Unveiling History in Oalcion

News, Page 3

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A Civil War Trails marker noting the importance of the historic Flint Hill Cemetery in Oakton is to be unveiled on Saturday, Oct. 27, at a 6 p.m. ceremony. The program features illuminations and a roll-call reenactment of Civil War soldiers interred at Flint Hill Cemetery.

A Veteran's 'Best Friend' News, Page 5

Vienna Preschoolers Help Less-fortunate News, Page 3

October 24-30, 2012



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2 & Vienna/Oakton Connection & October 24-30, 2012

News

Unveiling History in Oakton

Program honors Union and Confederate troops buried at Flint Hill Cemetery.

By Donna Manz The Connection

t was unintentional that the marker unveil date planned for Flint Hill Cemetery aligned itself with proximity to All Hallow's Eve. The alignment did, however, give rise to a more theatrical marker dedication than what is more typical of the ceremony. The Oct. 27 program at Flint Hill Cemetery honors the memory of the 165 veteransfrom Civil War to 20th century wars-buried at the historic Oakton site. The marker dedication begins at 6 p.m., as darkness settles over the gravestones.

"For those interested in local history, this should prove to be a special event and a bit unlike any other program you've seen before," said marker committee chair Jim Lewis. "Definitely an 'out-ofthe box' historical marker unveiling with some interesting twists."

The twists, you might suspect, involve illuminations, spirits and voice-overs. While the program echoes of another dimension, it maintains the dignity and respect the interred deserve. It is a novel approach to a marker dedication, designed to bring history to life and to bring awareness to the site's importance in Oakton history.

"It's unique that any church would intentionally build on top of a fort site," said Lewis. "Church of the Brethren is a 'peace' church and, I think, they built it there, basically to take the bad and make it good."

THE 26 CIVIL WAR DEAD include both Union and Confederate troops, four of whom have been identified as Mosby's Rangers. Recognizing the cemetery's role in Fairfax County history, Visit Fairfax paid for the marker and Hunter Mill corridor supporter Lewis authored the text.

Flint Hill Cemetery abuts the Oakton Church of the Brethren on Rt. 123. Most people, Lewis said, do not realize that there are two cemeteries sharing a border on the grounds. The second belongs to the Church.

"What's also really cool about this is all the stories associated www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



Prominent names are engraved on tombstones from the 19th century, including that of Josiah Bowman of Vienna.

with the cemetery," said Lewis. "Besides veterans, there are the graves of lots of prominent Vienna and Oakton families."

When Lewis conducts Civil War tours sponsored by the Hunter Mill Defense League, he stops at Flint Hill Cemetery, and of the stops he has made over 32 tours, this cemetery is the visitors' favorite.

The date was determined by the availability of the 17th Virginia Infantry, Co. D. In full military dress, they are to present and retire the colors and will be the illuminated shadows of the past. "There's no relationship to Halloween," said Lewis. "We did move the time from morning to evening for more atmosphere.³

Lewis worked with Flint Hill **Cemetery Association President** Dave Farmer and Historic Vienna Inc. President Anne Stuntz to create a marker that was unique and a lot of fun, said Lewis.

lights to luminaria, will highlight buried at Flint Hill.

Flint Hill Cemetery recorded its first burials in 1852, although it is speculated there may have been burials there prior to that time. In 1875, the Flint Hill Cemetery Association was formed to administer the cemetery.

Many well-known names are engraved on the tombstones... Abram Lydecker, who, in 1859, built what is now Freeman House... Leon Freeman, who inherited the house and founded the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department; Josiah Bowman, whose family home stands today on Center Street; Mary Holland Bell Snyder, who taught blacks in Oakton in 1851; and Thomas Hartwell Walker, a Mosby Ranger who was one of the first trustees of the cemetery, and, coincidentally, an ancestor of David Farmer, current FHCA president.

"I think that what makes this cemetery special is that it is a place where people can come and reflect on local history and the contributions made by former area citizens that are laid to rest there," said Farmer.

Illuminations, from secreted OAKTON CHURCH OF THE

BRETHREN Pastor Christopher the graves of the Civil War troops Bowman, whose family goes back to the area for ten generations, will speak about the church's background. His father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-greatgrandfather served as ministers in the church.

