

# New Plant Life at Village Centre

NEWS, PAGE 4



From left, Glen Sjoblom of the Great Falls Citizens Association, Joanne Shumpert of Treefrog Nursery and George Benza of SGB Land Management next to one of the flower baskets that have been installed around Great Falls.

## Seniors Group Sets First Event

NEWS, PAGE 10

## Storms Leave 2 Dead, Power Out

NEWS, PAGE 3

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**Tree crushes cars along Rt. 123 in Oakton. Storms uprooted mature trees, blew down limbs, brought down numerous power lines and also broke power poles.**



PHOTO BY  
VICTORIA ROSS/  
THE CONNECTION

## Storms Leave 2 Dead, Power Out

**At least two dead in Fairfax; 285,000 residents still without power after Friday night's hurricane force winds.**

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**W**inds of more than 70 miles per hour swept through Fairfax County Friday night. Power went out as the storm blew into the area around 10:30 p.m. with hurricane force winds sounding like a freight train.

The sound made some residents think a tornado was upon them, and many took refuge in basements.

**THERE WERE AT LEAST TWO DEATHS** in Fairfax County, both in the West Springfield area.

A 27-year-old Burke man, Khiet Huyen, died when a tree fell directly on top of his car on Old Keene Mill Road near Bauer Drive, according to Fairfax Police. He was declared dead at the scene of the accident.

A 90-year-old West Springfield woman who was lying in bed died when a tree fell on her home on Carr Street at 11 p.m. Friday night. Another person in the home called 911 but was unable to reach the woman. Police and fire and rescue units responded to the home, but they needed a construction crane and specialized tree removal equipment to continue the recovery operation.

On Saturday early morning, 429,868 of Dominion Power's Northern Virginia 831,900 customers were without power. Among those affected was the Fairfax County emergency 911 service.

The Fairfax County emergency 911 phone system was down around noon Saturday, according to the Fairfax County Emergency Alert system. "Many other forms of communications to include cellular, land line and texting are intermittent. If you have an emergency, we ask that you go to your local police or fire station for assistance," according to Fairfax County officials.

Emergency 911 service was working by Sunday,



PHOTO BY ANNA REHMATULLA/THE CONNECTION

**One person was killed while driving at the intersection of Old Keene Mill Road and Bauer Drive in Springfield.**

and police ask that residents call 911 only in a true emergency, and to call the Fairfax County non-emergency numbers, 703-691-7561 and 703-691-3680 to report less urgent public safety problems. These are not the numbers to call to report a power outage; call Dominion at 866-366-4357.

Many traffic signals are out throughout the region. In Fairfax County, 130 traffic signals were without power on Saturday, according to county officials, who remind drivers to treat any intersection with a dark signal as a four-way stop sign.

Residents who get their water from the Falls Church Water system in portions of Tysons, McLean, Vienna, Dunn Loring and Merrifield were advised to boil their water before drinking it. Multiple water pumping plants throughout the region were without power, leading to calls for water conservation.

It will take at least several days, possibly as long as a week, to restore power to most customers, Dominion power warned.

By Saturday night, there were about 340,000 Dominion customers in Northern Virginia still without power. By Sunday morning, that number was down to 285,000 households.

With temperatures predicted to be 100 degrees or greater, there were hyperthermia concerns about residents who are older or with disabilities.

**STORMS UPROOTED** mature trees, blew down limbs, brought down numerous power lines and also broke power poles.

Neighbors were urged to check on seniors and those with disabilities.

Call 911 for reports of "hot" or sparking electrical wires, especially those on roadways.

Call Dominion Power to report outages at 1-866-366-4357.

SEE LOCAL STORM COVERAGE, PAGE 13



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**Senior Eagle Scouts with current and former Troop 55 Scoutmasters. From left: Brad Hodge, Gary Pan, Clayton Barber, Garrett Pan, John Studabaker, Neil Patil and Bob MacKichan.**

## Seven Boy Scouts Earn Eagle Scout

BY COREY HODGE  
TROOP 55 HISTORIAN

**C**ompleting over 150 merit badges and more than 2,100 requirements collectively, seven Troop 55 Boy Scouts achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in Great Falls. Clayton Barber, Kyle Dear, Brad Hodge, Garrett Pan, Neil Patil, Grant Smith and John Studabaker joined the less than 2 percent of Boy Scouts who reach the rank of Eagle Scout. These Scouts each completed a service project, serving as project manager for more than 100 man-hours of volunteer time to improve their community.

Barber refurbished a storage room at St. Thomas a Becket Catholic Church, building shelving and reorganizing their entire inventory. Barber learned that "organization is a huge step into doing this efficiently." Barber's favorite merit badge was swimming because it is a critical life skill. Barber's greatest lesson, "You need to be prepared for anything."

Dear built two waterproof portable wheelchair ramps to assist in the physical and emo-

tional rehabilitation of disabled active duty military personnel and veterans through fly-fishing and fly tying education. Dear's favorite merit badge was swimming because to earn the merit badge you had to blow up everyday clothing to serve as life jackets in order to save yourself or someone else. Dear learned from Scouts, "It is important to be clear when giving direction and multi-tasking is an important skill."

Hodge led a community-wide collection for the Northern Virginia Family Service Thrift Shop. He learned that with enough notice and reminding, people will respond. Hodge's favorite camping outing was a Gettysburg trip with winds exceeding 60 miles per hour. "We almost lost a few tents while packing up," said Hodge. His favorite merit badge was archery because, "I happened to be quite good at it." The most important thing he learned from his experience in Boy Scouts was, "Things won't get done unless you do them."

Pan's Eagle Scout project at Wolf Trap National Park edu-

SEE BOY SCOUTS, PAGE 5



**From left: Gary Pan, Troop 55 Scoutmaster, Virginia Delegate Barbara Comstock, Clayton Barber, Brad Hodge, and Kevin McCormick.**



# New Plant Life at Village Centre

**GFCA, local businesses plant 50 flower baskets.**

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

Visitors to the Great Falls Village Centre and the surrounding areas may have noticed a little extra plant life. The Great Falls Citizens Association, along with the Village Centre Condos, the Old Brogue, Adeler Jewelers, BB and T, the Great Falls Exxon, Great Falls Auto Service, Village Green Day School and Oliver's Corner all helped contribute to the project, which includes 50 baskets.

"The idea for this project started a long time ago, and then the GFCA decided it would be a good idea to cooperate with the businesses," said Glen Sjoblom of the GFCA. "We wanted to involve only local companies, so that's who we put bids out to, everything from the flowers, to the planting, to the watering service."

The flower baskets are filled with leafy greens and flowers of yellow and purple, hanging in 18-inch diameter baskets lined with cocoa mat. The plants were specifically chosen for their heat resistance, so they would survive in sweltering summer temperatures, even though most will be in the shade for the majority of the day.

