

In Search of a 'Forever Home'

PET CONNECTION, PAGE 8

Nellie, an Airedale Terrier, captures a ball thrown by owner Tom Walko of Vienna at the Baron Cameron Off-Leash Dog Area on July 18.

Final Metro Span Laid in Tysons

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Terrorists Across the Street

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PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Workers observe as the final concrete span for the guideway for the Metrorail through Tysons Corner is lowered into place Tuesday, July 17.

Final Metro Span Laid in Tysons

Workers complete overhead bridges, move to laying track.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Workers from Bechtel Construction placed the final aerial span for Metrorail in Tysons Corner Tuesday morning, the last of 258 that will support trains as they make their way from Falls Church to Wiehle Avenue along Phase One of the Silver Line.

"This is a major construction milestone for Phase One of the project, which will connect Tysons Corner and Reston to Metro's existing Orange Line and the entire 106-mile Metrorail system," said Pat Nowakowski, executive director of the project. "We plan to complete construction this time next summer and Metro will open Phase One in late 2013."

The blue and yellow truss, which is a 365-ton, 360-foot long horizontal crane, lowered the span, which is made of concrete cast at Dulles Airport, in about 40 minutes Tuesday morning. The span includes 12 segments, each weighing between 25 and 40 tons.

"The aerial guideway has been one of the most challenging aspects of the project, as we had to carry out this work safely above busy highways and in a congested area," said Larry Melton, Bechtel's executive director for the project. "Innovative construction techniques, the work of a dedicated and experienced crew and patience from the public were critical to the successful completion of the guideway."

The average span is made up of 12 segments and is 120 feet. The total length of the guideways required 2,769 segments to complete.

"With the completion of this guideway, if one were so inclined, they could now walk from Falls Church, through Tysons, all the way to the Wiehle Avenue station," Melton said. "But we do have fences and measures to discourage that of course."



Workers lower the final aerial span for the Metrorail track in Tysons Corner Tuesday, July 17.

Crews will spend the next four to five weeks dismantling the truss and will also begin laying track along the 11.7 miles between Falls Church and Reston.

"This is definitely an important milestone, and we're very close to being right on schedule," said Sam Carnaggio, the project's director from the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. "The tunnel through Tysons was completed some time ago, and after completion of the aerial structures, we'll move on to connecting everything to the Orange Line."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left: David Kim (USNA), Matthew Ziegler (USMA), Ashley Paek (USNA), Molly Shannon (USMA), Chad Palmiotto (USNA Foundation Scholarship), Congressman Frank Wolf, Colin Laskodi (USAFA), Taylor Turchan (USNA), Zachary Oravec (USNA), Gavin McDonald (USAFA), Troy Dennis (USAFA) and Darby Nelson (USNA).

Appointed to Academies

U.S. Rep. Wolf announces service academy appointments.

Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) announced the 10th District's Class of 2016 appointments to the nation's service academies, as well as those selected for Academy prep schools and scholarships to academy-affiliated prep schools.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY: Benjamin Davies,** McLean, Laurel Springs, England; Molly Shannon,** McLean, Thomas Jefferson; Matthew Ziegler,** Centreville, Westfield; Tirone Young, Winchester, John Handley; Richard Xue, Centreville, Westfield.

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY: David Kim,** Great Falls, Langley; Richard Kuzma, Leesburg, Thomas Jefferson; Robert Mason, Oak Hill, Chantilly; Darby Nelson, Centreville, Westfield; Zachary Oravec,** Ashburn, Stone Bridge; Ashley Paek,** Leesburg, Thomas Jefferson; Spencer Shabshab,** McLean, Langley; Megan Snyder, Ashburn, Stone Bridge; Taylor Turchan, Sterling, Dominion.

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY PREP SCHOOL: Ryan Ochoa, Front Royal, Randolph Macon.

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP: Catherine

Macklin, McLean, Langley and Chad Palmiotto, Sterling, Potomac Falls.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY: Shannon Daily, Leesburg, Heritage; Troy Dennis,** Centreville, Westfield; John Laskodi,** Haymarket, Battlefield; Gavin McDonald,** Centreville, Westfield; Caleb Myhre,** Sterling, Rift Valley, Kenya.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY PREP SCHOOL: Tyler Dietrich, Leesburg, Tuscarora.

UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY: Quinn Fleming,** Ashburn, Gonzaga; Matthew Hassan, Warrenton, Seton; Hutton Jackson,** Leesburg, Seton.

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD ACADEMY: Joseph Rizzardi, Ashburn, Briar Woods.

***These appointees were nominated by Wolf's 10th District Service Academy Advisory Board, which interviews candidates and recommends nominees. The selection process is strictly a competitive one. Others listed above received their appointments through presidential, Senate or other nomination sources.*

Seeking Participants for Sustainability Tour

The Community Enhancement Commission is seeking homeowners and businesses interested in showcasing their properties in this year's Sustainability Home and Garden Tour on Sunday, Sept. 16, from 12 to 4 p.m. The tour will highlight Vienna residences and businesses that have incorporated sustainable choices into their homes, businesses and/or gardens.

Some modifications featured on last year's tour included incorporating native plant species in gardens to support local wildlife, use of geothermal HVAC systems and installation of permeable driveways that reduce run-off, among others.

If you would like to participate in this year's tour, contact Cathy Salgado at csalgado@viennava.gov or (703) 255-6360. For more information, visit www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=955.

Vienna Families Receive Sustainability, Beauty Awards

Vienna's Community Enhancement Commission recognizes town residents and businesses for their beautification and sustainability projects. At the July 2 Town Council meeting, four Vienna families were recognized for their efforts:

Beauty Award Recipients:

- ❖ McCoy Family, Aponi Road SE
- ❖ Simeck Family, Courthouse Road SW

Sustainability Award Recipients:

- ❖ Lau Family, Marshall Road SW, for their vegetable garden.
- ❖ Holmes Family, Nutley Street NW, for their vegetable garden.

Beauty Award recipients are determined by the appearance of the property's landscape or hardscape and its contribution to the overall beauty of the community. Sustainability Awards are given to businesses and homeowners who have made significant improvements to the sustainability of their home, business or garden.

Residents and businesses may nominate others or themselves to receive a Beauty and/or Sustainability Award. Send your nominations to the Community Enhancement Commission in care of Cathy Salgado at csalgado@viennava.gov or mail to 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna, VA 22180.

Halloween Parade Applications Available

Entry applications for the 66th annual Vienna Halloween Parade are now available. Application forms and information is available on the Town's website at www.viennava.gov or at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street SE. Applications and applicable documents are due by Friday, September 28.

The parade will step off at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, on Maple Avenue. The theme of this year's parade is "Celebrating Holidays Around the World," and Santa Claus will be in town to serve as the parade's Grand Marshal. Parade participants are encouraged to represent holidays from around the globe.

Parade sponsorships are available. Contact the Vienna-Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce for information on sponsorship opportunities at 703-281-1333. For more information, 'like' the Vienna Halloween Parade on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ViennaHalloweenParade or visit www.viennahalloweenparade.org.

Vienna Youth Players Present Summer Musical

The Vienna Youth Players will present the musical "Footloose" at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Aug. 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Aug. 12 at 1 p.m.

Tickets are \$14 general admission and \$12 for students and senior citizens and are available at the Vienna Community Center. For more information, call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department at 703-255-6360 or visit www.viennava.gov.

Terrorists Across the Street

Vienna Author's 'Love Thy Neighbor' reflects on pre-9/11 activities in Vienna.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

If it weren't for the reported suspicions of Mark Gilleo's mother, "Love Thy Neighbor" suspense novel may never have been written. The year before September 11, 2001, Gilleo's mother, Diane Albritton, watched the house across the street with unease and concern. Her Vienna neighbors, renters of Middle Eastern descent, kept unusual hours of activity and a lifestyle cloaked in secrecy. Men came and went at all hours ... Gilleo's mother reported them to the only agency that sprung to her mind, the CIA. There was no apparent follow-up.

Two of those men were 9/11 World Trade Center hijackers.

