



Is Her Beautiful Smile **Good Genes, Or Does She Have A Secret?**

A smile so natural, only her dentist knows for sure.



Empowered

Eating her favorite foods, free to travel and live the life she wants. Not afraid to laugh or get close to the ones she loves. Many peers have missing or failing teeth, some even have dentures. How does she do it?

Odds Against Us

Virtually every adult will lose a tooth in their lifetime. For many, the suffering doesn't stop there. As we age, factors ranging from poor oral health to heredity often bring about accelerated tooth loss - so much so that the average American will lose 4 or more teeth by the time they reach 50 years of age.

Traditional Remedies

Historically, alternatives to failing teeth often involved a lifetime of glues, creams and adhesives and often were accompanied by discomfort and changes in appearance - meaning the options for treating missing or failing teeth could do little to alleviate the physical and emotional discomfort of tooth loss.

Dental Implants

Dental Implants are now considered a "Standard of Care" when replacing missing teeth and are often a better treatment option than conventional dental crowns, bridges, partial and full dentures. Dental Implants have been proven to be a more successful long term option when compared to these more traditional approaches. The appeal of dental implants is very simple: implants look and perform like natural teeth and fit precisely without the need for adhesives. They are permanent and cared for just like natural teeth and restore one's natural smile.

ClearChoice Dental Implant Centers

Before ClearChoice, getting implants could take over a year and involve endless visits to multiple providers. Our state-of-the-art facilities bring everything together under one roof. The doctors, technicians and cutting edge technology needed for a fast, convenient result can all be found in one place. That is how ClearChoice can deliver beautiful smiles in just one day.*

Consider this:

MYTH: Tooth loss affects a relatively small group of people.

FACT: By the age of 50, the average American is missing 4 or more teeth.

MYTH: Tooth loss is almost always a result of poor oral hygiene.

FACT: Oral hygiene is important, but genetics and age are significant drivers of tooth loss.

MYTH: Dental problems caused by gum disease and tooth loss resolve themselves quickly.

FACT: Most dental problems do not "self-resolve" and usually become worse with time.

MYTH: Dentures are the only option for those dealing with tooth loss.

FACT: Dental implants look and feel like your natural teeth and are a modern alternative to dentures.

Your Satisfaction Is Important To Us

ClearChoice Dental Implant Centers provide comprehensive implant treatment professionally and affordably. That's why an independent survey of thousands of patients showed they would overwhelmingly recommend ClearChoice to otherst. At ClearChoice, we work to ensure that no one leaves until they are happy with their smile.

So Did She or Didn't She?

Almost anyone that has lost multiple teeth or even a single tooth is a strong candidate for dental implants. So next time you see someone over 50 with a beautiful, radiant smile ask yourself ... is she lucky or did she make the ClearChoice?

Discover the procedure that can make even the most troubled smile clear and beautiful - in just one day!*

CALL TOLL FREE 1.855.787.4571 TODAY

Schedule a no-obligation consultation with a ClearChoice doctor right now and receive a FREE 3-D CAT Scan (\$700 value). Call today.

TYSONS CORNER: Stuart L. Graves, DDS, MS . Debora Armellini, DDS, MS . Samantha Siranli, DMD, PhD ROCKVILLE: Stuart L. Graves, DDS, MS • Ben Javid, DDS

ClearChoice Dental Implant Centers are locally owned and operated by licensed local dentists, and are part of a professional affiliation of implant practices operated by oral surgeons, prosthodontists and restorative dentists across the U.S. *Qualified patients can have their procedure in one day after initial workup without additional bone graft surgery. Results may vary in individual cases. Limited services available at satellite offices. Independent Dental Implant Survey March 2011. America's #1 Choice determined by an Independent Patient Survey 2011. © 2012 ClearChoice Dental Implant Centers

www.clearchoice.com

America's #1 Choice For Dental Implants



Dental Implant:

News



Vienna Mayor Jane Seeman, HMDL members Jim Lewis, Charlie Balch, Steve Hull, Tom Evans, and Bob Eldridge at the newly-unveiled marker commemorating the first skirmish between Union forces and Confederate forces serving under Gen. J.E.B. Stuart.

Marking History on Lawyers Road

Hunter Mill Defense League unveils State Historic Marker.

By Donna Manz The Connection

n Saturday, April 7, the Hunter Mill Defense League [HMDL] unveiled a State Historic Marker commemorating the November 26, 1861, skirmish between Union troops, the 3rd Pennsylvania Cavalry, and Confederate troops, the 1st North Carolina Cavalry, serving under General J.E.B. Stuart.

The action was the first engagement by troops under Stuart's command against the Union cavalry in the Civil War.

"Our goal is to raise awareness and our collective memory," said HMDL history committee chair Steve Hull as he detailed the routing and background of the skirmish. "We want to remember the men who fought here, were injured here, killed here," said Hull.

Although the HMDL first thought of tracing the trail of the confrontation and marking the skirmish location five or six years ago, the project took flight about eight months ago, said HMDL history committee member Jim Lewis. The historical designation was approved by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, and the commemorative plaque paid for by the Hunter Mill Defense League.

More than 50 people showed up for the unveiling. The 17th Virginia Infantry, Company D, in Civil War dress, presented the colors of the Union and Confederacy, and recorded Civil War music set the mood.

Hull described the skirmish from the perspectives of Col. Ransom, Capt. Bell and the embedded journalist who reported to his paper with a less-biased eye.

The Union and Confederate columns, prowling for one another in the area contained by Hunter Mill Road, Lawyers Road and Browns Mill, met up where what is now Kedge Drive intersects Lawyers Road.

Called the "Skirmish Near Hunter's Mill" by Harper's Weekly on December 21, 1861, the approximately two-mile-long action ended with retreat by Union forces serving under Capt. Charles Bell and the capture of soldiers, their weapons and horses by Col. Robert Ransom's Confederate forces. Bell's 94-



The 17th Virginia Infantry, Company D, presented the colors of the Union and the Confederacy at the unveiling of the State Historic Marker.

man detachment suffered a casualty rate of 35 per-

Hull alluded to the current debate between states' rights and federal authority, noting that while history may not repeat itself, issues of constitutional jurisdiction remain.

Civil War buffs and local families clustered around the marker fronting Lawyers Road. Mayor M. Jane Seeman drove from Tennessee during the night to be in Vienna for the unveiling ceremony. Many guests lived nearby. Some guests, such as Trianne Freese, not only lived nearby but had a personal connection to the marker. Her great-grandfather fought with the Union army at sites in the Vienna area.

"I came because I live nearby but I was also curious," said Freese.

HMDL hosts bus tours of the historic Hunter Mill corridor and has produced the award-winning documentary, "Danger Between the Lines," as well as small books, "Hunter Mill Road Civil War Self-Guided Tour," and "Forgotten Roads of the Hunter Mill Road Corridor."

To learn more about the goals and activities of the Hunter Mill Defense League, go to www.hmdl.org

John E. Petersen, GMU Professor, Dies

ohn Earle Petersen, 71, a f o r m e r councilmember for the City of Fairfax and leading authority in the field of public finance, died April 4 of a heart attack at his home in the City of Fairfax. The city has lowered its flags to half-staff in his honor.

At the time of his death, Petersen was a Professor of Public Policy and Finance at the George Mason School of Public Policy as well as a public member of Board of Directors of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board.

Petersen spent more than 50 years in the field of public finance. Upon graduating from Northwestern University with a B.A. in Economics in 1962, he was awarded a scholarship to study Public Finance at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, where he earned his Ph.D. He came to Washington, D.C. in 1966 to work in the Capital Markets Division of the Federal Reserve Board.

At the time he came to join the Fed, Petersen and his wife, Mary, bought a cottage in Fairfax City behind the home of his wife's grandmother, the matriarch of a family with deep roots in Virginia history and Democratic politics.

In 1972, Petersen was elected to the Fairfax City Council on the "Livable City" platform, which emphasized environmental concerns over unrestricted development.

After serving a term as City Councilman, Petersen stayed active in civic organizations for the rest of his life, serving as a long-time member of the City's Economic Development Authority, on the City Charter Commission, on the board of the Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and also on the Board of Historic Fairfax City, Inc. This deep involvement in his own community and its governance helped further inform Petersen's study of and later teaching of topics in public finance.



John Earle Petersen

Funeral Arrangements

Funeral arrangements are

Service: Friday, April 13, 11 a.m. at Truro Church, 10520 Main Street, Fairfax. Reception to follow.

Interment: Friday, April 13, noon, City of Fairfax Cemetery, 10567 Main Street.

Petersen joined the faculty of the George Mason School of Public Policy in 2002. He delighted in sharing his vast knowledge in the field of public finance with graduate students. Petersen was also a regular columnist for more than twenty years for "Governing" magazine. In 2009, he received a Fulbright distinguished lectureship and spent a semester teaching at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea.

In October 2011 he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management (ABFM) recognizing his accomplishments in the field.

Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Mary Stuyvesant Petersen of Fairfax City; daughter Mary LeGrand Asel of Falls Church; son, Virginia Senator John Chapman Petersen of Fairfax City, and daughter Elizabeth Schuyler Morgan of Alexandria. He is also survived by a brother and eight grandchildren.

News



Back, from left: Jack Gazlay (Bland Chair), Steven Reber (Reston Lions Club President), Sydney Garrell, Ben Escobar, Alexander Pauken, Adam Cleland, Seojun Yoon, Anne-Marie Lloyd, Ryan Sill, Caitlin Phelan. Front: Katya Yeager, Payton Gasson, Karen Xia, Alyssa Chetrick, Elson Hsia, Joshua Liu, Jessica Hiemstra, and Shankar Balasubraminian.

Reston Lions Recognize Young Musicians

yan Sill and Alexander Pauken won first place vocal and instrumental respectively amid stiff competition at the annual "James A. Bland" Contest held on Feb. 7, in Reston, sponsored by the Reston Lions Club. They will each go on in the coming weeks to compete at a District level contest for even larger awards and compete to reach the Region and State level competitions.

Sill, 17, from Dominion High School, succeeded at taking home first place with his performance of

"Every Valley Shall be Exalted" written by G.F. Handel. Pauken, also 17, performed "The Cat and the Mouse" by Aaron Copeland with the imagined chasing around on the piano keys.

Ben Escobar of James Madison High School in Vienna takes home Second Place Escobar, 16, twinkled out "Dumka" by Tchaikovsky on the piano. He is under the instruction of Darya Gabay.

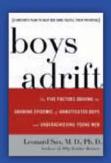
The Local Music Contest featured 16 contestants from area elementary, middle and high schools.

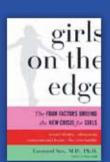


First Place Winners Alexander Pauken and Ryan Sill

Join the Conversation About Education:







7pm-9pm **Facebook**

APRIL 16

Ate My **Daughter**

Dr. Leonard Sax, psychologist and author of Why Gender Matters, Boys Adrift, and Girls on the Edge, talks about the role of technology in the lives of teenagers – social media, video games, and the effects of growing up in virtual worlds. Dr. Sax will answer questions that parents have today – Should I be my child's Facebook friend? Which video games are OK? How much time spent playing video games is too much?



