and Oakton IFCILION

Caroline Coyer directs the action for the Oakton High Cougars during a state playoff win over Monacan. Oakton won that game and its following two as well, including last Friday night's state finals victory over Princess Anne in Richmond

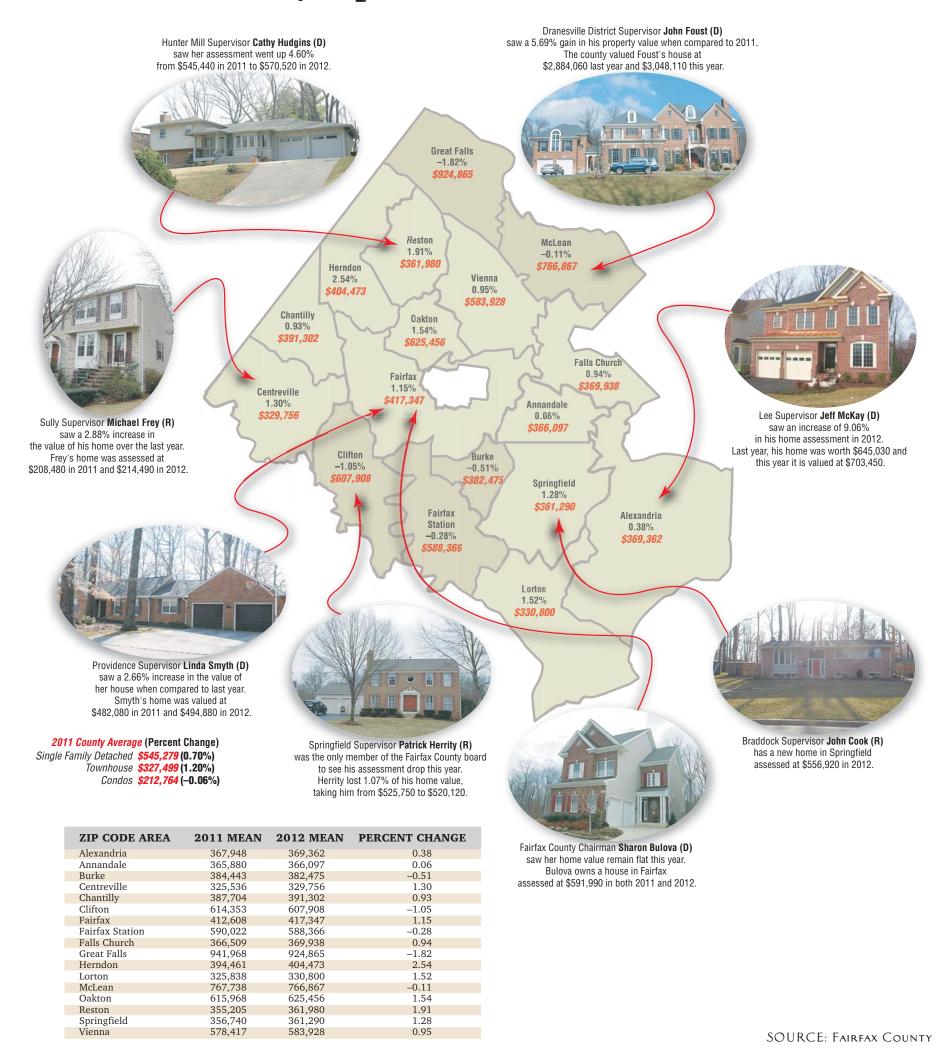
Championship Call of the ougars

SPORTS, PAGE II



March 14-20, 2012

Fairfax County REAL ESTATE 2012 Assessments by Zip Code Areas



2 ♦ Vienna/Oakton Connection ♦ March 14-20, 2012

NEWS

VIENNA/OAKTON CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC 703-778-9414 or vienna@connectionnewspapers.com

Maverick Mosaics artists Dr. Julie Smith and sisters Heather and Kimberley Carter.

> Рнотоз в Donna Manz The Connection



Maverick Mosaics Hosts Student Exhibition

Retrospective included floral and animal compositions.

By Donna Manz The Connection

n March 9, Maverick Mosaics hosted a reception to highlight mosaic art pieces composed by students in 2011. The "retrospective," as Maverick Mosaics owner Bonnie Fitzgerald referred to it, included interpretations of wild animals, family pets, flowers and exotic images. Artists ranged from high school students and adults to local professionals looking for

a relaxing outlet. The current gallery exhibition runs through April 1.

"I love it. It's therapy," said June Jewell of Vienna, whose intricate peacock feather sparkled in an array of blues and greens with a shock of vivid red. "I think everyone needs some kind of creative expression." As for the skill level requisite to create mosaic designs, Jewell said, "I think people would be surprised by what they can learn to do."

Fitzgerald describes Maverick Mosaics as an educational art school and studio dedicated to nurturing and expanding creative expression through the art and community of mosaic. Maverick Mosaics offers workshops and learning opportunities for all ages and skill levels. The studio hosts visiting artists from around the world. Fitzgerald has operated a Maverick Mosa-

ics' summer art camp for children for more than 12 engaging in open studio or doing both. years.

Mosaic art is learned, said Fitzgerald. "It's a great way to ignite your creative engine," said Fitzgerald. "You don't need experience. You just begin and you learn and develop, as with any art form."

Throughout the retrospective, animal portraits were as common as flowers. Kyra Bell, the studio's

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

intern and a student at Madison High School, created "Garden Gate" and another mosaic, that of her dog, completed during a recent Pet Portrait workshop. Maverick Mosaics' next Pet Portrait workshop will be the weekend of March 30.

Dr. Julie Smith, Medical Director at AnimalScan in Vienna, was looking for an "artistic outlet" when she began taking classes about a year ago. Hanging at the reception was Smith's portrait of a grey and white horse, which she created with guidance from Fitzgerald. The mosaic glass pendant she wore to

the reception took very little time, Smith said. The staff is helpful, suggesting things like color and placement. "One of the nicest things about taking classes here is all the materials are here for you to use."

One of the attributes of Maverick Mosaics' programs that draws participants from throughout the metro area is the intensive workshops, usually conducted by prominent instructors in mosaic art. Over the weekend of March 10, flower mosaic master artisan Yulia Hanansen led an intensive workshop in flower mosaics. Pegeen Eggleston, a student from Fredericksburg, said she would go anywhere to follow the master.

During 2011, Maverick Mosaics instructed more than 700 people, 150 of them student campers. Students have the option of taking classes or

'It's a really nice community here," said Jewell.