That terrorists would be living in a quiet neighborhood in Vienna, where homeowners knew one another and kept well-maintained yards, probably did not strike the CIA as much of a probability. Albritton was never contacted by any security agencies until after September 11, when FBI pounded on doors throughout the neighborhood. Suddenly, Gilleo said, there was a "storm of activity." Ironically, the new Terrorist Screening Center is set around the block from the notorious house.

"The hardest thing was writing the book in the post-9/11 world and imagining what was missed," said Gilleo.

ALBRITTON'S SUSPICIONS and subsequent reporting of them inspired her son, author Mark Gilleo, to create a thriller based on them. "Love Thy Neighbor" was published in March 2012. Gilleo, who grew up in Vienna, knew that an Iranian family owned the house across the street. When the family moved out, it rented rooms out in that house. Young Middle Eastern men began moving in. They kept to themselves. Unfamiliar cars lined the driveway and then disappeared. Finally, a tall privacy fence went up. And Albritton had the feeling something not-right was going on there.

"Love Thy Neighbor," the third novel written by Gilleo, is not a what-if book. It does not pose the question of what could have been stopped if security agencies examined concerns that citizens expressed. Nor does it ask what might have been had Gilleo's mom's suspicions been analyzed before the terrorists of 9/11 turned America into a country under siege. Instead, the novel is a fictional creation

focusing on a young college student returning home to Vienna for the Christmas holidays after the death of his father. In the novel, it is he who recognizes red flags and raises alarm to authorities.

The novel is about terrorists who have been in the U.S. a "long time, essentially waiting to be activated," said Gilleo. The terrorists are Pakistanis, reflecting a greater understanding of terrorist camps and training that security agencies put together after 9/11. "Love Thy Neighbor" was ranked by Amazon in the top 100 during July.

Gilleo did go inside the house across the street afterwards, after security agents had checked out the neighborhood. The owners of the house that two terrorists had briefly lived in were never implicated in the plot. Albritton, was, understandably, "upset and a little in disbelief, by the turn of events," Gilleo said.

Gilleo's second-written suspense novel, "Sweat," is coming out on the market in August 2012. The plot line of "Sweat," about the manner in which U.S. sweatshops can legally operate out of the country, makes its way from Saipan to Washington, D.C.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Mark Gilleo

"The hardest thing was writing the book in the post-9/11 world and imagining what was missed."

—Vienna author Mark Gilleo

"Love Thy Neighbor" and "Sweat" were both recognized as finalists in the William Faulkner-Wisdom creative writing competition.

Gilleo, 43, started writing about a decade ago. He graduated from James Madison High School in 1987, and went on to George Mason University, receiving a degree in business management. He lived in Japan for several years, taking two trips there. In 2000, Gilleo graduated from the University of South Carolina with a master's degree in international business. He's fluent in Japanese and maintains a financial planning business, but calls himself a "full-time" writer.

SINCE HIS FIRST NOVEL was written, Gilleo has refined his writing approach, learning a couple of things that carry his writing nowadays. "Don't fill it [book] with a lot of technical stuff that will become obsolete, and don't tie the story to current dates."

Writing is not about "perfection," Gilleo says. There's some "magic" in it. It's why some people will love a particular literary work, and others not. "If someone reads you and says it's awful, just move on."

"You'll never know if you're good until you've finished your book," said Gilleo. "Even if the first one is awful, you've got to pull the trigger and go on."



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

St. Mark Catholic School Cadettes who earned the Silver Award.

St. Mark's Cadette Scouts Earn Silver Award

BY CINDI MCLEAN
ST. MARK CADETTE SCOUT LEADER

Many of St. Mark Catholic School Cadettes have been busy working towards the highest award a Cadette can earn – the Silver Award. Earning this award is not an easy task – each girl identified an aspect of her community where she could work to make a difference. Next, each girl needed to develop a Take Action Plan then spend at least 50 hours carrying out her plan. To complete a Silver Award, the girls needed to Carry Their Plan Forward which they did by leaving a How To Manual for their sister scouts at St. Mark that can be used to repeat their activity. The manuals will be stored in the St. Mark Library for future troops to use.

Now these busy scouts are thinking ahead to high school where they will complete their Silver Trefoil Award and begin their Gold Awards.

❖ The following students completed their Girl Scout Silver Award this year: (from left) Alyson Speier, 8th grade, for raising awareness for CHINS

(Children In Need of Smiles); Amy Creel, 8th grade, for starting the tradition of a girl led Father-Daughter Dance; Isabela Valdes, 8th grade, for organizing A Safer Place safety course; Molly Weaver, 8th grade, - 100 Years of Scouts Camping Activity; Shehani Peiris, 8th grade, (with Isabela Valdes) for organizing A Safer Place safety course; Jenell Glover, 7th grade, for raising community awareness on affordable living in Northern VA. Back row, from left: Olivia Baker, 7th grade, for creating awareness on the upkeep of horses; Mary Griffin, 8th grade, (with Molly Weaver) - 100 Years of Scouts Camping Activity;

Katherine Waggoner, 8th grade, for organizing the Outdoor Adventure for Daisies and Brownies; Danielle Fortunato, 8th grade, (with Katherine Waggoner) for organizing the Outdoor Adventure for Daisies and Brownies; Kathleen McLean, 8th grade, (with Amy Creel) for starting the tradition of a girl led Father-Daughter Dance; Kara Coxe, 8th grade, for organizing a Career Fair for St. Mark Middle School students; Maggie Weaver for organizing collection efforts for 4Paws Adoptions.

Vienna's Bellini Salon & MedEsthetics Recognized

Bellini Salon & MedEsthetics of Vienna has been featured as a celebrated 2012 Spa Of The Month in Les Nouvelles Esthetiques & Spa Magazine in their Wellness and Organic section.

They are also newly recognized as the Official Salon & MedEsthetics for Mrs. Brandi Pope, for the Mrs. Virginia America Beauty Pageant. Dr. Gerrish, Owner and Medical Director, has also been on ABC TV speaking on behalf of Zeltiq's Coolsculpting procedure and on CBS TV shows giving his expertise and taking part in transformation makeovers.

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Mrs. Virginia Brandi Pope and Bellini Salon & MedEsthetics team members.

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information on Bellini Salon & MedEsthetics, call 702-255-2555 or visit 112 Pleasant Street, SW, Vienna, VA 22180. Visit www.BelliniBeauty.com.

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OPINION

Separate and Unequal?

If we don't believe that poor students are less innately talented, then the disparities in Northern Virginia are truly unfair.

The numbers are eye-popping. Latino students are 22 percent of Fairfax County Public Schools students, but 2.7 percent of the incoming Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology freshman class, the class of 2016. Of the 480 students, seven are black. That's 1.4 percent, while black students are 10 percent of the county school system.

The class of 2016 includes 480 students: 126 white students (26 percent), 308 Asian students (64 percent), 13 Hispanic students (2.7 percent), seven black students (1.4 percent) and 27 other.

Almost all of the students accepted to TJ come from eight middle schools with advanced gifted-and-talented programs.

The disparities and lack of diversity at Northern Virginia's stellar magnet school, ranked the top high school in the nation, is a symptom of a much more pervasive problem in Fairfax County.

This week, two groups, the Coalition of The Silence led by former school board member Tina Hone, and the Fairfax County Branch of the NAACP filed a formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights. The complaint argues that the current policies regarding admission to Thomas Jefferson and policies regarding identification of students for eligibility for gifted services within FCPS "disparately impact Black and Latino students in violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1965, which prohibits discrimination based on race,

color and national origin."

For well over a decade, FCPS has made a variety of attempts to address the exclusive nature of admissions to TJ, but with little effect and intense controversy.

The problem runs much deeper than freshman admission to Thomas Jefferson. Of 12,044 elementary and middle school students identified for "level 4" gifted-and-talented programs last year, only 455 were black, 3.8 percent, while 10 percent of FCPS students are black. Just 752 were Hispanic, about 6 percent, although 22 percent of FCPS students are Hispanic.

