

# THE CONNECTION

CENTREVIEW ❖ Chantilly ❖ Great Falls ❖ Herndon ❖ McLean ❖ Oak Hill ❖ Oakton ❖ Reston ❖ Vienna

## South Lakes Remains Undefeated

PAGE 10



South Lakes WR Brian Kennedy #5 elevates for a Seahawks catch.

## Candidate Connection

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; SCHOOL BOARD

## Vienna Town Council

PAGE 8-9

## Walk to End Alzheimer's

PAGE 3

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ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 15 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 18

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OCTOBER 25-31, 2023

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Offered for...\$1,699,000

## 1313 Merrie Ridge Road, McLean

**\*Stunning Colonial\*** nestled on a private cul-de-sac in the coveted Dogwoods at Langley. This inviting home offers approximately 4800 sf, with 6 BR, 3BA, and 2 half BA. The gourmet kitchen features breakfast bar, ample cabinet storage, and eat-in breakfast area w/ skylight and deck. Primary BR w/ separate dressing area with tons of storage and ensuite; upper level has 4 add'l spacious BR's with BA w/ soaking tub and luxury shower. LL features a large rec room w/ fireplace, 6th BR w/ spacious BA, and walk-out entrance and access to 2 car garage. Beautifully landscaped property with a private expansive flagstone patio. **McLean HS pyramid!**



**Under Contract!**

Offered for...\$1,199,000

## 6219 Park Road, McLean

**\*FABULOUS\*** Custom mid-century modern home in Franklin Park! Take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to live in this 3 BR/2.5 BA home, where indoor and outdoor spaces seamlessly blend to create a comfortable living experience. This property features an open layout w/ vaulted beamed ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows, and an iconic foyer w/ floating stairway. The main lvl offers the living & dining area, gourmet kitchen overlooking a spectacular screened in porch area to relax and entertain. The lower-lvl features primary BR with en-suite; 2 spacious BR's; exercise/office area; full BA; and laundry/storage room. **McLean HS Pyramid!**



2049 Rockingham Street  
McLean, 22101

\$4,695,000

**NEW CONSTRUCTION!**



**Under Contract!**

Offered for...\$1,199,000

## 6706 Pine Creek Court, McLean

**\*FABULOUS\*** 4BR/3 full BA contemporary home located on a quiet cul-de-sac! This mid-century modern features fresh paint, new HVAC and roof! As you enter the bright foyer area, the open layout enhances the flow of natural light; the living room features a vaulted beamed ceiling which flows into the dining room area; the gourmet kitchen offers an large island with cooktop, SS appliances, and ample cabinet space. The kitchen opens to a family room w/ access to patio area. Additionally, off the kitchen is a fabulous sunroom w/ tons of windows and walk-out to the deck. **Kent Gardens, Longfellow, McLean Schools!**



1405 Layman Street  
McLean, 22101

\$1,420,000



6631 Tucker Avenue  
McLean 22101  
\$1,824,750



1562 Forest Villa Ln  
McLean, 22101  
\$1,550,000



2336 N. Oak Street  
Falls Church, 22046  
\$2,000,000



1639 Macon Street  
McLean, 22101  
\$2,215,000



2204 Beacon Lane  
Falls Church, 22043  
\$1,795,000

**Curious what your home is worth? Call to chat with JD and Ed today!**

# NEWS

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/ THE CONNECTION



Ari Acosta, 4, of Springfield, and her mom fight for a different future, at the 2023 Northern Virginia's Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's.



"Every day more of her brain goes away." Maureen Kaleigh of Herndon has frontotemporal dementia, a devastating progressive disease with no cure.



Denise Erbe of Fairfax and Shivansh Sharma monitor the table to distribute the blue flower, a symbol for those diagnosed with Alzheimer's and related dementias.

## 2023 Walk to End Alzheimer's

### Northern Virginia's Alzheimer's Association provides support, help, research and more.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

As the population ages, Alzheimer's disease is more prevalent. An estimated 6.7 million Americans aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's dementia in 2023; and of the total U.S. population, about 1 in 9 people, or 10.8 percent, age 65 and older, has Alzheimer's dementia, according to Alzheimer's Association 2023 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures. Alzheimer's disease and related dementias are defined as a loss of cognitive functioning that includes memory loss, reasoning skills, and the ability to perform simple tasks to the extent that it significantly impacts the person's daily life.

On Sunday, Oct. 22, participants in the 2023 Northern Virginia Walk to End Alzheimer's gathered at Reston Town Center. Many wore purple, the organization's signature color, which combines the calm stability of blue with the fiery energy of red. Judy Misbin, the local volunteer coordinator, walked up to the stage wearing her purple tee shirt and addressed the near-standing-room-only crowd.

"There are now multiple FDA-approved treatments that can change the course of Alzheimer's ...and more potential treatments [are] in the pipeline," Misbin said. She added that 150,000 people in Virginia are living with Alzheimer's, and 354,000 people serve as unpaid caregivers. She urged those attending the walk to visit alz.org to learn more about the disease and to get involved.

Navigating Alzheimer's disease and other demen-  
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

tias challenges everyone. It begins with fear by those who are afflicted and might aware they are losing cognition. Family and friends provide support and accommodations, but they grieve; the person they love is on a frightening journey, a progression of atrophy that generally accelerates over the course of the disease, even with initial intervening treatments. The progression of the disease may slow down, but it still progresses. There is still no cure for Alzheimer's.

There is a pressing need to speak out in favor of new treatments as well as the requirements and rights of those impacted by the condition and other dementias. "Dementia is one of the most costly conditions to society," Misbin said. According to the Alzheimer's Association, in 2023, Alzheimer's and other dementias will cost the United States \$345 billion. This number is projected to rise to nearly \$1 trillion in 2050.

Nationwide, the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest fundraiser for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. The event encourages people of all ages and abilities to take part in the fight against the disease. According to the Reston event website, nearly 1,000 people registered as participants.

They walked with purple flowers in memory of their loved ones and for all those who have died as a result of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. They carried orange flowers to show their support for the Alzheimer's Association. They walked with yellow flowers because they were caregivers for someone who had Alzheimer's or dementia, and they wanted



Judy Misbin of Herndon gives remarks.

SEE ALZHEIMER'S, PAGE 7

## CANDIDATE CONNECTION

# Keith Elliott, Challenger, For Sully Supervisor

Below are his answers to a questionnaire from The Connection:

**Name, community you live in, and your party affiliation:**

Keith Elliott, Chalet Woods, Republican.

**Family - spouse, number of children & grandchildren:**

Wife Teer, four children, one grandson.

**Highest level of education and your major field of study:**

Started college; went into direct management training with hotel company.

**Occupation:**

Real estate brokerage; property and association management.

**Campaign Website:**

www.keith4fairfax.com.

**Political experience:**

None; I was concerned about the issues facing the county and its residents and decided to step up and do my part to fix them.

**Why are you running for Sully Supervisor, and why do you believe you're the best candidate for this office?**

I decided to run for Sully Supervisor because there was a need for someone to run against my opponent. I am a lifelong resident of Fairfax County and I want to see communities flourish and Fairfax to be a place that people want to call home.

I think I am the better candidate because I listen to people first, then understand their points, and then decide my positions based on the people's points. I am not a politician – just a very concerned citizen like everyone else, and I will always put the county and residents' needs above my interests.

As Albert Einstein was quoted as saying, "No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it."

**What are the highlights of your platform?**

❖ The current Democratic members on the Board of Supervisors have a spending problem. We need to have a panel review the county expenses and discuss non-essential expenses that may be removed. It was done several years ago and should be done now.

❖ Land use is a big issue around Centreville, and we must be smart about how we are developing these large lots. These are very dense, wooded areas with a tall tree canopy, wildlife and streams that serve the Occoquan watershed. Data centers adjacent to a housing community and streams are wrong, and I would not vote for them.

❖ We need a fully staffed police department that is supported and trusted by the Fairfax County residents.

❖ We need to be teaching our future leaders. Educators should be getting students ready for that, and they should have

the skills of reading and writing by the fourth grade.

**What issues are most important to you, and how would you address them?**

Aside from the above, I would use the words "generate wealth" for every resident. Most people generate their wealth through their homes. We need to help everyone achieve the goal of home ownership. There is more pride in owning a home. To begin with, we need to build communities with different housing types for everyone to qualify to buy. Additionally, we have to reduce wasteful spending in the county and reduce regulations that raise expenses.

**Where do you stand on allowing data centers in the Sully District, and why?**

As stated earlier, I want to protect our housing communities because most people create their wealth through their homes, and I am afraid that having so many data centers will hurt the housing market. Additionally, we must look at all the new information regarding data centers' impacts on our environment, the impacts of high-pitched noises on people and animals, and data centers not bringing jobs to the area. There is a place for them in the county, but they should not be allowed "by right" and should be in areas not affecting communities, parks and streams.

**What are the most important issues facing the Sully District?**

Land use, housing and safety. We need to have good land-use policies. Stick with the Comprehensive Plan or amend it after discussions with those most affected. We need housing for everyone, and we need to get more residents into home ownership. Lastly, we cannot have a thriving Sully without it being a place that is safe for raising our families. Crime is rising and it must stop.

**What sets you apart from your opponent?**

I think Kathy is a wonderful person and I thank her for her service. I think she is wrong in her approach to land use, and she is part of the issue with raising our taxes every year just so the county can spend more money. I will listen to the people most impacted by the land-use decisions around their communities, I will fight to keep spending down so our taxes can be kept flat, and I would phase out the car tax.

**Why do you believe Sully needs a new supervisor?**

Well, just look at the above. I think that

SEE KEITH ELLIOTT, PAGE 5



Keith Elliott

# Kathy Smith, Incumbent, For Sully Supervisor

Below are her answers to a questionnaire from The Connection:

**Name, community you live in, and your party affiliation:**

Kathy L. Smith, Poplar Tree Estates, Democrat

**Family - spouse, number of children & grandchildren:**

Husband Steve, four children & six grandchildren.

**Highest level of education and your major field of study:**

BA Elementary education, Sociology.

**Occupation:**

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

**Campaign Website:**

www.kathysmith.org.

**Political experience:**

Fairfax County School Board, 2002-2015; Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, 2016-present.

**Why are you running for Sully Supervisor, and why do you believe you're the best candidate for this office?**

I am running for reelection for Sully Supervisor because we need someone who has the experience to serve our community. I served as PTA president at my children's schools, then I was elected and served on the School Board for 14 years, and I currently serve on the Board of Supervisors and Northern Virginia Regional Commission and the Virginia Association of Counties.

The following organizations have endorsed me: Northern Virginia Assn. of Realtors, Nova Building Industry Assn., Firefighters - Local 2068, Virginia Police Benevolent Assn., Fairfax Education Assn., Service Employee International Union, Amalgamated Transit Union, and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

**What are the highlights of your platform?**

Affordable housing, supporting our businesses, protecting the environment, improved transportation, and pedestrian and bicycle safety.

**What issues are most important to you, and how would you address them?**

Affordable housing is one of the most important issues that my constituents consistently raise as a concern for the district. Many families and individuals are getting priced out of the area and are having to commute to work. We should be able to have the choice to live and work in the same location.

My office has been working with local leaders to increase the availability of affordable housing in Fairfax County, with a goal of achieving 10,000 new units by 2034. The

Board of Supervisors has also committed \$118 million dollars in the budget, over the past two years, to address affordable housing.