APRIL 30 7pm-9pm

Race To Nowhere

A documentary film examining the pressures faced by young people, teachers, and parents in our high stakes education system and pressure-cooker

culture. Generate dialogue and examine assumptions about how to best prepare the youth of America to be healthy, bright leaders. The movie will be followed by a panel of educational experts including:

Patrick F. Bassett - President of the National Association of Independent Schools

Mary Ellen Weissman, Ph.D. - Clinical Psychologist

The Madeira School • 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean, Virginia 22102

Please register at www.madeira.org/parents/race-to-nowhere-and-dr-leonard-sax For more information contact 703.556.8273

THE COUNTY LINE

Interest in Budget Slows as Economy Picks Up

Employee compensation, human service funding compete for attention.

By Victoria Ross The Connection

ising property values, a relatively low unemployment rate, and the lack of hot-button issues — such as full-day kindergarten -- have reduced public involvement in Fairfax County's proposed \$6.7 billion budget compared to recent years, according to county leaders.

During last year's budget cycle, Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-at-large) said she heard from nearly 1,000 constituents advocating for their portion of the pie. This year, that number plummeted to 30.

"At budget time, I clear the decks to see as many people as possible," Bulova said. "My dance card is full."

Attendance at town hall meetings on the budget has also been low, according to several supervisors.

"The number of people who have signed up to speak is way down from last year," said Supervisor John Cook, (R-Braddock). "There is no one issue that's got people riled up. People are not scared. Things have stabilized. We're in a flat spot after several years of cuts.'

Next week, the public will have the opportunity to weigh in on County Executive Anthony Griffin's proposed \$6.7 billion budget for the county's 1.1 million residents.

And supervisors want residents to know that their voice matters

"Often testimony has caused us to adopt changes to the advertised budget," Bulova said. "It is critical that the community is engaged and at the table with us as we consider changes to what has been advertised."

BUDGET BASICS

In his final year as county executive, Griffin has proposed a budget based on the current property tax rate of \$1.07 for every \$100 of assessed value, which means the average homeowner, will pay \$4,801 in property taxes, \$33.85 more than last year, and \$45.36 less than in fiscal year 2007.

The proposed General Fund total is \$3.5 billion, up \$143 million over fiscal year 2012. More than half of the budget (52.5 percent or \$1.85 billion) is earmarked for the school system.

To mitigate potential shortfalls, the board voted to advertise a 1-cent tax increase to \$1.08 per \$100 of assessed value. Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence) called the one-penny increase an "insurance policy" against any funding shortfalls.

In addition to allowing the rise in property taxes, Griffin's budget also imposes several new fees, including a storm water tee would increase from 1.5 cents for every \$100 of assessed value to 2.5 cents for every \$100 of assessed value.

The board can approve a rate lower than the advertised rate, but they cannot adjust the tax rate without first advertising a higher rate. The \$1.08 rate will provide market rate adjustment for the county's

"It is critical that the community is engaged and at the table with us as we



- Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-at-large)



"The number of people who have signed up to speak is way down from last year. There is no

one issue that's got people riled up. People are not scared. Things have stabilized."

— Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock)

wearing thin after three years without pay-for-performance or step increases.

> Cook said he will encourage his colleagues to use their individual budget requests - which total about \$8.5 million - to bump up employee salaries beyond the market-rate-adjustment in the proposed budget.

> "I think we need to sharpen the pencil and find the money," Cook said. "Look, if you want top services, you have to pay for top employees."

> Bulova said the board is keeping its eye on what other jurisdictions are proposing for employee compensation. "We don't want to lose our best employees. We want to do right by our workforce."

FAIRFAX COUNTY BUDGET MEETINGS

Public Hearings on the FY 2013 advertised budget plan and the FY 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Program will be held in the board auditorium of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax, on the following dates and times:

- * Tuesday, April 10 at 6 p.m.
- * Wednesday, April 11 at 3 p.m. * Thursday, April 12, at 3 p.m.

OTHER IMPORTANT BUDGET DATES

- Friday, April 20 Budget Committee Meeting
- * Tuesday, April 24 Fiscal Year 2013 Board Budget Markup Session and approval of FY 2012
- **❖ Tuesday, May 1 –** Formal adoption of FY 2013

some wiggle room and - if adopted - add \$19.95 million to the county executive's proposed budget. Each 1 cent increase in the real estate tax rate impacts the average residential taxpayer's annual bill by approxi-

Budget analysts expect revenue in the county to increase a moderate 3.4 percent in 2013, and continue at that level for the next several years.

Although that's the fastest rate of growth since fiscal year 2007, it's still less than half the average annual growth in revenue during the boom period from 2000 to 2007.

"I agree we're seeing a mild recovery not strong or vigorous," Bulova said. "I think that Tony Griffin has done a good job hitting the high notes. There are still cuts, but not as many and not as severe."

That doesn't mean, however, that this year's budget is without its share of challenges and competing interests.

Two groups, the Fairfax County Alliance for Human Services and the Fairfax County Government Employee Union, have signaled their commitment to keeping their issues front and center as the board moves toward adopting a the final budget on May

Both groups want to see the board adopt the advertised tax rate.

EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION

The largest new spending measure on the table is Griffin's proposed 2.18 percent

SIGN UP TO SPEAK

To sign up to speak at one of the public hearings, call the Clerk to the Board's Office at 703-324-3152 or 703-324-2391 (TTY - 771). To access the sign-up form online, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/ speaker_bos.htm. The public may also send written testimony by email at clerktothebos@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The 2013 advertised budget is available on the Fairfax County website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/

Reference copies of all budget volumes are available at all Fairfax County public libraries. CD versions of all budget volumes are available from the Department of Management and Budget. For more information, call the department at 703-324-2391.

10,000 -plus employees. If approved by the board, the adjustment will cost more than \$22 million.

Griffin said employees are "getting anxious," about compensation, adding that this will be the fourth year public safety employees will not get a step increase and county employees will not get a pay-for-performance bonus.

"Many of these budget reductions, some of which were quite painful, directly impacted many of our residents, "Griffin said.

"It's absolutely on my radar screen," Bulova said. "We're hearing frustration from our county employees. 'How much longer can we go without a pay increase?"

In the advertised budget, Griffin said it was critical for the county not to "lose ground competitively" in its compensation and benefit packages.

Cook, a Republican endorsed by the Fairfax County Government Employees Union, agreed.

He said employee compensation is one issue all the supervisors are looking into, because many don't see a market-rate adjustment as a true raise.

"We are beginning to have morale issues. This is where the board will struggle for this year, and the next three years," Cook said, adding that he is concerned Fairfax County is not keeping up with other jurisdictions.

Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), who called county employees "our most important asset," said employee morale was

FUNDING HUMAN SERVICES

Fairfax County's Alliance for Human Services, a non-partisan partnership that advocates for public and private human service providers, is also lobbying the board to adopt the advertised tax rate, and use the additional \$19.95 million to fund "unmet human service needs."

"While Fairfax County's poverty rate is better than most (5.8 percent in 2011), it still translates to nearly 63,000 people living below the poverty level," the AHS said in a letter to the board.

"What I think is important to recognize is that it's not just one year of cuts, it's the accumulation of cuts since 2007, and the resulting increase in demand," said Amanda Andere, executive director of FACETS, a nonprofit that provides emergency shelter, food, and medical needs, as well as educational, life skills and career counseling programs.

"We're all concerned about our employee's salaries, but the bigger issue is what services have been cut," Andere said.

Linda Patterson, executive director of the Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC), which provides food and other services in the south county area, said any additional cuts in services have the potential to make those who are already struggling more vul-

"I am especially concerned about the Community Services Board (CSB) cuts. Mental health services are vital for the wellbeing of our community. Any cuts not only stress the county system, but trickle down to non-profits like LCAC," Patterson said.

Lisa Whetzel, executive director of Our Daily Bread, a nonprofit that helps residents avoid homelessness, said ODB continues to get more requests for assistance than it can handle. Whetzel said ODB is encouraging supporters to attend Wednesday's budget

"The Board of Supervisors should vote to follow through with fully funding the 10year plan to end homelessness," Whetzel

Both the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Reston Cham

SEE CHAMBERS, PAGE 17



Vienna Theatre Co. will present 'The Fantasticks' on April 20, 21, 27, 28, May 4 and 5, at 8 p.m. and on April 29 and May 6, at 2 p.m.

Photo Contributed

Week in Vienna

Vienna Theatre Co. Presents 'The Fantasticks'

Tickets are now on sale for the Vienna Theatre Company's production "The Fantasticks" at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, S.E.

"The Fantasticks" is the longest running production of any kind in the history of American theatre. In this musical, two fathers scheme to trick their son and daughter into falling in love by hiring El Gallo to arrange an attempted abduction of the girl, Louisa, and allowing the boy, Matt, to save her. All goes as planned until Matt feels limited by his life and leaves to explore the world. After experiencing the dangers and risks of the world, Matt returns to Louisa.

Tickets are \$14 general admission and \$12 for students and senior citizens age 65 and older. Tickets are available for purchase in advance or at the door. Performances are scheduled for April 20, 21, 27, 28, May 4 and 5, at 8 p.m. and on April 29 and May 6, at 2 p.m.

For more information, call 703-255-6360 or visit www.viennatheatrecompany.org.

Health and Wellness Fair for Baby Boomers and Beyond

The Town of Vienna Parks and Recreation Department and the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna will present a Health and Wellness Fair for Baby Boomers and Beyond on Saturday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, SE.

This event is free and no registration is required. Participants should wear fitness clothing.

For schedule information, visit the Town of Vienna's website at www.viennava.gov or the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna website at www.scov.org or call (703) 281-0538.

New Refuse Collection Schedule

At the April 2 meeting, Town Council approved a new collection schedule for recycling, trash and Special Pickups to take effect on Monday, July 2, 2012. The new refuse program will divide the Town into five equal-sized districts and will simplify household refuse collection by picking up all materials-trash, recycling, bulk items and brush- on the same day each week. This new program will streamline the Town's refuse collection process and improve service to residents, as well as increase efficiency and reduce overall cost.

A map defining the boundaries of the five districts is available on the Town's website at www.viennava.gov. If you are unsure what day your collection will be beginning July 2, contact the Department of Public Works at 703-255-6380 or at dpw@viennava.gov.

RETIREMENT SALE! EVERYTHING GOES! STORE CLOSING!

Fixtures For Sale

New Mark Downs Taken!

Mae's Dress Boutique, the premier After 5 store you've trusted for over 35 years, is closing the doors forever.

Beginning Wednesday, we've taken new mark downs on hundreds of items throughout the store.

Hurry in for the best assortment while we still have stock and sizes available.

- Take ONE THIRD OFF our entire stock of cocktail dresses!
- Take ONE THIRD OFF day and evening suits!
- Take ONE THIRD OFF all casual blouses!
- Take ONE HALF OFF selected knits!
- Take 75% OFF ALL clearance items!