See History, Page 11



Meekins preschoolers on their way to Our Daily **Bread's food storage pantry.**

Vienna Preschoolers Help Less-fortunate

sharing, F. B. Meekins

Preschool in Vienna partnered with Emmaus United Church of Christ to give its preschoolers an opportunity to share their good fortune and bounty with families less fortunate. Throughout October, Meekins' families donated food and dry goods to the Church's collection, and, on Friday, Oct. 19, 16 children, aged 4 to 5, gathered six bags of food and supplies and delivered them to the storage pantry of Our Daily Bread [ODB]. Nine parents and one teacher, Tara Voight, accompanied the children to the Vienna CubeSmart facility.

"What do you do when you're hungry," Voight asked her students before they filled up the food and goods bags. Some answered, "eat," while some were more specific. They eat Cheerios. "Some children are hungry," Voight explained to them. "They don't have all that you have."

To most kids in Vienna, going hungry is an alien concept. You're hungry, you eat. Your mom buys you snacks and treats. The outing to the storage pantry at CubeSmart gave the children a different perspective. Chris Garris, food manager with Our Daily Bread, met the children at CubeSmart and spoke with them in the wellorganized pantry unit. She described the mission of Our Daily Bread and its tools to reach the families who need their services. From food/dry goods distribution to making lunch-sacks for kids who would miss good nutrition on weekends, Our those who would not otherwise ODB's homepage. have access.

When asked if she knew why she and her classmates brought

o kick off the season of food and supplies to the pantry, she replied, "because some people don't have any food. Or money.'

> Noticeably absent from the pantry were perishables. With no refrigeration or freezer, what can't be kept there, Garris asked. The children responded with the things they're most familiar with: milk, eggs, pizza and ice cream. To give needy families an opportunity to bring home perishables, Our Daily Bread distributes \$20 or \$25 grocery store gift cards to them. The gift cards are either donated or are bought from cash donations. Grocery gift cards are most-needed, said Garris.

> Our Daily Bread donations come, primarily, from church, civic groups and schools, and corporations.

> There are 21 churches who collect and deliver food, Garris said. "Our Daily Bread is always looking for new organizations to join up.'

Donations are weighed to estimate "value." Each pound is multiplied by \$1.67. Meekins delivered 93.4 pounds of nonperishables to ODB, valued at \$156.

When the little girl, a 4-yearold, was asked how she would feel if she had no food or money to buy treats and toys, she said, "sad."

In this season of giving and sharing, it's good that all-children and adults-keep that inmind.

To learn how your group can support Our Daily Bread, go to http://www.odbfairfax.org/.

On Wednesday, Nov. 14, Our Daily Bread hosts the fundraiser Daily Bread works with North- Wine and Wonderment, at 2941 ern Virginia agencies to get restaurant, to benefit ODB's nutritious and healthy meals to holiday programs. Details on

—Donna Manz

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News

A Veteran's 'Best Friend'

Rescued pets help veterans overcome PTSD.

By Donna Manz The Connection

he Vienna Woman's Club funds scholarships for local students, supports homeless high school students, contributes food and goods to a local charity, and, now, is fundraising on behalf of American veterans and first-responders with PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) who would benefit from the relationship of a companion dog. **Benefiting Companions for Heroes** (C4H), the Woman's Club has planned a raffle and fundraiser with partner American Legion Post 180 on Nov. 11, Veterans' Day.

"For many combat veterans and first-responders suffering from PTSD, these dogs give an unconditional love that save their lives," said Woman's Club member Cindy Stewart, co-chairing the American Legion raffle. "It's a unique source of love and therapy that only an animal can provide."

AT ITS OCT. 17 MEETING, the Vienna Woman's Club hosted a presentation by Companions for Heroes Executive Director Lynne Gartenhaus. With Gartenhaus was a companion in training, a black lab named Ducky. C4H matches shelter pets with their new owners, combat veterans or first-responders whose service has caused mental suffering diagnosed as PTSD. The founder of C4H himself, David Sharpe, suffered from the disorder after his return from the Middle East. Cheyenne, the pit bull he rescued from a shelter, saved Sharpe's life on two occasions when he was in despair. Sharpe began to see where dogs can draw combat veterans out of their own heads. Companions for Heroes grew out of that, and, to date, 120 shelter pets have been adopted to the nation's "heroes." There is little treatment available for veterans suffering from PTSD, Gartenhaus said.

"Dogs, or cats, break the cycle of despair by intervening in the veteran's episodes," said Gartenhaus. "Caring for the companion animal, training them, empowers the veterans."