GETTING ACCEPTED to TJ, in general, is not an easy task for anyone, reported Julia O'Donoghue in 2010 in the Connection. The school admitted only 15.3 percent of the 3,119 students who applied to be part of the class of 2014. That means TJ had a lower acceptance rate for its incoming freshman class than either Cornell University or Swarthmore College that year.

Fairfax students also compete with children from around the region for slots at the Northern Virginia magnet school. About 80 percent of TJ's student body comes from Fairfax but residents from Arlington, Loudoun, Prince William and Fauquier counties and the City of Falls Church can also apply. (The City of Alexandria does not allow its students to apply to

TJ, and should reconsider its choice to opt out.)

While it may be difficult for all children, students who are black, Hispanic or poor have a particularly hard time getting admitted to TJ.

Out of 480 students admitted to the class of 2014, only nine were considered poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced-priced lunch.

Across all four grades at TJ in 2009-10 school year, approximately 1.78 percent of students were black, 2.84 percent of students were Hispanic and 1.74 percent were poor.

Fully 25 percent of students in Fairfax County are poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced-priced meals. Do we believe that poor students are less talented than students from wealthier families?

The complaint asserts that FCPS "has evolved into a system that essentially operates a network of separate and unequal schools."

Many if not most poor students lack access to quality enrichment programs and after-school activities, lack access to expensive and highly specific test preparation classes for the admissions test for TJ. And the complaint cites FCPS retreated from outreach programs for poor and minority students.

Addressing these issues from Kindergarten up would have many benefits beyond increasing diversity at one school. This could also decrease the achievement gap, increase the graduation rate for minority and poor students, and reduce disparities in the suspension and expulsion rate.

These are hot issues with many perspectives. We welcome letters and comments suggesting solutions and with different points of view.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rejecting a Fairy Tale

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the letter titled "Making Care Affordable" from the July 18-24 edition of The Connection. This opinion article says that we should all celebrate now that Obamacare has been upheld by the Supreme Court as a tax. The article supposes that now millions of Americans will have access to care, as if they don't already, and that all our ills will be solved and we'll live happily ever after. Well I'm sorry. I don't believe in fairy tales, and that is exactly what Obamacare is. The truth about Obamacare is that it is a tax, it is not affordable, and many Americans will not be able to retain the doctors of their choice.

From the beginning, we were told that it was not a tax, yet the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court upheld it on the basis of it being a tax. Now the federal government

can force us to buy something we don't want or pay a penalty for not doing so. Sorry, this is not the America I know and love where federal bureaucrats now have the power to dictate what and how much of anything we need to buy for our families.

We were told that health care will be "affordable," yet the March CBO scoring of this disgraceful law shows that it will be nothing of the sort. It has updated its cost estimate for the first ten years to be 1.76 trillion dollars, up from its original scoring of \$940 billion when this was signed into law. How will this country, with an already downgraded debt rating, an anemic economic growth rate of 1 percent, staggering unemployment and underemployment, and a President that is outright hostile to free enterprise, ever pay for such a monstrous new government entitlement? My liberal friends will say let's make the evil 1 percent pay for it. But with only half the working population even paying federal income taxes, I think

the answer is we won't pay for it. We will pass this burden on to our children and grandchildren and their grandchildren.

We were told that more people will have coverage under Obamacare and that we will be able to keep the doctors we like. Yet the March CBO scoring shows that 3 million more people will require health care through Medicaid, and that private employers will drop their coverage for employees, forcing more people onto Medicaid rolls and into government run health exchanges. And from the beginning, Obamacare cut \$500 billion from Medicare.

So once again, I say this American is not celebrating. The Affordable Care Law is anything but affordable. This disastrous law is full of empty promises and represents a heavy handed federal government bent on eroding our freedoms and burdening generations of Americans with outrageous bills. I live in the real world where budgets are made and benefits get paid for, not passed on to future

generations of Americans not even born yet. I pray the rest of my fellow citizens will see through the fairy tale that is Obamacare and elect representatives in November who will overturn this despicable law.

Gina Ryan
Great Falls

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.

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PET CONNECTION

Mister Frodo

Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Sharon Bulova (A-At large) with Mister Frodo. Mister Frodo is part Maine Coon and part American Bobtail. He is a rescue cat from Home Alone Rescue. He's been part of the family since spring 2011. Frodo can jump to great heights in a single leap and has a fear of ceiling fans.

PHOTO
CONTRIBUTED



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PET CONNECTION

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION



Saint Bernard Sophie relaxes a bit after enjoying some play time.



Humane Society of Fairfax County (HSFC) Farm Manager Lisa Schroeder answers Black Jack's call for a treat. Jack is a 14-year-old Tennessee Walker. He can no longer be ridden, but he is the character of the barn and would make a great companion horse.



The "J" sisters, Jillian, Julie and June are 3-month-old puppy bundles of joy and they know how cute they are. All the volunteers enjoy playing with them but hope they find their real homes soon.



Merry, the first resident of the Fairfax facility having joined the staff in 1995, rules the roost from the comfort of her cat bed. Merry is a breast cancer survivor and paid no attention to her grim prognosis.



HSFC Office Manager Janice Adams gets help from little Jamie. Jamie is thrilled to escape from this recent confinement. He is recovering from a leg sprain and can't wait to get back to his playmates.



How can anyone resist this pose from one of the HSFC kittens?

More Information

More information about HSFC services, how to donate or volunteer, and the adoption process is available on their website at www.hsfc.org.

Human Society of Fairfax to animals and to their human friends is a huge and expensive undertaking. Even with the small army of volunteers, significant time is dedicated to fundraising and recruiting even more assistance and donations of time, materials, and items to sell in the thrift shops. But everyone you ask who is touched by this group – new owners, people having to surrender animals, people who keep their beloved pets because of assistance from HSFC, people who learn from the educational outreach, volunteers and staff – all agree that the hard work and the occasional heartbreak is a small price to pay when they are greeted by that wagging tail or that contented purr.

The Fairfax facility accepts visitors. The Farm is by appointment only, after consultation and approval by HSFC staff. If you are looking for a new friend, be prepared. The adoption process is serious business. As President Vicki Kirby reminds us, "we are dedicated to doing whatever it takes to find the right home, the right match between animal and human, to make everyone happy. It really is supposed to be a 'forever home.'"

The services provided by the

In Search of a 'Forever Home'

Humane Society of Fairfax working for animal and human welfare.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

Look up Petfinder.com on your Internet browser page. It's a site where animal welfare groups can promote animals they have available for adoption. Type in a town or zip code. Let's use Alexandria as an example. Check "Cat" for "Type of Animal." Hit "Search." Unless you specified a particular breed, be prepared to look through 293 pages of cats, about 25 per page. OK. How about "Dog – Any Breed?" That will get you 3 more pages – 296 total - or a staggering 7,500 dogs all vying for your attention as a potential adopter. The numbers won't change much if you start your search with Chantilly, Reston, Springfield, Vienna, or anywhere else in the County.

Those pages mention dozens of worthy welfare and rescue groups. One name that will come up on quite a few of them, whether you are searching for a dog, a cat, a rabbit, a guinea pig, or even a horse, will be the Humane Society of Fairfax County, with President Vicki Kirby at the helm.

Established in 1965 by a few concerned citizens, the Humane Soci-

ety of Fairfax County (HSFC) is one of the area's oldest animal protection organizations. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor who gifted the group with two office buildings in Fairfax City, a major milestone was achieved in 1995 when HSFC opened the doors to its new administrative offices, no-kill animal shelter and thrift shop at 4057 Chain Bridge Road. One of the first to cross the newly renovated threshold was Merry, a longhaired, wide-faced, cancer-surviving feline Diva, who still holds court there, mostly from her cozy cat bed. Merry kindly allows Office Manager Janice Adams to think she is in charge of day-to-day operations.

ON A RECENT TOUR of the facility, the first thing noticeable is the smell – fresh and clean. Are there really 60 plus cats and kittens in residence here, not to mention a room full of rabbits and a collection of guinea pigs? Absolutely. "It's got to be clean," said Adams. "That's the only way to keep a healthy and comfortable environment. In addition to our faithful volunteers who spend time playing with and socializing the animals, we have several part time

caregivers who look after the cats and their accommodations."