New mark downs taken in every category, from After 5 to casual separates!

Receive 500,000 bonus prize points for every SPECIAL ORDER and always receive 20% off!

Choose from Daymor, Ursalla, Jovani, JSS Knits, Damianou, and Sara Mique!

Subject to designer availability. (these offers good through 4/17)

Mow's Dress Boutique Washington's Premier After 5 Boutique

6707 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA 22101 maesdress@gmail.com • 703-356-6333 Store Hours: Monday – Saturday, 10am to 5:30pm. Sale Terms: All Sales Final. No adjustments. We Accept: Visa, MC, Discover, AMEX.

Wall-To-Wall...Nothing Held Back!

Directions: NORTH on the Beltway take Exit 46B onto Rt. 123N.-McLean. Go 3 miles-Turn right onto Old Dominion Dr. (Rt. 309). Go 1/2 mile thru two traffic lights. We are on the right next to Shell Gas. SOUTH from Md.- Cross over the Amer. Legion Bridge.- Take the VERY first right Exit 43-44 to VA 193 toward Langley - Go 1/2 mile and turn right onto Balls Hill Rd. Go .9th mile - Turn left onto Old Dominion Drive - Go thru 3 traffic lights - We are on the right next to Shell Gas. We are less than 5 minutes from the Bridge.

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Bring in coupon for 100,000 points

These prizes to be awarded

- 1. **Samsung** 40" LCD TV, \$549 Value.
- 2. **Canon** PowerShot Camera, \$400.
- 3. **Saeco** Espresso Maker, \$350.
- 4. Canon Camcorder, \$290.
- 5. **DeLonghi** Food Processor, \$250.6. **Garmin** GPS System, \$160.
- 7. **Keurig** Coffee System, \$160.
- 8. **Frigidaire** Toaster Oven, \$150.
- 9. **Kick** Sound System, \$115.
- Tiger Rice Cooker, \$100.
 Game Ends 6/16/2012

NO Purchase Necessary
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News

McLean Rotary Honors Vienna Youngster

n April 3, the Rotary Club of McLean honored Noah Haefner, a seventh grader at Longfellow Middle School, for his efforts to support the McLean Stop Hunger Now project. Noah and his fellow Student Council representatives raised more than \$2,600 for the next meal packaging day scheduled for Nov. 10, 2012 at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in McLean.

Noah, the son of Bruce and Paula Haefner of Vienna, received a Certificate of Appreciation from McLean Rotary President Cherry Baumbusch and Bob Hahne, a McLean Rotarian and an organizer of the McLean Stop Hunger Now project.

The McLean Stop Hunger Now project has packaged more than 450,000 meals over the past 18 months, and plans to package an additional 250,000 meals at the November 2012 event. Organizers are looking to raise at least \$62,500 (or 25 cents a meal).

Stop Hunger Now, an international nonprofit organization, distributes meals worldwide to address the disaster of 25,000 people dying every day from hunger and hunger-related diseases. Anyone interested in assisting in the McLean Stop Hunger Now effort can contact Bob Hahne at 703-790-5319 for more information.



Noah Haefner, a seventh grader at Longfellow Middle School, received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Rotary Club of McLean for helping to raise \$2,600 for the McLean Stop Hunger Now project. Noah (center) with McLean Rotary President Cherry Baumbusch (left) and Bob Hahne (right), a McLean Rotarian and an organizer of the McLean Stop Hunger Now project.



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Project Pictured Above - Winner of three prestigious awards for kitchens under \$50,000

DESIGN | ADDITIONS | INTERIORS EXTERIORS | KITCHENS & BATHS

OPINION

On Funding the Silver Line

Commonwealth will collect the dividends, but refuses to invest; Northern Virginia pays.

orthern Virginia localities should together commission a study now to determine how much growth is stimulated by the opening of the Metro stations in Tysons and along the toll road out to Dulles, how many new jobs created, quantify how much that growth leads to increased income and sales tax, and how much revenue (taxes) would get shipped off to Commonwealth coffers.

There should be a way to keep that money here in Northern Virginia.

Residents from around the region will pay for the majority of the construction of rail to Dulles via the Dulles Toll Road.

Virginia is all too happy to benefit from one of the biggest drivers of the Northern Virginia economic engine, Dulles Airport. Rail to Dulles, part of the plan for the airport since its conception, is a key part of supporting the expected volume growth in passengers and other commerce at the airport. But at every turn, the state has pushed paying for the rail line onto Northern Virginia, onto Fairfax and Loudoun county

governments, onto property owners in the corridor and especially onto drivers on the Dulles Toll Road.

While Virginia had committed to contributing an additional \$150 million to the rail project, and at various points the governor and the General Assembly dangled \$200-300 mil-

EDITORIAL

lion, it now appears that money will not be forthcoming. It was never enough.

This is one more example of the Commonwealth of Virginia happily collecting revenues, including income and sales taxes, generated from the economic vitality of Northern Virginia, then forcing Northern Virginia residents to pay for the infrastructure of that economic activity out of local funds and personal pockets.

The most recent Virginia Department of Aviation report identifies at least \$17.5 billion in annual economic activity in Virginia from Dulles and Reagan National airports, with Dulles providing the majority of that. The number of jobs created and maintained by this ac-

tivity is staggering, and in Virginia, the state collects 100 percent of the income tax; there is no local income tax.

The state collects the income tax from the good jobs generated here in Northern Virginia by the airports, by the high tech firms, by the business innovators, by proximity to the Pentagon and the federal government. Then the governor celebrates the result, that Virginia is top ranked as business friendly.

The Commonwealth collects much of the tax revenue that results from this activity, but would pay only three percent of the \$6.2 billion cost of rail to Dulles. This will force more than 80 percent of the costs of building rail to Dulles to local drivers and property owners. The toll road contribution is projected at 57 percent of the total.

Having major airports adequately served by rail and other transportation options is more than an amenity, it is part of sustaining the economic benefit that comes from major airports. The question is not whether we should be building rail to Dulles, but about who benefits and who pays.

— Mary Kimm, mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Laws That Violate Woman's Right

To the Editor:

Anne Gruner's letter to the editor ["General Assembly More Productive Than reported," Connection, March 28-April 3, 2012] fails to note that the General Assembly's job is specifically to pass legislation as it relates to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Should we commend the General Assembly for doing its job? I hardly think so. Her letter commends our Delegate's accomplishments, as Ms. Comstock herself does so frequently, strangely, on this specific opinion page. The contents of the page week in and week out lead me to believe it is the "Barbara Comstock Weekly 'Look What I've Done' Journal" and not an opinion page. Your newspaper should report her work like news, not like an opinion. By the

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:

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The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.
vienna@connectionnewspapers.com

way, I do not favor any Democrats doing the same.

Nevertheless, the point here is that it is one thing for the Legislature to pass bills that purportedly help create jobs and help our communities in some way but it is quite another that they pass laws which violate a woman's right to choose her medical care. It is simply outrageous that Ms. Comstock voted in favor of such a law that would take away a woman's right to choose her own health care and instead force the Government to make health decisions for that woman. We live in a country where a woman's right to choose is the law and also supported by a majority of people in the Commonwealth of Virginia as it is throughout the United States.

> Robert Cox McLean

No 'Handwriting on the Wall'

To the Editor:

"Gov. Bob McDonnell should read the handwriting on the wall..." [Reference: "Veto Voter ID Bill," Opinion Section, Connection Newspaper, March 15-21, 2012]. There is no "handwriting on the wall," unless you mean Attorney General Eric Holder's ignoring of and interference with states' rights on everything from attempting to

enforce federal immigration laws which the federal government is not enforcing (Arizona and Georgia) or attempting to ensure the validity of the vote through voter ID bills (South Carolina and most recently Texas) which are anathema to liberals in general and Democrats in particular. While Democrats have long claimed Republicans try to suppress the vote, it's also a longstanding contention that Democrats want illegal immigrants, certain ethnic minorities, dead people and cartoon characters to vote, of which, in fact, there was evidence in the 2008 election.

Despite however many registered voters in Texas (or Virginia) do not have the identification that the voter ID law would require, it is a liberal fiction to say such laws put an unbearable burden on voters, most of whom already have to show photo IDs to receive food stamps, apply for unemployment, buy alcohol or tobacco products, fly on an airline, make any major purchases (from cars to washing machines), and do countless other things, and especially when the proposed state law provides such photo IDs for free and in some cases even provides transportation to and from obtaining such IDs. Where is the burden? Where is the alleged suppression? Statistics have also shown that photo IDs actually open up the voting process and make it fairer for all (Georgia).

The majority of states, thirty-

one, already have voter ID laws of one kind or another, and the handwriting that's really on the wall is that President Obama's attorney general is just trying to do his part to ensure his own job by ensuring Obama's reelection in 2012.

Colonel Chuck Fowler, JD USA, RET

Lorton

Keeping His Promise

To the Editor:

From the day Governor McDonnell took office, he has concentrated his efforts on getting Virginians back to work. It looks like his policies are working. MoneyRates.com has just ranked Virginia as the "Best State to Make a Living." The average adjusted income has risen and our unemployment rate is the lowest it has been in three years. CNBC even named Virginia as the "Best State in America for Business." It's nice to see that someone finally came through with their campaign promise: "Bob's for Jobs." As a member of the Commonwealth, I would like to say thank you, Governor McDonnell, for putting Virginia ahead of the game.

Laura Cunningham

George Mason University Student Fairfax

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/APRIL 12

Special Topics in Memoir Writing: Creating a Sense of Place. 8:30 a.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Class 442481 A1. Thursdays through May 24. Learn to create the setting of a memoir. \$70.40 for Town of Vienna residents, \$88 for out-of-town participants. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

Basics of Memoir Writing: Begin with a Memory. 10:45 a.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Class 442481 B1. Thursdays through May 24. A supportive environment to write and receive feedback. \$70.40 for Town of Vienna residents, \$88 for out-of-town participants.

Writing Your Personal History.

10:40 a.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Class 442480 A1. Thursdays through Aug. 9. A writing class is run by the participants with no formal instruction. \$5 fee for administrative support and refreshments. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

FRIDAY/APRIL 13

Opportunity 2012 Business Conference and Trade Show.

7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Networking, breakout sessions roundtables exhibitors and more. Hosted by ViennaTysons Regional Chamber of Commerce Admission \$49-\$229. www.viennatysonstradeshow.com or info@vtrcc.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 14

Tracing Your Family Roots. 2 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Classes held Saturdays through May 19. Gayle Yiotis, a former archivist and researcher at the Smithsonian Institution and a genealogical researcher for Ancestry, will guide participants through the process of researching and tracing one's roots. \$25-\$62.50. Register at 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov and reference class number 439480 A1.

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.

SUNDAY/APRIL 15

UUCF: A Sociological Perspective.

12:45 p.m. Fairfax Unitarian Church, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. The theological diversity of UU congregations sets us apart from other mainline denominations. Sociologists have developed typologies and theories that provide some useful insight into Unitarian Universalism.