The Woman's Club will begin selling raffle tickets for its prizes, including a \$100 cash prize, two \$50 gift certificates to Café Renais

See Pets, Page 11

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



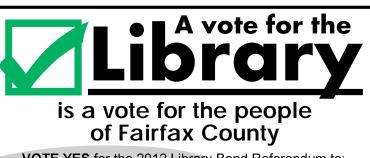
Peg Puhl, co-chair of the Companions for Heroes (C4H) fundraiser, and Lynne Gartenhaus, executive director of C4H, with "companion"-in-training, Ducky.



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Photo by Donna

The Connection

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Nov. 6th

This ad paid for by the Fairfax Library Foundation.



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Opinion Be Part of the Children's Connection

Call for student artwork and writing; deadline Dec. 3.

uring the last week of each year, The Connection devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families.

The annual Children's Connection is a tradition of well over a decade, and we begin getting inquiries from teachers and parents about submitting artwork and writing almost as soon as summer is over.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

Editorials

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on

CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location. Please provide the submissions by Monday, Dec. 3.

Some suggestions:

Drawings or paintings or photographs of your family, friends, pets or some favorite activity. These should be photographed or scanned and submitted in jpeg format.

Short answers (50 to 100 words) to some of the following questions: If you could give your parents any gift that didn't cost money what would that gift be? What are you most looking forward to in the upcoming year? What is one thing that you would change about school? What do you want to be when you grow up? What is your favorite animal? What is your favorite toy? What makes a good parent? What makes a good friend? What is the best or worst thing that ever happened to you? What is the best gift you've ever given? Ever received?

Letters to the Editor **Supporting Bond** Referenda

To the Editor:

On the Nov. 6 ballot, County residents will see four Bond Referenda. The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area urges voters to approve all four bonds. Here's why:

Issuing these bonds now is sound fiscal policy. All of these capital improvements are part of the County's five-year plan. Repayment will cost less because interest rates are low. And the County has common-sense borrowing policies that strictly limit the amount of outstanding debt to a small percentage of property values. These practices have allowed the Fairfax County to finance necessary capi-

6 * Vienna/Oakton Connection * October 24-30, 2012

♦ Your opinion (50 to 100 words) about traffic, sports, restaurants, video games, toys, trends, etc.

Poetry or other creative writing.

* Opinion pieces about family, friends, mov-

ies, traffic, sports, food, video games, toys, trends, etc. * News stories from school newspapers.

We welcome contributions from families, public and private schools, individuals and

homeschoolers. Email submissions for the Vienna/Oakton, McLean, Great Falls, Reston and Oak Hill/ Herndon Children's Connections to kemal@connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for Springfield, Burke, Fairfax, Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connections to South@Connectionnewspapers.com. Email submissions for the Arlington Children's Connection to Steven Mauren at

smauren@connectionnewspapers.com. Email submissions for the Children's Centre

View to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for the Children's Gazette in the Alexandria Gazette Packet or Mount Vernon Gazette to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD to Children's Connection, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please send all submissions by Dec. 3. The Children's Connection will publish the week of Dec. 27, 2012.

Halloween Parties, SoberRide

Halloween is now as much of an adult party as a children's festival. Along with the Fourth of July, the holiday period including New Year's Eve and a few other dates, Halloween stands

tal improvements while maintaining its AAA bond rating - even in the recession.

These capital improvements are necessary to the health, welfare and safety of County residents.

* Parks and Parks Facilities Bonds: This bond issue supports the preservation of the County's historic areas, many of which bring tourists to Fairfax County. It also supports development of neighborhood parks, preservation of open space and stream valleys. County parks provide a place for outdoor recreational opportunities for everyone in our communities.

✤ Public Safety Bonds: This bond issue supports maintenance and upgrades to police, fire department and court facilities. Some of these funds will help complete the renovation of the Jennings Courthouse and make the entire complex safe, efficient and appropriate for everyone from judges to defendants and for the public.

Public Library Bonds: These bonds support tech smart library maintenance and upgrades. As more jobs and school assignments require access to a computer, these bonds are necessary for the participation of everyone in our community life.

Storm Drainage Improvefamily gatherings and increase ments Bonds: These bonds support soil and water conservation and flood-prevention efforts. As we experience more frequent violent storms and unpredictable weather, these bonds protect the health, safety and property of County residents. They will also

out as a holiday connected to an increase in drinking and driving.