**Where do you stand on allowing data centers in the Sully District, and why?**

There is a process to consider land-use cases and each case is considered separately. County staff prepares a report that assesses whether the application meets the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance and other requirements. The case then goes to the Planning Commission, which holds a public hearing and then makes a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

The Board of Supervisors then holds a public hearing to get comments from the community. The Board will then make a decision using the information from the staff report and the public hearing. This is the process whether the land-use application is a restaurant, housing, office building, or other commercial building such as a data center. Each applicant has a right to go through the process.

**What are the most important issues facing the Sully District?**

Housing that is affordable, improved pedestrian connections, improved public transportation, and ensuring that our schools stay fully funded.

**What sets you apart from your opponent?**

My experience serving the community. I have served as PTA president at my children's schools when they were growing up. I was PTA president at the elementary, middle- and high-school levels. I also served on the board of the county PTA. I was on the school board for 14 years and worked to set student achievement goals that focused on academic achievement, essential life skills and responsibility to the community.

In my work on the Board of Supervisors, I have focused on affordable housing and funding the school budget. I serve on the board of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and the Virginia Assn. of Counties. This work focuses on regional and state issues that affect Fairfax County.

**What's been your greatest achievement for the Sully District since you've been in office?**

This work is not about greatest achievements. It is about hearing from CYA that we don't have enough gym courts and working to get a second gym court in the new Sully Community Center. Knowing that we need to provide clinic services in Sully and provid-

SEE KATHY SMITH, PAGE 5



Kathy Smith

## CANDIDATE CONNECTION

### Kathy Smith

FROM PAGE 4

ing a clinic in the Sully Community Center. Hearing from advocates from the Centreville Immigration Forum that we need bus routes that will bring people to the health clinic and to Herndon and providing those routes from Centreville.

Getting Costco to provide a traffic light at Penrose Place and Lee Road so that people could safely leave the shopping center. Working with our faith communities and Western Fairfax Christian Ministries to provide food drives during the pandemic. Providing financial support to small businesses during the pandemic so that they could stay open. Working with developers to provide a percentage of their new townhouses for sale at 80 percent of the area median income. Working with communities on traffic-calm-

ing measures.

#### What else do you want to say about yourself to your prospective constituents?

I am committed to working for you. I have raised my family here. Before having children, I started out as a schoolteacher and then began a career of public service for 25 years. First as PTA president at Poplar Tree Elementary School and then as PTA president at Rocky Run Middle School and at Chantilly High School.

I was Chair of the Fairfax County School Board for three years and am finishing my second term as Supervisor. My hard work and dedication have already delivered results for Sully, and I hope to continue this work and earn your vote on Nov. 7.

### Keith Elliott

FROM PAGE 4

each of these previous questions has been answered in a way that reflects why we need a change and why I am that person who could bring trust, faith and confidence to this Board of Supervisors. Again, look at the quote from Albert Einstein. We need change!

#### What else do you want to say about yourself to your prospective constituents?

I am a lifelong resident of Fairfax County

and have been living in Sully District since 1987. I am the guy at a backyard barbecue with neighbors all upset at the 2023 real estate assessment. That was the moment I decided to step up.

I am a man of faith, and that is important because I learned life is not just about me, I will listen to the people, and I will serve the residents of the county, not my own interests. I had a strong mother and father who taught me how to love others, serve others and be a positive influence in other's lives.

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MCLEAN VILLAGE

## CANDIDATE CONNECTION

# Member School Board by District

## Dranesville, Hunter Mill, Mason, Providence & Sully districts.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

In November, Fairfax County voters will choose 12 school board members to serve four-year terms starting Jan. 1, 2024. Nineteen candidates are running for the nine magisterial district seats. There are also three at-large seats in the November election. Virginia's School board elections are nonpartisan, meaning that party affiliations can not appear on the ballots for school board candidates. Nevertheless, parties may publicly endorse their candidates.

Candidates were asked to provide a short bio and share a story of their interaction with a voter that led them to a commitment to take action, with a tight word limit. Candidate responses are printed in the order they appear on the ballot.

For information on how and where to vote, including voting early, see <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/>

More than 30,900 Fairfax County voters have already voted, out of more than 714,000 active voters on the rolls. More than 680,000 voters have yet to vote.

## Dranesville District

### Robyn Lady

Robyn Lady, Candidate for Member of School Board, Dranesville District, was an FCPS counselor for 27 years and began her work at George C. Marshall, Thomas Jefferson, and McLean High



Robyn Lady

Schools. She retired as Chantilly High School's Director of Student Services after 15 years of working with counselors to help students achieve academically, professionally, emotionally, and socially. Lady attended Fairfax Public Schools and earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from William & Mary and a master's in counselor education from the University of Virginia. Lady's mental health services expertise and experience have prepared her to serve at this most critical time.

Response: A father of two graduates shared his experience with IEP meetings and how they were not what he expected. While aware of the demands on faculty time, he felt the meetings were too scripted and too efficient. He wanted a more in-depth discussion of his child's learning differences, specific goals, and accommodations. Both children are twice-exceptional (2e) students, an area where we need additional teacher training. Twice-exceptional students exhibit characteristics of gifted students with the potential for high achievement and show evidence of one or more disabilities as defined by eligibility criteria. We must encourage and support 2E students' access to advanced academic programming (AAP) in FCPS.

While we would love to provide collaborative support in honors, AP, IB, and DE courses, we do not have the staffing to meet the demand. An underlying issue that must be addressed is the teacher shortage and turnover, particularly in special education.

If elected, I will advocate for adding a 2e specialist position in our schools. Another idea would be to create Strategies for Success classes designed explicitly for 2e students. We must work with students, parents and teachers to develop appropriate accommodations and better support students with their advanced coursework. <https://www.robyn lady.com>

### Paul M. Bartkowski

Paul M. Bartkowski, Candidate for Member of School Board, Dranesville District. I am a parent of three children that attend Fairfax County Public Schools (although we are homeschooling our youngest, a sixth grader, this year). I am also a lawyer and have a firm based in Mc-



Paul M. Bartkowski

Lean. I specialize in intellectual property litigation but am also very interested in legal issues related to the school board and schools. Before becoming a lawyer, I obtained a B.S. in chemical engineering from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania. I believe my math and science background, legal training, and, most importantly, my experience as a parent uniquely qualify me to help the board navigate away from political agendas and right our course toward academic excellence.

Response: In discussing my campaign platform of (1) re-focusing on academic excellence and achievement, (2) removing political agendas from the curriculum, and (3) respecting the rights of parents regarding education with an acquaintance from my kids' summer swim team, he said he did not know of those issues. I understood him to be politely telling me that he disagreed with my position. But he returned a few days later and told me he looked into the issues and agreed 100 percent.

His position on the issues was crystallized by his disagreement with the School Board's move away from admitting students to Thomas Jefferson based purely on merit and by the School Board's clear motivation to make that move to have fewer Asian-American students at that school.

His passion for that issue and his common-sense agreement that the school board should prioritize academic achievement over its preferred political policies and agendas re-invigorated me to pursue my campaign goals with passion and without compromise. We owe it to the students to do what we can to allow them to achieve their full academic potential. <https://paulforfcsb.com/>

Endorsed by Fairfax County GOP

## Hunter Mill District

### Harry Randall Jackson

Harry Randall Jackson, Candidate for Member of School Board, Hunter Mill District, earned a Doctorate in Strategic Security from Henry-Putnam University, a Master of Science from National Defense University, and a Master of Arts from the U.S. Naval War College, graduating with a degree in general engineering in 1999. He was the first Black student from Lancaster County to attend the U.S. Naval Academy. There, he earned a Bachelor of Science in General Engineering.

Jackson is a former naval intelligence officer and the parent of a student at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. He has been president of the school's Parent-Teacher-Student Association and held leadership positions with Parents Defending Education and the Black Student Fund. Jackson is the first African American to be named president of the TJPTSA and has extensive experience in education, program management, acquisition, and cybersecurity. Jackson has held leadership positions, including Parents Defending Education, Coalition For TJ, and the Black Student Fund. Dr. Jackson is uniquely qualified to address racial achievement gaps with solutions that do not require additional income taxes, promote education access opportunities, and leverage public-private partnerships.

Response: A former school board member raised one issue: child pornography and pedophilia have no place in our school libraries. It is essential to oppose any form of child exploitation and protect our children from harm. School libraries are meant to be safe spaces to learn, explore and grow. Encouraging or allowing such materials in school libraries sends a dangerous message that the school system tolerates criminal activity, which is entirely unacceptable.

Therefore, school authorities, parents, and communities must work together to ensure that school libraries are free from content promoting child pornography or pedophilia. Education, awareness, and strict enforcement of the law are essential tools in the fight against these abhorrent crimes and the protection of our children. Restoring Excellence: Harry Jackson for School Board  
Endorsed by Fairfax County GOP

### Melanie K. Meren

Melanie K. Meren, 45, Candidate for Member of School Board, Hunter Mill District. I am the current Hunter Mill School Board Representative (2019-2023). After earning my Masters in Public



Harry Randall Jackson

Policy from Duke University in 2002, I began my dream job at the U.S. Department of Education when the No Child Left Behind education law began. I worked in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, specializing in early childhood literacy and programs for students served by Title I, those facing the most disadvantages. Since then, my career has focused on sustaining the promise of successful public education in America.

Response: Strong schools make a strong community, and I've held a lifelong record of promoting public education. In my first term on the Fairfax County school board, I helped bring about these results: Equitable Access to Literacy instructional plan; outdoor learning in all schools via \$6 million in state funds; studies about the instruction of advanced academics, twice-exceptional ("2e") learners, and special education; the 2021 National Superintendent of the Year, in 2022; workforce retention via compensation increases; and policies to support librarians, promote equity and safety, and mitigate climate change.

I have the skills to perform the Hunter Mill School Board Member job with integrity and results. Strong schools make a strong community. Students, families, staff, and residents deserve to be represented by an experienced public servant who ensures access to opportunities for all students to fulfill their destinies for success, strengthens policy about the use of public resources, and fosters trust, civility, and respect during a turbulent time in American democracy. <https://melaniemeren.com/> Endorsed by Fairfax County Democrats

Response: I serve on the school board to represent the Mason District and elevate matters of import to its constituency. I have championed numerous issues directly based on community advocacy. Establishing recess for middle school students, adjusting school boundary zones, supporting the allocation



Melanie K. Meren

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## Mason District

### Ricardy Anderson

Ricardy Anderson, 51, Candidate and incumbent for Member of School Board, Mason District: My education career began nearly 30 years ago when I secured my first job as an elementary school teacher. I



Ricardy Anderson

have been serving as an educator for over 23 years, both as a teacher and principal at the elementary and middle school levels and as a central office administrator. I am a parent of two and the only candidate in the Mason District School Board race with children attending Fairfax County Public Schools. I served as Chair of the Fairfax School Board from July 2020 to July 2021, during one of the most tumultuous times in our county.

Response: I serve on the school board to represent the Mason District and elevate matters of import to its constituency. I have championed numerous issues directly based on community advocacy. Establishing recess for middle school students, adjusting school boundary zones, supporting the allocation

SEE CANDIDATE CONNECTION, PAGE 14  
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# WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/ THE CONNECTION



U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (VA-11) tells of how his family lost their matriarch to Alzheimer's.