TUESDAY/APRIL 17

Five Hills Garden Club. 10 a.m.

Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., Vienna. With M'Ellen Alden, pastpresident of the National Capital Area Federation of Garden Clubs and instructor at NCAGC Flower Show and Design Schools. Free. 703 988-9324.

McLean Branch of the American **Association of University**

Women. 7 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. With Leslie Vandivere, former co-chair of the Fairfax County Public Schools Human Relations Advisory Committee, and Holly Kearl. co-author of 'Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at School' and founder of www.StopStreetHarassment.org. 703-536-6498 or www.mcleanaauw.org.









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Or to mail photo prints, send to:

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Brian and Dawn Booker with friends Kathi Egbert and Rebecca Lichtenfels sampling margaritas and appetizers on Alegria's opening afternoon.

Alegria Opens at Church Street

Patrick and Julie Bazin's Mexican restaurant features small plates, specialty tacos and tequila.

> By Donna Manz The Connection

here aren't many restaurants that have patrons waiting outside for the restaurant's door to open for the first time to the public. It's even rarer when the restaurant advertised no opening date until the day prior to opening. But nothing is surprising when the restaurant is the eagerly-awaited Alegria, the Mexican taco and small-plate margarita café owned and run by Vienna's own Patrick and Julie Bazin. On April 5, Alegria welcomed its first customers, opening five minutes early from its scheduled time.

Bazin's on Church regulars John Lopez and Dayana Umana were the first to be greeted at 3:55 p.m. It was the couple's fourth anniversary and they wanted to celebrate at Alegria. Lopez called his margarita, the classic version, "awesome."

"It's lemony, tastes homemade," said Lopez. As they nibbled on tortilla chips and salsas, they commented on the food and the décor. "The sauces are very authentic and the décor is very nice," said Umana. "Even the lamp is very Mexican-style."

Patrick Bazin created a menu of diverse offerings, from spicy pork picadillo empanades to Alegria's signature tacos, such as slow-cooked pork confit and stewed chicken breast with potatoes and chorizo.

The décor, accented by brick archways, owes some of its elements to Church Street Cellars, which had been housed at that location, next door to Bazin's, for several years. When the wine shop left, the Bazins recognized the opportunity to create a different kind of in-town Mexican dining experience.

Local residents kept baby-watch, so to speak. From Facebook to phone calls, the community followed the metamorphosis of Alegria from Church Street Cellars. It was just April 4 that Julie Bazin announced on Facebook and through e-mail that Alegria had been given the go-ahead to open.

The bar, featuring dozens and dozens of different varieties of tequila, filled up quickly after opening in late afternoon. The bartender made margarita after



Alegria owner and head chef Patrick Bazin works the kitchen and checks up on the front room. Wife and co-owner Julie Bazin greeted friends and new customers.

margarita non-stop. Along the bar, each customer sat a margarita down.

Brian and Dawn Booker of Vienna invited friends Kathi Egbert and Rebecca Lichtenfels to join them for appetizers and margaritas at the bar. "Everything is very good," said Brian Booker, scooping gooey fundido onto a freshly-made tortilla chip. His friends agreed. "I'm definitely coming back for happy hour," Egbert said.

Patrick and Julie Bazin will be splitting time between their eponymous restaurant Bazin's on Church and Alegria as the newer restaurant masters its tempo. Tortillas are made in-house as are the salsas.

More than 150 customers had gone through the new restaurant by the time it closed on opening day. A few tables are set up outside for patio dining.

"I feel blessed," said Julie Bazin as she buzzed around the front room, checking on service and chatting with customers. "We're so excited we're finally here."

Alegria, open from Monday through Saturday, 4 to 11p.m., is located at 111 Church Street North, adjacent to Bazin's on Church. For more information, go to www.alegriaonchurch.com or call 703-261-6575.

-CAPPIES REVIEW

A High-Energy Show

Oakton High School's production of 'Footloose.'

By Kelin Baldridge St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School

ootloose," a musical rendition of Dean Pitchford's screenplay follows the classic romantic tale as two youths are faced with adversity from an older generation both in their love for one another, and in their defiance to a superfluous law that prevents an entire town from "fun." This modern take on a classic theme was brought to life with energy and style in Oakton High School's recent production of "Footloose."

This high-energy musical follows the struggles of Ren McCormack as he makes the move from the big city of Chicago to the small town of Bomont. To make matters worse, county law in Bomont prohibits dancing. Ren meets the Reverend's daughter, Ariel Moore, and together they fight the law that prohibits free expression and fun in the town, and overcome Reverend Shaw Moore's opposition to their relationship. The students of Oakton High School created believable characters that were both relatable and very energetic.

Aidan Smith proved to be a notable actor in the role of Ren McCormack. He seamlessly embodied the depth of teenage rebellion and awkwardness that are found in Ren. Smith's singing abilities that were

showcased as he completed strong solos and fell into pleasant harmonies, and he impressed the audience with unique stylistic dancing that proved to be fun and fresh.

Hannah Berlin played the role of Vi Moore with maturity far beyond the age of a high schooler. Vi, a difficult character to play, is troubled by the changes she has noticed in her husband, and the actions of her father, but strongly and wisely guides her family to peace. Berlin seemed not only to understand this character but also empathize with her, which created a believable performance.

The strong technical aspects of this musical lie in the props and set. The props, including a real motorcycle, were very appropriate in the show and positively enhanced the overall mise-en-scène. The set was cleanly made and very versatile as it was reused in many different scenes in varying ways.

Like most shows, this one had its flaws, some technical aspects proved to be distracting to the audience. Some members of the cast relied too much on faulty wireless microphones. Also, some of the members of the ensemble occasionally fell out of tune. But, in the end these minor issues did not take away from the show.

"Footloose" is truly a fast passed and high-energy show, but the students of Oakton High School kept up and put on an entertaining and interesting show.

School Notes

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

George Marshall High School invites you to Open Mic Night fundraiser on Friday, April 13, from 7-10 p.m. Come out to Barnes and Nobles at Tysons, pick up a book, show off your talent and the school gets a percentage of the evening's profits to support All Night Grad Celebration.

Fourteen Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students are among more than 800 students nationwide who have won Achievement Scholarships from the 2012 National Achievement® Scholarship program (NASP). The Achievement Schol-

arships are awarded to Black American high school seniors to be used for undergraduate study at any regionally accredited United States college or university.

The area students named National Achievement® Scholars, with their probable career fields in parentheses, are:

- ❖ Katherine Branche of Langley High School (medicine).
- Stephen Preston, Jr., of Langley High School (aerospace engineering).
- * Brandon Allen of Marshall High School (biology-law).
- Nana-Kwabena Adjapong Abrefah of McLean High (mathematics).
- ❖ Gabrielle Tate of Oakton High School (mechanical engineering).

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Schools

Author Michael Dirda Comes to Flint Hill

ichael Dirda, former Washington Post Book World Editor and Pulitzer-Prize winning critic, will meet with Flint Hill School's Middle and Upper School students on Tuesday, April 17. His visit is part of the School's annual monthlong celebration of the arts, known as "Arts Jam," when student visual artists, actors, dancers, musicians, photographers, designers, and

filmmakers share their best work with the school community, and develop their skills and knowledge with guidance and feedback from professional guest artists.

Dirda's critically acclaimed book, "On Conan Doyle: Or, the Whole Art of Storytelling," was released last October and has been shortlisted for two major upcoming mystery writing awards—a 2012 Edgar Allan Poe Award from the Mystery Writers of America in the "Best Critical/Biographical" category; and an Agatha Award in the "Best Non-Fiction" category from Malice Domestic, which honors books that best typify the works of Agatha Christie through traditional mystery. Winners will be announced on April 26 and April 28, respectively.



Michael Dirda

At Flint Hill, Dirda will be participating in the Arts Jam program's "Writers' Day" activity, designed to give students personal insights into the creative writing process through visits from noted authors. His first stop will be the Lower and Middle School campus, where he will speak with an Eighth Grade Writing workshop class. He then travels to the Upper School campus to address that entire community in the gymnasium, followed by a brief talk and an informal question-and-

answer session for interested FHS students, teachers, and parents in the Upper School Library. The day will conclude with a visit to an Upper School Creative Writing Class.

"It is an honor to welcome Mr. Dirda to Flint Hill," says Upper School English teacher Diane Springer, who has previously worked with the author and invited him to be part of "Writers' Day." "It's a great opportunity for the kids to meet someone from the vibrant community of writers and critics that surrounds us in the D.C. area, and to chat with someone who sees the value in reading not only the works of Dante and books such as 'Madame Bovary,' but also scifi, graphic novels, detective stories, Regency romances... anything that speaks to you."

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Home Life Style



BOWA basement renovation in Great Falls features ample storage for childrens' toys.

Design With Children in Mind

BOWA Builders share tips for design that works for the whole family.

By Joshua Baker Special to the Connection

hether it's a closet, the kitchen or a study area,

there are numerous ways to incorporate child-friendly design into any space, and children today are becoming more and more involved in the process. Even if the child is ing, lots of windows streaming in toddler-aged, simple tasks, such as natural light, and a high ceiling picking colors, themes or bedding, can help them feel that they are stars. part of the process. Besides being used more frequently, greater input in the planning stage should

STUDY SPACES. A well-designed study area can be invaluable when it comes to helping a child stay focused and motivated. The kitchen is a popular choice for such a designated area, as parents are readily supervise internet usage.

and tidy.

elsewhere in the home that doesn't school, games and play dates.

ing supplies, and providing the area with adequate lighting.

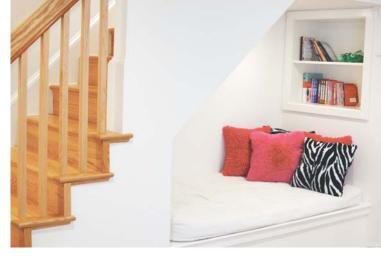
A recent project in Vienna features a whimsical study that was built in one of the turrets of the house. The study

opens up from the bedroom into an octagonal room, and includes a storage bench for additional seatwith three-dimensional hanging

In another recent project, a reading nook was carved out under the stairs. This little hideaway features result in more pride in the space a daybed with big, comfy pillows later and a desire to keep it neat and built-in shelving for holding the children's favorite books.