Maverick Mosaics is located at 145 Church St. NW, Vienna, at the corner of Lawyers Road and Church Street.

For more information on workshops and kids' summer art camp, go to www.maverickmosaics.com or call Maverick Mosaics at 703-938-1755.



Scrapbooking friends Brenda Belote, Judy Barto, Marnie Sturm and Sherry Hayden look forward to dedicating a weekend to socializing with like-minded hobbyists.

Creating a 'Forever Gift' for Family

Semi-annual VVFD fundraiser brings together scrapbookers.

crapbooking is the modern-day quilting circle, says Vienna resident and scrapbooker Judy Barto. To see the women at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department [VVFD] hall atwork with the diverse accoutrements of scrapbooking - colloquially known as "cropping" - a bystander would concur.

The 50 cropping women at the VVFD Auxiliary's semi-annual scrapbooking fundraiser, held over two days on March 9 and 10, socialized as they worked, cutting, pasting, annotating photos.

"We used to crop all the time at my house for about seven or eight years," said Brenda Belote, until recently a Vienna resident. Now, Belote lives in Gainesville, Fla., but flew in to meet up with her old cropping partners. "Crop 'til you drop," said Belote.

There appeared to be a consensus among the croppers regarding the whys of scrapbooking.

"I am passionate about documenting family history," said Belote. "And the most important thing is journaling, journaling, journaling. You don't just put a photo in. You write something about it."

Hayden, of Vienna, is like reliv- girlfriends, and, it's a forevering the trips and journeys gift to your family." you've taken. Her children look through the scrapbooks, too. She calls cropping her obses-



Lisa Emerson, scrapbooking fundraiser chair of the VVFD Auxiliary, is also a local representative for Creative Memories, a scrapbooker's materials resource.

sion.

As for the cropping gettogethers, Hayden calls it a "social thing," as well. "Scrapbookers are the nicest people," Hayden said. As soon as the VVFD Auxiliary releases the dates of the scrapbooking workshops, Hayden puts them on her calendar. "I plan other things around these dates," she said.

For Marnie Sturm, a Vienna mother of three youngsters who says she has a "crazy life," scrapbooking is "meditative."

Barto calls cropping a labor Scrapbooking, said Sherry of love. "You can socialize with

— Donna Manz



June Jewell of Vienna with

Maverick Mosaics owner

Bonnie Fitzgerald at the

March 9 reception.

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COMMUNITY

Pictured, back row from left: Merit Badge Counselor Hugh McIntosh, Nick Bukont, Gregory Blasz, Mayor Seeman, Kieran Devany, Colin Devany, Tate Wilhelm, Merit Badge Counselor Kathy Lippman. Front Row: Nick Riviere, Sam Ganten, James Zhang, Tyler Petruccelli.



NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION BY WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY FOR APPROVAL TO RECOVER HEXANE COSTS CASE NO. PUE-2012-00014

On February 3, 2012, Washington Gas Light Company ("WGL" or "Company") filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") requesting approval to recover \$1,252,580 of costs relating to the non-Btu component of hexane injections for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2010, and \$12,908 of costs related to the actual under-collection of non-Btu related hexane costs incurred during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009 ("Application"). In its Application, WGL explains that it has been injecting hexane into its system since February 2006 to replace heavy hydrocarbons in liquefied natural gas that enters the Company's distribution system. WGL's Application advises that pursuant to a Stipulation accepted by the Commission in Case No. PUE-2006-00059, the Company's performance-based rate regulation ("PBR") plan docket, the Company may request approval to recover the non-Btu portion of hexane costs in excess of \$400,000 if the Company's return on equity is less than 10% in any PBR annual period. Under the terms of the Stipulation accepted in Case No. PUE-2006-00059, the cost recovery of the non-Btu component of hexane will be limited to that amount in excess of \$400,000 required for the Company to achieve an earned return on equity of 10.0% for that PBR period under WGL's PBR Plan. The Company's Application advises that for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2010, the Company earned less than a 10% return on equity. WGL therefore proposes to collect its actual Virginia-jurisdictional non-Btu hexane costs in excess of \$400,000, or \$1,252,580, as well as an additional \$12,908 of non-Btu hexane costs under-collected for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2009.

WGL proposes to collect the non-Btu hexane costs from its customers receiving service under Rate Schedule Nos. 1-Residential Service, 1A-Residential Delivery Service, 2-Commercial and Industrial Service, 2A-Commercial and Industrial Delivery Service, 3-Group Metered Apartment Service, 3A-Group Metered Apartment Delivery Service, 4-Interruptible Service, and 7-Interruptible Delivery Service, 8-Developmental Natural Gas Vehicle Service, and 10-Large Volume Delivery Service. The Company's Application further notes that it proposed new Rate Schedule Nos. 5-Large Commercial and Industrial Service, 5A-Large Commercial and Industrial Delivery Service, 6-Large Group Metered Apartment Service, and 6A-Large Group Metered Apartment Delivery Service in its currently pending general rate case, Case No. PUE-2010-00139. If the Commission approves the Company's proposed rate schedules in its general rate case, the Company will also recover the non-Btu hexane costs from customers receiving service pursuant to these new rate schedules.

WGL proposes to collect its non-Btu hexane costs through an adjustment to the distribution charge for these rate schedules. WGL's Application advises that the hexane charge will be computed on a cents-per-therm basis comprising a current and a reconciling factor. According to the Company's Application, the current factor, if applicable, will be calculated annually by dividing the non-Btu portion of hexane costs approved by the Commission by the total weather normalized throughput for the year. The reconciling factor proposed by WGL will be the difference between the actual amount to be charged and the actual amount collected during the twelve-month period. WGL proposes to implement the current factor as an adjustment to the distribution charge in the first billing cycle month following the Commission's approval of the Company's Application to recover the non-Btu portion of the costs of its hexane injections. The Company's Application also includes testimony and exhibits showing the computation of a proposed charge of \$0.0020 per therm, which will allow the Company to collect the proposed \$1,252,580 of non-Btu hexane costs expensed in fiscal year 2010 and the \$12,908 of non-Btu hexane costs under-recovered in fiscal year 2009.

The details of WGL's proposals are set out in the Company's Application. Interested persons are encouraged to review the Application and other materials filed with the Application for the details of these proposals. Interested persons should also be advised that after considering the record in this case, the Commission may change the tariff revisions proposed by the Company or take other actions with respect to the recovery of the non-Btu component of hexane costs that differ from the proposals set out in the Company's Application.