"We walk to ensure that precious memories are remembered by all. Looking forward to a world without Alzheimer's." The Derrick family, Kelly, Jocelyn, 5, Jane, and James, 11.

FROM PAGE 3

to raise awareness for caregivers who work tirelessly and are often unpaid. They walked with blue flowers because they themselves have dementia.

As of Oct. 22, the 2023 Walk to End Alzheimer's in Northern Virginia raised \$250,980, 88 percent of their goal of \$285,000, through the support of 957 participants in 174 teams. The fundraiser remains open until the end of the year. Visit [https://act.alz.org/site/TR?sid=23932&type=fr\\_informational&pg=informational&fr\\_id=16450](https://act.alz.org/site/TR?sid=23932&type=fr_informational&pg=informational&fr_id=16450) for more information.

While there was no registration fee for the Reston walk, all participants were encouraged to raise critical funds that allow the Alzheimer's Association to provide 24/7 care and support as well as advance research toward methods of prevention, treatment, and, eventually, cure. A white flower represents this goal of a cure. No one has yet to walk with a white flower.



2023 Northern Virginia's Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's, Reston Town Center

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## PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

This meeting will be held virtually. Please use the information below to join via Zoom.

**Monday, Nov. 6, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting:  
<http://bit.ly/3tGfwZz>

**Meeting ID:** 826 7870 5604

**Passcode:** 705683

Reston Association members are encouraged to provide comments on the association's 2024 Capital and Operating budgets at this public hearing. View budget materials at [Reston.org](http://Reston.org).

## CANDIDATE CONNECTION

# Vienna Town Council

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

Seven candidates are running for six seats on the Vienna Town Council. Early voting is underway, and final Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023. Three of the seven candidates are incumbents: Chuck Anderson, Howard J. Springsteen and Ray Brill. Mayor Linda Colbert is running unopposed. All candidates run as Independents.

Candidates were asked to provide a short bio and share a story of their interaction with a resident that led them to a commitment to take action, with a tight word limit. Candidate responses are printed in the order they appear on the ballot. For information on how and where to vote, see <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/>

### Howard J. Springsteen

Howard J. Springsteen, Candidate for Vienna Town Council. It has been a great honor and privilege to have served on the Vienna Town Council since 2009 and twice as Vice Mayor Protem for two one-year terms. I am running for re-election because I want to continue to contribute and make a difference in Vienna.

My voting record, common-sense approach, and responsiveness to our local government and citizen concerns speak to my passion and commitment to the Town Council and Vienna. I ask for your vote to continue to serve.

My wife and I have lived in Vienna since 1997, where we have raised our two children. Both are proud graduates of VA Tech. I served for two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in Liberia, West Africa, which focused my public service for the next 40 years. I have a strong and active history of community service and involvement in the Town of Vienna and the surrounding area in civic, school, church, and community organizations.

As a homeowner and long-time Vienna resident, I understand the need to balance the requirements of providing key services and activities while avoiding overburdening our residents with higher taxes.

Response: "Scenario for the Town of Vienna" Here is a real-life issue that has occurred in Vienna and received much media coverage. Vienna faced major pickleball challenges in one park in the NE section of Vienna earlier this year, from tennis players who were losing court time, pickleball players who wanted more court time, and residents of homes near tennis pickleball courts with concerns about noise and parking.

When this started, I was very skeptical, as I could not see how pickleball made much noise or created parking issues. However, my perspective changed after receiving numerous email complaints, visiting the pickle-

ball courts where this occurred, and talking to the residents. I was invited into the residents' homes to experience the noise and parking issues, and it was apparent they had some valid complaints.

I, therefore, changed my position, and the council began working with the pickleball community and nearby residents to come up with a fair compromise folks could live with. This compromise has worked for five months, and the council agreed at the end of September, with staff recommendations, to continue this current arrangement through the end of the year. Howard Springsteen for Vienna

### Charles "Chuck" Anderson

Charles "Chuck" Anderson, Candidate for Vienna Town Council, and his wife, Laura, have lived in Vienna since 1997. He has served on the Planning Commission (including two years as chair), the Windover Heights Board of Review, the Malcolm-Windover Heights Civic Association, and the Vienna Town Council for the past three years. He is the principal and co-founder of Capital Trade, Inc., a world-renowned international trade and economics consulting firm. Prior community service includes Boy Scouts, church teachers, elders, deacons, and the head chef of Welcome Table, a community meal initiative. Chuck graduated from Williams College (BA in history and political science) and Oxford University (MA in philosophy, politics, and economics).

Response: Vienna is rewriting its town code, including allowing upper-story residential along Maple Avenue. I have supported high-quality, smart housing and transportation in Vienna for years. A few weeks ago, I voted against allowing upper-story residential on the ends of Maple Avenue as a permitted use, instead making it a conditional use. After the meeting, a constituent, Sam Ressin, contacted me to ask why I voted against more affordable housing. I changed my vote at a subsequent council meeting after speaking with him and hearing the Chair of the Vienna Planning Commission make an eloquent case for this vote. If re-elected, I will continue to look for more affordable housing opportunities. For more information, visit [chuckforvienna.com](http://chuckforvienna.com).

### Roy J. Baldwin

Roy J. Baldwin, Candidate for Vienna Town Council, is chairman of the Town of Vienna Board of Architectural Review, principal at The Baldwin Law Firm, LLC in Oakton, and town homeowner since 1980. He is a Scoutmaster, a Vienna Business Association member, and a PTA board member. Baldwin

received the Martindale-Hubbell 45-Year Service and Client Distinction Award and the 9/11 Volunteer Award from the American Bar Association.

I will ensure that we have the right-sized development along Maple Avenue and Church Street that does not sacrifice the rights of those living near the new developments or those driving through town. I will not be influenced by any special interest or developer.

I will be an outspoken advocate for preserving the thousands of glorious trees on town property and private property. I will press for passage of the proposed tree preservation ordinance that will require developers to do all that is necessary to preserve signature trees from demolition.

I will use every resource available to eliminate the vacant lot eyesore that used to be the Vienna Wolf Trap Motel that we've had to put up with for two years. And I will ensure that our dedicated first responders — police, fire, and EMS — will come to work every day proud of how our town treats them, including top-ranked pay and benefits.

Response: I sat in the audience at the recent Town Council meeting. The council was considering adopting a contract to extend the sidewalk along three blocks of Beulah Road, which wasn't done when the road was overhauled a decade ago. The design proposed by the contractor would have required removing about a dozen mature trees, some of which were very large and beautiful.

A woman was seated in front of me, and I remembered her from a previous public hearing at which she identified herself as a homeowner who would lose some of those trees from her property. I witnessed her testimony at that hearing. She advocated fiercely and eloquently for these beautiful trees.

No public testimony was allowed at the most recent hearing, so she could only sit in anguish as the contract was approved with only two dissenting votes. If I am elected to the town council, I will remember her deep personal attachment to these trees. I will seek to rally the other councilmembers to approve measures to protect our trees, such as the proposed tree ordinance that will come up for a public hearing in a few weeks. Roy Baldwin for Vienna Town Council

### Jessica H. Ramakis

Jessica H. Ramakis, Candidate for Vienna Town Council. My husband and I have lived in Vienna since 2010. Our two children attend elementary school in Vienna and are active in sports. I also run with Moms Run This Town, go to class at Orangetheory Fitness, and enjoy reading.

I serve on the Planning Commission for the Town and have 20 years of public service experience as a civil servant focused on education policy. I have a collaborative and learning-focused approach to public service and am enthusiastic about hearing varied

perspectives to foster creativity and partnership. This passion for engagement and a focus on results led me to run for town council.

Response: I currently serve on the town's planning commission, and the Town of Vienna has been considering updates to the zoning code. An important part of the process is hearing from community members through public hearings. At one of the hearings, a community member shared his challenges in seeking good housing options as he launched his career.

This issue will be important to consider as we look to the future. It will involve seeing and taking opportunities to do more to expand housing options while also bearing in mind other issues that residents care about, including reducing traffic congestion and making the town more walkable and bicycle-friendly.

Weighing these different considerations in a way that is based on listening to different perspectives and high-quality research will be important. I look forward to engaging in that effort with the community, including with fellow members of the Town Council if I am elected. <https://ramakis.com/>

### Sandra Allen

Sandra Allen (50+) Candidate for Vienna Town Council. My mother brought us to the United States from Bolivia for a better life, and we left behind a system of corruption where wealthy and well-connected people prospered. Now, we are facing similar conditions in the US. Similar conditions of discrimination existed in Bolivia against the poor and indigenous population. We need to be honest and acknowledge that racism exists worldwide. It is not just a US problem.

I have two children now; they are adults. I am in a biracial marriage and a multi-generation household. I grew up in diverse communities in the US. My friends were from all over the world: Iran, Japan, Nepal, India, Vietnam, Salvador, Argentina, Ecuador, African Americans, and Caucasian Americans. We had the same goal; we wanted the American Dream, which is now uncertain for this young generation of Americans.

Allen served on the Adahi Neighborhood Watch Program, provided information to former mayor Laurie DiRocco on issues such as multimodal transportation, UN youth and women empowerment, and Latino voters at risk, and brought awareness to equal education for Hispanic students. Allen supports Hispanic and other students in participating in after-school activities.

Response: I would always consider someone's urgency in seeking legal action. It is the American way of seeking justice and improving lives, especially now that mental health issues and educational failures are present in our society. We should expect council members to come together to help

SEE CANDIDATE CONNECTION, PAGE 9

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



Howard J. Springsteen



Charles "Chuck" Anderson



Sandra Allen



Jessica H. Ramakis



Roy J. Baldwin



# VIENNA TOWN COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 8

solve failures and see lasting changes.

Vienna is divided on how to address issues afflicting this community. We need to find middle-ground solutions. Residents are tired of the unending development in our family-oriented community. We should want all residents to feel welcome and happy to live in Vienna.

We recently had new leadership, yet we have not seen improvements in our concerns. We should focus on a balanced, equal representation. Until now, the focus of local government has been to cater to a wealthy lifestyle, which must change.

My concern is with the representation on committees — the length of time they serve and the lack of diversity. I would like to see term limits implemented and more diverse community members added to our local committees. This can help bring diverse ideas to our diverse issues. These committees make decisions yet are unaccountable, so “conversation must begin.”

I believe in being kind and respectful to all people. We are a small community of 16,000 residents of all ethnicities and socio-economic backgrounds. The elected officials should be honest and direct and know residents firsthand, without political party support or donations influencing policies and decisions that won't benefit the town residents. [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100093073237445&mibextid=LQJ4d](http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100093073237445&mibextid=LQJ4d)

## Ray S. Brill Jr.

Ray S. Brill Jr., Candidate for Vienna Town Council. I led two companies, chaired a Salvation Army chapter home for homeless women in DC, and was the founding Scoutmaster of Troop 345 Vienna. I volunteered at the Lamb Center, led Wounded Warriors outreach at Walter Reed National Military Hospital, and served on the House of Representatives Science and Technology Committee staff. I was also a pastor at Vienna Wesley UMC.



Ray S. Brill Jr.

After graduating from the Air Force Academy, I served as a pilot. I earned a Master of Business from UCLA, a law degree from the University of Florida, and a Master of Divinity from the VA Theological Seminary. My family, wife, and I have lived here since 2005.