If you will be out celebrating with alcohol, you can plan ahead. Assign a designated driver. Celebrate at home. Take public transportation. But if these plans fall through, the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) Halloween SoberRide program provides a safety net.

For six hours from 10 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 31 until 4 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 1, SoberRide serves as a way to keep impaired drivers off the road. During this six-hour period, area residents ages 21 and older celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI and be afforded a no-cost (up to a \$30 fare), safe way home.

Sponsors of this year's Halloween SoberRide offering include: Anheuser-Busch, AT&T, Diageo, Giant, MillerCoors, Red Top Cab of Arlington, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington, Volkswagen Group of America and the Washington Area New Automobile **Dealers Association.**

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 55,694 free cab rides home to wouldbe drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area. For more information visit www.wrap.org

Last Call

Letters to the editor from local residents about the upcoming election should be received by Friday, Oct. 26 to be considered for publication. Letters on candidates, bond questions, election procedure or any other local, election related topics are welcome and encouraged. Ideal letters will be about 200 words and convey opinion with civility. Send letters to north@connectionnewspapers.com.

> Mary Kimm, mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

prevent the economic loss flooding inflicts on our communities.

Voters interested in more details should visit fairfaxcounty.gov/ opa/bond.

These bonds will also improve the economic future of Fairfax County. All facilities need regular maintenance and upgrades. By following sound borrowing policies and maintaining facilities as needed, Fairfax County not only improves the quality of life for current residents, but also becomes more attractive to businesses looking for a place to relocate.

We urge voters to approve all four Bond Referenda.

Julia Jones and Helen Kelly

Co-Presidents League of Women Voters of the



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An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered

to homes and businesses. **Published by**

Local Media Connection LLC **1606 King Street** Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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Fairfax Area

Bulletin Board

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

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 24

- Depression & Anxiety Panel. 7 p.m., at McLean High School Cafeteria, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. The first in a series addressing problems among teenages; a wellness/health specialist, adolescent/child psychiatrist, counselor and a school psychologist cover different facets of the issue. davidedelman@verizon.net.
- MCC Monthly Meeting, 7:30 p.m., at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Tax district residents who wishto speak during the citizen comment portion of the meeting should call ahead. 703-790-0123 ext. 711. www.mcleancenter.org/about/ governing-meetings.

SATURDAY/OCT. 27

- Foster Parent Training Class. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at 10455 White Granite Drive, Oakton. This class answers questions and provides training for those with the time, energy and desire to provide support to a teen or child in need. 571-748-2557 or Nvfs.org/fosterparenting.
- Avoiding Divorce Court II— Provisions of Settlement Agreements. 10a.m.-1p.m., at The Women's Center, 127 Park St NE, Vienna. Information on standard provisions and creative provisions available to parties negotiating or mediating an agreement. \$40, \$30 for Members, or \$70 per couple, \$50 for Member couples. Register at www.thewomenscenter.org or 703-281-2657, ext. 276.

TUESDAY/OCT. 30

Non-Profit Forum. 8:15 a.m.-3 p.m., Gannett Headquarters, 7950 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Robert Machen, CIO of ALSAC/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is the keynote speaker. \$25-40. Register. 703-356-5424.

SATURDAY/NOV. 10

The Marketplace: Pregnancy Center Fundraiser. 9 a.m.-noon, Grace Bible Church, 9115 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton. Crafters, cooks, services and gifts are needed at the marketplace to sell goods for the benefit of the Assist Pregnancy Center; sign up for a table and/or register to bring your home business. julieadavidson@cox.net or sjfiz1@gmail.com. www.assistcpc.org.

TUESDAY/NOV. 13

- NARFE Meeting. 1:30 p.m., at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, Vienna. The Vienna-Oakton Chapter 1116 meeting hosts Jessica Klement, a NARFE communications and legislative representative. 703-281-5123.
- NAACP Officer Elections. 5:30-8 p.m., First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard St. NW, Vienna. The election at the General Membership meeting will decide the new officers and NAACP committee members. www.fairfaxnaacp.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 15

- Christmas Craft Show: Crafters Wanted. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. The 19th Annual Christmas Craft Show's consignment shop-style market has space open for more wares. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.
- www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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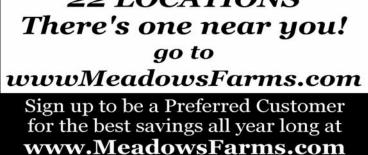
NECTION

EWSPAPER



Win 2 tickets to the Washington vs. Philadelphia football game on November 18 at Fed Ex Field. 50 Yard line lower bowl seats! Must enter at any of our locations by November 11







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Local Artists Show Off Studios

Annual studios tour shows artists workspaces.