The Commission has entered an Order for Notice and Comment that, among other things, docketed the Application as Case No. PUE-2012-00014 and established a procedural schedule for the filing of comments, requests for hearing, and the filing of testimony or a Report by the Commission Staff. Interested persons are encouraged to review the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment for details on how to participate in this proceeding.

Interested persons may also review a copy of the Application, the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment, as well as other documents now or hereinafter filed in this matter, in the Commission's Document Control Center located on the First Floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. A copy of the Application may also be obtained at no cost to interested persons by making a written request to the Company's counsel at the following address: Meera Ahamed, Esquire, Washington Gas Light Company, 101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20080. If acceptable to the requesting party, the Company may provide the Application, with or without attachments, by electronic means. In addition, the Company's Application, the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment, other orders entered in this docket, the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, and other information concerning the Commission and the statutes it administers, may be viewed on the Commission's website at: http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case.

Pursuant to the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment, interested persons may file written comments or requests for hearing with the Clerk of the Commission on the proposals set out in the Company's Application on or before April 27, 2012. An original and fifteen (15) copies of all written comments and requests for hearing must be filed with Joel H. Peck, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118. Any request for hearing must state with specificity why the issues raised in the request for hearing cannot be adequately addressed in written comments. If no sufficient request for hearing is received, the Commission may consider the Application based on the papers filed without convening a hearing at which oral testimony is received.

Persons filing a request for hearing and expecting to participate as a respondent in any hearing that may be scheduled in this case shall also file, on or before April 27, 2012, an original and fifteen (15) copies of a notice of participation as required by 5 VAC 5-20-80 B of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 5 VAC 5-20-10 *et seq.*, with the Clerk of the Commission at the address set forth above. Any notice of participation shall set forth: (i) a statement of the interest of the respondent; (ii) a statement of the specific action sought to the extent then known; and (iii) the factual and legal basis for the action. Interested persons should refer to the Commission's Order for Notice and Comment for more information on how to participate as a respondent.

Interested persons desiring to submit comments electronically may do so on or before April 27, 2012, by following the instructions available at the Commission's website: http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case and referring to Case No. PUE-2012-00014. Interested persons shall refer in their comments, requests for hearing, and notices of participation to Case No. PUE-2012-00014, and shall serve a copy of any such document filed with the Commission upon counsel for the Company at the address set forth above.

WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY

Boy Scouts Troop 152 Receive Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge

On Feb. 11, Vienna Town Mayor Jane Seeman spoke to boys of Boy Scouts of America Troop 152 (Vienna) earning their Citizenship in the Community merit badge. This merit badge emphasizes the importance of being aware of what is going on in the community as well ways to get involved to make the community better. Mayor Seeman spoke to the Scouts about how the Town of Vienna is governed, the significant issues facing the Town, and ways to get involved and volunteer for a better Vienna.

School Notes

Send school notes to vienna@ connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Allison Pepper of Vienna has been named to the spring 2011 dean's list at Villanova University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Villanova, Pa.

Shilpa Darivemula of Vienna has been named to the spring 2011 dean's list at Union College of Schenectady, N.Y. The James Madison High School graduate is majoring in leadership in medicine.

Marine Corps 1st Lt. **P. Heg** of Vienna has graduated from the Combat Engineer Officer Course at Marine Corps Engineer School, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N. C. Heg studied operational and planning skills in engineering related subjects pertaining to mobility, survivability, and general engineering. The 2000 graduate of Oakton High School joined the Marine Corps in July 2001.

Kerry Jordan Aldrich of Vienna has been named to the spring 2011 dean's list at Washington University School of Engineering and Applied Science in St. Louis.

Jesse Harshbarger of Vienna received a bachelor's degree in information technology from Kaplan University online.

Fazila Kabahita of Vienna has graduated from DePaul University in Chicago.

BULLETIN BOARD

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 14

McLean Citizen's Association Forum on Tysons Corner

Redevelopment. 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. A panel discussion on changes coming in the next five years, with two landowners/ developers and two members of the Fairfax County staff responsible for implementing the Tysons Corner Comprehensive Plan. 703-556-9160 or

MCA.President@mcleancitizens.org. **Multiple Sclerosis Support Group.** 7 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., NE, Vienna, VA. A group for anyone with multiple sclerosis, their family and friends. Sponsored by the National Capital Chapter of the MS Society. The group meets the second Wednesday of every month. Free. 703-768-4841.

THURSDAY/MARCH 15

Interview Skills. 7 p.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E., Vienna. \$25-\$35. Register at 703-281-4928 or www.thewomenscenter.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 16

Stroke and Osteoporosis Screenings. Great Falls Methodist church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Five screenings available, including cardiovascular, bone density screening, cholesterol and glucose. Packages from \$149. Schedule appointments at 1-877-237-1287 or www.lifelinescreening.com.

SATURDAY/MARCH 17

- Fostercare Training Session. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Special Foster Care Program of Northern Virginia Family Service, 10455 White Granite Drive, Oakton. First of three training sessions for individuals and couples willing to provide nurture and a loving home for children and youth in need of respite or foster care. Register at 571-478-2557 or www.nvfs.org/fostercare.
- **Brinker Toastmasters.** 9:30 a.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Meets second and fourth Saturday of the month. brinker.wordpress.com.

Vienna Area Branch of AAUW Meeting. 7 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. With Dr. Elizabeth Garreau, M.D., obstetrician/gynecologist with Women's Health Associates of Fairfax, on women's health issues, including hormone replacement therapy, fibroids, osteoporosis/ osteopenia and managing postmenopausal symptoms. Free, public invited. 703-321-7499.

- Chronic Pain: Alternative Coping Strategies. 10 a.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Learn to control your response to chronic pain. \$25-\$35. Register at 703-281-4928 or www.thewomenscenter.org.
- Grounds And Supports: Creating A Painting Surface. 2:30 p.m. Great Falls School of Art, 1144 Walker Road, Suite D, Great Falls. With Michela Mansuino. \$50. www.greatfallsfoundationforarts.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 18

Astrobiology: Friend or Foe of the Dialogue Between Science and Religion? 12:45 p.m. Fairfax Unitarian Church, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. The study of the origin, extent, and future of life has been highlighted by Kepler's success at detecting extra solar planets.

MONDAY/MARCH 19

Great Falls Historical Society. 1-5

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

p.m. Great Falls Library Meeting Room, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Meeting Mondays through April. www.gfhs.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 20

Town of Vienna Sesquicentennial Committee. 6:30 p.m. Vienna Town Hall Council Chamber, 127 Center St. South, Vienna. Upcoming events include a Civil War Film Festival on the Town Green, "Civil War Vintage Baseball" on June 23 and a History Tour of the Hunter Mill Road Corridor. 703-938-5187 or 703-255-

6160. Historic Vienna, Inc. Spring

Membership Meeting. 7:30 p.m.