Response: Tree City USA has designated Vienna a Tree City for more than 15 consecutive years. We often think of trees as nice to have but not essential. My interaction with three concerned Vienna citizens has changed my thinking. A Virginia Urban Tree Canopy Assessment Report, prepared by Davey Resource Group, Inc., in October

2022, calculated the annual benefits Vienna receives from its tree cover are approximately \$4.3 million. The report states that trees provide “significant environmental, health, safety, and economic benefits.” The report estimates the loss of 500 mature trees per year due to the teardown of older homes and the building of new homes. Stated another way, Vienna's tree canopy has decreased by 13% from 2011 to 2021, or approximately 163 acres.

These three concerned citizens have changed my perspective and thinking. That trend is not acceptable. We can no longer ignore this continuing loss and must take specific steps to preserve and rebuild our tree canopy wherever possible. As a result, I have become a strong advocate for revising our current tree ordinance, and I am pleased to note that the Town Council should complete the revision this year.

## Shelley M. Mountjoy



Shelley M. Mountjoy

Shelley M. Mountjoy, Candidate for Vienna Town Council. I grew up in the Town of Vienna. For almost my entire adult life, I have used a wheelchair for mobility due to injuries sustained as a passenger in a motor vehicle collision. I was a college professor in information technology, and I am raising my five-year-old daughter in my childhood home.

Response: As a young adult, I first attended a Board of Supervisors meeting for a personal concern; I couldn't miss the presence of another vocal group that had attended for a different matter impacting their neighborhood.

While listening to them, it was hard not to feel like we were on the same team. Sure, I wouldn't be directly impacted, but their words expressed shared interests. Curious, I kept showing up and noticed a recurring theme: neighbors come out when a change comes to their backyard and then fade into the background after the vote. Soon after, voices from the adjacent neighborhood in a comparable situation take their place.

When we only speak up for matters that affect our home, not those down the road, shared goals are overlooked. Unsurprisingly, the response I have seen from leaders is primarily focused on managing each separate unrest (occasionally even blaming their constituents for not always being involved) rather than evaluating the larger misalignment in the future vision. Yet most citizens can't be fully informed and consistently participate.

I would like to listen beyond the current item on the agenda and find ways to quantify constituent feedback to identify themes for action. Shelley Mountjoy for Vienna Town Council.

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The Madison Warhawks and South Lakes Seahawks gather at midfield for the coin toss.



Caleb Smith #4 blocks a field goal attempt by South Lakes kicker Dillon Benyo.



Liden Krush #7 is in motion before the Madison QB takes the snap.



Madison QB Cael Yates #12 pitches the ball to brother Cord Yates #5

# Battle of the Unbeatens

**South Lakes carries on at 8-0.**

BY WILL PALENSCAR  
THE CONNECTION

The South Lakes Seahawks and Madison Warhawks faced off on Friday, Oct. 20 for a battle of unbeatens. South Lakes was averaging 50 points a game and Madison averaging 30. But Friday night would be far lower scoring.

In the 1st quarter Dillon Benyo kicked a 25 yard field goal with 2:15 to play to give South Lakes a 3-0 advantage.

In the 2nd quarter Madison would take the lead 7-3 with 5:29 to play before halftime when Dominic Knicely ran in from 35 yards. South Lakes' Isaac Copeland would capitalize with 8:12 to play in the 3rd quarter to give the Seahawks a 9-7 advantage after a missed extra point.

Later in the 4th, Dillon Benyo would kick his second field goal from about 25 yards out to give South Lakes a 12-7 advantage. But Madison would threaten late and a 4th-down-and-10 pass in the end zone with 1:40 to play fell incomplete. South Lakes would run out the clock to close the game at 12-7.

Madison (7-1) (2-1) will host Oakton on 10-27, and South Lakes (8-0) (3-0) will play at Centreville.



Cael Yates looks down the field for a Madison receiver



Dominic Knicely #1 is in motion before Madison #12 QB Cael Yates calls for snap.



South Lakes wide receiver James Zschunke #3 is ready for reverse from teammate Isaac Copeland #22



South Lakes QB Nick Harris #2 looks down the field for a Seahawk receiver



Cord Yates #5 extends out and catches a pass with a defender from South Lakes close by



Dominic Knicely #1 runs with ball while trying to fight off South Lakes Jack Schnabel.



South Lakes QB Nick Harris is pressured by Madison's Caden Green #99



South Lakes QB Nick Harris surveys the field

## CANDIDATE CONNECTION

# District Members, Board of Supervisors

## Dranesville, Hunter Mill, Providence & Sully Districts.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

The Nov. 7 election includes the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Nine members are elected by voters in local districts to serve four-year terms. Twenty-one district candidates are in the race, with seven incumbents.

The Springfield District incumbent is the sole Republican serving on the Board of Supervisors.

Candidates were asked to provide a short bio and share a story of their interaction with a voter that led them to a commitment to take action, with a tight word limit. Candidate responses are printed here in the order they appear on the ballot.

For information on how and where to vote, see <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/>

More than 30,900 Fairfax County voters have already voted, out of more than 714,000 active voters on the rolls. More than 680,000 voters have yet to vote.

## Dranesville District

### Puneet Ahluwalia (R)

Candidate for Board of Supervisors, Dranesville District

My wife and I immigrated here from different countries more than 30 years ago. We sent our three children

to public schools, started and managed several successful as well as unsuccessful businesses, and committed our time to nonprofits devoted to religious freedom.

Before coming to America, I worked as a writer and a journalist, gaining a unique appreciation for the value of speaking the truth against self-dealing in public office. I've seen some of the worst behavior imaginable when politicians are left unaccountable and unchecked. I've also seen the very best of human nature when leaders put honesty, decency, and the well-being of those they serve above themselves.

I'm running because I believe our local politicians are going down the wrong path. They've pursued an ideology-based agenda that sets up a small group of elites to impose values inconsistent with integrity, truth, and economic well-being. And they've enriched themselves with a \$2,500 monthly pay raise while increasing our taxes and failing to perform the least of their responsibilities: supporting law enforcement, improving schools, and addressing our infrastructure needs.

Response: Though I'm a Republican, I was helping moderate Democrat Ed Nuttal in his



Puneet Ahluwalia

primary for Commonwealth Attorney. At one event, a gentleman living within a mile of the CIA HQ at Langley relates how he wrestled an intruder in his home's living room while trying to protect his wife and young daughter. The burglar had broken in by shattering the glass window in their kitchen. Photos after the event showed the room sacked and bloody.

The intruder was arrested but released when Ed's opponent refused to prosecute. Sadly, this crime victim's story is no longer rare. Crime prevention is a problem rife with social, economic, and cultural implications. But at the bare minimum, we should expect the government to act after the fact to arrest, prosecute, and incarcerate those who harm.

Nearly 300 vacancies exist in Fairfax County's police force. Our prosecutors refuse to prosecute. And highly qualified officers are fleeing Fairfax County for friendlier jurisdictions. We've failed our people and left our children and families vulnerable.

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

### James N. "Jimmy" Bierman (D)

Candidate for Board of Supervisors, Dranesville District. I am a 37-year-old McLean native and work as an attorney at the Department of Homeland Security. I'm also a public

servant and community leader. My commitment to public service includes serving as chair of the Fairfax County Police Civilian Review Panel, where I worked with individuals and agencies with a variety of perspectives to ensure that our government works for the people. As past Chair of the Dranesville District Democrats, I also worked across the district mobilizing volunteers and educating voters on the issues impacting our community. I want to protect our progress and fight for positive change in education, housing, the environment, public safety, transportation, and more.

Response: While knocking on doors in Herndon, a woman lamented that her daughter, a teacher, can only afford to live in Fairfax because she lives with her sister, "and that's because her sister's a doctor." From Herndon to McLean, I have heard concerns about our affordable and workforce housing supply. Whether it's young individuals worried they can't ever buy, older couples worried about staying in their homes, or families in the middle, how we protect and expand housing access matters to our community.

I will take an all-of-the-above approach to housing affordability. We must leverage opportunities, especially with transit-oriented development, to add housing where we can also include corresponding infrastructure support such as renovations to schools, better roads and parks.

I want to ensure that we protect our existing neighborhoods and expand tax relief programs to help seniors, fixed-income fam-



James N. Bierman

ilies, and people with disabilities remain in their existing homes. I am committed to working with the Redevelopment and Housing Authority staff on strategic plans to preserve existing affordable units and buildings. I support pilot programs to help teachers, firefighters, police officers, and other county employees live in the communities they serve.

I have always believed that in a democracy, a representative, reflective, and responsive government can help solve collective action problems and make things a little better for people every day. I grew up in McLean and have seen the changes the Dranesville District has gone through. I want to give back to the place that helped raise me. I am proud of our community and want to build a brighter future for your family and mine, my wife and son. [www.biermanforsupervisor.com](http://www.biermanforsupervisor.com)

## Hunter Mill District

### Indira S. Massey (R)

Indira S. Massey (R), Candidate for Member of Board of Supervisors, Hunter Mill District

Indira and her husband, Peter, have lived in Fairfax County for three years. Indira holds a bachelor's degree in international economic relations and a master's in English translation. As an entrepreneur and writer, her professional experiences include publishing and advertising.

As a legal immigrant, I've experienced firsthand the blessings of individual liberty and the American Dream. I will work hard for the people of Hunter Mill and aim to deliver solutions to Fairfax County that prioritize the values and interests of my constituents.

Response: I believe that law enforcement officers are the heroes of our local community. We should empower these professionals to enforce existing laws and protect our families. Supporting our police goes beyond funding. We can help law enforcement by encouraging and restoring trust in our police officers. We need more police, not less. I will back incentives for law enforcement recruitment and work with officials to better understand how we can strengthen our law enforcement agencies and their effectiveness.

I pledge to staunchly oppose any efforts that seek to increase taxes. I am determined to block the funding of programs that force political ideologies on our families and communities. Vigilance and careful spending are the first steps in keeping indoctrination out of our institutions and education systems.

I will combat any measures that seek to further expand the role of government in our daily lives. I am committed to bringing common-sense solutions that will benefit all and placing a check on government overreach. I



Indira S. Massey

am against pay increases for members of the Board of Supervisors. [www.indiraforva.com](http://www.indiraforva.com)

### Walter L. Alcorn (D)

Walter L. Alcorn (D) I am 56, served four years as Hunter Mill District supervisor, and championed community engagement in land use decisions, affordable housing, pedestrian/bicycle safety, fully funding public schools, preservation of open space, and local climate action. I offer voters continued good government and skilled representation on the county board.

Response: Late last year, a General Assembly member approached me about the possibility of a casino on the Silver Line. My immediate reaction was negative, but I decided to investigate further.

I found that property around Silver Line stations is among the most valuable, if not the most valuable, real estate in the DMV (e.g., office rents charged by Boston Properties in their new buildings by the Reston Town Center Station). Casinos are usually placed in economically stressed areas.

I also considered the potential impact on the community. Last year, the Reston comprehensive plan task force recommended that Reston's comp plan embrace equity as a fundamental planning principle, and my board colleagues ultimately channeled this idea to be a county-wide policy. Given that casinos often feed off people with lower incomes and marginalized populations, the casino idea strikes me as inherently at odds with equity.

If big developer donors somehow get their way into the General Assembly and authorize a casino on the Silver Line, I will work to persuade my fellow County residents to vote against a casino and convince my fellow Board members that a Silver Line casino is truly a dumb idea. <https://walteralcorn.com/>

## Providence District

### Brian R. Murphy (R)

Brian R. Murphy (R) Candidate Board of Supervisors, Providence District. My professional career is in real estate finance and investments. I was the Chief Financial Officer of Triangle Development Company. I expanded my expertise into the home building industry's acquisition, development, and construction sides to become a general partner in the building and development of my subdivisions.