There are large, sunny rooms throughout the building. Cats and kittens are carefully arranged in compatible groupings, with separate spaces for newcomers in quarantine awaiting the vet's all clear, or those overcoming illness or injury. Many of the rooms have wide-ledged windows perfect for sun bathing and people and bird watching. Since no dogs are housed at this location, most of the tenants are visibly relaxed in the quiet atmosphere, free to play or lounge.

HSFC also supports about 80 cats in foster homes, funding general care and medical expenses, and as part of their ongoing battle to curb the number of unwanted cats, HSFC sponsors a spay/neuter and return program. Recognized feral cat colony caregivers around the Northern Virginia area are assisted in feeding these un-adoptable cats, and HSFC picks up the cost of the spay/neuter, vaccinations, and any other medical requirements. "Feral cat maintenance is sometimes a controversial issue," admits HSFC President Vicki Kirby. "But if someone has a better answer, we're all ears." Many feral cats can never adjust to an indoor existence, especially since many can never learn to accept human handling. "This way, we are true to our mission to behave humanely to all animals.

These cats receive much-needed treatment. They are fed. They don't add to the already unmanageable number of cats without permanent homes. And neutered, there is less fighting among them, less painful injury and death," Kirby added.

With such emphasis on population control by so many animal protection groups, why all those pages on Petfinder.com? "Several factors," says Kirby. "No matter how much we all preach spay and neuter, there are still so many people out there who resist it. There are even vets who tell owners it's not necessary, or to wait until the female comes into heat for the first time. Others think neutering makes a male animal less masculine. That's just not true."

HSFC has a good relationship with the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, as well as with several rural cat colony caregivers around the Northern Virginia area are assisted in feeding these un-adoptable cats, and HSFC picks up the cost of the spay/neuter, vaccinations, and any other medical requirements. "Feral cat maintenance is sometimes a controversial issue," admits HSFC President Vicki Kirby. "But if someone has a better answer, we're all ears." Many feral cats can never adjust to an indoor existence, especially since many can never learn to accept human handling. "This way, we are true to our mission to behave humanely to all animals.

And then there is the economy. Both Kirby and Office Manager Janice Adams note that more animals are coming in when families can no longer care for them. Adams pointed out several cats whose owners had been forced to move. "These were much-loved feline family members," she said. "These owners were in tears, but they didn't have a place to keep them. Couldn't find pet-friendly living or

afford the pet deposits."

HSFC keeps trying to help keep pets and humans together. They run the Ani-Meals program, just like a human food pantry. Owners struggling to care for their pets can pick up donated food and supplies at the HSFC offices. But for some, that just isn't enough, and another often-distressed adult cat joins the HSFC waiting hopeful.

So where are the dogs? In 2002, HSFC realized another dream when they were able to purchase a farm in Centreville that now houses the horses and dogs in their care. Lisa Schroeder started as a volunteer and is now the fulltime Farm Manager. "My friends kid

me," she laughs. "It can be pretty difficult to get time away with all the animals in our care, so they say I do all my grocery shopping at the 7-11 next to the vet's office while I wait for one of our canine friends to be seen to."

JUST LIKE THE CAT ROOMS in Fairfax, the dog enclosures and the horse stalls at the Farm are impressively clean. "It's our volunteers," Schroeder is quick to credit. "They're here first thing every day, cleaning and feeding."

Lisa Zimmer travels from Lorton every Wednesday to volunteer. "There's lots of hard work," she admits. "But when the work is

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VIEWPOINTS

Did You Adopt or Buy Your Pet: What Motivated Your Decision?

—DONNA MANZ



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Mary Ellen Beternitz Larkins, glass artist, with friend Lily, Vienna

"We took Lily in. We found the owner after posting on the Fairfax Animal Shelter web site; the shelter called and gave me a few names of people that lost a cat like Lily. We called a name, the owner came by and then didn't want her. She said she was a nasty cat. Believe me, it was the owner that was nasty. Lily has learned to give love only because she is now loved.

Lily is now 11 years old and very active for her age. She came

to us at the age of 7. When we found her, she was just six pounds as she was outside for three weeks before anyone took her in. She is still on the small size but ranges from seven to eight pounds. She is a great mouser. She tends to stay around the house but sometimes will visit a neighbor or two. We're so glad Lily decided to check out our house. Her name was Fred but she deserved a softer, sweeter name than Fred. She likes her new home."

Jennifer Davis (Pictured are Sandi and Maddie Davis), Vienna

"The Davis family just adopted a wonderful dog from Wags Rescue. The adoption process was thorough, and we have added a 3-year-old Australian Shepherd to our family. Her name is Sandy [Beach, Paws or Dingo] Davis. We are really struggling on the middle name. The rescue center is wagsrescue.com. The woman we worked with is Colleen. They are all volunteers. Their website is awesome too. Thanks for writing on such a great topic."



SEE ADOPTING. PAGE 11

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

WEDNESDAY/JULY 25

“The Wizard of Oz.” 7:30 p.m. Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. This is a non-musical version of the show. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Wine Tasting. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wine Bar & Lounge at Entyse, Ritz Carlton 1700 Tyson's Boulevard, McLean. 703-506-4300.

Summerland Featuring: Everclear, Sugar Ray, Gin Blossoms, Lit and Marcy Playground. 7 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org

THURSDAY/JULY 26

Patrick Henry Book Club. 1 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. “Food Matters” by Mark Bitman. Adults. 703-938-0405.

Sushi. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wine Bar & Lounge at Entyse, Ritz Carlton 1700 Tyson's Boulevard, McLean. 703-506-4300.

Matthias Kuchta. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The Brothers Grimm fairytale, The Wolf and the Seven Little Goats. German puppeteer Matthias Kuchta uses life-size puppets to share the story of seven little goats that let a wicked wolf into their home. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Free Summer Concert Series: Toubab Krewe. 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Nottoway Park, Vienna. Free. <http://toubabkrewe.com/>

Creature Teacher. 7 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Meet and learn about all kinds of animals. All ages. 703-938-0405.

FRIDAY/JULY 27

“Legally Blonde – the Musical” 8 p.m. MCC Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. \$18-\$20. www.mcleanplayers.org.

The Christopher Linman Jazz Ensemble. 8:30 p.m.- 12 a.m. Wine Bar & Lounge at Entyse, Ritz Carlton 1700 Tyson's Boulevard, McLean. Food, wine and jazz entertainment. 703-506-4300.

Friday Afternoon Chess Group. 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. All ages. 703-757-8560.

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Ages 5-18. 703-938-0405.

Matthias Kuchta. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The Brothers Grimm fairytale, The Wolf and the Seven Little Goats. German puppeteer Matthias Kuchta uses life-size puppets to share the story of seven little goats that let a wicked wolf into their home. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

SATURDAY/JULY 28

Rockneceros Presents: Colonel Purple Turtle. 2:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Join Coach Cotton, Williebob and Boogie Woogie for a rockin' time. 703-790-8088.

The Folsom Prisoners. 5-7 p.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Free outdoor event featuring country music. 703-288-9505.

Children's Shows: Billy Kelly & the Blahblablahs. 10:30 a.m.



PHOTO BY TRACI J. BROOKS PHOTOGRAPHY

Elle Woods (Kate Merryman) and Bruiser (Gobi) prepare for Harvard Law in the upcoming McLean Community Players' production of “Legally Blonde, The Musical.” Performances through July 29, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Sunday Matinees at 2 p.m. at Alden Theater, 1234 Ingleside Ave in McLean. Tickets: \$ 18-\$20. Call 703-790-9223 or visit www.mcleanplayers.org

Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

“The Prince and the Troubadour.” 12 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email boxoffice@1ststage Tysons.org.

“Legally Blonde – the Musical” 8 p.m. MCC Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. \$18-\$20. www.mcleanplayers.org.

Matthias Kuchta. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The Brothers Grimm fairytale, The Wolf and the Seven Little Goats. German puppeteer Matthias Kuchta uses life-size puppets to share the story of seven little goats that let a wicked wolf into their home. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

SUNDAY/JULY 29

Wolf Trap Opera Company: Backstage Buzz Artist Panels. 3 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Bringing the opera to life. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.