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Vienna Town Hall Council Chamber, 127 Center St. South, Vienna. Following a brief business meeting there will be a program of civil Warera music by local musicians. Free and open to the public, refreshments served. 703-938-5187 or www.historicviennainc.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 21

The Mechanics of Alzheimer's Disease. 1:30 p.m. Alzheimer's Family Day Center, 2812 Old Lee Highway, Suite 210, Fairfax. Discussion will include the disease process and tests that can diagnose and assess progression. Free. Reserve at 703-204-4664.



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OPINION So Hard to Imagine?

Poor families face challenges that officials and many of the rest of us have trouble envisioning.

many poor families and individuals. But officials seem to

have trouble wrapping their brains Editorial around some of the difficulties this can cause.

In Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria, some analysis of the effect of budget cuts and service cuts on families in the bottom 20 percent of income would be appropriate and revealing.

Cutting library hours and service again? Consider that for many, the public libraries are their only source of computer and internet access. This has a significant impact on school performance, the ability to hunt for a job, the ability to access services and more.

It's hard for many of us to imagine, check-

he Commonwealth of Virginia and ing email at stop lights on our smart phones, even Northern Virginia includes that there are families who need to go the library to check theirs. If anything, in the current environment, the libraries should

be open more hours, not fewer. When Fairfax County Public Schools

eliminated the year-round school calendar, followed by some of the county's poorest schools, and summer school, poor students were most affected, losing access to meals in the summer as well as a needed boost in instruction.

Similarly, some schools systems eliminated the telephone hotline to find out if schools are closed in inclement weather. Everyone checks that online, right? Or gets their daily email update?

Requirements to present a variety of identification to do a variety of things also present bigger challenges to poorer residents.

Veto Voter ID Bill

Gov. Bob McDonnell should read the handwriting on the wall from the U.S. Justice Department about making it harder to vote.

More than 600,000 registered voters in Texas do not have the identification that the voter identification law would require, according to Tom Perez of the Justice Department, including a disproportionate number of minority voters, and more than 10 percent of Latino registered voters.

The analysis will reveal similar disparities in Virginia. The Governor can save Virginia money, time and trouble by vetoing the bill now.

> MARY KIMM. MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Correction: Last week's editorial failed to correctly identify Del. Charniele Herring (D-46). The full editorial has been corrected online.

LETTERS

Ensuring Integrity Of the Process

To the Editor:

One needs a birth certificate to play youth soccer and an i.d. presented for many trivial circumstances. Voting for public

representation is far too important to treat with less gravitas than

youth soccer [Editorial, "Reenacting a Dark History?, The Connection, March 7-13, 2012]. There is a responsibility to ensure the integrity of the process as there is a responsibility to exercise one's voting privilege, among others.

Why is the Connection such a

liberal rag?

Brent Emory Vienna

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor The Connection 1606 King St. Alexandria VĂ 22314 Call: 703-917-6444. By e-mail: vienna@connectionnewspapers.com Vienna & Oakton DNECTION

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groups and matched a policy previously adopted by the McDonnell administration. **SB 164,** which toughens penalties against per-

sons who conspire with judgment debtors to fraudulently transfer assets so as to thwart lawful collections. This bill was supported by the Virginia Creditors Bar and Virginia Bankers Association.

SB 171, which allows Fairfax City and 64 other cities and towns to tailor their VRS pension benefits for first responders (police, firefighters, and EMS personnel) to better reflect the unique stresses of that service. This bill was requested by the City and its professional firefighters.

SB 627, the "Solar Freedom" Bill," which allows homeowners to install solar panels on their residences in planned communities, as long as the installations conform to HOA regulations on placement and design. This bill was requested by the solar industry and the environmental community.

In addition, I sponsored SB 622, which made it a crime for responsible adults to fail to report egregious events of child sexual abuse. Previously, "mandatory reporters" only faced a \$500 fine for failing to notify authorities when they had actual knowledge of overt couple weeks of waiting.

sexual abuse. That is too weak. My bill was eventually "rolled into" SB 239, sponsored by Senator Stuart (R-Stafford), and passed the Assembly.

As we approach the special session, I am focused on two Budget items of particular interest to northern Virginia. The first is the restoration of the "cost of compete" supplemental funding for our public schools, which was withheld by the Governor's original budget. That money (\$64 million) allows our schools to compete in the D.C. area labor market, which is distinctly more expensive than downstate equivalents.

The second item is the revitalization of our Housing Trust Fund, a revolving loan fund designed to help Virginians achieve home ownership, with money from the national banks' settlement on the foreclosure fraud cases.

Virginia is due for nearly \$70 million this year from the settlement proceeds. Rather than see that money spent on ongoing state programs, it should be used as it was intended - to help "underwater" Virginia homeowners refinance their above-market mortgages through the Trust Fund.

Hopefully, those solutions will be part of our final State Budget. If so, it will be worth the extra

2012 Session Adjourns, Special Session to Follow By Chap Petersen various environmental

STATE SENATOR (D-34) he General Assem

bly adjourned its Regular Session sine die late Saturday night.

The members are back home briefly, then will return to Richmond on March 21 for a Special Session, which will be limited to electing new state judges and finally passing the biennial Budget Bill.

There has been a lot of ink spilled this session over high-profile social issues, such as the notorious "ultrasound" bill. There is no doubt that the Opening Day coup by the Senate Republicans - which put all levers of power in the hands of one party - caused the legislature to have an "unbalanced" tilt this year. That was unfortunate.

However, there were areas of bipartisan agreement and progress. For me personally, it was my most productive session since I joined the Assembly in 2001.

I had six bills pass the Assembly which are now before the Governor. They included the following:

SB 160, "the Cost-Effective Public Buildings Act," which requires new state buildings to use energy efficiency standards, such as LEED, in order to conserve natural resources and save taxpayer money. This bill was supported by

G ♦ Vienna/Oakton Connection ♦ March 14-20, 2012



Faith

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

The Church of the Good Shepherd, 2351 Hunter Mill Road in Vienna, will host Christian ethics professor Sondra Ely Wheeler in a special Lenten lecturer Sunday, March 18 as part of the church's Champions of the Faith Series. Her 9:45 a.m. Sunday School class, "Yes, life in a family is hard," will discuss how intimate relationships offer us the deepest joy of human experience, but also the greatest challenges, and the most profound risks. Her 11 a.m. worship sermon, "Afraid of the Light," will focus on the Christian journey. www.GoodShepherdVA.com.