I've been a Realtor for over thirty years, using my experience to help new and move-

SEE CANDIDATE CONNECTION, PAGE 13

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Walter L. Alcorn



Brian R. Murphy

# DISTRICT MEMBERS, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM PAGE 12

up homeowners navigate the ups and downs of the real estate market while focusing on raising healthy and happy families.

Response: While canvassing at Oak Marr Farmers Market, a senior citizen approached me and expressed concern about her fixed income and the recent assessment change on her condominium, threatening her ability to pay the new tax. Eviction and dissatisfaction with what “they” were doing with all the money worried her.

This year, the county changed real estate assessment procedures. They shifted real estate taxes from a property tax to a tax on unrealized capital gains.

This was done by taking all of last year’s market sales, calculating a factor based on capital gains in those sales, and applying that factor to last year’s assessed value to get to everyone’s bill this year.

Their justification for the change was a misinterpretation of the Code that says real property in Virginia shall be assessed at fair market value. A property tax is levied based on the cost to Fairfax County to provide the goods and services mandated under their charter from Richmond prorated to your parcel.

The fair market value clause protects the little guy from government eminent domain. The ‘highest and best’ valuation practices ensure fairness for the little guy. It is, at best, an unhealthy mix of public facility and a competitive real estate market.

Traditional assessments considered lot size, improvement value, type of use, zoning designation, and county budget. Thus, the assessed value and asking price of a property in the real estate market differ greatly.

If elected, I will petition the Attorney General to issue a ‘cease and desist’ writ against Fairfax County for violating the Dillon Rule, which requires General Assembly approval before any local government can levy a new tax. I urge Fairfax County residents to support Republican district candidates to restore a Republican majority on the Board of Supervisors. [www.brianmurphy4supervisor.com/home](http://www.brianmurphy4supervisor.com/home)

## Dalia Palchik (D)

Dalia Palchik (D), running for reelection for member, Board of Supervisors, Provi-

dence District. Palchik, 40, was born in Argentina, moved to Fairfax County at age six. She worked in international microfinance, as a medical interpreter, and as a classroom world language teacher. She is the first Latina to serve on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and offers a fresh and thoughtful perspective on issues, big or small. She looks forward to continuing the work towards bringing intentional transit-oriented development to Fairfax, finding creative ways to increase affordable housing, and expanding quality and affordable childcare and early childhood programs.

Response: In early 2021, a resident from a vulnerable community reached out to my office about the difficulties they were facing in receiving financial assistance for public water and sewer services. With the well on the property no longer being a viable source of water, the family has been struggling to find an affordable option to access clean water. After engaging with several county agencies and learning that there are no ready options to provide assistance to families needing access to public water services, I presented a board matter directing staff to work with Fairfax Water to explore options to help families like this. Access to clean water is a right that no family should struggle to achieve. I am happy to share that we were successful in helping them get access to public water and sewer services.

Although this issue relates to one particular family, we know there are challenges across the county with water or sewer connections. In order to help address that, I worked with the county agencies and budget staff to help create a targeted pilot program to help address the issues here and for those in need across the county.

Dalia currently serves as the Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee and the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission Chair. Additionally, she serves on the State Executive Council for Children’s Services, the Successful Children and Youth Policy Team, the Council to End Domestic Violence, the Fairfax Food Council, and the



Dalia Palchik

Northern Virginia Regional Commission. [www.daliaforsupervisor.com](http://www.daliaforsupervisor.com)

## Sully District

### Keith S. Elliott (R)

Keith S. Elliott (R) Candidate Board of Supervisors, Sully District. I am married and a father of four; my oldest is 36, and my youngest is 7. I am a lifelong Fairfax County resident who grew up in McLean and moved to Centreville in 1987.

I was at a backyard barbecue with friends, and we started talking about our taxes. That following week, I did some research and found out that no one else was going to run against Kathy Smith. I decided to step up and run in this race. I never thought about entering politics.

My profession has been in real estate brokerage, property management, and association management. I would love to use my knowledge of that to help residents get into home ownership and generate wealth through owning a home.

Finally, I am a man of faith, and I would always use my two ears to listen, serve the community, and base all my decisions on what the majority agrees on.

Response: I entered this race because of the cost of our real estate property taxes. When I knocked on doors, many folks also told me about the car tax cost.

What I discovered was that the Democrats on the county board have a spending problem. They look for ways to maximize county income through taxation and then find ways to spend it. I want to address this issue head-on by assigning a task group to audit the financials and find items that would be considered non-essential. From there, we can review those items and make the hard decisions as to whether they should be eliminated from the budget. The plan would be to reduce spending to phase out the car tax and then reduce the real estate tax.

Additionally, there have been whole communities, and many others have contacted me about land issues. One is a data center



Keith S. Elliott

that would require the Board to approve new zoning and variances in height for it to be approved. This would affect that community and our environment because it would be built too close to the community and right along Cub Run Stream, which feeds our Occoquan watershed. I reviewed the plans and spoke with the folks, and I agree with them. I would not approve of this data center. <https://keith4fairfax.com/>

### Kathy L. Smith (D)

Kathy L. Smith (D) Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Sully District Supervisor 2016-present; serve on Virginia Association of Counties Board-Chair of Education Committee; former Fairfax County School Board-Sully District Rep (2002-2015) and PTA president at Poplar Tree Elementary, Rocky Run Middle School and Chantilly High School; served on Board of Fairfax County PTA



Kathy L. Smith

BA in Elementary Education and Sociology

Response: I was approached by an advocate who was helping people without cars access a health clinic that is located in Reston. The bus ride took over 2 hours because there wasn’t a direct route. County staff was reviewing bus routes in the western part of the county, and I told the advocate about the process and asked her to share the need with the staff.

The county was also in the process of finalizing the plans for the Sully Community Center, and we were able to add a health clinic and the Women, Infants, and Children’s program. This was an important addition to the community center because people from Sully would not need to travel as far for health care.

We also opened the 901 bus route, which goes from the Centreville United Methodist Church Park and Ride lot to the Herndon Metro Station when the Silver Line opened. This route also stops by the Sully Community Center. I appreciate the ability to work with the community members to solve problems. [www.kathysmith.org](http://www.kathysmith.org)

## BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before the event.

### THURSDAY/OCT. 26

Dyslexia Open House. 4-6 p.m. At 8270 Willow Oaks Corporate Drive, Fairfax. FCPS will be holding an open house to learn more about the support available to students with dyslexia.

There will be an opportunity to meet with a variety of departments including the Office of the Ombuds, Office of School Psychology and the Office of Special Instruction.

### SATURDAY/OCT. 28

National Drug Takeback Day. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At all Fairfax County Police Stations. Keeping unused, unwanted, and expired medications in your home can lead to accidental poisoning, overdose, and misuse. Getting rid of medications that are no longer needed

is especially important now with the opioid epidemic continuing to impact many families throughout the nation and right here in our community.

### FREE HALLOWEEN WEEKEND LYFT RIDES

Preparing to combat that time of year when according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, nearly half (48%) of U.S. traffic deaths involve drunk drivers, a local nonprofit organization announced that free safe rides will be offered to would-be drunk drivers throughout the Washington-metropolitan area during this month’s Halloween celebration. Offered by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the 2023 Halloween SoberRide

program will be in operation beginning at 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 28th and operate until 4 a.m. on Sunday, October 29th as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk period. During this 12-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may download the Lyft app to their phones then enter the SoberRide code in the app’s ‘Payment’ tab (under the ‘Add Lyft Pass’ option) to receive their no-cost (up to \$15) safe transportation home. WRAP’s 2023 Halloween SoberRide promo code will be posted at 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 28 on [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

### SATURDAY/NOV. 4

2023 Giving Gala and Community Hero Awards. The CORE Founda-

tion is thrilled to announce details for the annual Giving Gala and Community Hero Awards, scheduled to take place on November 4, 2023, at the Reston Community Center. The “Bright Lights” themed event promises to be an evening of celebration, recognition, and philanthropy, honoring individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the community. The CORE Foundation is a nonprofit organization based in Reston, Va. dedicated to making a positive impact on communities through philanthropy, education, and outreach programs. The CORE Foundation Giving Gala was established in 2018 as a primary fundraiser for the CORE Foundation. Visit the event website at [corefoundation.org/giving-gala-community-hero-awards](http://corefoundation.org/giving-gala-community-hero-awards) to learn

more about the event, purchase tickets, and explore sponsorship opportunities.

### MCLEAN NEWCOMERS AND NEIGHBORS

The club was founded in 1969 to create new friendships, provide opportunities for socializing and acquaint residents with the community. It sponsors many group activities including: Anything with food, Armchair Traveler, Book Club, Bunco, Canasta, Crafty Ladies, Genealogy, Golf, Let Us Lunch, Mah Jongg, Mah Jongg NY Style, Movie Lovers, Museums/House and Garden Tours, Nature Walks, Restaurant Critics, Sing for Fun and Tech Forums. Application forms may be mailed to: Membership McLean Newcomers and Neighbors, P.O. Box 6166, McLean, VA 22106. Visit the website: [www.mcleannewcomers.org](http://www.mcleannewcomers.org).

## CANDIDATE CONNECTION

# Member School Board by District

FROM PAGE 6

of resources for trauma-informed practices, and revising the compensation package for family liaisons are issues on my agenda that stemmed directly from community demand.

At times, input is provided through structured opportunities such as community events or my monthly Mason District Roundtable meetings. Other issues arise from informal avenues such as emails or conversations at an athletic event. The common thread is that each of these issues is urgent to its champion, and each deserves and receives my full attention, resulting in additional research, data mining, and collaborative discussions with staff and colleagues to be actualized.

In the upcoming term, I hope to continue addressing persistent performance gaps and increasing student access by expanding advanced academic opportunities in our middle schools. Another priority is to support efforts to recruit and retain teachers amid the current teacher shortage crisis through competitive compensation and innovative methods to decrease teacher workload. <https://ricardyanderson.com/>

### Kristin F. Ball

Kristin F. Ball, Candidate for Member of School Board, Mason District. She is a mother and a former college professor with a Ph.D. in communication from the University of Oklahoma.



Kristin F. Ball

Her 27 years of college-level teaching have given her a unique perspective, as college students are the reflection of their K-12 education. She has lived in the Mason district for 11 years, was active in her community as a bench parent for her son's little league team, and is the chair of the Stars & Stripes NOVA Committee that serves veterans and first responders.

Response: Every Thursday, I have a table at the Annandale Farmers Market to meet with people in the Mason District as I campaign for the school board. A father and his two children came to talk to me one early summer morning.

The father told me that his daughter, in the 6th grade, had been assigned to read the book *The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis. He said his daughter had nightmares ever since reading the book. Naturally, he was concerned that a teacher would assign a book that would cause such reactions.

I took his concerns to heart but wanted to investigate for myself. I bought the book and read it so I could have a more informed understanding of the book.

Having read the book, I can see some of his concerns. However, the book depicts the life of an African-American family in the early 1960s. It illustrates what life was like for them as they lived in Flint, MI, and their visit to Birmingham, AL.

There are instances of bullying and kids getting into fistfights. But the story can be

helpful if a teacher talks about how those scenes illustrate the characters' sense of family and friendship. It is typically assigned to 6th-grade students.