“The Prince and the Troubadour.” 12 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email boxoffice@1ststage Tysons.org.

“Legally Blonde – the Musical” 2 p.m. MCC Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. \$18-\$20. www.mcleanplayers.org.

Happy Together Tour 2012; The Turtles featuring Flo & Eddie; The Monkees Lead Singer Mickey Dolenz; Gary Puckett &

The Union Gap; The Grass Roots; The Buckingham. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org

MONDAY/JULY 30

Fun with Jonathan Austin. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Juggling, magic and unicycling. Ages 6-12. 703-757-8560.

Uno, Dos, Tres Con Andres. 10:30 a.m. Music and dance from Latin America. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. All ages. 703-938-0405.

Create a Comic Book. 7 p.m. Age 12-18. Tysons-Pimmit Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. 703-790-8088.

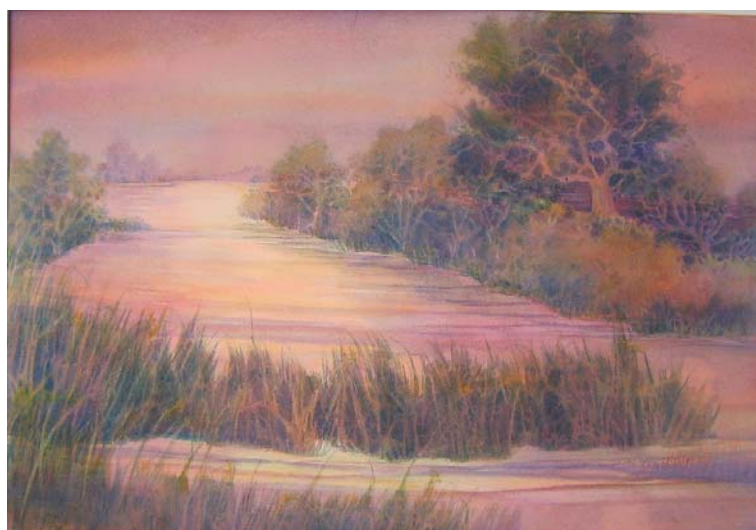
TUESDAY/JULY 31

Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. 8:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Jones presents autobiographical segments accompanied by music and dance. \$4-\$40. www.wolftrap.org.

Tuesday Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Ages 1-2 with caregiver. 703-790-8088.

Okee Dokee Brothers. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Bluegrass melodies. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Thinking Inside the Box. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tues. – Sat. Vienna Arts Society Gallery on the Village Green, 513 Maple Ave., W., Vienna. Many artists' insights and thoughts within the



“Moody River,” watercolor by Carol Milton. Featured artist Carol Milton's landscapes are scenes that change dramatically depending on weather conditions, time of day, season. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tues. – Sat. Vienna Arts Society Gallery on the Village Green, 513 Maple Ave., W., Vienna. www.ViennaArtsSociety.org

limits of a frame. www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.
Book Talk for Book Lovers. 7 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Adults. 703-790-8088.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 1

George Thorogood & The Destroyers. 7:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25-\$42. www.wolftrap.org.

Wine Tasting. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wine Bar & Lounge at Entyse, Ritz Carlton 1700 Tyson's Boulevard, McLean. Sample Sommelier Vincent Feraud's wines. 703-506-4300.

Okee Dokee Brothers. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Bluegrass melodies. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

THURSDAY/AUG. 2

The Temptations and The Four Tops. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$22-\$38. www.wolftrap.org.

Sushi. 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wine Bar & Lounge at Entyse, Ritz Carlton 1700 Tyson's Boulevard, McLean. Watch as expert chef creates sushi. 703-506-4300.

Okee Dokee Brothers. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Bluegrass melodies. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

FRIDAY/AUG. 3

“Footloose,” the Musical. 7:30 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna. 703-255-6360.

An Evening with Idina Menzel. 8:15 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Idina Menzel returns alongside the National Symphony Orchestra. \$20-\$55. www.wolftrap.org.

Pushcart Players: Happily Ever After... A Cinderella Tale. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Featuring music by composer Larry Hochman. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Wolf Trap Opera Company: The Rake's Progress. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.

The Christopher Linman Jazz Ensemble. 8:30 p.m.- 12 a.m. Wine

Bar & Lounge at Entyse, Ritz Carlton 1700 Tyson's Boulevard, McLean. Enjoy food, wine and jazz. 703-506-4300.

SATURDAY/AUG. 4

“West Side Story.” 8:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20-\$52. www.wolftrap.org.

“Footloose,” the Musical. 7:30 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna. 703-255-6360.

Pushcart Players: Happily Ever After... A Cinderella Tale. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Featuring music by composer Larry Hochman. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Social Ballroom Dance. 7 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. First Saturday every month. 703-759-2685 or www.colvinrun.org.

Children's Shows: Secret Agent 23 Skiddo. 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/AUG. 5

Golden Dragon Acrobats from China. 2 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Acrobatics, dance, ancient and contemporary music, and theatrical techniques. \$15-\$38. www.wolftrap.org.

Wolf Trap Opera Company: The Rake's Progress. 3 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.

Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Adoption Event. 1-4 p.m. PetSmart, 8204 Leesburg Pike, Tysons Corner. Adoption events every Sunday. <http://lostdogrescue.org/> and click on Adoptions.

MONDAY/AUG. 6

The Dukes of September Rhythm Revue 2012. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. 703-255-1868 or www.wolftrap.org.

TUESDAY/AUG. 7

Gipsy Kings. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. 703-255-1868 or www.wolftrap.org.

PET CONNECTION

Adopting or Buying a Pet?

FROM PAGE 9

Babs Dyer, voice teacher, Vienna

"To begin the story of Spencer one has to know a little of the story of Angel. One spring day in 1992, I mentioned to a friend that, since we were finally purchasing our own house, I wanted to have a dog.



We were running errands and decided to pull into the animal shelter and just have a look. Well, while we were there a very scared and shaky white fur ball was put into a cage. I asked to see "him" and fell instantly in love. Within hours, I left with what my paperwork said was a white, poodle/bichon mix, male. As soon as we left the shelter, my Angel squatted and we realized this was a female. She hadn't been in the shelter for enough time for them to accurately list her. Angel was our joy for 18 years. When she passed, we were devastated.

I knew that our house would not recover until we again had that furry friend to greet us, love us, and keep us on our toes. So, I began the search for a new best friend. We wanted a friend who didn't aggravate allergies so, through PetFinder I located a few possibilities that would be at a "pet event" that weekend. We went, applied, waited and were denied because, though we have 1/2 acre lot, it was not fenced. Heartbroken, I started looking on Craig list and found a bichon in need of rehoming. I called and was told I was too late, that there was a family coming Saturday to see the bi-

chon and she was sure they were going to be his new family. I begged her to take my number in case it didn't work out. Saturday morning at 11 a.m., I got a call that the people had not shown and I could come only if I came that day. Off I went. I was appalled at the condition of this lovely young man. He had never been on grass, played, was underweight, trembling and clearly unloved. After paying a rehoming fee, I brought Spencer home. His first few hours were a little daunting; he vomited the entire car ride. Upon getting home, he was so afraid of everything, most incredibly of grass. I called the original owner and found out that he had never been on grass, only in a gravel pad that they allowed him to go out on. So, we made a gravel patch in our back yard and gradually he decided that he could put paws on the grass. It took three months for him to feel comfortable-enough to leave the driveway to walk with me. Now, three years later, we have a wonderful, friendly lad, who looks forward to his three walks daily. He is gentle, loving, and quite a good kisser."

FAITH NOTES

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

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, offers a 9 a.m. traditional service and a 10:30 a.m. contemporary service on Sundays. Also offers two services during the summer – both of which will include children's sermons. 703-356-3346.

St. Francis Episcopal 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.

INSIDER'S EDITION Community & Newcomers Guide

This annual edition will be chock full of tips from community insiders, plus a guide for newcomers and long-time residents alike. Everyone will learn something new in this special edition.