Reverend Phillip J. Taylor, pastor of the **Carterville Baptist Church**, 1727 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna, will be honored on March 18. The theme for the day will be "Celebrate the Call," and will recognize Reverend Taylor for outstanding service to the community. The 11 a.m. service will feature Pastor Paul Taylor of Living Water Evangelistic Ministries. The special Sunday afternoon service will feature Pastor Anthony Macklin of The Sanctuary at Kingdom Square Capitol Heights. The public is invited. sheliabates8@gmail.com.

Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, has announced their sermon series for the Feb. 26-April 8 10 a.m. services will be "Journey to Hope." 703-759-3705 or office@greatfallsumc.org. ♦Sunday, March 18. When we get

Sunday, March 18. When we get tired along the way, it is tempting to stop or turn around.



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Vienna/Oakton Connection & March 14-20, 2012 & 7



Matthew Moore, of John Matthew Moore Fine Art, in McLean was selected to design the foyer and staircase the D.C. Design House.

Great Falls-based designer Susan Nelson, of Susan Interiors (pictured Annette Hannon, of Annette Hannon Interior Design in Burke, was with design student Jacob Oxford), will design a girl's bedroom.

selected to design the parlor.

Local Designers Selected to Make Over the 2012 D.C. Design House

Annual event raises money for Children's National Medical Center.

By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

Design Home. ome of the Washington area's top interior designers are unleashing their creative talent all in the 2012 Washington, D.C. Design the space, and then [submitted] up really tough." House announced the designers to three proposals for rooms, with

who will make over the 2012 D.C. at least one presentation board. a bellwether of local design trends. The board [included] their floor "The selection [was] open to all plan, color selections, and finishes show house is a bit like being area designers who wanted to ap- they would use. Our design team crowned homecoming queen then the designers unleash their creative ate your perfect party." ply," said Susan Hayes Long, chair- selected the final 23 designers. We having to run a marathon in your talent. "I love participating in show person of D.C. Design House. had more than 80 proposals this ball gown while collecting items for houses for the freedom it allows name of charity. Organizers of the sign walk-through to get a feel for tation boards. The competition was Cavin-Winfrey of SCW Interiors in Annette Hannon Interior Design in some of the region's most sought-

"Being selected to design for the

prestigious invitation... For a com- I've had the opportunity to engage charity. After completion, the home industry leaders to select a designer is truly one of the highlights of one's career."

With no paying clients to please,

mittee of veteran designers and in, I've gotten to conjure up an is opened to the public for tours. imaginary 'perfect' client and design according to their needs and desires. It's a bit like celebrating one's birthday and getting to cre-The Washington, D.C. Design House, a nonprofit entity, began in "They started by coming to a de- year, and so many fantastic presen- a scavenger hunt," said Shazalynn me," said Annette Hannon of 2008 as a design event in which Alexandria, who was one of the Burke, who was also one of the after designers decorate a luxury The D.C. Design House serves as designers selected. "It is the most designers selected. "For each house home to raise funds for a local



8 VIENNA/OAKTON CONNECTION & MARCH 14-20, 2012

Photos by Robert Radifera



Now in its fifth year, the D.C. Design House has attracted more than 30,000 visitors and raised nearly \$600,000 for Children's National Medical Center (CNMC). Proceeds will go to CNMC again this year.

Built in 1956, the 2012 D.C. Design House is located in Washington, D.C.'s Spring Valley neighborhood. It is currently on the market for \$3.9 million.

Local Designers

Some of the local designers who were selected to make over the home offer a preview of their plans.

Potomac-based designer Sharon Kleinman of Transi-

tions will decorate the master bedroom. "The room is architecturally challenging with many doors and minimum wall space," she said. "The focal point in the room becomes the sliding glass doors that look out into the garden. I use the garden view as my inspiration. Choosing fabrics in lush greens and warm browns, I brought the colors of the garden indoors. I believe master bedrooms should be serene so I used lots of different textures and very little pattern."

Great Falls-based designer Susan Nelson of Susan Nelson Interiors designed a teenage girl's **bedroom.** "I combined a variety of block and geometric prints in greens, yellows,



Shanon Munn, of Ambi Design Studio in McLean, was one of 23 designers selected to make over the 2012 D.C. Design House. She will decorate the master deck.

pinks, brown and cream to create a cozy haven. By using a mix of new and repurposed furniture, the room has the quality of changing along with the girl," she said. "For instance, the coverlet fabric is a sophisticated fabric with a water color quality to the flowers on it, but the club chair is slip covered in a fun confetti print in pinks and purples that she might have had as a child."



Elizabeth Krial, of Elizabeth Krial Design in Reston, was one of 23 designers selected to makeover the 2012 D.C. Design House. Krial will design a modern nursery.

Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey of SCW Interiors in Alexandria is charged with transforming the dining room. "I anticipate wonderful parties and celebrations in the dining room I will be creating this year and my use of color

> SEE LOCAL DESIGNERS, Page 10



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Vienna/Oakton Connection & March 14-20, 2012 & 9

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21771 Bancroft Ct	\$229,500.	Sun 1-4	David KingLong & Foster	703-509-5139
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5608 Willoughby Newton Dr. #	23\$219,900.	Sun 1-4	Diana MillerCentury 21	571-218-9095
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Home Life Style

Local Designers

From Page 9

and pattern is a play on this celebratory mode. I am thrilled to help people who see the space take away some element in the design that might fit their home or their lifestyle," she said.

Victoria Sanchez of Victoria Sanchez Interiors in Alexandria is creating a teenager's retreat. "I have chosen a very lively, colorful design scheme from Missoni and will be using Mid-Century modern furniture," said Sanchez. "This room is designed to be a perfect hangout for teenagers and will reflect the energy teenagers create."

Nancy Twomey of Finnian's **Moon Interiors in Alexan**dria will design a boy's bedroom. "I love good design, but I also know children. Children's rooms are messy places, so it is best if there is an inherent order in the design elements, starting with the palette," said Twomey. "My 2012 D.C. Design House room has a serene quietude in its bones, but it isn't sleepy. It has timeless, classic ingredients such as menswear fabrics, juxtaposed with modern, playful ones."

Elizabeth Krial of Elizabeth Krial Design in Reston will create a modern nursery.

"The most afforded luxury in my space is the natural sunlight that washes the room," she said. "As a designer, I have added luxurious layers of softness and comfort through textiles. The modern nursery has a lightness that will remind you of the hope and joy that a new baby brings."