"Each basket contains 11 plants, made up of scaevola, lantana, petunias and sweet potato vine, which give a few different colors and some dangling vines," said Joanna Shumpert of Treefrog Nursery, who put the bas-

kets together. "We planted them and put up the baskets and brackets to attach them to the light poles in the area."

The Safeway shopping center is currently undergoing replacement of its light poles, so it was not included this year, but Sjoblom said he's hoping the program continues after this year and eventually expands.

Steve and George Benza of SGB Land Management will be handling the watering of the baskets.

"We originally planned to water every other day or so, but with the heat we'll be coming out every day," George Benza said. "And we'll be keeping an eye out for Japanese beetles, which are definitely after some of the plants."

**MANY VISITORS** to the village centre have already picked up on the new vegetation places around.

"They add a nice, natural touch to the area. Since Great Falls is known as a place that emphasizes nature, it's appropriate," said Emily Masters of Great Falls. "It's nothing that's too ostentatious, but it's a nice accent to the area and I know I'll be keeping my eye out for the other ones around."

Sjoblom says the flowers will probably bloom for about four months, until September. Next year he says they will possibly examine different flowers with different colors and other characteristics.

Donations for future flower baskets can be made to Celebrate Great Falls, PO Box 295, Great Falls, VA, 22066. Donations must be made to Celebrate Great Falls, because they are a 501(c)3, which allows them to accept donations. The GFCA is classified as a 501(c)4, also a nonprofit, but the donations are unable to be written off.



**George Benza of SGB Land Management waters one of the 50 flower baskets that have been placed around businesses in and around the Great Falls Village Centre.**

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION



**One of the newly installed flower baskets at the Great Falls Village Centre.**

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THE CONNECTION  
NEWSPAPERS



## NEWS

# Boy Scouts Honored

FROM PAGE 3

cated consumers about recycling of electronics and included collection of electronics to be recycled properly. Pan's favorite outing was a summer camp at Blue Ridge Scout Reservation where he did a high adventure that included white water rafting and rock climbing. His favorite merit badge was Wilderness Survival which required spending the night in a shelter created using only natural resources. "I liked it so much, I did it again at another summer camp, even though I already had the merit badge" Pan said.

Patil's Eagle Scout project took place along the bank of the Potomac River where he led a group of boys building a 185-foot split rail fence to protect riparian vegetation and to prevent erosion. "The great thing about Boy Scouts is you can follow anything you have an interest in," Patil remarked. Patil was curious about Meteorology, so he earned the weather merit badge. Patil's lesson from scouting was to persevere through challenges, "There were so many times when I wanted to

quit Boy Scouts because it became a challenge. Looking back however, I am extremely happy I stuck with it. The view at the top of any mountain is always the prettiest."

Smith built a stage at St. Francis Church in Great Falls to be used by the pre-school children. "It felt great to provide a resource for kids, and give back to the church that sponsors our Troop," Smith said.

Studabaker's greatest memory was a challenging day at the Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico on a 13-mile climb. Studabaker remarked, "After eating lunch at the Tooth of Time, we started the downhill trek. It started to pour rain, so rather than covering our packs and putting on raingear, we started sprinting with 40 pound packs on our backs." For his Eagle Scout project, Studabaker built an 8-slotted Kayak Rack at Riverbend Park. The rack was built to provide weather protection during the boating season. Studabaker learned, "You are only a teenager once in your life. Enjoy it while you can. But never shy away from taking risks."



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# New Laws, Assault on Freedom?

**Voting restrictions, abortion restrictions, DUI restrictions, fewer gun restrictions, more go into effect July 1.**

A plethora of new laws will go into effect in the Commonwealth on July 1, including restrictive new procedures for voting, and the loosening of multiple gun regulations.

Drivers convicted of driving while very intoxicated and anyone convicted of DUI for the second time will now be required to have ignition locks installed on their vehicles which will check their blood alcohol levels and keep them from driving if they have been drinking. Hopefully this technology will keep drunk drivers from getting behind the wheel.

Women seeking abortions will be required to have a sonogram 48 hours before the abortion. The debate over this bill was one of the most publicized pieces of state legislation in the nation, and the focus of many jokes, protests and outrage. But still the bill passed and the Governor signed it into law.

Voters will be required to present identification, and if they arrive at the polling place without identification, they will cast a provisional ballot that will only be counted if the voter attends a meeting of the electoral board the next day to present his or her identification. Previously signing an affidavit swearing to your identity was sufficient.

Fortunately, your concealed weapons permit will count as your voter identification. But the law provides less sanction for carrying your concealed weapon without having your concealed weapons permit in your possession (\$25 civil fine) than for not having your identification to vote in your possession (disenfranchised, your vote is not counted).

These two provisions, counting concealed weapons permit as voter identification and limiting the penalty for not having your permit with you while carrying your concealed weapon, were just a few of the laws passed that lessen restrictions on guns in commonwealth. Some examples, effective July 1: Eliminate the prohibition on purchasing more than one handgun in a 30-day period (there are no limits now); provide that nothing in the Emergency Services and Disaster Law shall limit or prohibit the otherwise law-

ful possession, carrying, transportation, sale, or transfer of firearms; provide that any locality that participates in any gun-buyback program offer the firearms acquired for sale by public auction or sealed bids to a person licensed as a dealer; allow local government employees to store a lawfully possessed firearm and ammunition in a locked private motor vehicle; remove the option for a locality to require that an applicant for a concealed handgun permit submit fingerprints as part of the application.

And something that will affect all of us, although it does not go into effect until September 2013, a new law that will require Virginians to pay sales tax on purchases from Amazon. This is only fair to local retailers.

The Virginia General Assembly enacted more than 700 new laws in 2012, many of them worthy of discussion.

## Independence Day Coverage Online, Next Week

This week's Connection papers were printed on Monday and Tuesday July 1-2 because of the timing of the July 4/Independence Day holiday.

On Monday, at least half of our readers were still without power after Friday night's 80-mile-per-hour wind storm, and at our office, we are coping with intermittent power and related computer problems. Our website has been updated with storm information, [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com), and our twitter accounts kept followers up to date during the aftermath.

While the hard copy of our papers won't get to readers until after the Wednesday holiday,

those papers will not include coverage of independence day events, which will hopefully all be held despite the ongoing cleanup.

Digital replica (free) subscribers will receive their papers before July 4. Digital subscriptions are available without charge. Sign up at [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

Our website is updated daily, [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com). We would love to get your storm photos, email your name, town name and what's happening in the photo to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM,

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Fourth of July Celebration

To the Editor:

As a former federal worker with 11 years of service at the Department of Defense, the Fourth of July is an important day for me. Since the dawn of our nation, federal workers have played a significant role in America's achievements.