STORAGE SPACES. Children have stuff. Lots and lots of stuff. Books, toys, clothing, sports, hobby and school stuff. The question is: where to put it all? Collecting it as and complement the overall design children with their own set of soon as it comes through the door scheme, while hiding the contents dishes in a base cabinet will elimiavailable to answer questions, keep can help to avoid it being strewn at the same time. their young scholar on task, and all over the place, as children (and

receive a lot of traffic? As another Individual cubbies for each child feel at home in the kitchen. option, consider transforming this in a foyer or mudroom can help to If it's time for a kitchen renova- for one's loved one. Consider hav- will help avoid pinched fingers. unused space by placing a desk keep family members organized tion, consider creating a set of ing a pull-out drawer-style microagainst the wall, adding wall cabi- and prevent any mix-ups of belong- counters at a lower, child-friendly wave installed for easy access. A creativity, innovation and the input nets or shelving above it for hold- ings. A closet that features built- height so they can help with the designated "kid's drawer" in the of an experienced remodeler, as the



McLean basement renovation by BOWA features children's reading nook under the stairs.

hooks and shelving will help en- will continue to come in handy courage independence by giving children the ability to grab what they need and easily tidy up too. Some parents choose to remove the youngster's easy reach, or installdoors to make a closet even more ing light-switches with automatic inviting for their little ones to use. Hanging a set of curtains or draping fabric from a rod can add color

Have a wide hallway or nook whirlwind of excitement from **SOUS CHEF.** There are a number wave at a lower height allows for shelf or pestering mom and dad. of things to do to help a future chef easier accessibility and can help

ins with plenty of drawers, cubbies, cooking. As children grow, this area when baking and doing other tasks. Also consider placing lightswitches at lower heights for a

> sensors to avoid bumps in the dark. Worried about a little one climbing on the countertop? Providing

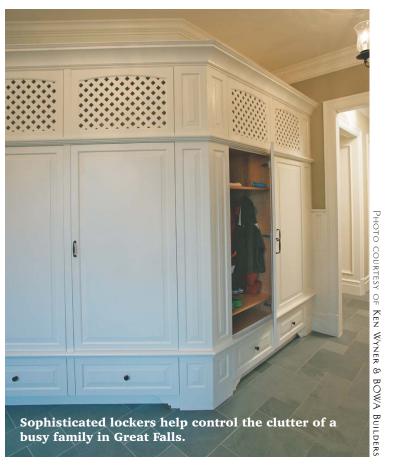
nate the need for them to reach those items on high shelves.

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family's needs, budget and lifestyle.

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Josh Baker is founder of BOWA, learn more at www.bowa.com.



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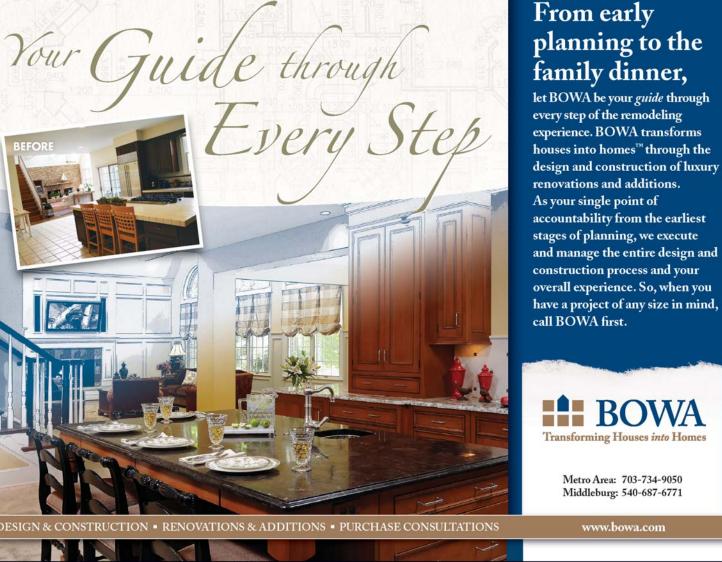
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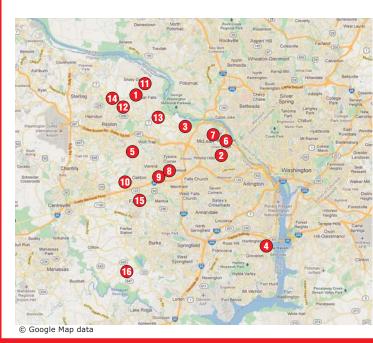
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Home Life Style

Arlington-based designer David Doughton says furniture vanity cabinets, like those in the bathroom of this McLean home are increasing in popularity as homeowners look for effective ways to add additional storage space.



PHOTO BY DAVID DOUGHTON/ KITCHEN AND BATH FACTOR

Creating a Dream Bathroom

Local pros share the latest design trends for this essential space.

> BY MARILYN CAMPBELL The Connection

pdating or renovating a bathroom can be a daunting project. From selecting tile and fixtures to choosing a tub and vanity, options are overwhelmingly plentiful. One source of inspiration when transforming a

boring bath into a luxurious, spainspired retreat is the newly released National Kitchen and Bathroom Association's annual design trend survey. The 2012 list offers a snapshot of the latest in bathroom decor. Local designers and association members discuss the list and share their ideas for making stunning visual statement in

"We're seeing the emergence of the bathroom as a retreat or spa experience."

> - Megan Padilla of **Aidan Design**

this essential space. FREESTANDING TUBS. The focal point of any bathroom is the tub. Local designers say a freestanding tub can transform a bathroom into serene sanctuary. "It is like your master bathroom is like a hotel," said designer Megan Padilla of Aidan Design. "We're seeing the emergence of the bathroom as a

POLISHED CHROME. Bathroom accessories are increasingly bright and shiny as polished nickel and chrome finishes gain popularity. "Polished chrome tends to work especially well with grays, blues and white. It is also an easy choice if you are budgetconscious." said Falls Church-based designer Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling. "Another choice is polished nickel. It has nice brown undertones that can pair well when you're going outside the traditional white and grey tones."

Some designers say that brushed metal finishes are still a practical choice for many homeowners. "Many people prefer brushed nickel because it shows fewer water spots and looks cleaner," said David Doughton,

kitchen and bathroom designer at the Kitchen and Bath Factory in Arlington.

WATER CLOSETS Designer April Case Underwood of Case Design/Remodeling has seen a spike in the demand for bathrooms with a separate room for the toilet. "If the bathroom is large enough, a lot of people like to add water closets. Even

though they are sharing a bathroom with a spouse or partner, water closets give them the opportunity to be a little bit more private when they are using

SEE LATEST, PAGE 16

retreat or spa experience."

SPRING SALE

Wednesday April 11th Sunday 15th

Pssst...All of the ladies are talking about the Pear Tree Cottage store-wide Spring Sale. All full priced furniture, lighting, art and mirrors are 25% off. All other full priced merchandise is 20% off. Some items are marked up to 50% off. Come on and shake a tail feather, let's fly this coop and head over to Pear Tree Cottage!

Pear Tree Cottage

130 Maple Avenue, East, Vienna, VA 22180 703-938-1331 • Web: www.ThePearTreeCottage.com

Mon. & Tue.: Closed • Wed.-Sat.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. • Sun.: 12-4 p.m.



OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY/SUNDAY, APRIL 14 & 15



11001 Sweetmeadow Drive, Oakton • \$1,249,000 • Open Sunday 1-4 p.m. • Daphne Hendricks, Prudential, 703-328-7290

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com & click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.
Annandale 8145 Briar Creek Dr\$600,000Sun 2-4James NellisRE/MAX703-930-0655
Burke
6907 Spanker Dr\$599,950Sun 1-4Kathleen QuintarelliWeichert703-862-8808 9210 Wyeth Ln\$549,900Sun 1-4Ellen IngRE/MAX703-795-0648
Chantilly
25746 Rawley Springs Dr\$619,888Sun 1-4Tony MotevalliKeller Williams703-472-3000
Clifton
7513 Detwiller Dr\$1,149,990Sun 1-4Marguerite RolandRE/MAX.703-577-4538 7529 Evans Ford Rd\$749,000Sun 1-4Carol HermandorferLong & Foster703-503-1812 7700 Kincheloe Rd\$1,649,000Sun 1-4Carol HermandorferLong & Foster703-503-1812
Fairfax
3130 Babashaw Ct\$389,900Sun 1-4Jim SouvagisLong & Foster703-968-7000 13522 Springhaven Dr\$569,900Sun 1-4Ann YorkSamson Props571-237-7985
Fairfax Station
10817 Windemere Ln\$1,398,000Sun 1-4Carol HermandorferLong & Foster703-503-1812 6917 Winners Cir\$789,000Sun 1-4Carol HermandorferLong & Foster703-503-1812 9741 South Park Cir\$784,950Sun 1-4Kathleen QuintarelliWeichert. 703-862-8808
Falls Church
2931 Pine Spring Rd\$445,000Sat/Sun 1-4Patrick KesslerKeller Williams703-405-6540
Herndon
12803 Lady Fairfax Cir\$369,900Sun 1-4Min & Jimmy O'BurnsLong & Foster703-437-6110
Leesburg
40994 Waxwing Dr\$669,900Sun 1-4Donny SamsonSamson Props703-864-4894
Manassas
10720 Meadow Grove Ct\$165,000Sun 12-3Stephanie WayneCentury 21703-965-1643
15161 Holleyside Dr\$375,000Sun 1-4Pattie ManciniAvery-Hess703-625-1861
Oak Hill
12814 Turberville Ln\$516,000Sun 1-4Debbie TenczaLong & Foster703-597-4667
Oakton
10662 Oakton Ridge Ct\$1,239,000Sun 1-4Pat StackWeichert703-597-9373
11001 Sweetmeadow Dr.\$1,249,000Sun 1-4Daphne HendricksPrudential703-328-7290 11254 Waples Mill Rd\$686,000Sun 1-4Shaheen HaroonWeichert703-691-0555
Reston
11475 Waterhaven Ct\$534,900Sun 1-4Min & Jimmy O'BurnsLong & Foster703-437-6110 1617 Sierra Woods Dr\$304,900Sun 1-4George AzzouzSamson Props703-728-0843
Springfield
8383 Uxbridge Ct\$299,999Sun 1-4Suzanne BurchCentury 21703-328-5606 8230 Running Creek Ct\$644,990Sun 1-4Ryan RiceKeller Williams571-212-8339
8301 Covington Woods Ct. \$819.900Sun 1-4Patrick Kessler Keller Williams703-405-6540
8305 Covington Woods Ct.\$819,900Sun 1-4Leah BradshawKeller Williams703-282-7740 8430 Springfield Oaks Dr\$349,950Sun 1-4Kathleen QuintarelliWeichert703-862-8808
Vienna
214 Center Ct

Open House to these weekly listings, please contact Don Park at 703-778-9420, or donpark@connectionnewspapers.com All listings are due by Monday at 3 P.M.

..\$1,385,000.

.Casey Samson....

..Samson Props..703-508-2535

Keller Williams 703-564-4000

Home Life Style

Why Is My Home Home Work Rotting Away?

By Michael Porter Denker
And Todd McPhee
Special to the Almanac

ike, why is my house rotting away!?" This is the kind of question brimming with alarm and horror that builders and remodelers often hear. "How old is your house?" I asked.

"It's only 15 years old."

"Ray, your house is not rotting away, but the skin of your house might be."

"Well, it's creeping me out. My window trim, some of the siding, and my cedar roof have cancer."

I had to explain to my distressed acquaintance that we were at the end of an era, that the period when wood was the preferred exterior finish on new homes and additions was over. It's like the period before the fluoridation of water. Before fluoridation, dentists were spending a lot of their time filling cavities. In our case, every day our employees face having to repair wood rot.