By Alex McVeigh The Connection

ourteen years ago, David Cowdrill was visiting a pottery in Maine, when a door opened for him, literally and figuratively. The potters opened up their workshop to him, showing him how to create ceramics, and Cowdrill, an engineer by trade, found a new opportunity.

"When I got home, I enrolled in Northern Virginia Community College, and a few other community colleges, then the Corcoran Gallery in the city," he said.

Cowdrill was one of more than 30 artists who displayed their works, studios and more during the annual Great Falls Studios Tour Saturday and Sunday. Painters, sculptors, photographers, fiber artists and more showed the hundreds of attendees how they create their work.

Cowdrill creates his art in the second bay of a two-car garage he added to his house several years ago. He had the side insulated and heated, and now he has his pottery wheel and other equipment ready and available, including a stack of interior design magazines that he draws ideas from.

"I'm inspired by form and decoration. Things like fabric and lamps can give me ideas about what to incorporate," he said. "I usually work around three, four days a week, though since this summer I've been working five days a week and some weekends to get ready for the tour."

For many visitors, the tour offered a chance for art aficionados to see more than a finished result, also the raw materials, goes into each piece.

"It's so fascinating to see the space where these beautiful works are made, what the art-sculpture. ists sit in, what they see while

he is interested in colors, mostly terns that appear."



An audience watches artist William Tuthill create a Japanese wood block print during the Great Falls Studios Tour Sunday, Oct. 21.



Vad Moskowitz, a fiber artist, demonstrates how to use a loom at her home designs and equipment that studio, a stop on the annual Great Falls **Studios Art Tour.**

putting together geometric abstract

"Geometric abstractions were they create. I think the tour is a very popular in the 1950s, and I really unique way to get a like to say I'm sort of re-inventing favorite stop on the tour featured wood blocks was so delicate, it's glimpse of that process," said that style," he said. "I like looking two forms of art she had previously only fitting that those beautiful Amv-Lee Banks of Herndon. at built environments, such as known absolutely nothing about. works come out like they do." Sculptor Jonathan Fisher says fences, grates, other repeating pat-

primary colors. Starting from In addition to displaying a num- Japanese woodblock prints. He had that live and work in Great Falls. age 7, when he got a jig saw ber of different works, Fisher de- an old printing press in his down- More information is available at from his parents, he has been signs and builds a child's game ev- stairs kitchen, and I found the pro- www.greatfallsstudios.com.

ery year for the tour, this year's fea- cess of making the drawing, tured peg-shaped pieces that could

a large blue and red die. Florian Scott of Vienna said her cess that went into one of his

Tuthill and his lithographs and the sortium of more than 90 artists

transferring it to the stone and be advanced along by the board by then the paper to be very interesting," she said. "And the pro-

Jonathan Fisher, who creates abstract

sculptures, at his studio, part of the

annual Great Falls Studios Tour.

Photos by Alex McVeigh/The Connection

"I was spellbound by William Great Falls Studios is a con-

Entertainment

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

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 24

Vienna Halloween Parade. 7 p.m., at Maple Avenue and Branch Road Vienna. Big name entertainment, a crowd of tens of thousands and parading costumed children: gathe with children at 6:30 p.m. at the Virginia Commerce Bank to walk. www.viennahalloweenparade.org

THURSDAY/OCT. 25

Spirited Away: An Asian Themed **Concert**. 7 p.m., Langley Auditorium, 6520 Georgetown Pike McLean. Four student string orchestras will play, featuring senior pianists and violinists, a harpist and cellist; Pallavi Rudraraju performs a classical Indian dance; two dancers dance the Korean Jang-goh Drum Dance; the Langley student rock band Eastward Bound debuts; Remy Bustani displays Saxon Scroll artwork; and Nen Daiko, professional Japanes Taiko drummers, perform. http:// angleyorchestra.org/ Orchestra%20Forms/Performances/ LHS%20Asian%20Concert %20FlyerInvite\%20October.pdf.