The contributions of federal workers will be very much in evidence this week as Americans prepare to celebrate our nation's birthday. Millions of Americans will check a weather report prepared by the National Weather Service, grill meat inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and fly in skies kept safe by the Federal Aviation Administration and the Transportation Security Administration. Others will enjoy time outdoors in our National Parks, travel with children protected by car seats inspected by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and visit post offices to mail letters and packages to loved

ones serving in the military.

My fellow federal workers and I are proud of the jobs we've done for America for the last 236 years. We wish you, and the nation we love, a happy Independence Day.

**Lawrence Goldschmidt**  
Springfield

## Carbon Monoxide Alarms Can Help Prevent Tragedies

To the Editor:

Four adults and five children were hospitalized on June 14 after experiencing the effects of carbon monoxide poisoning in their apartment in Oakton. Luckily, these lives were saved, but this isn't always the case.

Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in America. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CO

poisoning causes more than 400 deaths and 20,000 emergency department visits in the U.S. annually.

Often called the "silent killer," CO is produced anytime a fuel is burned. Potential sources include gas or oil furnaces, water heaters, space heaters, clothes dryers, barbecue grills, fireplaces, wood-burning stoves, gas ovens, generators, and car exhaust fumes. When these appliances malfunction or are used improperly, CO poisoning may occur.

The National Fire Protection Association reports that nearly 89 percent of reported non-fire CO incidents take place at home. Having a working carbon monoxide alarm is the only safe way to detect this poisonous gas, so now is the time to install CO alarms or make sure your current alarms are updated.

Just like you can't predict a fire in your home, you also can't predict when a carbon monoxide leak will happen. Take steps to protect your family from this odorless, tasteless, invisible gas. Make sure

you have fuel-burning appliances inspected, never idle your vehicle in an attached garage or operate a generator indoors, and remember to install CO alarms in your home. For more information, visit <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/firesafety/AboutCO.asp>.

**Dave Rohr**  
Fire Chief

City of Fairfax Fire Department

## 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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**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Amna Rehmatulla**  
Editorial Assistant  
703-778-9410 ext.427  
[arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Alex McVeigh**  
Community Reporter  
703-778-9441  
[@AMcVeighConnect](mailto:amcveigh@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Victoria Ross**  
County Reporter ♦ 301-502-6027  
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**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
703-778-9433  
[@MaryKimm](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
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Jeanne Theismann  
703-778-9436  
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**CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426**  
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## NEWS

Members of the CAR, DAR and SAR retired worn and soiled United States flags with assistance of the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department. Worn American flags of any size may be left at the Great Falls Library year-round for this annual event.



PHOTO  
CONTRIBUTED

# CAR Hosts Flag Retirement

## Worn flags disposed of on Flag Day.

On Flag Day, June 14, members of the Children of the American Revolution (CAR) presented a flag retirement ceremony at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial. Several of the flags had marked the graves of Revolutionary War Veterans. Other flags had been displayed proudly by citizens of Great Falls. This is the third time the ceremony has been held at the Freedom Memorial.

Led by Captain Michael Allen, several members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Station 12 (Great

Falls) assisted with the retirement of unusable flags. Members of the Fairfax Resolves Chapter and Washington D.C. Society Sons of the American Revolution, Thomas Nelson and Freedom Hill Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and members of the community supported this event with their presence and participation.

During the ceremony, Chas Leiss, 1st Vice President of the Virginia Society CAR, presented a new U.S. Flag to Daniela Dixon for the Great Falls Library in appreciation for the use of the Library as a collection point for worn flags.

CAR promotes patriotism and American heritage among young people and in the community. Information about joining the CAR can be found online at [www.nscar.org](http://www.nscar.org).

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Margot (Margaret Berkowitz), Pilar (Kim Braswell) and Serena (Courtney Drake), the Greek Chorus, hitting the books.

# Full of Fun Musical Comes to Alden

McLean Community Players to present “Legally Blonde, The Musical.”

By DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

“Such a sassy show, with so much fun” is Kate Merryman’s description of the McLean Community Players’ production of “Legally Blonde, The Musical.” “It is just totally upbeat, an inspiration to see.” The storyline of “Legally Blonde, The Musical” is about a California sorority girl, Elle Woods, who doesn’t like to take “no” for an answer. When her boyfriend leaves her for someone supposedly smarter she still doesn’t give up. She studies hard and heads to Harvard Law to win back her ex. Elle rapidly adapts, takes the legal world by storm learning her true value along the way.

This 2007 multi-Tony Award nominated show has book by Heather Hach, music and lyrics by Laurence O’Keefe and Nell Benjamin. The musical is based upon the movie “Legally Blonde.” For veteran director Michael Replogle, the production is “a musical that is so buoyant and uplifting. It is full of youthful energy with music that utterly grabs you.” Replogle has directed over 70 professional and community theater productions over his career.

“There are so many layers to this musical; what appears at first to be a fluffy story is far from it,” said Replogle. “This is also a show with a great deal of dancing and movement. The cast is flying about as they dance, with pounding strong numbers. The choreography is very physical, visceral work with leaping and even jumping rope.”

“What I like about the show is how it pokes fun at itself with tongue-in-cheek. It just does not take itself too seriously, even with its heartening message,” said Replogle.

With the creative talents of Music Director Walter (Bobby) McCoy and Co-Choreographers Chris Dore

PHOTOS BY TRACI J. BROOKS  
PHOTOGRAPHY



Elle Woods (Kate Merryman) and Emmett Forrest (Matthew Lincoln-Bugg) discuss class schedules.

## Where and When

McLean Community Players present “Legally Blonde, The Musical” at Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave in McLean. Performances: July 13- July 29, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Sunday Matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$ 18-\$20. Call 703-790-9223 or visit [www.mcleanplayers.org](http://www.mcleanplayers.org)

and Kathleen McCormack the large cast will sing and dance through an energetic score of about two dozen songs backed by a 12 member band. The band includes keyboards, horns, reeds and violin. In the lead role of Elle, Kate Merryman, gets “to play an iconic role, a role in which the character grows before the audience. She may be naive at the beginning, but she is not stupid! She just hasn’t had the experiences outside of her small world. But then she becomes more aware. Through an ‘aha’ moment thinking of what she really wants, Elle begins to learn that she has much to offer the world.”

“We want the audience to feel so good and have a delightful time,” said a co-producer Lynne Lawhead.

## ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday for the following week’s paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com)

### WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

**4th of July Fireworks Celebration.** 8 p.m. Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. See Northern Virginia’s best fireworks display to honor our nation’s 236th birthday. Receive an American flag from McLean American Legion Post 270. Shuttle buses available from St. John’s Lutheran Church on Douglass St. and Georgetown Pike and the McLean Community Center. [sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov). **25th Annual International Holy Convocation of the New Born Lighthouse Church of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.** Services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Sheraton Premiere at Tyson’s Corner, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. [www.nblchurch.org](http://www.nblchurch.org) or 301-499-2105.

**Town of Vienna Celebrates July 4th.** 5 p.m. Southside Park, 1315 Ross Drive SW, Vienna. Activities from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. will include food and drink for sale, games and rides, arts and crafts vendors, community organization booths, antique cars, a chili cook-off and music. Fireworks show will begin at 9:15 p.m. Spectator seating areas open at 5 p.m. [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

### THURSDAY/JULY 5

**Elizabeth Mitchell.** 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings artist. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or [www.wolftrap.org/TITW](http://www.wolftrap.org/TITW). **Wolf Trap Opera Company: Don Giovanni.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Preshow talk one hour before performance. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org). **25th Annual International Holy Convocation of the New Born Lighthouse Church of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.** Services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Sheraton Premiere at Tyson’s Corner, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. [www.nblchurch.org](http://www.nblchurch.org) or 301-499-2105.

### FRIDAY/JULY 6

**Elizabeth Mitchell.** 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings artist. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or [www.wolftrap.org/TITW](http://www.wolftrap.org/TITW). **25th Annual International Holy Convocation of the New Born Lighthouse Church of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.** Services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Sheraton Premiere at Tyson’s Corner, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. [www.nblchurch.org](http://www.nblchurch.org) or 301-499-2105. **Broadway Rocks!** 8:15 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20-\$52. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org)

### SATURDAY/JULY 7

**Vienna Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Vienna Caboose, 131 Church St. N.E., Vienna. Producers only, Saturdays through Oct. 27. [viennafarmersmarket.com](http://viennafarmersmarket.com). **Elizabeth Mitchell.** 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings artist. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or [www.wolftrap.org/TITW](http://www.wolftrap.org/TITW). **Wolf Trap Opera Company: Don Giovanni.** 7 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Preshow talk one hour before performance. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org). **Social Ballroom Dance.** 7 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. First Saturday



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE 1ST STAGE

Doug Wilder and Rex Daugherty in the original production of “The Prince and the Troubadour,” playing at the 1st Stage [see listings for Saturday and Sunday].

every month. 703-759-2685 or [www.colvinrun.org](http://www.colvinrun.org). **Maria Spearman (Health/ Stretch).** 8-9 a.m. Free outdoor event at The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1450 Emerson Avenue, McLean. 703-288-9505. **“The Prince and the Troubadour.”** 2 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email [boxoffice@1ststageysons.org](mailto:boxoffice@1ststageysons.org). **The Music of John Williams.** 8:15 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20-\$52. [www.wolftrap.com](http://www.wolftrap.com). **Alte Kameraden “Palladium Square” Concert.** 5 p.m. 1450 Emerson Avenue, McLean. **Stars & Stripes Ballroom Dance.** 8-9 p.m. Colvin Run Community Center. 703-759-2685 or [www.colvinrun.org](http://www.colvinrun.org).

### SUNDAY/JULY 8

**Matsiyahu and Dirty Heads.** 3 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$38 in-house, \$29 lawn. [www.wolftrap.com](http://www.wolftrap.com). **“The Prince and the Troubadour.”** 2 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email [boxoffice@1ststageysons.org](mailto:boxoffice@1ststageysons.org). **Hawaiian Music. 5 p.m.** 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd, McLean. The Aloha Boys play an acoustic, down-home, backyard-style Hawaiian music, a style that includes everything from the very traditional to contemporary songs and styles.

### TUESDAY/JULY 10

**Coal Train Railroad.** 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. A Nashville, Tennessee ensemble takes children and families into the world of jazz. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or [www.wolftrap.org/TITW](http://www.wolftrap.org/TITW). **Seal; Special Guest: Macy Gray.** 8 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road,

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

Vienna. \$30-\$45. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### WEDNESDAY/JULY 11

**Coal Train Railroad.** 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. A Nashville, Tennessee ensemble takes children and families into the world of jazz. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or [www.wolftrap.org/TITW](http://www.wolftrap.org/TITW). **Barenaked Ladies, Big Head Todd & The Monsters.** 7 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. With Ben Harper, Los Lobos, JJ Grey & Mofro, The Lumineers, North Mississippi Allstars, The Wood Brothers, James McCurry, David Lindley, Nathaniel Rateliff, Matthew Curry and more. \$30-\$75. 703-255-1900 or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### THURSDAY/JULY 12

**Aaron Nigel Smith.** 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. High-energy, interactive shows Designed to get kids moving. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or [www.wolftrap.org/TITW](http://www.wolftrap.org/TITW). **Buddy Guy with Special Guest: John Mayall.** 8 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25-\$42. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### FRIDAY/JULY 13

**Argentine Tango.** 7 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Every Friday. 703-759-2685 or [www.colvinrun.org](http://www.colvinrun.org). **Spaghetti Dinner.** 5:30 to 8 p.m. Vienna American Legion-330 Center St, N, Vienna. \$8. 703-938-9535. **Hamlisch Goes Gershwin; Marvin Hamlisch, conductor; Melissa Errico, vocalist; Kevin Cole,**

**piano.** 8:15 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20-\$52. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**“Legally Blonde – the Musical”** 8 p.m. McLean Community Center’s Alden Theatre-1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean, VA 2210. \$18-\$20. [www.mcleanplayers.org](http://www.mcleanplayers.org).

**The Jimmies.** Wolf Trap Children’s Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$8 - \$10 and children under two are free. 703-319-2300.

### SATURDAY/JULY 14

**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](http://www.nvmr.org) or 703-938-5157.

**West Coast Swing Dances.** 7 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Second and third Saturday every month. 703-759-2685 or [www.colvinrun.org](http://www.colvinrun.org).

**“The Prince and the Troubadour.”** 2 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email [boxoffice@1ststageysons.org](mailto:boxoffice@1ststageysons.org).

**The Wizard of Oz.** 8:30 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20-\$52. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**Emy Tseng - Brazilian Jazz.** 5-7 p.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

**“Legally Blonde – the Musical”** 8 p.m. McLean Community Center’s Alden Theatre-1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean, VA 2210. \$18-\$20. [www.mcleanplayers.org](http://www.mcleanplayers.org).

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## NEWS

# Great Falls Seniors Group Sets First Event

**Great Falls United Methodist Church will host July 10 event.**

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Seniors Group of the Great Falls Citizens Association will host its first event Tuesday, July 10, by celebrating the community's longest tenured residents. "Forestville to Great Falls - The Last 50 Years and Those Who Lived Them" will pay tribute to residents, as well as demonstrate the abilities of the Seniors Group.