Matthew Moore of John Matthew Moore Fine Art in McLean will decorate the foyer and staircase. "My design philosophy is clean, classic spaces. My favorite period in design is the late fifties and sixties," he said. "I feel that that is the time when American design came into its own. I've chosen this style for the entrance and reception hall [because] the home was built in that period. It's a sophisticated design that would be as much at home in the fifties as it is now in the present.

Shanon Munn of Ambi Design Studio in McLean will decorate the master deck. "My concept for the space is to have an outdoor retreat,"



The Chateau in Oak Hollow is one of four residential properties for sale for more than \$10 million, was designed by architect, Ron Hubbard, who blends green technologies with the use of space and proportion.

The Chateau in Oak Hollow

ne of just four properties in Fairfax County listed at HomesDatabase.com for sale for more than \$10 million, this home sits on five acres in Clifton, and is for sale for \$12.5 million. The other three properties are in McLean.

The Chateau was designed by architect, Ron Hubbard, who uses innovative green technologies such as three geothermal fields and 14 radiant zones using more than 10,000 feet of buried line to heat and cool the home.

This home has more than

27,000 square feet of living space inside (13,500 finished), plus more than 3,000 square feet of exterior living space comprised of balconies and patios. Many of the outdoor living areas are constructed with stamped concrete and provide ample space for large parties, and some for more intimate gatherings.

The property also includes a 3-bedroom guest suite in one wing of the home, and an indoor pool and fitness center in the other. The Chateau has an eight-car garage.

The house is listed by Meghan Wasinger of Jobin Realty.



The parlor is located next to the formal dining room. There are five fireplaces throughout the Chateau (with a potential for 13), set on five-acre estate in Clifton.

said Munn. "I chose pieces that are scaled similarly to indoor pieces and provide a great lounging spot. We chose patterns that are interesting and bold. We plan to take the existing railing, currently an eyesore, and make it a highlight of the deck with a long row of custom benches and pedestals strategically placed to create focal points and to hide the dated metalwork."

Annette Hannon of Annette Hannon Interior Design in Burke designed the parlor. "The [parlor] is the first living area a visitor will enter," said Hannon. "My goal was to create a comfortable, luxurious space someone would want to linger in long after the party's over. I felt it was essential to add layers of interest in the room."

Sports Perfect Ending for Oakton Girls Basketball Season

Unbeaten Cougars defeat Princess Anne in state finals.

> By Rich Sanders THE CONNECTION

ompleting one of the best athletic seasons any Northern Region team has ever known, the Oakton High girls' basketball squad put a final exclamation point on its 2011-12 winter season for the ages when it defeated state nemesis Princess Anne High of Virginia Beach, 58-39, in the Virginia State AAA Tournament championship game, which took place last Friday night at the Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Siegel Center in Richmond.

It was the first state title for the Oakton girls, who have known tremendous success over the years under longtime head coach Fred Priester but had never before quite realized their dream of capturing a state championship. In recent years, the Cougars had reached the state finals (2008-09 season) and state semifinals (2009-10 season) before losing to Princess Anne (Eastern Region) on both occasions.

On Friday, Oakton, this year's Concorde and Northern Region champions, was able to prevail over its state tournament rival and cap the season with a perfect 31-0 record.

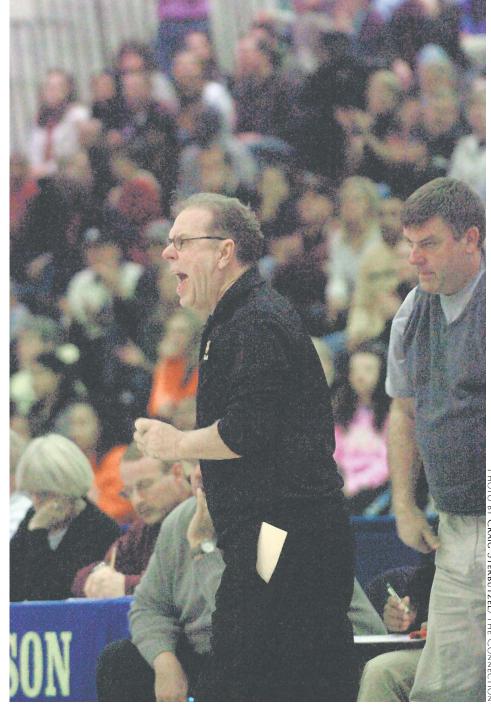
"I think it will hit me on Monday when I go to school and don't have a basketball practice that the season is over," said Oakton senior guard Caroline Miller this past weekend. "It took a lot of hard work, determination, and focus for us to pull this off. In the regular season we were expected to win every game but in the playoffs it takes a lot more focus to win every game."

Over the course of the postseason, Oakton was 9-0, winning a pair of games at districts, four straight at the 16-team region playoffs, and three at the eight-team state tournament. In postseason championship games over recent weeks, the Cougars were victorious over Chantilly High, 43-22 (Concorde District finals), defending region champion West Springfield High, 63-49 (region finals), and Princess Anne (state finals).

At the state tournament, the Cougars defeated strong opponents in both Monaca High (Richmond), 73-65 in the quarterfinals, on March 2 at Robinson Secondary, and Woodside High (Newport News), 46-43 in the semifinals, last Wednesday, March 7 at the Siegel Center to reach the finals game.

Oakton built leads of 14-5 after one quarter and 24-19 at halftime over Princess Anne before putting together a dominating second half in which the Cougars outscored the Cavaliers, 34-18, to clinch the win, complete a perfect season, and claim the state crown.

"I knew we had the ability to win by that much," said Coyer, who added that Prin-



The Oakton High girls' basketball team, under head coach Fred Priester (center) and assistant Chris Kestyn (right), saw the Cougars run the table this season with a perfect 31-0 record.

cess Anne, despite what the final score said, was a tough and talented opponent. "In the second half we were focused on our goal [of winning the state title]. We knew it was our last half of the season and we put it all out there."

THE COYER TWINS, seniors Katherine and Caroline (7 rebounds), scored 24 and nine points, respectively. Inside the paint, junior center Elizabeth Manner contributed 13 points and pulled down a game-high 16 rebounds. Oakton junior frontcourt player Angela Sickels contributed nine points in the win and steady freshman guard Katie Cronin (4 rebounds) added four points.

Caroline Coyer, the Northern Region's alltime scoring leader, was the focus of Princess Anne's pressure defense over the first half. But as the game wore on, the seasoned

"I remembered everything we'd been working for the last four years, all the hard work and emotions we'd gone through - it was all worth something."