This encounter with a voter illustrates my commitment to hearing the people's concerns in the Mason District and learning what I can before making an informed decision.

In this case, I am sorry that the student had nightmares. I hope her parents can explain to their daughter how their family interactions are similar and different. When discussing issues that constituents have with books, we need to be sure that we are considering the book's content, its purpose for use in the classroom, and its effects on the child reading it.

Decisions about books should never be made with a knee-jerk reaction to ban or keep.

[ElectKristinBall.com](http://ElectKristinBall.com) Endorsed by Fairfax County GOP

## Providence District

### Karl V. Frisch

Karl Frisch, candidate and incumbent for School Board Providence District, a 45-year-old accomplished non-profit executive and award-winning public policy expert, who previously worked for



Karl V. Frisch

the Rules Committee in Congress, most recently served as the director of a consumer protection group that assisted underprivileged Americans who were victims of predatory lenders, dishonest student loan processors, and other financial con artists. On the County School Board, he has delivered for parents, teachers, and students, championing efforts to address learning loss, close achievement and opportunity gaps, attract and retain world-class educators with increased pay, and ensuring all students have safe and inclusive schools.

Response: While knocking on doors early in my 2019 school board campaign, I met a mother in Mantua who told me how worried she was about school shootings and how it seemed our leaders were not doing enough to address the issue.

As we talked, I became convinced that every level of government plays a role in gun violence prevention. Before leaving, I committed to her that if I were elected, I would do everything I could to ensure our school system aggressively addressed this threat.

Over the past four years, I have worked hard with my colleagues to keep that promise. Here are two examples: I co-sponsored the measure to notify parents annually about their legal obligation to securely store their guns, which is important since many gun owners do not securely store their firearms, and school shooters usually get their weapons from family members' homes.

Until 2021, Virginia law did not allow gun bans at non-instructional school system

buildings—places like Gatehouse, where no formal instruction occurs but is filled with educators and frequented by students and parents. After the law changed, I sponsored the policy that successfully extended our school gun ban to all school system properties. <https://www.karlfrisch.com/>

### Anthony A. "Tony" Sabio

Anthony A. "Tony" Sabio, - Candidate for Member of School Board, Providence District. No reply.

[Sabio4fairfax.com](http://Sabio4fairfax.com) Endorsed by Fairfax County GOP



Anthony A. "Tony" Sabio

## Sully District

### Cynthia L. Walsh

Cynthia L. Walsh, 54, candidate for Member of School Board, Sully District, former Fort Belvoir FOIA officer, earned an English literature degree from Juniata College. She volunteered with The Autism Community in Action and wrote "Breaking the Autism Code" (2017).



Cynthia L. Walsh

Response: My first school board meeting was a day I will never forget. I went to pray for students, parents, and teachers. Instead, I found a mother urgently asking about the current school board to remove obscene library books found in her local school library.

She read those books out loud. The books contained explicit sexual scenes with full graphic genitalia, masturbation, and pornography, so I was horrified that anyone would think they were suitable for children. My reading the books and researching made the issue urgent.

I propose requiring warning labels for sexual content, violence, profanity, and racist, hateful language. Since Fairfax public schools are very different from one another, I would do an inventory of which books are in which library. I would offer a synopsis or summary of the books in question for parents to decide.

It would be very clear to parents to identify the books because the media has distorted the message about completely different books. They tell parents that "book banning week" is about books like *To Kill a Mockingbird* or *Animal Farm*. These are not the same books, and the reasons they would be banned are not what I am talking about.

One book parents object to, not just for the sexual content but for the violence, is *Gender Queer*. Parents think it's transphobic. *Gender Queer* addresses puberty in a violent way.

I also found extremely racist words, profanity, and violence. Examples of these books are *Assassination Classroom* and *Beloved*. *The Assassination Classroom* is a book about how to kill a teacher; *Beloved* used the N-word 37 times. As I talk to parents, informing them and correcting the information is only step one. [www.electcynthiawalsh.com](http://www.electcynthiawalsh.com) Endorsed by Fairfax County GOP

### Seema Dixit

Seema Dixit, Candidate for Member of School Board, Sully District - I'm eager to represent you on the Fairfax County School Board, Sully District. My roots in Centreville date back to 2004, and



Seema Dixit

I'm the proud mother of two FCPS students. As a small business owner, I understand the importance of a strong education system for our community's future. My commitment to education extends beyond the classroom.

I've been deeply involved in our school community, serving on the executive PTA boards of Bull Run ES, Rocky Run MS, and Centreville HS. Additionally, I co-founded the Women Empowerment Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to uplifting women and young girls facing challenging circumstances like domestic abuse and violence in our local community.

Response: My campaign centers on equity, excellence, and student support. Our children deserve the best resources and opportunities to prepare them for success in the real world. If elected, I will prioritize expanding comprehensive tutoring services and collaborating with our community to enhance STEM programs. Furthermore, I advocate for improved access to counseling services to support our students' mental and emotional well-being. [info@seemadixit.com](mailto:info@seemadixit.com)

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# ENTERTAINMENT

## NOW THRU NOV. 10

**Into the Hothouse Exhibit.** At Gillespie Gallery of Art, GMU's Art and Design Building, 4515 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Mason Exhibitions presents Into the Hothouse, an immersive site-specific installation by Chicago-based artist Aimée Beaubien. The exhibit is a category-defying constellation of dozens of gathered, printed, and handmade works that explore botanical and environmental subject matter. Natural forms, technological interventions, and laborious craft techniques abound. The gallery is free and open to the public from Monday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## WEDNESDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS

**Tours Aboard Tall Ship Providence and Sen. John Warner Maritime Heritage Center.** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Alexandria's Waterfront Park, 1A Prince Street, Alexandria. Guests of all ages are recruited into the Continental Navy aboard Tall Ship Providence with legendary Captain John Paul Jones. Recruits are assigned jobs on the ship, learn where they will work and live, how to load a cannon, etc... Tours conclude in the Naval History Theatre with a film about the ship. The Heritage Center is a floating museum on the Alexandria waterfront. Visit <https://tallshipprovidence.org/>

## FUNDAY MONDAY

**"Funday Monday is open to children of all ages, however is best suited for the preschool set! Funday Monday runs from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and — unless otherwise noted — is held at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. There are plenty of free parking lots/garages in Old Town Fairfax. Stroller access is available at the side entrance Old Town Hall facing Route 236/Main Street. For more information visit [www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts)."**

## SCHEDULE

Oct. 30 -- Kids Nature Puppet Show "Creepy Creatures"  
Nov 6 -- Miss Mollie's Musical Fun  
Nov. 13 -- No Program  
Nov. 20 -- My Gym  
Nov. 27 -- Drew Blue Shoes Magic  
Dec. 4 -- Music Together Sing and Groove  
Dec. 11 -- My Gym  
Dec. 18 -- TBD

## SATURDAYS THRU NOVEMBER

**Reston Museum.** See how Reston's founding principles were implemented by joining the upcoming walking tour. Tour will be held 10 a.m. every Saturday through November. Sign up at: <https://www.restonmuseum.org/event-details/guided-walking-tour-reston-founding-2023-09-09-10-00>

## MONTH OF OCTOBER

**Spooky Fall Festivities.** At Go Ape Zipline & Adventure Park, South Run RECenter, Springfield. This ground-based experience will take guests on a hike through the park, navigating various creatures from your deepest, darkest nightmares. Participants will be immersed in the natural environment, never knowing what might be waiting around the next curve in the path. Is that just the wind through the branches? Definitely not! This

guided, anxiety-filled adventure will take 20-30 minutes with a cost of \$14.95 per person. Go Ape is also expanding the Frights at Height experience! Launched in 2022, this autumnal aerial activity is now available on select evenings in October. Guests will find zombies, ghosts, and ghouls hiding in creepy corners under the Treetop Journey zipline and ropes course. Only \$39.95 per person for this 1-hour gravity defying, scream-filled adventure after dark...if you dare. Visit [www.goape.com](http://www.goape.com).

## NOW THRU NOV. 7

**Cox Farms Fall Festival 2023.** At Cox Farms, corner of Braddock Road and Pleasant Valley Road, Centreville. The Fall Festival is filled with family-friendly entertainment and attractions including slides, swings, animals, hayrides and more. From the world-famous hayride to our corny Cornundrum and giant slides, our Fall Festival has something for the whole family. The Fall Festival is open Sept. 16-17, and then Thursday through Monday Sept. 23-Nov. 6, plus Tuesday, Nov. 7. Hours Sept. 16 – 17; Thursdays through Mondays Sept. 23 – Oct. 30: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. | Nov. 2 – 7: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (last entry one hour before closing). Market is open daily through Nov. 7. The Fields of Fear Hours: Friday and Saturday nights Sept. 22 – Nov. 4 (plus Sunday, Oct. 8) 7:30-11 p.m. (last entry 10 p.m.) Featuring more than 20 acres of fear and spooky attractions.

## NOW THRU OCT. 29

**Fall Fest 2023.** At Reston Farm Garden Market, 10800 Baron Cameron Avenue, Reston. Saturdays and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Fall Fest schedule spans weekends from September 23rd to October 29th, with the Columbus Day special on October 9th, operating from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per child and \$5 per parent, while children aged two and under enter for free. The festival offers a variety of activities, including inflatables such as a corn maze, two 20' slides, two pumpkin bounce houses, and a basketball game. There's also a charming petting zoo, the Reston Farm Garden Market Express Train, and live music for entertainment. The market features seasonal items like chrysanthemums, pansies, fresh produce, natural jams, local organic honey, farm-fresh products, pumpkins, seasonal decor, and our famous Apple Cider Donuts. You can also savor offerings from local food trucks throughout the weekend. Book your tickets on our website: <https://www.restonfarm.com/fall-fest>.

## OCT. 6 TO OCT. 31

**The Haunted Trail.** Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday night starting at 6:30 p.m. At The Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton. The Workhouse Arts Center celebrates its 10th annual Haunted Trail by bringing scares and laughs to the Halloween season. Haunt: Game Over immerses guests through a highly themed walk-through experience, as creepy characters deliver contactless scares in multiple scenes. Guests will travel in small groups via a timed entry for a frightening experience that brings them next to abandoned, historic buildings

where they will encounter terrifying characters and sights that are not for the faint of heart. The spirits will get loud with live music on Fridays, Saturdays, and Halloween night, with a rotating schedule of band performances in the Rizer Pavilion, which also serves as the check-in area and 'virtual line' for Haunt entry. Food trucks, soft drinks, snacks, wine, beer, and themed-specialty drinks will be available for purchase on campus. Gates open at 6:30 p.m.; Final groups will be dispatched by 10:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays; and 9:30 p.m. on Sundays.

## BONITA LESTINA OLD TOWN HALL PERFORMANCE SERIES

Enjoy an evening of music showcasing a variety of genres in the elegant interior of historic Old Town Hall (3999 University Drive) in the heart of Fairfax City. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and performances begin at 8 p.m. and run from October to April. Admission is free. Visit: [www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts).