"This event has been forming for some time. About a year ago, the GFCA appointed a special task force to search out opportunities to enrich the lives of our senior citizens, in ways cultural, social and educational," said Bob Lundegard, chair of the Senior Center Working Group. "This is a community partnership, and numerous Fairfax County departments and Supervisor [John] Foust's [D-Dranesville] office have been generous in the support of this initiative."

The Great Falls Senior Center will be based on the center-without-walls concept,



**The Great Falls Seniors Center group members meet at the Great Falls Library. The group will host its first event Tuesday, July 10 at the Great Falls United Methodist Church.**

which relies on community spaces to host events. The Great Falls Ecumenical Council has joined the group and member churches will help host events in their buildings.

"We figured the churches would be a natural point because of the nature of the service they provide to the community and

the space they can offer," Lundegard said.

At a recent meeting of the seniors group, Jennifer Duarte of the Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services said she hopes to be able to find out the service needs of the Great Falls community.

"Once we figure out this community's specific needs, there will be a lot more opportunities," she said.

The group has also submitted a proposal to Foust for a charter from the county Board of Supervisors.

By choosing to honor the residents who have lived in Great Falls the longest, the group is hoping to demonstrate Great Falls can be friendly for residents of all ages.

Kathleen Murphy, president of the Great Falls Historical Society will present "A Photographic Tour of Historic Great Falls," as part of the event, which will also feature food, entertainment and more information about the future of the group.

The Seniors Group eventually plans to host monthly events at different buildings, such as churches and other landmarks in the community. The next one is currently scheduled for September at Dranesville Tavern.

"We're hoping for a good turnout. This is one of the most rewarding initiatives I've been involved in," Lundegard said. "We want Great Falls seniors to be involved in it too."

The July 10 event will take place at the Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Interested parties can RSVP to Linda Fernald at 703-759-3721, and can call Maddy McCabe at 703-438-0810 for transportation assistance if needed.

PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

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Baha'i Faith for Northern Virginia ... 703-821-3345

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Global Mission Church ... 703-757-0877  
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Cartersville Baptist Church ... 703-255-7075  
Fellowship Baptist Church ... 703-385-8516  
First Baptist Church ... 703-938-8525  
The Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877  
Vienna Baptist Church ... 703-281-4400  
New Union Baptist Church... 703-281-2556

### Buddhist

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center... 202-331-2122

### Church of the Brethren

Oakton Church of the Brethren ... 703-281-4411

### Catholic

Our Lady of Good Counsel ... 703-938-2828  
St. Athanasius Catholic Church ... 703-759-4555  
St. Mark's Catholic Church ... 703-281-9100

### Charismatic

Christian Assembly ... 703-698-9777

### Church of Christ

Berea Church of Christ ... 703-893-7040

### Disciples of Christ

Antioch Christian Church ... 703-938-6753

### Episcopal

Church of the Holy Comforter ... 703-938-6521

Church of the Holy Cross ... 703-698-6991  
St. Francis Episcopal ... 703-759-2082

### Jehovah's Witness

Jehovah's Witnesses ... 703-759-1579

### Lutheran

Emmanuel Lutheran Church...703-938-2119  
Christ The King Lutheran Church...703-759-6068  
St. Athanasius Lutheran Church... 703-455-4003

### Methodist

Andrew Chapel United Methodist ... 703-759-3509  
Church of the Good Shepherd ... 703-281-3987  
The Vine Methodist Church ... 703-573-5536  
Ephiphany United Methodist ... 703-938-3494  
Great Falls United Methodist... 703-759-3705  
Oakton United Methodist ... 703-938-1233  
Vale United Methodist ... 703-620-2594  
Smith Chapel United Methodist ... 571-434-9680  
Wesley United Methodist ... 703-938-8700

### Non-Denominational

Celebration Center for Spiritual Living  
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### Presbyterian

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Langley Hills Friends...703-442-8394

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# WELLBEING

## Finding a Home For the Golden Years

Experts offer advice on choosing a retirement community.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen Jim Upp's wife Jeannie died in 2006, the Fairfax senior citizen found himself surrounded by a lifetime of memories in the spacious home where the couple had raised three children.

"We lived on a one-acre lot with plenty of trees all by ourselves," said Upp. "I was alone, and there was a large house and an acre of land to take care of. It took me about five days to realize that wasn't where it wanted to spend the rest of my life."

Upp moved to a retirement community, which he called a one-stop center for medical care, activities from bowling to television production, and socializing with people with similar backgrounds.

"I did not know a soul when I came here, but I know hundreds of people now," said Upp. "There are more than 200 activities here on campus. There are five or six doctors here everyday. If I have a problem, I can just go down and see a doctor anytime."

**WHILE UPP'S TRANSITION** was uncomplicated, methodical and borne out of a self-made decision, other moves are not so seamless.

Deciding that one can no longer live alone, selling a house that has been a home for decades and relocating to retirement facility can be an emotionally charged and physically challenging feat. Recognizing the warning signs that a change might be necessary and developing a plan can help make the move less complicated.

"There is usually a crisis that bring someone into a facility," said Catharine A. Kopac, Ph.D., a certified geriatric nurse practitioner and chair of the graduate nursing program at Marymount University in Arlington. "Often the family gets no counseling and the move is made in a hurry."

Knowing when it is time to transition to a professionally run living environment is a decision with which many struggle. Gerontology professionals say there are a few red flags. Topping the list is the risk of vulnerability. "Is the person

safe?" asked Andrew Carle, executive-in-residence, at George Mason University's Program in Senior Housing Administration. "Are they are on [multiple] medications and it's hard for them to manage? Are they at risk for falling or do they have Alzheimer's and are at risk of wandering?"

If the answer to any of these questions is "yes," it might be time to move. An inability to perform daily activities such as eating, bathing and driving is another indicator.

**SELECTING THE RIGHT TYPE** of facility requires knowing the choices: independent living, assisted living and nursing homes.

Independent living is generally regular housing specifically designed for seniors whereas residents at assisted-living facilities can get aid with daily activities such as bathing and medication management. They often include kitchens, but meals and transportation to medical appointments and other errands are usually provided as well.

"Many people don't understand the difference between a nursing home and assisted living," said Carle. "Unless a person is bedridden, they probably don't need a nursing home."

Identifying a person's specific needs and finding a facility that is equipped to meet those requirements is vital. "If one needs any rehabilitation, then you would want to choose a facility that offers rehab services or therapy," said Dr. Jean Glossa, M.D., medical director for Fairfax County Community Health Care Network and Molina Healthcare. "If one has dementia or Alzheimer's disease, then you would want a facility that has trained and experienced staff in working with patients who suffer from either disease."