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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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New Union Baptist Church... 703-281-2556

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Vajrayogini Buddhist Center... 202-331-2122
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Oakton Church of the Brethren ... 703-281-4411

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Christian Assembly ... 703-698-9777

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

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Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church ... 703-560-6336
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Congregation of Fairfax ... 703-281-4230



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

VAC Girls backstroke.

Gators Are 4-0 in Division 2

VAC Gators hosted the Fairfax Frogs on Saturday, July 14. The final score was VAC 222 – Fairfax 198. Double winners from VAC were Daniel Jacobs, Leaya Ma, Jack Galbraith, Julia Down-

ing, Ella Galbraith and Ashley Shepard. Single winners from VAC were Anna Capobianco, Julia Capobianco, Darby Galbraith, Matthew Capobianco and Alli Haufler.

Oakton Otters Fall Short Against Cardinal Hill

The Oakton Otters lost to Cardinal Hill in a Division 4 dive meet on July 17, 44-27. The loss brought the Otters' record to 1-3.

Two sisters for the Otters took first place in their respective categories: Elana Colbert in intermediate girls with a score of 144.00, and AJ Colbert in senior girls with a score of 202.00.

Other Otter divers that placed were: Finn MacStravic (freshman boys, third), Mackenzie Brennan (junior girls, second), Brad Burgeson (junior boys, second), Liam Klopfenstein (junior boys, third), Julia Powell (intermediate girls, second), Gil Osofsky (intermediate boys, second) and Daniel Nugent (senior boys, second).

The Otters' next meet is on Tuesday, July 24 at Villa Aquatic Club. The Otters are hosting the NVSL Divisional Dive Meet on Sunday, July 29.



A.J. Colbert dives for the Oakton Otters in a meet against Cardinal Hill.



Brad Burgeson dives for the Oakton Otters in a meet against Cardinal Hill.

PHOTOS BY JO ANN COLBERT

Cardinal Hill 44, Oakton 27

FRESHMAN GIRLS:

1. Natalie Lychak (CH) 79.10
2. Carolyn Scott (CH) 69.30
3. Emma Sahlgren (CH) 62.40

FRESHMAN BOYS:

1. Andrew Merski (CH) 49.55
2. Colin Crowley (Ch) 42.95
3. Finn MacStravic (O) 20.00

JUNIOR GIRLS:

1. Elsa Scott (CH) 95.10

2. Mackenzie Brennan (O) 92.90
3. Grace Cusack (CH) 89.35

JUNIOR BOYS:

1. Erik Sahgren (CH) 110.50
2. Brad Burgeson (O) 99.15
3. Liam Klopfenstein (O) 81.25

INTERMEDIATE GIRLS:

1. Elana Colbert (O) 144.00
2. Julia Powell (O) 142.90
3. Paige Atherton (CH) 122.95

INTERMEDIATE BOYS:

1. Bryce Shelton (CH) 196.50
2. Gil Osofsky (O) 105.45
3. Liam Colwell (CH) 104.30

SENIOR GIRLS:

1. AJ Colbert (O) 202.00
2. Morgan Stahl (CH) 192.2
3. Sydney Shelton (CH) 186.90

SENIOR BOYS:

1. Zach Stahl (CH) 192.10
2. Daniel Nugent (O) 146.05



The Vienna Magic team. The players on the team are: Chase Barrand, Mikey Briody, Ben Christenson, Johnny Corish, Jelani Murray, Theo Stamatis, Daniel Ungerleider, Taiga Walker, Daniel Wheeler, Tyler White and Preston Whitman. The team's head coach is Joe Corish and he is assisted by Dave Hannah and Jim Briody.

Performing Magic

Vienna Magic win runner up trophy at USBA National Championships.

The Vienna Magic, an 8th grade boys AAU basketball team from Vienna competed in the 2012 United States Basketball National Championship in Myrtle Beach. The Magic went undefeated in pool play earned a bye to the sweet 16. In its opening bracket game, the Magic thumped the Sumter Starz 74 to 18 to advance to the quarterfinals. The Magic faced an inspired Carolina Phenoms team that took a seven point lead into the half. Facing their first real deficit in the tournament, Vienna stormed back in the second half with a suffocating 3-2 trapping defense and won 55 to 46. The Magic's final four match-up against the Cabarrus County Flight was a physical, defensive battle. The Magic showed great composure and grit to win 44 to 42 advancing to the finals against the undefeated North Carolina Panthers. The Panthers had won each of its previous six games in the tournament by 12 or more including an 18 point win in its semi-final game.

The Panthers built a 14-point lead on hot shooting. The Magic clawed back cutting it to 9 at

halftime on a three quarters court buzzer beater. In the second half, the Magic could not get closer than five points and it was back to 9 with about 4 minutes when the Magic made a final push. They shredded the Panthers 2-2-1 defense with quick passes for open shots and played pressure defense creating a number of steals, the last one leading to a fast break lay-up that tied the game at 51. The team traded possessions in the final minute and as overtime seemed likely, a Panther came up with an offensive rebound and was fouled in the act of shooting with .6 seconds. He hit both and the Magic's magic ran out. The Vienna Magic finished the tournament 6 and 1 and received the USBA National Championship Runner-Up Trophy. The players on the team are: Chase Barrand, Mikey Briody, Ben Christenson, Johnny Corish, Jelani Murray, Theo Stamatis, Daniel Ungerleider, Taiga Walker, Daniel Wheeler, Tyler White and Preston Whitman. The team's head coach is Joe Corish and he is assisted by Dave Hannah and Jim Briody.