In the building industry today, there is a definite trend away from using wood for the trim and siding on the outside of houses being built. Houses are still being roofed with cedar, but those days are numbered as are those roofs. This trend began 20 years ago and has accelerated recently.

When I first became a builder remodeling and repairing homes 35 years ago, wood was still king. Windows were made of wood, doors were made of wood. The outside skin of the house, unless it was covered with brick or stucco, was wood siding or wood shingles. The trim around doors and windows was wood. The boards that trimmed the edges of the roof were wood.

What has happened, and why? The world has changed. From the 1600s until the mid-20th century Americans were awash in wood, and it was special wood. This wood had grown slowly in the primeval forests. We cut down the forests, but there was always another untouched forest to the west. The last of our ancient forests was on our northwest coast, and we began to cut into those in the late 19th century. By the late 20th century, a cry arose nationally to save what was left of this unique environment in the great Northwest. The environmental and conservation movement helped to limit cutting trees in what was left of those old growth forests. The products from the forests: "old growth" redwood, cedar, and Douglas Fir are no longer available in the generous quantities of the past, and the prices have skyrocketed. Trees that are now grown in plantations grow much more rapidly — and these same species might as well be completely different species.

The knotless giant trees of the great Northwest (and the South for that matter) that fueled the building industry since the late 19th century grew slowly over hundreds of years adding tiny growth rings. If



Mike Denker, left, and Todd McPhee of Hopkins & Porter.

you look at old growth redwood, for example, there could be 20 to 50 years or more per inch. Today's fast grown redwood have four rings (or four years) to the inch and can, under certain conditions, begin to rot immediately.

I WILL NEVER FORGET the time a client of mine called to ask me to look at his porch railing materials which we had installed only six months before. Much of the wood had turned black and there were mushrooms growing out of the wood. That was a wake up call for me.

Our old trustworthy materials were not working any more. The wood we were buying through the lumber yard was the new stuff, and, to quote one of our carpenters, it was just like marshmallow. Rot and creatures ate it up.

In typical fashion, American ingenuity rushed to replace this missing resource, and, like any change, there has been a period of confusion, some success, but a lot of failure. Along with change in any industry, there are always baby steps that fail, unintended consequences, and companies that go out of business as their new products fail. Even today, none of the new products have been around long enough for us to really know how long they will last under the sun and weather. Many homeowners are familiar with the paper-based siding called Masonite which was only marginally successful, and today we are still tearing it off homes. We now replace Masonite with another new material: cement siding.

Builders and remodelers all over the country are facing the same dilemma I did: the wood that they depended upon is letting them down. As responsible professionals, we have to go back and tear out these defective wood products and replace them, spending thousands of dollars of our own money in the process.

It begs the question: what sort of longevity can any of us expect when it comes to home construction? I like to think 50 years for exterior materials, but, when you compare that to the longevity of the mature wood we used to build with, a 50-year lifespan doesn't seem very long at all. In the next column we will discuss the new materials, their pros and cons, their costs and what kind of life expectancy they might have.

We welcome your questions and comments: mike@hopkinsandporter.com.

"Home Work" is a monthly column devoted to the mundane but critical issues of looking after one's home, protecting that investment, and at the same time maintaining one's sanity.



Photo by David Doughton/Kitchen and Bath Factory

One option for additional bathroom storage space is a furniture-style vanity cabinet like the one that Arlington-based designer David Doughton installed in the bathroom of this Great Falls home.

Latest in Bathroom Design

From Page 15

MEDICINE CABINETS. As homeowners look for effective ways to add additional storage space, shelving and cabinetry in the bathroom, the time-tested medicine cabinet is making a re-emergence after a decline in popularity. "In [the Washington, D.C. area] where bathrooms are small, every inch of space is premium," said Doughton. "Medicine cabinets are definitely a must in this area. I've even made units that are 60 inches tall that go behind a door to give people the ample amount of storage space."

Another option is a furniture-style vanity cabinet. "They are different from traditional cabinets because they look like a piece of furniture and can add a 'wow' factor to a bathroom," added Doughton.

SOLID SURFACES. When it comes to vanity tops, granite, quartz and marble are the top choices. "Quartz vanity tops are low maintenance, but some people want the natural look of granite," said Doughton.

As an alternative, Mann suggests an engineered stone known as Cambria. "It is man-made and is a good solid surface," said Mann. "It is not a porous material and does not require a lot of maintenance."

A National Kitchen and Bathroom Association survey found that another trend is the use of glass vanity tops. "It gives a bit of flair," said Mann. "It adds a little bit of interest to the space and gives it a little bit of charm and personality."

SHADES OF GRAY. While whites and off-whites continue to be the most popular color for bathrooms, gray is gaining ground as a versatile option. When used skillfully, gray color schemes can provide a distinguished backdrop without overpowering a design.

"What's nice about gray finishes is that it can accent just about any palette, especially blues or greens," said Doughton.

Mann used gray paint and white marble to turn an Arlington bathroom into a tranquil sanctuary "Gray is pleasing and calming," she said. "It has become the new neutral. [Designers] say it has become the new beige."

TRANSITIONAL OVER TRADITIONAL.

For the first time since the National Kitchen and Bathroom Association began tracking annual trends, traditional is no longer the most popular design style. Replacing it is transitional style, a combination of traditional and contemporary elements that creates a classic, timeless design.

"I think some people may be afraid to commit to one style over another," said Doughton. "Transitional allows them to incorporate things that they like from both realms and blend them together. What you pair with it really determines which way it sways on the line between modern or contemporary or traditional."

LARGE TILE. Local designers say that large tiles for the floor and walls of the shower are a practical and popular choice. "What people like about larger tiles is that there is less grout involved so there is less maintenance and cleaning. It ends up looking like you have one piece of solid flooring in your bathroom," said Doughton.

MULTIPLE SHOWERHEADS. Multiple showerheads can turn a daily activity into an indulgent luxury.

"They can create a spa-like feel, but there are also practical and great for young families with little kids," said Padilla. "You can use the hand held hose and rinse the shower down like you would in a sink to clean it out."

THE COUNTY LINE

Chambers Seek Support for Human Services

From Page 5

ber of Commerce have pledged support for the county's Housing Blueprint. Adopted by the board in 2011, the blueprint bolsters the county's goal to prevent and end homelessness by 2018 by mapping out strategies to create 2,650 housing opportunities. It reflects the philosophy of the board that affordable housing is a continuum

ranging from the needs of the thorization) for the Bridging homeless to homebuyers.

In a joint letter to the board, Eileen Curtis, president and CEO of the Dulles chamber and Mark Ingrao, president and CEO of the Reston chamber urged the board to provide funding to support the proposed investment in the Housing Blueprint as follows:

❖ \$4.1 million (continuing au-

first-time Affordability Program

❖ \$5 million (\$3 million from Fund 319/\$2 million from the General Fund) to support acquisition of 200 units that address the Blueprint housing goals

❖ \$2.61 million in rental subsidies, matched by nonprofit partners who provide the housing and services to address underfunded goals outlined in the Blueprint.

"As chambers of commerce representing the leading businesses in Fairfax County, we recognize that housing policy is an essential factor in economic development," Ingrao and Curtis stated in the let-

"A lot of folks are concerned about human services," Andere said. "These are things that are worthy of some investment."

ments and events in the faith connectionnewspapers.com. Dead-St. Francis Episcopal

FAITH NOTES Faith Notes are for announce-

Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers three Sunday services and a host of musical, educational, outreach, and fellowship ministries to enrich spiritual growth. 7:45 a.m. Worship Service without music; 9 a.m. Worship Service, Children's Chapel and Children's Choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum; and 11 a.m. Worship Service with Adult Choir. 703-759-2082.

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean, Sunday worship services are at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for adults is at 9:30 a.m. and for children during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Youth Group for grades 7-12 meets Sundays at 6 p.m. A 20-minute service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at 12 p.m. 703-356-3312 or umtrinity.org.

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. www.jssa.org/

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Con-703-941-7000 www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

Employee Compensation in Fairfax County

Proposed Salary Increase if warranted by performance.) for FY-2013

Fairfax - 2.18 Percent (No step increases for public safety employees or pay for performance increases for general employees are proposed.)

Alexandria - 2.3-5 percent

(Alexandria's FY 2013 proposed budget includes funding for meritbased pay increases ranging from 2.3 to 5 percent. No across-theboard pay increases are funded. Also, public safety employees at the top of their grade – those not eligible for a merit-based pay increase - will be eligible for a onetime 2.3 percent pay supplement

Arlington - 2.5 percent

(Arlington's FY 2013 budget proposal including funding for merit/ step increases, which average 2.5 percent. No COLA/market pay adjustment has been proposed.)

Loudoun - 0.0 to 2 percent

(Loudoun County's budget proposal includes a zero percent increase option up to an average increase of 2 percent for all county employees. No merit increases are assumed in the proposal.)

Prince George's - 0.0 percent

(No merit or cost-of-living adjustments are proposed for G-scale

employees. The County is currently in negotiations with the union.)

Prince William - 3 percent

(This is a proposed pay-for-performance increase provided to employees who receive a "fully achieves" performance rating. As part of Prince William's "Performance Plus" system, employees who receive ratings above "fully achieves" will receive bonuses on top of the 3 percent increase. A one-time bonus of 1 percent will be provided to employees with an "exceeds" rating and a 2 percent bonus will be provided for those with a rating of "greatly exceeds."

The county proposes to increase the top of the pay scale to allow all employees to earn a merit this

Fairfax County Public Schools - 4.3 percent

(Fairfax County Public Schools have proposed merit increments, averaging 2.3 percent, as well as a 2 percent market scale adjust-

❖ Due to the timing of the budget releases, data was not available from Montgomery County or the District of Columbia. Information provided by Fairfax County Department of Management and Budget.







The Rev. Jacqueline Thomson
The Rev. Denise Trogdon
The Vine Methodist Church ... 703-573-5336
The Rev. Denise Trogdon
The Rev

The Rev. D. J. Zuchelli, Pastor

WORSHP HOURS SUNDAY: 11:00 AM SUNDAY: 11:20 AM SUNDAY: 11:20 AM SUNDAY: 11:20 AM Sunday school/buildic prechool - gade 2 Sunday schoo

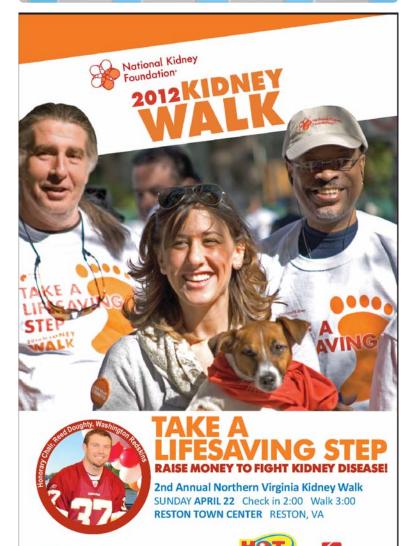


MCLEAN

Register online or at the Community Center.