## SCHEDULE

November 3: Swingology - Jazz Bossa Nova, Manouche and Swing  
November 17: Graham Breedlove – Blues  
December 8: Marcolivia – Classical String Duo  
January 5: Baltimore Composers Forum – Modern  
January 19: Navy Band Wind Quintet – Classical  
February 2: Kadencia – Puerto Rican Orchestra (part of the Chocolate Lovers Festival!)  
February 16: Matt Trkula – Classical Guitar  
March 8: Mandoleers – Mandolin and Guitar Orchestra  
March 22: James & Victor – Jazz Duo/Steel Pan  
April 5: Francesca Hurst – Solo Piano  
April 19: Sylvan Waters Duo – Harp/Brass

## WEDNESDAY/OCT. 25

**Tea & Talk.** 11 a.m. At McLean Project for the Arts Emerson and Atrium Galleries; 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. MPA Curator and Artistic Director Nancy Sausser will host a Tea & Talk, presented by the Rotary Club of McLean. Guests are invited to enjoy a cup of tea and discuss (Not) Strictly Painting 14 with the MPA team. Tea & Talk RSVP – <https://tinyurl.com/notstrictlypaintingteaandtalk>

## THURSDAY/OCT. 26

**Fall Festival.** 5-8 p.m. At Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria. Join the Whitman PTSA for the annual Fall Festival, featuring a Haunted House and Trunk-or-Treat event. Tickets for food and games will be available onsite.

## "ON GOLDEN POND"

Oct. 27, 28; Nov. 3, 4 at 8 p.m.; 2 p.m. on Oct. 29 and Nov. 5. At Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, Vienna. Presented by the Vienna Theatre Company and Vienna Department of Parks and Recreation. Directed by Terri Ritchey; Produced by Reece Smyth and Pete Storck. Visit [www.viennatheatercompany.org](http://www.viennatheatercompany.org).

# Here's What's Happening at MCC!

**Your Center, Your Community, Your Voice**

**Take the MCC 2023 Community Feedback Survey Available in English, Spanish and Korean**

Go to [qrco.de/beMvvF](http://qrco.de/beMvvF), or follow the link at [mcleancenter.org](http://mcleancenter.org)

NOV 2

**Presented by The Alden**

**Foreign Language Movie Thursday, Nov. 2, 1 p.m.**

Free admission

NOV 3

**Old Firehouse Family Events**

**Family Fun Bingo Friday, Nov. 3, 7 p.m.**

Register online at [oldfirehouse.org](http://oldfirehouse.org)

NOV 4

**Presented by The Alden**

**"When You Wish Upon a Star: A Jazz Tribute to 100 Years of Disney" Saturday, Nov. 4, 7 p.m.**

Tickets on sale at [aldentheatre.org](http://aldentheatre.org)

This production is not affiliated with, sponsored, or authorized by The Walt Disney Company.

NOV 8

**Presented by The Alden**

**Foreign Language Film Wednesday, Nov. 8, 6:30 p.m.**

Free admission



NOV 11 & 12

**Community Events**

**McLean Antiques Show & Sale Saturday, Nov. 11, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m.**

Admission: \$10; Free up to age 17

NOV 16

**Presented by The Alden**

**Performing Arts Movie Thursday, Nov. 16, 1 p.m.**

Free admission



The McLean Community Center  
[mcleancenter.org](http://mcleancenter.org)

Home of The Alden Theatre  
[aldentheatre.org](http://aldentheatre.org)

1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101

703-790-0123, TTY: 711

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# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 15

## FRIDAY/OCT. 27

**Djembe Drumming Family Workshop Featuring Master Artist Kofi Dennis.** 7 p.m. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. No experience necessary. Kofi Dennis will teach participants basic drumming skills and the workshop will end with a group drum circle. Families with children (age 8+) can participate together. Drums will be provided for use. Visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

## FRIDAY/OCT. 27

**Still Life Artist Anna Katalkina.** 11 a.m. At the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. McLean Art Society is honored to present Anna Katalkina, giving a demonstration of how to transfer a drawing or image from paper to canvas, the first step in creating her distinctly realistic and luminous paintings. Katalkina has been called "a modern Dutch Master," influenced by the 17th century small Dutch paintings. Her work draws from European travel, music, literature, and the performing arts, while striking a balance between traditional and modern and exploring both serious and lighthearted themes.

## OCT. 27-28

**Halloween on the Farm.** At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Celebrate Halloween and trick-or-treat on the farm! Enjoy farm animals, play games and make crafts. The program runs in one-hour time slots and costs \$10 per person. For more information, visit the Frying Pan Farm Park website or call 703-437-9101.

## "PROOF"

**Oct. 27-29. Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. At The Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean.** Also at The Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Nov. 10-12; Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets \$20-\$25. Visit [www.mcleanplayers.org](http://www.mcleanplayers.org).

## OCT. 27-29

**"9 to 5 The Musical."** At GMU's Harris Theatre 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. October 27, 28 at 8 p.m.; October 29 at 2 p.m. George Mason University's School of Theater is presenting "9 to 5 The Musical," an exciting musical adaptation of the comedy film. Directed by Rex Daugherty (Artistic Director of Theatre, Solas Nua; MFA, Directing, George Mason University), Music Directed by Joe Walsh, Choreographed by Ariel Kraje, and performed by the cast of Mason theater students, the humorous energy and captivating performance will leave audiences in awe. Visit the website: <https://cvpa.calendar.gmu.edu/9-to-5-the-musical>.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Multi-family Garage Sale.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. At 2416 Mare Lane, Oakton. Chapter AO of Virginia PEO, a nonprofit philanthropic and educational organization for women, is holding a huge, multi-family garage sale (rain or shine). Items of all types (including a Boutique Section) will be available at very affordable prices. Proceeds will go toward the organizations' grant,

loan, and scholarship programs for women. All are welcome!

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Fear-less Fest.** 5:30 to 8 p.m. At Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 7701 Royce Street, Annandale. Visit the Hidden Oaks Nature Center for a wildlife Halloween experience! Encounter costumed woodland creatures including spiders, raccoons, deer and owls, and discover why they're not as scary as they may seem. Come in costume and join a guided trail walk and enjoy festive fall activities. This is a great event for scout groups and families. Multiple time slots are available between 5:30 and 8 p.m. Registration is \$8 per person. For more information, visit the Hidden Oaks Nature Center website or call 703-941-1065.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra with Christian McBride.** 8 p.m. At GMU's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. Christian McBride joins the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra led by founder, artistic director, and virtuoso saxophonist Jim Carroll, in an unforgettable night of bravado, improvisation, and jazz swagger. Tickets: \$50, \$43, \$30; half-price for youth through Grade 12. Visit [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Halloween Weekend at The Perch.** 12-8 p.m. At 1805 Capital One Drive, 11th Floor, Tysons Corner. Kids party from 12-4 p.m. Adult costume contest at 4-8 p.m. Join in the ultimate Halloween costume party, featuring spooky golf, pumpkin and face painting, seasonal beverages, pumpkin pie eating contests and more.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Halloween Bash at South Run Rec Center, 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield.** Celebrate the season and get moving at the South Run Rec Center Halloween Bash. This event features the Monter Mash 5K Dash, Halloween Fun Run 1-Mile, and Spooktacular Tiny Tot Trot with moon bounce and obstacle course for ages 2-4. For more information, visit the South Run Rec Center website or call 703-866-0566.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Halloween Costume Family Skate and Dance Night.** 6 to 10 p.m. at the Franconia Rec Center, 6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia. No tricks, just treats at this Halloween-themed Family Skate and Dance Night! Dress in your best costume for a spooktacular time at Franconia Rec Center. Skate to some of your favorite Halloween tunes by a live DJ. Grab candy, popcorn and other refreshments; enjoy seasonal decorations; and float across the floor to some festive tunes. Tickets \$10 in advance and \$15 the day of the event. For more information, visit the Franconia Rec Center website or call 703-922-9841.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Clifton's Haunted Trail.** 7 - 10 p.m. At Clifton's 8-Acre Park on Chapel Street, Clifton. For one night each year, Clifton's 8-Acre Park is filled with ghastly scenes to terrify even the most jaded fright-seekers.



**Still Life with Artist Anna Katalkina takes place on Friday, Oct. 27, 2023 at the McLean Community Center.**

Come walk the Haunted Trail winding through the woods if you dare, but leave young children and strollers at home. Limited ticket sales open on Oct. 6 and are first come first serve. Proceeds benefit the Town of Clifton and Robinson High School's Crew Team and All Night Grad Party. <https://www.cliftonhauntedtrail.com/>. Advanced Purchase are \$18, purchase onsite for \$20. \$5 cash only parking is available.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**DEA Drug Take-Back Day.** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. At Clifton Presbyterian Church Parking Lot, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. The Clifton Lions Club is hosting a DEA Drug Take-Back Day. This program provides the opportunity for members of the public to safely dispose of unused prescription medications.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Festival of Frights and Trunk or Treat.** 5-10 p.m. At the Old Firehouse in McLean. Calling all families of ghouls and goblins! Come join the Old Firehouse in your best Halloween costumes for a night of live music, games, food, contests and tons of candy! Families who wish to volunteer themselves and their vehicles for Trunk or Treat should submit an email request to [oldfirehouse@mcleancenter.org](mailto:oldfirehouse@mcleancenter.org). Please include your name and your trunk theme. Volunteer hours are 4-8:30 p.m. Each family will receive candy to distribute to the trunk or treaters. Visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

## OCT. 28-29

**Two-Day LEGO Model Train Show.** Noon to 4 p.m. Saturday; 1-4 p.m. Sunday. At Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road, Fairfax Station. The Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area LEGO Train Club (WamaLTC) members will hold a two-day LEGO based train show at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum. All trains, buildings and scenery in the display are built from LEGO blocks and shapes. Donations of unwanted LEGO pieces and sets are appreciated to help support WamaLTC's efforts to bring fun and education to all ages through its activities. Admission: museum members, free; adults 13 and over, \$5; children 5-12, \$3; under 4, free.



**"9 to 5 The Musical" takes place Oct. 27-29, 2023 at GMU's Harris Theatre in Fairfax.**

Seniors 65+ and military (active & retired), \$4. Call 703-425-9225 or visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org).

## OCT. 28-29

**Ghost Town.** At Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Embark on an unforgettable Halloween adventure at Ghost Town in Burke Lake Park. Secure your spot by grabbing \$15 per person tickets until Oct. 26, and brace for a spooktacular experience, complete with Goblin Golf, carousel rides, Train journeys, pumpkin painting, a bounce house and the thrilling Trick-or-Treat House. Trick-or-treaters of all ages are warmly welcomed. For more information, visit the Burke Lake website or call 703-323-6600.

## OCT. 28-29

**Haunted Mini Golf.** 3 to 7 p.m. at Oak Marr Rec Center, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. Welcoming all werewolves, vampires and goblins (and their families) for a fun night of Haunted Mini Golf at Oak Marr Rec Center. Wear your favorite costume for a haunted good time! Play mini golf, Trick-or-treat and win various goodies at every hole. Cost \$12 per person. For more information, visit the Oak Marr Rec Center website or call 703-281-6501.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Trunk or Treat.** 4 to 6 p.m. At Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Chain Bridge Road and Great Falls Street in McLean. They will have Trunk or Treat Cars filled with candy and treats, Carnival Games for children (and all ages), Ice Cream, a Cake Walk, Puppet Shows and more! Questions: Contact Allison Lineberger, [alineberger@lewinsville.org](mailto:alineberger@lewinsville.org) or 703-356-7200 or visit [Lewinsville.org](http://Lewinsville.org)

## SATURDAY/OCT. 28

**Both Sides Tour XXIX.** In Search of the Lost Order. Bus leaves Franconia Museum, 6121 Franconia Road, at 8:15 a.m. Join tour leaders Don Hakenson ([dhakenson@verizon.net](mailto:dhakenson@verizon.net)), Carl Sell ([sellcarl@aol.com](mailto:sellcarl@aol.com)) and Ben Trittipoe ([btritt1@gmail.com](mailto:btritt1@gmail.com)) for a full day of site visits and stories. Cost: \$125.00.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 29

**Fall Native Tree Giveaway.** At Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, SE, Vienna. Stop by the

Vienna Community Center for the Fall Native Tree Giveaway, including Redbuds, Winterberry Holly, Black Gum, and Red Oak! That's not all, there will also be free barefoot seedlings (first come, first serve) and a Town arborist will be on-site to answer all your burning questions.