Geriatric care specialists, who can be found through the National Association of Geriatric Care Managers, can help assess a person's needs and help match him or her with an appropriate community. The Assisted Living Federation of America is another source for information on facilities, and experts recommend visiting [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) when looking for a nursing home.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VINSON HALL

**Residents at Vinson Hall McLean, participate in water sports. Experts say many people would be happier in an assisted living facility, where they have activities and friends, than they are living alone.**

"CMS [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services] has the Nursing Home Compare website, which provides basic data about nursing homes, including staffing, past violations in recent surveys by the licensing agency, quality measures and more," said Glossa.

Experts say it is important to visit multiple communities before making a decision: "You should always tour at least three," said Carle, who lives in Herndon. "It is like test driving a car. You don't just test one car and buy it."

Meet those who run the facility. "A community is only as good as its administrator," said Carle. "Have the administrator give you a tour. It doesn't matter if the facility has a glass chandelier or a baby grand piano. As you're walking around, if the administrator doesn't know their own employees or residents, that would tell you a whole lot more than any brochure would. Families should look for an administrator who clearly has a love for seniors."

When meeting the staff at retirement facilities or nursing homes, there are key questions to pose. "Ask about the longevity of the staff and the average years of employment in the facility, the community's philosophy on aging in place, transition expectations as the person declines and needs additional services," added Karen Boyce, the administrator at Renaissance Gardens at Greenspring in Springfield. She also recommends staying for lunch or another activity "to experience the sense of community, and staff interactions with other residents and each other."

**LOCATION AND ACTIVITIES** are other key considerations. "Is the facility close to family?" said Dave DeClark, director of market-

ing at Vinson Hall in McLean. "Is it close to a social network or former business associates? Is it in a geographic location that they find desirable?"

DeClarke suggests contemplating social aspects. "What type of environment would the individual or the couple really thrive in? What are their outside friends like? What are some of the things that they used to do and would like to continue doing?"

The cost of the facility is important too. "Discussing payment methods in advance also helps alleviate financial issues in the future," said Glossa. "If you or your family member has Medicaid or Medicare, make sure the facility accepts residents on either or both programs."

Experts say such moves require sensitivity and planning. "Don't take control. Leave control in the hands of the elder like when to move, what to take, what to buy new, all the details, no matter how long it takes or how weird it may sound to you," counseled Potomac resident Linda Berg-Cross, Ph.D., a professor of psychology at Howard University.

Carle added that guilt is a common barrier to assisted living or nursing home placement. "Many people feel that they should be taking care of their parents," said Carle. "But families need to be honest with themselves and understand that the world is different now than it was one or two generations ago. Many people would be happier in an assisted living facility where they have activities and friends than they would be living all by themselves. We should look at this as helpful and not something to feel guilty about."

### Did You Know?

Every 69 seconds, someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's disease.

Source: Alzheimer's Association

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# SPORTS

## Tennis Opportunities Abound in McLean, Great Falls Area

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Local clubs tailor instruction for player's individual needs.**

BY SANDY JOLLES  
THE CONNECTION

**C**hildren, teenagers, and adults alike can experience the instruction of certified professionals in McLean and Great Falls tennis facilities. When teachers are not supervising and covering backhands, volleys, serves, overheads, and forehands, players learn the dynamics of team competition and match games.

In the McLean and Great Falls area, there is a range of tennis opportunities for players of all ages and skill levels.

In tennis clubs, like Tuckahoe and McLean Swim and Tennis, clinics and camps tailor to each student's levels of experience. For even the youngest of players, country clubs and tennis camps have developed programs that delve into hand-eye coordination, balance and movement, such as the Munchkins mini-camp at Tuckahoe Recreation Club.

Nick Baker, a pool manager at McLean Swim and Tennis, remembers when he played for the Summer Junior Tennis Team. Though he may not play the same level now, he still carries with him the skills he learned.

**AT MCLEAN SWIM AND TENNIS**, the Junior Tennis Team nurtures a competitive spirit, as the team plays weekly against other neighboring tennis teams. Baker recalls their most common and recognized opponent: Tuckahoe.

Tuckahoe, and other tennis clubs, recruit certified teaching professionals to lead and supervise each tennis workshop and clinic. Baker notes the collective term that these teachers go by is "tennis pro." Mani Barajas-



**Nebryu Retta serves up a ball.**

Alexander is the director of tennis at Tuckahoe and is a part of the United States Professional Tennis Association.

Nebryu Retta, the assistant director of Tennis and the assistant coach for the Langley High School tennis teams, is a part of the United States Professional Tennis Association and the Fairfax Racquet Club Multicultural and Diversity Committee.

"I have been a Director at Tuckahoe since its first years alongside Mani B-Alexander. Together, we have been responsible with the formation, development and growth of tennis," Retta said.

Retta focuses on developing player's specific goals and needs with strokes, drills, and lessons tailored to each individual.

"I like to gear my lessons to the specific goals and needs of the player," Retta said.

The instructors, much like Retta, typically endure a 60-80 work week on and off the court.



**Students pose for Tuckahoe Tennis Kick-Off.**

"Tuckahoe allows me to share my passion for the sport of tennis with those looking to learn the game or sharpen their skills," Retta said.

Griff Lamkin is an instructor at McLean Racquet and Health. Once ranked number one in Virginia, Lamkin grew up on the court, and has continued to share his passion.

A graduate of University of South Florida, Lamkin began teaching junior and adult camps in 1973.

The Army Navy Country Club, All-America Sports Tennis Camps, and Camp Racquet were only a handful of the teaching endeavors he took up.

Following college, Lamkin was forced to make a decision between touring and teaching. In 1977, Lamkin was drawn to Racquet and Health due to the "friendly atmosphere" and the owner, Kevin Tithe.

"The tennis programs here put on these

membership assessments that show where each person needs to improve or how far they've come," Lamkin said. "It gives the club a very individualized feel."

While it offers classes both to young and older children, the styles of teaching differ significantly. For the younger tennis aspirers, teachers apply the Quickstart Program as an introductory device.

Of course, camps or clinics are not the only source for playing tennis. Swim and tennis clubs allow members to reserve courts, and play on their own time and money.

**CHESTERBROOK SWIM CLUB**, for instance, allows any tennis enthusiast to sign up for a court for the cost of five dollars.

Whether you're a more experienced tennis enthusiast, or just stepping on the court, McLean and Great Falls offer a slew of options and programs.

## Bandits Win Kyle's Kamp Tournament

The 10-under Northern Virginia Bandits baseball team outfought a talented SYA Mets team over the Memorial Day weekend to win the Kyle's Kamp Tournament. The Bandits finished third in pool play and then fought through three tough teams to gain the tournament trophy.