The McLean Community Center

www.mcleancenter.org/special-events



Entertainment

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

THURSDAY/APRIL 12

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot circle, Fairfax. "Fully Charged." Pre-show Party one hour before show time, free to ticket holders. \$14-\$30. 800-551-SEAT or www.ticketmaster.com.

Vous êtes Des Animaux. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Robbie Schaefer and Ellis Paul.
The Barns at Wolftrap, 1635 Trap
Road, Vienna. \$18.

www.wolftrap.org.

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 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.

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.

Toddler Time. 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Stories, songs, fingerplays and more. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-293-6227.

Vienna Arts Society. 7:30 p.m., Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. With artist and architect Robert Gilbert. Free. 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

FRIDAY/APRIL 13

"Side Man." 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. Turmoil in a jazz musician's family as his career crumbles at the dawn of rock-and-roll. \$25. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststagetysons.org.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot circle, Fairfax. "Fully Charged." Pre-show Party one hour before show time, free to ticket holders. \$14-\$30. 800-551-SEAT or www.ticketmaster.com.

Tommy Stinson (from Guns n' Roses & The Replacements) and The 27s. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Rachel Barton Pine. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. \$35. www.wolftrap.org. English Conversation Group. 10

English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. English conversation group. Adults. 703-938-

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Learn and play. Age 5-18. 703-938-0405.

American Legion Dinner. 5:30-8 p.m. American Legion Post 180, 330 North Center St., Vienna. Shepherd's pie, mixed vegetables, roll, dessert, \$10. Public welcome. 703-938-9535

Artists' Reception. 6-9 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. N.W., Vienna. "Art in Bloom." 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 14

5th Annual Run for the Arts 5k and Fun Run. Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. 7-8 a.m. Packet



Photo courtesy of 1st Stage

Pickup at Encore Circle Lounge, 8:30 a.m. 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk, 8:30 a.m. 5K warm-up, 8:45 a.m. 5K Race shotgun start, 9-11 a.m. Finish Line Festival with live entertainment. Proceeds benefit Wolf Trap Foundation's arts and education programs. www.wolftrap.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.

"Side Man." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. Turmoil in a jazz musician's family as his career crumbles at the dawn of rock-and-roll. \$25. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststagetysons.org.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot circle, Fairfax. "Fully Charged." Pre-show Party one hour before show time, free to ticket holders. \$14-\$30. 800-551-SEAT or www.ticketmaster.com.

Children's Show: Gustafer Yellowgold. 10:30 a.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Love146 Awareness Concert with TheRuinCity, The Atlantic Light, Crush Atlantic and Semper Fly. 1:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Mad 5K Run and One Mile Walk. 9
a.m. James Madison High School,
2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna.
Awards for the top 3 male and female
finishers, age group awards, T-shirts
and refreshments. \$15 students, \$20
adults. Proceeds benefit James
Madison High School track and field
team. Register at www.fcps.edu/
MadisonHS.

Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com or 703-790-4031.

Bandhouse Gigs' Tribute to Rod Stewart: Back to Gasoline Alley. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

Saturday Storytime. 11 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Stories, songs and activities. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-757-8560.

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.

The Three (Not So Little) Pigs. 1:30 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Blue Sky Puppet Theatre. All ages. 703-938-0405.

From left: Sun King Davis, Kevin Hasser, Patrick Bussink (center in striped sweater), Maboud Ebrahimszadeh and Chris Mancusi in the 1st Stage production of 'Side Man.' Performances through April 22, 2012. Fridays 8 p.m., Saturdays, 2 & 8 p.m., Sundays, 2 & 7 p.m.

Microsoft Excel. 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Introduction to creating spreadsheets. Adults. 703-293-6227.

McLean Community Center Spring Community Garage Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 1420 Beverly Road, McLean. Paper shredding, the Safe Community Coalition's safe medicine disposal unit and a truck for donations on site. Admission and parking are free. 703-790-0123 or www.mcleancenter.org/specialevents.

SUNDAY/APRIL 15

"Side Man." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. Turmoil in a jazz musician's family as his career crumbles at the dawn of rock-and-roll. \$25. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststagetysons.org.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot circle, Fairfax. "Fully Charged." Pre-show Party one hour before show time, free to ticket holders. \$14-\$30. 800-551-SEAT or www.ticketmaster.com.

Gungor- Ghosts Upon the Earth Tour. 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Used Book Sale. 1-4 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com

TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com or 703-790-4031.

Russian Storytellers. 3 p.m. Center for the Arts at George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. American Youth Philharmonic, Daniel Spalding, conductor. Liadov's Baba-Yaga, Op. 56 and The Enchanted Lake, Legend for Orchestra, Op. 62, Tcherepnin's The Distant Princess, Op. 4, Rimsky-Korsakov's A Night on Bald Mountain, Fantasy for Orchestra and Stravinsk.: Petrushka (1911). \$14 adult, \$10 senior, \$10 student. www.aypo.org, events@aypo.org or 703-642-8051.

Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society. 2:30 p.m. Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St., Falls Church. With Mary Anne Barton, past president of the Washington Daffodil Society. Free admission and refreshments. 703-

MONDAY/APRIL 16

560-8776.

Bike Rodeo. 1-3 p.m. Vienna
Elementary School, 128 Center St.
South, Vienna. Free and open to
children in Kindergarten through 6th
grade. The rodeo is designed to help
children who already know how to
ride a bicycle develop safety skills.
Drop-off gently used children's
bicycles to benefit the Wheels to
Africa, to be used to provide basic
transportation for people to reach
school, food, water and medical care.
kbarr@viennava.gov or www.wheels-

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 19

CONNECTION

www.kidneywalk.org/northernvirginia 202.244.7900

Entertainment

From Page 18

to-africa.org.

Set If Off and Divided By Friday. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

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.English Conversation. 10:30 a.m.

Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven
Place, Oakton. English practice for nonnative speaking adults. 703-242-4020.

Pack, Vakolin Enginsh practice for hom native speaking adults. 703-242-4020.

Potomac Valley Shetland
Sheepdog Club Monthly
Meeting. 7:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Dunn Loring Firehouse, 2148 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring.
Col. Wallace H. Pedé, CEO of the Senior Conformation Judges
Association, will discuss the inconsistency in judging shelties.
Refreshments and raffle. Free and open to the public.
www.potomacvalleyssc.com.

TUESDAY/APRIL 17

The 6th Degree, Atlast and Grand Revival. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Personalized Internet Training.

2:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. A 45-minute one-on-one Internet training session with a technology volunteer. Call for appointment. Adults. 703-790-8088.

Mystery Book Discussion. 6:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Call for title. Adults. 703-790-8088.

Practice Your English. 6:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-790-8088.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 3 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.

Genealogy Databases. 2 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Search for ancestors using the library's genealogy databases and other free Internet databases. Adults. 703-293-6227.

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-293-6227.

Evening Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Cutting for Stone by Abraham Verghese. Adults. 703-293-6227.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 18

Lovedrug, Last Royals and Andy Zipf (full band). 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Toddlin' Twos. 10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Stories and songs. Age 2 with adult. 703-938-0405.

Model Investment Club of Northern Virginia. 7 p.m. Tysons-Dimmit Pagional Library, 7594

Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Learn more about investing. Adults. 703-790-8088.

Student Volunteer Training

Session. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Students receive training from library staff and sign up for volunteer hours. Bring completed application. Grades 7-12. 703-293-6227

Vienna Photographic Society Monthly Photo Competition. 7:30 p.m. Thoreau Middle School, 2505 Cedar Lane, Vienna. Judging by Nikhil Bahl. Images may only be submitted by VPS members. 703-451-7298.

Jim Brickman. 8 p.m. The Barns at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

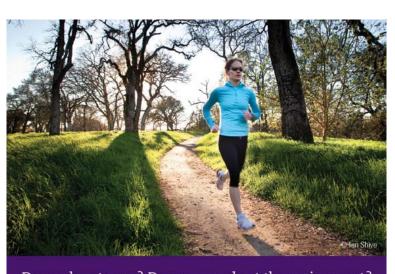
"Betty's Daffodils I" by Karen Bateman. Great Falls Studios presents the sixth annual Spring Art Festival, April 21-22,10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls. All of the artwork is created by Great Falls artists. The show includes oil and watercolor paintings, photography, pottery, digital art, jewelry, weaving, and woodcarving and more. A portion of the sale proceeds will go to the school. Free admission. 703-442-9251.

Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Pop pianist. \$35. www.wolftrap.org.

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4th Annual Green Expo. 6:30-9 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna. Presentations and discussions for

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21 Announcements

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Look What I Saw, Really



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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

A male patient sitting directly across from me being infused with his unique chemotherapy cocktail, a bit too far for a conversation, but certainly close enough for a knowing/ empathetic glance. He didn't look too well; jaundice in the face, a baseball cap covering up a chemotherapy-affected hair line (as I can similarly attest) and a thin physique exuding the type of stress commonly found in cancer patients being infused. Dressed casually in blue jeans and a long sleeve cotton shirt; with his sneakers pointing toward the ceiling resting on the elevated foot support of the Barcalounger as the I.V. continues its drip. Accompanied by his wife, as I overheard her described, sitting supportively to his left.

Though I had never seen this man during my three-plus years of regular (every month, basically) infusions, he looked eerily familiar, or at least his circumstances and appearance did. The more I thought about it, more so after I had left the facility, the more obvious it became: he looked like me, or rather, I looked like him. It wasn't quite like looking in the mirror, but it was a bit like seeing the truth (of my appearance). Whatever I thought I looked like (see 3/7/2012 column titled "Look What She Saw, Really") or denied what I actually looked like, it became ever more apparent and clear the longer the two of us sat across from one another. Then the clincher: I found out from my oncology nurse that this man and I were approximately the same age. Which was extremely distressing because, by looking at his gaunt and frail appearance, I would have guessed that he was much older than me. Finding out that we were close in age was in fact was unsettling. Unsettling because this revelation came on top of my observation that he and I looked similar. And if I thought he looked much older than me, then maybe I too looked much older - and less healthy than I thought I did. If so, then maybe the woman in the supermarket whom I wrote about in my March 7th column had every reason to stare at me the way she did that day.

Seeing my fellow patient for what he and I apparently are, was not exactly like seeing a ghost, but it wasn't like seeing George Clooney, either. Whatever I think in my head about how I feel/how I look; presumably, if looks could kill, I'd be dead already. And since I don't want, nor think that I am dead already, considering now that my appearance might actually reflect the severity of my underlying diagnosis – in spite of how I think I feel and in spite of how people say I look, would be (A) news to me and (B) news that isn't very good.

The question is, whether it's news with which I can live. I have always tried to take this cancer diagnosis in stride and not let it effect my demeanor. Part of that strategy has involved a bit of denial to the seriousness/ inevitability of it all. Seeing this fellow cancer patient sitting across from me, however, looking so familiar – and similar to me, caused not my life to pass before me, but rather my death. It's not what I had in mind when I went to the Center that day and it's rarely how I want to begin my day. Nevertheless, his image and its reality is in my head now. No wonder I felt the need to write about it.