HOME SALES

In June 2012, 116 homes sold between \$1,566,500-\$180,000 in the Vienna and Oakton area. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$710,000-\$180,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Address	BR .	FB .	HB ...	Postal	City	Sold Price ...	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision
9371 ROBNEI PL	5	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$710,000	Detached	0.43	22182	LEIGH MEADOW
1922 BYRD RD	4	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$709,000	Detached	0.50	22182	VILLA LORING
8203 LABBE LN	5	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$708,888	Detached	0.24	22182	CEDAR FOREST
1822 CREEK CROSSING RD	5	2	2	.....	VIENNA	\$695,000	Detached	0.24	22182	FOXSTONE
8130 MADRILLON CT	3	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$690,000	Townhouse	0.05	22182	COLONIES OF MADRILLON
10966 STUART MILL RD	4	2	1	.....	OAKTON	\$685,000	Detached	0.92	22124	HOLLY ACRES
2652 OAKTON GLEN DR	4	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$685,000	Detached	0.25	22181	OAKTON GLEN
2840 THAXTON LN	3	3	1	.....	OAKTON	\$680,000	Townhouse	0.07	22124	ENGLISH OAKS
10315 HUNT COUNTRY LN	4	3	0	.....	VIENNA	\$672,500	Detached	0.64	22182	WAYSIDE
2404 NEWTON ST	5	3	0	.....	VIENNA	\$668,660	Detached	0.34	22181	LAKEVALE ESTATES
1113 COTTAGE ST SW	4	4	1	.....	VIENNA	\$650,000	Detached	0.25	22180	VIENNA WOODS
1708 IRVIN ST	4	3	0	.....	VIENNA	\$649,900	Detached	0.50	22182	ANKERDALE
10415 SILK OAK DR	5	3	0	.....	VIENNA	\$640,000	Detached	0.46	22182	TAMARACK
10133 PINE ST	4	3	0	.....	OAKTON	\$638,000	Detached	0.32	22124	GRAYS
2449 SHENANDOAH ST	5	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$637,000	Detached	0.24	22180	STONEWALL MANOR
107 SAINT ANDREWS DR NE	4	3	0	.....	VIENNA	\$625,000	Detached	0.29	22180	WESTBRIAR CC ESTATES
8013 MERRY OAKS LN	3	2	2	.....	VIENNA	\$624,900	Townhouse	0.06	22182	HAHN PROPERTY
1523 RED ROCK CT	5	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$624,900	Detached	0.55	22182	CINNAMON CREEK
608 KEARNEY CT SW	4	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$600,000	Detached	0.24	22180	PICKETT ESTATES
11928 WAPLES MILL RD	4	3	0	.....	OAKTON	\$595,000	Detached	0.95	22124	DIFFICULT
2127 DOCKET LN	4	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$590,000	Detached	0.24	22181	BARRISTERS PLACE
1822 MIDLOTHIAN CT	4	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$590,000	Detached	0.27	22182	WAVERLY
2731 MANHATTAN PL	3	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$578,000	Townhouse	0.02	22180	METRO PLACE AT DUNN LORI
1013 WESTWOOD DR NE	4	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$575,000	Detached	0.30	22180	WESTWOOD MANOR
8508 COTTAGE ST	4	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$565,000	Detached	0.26	22180	DUNN LORING WOODS
10414 ADEL RD	4	2	0	.....	OAKTON	\$560,000	Detached	0.64	22124	OAKLEIGH WOODS
201 AUDREYS CT SE	5	3	0	.....	VIENNA	\$555,000	Detached	0.32	22180	DRIFTWOOD TERRACE
2033 MADRILLON SPRINGS CT NE ..	3	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$555,000	Townhouse	0.04	22182	MADRILLON SPRINGS
2233 RICHELIEU DR	5	3	0	.....	VIENNA	\$553,000	Detached	0.21	22182	TYSONS WOODS
605 TAZEWEI RD NW	3	3	0	.....	VIENNA	\$540,000	Detached	0.23	22180	VIENNA HILLS
1908 MEMORY CT	4	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$515,000	Detached	0.36	22182	TIBURON
2586 RAMBLING RD	3	2	0	.....	VIENNA	\$505,000	Detached	0.57	22181	ORCHARD VIEW
112 FARDALE ST SE	4	2	0	.....	VIENNA	\$490,000	Detached	0.23	22180	VIENNA WOODS
601 WARE ST SW	5	1	1	.....	VIENNA	\$480,000	Detached	0.28	22180	VIENNA WOODS
9608 SCOTCH HAVEN DR	3	2	2	.....	VIENNA	\$480,000	Townhouse	0.04	22181	COUNTRY CREEK
9931 LONGFORD CT	3	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$479,000	Townhouse	0.05	22181	WATERFORD
2824 KELLY SQ	4	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$470,000	Townhouse	0.04	22181	COUNTRY CREEK
10425 RED GRANITE TER	3	2	2	.....	OAKTON	\$469,000	Townhouse	0.06	22124	ARROWOOD
2896 SUTTON OAKS LN	4	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$466,000	Townhouse	0.06	22181	COUNTRY CREEK
261 COMMONS DR NW	3	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$455,000	Townhouse	0.05	22180	VIENNA COMMONS
1416 DESALE ST SW	3	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$452,500	Detached	0.26	22180	VIENNA WOODS
3172 BORGE ST	3	2	2	.....	OAKTON	\$452,000	Townhouse	0.06	22124	ARROWOOD
550 WINDOVER AVE NE	3	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$440,000	Townhouse	0.10	22180	VIENNA COMMONS
9965 LONGFORD CT	4	3	1	.....	VIENNA	\$425,000	Townhouse	0.05	22181	WATERFORD
1547 NORTHERN NECK DR #101 ..	2	2	0	.....	VIENNA	\$425,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22182	WESTWOOD VILLAGE
10458 WHITE GRANITE CT	3	3	1	.....	OAKTON	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.04	22124	ARROWOOD
1403 DESALE ST	3	2	0	.....	VIENNA	\$415,000	Detached	0.25	22180	VIENNA WOODS
909 WARE ST	3	1	0	.....	VIENNA	\$410,000	Detached	0.27	22180	VIENNA WOODS
217B LOCUST ST SE #A	3	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$405,000	Townhouse .....	.....	22180	VIENNA TRAIL
2985 OAKLEIGH LN	3	2	1	.....	OAKTON	\$395,000	Townhouse	0.05	22124	OAKLEIGH
2651 PARK TOWER DR #04/312 ..	2	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$390,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22180	WESTBRIAR PLAZA
9480 VIRGINIA CENTER BLVD #311 ..	2	2	0	.....	VIENNA	\$370,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22181	ACADIA
9836 SWEET MINT DR	3	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.05	22181	CYRANDALL VALLEY NORTH
9480 VIRGINIA CENTER BLVD #108 ..	2	2	0	.....	VIENNA	\$335,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22181	ACADIA
8181 CARNEGIE HALL CT #108	2	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$310,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors .....	.....	22180	WESTBRIAR
2726 GALLOWES RD #1412	2	1	0	.....	VIENNA	\$310,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors .....	.....	22180	WILTON HOUSE
9947 OAKTON TERRACE RD #9947 ..	2	2	0	.....	OAKTON	\$290,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22124	THE OAKTON
2504 GLENGYLE DR #198	3	2	1	.....	VIENNA	\$290,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22181	MOSBYS LANDING
10103 OAKTON TERRACE RD	2	1	0	.....	OAKTON	\$265,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22124	THE OAKTON
10220 BUSHMAN DR #8204	2	2	0	.....	OAKTON	\$250,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22124	VISTAS OF VIENNA
2726 GALLOWES RD #713	1	1	0	.....	VIENNA	\$249,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors .....	.....	22180	WILTON HOUSE
10194A ASHBROOKE CT #117	2	1	0	.....	OAKTON	\$248,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22124	TREVOR HOUSE
2710 GLENGYLE DR #16	3	1	1	.....	VIENNA	\$237,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22181	MOSBYS LANDING
2680 GLENGYLE DR #29	2	1	1	.....	VIENNA	\$235,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22181	MOSBYS LANDING
9486 VIRGINIA CENTER BLVD #105 ..	1	1	0	.....	VIENNA	\$232,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22181	MARQUIS AT VIENNA STATN
2726 GALLOWES RD #710	1	1	0	.....	VIENNA	\$220,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors .....	.....	22180	WILTON HOUSE
10080 OAKTON TERRACE RD	2	1	0	.....	OAKTON	\$216,000	Garden 1-4 Floors .....	.....	22124	THE OAKTON
10214 BUSHMAN DR #122	1	1	0	OAKTON	\$180,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	22124	VISTAS OF VIENNA

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Madison High Leo Club Officers Installed

On May 22, the Madison High School Leo Club officers were officially installed by the Lions 24A District Governor Dennis W. Kelly III at a reception hosted by the sponsoring club, Vienna Host Lions Club. Pictured: DG Dennis Kelly, President Mariam Hanna, Vice-President Chanel Urrutia, Secretary Sahar Neisi and Treasurer Katie Davison.



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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 and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link. **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

Ashburn

22018 Ayr Hill Ct.....\$814,900.....Sun 1-4.....Bruce Young....Samson Props..571-331-6363

Burke

6208 Ormandy Dr.....\$527,900.....Sun 1-4.....Wendy Smith..Coldwell Banker..703-608-1725

Centreville

6803 Farrahs Cavalry Rd.....\$530,000.....Sun 1-4.....Rich Triplett....Samson Props..703-217-1348

Falls Church

7581 Chrisland Cove.....\$499,900.....Sat 12-3..Barbara Blumer..Coldwell Banker..703-405-5993

Oakton

11312 Timberline Dr.....\$1,100,000.....Sat/Sun 1-4.....Steve Eaheart....Keller Williams..703-222-3300
3204 Wheatland Farms Dr..\$1,149,000.....Sun 1-4..Beth Dadisman....Keller Williams..703-577-1144

Reston

1388 Cameron Dr.....\$1,185,000.....Sun 1-4.....Glynis Canto....Keller Williams...703-395 2355

Sterling

46750 Graham Cove Sq.....\$365,000.....Sun 1-4.....Lynn Thornell.....Weichert..703-777-3977

Vienna

1108 Hillcrest Dr SW.....\$1,039,000.....Sun 1-4.....Casey Samson....Samson Props..703-508-2535
2423 Holt St.....\$565,000.....Sun 1-4.....Casey Samson....Samson Props..703-508-2535
10511 William Terry Dr.....\$998,000.....Sun 12-5..Laura Maschler.....Century 21..571-338-3961

To add your FREE Realtor represented 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.