— Katherine Coyer

backcourt star had more and more success making the Cavaliers' pay by distributing the ball, especially to Katherine and post player Manner who both finished off Oakton possessions with baskets.

Oakton worked its way to the foul line 21 times, making 18 of its free throws to

Princess Anne's 10-of-15 conversions from the stripe. Katherine Coyer, the region tournament's MVP two weeks ago, made 10 of her 11 shots from the foul line. Manner made five of her six.

"They were putting pressure on Caroline and she did a good job finding open players," said Katherine Coyer. "Elizabeth Manner did a really good job one-on-one [down low] on the block and finishing off or getting fouled. Elizabeth rebounded really well for us in the playoffs and that was a really big thing for us because we're not the biggest team.'

It was a glorious moment for Oakton players, coaches and fans when the final buzzer went off to end the state finals game.

"I remembered everything we'd been working for the last four years, all the hard work and emotions we'd gone through - it was all worth something," said Katherine Coyer. "That's why at the end of the game I was crying."

Caroline Coyer said there was no extra incentive to defeat Princess Anne as a result of Oakton's past state tournament losses to the Cavaliers two and three years ago.

"Those were great Oakton teams which had the ability to win [state titles]," said Coyer. "This was just our year. The fact that we were playing Princess Anne again didn't really play into it although it was something that definitely stuck in your mind. It was kind of ironic [meeting them again], but not really a revenge thing."

One Oakton incentive going into the game was to help coach Priester get a well-deserved state championship to his name.

"Going into the Princess Anne game I think that was one of the major reasons we wanted this win," said Caroline Coyer. "He's been doing this for so long and he's a great coach and such a great guy. He's not happy unless we're playing our best."

In the locker room following the state finals win, the Oakton players sang a song in celebration, something they had started doing several weeks ago. Also in the victorious locker room, the team's seniors individually expressed things they were thankful for in regards to the season and their respective careers.

On the way back to Northern Virginia that night the Cougars had a celebratory dinner at an Applebee's in Fredericksburg. It was not until around 1:45 a.m. that the team bus returned to Oakton.

Katherine Coyer said Oakton's overall success this season was a total team effort.

"We all get along real well," she said. "There was definitely a commitment we all made to each other. It was weird; there was zero drama on the team. Everyone was so unselfish. It's amazing how much

you can accomplish when no one cares who gets the credit. Every single day in practice we all worked hard. The girls who didn't get as much playing time worked hard and pushed the starters. No one on the team felt they were better than anyone else."

ENTERTAINMENT

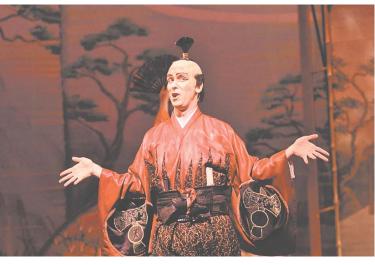
Send announcements vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com

THURSDAY/MARCH 15

Darrell Scott and Grace Pettis. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple

- Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com. 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration. 7:30 p.m. Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna. Richard Williams of the USA Vietnam War Commemoration Commission will discuss the nation's program to honor all who served in the Vietnam War at the meeting of Chapter 227, Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. The general public and all veterans are invited. Free admission. 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.
- **Tom Paxton.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. American folk music. \$24. www.wolftrap.org
- The Dirty Pints. 6 p.m. The Auld Shebeen Restaurant and Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Live Irish music. www.theauldshebeenva.com.
- **One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 2 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Call for an appointment. Adults. 703-242-4020.
- One-on-One English Practice. 2 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Call for appointment with an ESL volunteer. Adults. 703-242-4020.
- Book Discussion. 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. March by Geraldine Brooks.

McLean



Bass Kevin Burdette as Ko-Ko in Virginia Opera's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado". The Virginia Opera will present "The Mikado" on Friday, March 23 at 8 p.m. and again on Sunday, March 25 at 2 p.m. in George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets are \$44-\$98. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu.

Adults. 703-242-4020.

eBook/eReader Instruction. 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn about library eBooks and how to access them with your compatible device. Call for appointment. Adults. 703-242-4020.

FRIDAY/MARCH 16

Family Skate Night. 6:30-8 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. Admission \$1.

- Bring your own roller skates or inline skates (no scooters) and safety equipment. Parents required to stay with their children. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.
- Rosie Thomas and Bhi Bhiman at 7 p.m.; Bluefiveone and Blue County and Lowercaseletters at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
- GrooveLily. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. "Sleeping Beauty Wakes: In Concert,"

a contemporary take on a classic fairytale. \$35. www.wolftrap.org. John Éaton: A Juke Joint Jam

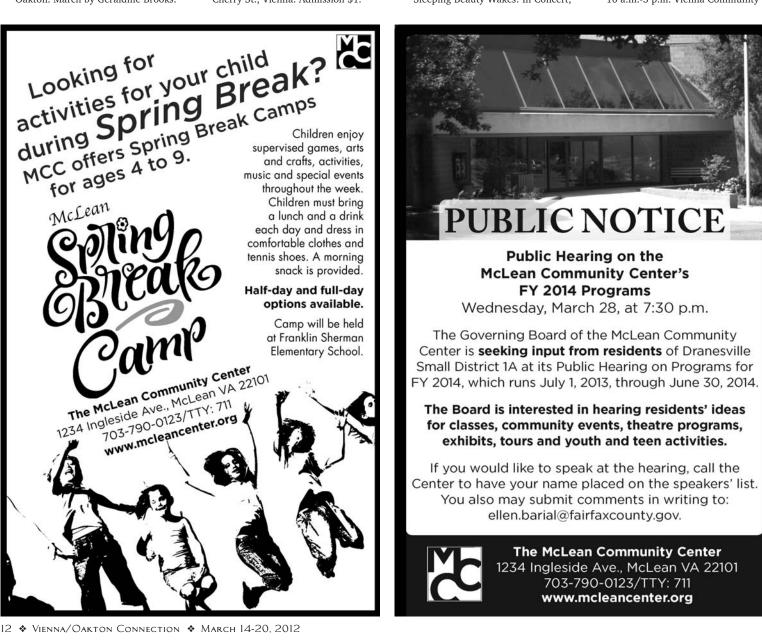
- Session. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The Great American Song Book. \$25 www.wolftrap.org.
- Celtic Music Concert. 8 p.m. Cherry Hill Farmhouse, 312 Park Ave., Falls Church. With the band Isle of Treora. \$15. 703-248-5171.
- **English Conversation Group.** 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. English conversation group. Adults. 703-938-0405.
- Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Learn and play. Age 5-18. 703-938-0405.