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

On Stage

Roller Coaster Mystery Ride

McLean Community Players present 'Deathtrap.'

By David Siegel
The Connection

eathtrap," by Ira Leven, has been fascinating audiences more than 30 years, since it debuted on Broadway. "Experiencing 'Deathtrap' is like your first visit to a circus, a thrilling delight with every twist and surprise," said veteran McLean Community Players' director Jerry Bonnes.

"I love mysteries and thrillers; they are intricate and enjoyable. This play is so very well thought-out with plenty of nuance to entertain," said Bones who has put together a cast of five, including new-comers and old-hands. "Deathtrap" was nominated for the 1978 Tony Award for Best Play and ran on Broadway for about four years and 1800 performances.

The story line sounds simple enough, but the journey is far from a straight line through its two acts. It all begins with Sydney Bruhl (newcomer Dan Eddy) trying to deal with a long dry spell in his play writing career. What was once effortless, is now desperation. He hasn't had a hit show in 18 years. So what is he to do? And that is how "Deathtrap's" twisty ride of deceit, murder, laughter and who knows what else begins.

Eddy describes his character "as a fabulous role with lots of different emotions. It is a fun and challenging role of an urbane playwright undergoing a dry spell and searching desperately for a way out of his dry spell."

Clifford Anderson (newcomer Will Spilman) spoke of the joy in "the sarcasm of some his lines that he gets to say." His character in "the play is a charming individual with quite a few unexpected complications" to keep the audience guessing. Spilman said he "wanted the audience to have a good time as they figure things out."

Sydney's wife, Myra (Laura Peterson) loves mysteries and being in "Deathtrap" is great fun. Her character gets to "look on in horror at what is going on quite often in a play that is complex, along with its lighter humorous touches. Her character is generally "trying to prop up her husband during his desperate times and as they are at a crossroads."



Laura Peterson and Dan Eddy in the McLean Community Players' production of "Deathtrap" opening on April 20 at Alden Theatre.

-Where and When

"Deathtrap" from McLean Community Players, at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. Performances: April 20-May 5. Fridays-Saturdays 8 p.m., Sunday matinees 2 p.m. Tickets \$14-\$16. Call 703-304-3176 or visit www.mcleanplayers.org.

Note: Adult themes, production is most suitable for audiences 15 and older.

To add to the realism of things, Producer Bunny Bonnes brought in a fight choreographer, Carl Brandt Long, so that "the audience sees fights that are both real and safe and enjoyable to watch. Everyone associated with the production wants the audience to have a great experience and even enjoy themselves more than they expected."

Friends of Clemyjontri to Host Concert in the Park

n Saturday, April 21, the Friends of Clemyjontri will hold their Second Annual "Concert in the Park", a black-tie event in the Clemyjontri playground in McLean. This is the rescheduled event that had been postponed in September 2011. Themed "Under the Big Top," the concert and dinner will feature a performance by the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra (with appropriately circus-worthy musical selections) and a sit-down dinner catered by Susan Gage Caterers. This fun and intimate event is limited to 100 invited guests.

Clemyjontri is Virginia's

first all-accessible playground, built so that all children can play side-by-side without differentiation or limitations. The 5-acre playground's centerpiece is its carousel, which features 14 moving horses alongside chairs for riders in wheelchairs. The playground's equipment is designed and installed so that all can play - and more than 200,000 visitors do just that each year.

The first "Concert in the Park" event raised nearly \$100,000, which was used to help donate a new Liberty Swing to the site. This year's concert theme is "Under the Big Top," and thanks to the support from sponsors and

through ticket sales, Friends of Clemyjontri is donating a new canopy/tent on the site, affording much-needed additional shade for playground users as well as providing an additional location for event use and rental.

Confirmed attendees for the concert include Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova. Also, Virginia's Governor and Mrs. McDonnell are expected to attend this event.

Please call Sarah Lessa at 703-506-8980 for more information, and visit http://www.friendsofclemy.com/.

SPORTS

Madison Boys Tennis Triumphant at South Lakes

Liberty District win puts Madison over the .500 mark.

his past Monday, April 9, the Madison High boys' tennis team improved its season record to 3-2 with a 7-2 win at Liberty District rival South Lakes in Reston.

The Warhawks, who are coached by Glenn Adams, won five of the six singles matches. In four of those matches, the Madison players all pulled out their wins after having been even or behind at the halfway point of their respective competitions.

Madison's singles winners were: No. 2 John Nothaft, 10-5 over Khoa Nguyen; No. 3 Alec Ostapovicz, 10-6 over Sam Evans; No. 4 Matt Bosco, 10-4 over McNeil Bauer; No. 5 Albert Chang, 11-10 (7-0 tiebreaker) over Phillip Katz; and No. 6 Alex Russell, 10-7 over Sunny Gupta.

Madison also won at both No. 2 and No. 3 doubles. At No. 2, Nothaft and Alec Ostapovicz defeated Nguyen and Adam Gorgos, 10-4. At No. 3 doubles, Aaron Plymack and Alex Dondershine of Madison bested Bauer and Gupta of South Lakes, 10-

Madison, with the team win, improved its record to over .500 at 3-2, while South Lakes fell to 1-4.

In its prior team match before last week's spring break week, Madison lost to defending Liberty District and Northern Region champion Jefferson High, 8-1. The competition took place on Monday, March 26 at Madison High in Vienna.



Madison High senior John Adam. shown here in his team's road match at South Lakes earlier this week, has played at No. 1 singles throughout the spring season for the Warhawks.

Madison's lone win came at No. 2 singles where Nothaft, a senior, defeated Kevin Wan, 10-5.

At No. 1 singles, Madison senior John Adam put up a strong showing versus Ben Rosenblum in a 10-7 setback. Alec Ostapovicz, also a senior, gave No. 3 opponent Brad Rosenblum stiff competition in a 10-7 loss as well. At No. 6 singles, Jefferson's Matt Spahr edged Madison's



Madison High No. 2 boys' tennis player John Nothaft (pictured) was a winner in his match over South Lakes opponent Khoa Nguyen on Monday.

Madison's No. 2 and 3 doubles teams lost close matches. At No. 2, Nothaft and Ostapovicz fell by a 10-7 score to Wan and Huang. At No. 3, Plymack, a senior, and Dondershine, a freshman, fell in a 10-8 decision to Matt Swanhorst and Ben Hsu.

Jefferson, with the team win, improved to 3-1 on the season.

Alex Russell, a senior, in a tiebreaker, 11- IN A MATCH PLAYED on Wednesday,

March 21 at Madison, the Warhawks defeated district opponent Stone Bridge High of Ashburn, 7-2.

At No. 1 singles, John Adam of Madison was an 11-10 (8-6) tiebreaker winner over opponent Brian Jones. Madison also received a victory at No. 2 singles where Nothaft beat Collin Beckham, 10-4.

Madison's other singles winners came at both No. 5 and No. 6. At No. 5,

Chang, a junior, won over Zach Bokulic, 10-8. And at No. 6, Alex Russell was a 10-4 winner over Matthew Bernhards.

Madison swept all three of its doubles matches versus the Bulldogs. At No. 1, John Adam and senior Gunnar Baskin won over Jones and Beckham, 10-2. At No. 2, Nothaft and Ostapovicz defeated Freitas and Bokulic, 10-3. And at No. 3 doubles, Madison's duo of Russell and Plymack were 10-1 winners over Kelly and Jeremy Basheda.

Two days earlier, Madison went up against district opponent Langley, one of the top teams in both the district and region. The Saxons got the best of the action, winning at home, 7-2, over the Warhawks. The competition was the season opener for both squads. Langley entered this season following a 2011 spring a year ago in which the Saxons finished second in both the district

Madison, in the loss to Langley, got a win at No. 4 singles where Matt Bosco handled opponent JT von Seggern, 10-4. Madison's other victory came at No. 2 doubles where the prolific twosome of Nothaft and Ostapovicz slipped past Saxon players Niu and Anudeep Boddu by a 9-8 (7-2

Basketball Capital Classic Showcase Set for April 21

Oakton High's Fred Priester will be head coach of the Virginia Girls All Stars.

high school basketball event, set to take place on Saturday, April 21, will consist of a full day of All Star hoops games at T.C. Williams High in Alexandria.

The day's first game, a girl's contest, will be at noon time between the Virginia All Stars versus the Maryland All Stars. The local Virginia squad will be under the direction of head coach Fred Priester, who led the Oakton High Cougars to the Virginia State AAA crown a few weeks ago. At 2 p.m., another girl's game, between the Prep/Private School All Stars versus the Inner High Stars will be

In the evening, there will be a boys' All Star double-header, beginning at 6 with a preliminary contest between the Suburban All Stars versus the D.C. All

he 39th Annual Capital Classic Stars. The Suburban All Stars will include Northern Region players such as Westfield's Zach Elcano (American University), Langley's Daniel Dixon, Yorktown's Jack Earley, and Edison's Matt Murphy. The District All Star team will include Paul VI High (Fairfax City) players Patrick Holloway (George Mason recruit), Tilman Dunbar (Navy), and Coleman Johnson (Fairfield); Episcopal's Kethan Savage, a former Chantilly High player who will play at George Washington; and Potomac School (McLean) player Cullen Hamilton.

> After the first evening game, the main event Capital Classic Showcase, scheduled for around 8, will take place between the U.S. All Stars versus the Capital All Stars. The U.S. All Stars team will consist of five University of Maryland recruits along with recruits from North Carolina, Virginia, Clemson, Virginia Tech, and men's NCAA



Oakton High's Fred Priester led Oakton to the state AAA crown this past winter season.

tournament runner-up Kansas. The Capital All Stars, meanwhile, will include recruits from Wake Forest, George Mason, George Washington, and Navy.

For more information on all the day's basketball action, www.TheCapitalClassic.com.

— REPORTING BY RICH SANDERS



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About the Doctor

Brittany L. Vo, DDS was raised in Pasadena, TX. She graduated from the University of Houston with a B.S. in Economics and Minor in Political Science. She then went on to complete her dental education at Baylor College of Dentistry in Dallas, TX. She received her D.D.S. in 1997 and soon after was commissioned as a Captain in the United States Air Force. She was stationed at Bolling AFB in Washington, D.C. and finished at the Pentagon. In December 2001, after proudly serving her country, Dr. Vo went into private practice in Northern Virginia. She is licensed in Virginia, Maryland, and Texas.

She spends her free time keeping up with her husband, Binh Trang, and their four children. They recently moved to Vienna and enjoy the small town feel of Vienna in the midst of the big city. She is an avid sports fan and enjoys reading, traveling, and is a news junkie.

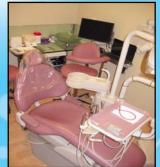
Dr. Vo is passionate about her patients and places a strong emphasis in providing quality dental care in a warm and caring environment. Her goal is to provide individualized care while offering knowledge, comfort, and gentle dentistry that is in harmony with the clinical techniques of today's dentistry. To her, patients are not just another name but become lifelong friends of the practice.



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