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Cleaner in Vienna is looking for a Spotter, Pressers, and Customer Support Personnel. Call 703-851-5939 to apply. Experience is preferred but not necessary.

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The Mount Vernon Gazette

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Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac

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-Werner Heisenberg

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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A Life Worth Living, Still



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

It might be my age (as in getting older), or it might be the fact that I have cancer (you think?), but my brain and the related physical and mental tasks it coordinates are not exactly working at peak efficiency. Don't get me wrong, I'm not exactly "Forrest, Forrest Gump," but plans are not easily made and when they are made, not so easily or successfully carried out. Whether it's a drive to an unfamiliar destination, time spent with semi-unsuspecting (about me) acquaintances, or overnighting away from home (and out of my routine: alkaline water, pills, asparagus, baking soda, apple cider vinegar, etc.) as a few examples, what once seemed like ordinary and manageable acts of everyday-type life now present previously unfamiliar hurdles. Talk about making something out of nothing. Everything is something, even if it's nothing. And that's a change – for the worse.

Unfortunately, knowing this – and accepting it, hasn't lessened the burden and inevitability of living with it. I'm always relieved when whatever, wherever, however, we (meaning me) finish what we're doing: get to where we're going/solve the problem we're needing to solve/arrange the schedule we're attempting to arrange, and complete our miscellaneous activities. I can then settle back into what's familiar and relatively uncomplicated. If I've been there and am accustomed to doing it, it gets done, without much ado. However, if I haven't been there – literally and figuratively, getting there – and back, becomes increasingly more difficult. I don't necessarily want to blame this behavior on my age or my underlying problem ("NSCLC"), but at least if I blame it on something that makes sense – to me, I can live with the consequences of this preferred inaction. And the more I understand the reasons for certain "inaction," the less stress I'll feel. And the less stress I feel, the better off I'll be; as a cancer patient, first, and as a reasonably intelligent adult second (no comments from the peanut gallery, please).

I guess what I'm trying to do is what Jerry, Elaine, George and Kramer were competing to do years ago on a particularly memorable "Seinfeld" episode: master my own domain; trying to control the uncontrollable. However, if any set of circumstances is likely uncontrollable, it is the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual effects one experiences after receiving a terminal diagnosis. You're either ready for its demands or you're not. It's not like – at least for me, there was really any preparation or expectation that your life – as you knew it, was over. I suppose there's a handbook somewhere. (Maybe there's even some training or a class – Cancer 101, you can attend.) And though I can certainly appreciate the benefit and power of the written – and read word, a terminal diagnosis with a "13-month to two-year" prognosis requires – in my opinion, a more personal touch, one with a one-to-one/face-to-face-type connection. When the diagnosis is stage IV-serious, it's best to leave nothing to chance and/or misinterpretation. As much as you – as the patient/"diagnosee" think you're hearing and/or reading what's being said or handed to you concerning the facts of your case, the shock of what you're learning will not only cloud your judgment, but rewire your brain, emotionally speaking. It's hardly another day at the office. In fact, it's like no other day you've ever had at your office or any other office. The assimilation – or rather the attempted assimilation of your diagnosis, prognosis, treatment options, schedule of diagnostic scans and doctor appointments, best and worst case scenarios, will forever change the way you process information and plan your future.

What I'm finding out is, the longer I survive, it's the emotions I feel about having cancer more than the facts of having cancer that are causing me the most problems. One I can live with, the other is living with me. And it's not of my own choosing, either.

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

PEOPLE

Oakton High Student Studies Founding Principles

Emily Yaremchuk, 17, a rising senior at Oakton High School, was among seven Northern Virginia high school students who attended the Constitutional Academy, the nation's premier program for high school students to study the Constitution – the Bill of Rights Institute announced. The scholarships were provided by the Ohrstrom Foundation.

They read the Founding documents and other primary source resources, and discussed the ideals of the American Founding along with contemporary issues with students from across the country and constitutional scholars in Washington, D.C.



Emily Yaremchuk

During the educational week in Washington, the students also viewed historical documents at the National Archives and visited landmark sites including George Washington's Mount Vernon and the U.S. Capitol.

Yaremchuk said her favorite part of the Constitution Academy was the visit to Mount Vernon.

"The estate has such a rich history and it was remarkable to be able to climb stairs that nearly all of the Founding Fathers had. Visiting Mount Vernon gave me an understanding of General Washington's intense care for the infant America and everything he risked to defend it and watch it grow," Yaremchuk said.

Irish Dance Champion

Miya Stefanick, 13, of Vienna (second from left) - a rising 8th grader at Kilmer School - won 1st place in the North American Irish Dance Championships in Chicago on July 4. For her dance training she attends the Maple Academy of Irish Dance. Her teachers are Bill Maple and Marnie O'Callaghan Maple.



PHOTO BY DAVID G. FARMER

Posing for Picture

David Farmer, President of Flint Hill Cemetery Association, took this photo late Sunday morning July 1. He went to the cemetery to assess damage caused by the June 29 storm. "As I was surveying the section of the cemetery that is close to the Oakton Church of the Brethren, I practically bumped into a deer that was very tame and curious about my presence. I couldn't resist taking some photos," Farmer said.

Madison Students Recognized for Leadership Skills

Seven Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) students earned gold medals, the highest level of national recognition, at the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) 2012 National Leadership Conference held recently in Orlando.

Winners of gold medals were:

❖ Kailyn Hornbeck of Madison High School in Career Investigation STAR Event. This event recognizes participants for their ability to perform self-assessments, research and explore a career, set goals, create a plan for achieving their goals, and describe the relationship of Family and Consumer Sciences coursework to the selected career.

❖ Mark Bobalek, Johanna Huffman, and Michelle Prisbe of Madison High School in Food Innovations STAR Event. This event recognizes participants who demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts of food product development by creating an original prototype formula, testing the product through focus groups, and developing a marketing strategy.

❖ Kathryn Hornbeck of Madison High School in Job Interview STAR Event. This event recognizes participants who use Family and Consumer Sciences and/or a related occupation's skills to develop a portfolio, participate in an interview, and communicate a personal understanding of job requirements.

❖ Emma Rosen of Madison High School in National Programs in Action STAR Event. This event

recognizes participants who explain how the planning process was used to plan and implement a national program project.

❖ Catherine Bobalek of Madison High School in Virtual Poster Online STAR Event. This event recognizes participants who demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and ability to publish a virtual, interactive digital poster related to one of the three Student Body units: Eat Right, Be Fit, and Make Healthy Choices.

❖ Alec Ostapovicz of Madison High School earned first place in the nation in the Impromptu Speaking Skill Demonstration Event, the highest level of recognition for this event. Participants are recognized for their ability to address a topic relating to FCCLA and Family and Consumer Sciences without prior preparation while maintaining poise, self-confidence, logical organization of point, and conversational speaking.

❖ Shahara Simmons of Mount Vernon High School earned a bronze medal in Fashion Construction STAR Event. This event recognizes participants who apply fashion construction skills learned in Family and Consumer Sciences courses to create a display using samples of their skills.

More than 7,500 members, advisors, alumni, and guests from across the nation attended the leadership conference. Over 3,900 students advanced from the local, regional, and state level to compete for national top honors in 35 Family and Consumer Sciences related FCCLA Competitive Events.

FAITH NOTES

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

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, offers a 9 a.m. traditional service and a 10:30 a.m. contemporary service on Sundays. Also offers two services during the summer – both of which will include children's sermons. 703-356-3346.

St. Francis Episcopal 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/growth-learning.

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

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body & Soul Fitness. Balance is key, energy is renewed and strength is gained. 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center offers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or www.meditation-dc.org.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean. The third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Vienna Assembly of God has a ministry to children on Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m. at the corner of Center N and Ayr Hill Avenue, N.E. Children's Church on Sundays also available. 703-938-7736 or www.ViennaAG.com.

Vienna Christian Healing Rooms, every Saturday, 1-5 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779 or www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com.