## SUNDAY/OCT. 29

**2023 Bat Festival.** 3 to 6 pm. At Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, McLean. Come celebrate the captivating world of bats, learn about the vital role they play in our ecosystem, understand the threats they face and what you can do to protect them. Join experts Leslie Sturges and Alonso Abugattas as they unveil the mysteries behind these creatures of the night and shed some light on the challenges they face, such as light pollution. Enjoy interactive activities for all ages and join the optional costume contest. For event details and free registration, visit the Dark Skies webpage.

## TUESDAY/OCT. 31

**Trick or Treat.** 5-8 p.m. At the McLean Volunteer Fire Department Station, 1455 Laughlin Ave., McLean.

## THURSDAY/NOV. 2

**Foreign Language Film, "Taare Zameen Par" ("Like Stars on Earth").** 1 p.m. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Ishaan, a student who has dyslexia, cannot seem to get anything right at his boarding school. Soon, a new unconventional art teacher helps him discover his hidden potential. A visual feast and Bollywood mega-hit.

## NOV. 3-4

**"You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."** 7 p.m. At Oakcrest School Upper School, Ernst Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. The musical follows the story of Charlie Brown and his friends, as seen in the comic strip, Peanuts, by cartoonist Charles Schulz. Through captivating dance and song, Charlie and his friends discover what it truly means to be a "good man". Visit <https://www.oakcrest.org/>

## SATURDAY/NOV. 4

**"When You Wish Upon a Star: A Jazz Tribute to 100 Years of Disney."** 7 p.m. At McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave.,

# ENTERTAINMENT



Don't miss the Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra with Christian McBride on Saturday, Oct. 28, 2023 at GMU's Center for the Arts in Fairfax.

McLean. "When You Wish..." an unforgettable evening celebrating 100 years of Disney through the lens of jazz as performed by house band of The National Jazz Museum in Harlem. Dreams really do come true! This production is not affiliated with, sponsored, or authorized by The Walt Disney Company.

**SATURDAY/NOV. 4**

**Wine and Cheese Pairing Event.** 5-7 p.m. At Total Wine & More, 1451 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Fundraiser for AAUW McLean Branch. Enjoy fine wines paired with exotic cheeses to help raise funds for women's scholarships. Tickets \$40. Email: Taylor6840@gmail.com.

**SATURDAY/NOV. 4**

"A Civil War Books, Relics and Memorabilia

**Show.** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Bud Mayo and Don Hakenson will be sponsoring "A Civil War Books, Relics and Memorabilia Show". Admission is \$5.00 and vendors are welcome. SCV members receive a table discount. Contact Don Hakenson at dhakenson@verizon.net or 703-971-4984, or contact Bud Mayo at mayo5304@cox.net, or 703-389-1505.

**SATURDAY/NOV. 4**

**Fall Bazaar and Craft Show.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. At Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street, South, Vienna. Sponsored by the Auxiliary to the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Offered for sale will be crafts, holiday decorations, items for your home, clothing and gifts for that special someone. A delicious lunch menu is planned, as well as a bountiful homemade baked goods table. Looking for a unique find? Come shop at our Vera's Attic table. Proceeds from the rental of the table spaces and raffles benefit the fire department in their effort to raise funds for life saving fire and rescue equipment, college scholarships and more. For information, or to reserve a space and request an application, call Carol at 703-309-3468 or email Dancers1023@aol.com.

**SATURDAY/NOV. 4**

**Civil War Books, Relics and Memorabilia Show.** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At Arlington-Fairfax Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax. Bud Mayo and Don Hakenson will be sponsoring A Civil War Books, Relics and Memorabilia Show. Admission is \$5. Vendors are most welcome and SCV members receive a table discount. Vendors Needed. Contact Don Hakenson at dhakenson@verizon.net (or call him at 703-971-4984), or contact Bud Mayo at mayo5304@cox.net, or 703-389-1505.

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## Obituary

## Obituary



In Loving Memory of **Scott Tyson Boiles, 65** of Wirtz, VA who passed away October 3, 2023 after an enduring and valiant battle with several major health issues. Throughout his life, he exhibited a spirit that never wavered and a love for life. He was born in Orlando, FL November 15, 1957 to Jane Boiles and the late Billy Boiles.

Scott lived in the Northern VA area where he graduated from Marshall HS (1976) and went on to get his BS in Marketing from Virginia Tech (1980). After a few different jobs he found his calling at Northwest Federal Credit Union in 1994 as a Teller working his way up to Vice President of Finance, retiring in 2015. In 2017, Scott and his wife, of 39 years, embarked on a new chapter when they moved to the peaceful embrace of Smith Mountain Lake. Here he found immense joy and love for "lake life" living and beautiful sunsets on the water.

Scott's love for life stemmed from his passions in sports, music, cooking, traveling, and breweries. He loved playing basketball, softball, and pickleball as well as RV tailgating at VT Football games and attending GMU basketball games for over 30 years. Scott was an avid guitarist and an audiophile who reveled in being the DJ at his own grand parties as well as for weddings and office parties. He was known to whip up culinary delights be it grilling and smoking up meats or cooking up spicy dishes. Not one to sit still, Scott was either building something or traveling cross country on his motorcycle, cruising the Virgin Islands, parachuting out of an airplane in Australia, drinking beers in Germany, or enjoying many relaxing RV road trips be it to beaches, concerts, visiting friends, or road games.

Of all the things he saw and did, what he cherished most was doing things for and spending time with family, friends and his beloved Rottweiler's, creating memories that last forever. Scott lived "his life like a song", just like an avid Parrothead would. His circle of friends remained deep and strong throughout the years. His memory will live on in the hearts of all those who had the privilege of knowing him, leaving an indelible mark of love, joy, and friendship.

Scott is survived by his mom, Jane Boiles of Annapolis, MD; Wife Wendy Boiles of Wirtz, VA; Sister Kathy (Dwight) Moxness of Annapolis, MD; and a host of loving cousins, in-laws, god-children, and long-time friends. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to CarilionFoundation.org/Patient-Care, The American Cancer Society, or Give.VT.edu (Hokie Scholarship or Pamplin College of Business).

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The pandemic has been a bear, financially and otherwise. Revenue plummeted at the beginning in 2020. Some beloved advertisers have stayed the course supporting us throughout, and many more have done what they can. In the fall of 2021 we saw the return of some advertising for events and Grand Openings, but now omicron clouds the horizon in so many ways. Revenue still remains short of expenses despite our greatly curtailed costs.

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## Forgive Me As I Wax Poetic



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If you are of the "Jewish persuasion" ("who persuaded you"?), as asked by Hawkeye Pierce in a long-ago M\*A\*S\*H episode, you've been lighting a memorial candle known as Yahrzeit candles (evidence suggests as long as 2,000 years ago) to honor the deceased your whole life – or your parents have, particularly for family members. The candles are lit at sundown on Yom Kippur ("Day of Atonement") and as well on the deceased's date of death on the Jewish calendar (presently year 5,784) cross-referenced to a corresponding date on the Gregorian calendar – with which we're all familiar.

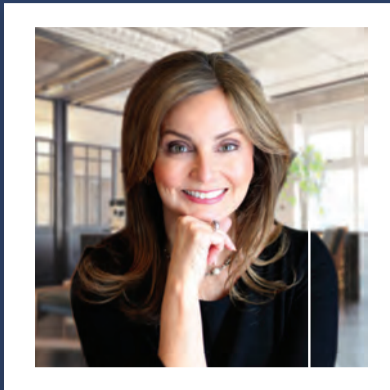
And for 14 years this Yom Kippur's eve, I have been lighting two candles, one each for my father (deceased Dec. 2006) and mother (deceased Dec. 2008). This year I will be lighting three candles: father, mother and new this year: for my recently deceased brother Richard. (I still can't get used to writing it, let alone saying it; he died Dec. 3rd last year, a few months after Yom Kippur.) And when the real-time anniversary date of his actual death occurs, (Dec. 3) it's not exactly candle-appropriate to light the memorial candle on that date; as it happens, the proper date I'll be lighting candles for Richard and for my mother (she also died on Dec. 3rd) will be Nov. 21.

I can remember growing up in my parents' house with the Yahrzeit candles being lit every year on Yom Kippur and watching them flicker all night long and for the next 24 hours as they sat on the kitchen stove remembering/honoring their parents/my grandparents. But I can't remember lighting my first Yahrzeit candle on the Yom Kippur following my father's death in early Dec. 2006. I do imagine however, it was weighty, as he was my first parent to die. And likewise, when my widowed mother succumbed on Dec 3rd, 2008, in effect, making Richard and myself orphans. I imagine lighting two candles then is like how I feel lighting three today, except as I said last week, I have no backstop anymore. Moreover, being alive still without my older brother's wit and wisdom is a position I never thought I'd be in – given my diagnosis, as I've described in previous columns. I'm alone now (Dina notwithstanding) and it makes the finality and inevitability of my own mortality even more obvious. I only wish there was someone close with whom I could share my feelings and anxieties. Oh, yeah, there used to be, but there isn't anymore. That's the problem. Damn. This makes you readers, like it or not, a resource for me. I talk/write, you listen. It could work. In fact, it probably already has worked for me for years; I was just too fortunate elsewhere to realize it. Not anymore. And it will be painfully obvious to me as I say the prayer, and then light three candles, one each for my mother, father and brother, all deceased – for the first time together. I don't exactly have survivor's guilt, but I have something, and it's something I never thought I'd have, survivor's remorse.

To me, survivor's remorse' means being sorry about surviving – without a hint of guilt. But rather with a generous heaping of being sorry to find yourself in a predicament you had never anticipated, but of course did nothing to cause. Nevertheless, the problem exists. It's sort of like outkicking your punt coverage. The players get to where they're going before all parties intended. Oddly enough, there are negative consequences to being first on the scene; just as there are unintended consequences to being last on the scene. And I'm last, and I'm running into unintended consequences every day. My go-to person is gone. My best friend is gone. My business advisor is gone. My hand-me-down giver is gone, and I'm left, to my wife Dina's chagrin, with a very tired wardrobe with little chance of an upgrade. And as important as all these losses, I've learned that life indeed goes on. It may not mean that much to you, but if I ever thought about what my life would be like if my brother died before me; now I know. As Shakespeare would say: "It sucketh." But as any lifelong member of Red Sox Nation knows there's no time like the present when you're down and out. There may be challenges ahead but there's no going back.

This is just the kind of talk I could have with my brother if I was in any kind of funk. And invariably, with his encouragement and positive reinforcement, I would see the error of my ways and once again, take advantage of my opportunities. I feel better already. Thanks for listening.

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



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