SATURDAY/MARCH 17

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax.

- With pianist Rick Rowley. Stravinsky's Firebird Suite (1919 version), Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Sibelius' Symphony No. 7, and Sibelius' Finlandia. Free pre-concert discussion for ticketholders at 7 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$55. info@fairfaxsymphony.org
- Model Railroad (HO Scale) Open House and Display. 1-5 p.m. Historic Vienna Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. The layout depicts the Western North Carolina Railroad (now a portion of the Norfolk Southern) during the period of transition from steam to diesel. Free, donations accepted. www.nvmr.org or 703-938-5157. Photography Contest and Exhibit.

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Vienna Community



Photos will be judged by local professional photographers and ribbons awarded eight categories, with a separate contest section for middle and high school students. \$10 entry fee. Maximum four photos per person and two in any one category. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna,

- The Rhodes Tavern Troubadours, Scott Ramminger & the Crawstickers and Carter Louthian & Curtis Barnes at 12 p.m.; Better Said Than Done -The Luck of the Irish at 7 p.m.; Danny Rouhier's CD Recording & St. Patrick's Day Drinking Experience at 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna.
- www.jamminjava.com. MOPS Scrapbooking Event. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Door prizes, refreshments, vendors and more. For age 12 and up. Registration \$20-\$40.
- vpcmopscrop@gmail.com. Antiques Appraisal. 12-4 p.m. Freeman Store, 131 Church St. N.E., Vienna. Limit two items per person, appointments necessary. \$8.50 per item for members of Historic Vienna, Inc. and \$12 per item non-members. Schedule appointments at 703-938-5187
- Road to Renewal: A One-Day **Retreat of Health Renewal for** Cancer Survivors. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Our Lady of Good Counsel Church. 8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. The Northern Virginia chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society is offering this free one day event for cancer survivors who have completed treatment. Space is limited. Register at 703-558-6213 or special.projectsnvons@gmail.com."
- Using Library eBooks and eAudioBooks. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. One-on-one instruction on selecting, checking out and using Fairfax County Public Library eBooks and eAudioBooks available through OverDrive. Call for appointment. Adults. 703-938-0405.

SUNDAY/MARCH 18

- Accidents, Derek Evry, Madrone and Today's Tomorrow at 1 p.m.; **Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer** Rockin' the Uke CD Release Concert at 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple
- Ave E Vienna. www.jamminjava.com. Photography Contest and Exhibit. 12-3:30 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Photos will be judged by local professional photographers and ribbons awarded eight categories, with a separate contest section for middle and high school students. \$10 entry fee. Maximum four photos per person and two in any one category.
- 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov. Shakespeare's "King Lear." 4 p.m. Madeira School, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Performed by the Traveling Players Ensemble. \$10, students and teachers with ID free. www.travelingplayers.org or 703-987-1712.
- "The Revenge of the Space Pandas or Binky Rudich and the Two-**Speed Clock.**" 3 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. For ages 6 and up. A comedy by David Mamet. \$8-\$10. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

MONDAY/MARCH 19

- V.I.P. Vienna. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Support group for visually impaired persons. Adults. 703-938-0405.
- Game On Afternoon Edition. 3:30 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Wii Mario Kart or Wij Super Smashbros, Brawl Tournament. Âge 6-16. 703-938-0405.

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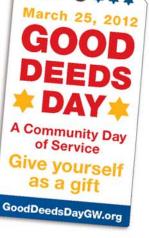


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"Early Results" Show Stable Disease"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

gist that I can live with (Duh!). Certainly better than the previous nine words e-mailed eight weeks ago regarding my then current CT Scan: "Scan results show progression. We'll talk more on Friday." Not that early results (I think 'early results' means after the first two infusions) guarantee any future results, but half good is better than all bad. Continued 'progression' (growth and/or movement; meaning the chemotherapy was having zero effect) would have been disappointing (you think?), so reading 'stable' in my doctor's message was welcome news indeed; any port in a storm, as they say. And make no mistake about it, when you're diagnosed as a terminal patient, who's now outlived your original prognosis - by years - every day is a storm, and any place of refuge, leaky or otherwise, is a welcome sight. Just as pilots say: "Any landing you walk away from is a good one," I'm going to create a corollary for cancer patients: any scan that doesn't cause your oncologist to advise you to get your things in order ("Five Wishes") is a good one. And so Tuesday, February 18th was real good – for "Kenny-with-cancer." Alive and reasonably well.

However, just as life goes on, so too do the diagnostic scans and all the associated anxiety and hopes and prayers as well. It's a balancing act to be sure, to be always living on the edge (make that precipice), but obviously I'm grateful to be doing so - despite the emotional upheaval. Though I've been there - and still doing it, it doesn't make any of it easier going forward. Being familiar with the chemotherapy (the "second line" I'm now enduring) - and its side effects from three years ago when I was originally diagnosed and treated, doesn't really lesson the anxiety of it, it more reinforces the fear of it. Regardless of the success I've had fending off cancer's ravages, it's difficult to rid yourself of the inevitability of its

At least now there are e-mails (and Web sites to access) between doctor and patient to maintain the lines of communication and facilitate the prompt exchange of information, and to shortcut the previously interminable waits patients had waiting for scan/lab results. The results are not immediate, let's be realistic; but they are sort of predictable, time-wise, and in that predictability evolves a certain calm. And however 'calm' can be introduced into the doctor/cancer patient equation, it exponentially improves the patient's quality of life.

Now when you have your follow-up appointments - and certain information has already been communicated, these appointments can be more productive, less emotional and more strategic moving forward rather than spent reacting to medical facts only recently in evidence. After all, the oncologist is trying to keep you alive, and any methodology that enhances that relationship and improves the quality of the time between doctor and patient is better for all concerned. The emails blunt some of that unproductive but predictable emotion, which then enables the doctor and patient to more intelligently and dispassionately consider the options/treatments available. At some point, however, reality has to be addressed (I wouldn't say embraced, though). Way back when, my oncologist advised us that none of this was going to be easy, and he was right. But his honesty - and treatment has made it a bit more bearable for me. I wouldn't characterize or dare say that there's a recipe for success in anything he or I have done together or that I've done independently of him; so far, so good though. I am alive three years post-diagnosis after originally receiving a less than encouraging prognosis: "13 months to two years."

Within the next month, I will have had two more chemotherapy infusions followed up by yet another CT Scan, and this fun will begin all over again. I can't really say that I'm looking forward to it, but being terminal is all it's cracked up to be, and looking forward is still better than not being able to look at all.

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



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