In the quarterfinals, the Bandits came back from a 6-0 deficit to oust the Manassas Mad Dogs. In the semifinals, Loudoun South nearly overcame a 6-0 deficit before the Bandits prevailed 8-7 in extra innings. And in the finals, SYA and the Bandits traded the lead five times before the Bandits went ahead for good in the fourth inning and then held on for a tense 6-5 victory.

The Bandits are a regional travel team that includes talented 10-year olds from around Northern Virginia. Players include Zach Perkins, Raden Perry, James Triantos, Brendan Albrightain, Garrett Newsome, Jack Hoeymans, Cal Begeny, Anthony Avvisato, Phlay Moravek, Jack Selman, and Rohan Cherukuri. The team is coached by Jim Triantos (manager) and assistants Frank Avvisato, Chris Albrightain, Leon Newsome, Ryan Perry, Dan Perkins, and Kiran Cherukuri.

Overall, the Bandits are 34-3 and have won 25 games in a row. They are currently in first place in the Future States Prospect Baseball League at 8-0.

**The Bandits are made up of players from throughout Northern Virginia.**



PHOTO/COURTESY OF THE BANDITS





Fallen trees take down power lines along Georgetown Pike, the result of Friday's storm.

## Storms Leave Thousands Without Power

**Derecho hits McLean, Great Falls area causing massive damage.**

BY ALEX MCVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

After a night of watching blinding flashes of lightning, sheets of rain and pieces of trees flying around his yard, George Matmos of McLean sought out Saturday morning normalcy the best he knew how: with a cup of morning coffee.

"I figured I'd grab a cup of coffee and then go back and assess the damage at my place and start cleaning up before it got too hot," he said. "But I guess several hundred others had that same idea."

The several hundred all lined up at the Starbucks kiosk at the Giant in McLean, which was one of the only local places with power Saturday morning. Residential power, traffic lights and almost all businesses in the area stood dark throughout the day as they waited for the damage to be cleared up.

"I never thought I'd see the day a 7-11 was closed," said Karen Bernard of McLean, as she tried to go into the 7-11 at the corner of Old Dominion Drive and Spring Hill Road. "No gas pumps, no hot food available anywhere, thank goodness we have a manual can opener at home."

The storm, known as a derecho, is an especially violent thunderstorm characterized by extremely high winds. The National Weather Service recorded gusts up to 89 miles per hour in nearby Reston.

With the only working traffic lights courtesy of backup generators installed at major intersections, such as Dolley Madison Boulevard and Old Dominion Road, most intersections were reduced to

four-way stops with cars to alternate.

Even though the roads were congested and intersections tough to navigate, many people resorted to their cars as their only source of power.

"My laptop is dead, so is portable DVD player the kids have, and there's no outlet to plug them into a charge," said Brady Walter of Great Falls. "I've got my iPhone and an iPod, which I can plug into my car, which is basically just a generator at this point. Usually I'd jump at the chance to cruise around Great Falls on a nice summer day, but I've ran into several roadblocks, and I haven't seen many workers out, so who knows when it will be cleared up. I guess I'll just look for a shady spot in the driveway."

Georgetown Pike was blocked off just east of Leigh Mill Road as of Sunday afternoon, as a group of trees took down several power poles near the intersection, and

another one was broken a few hundred yards down the road.

At one point, more than 40 percent of the customers served by Dominion Power were without electricity, though as of Sunday afternoon Dominion said about half of those had been restored. As of Sunday evening, most of Vienna, Great Falls and parts of McLean were still without power.

Dominion uses a list of priorities when they start repairs, based on a descending order of customers affected. First they look at the transmission lines, which affect more than 10,000 customers. From there, they work down to substations (which serve around 6,000 customers), main circuits (which serve 1,500), residential lines (which serve around 50 customers), individual transformers (which serve one to eight customers) down to individual households.

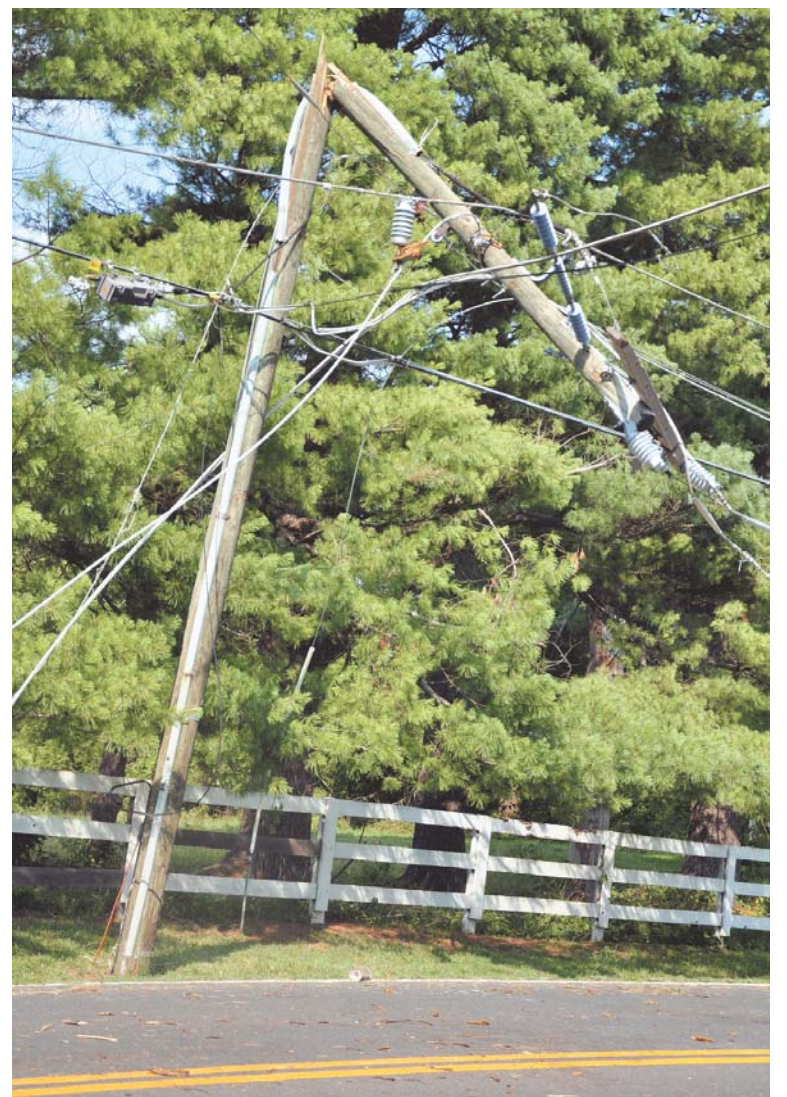
More updates can be found at [www.dom.com](http://www.dom.com).



