourselves as a "boutique" – we do not have everything a grocery store or larger farmers market would have, but everything we have is unique and special – and carefully curated with your family's best interest in mind. We strive to create a place where "community" – a sense of our very special "semi-rural village" - is felt and experienced.

This past May 13, the Saturday before Mother's Day, we gave our "farmers-market kids" a plant to take home and plant for Mother's Day – either a watermelon, a cantaloupe, or an herb. It would take 75 days for the fruit-bearing plants to bear fruit. We haven't heard any reports back on successes. However, I do have one success to report: I had three plants left over and I set them on the ground in the sun and dumped two bags of organic soil over the top of their roots (i.e., I did not dig a hole – I guess you would call this a raised bed.) I did keep my eye out for sufficient water, sunlight and room to spread out, but my expectations were very modest. To my amazement and delight, I have some baby watermelons on the way – my very first crop ever! I am so excited, I am beside myself! We look forward to hearing about other successes...let us know if your plant grew.

Summer is the season when farmers market shoppers particularly desire fresh fruit. This summer, most fruits and summer vegetables were harvested late due to the changeable spring weather and the wet summer. Visitors came



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

A young man feeling the music of The Difficult Run String Band and dancing his heart out.

to the market craving sweet fresh fruit. You could sense their memories of past delightful fruit experiences and their longing to experience that ultimate sweetness once again.

One lady was looking over the multi-colored baby carrots with her son. She turned around and her t-shirt read "The Fruit of the Spirit" – "Love Joy Peace Patience Kindness Goodness Faithfulness Gentleness Self-Control" (Galatians 5:22:23) (The T-shirt was made by Cherished Girl). It was a long time since I had reflected on the fruits of the spirit and what it takes to cultivate such spiritual fruit. The blossoming of spiritual virtue requires that we "garden" our thoughts, words and deeds, correcting ourselves to align with spiritual guidance. The practice of virtue is like checking for the right amount of water and

sunlight, while eliminating weeds and pests that halt progress. It requires consistency and personal accountability.

THE BOTANISTS DEFINITION of a fruit is a seedbearing structure formed after flowering. Edible fruits propagate with the movements of humans and animals in a symbiotic relationship – as we are nourished by eating the fruit, we also disperse the seeds in different places, ensuring the long-term survival of the fruit. Similarly, as we cultivate the fruits of the spirit by tending to, and seeking to correct our thoughts, words and deeds to align with spirit – we participate in the spreading of spirit's fruits within our community. This summer, it seems that many have lost their bearings. Let's remember the divine sweetness of spirit's fruits and start a spiritual orchard!

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Hearing on the
McLean Community Center's
FY 2019 Budget
(July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019)



McLean Community Center Governing Board
Wednesday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m.

Residents who wish to speak at the Public Hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers' list. Copies of the draft budget proposal will be available during the public hearing.

Written comments may be delivered to the Center's temporary Administrative Offices (see address below) marked "Attention: Executive Director," or sent by email to george.sachs@fairfaxcounty.gov. Written comments may be provided after the public hearing up through Monday, Oct. 23.

The date of the **Finance Committee Meeting of the Whole**, a full board budget work session, is **Tuesday, Sept. 12**, at 7:30 p.m. at the Center's temporary Administrative Offices (see address below).



The McLean Community Center
Temporary Administrative Offices
6631 Old Dominion Dr., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711 | www.mcleancenter.org

BEING CLASSY IS MY TEENAGE REBELLION.

-REBECCA MCKINSEY

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Great Falls

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Great Falls

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