Georgetown Pike is blocked off just east of Leigh Mill Road due to damaged power lines from Friday's storm that left hundreds of thousands without power throughout the region.



Cars maneuver around a blocked off area near a broken electric pole on Great Falls Street in McLean, which was damaged during the Friday, June 29 storms.



A broken power line near Leigh Mill Drive on Georgetown Pike blocked off the road after Friday's storms.

PHOTOS BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION





PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**U.S. Rep. Jim Moran joins local and state officials, community advocates for ribbon cutting.**

## Pedestrian Bridge Opens at Wolf Trap

Congressman Jim Moran (D-8) spoke at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new pedestrian bridge over the Dulles Toll Road, connecting the two main facilities at the Wolf Trap Performing Arts Center.

"With roughly 500,000 visitors expected to visit Wolf Trap this season, the new pedestrian bridge is a welcome addition to the area," Rep. Moran said. "Beginning today, Wolf Trap patrons, cyclists and pedestrians can safely travel between the Barns and Filene Center."

Since 2004, Moran has worked to secure more than \$2 million in funding for the project. Last year, the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) released the remaining \$1.5 million funding installment.

Construction began in November. Prior to the pedestrian bridge, Wolf Trap's Barns and Filene Center were separated by a nar-

row road with no sidewalks. The pedestrian bridge will also enable residents to travel to Metro stations currently under construction at Tysons Corner.

"Today's opening shows what government can do for a community when local officials listen to and work with their constituents," Moran continued. "This is the kind of thing

we should be doing all over the country and I'm sure glad we're doing it here."

Wolf Trap Performing Arts Center was established in 1971 to bring important cultural, theatrical, and educational works to the National Capital Region.

Built on land donated by Catherin Filene Shouse, the Filene Center houses a 6,800-seat indoor/outdoor theater

showing an average of 90 performances each year. The Barns at Wolf Trap, a 382-seat indoor venue, serves as a year-round center for the performing arts.

**"With roughly 500,000 visitors expected to visit Wolf Trap this season, the new pedestrian bridge is a welcome addition to the area."**

**— U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8)**



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### 21 Announcements

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**PUBLIC NOTICE:**  
PROPOSAL TO MODIFY CORRECTIVE ACTIONS AT AN UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) SITE. There has been a release from an underground storage tank system at the Former Pentagon Industrial Complex, 1201 South Fern Street, Arlington, Virginia. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has requested preparation of a Corrective Action Plan Addendum to address cleanup of petroleum fuel contamination at this site. If you have questions regarding the cleanup, please contact: John P. Diehl, Environmental Consultants and Contractors, Inc., 43045 John Mosby Highway, Chantilly, VA 20152, (703) 327-2900. The Corrective Action Plan Addendum was submitted to the Remediation Division of the Northern Regional Office of the DEQ May 17, 2012. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed Corrective Action Plan with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to contact Mr. Randy Chapman of the DEQ at (703) 583-3816 after the date of the Corrective Action Plan Addendum submittal. The DEQ Remediation Division will consider written comments regarding the proposed Corrective Action Plan Addendum until July 30, 2012, and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to the DEQ at the address listed below. The DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case: PC # 96-3200. Department of Environmental Quality, Remediation Division, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193.

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The future comes one day at a time.  
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## Writing On!



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

It was June '09 when I published my first column in the Connection Newspapers about being diagnosed with cancer. It was actually a column detailing the diagnostic steps I had taken during the first few months of the year attempting to identify the pain I had initially felt under my right-side rib cage in late December. Once that pain migrated from one side to the other, accompanied by difficulty inhaling and bending, my wife and I decided that a trip to the Emergency Room was warranted. I wasn't in any distress, and it certainly wasn't an emergency; nevertheless, it did seem the sensible thing to do.

During this diagnostic process (which took about two months), I continued to write and publish my regular weekly column as usual (not at all about cancer). Privately, however, I had been writing about this evolving situation ever since it began in the Emergency Room in December. Given all that the diagnostic process had involved, and the range of emotions I had experienced, I had ample feelings on which to write, eventually accumulating more than a handful of columns I have come to characterize as my "cancer columns." These columns remained unpublished until June. My feeling had been that once I published a column about such serious matters, how could I ever again fill my space with the mundane minutiae that had characterized much of its content the previous 10 years, award-winning though some of them had been, as voted on by members of the MDDC Press Association (Maryland/Delaware/D.C.) and the VPA (Virginia Press Association)? Besides, chemotherapy was set to begin in early March, so I just decided to simplify my life and submitted for publication more of the non-cancer columns which I had written during less complicated days. After all, as you regular readers know, if I can write about anything, I can write about my life, its relative interest notwithstanding; so I had a stack of unpublished columns ready to carry me for a few months until I felt better or different and decided to go public with my diagnosis, which eventually I did.

After I published that first column in June: "Dying to Find Out, Sort Of," I just continued with the "cancer columns." It seemed easy enough and I did have a bit of a story to tell/share. Although I had no idea or intention of using my space to chronicle the journey per se, of a terminal cancer patient attempting to survive the emotional, physical and spiritual toll such a diagnosis (stage IV lung cancer) and prognosis ("13-months to two years") can have, apparently, that's exactly what I've done. All I knew then was that writing about my experiences provided me a much-needed outlet. And for all I know now, writing so openly about my life as a cancer patient may have in fact extended that life; I have survived way beyond my oncologist's initial prognosis.

And as I have continued to survive, I have continued to write about having cancer. Once I started (published that first column), I couldn't stop (again, it was my life, so...). Three years later, nearly 150 columns have been published. Occasionally, I'll get off the cancer train (if only it were that easy) and write a non-cancer column but when your life is consumed by something (as much as I wish it weren't and as hard as I try to prevent it), it's sort of difficult to ignore. Writing helps, for me. Part catharsis, part selfish, part greater good, but mostly because it brings me pleasure. And when your diagnosis is terminal, sometimes pleasure is hard to find.

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





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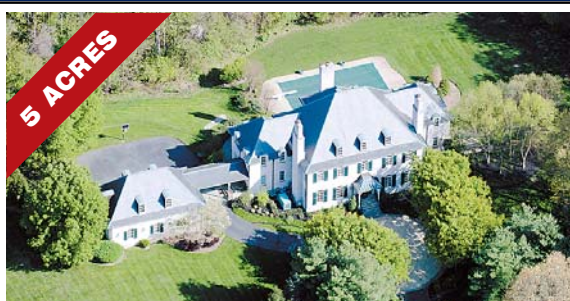
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