FRIDAY/OCT. 26

McLean Art Society Meeting. 10 a.m.-noon. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Jacqueline Saunders is the featured artist. 703-790-0123.

- What I Did Last Summer. 8 p.m., at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The WWII coming-ofage story set in Lake Erie about a rebellious 14-year-old who works as a handyman for a bohemian teacher; ages 15-plus. MCP offers a \$200 prize nd publication for the winning essay on the subject of the play. \$16; \$14 for seniors, students and MCC
- members. www.mcleanplayers.org. Lucy Kaplansky. 8 p.m., at The Barn at Nolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Chicago-born singer/songwriter sings smooth vocals and insightful lyrics from her newest album Reunion. \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 27

- Halloween Costume Fun Run. 9-11 a.m., at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Runners of all ages run laps around campus in costume; for every lap, runners receive a treat; fun run water bottle included. \$10 suggested lonation. 703-356-3346.
- Fairfax Genealogical Society Fall Fair. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire Station, 2148 Gallows Road, Vienna. "Records Within Reach"-themed fair; registration goes up to \$45 after Oct. 18. \$30, members; \$35, non-members. www.fxgs.org.
- Halloween Pumpkin Carving, from 3-4 p.m., at Wildfire, 1714 International Drive, McLean. Parents and children carve pumpkins with idance from Executive Chef Eddie shaq and NBC4Weekend Anchor Angle Goff: take home your carved pumpkin and a goody bag and benefit Food for Others. \$15 per child. 703-442-9110.

Alastair Moock's Slightly Scary Spooktacular. 10:30 a.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. Vienna. Boston roots musician/family entertainer plays slightly scary tunes. \$10; children under 1 year, free. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com. **Outstanding Educator Awards**

Lunch and Silent Auction. 11



The Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner culinary team is enjoying pumpkin carving with the children at their annual Pump kin Carving Class. This year's classes are on Saturday, Oct. 27 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Pumpkin Carving with the Ritz-Carlton

for reservations

Honoring three exceptional educators the luncheon and auction benefits the Martin Luther King, Jr. Cultural Foundation, Inc. Sponsorships available. \$65. www.mlkculturalfoundation.org events.htm.

Artist Talk with Alice Whealin. 11 a.m., at the Ramp Gallery in the



Carve pumpkins with Pastry Chef Frederic Barasse and Chef Phil Sherman from the Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner. On Saturday, Oct. 27 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., children and parents can carve together with the guidance of experts. Call 703-917-5498

a.m., at McLean Tyson's Hilton Hotel, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean.

McLean Project for the Arts, 1234

Ingleside Ave., McLean. The visual artist talks about her works currently on view in the Ramp Gallery at the MPA; she discusses how "a sculptor's drawings" incorporates ideas of 3-D form via painting materials and talks on visual references to pop culture and science in her work. 703-790-1953 or www.mpaart.org. Fun, Festive, Fright-less Halloween

Tea. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., at The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Come in Halloween

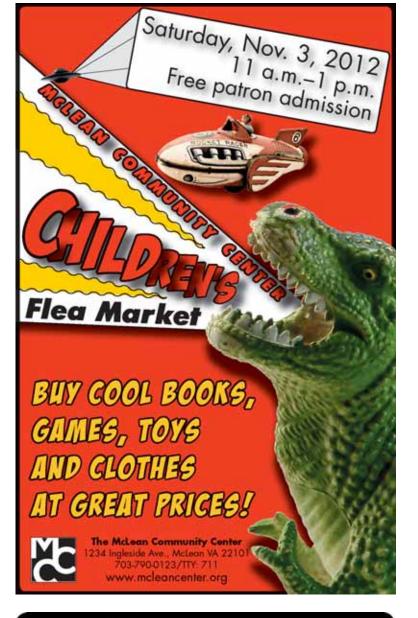
costumes for tea. a magician act. a creepy-crawly photo booth and eats; children receive a special treat and complimentary photo as a memento. \$65. Reservations. 703-917-5498. Dlympian-Led Field Hockey Clinic

and Coaches Talk. 1:30-4 p.m., and 4-5 p.m., at The Potomac School, 1301 Potomac School Road, McLean. A clinic with demonstrations of highlevel skills by Olympians at 1:30 p.m. and a Talk from the Top for coaches at 4 p.m. for girls of all ages who love field hockey. \$50 per player; coaches with four-plus players registered attend the talk for free.

www.BeyondSticks.com. olden Rod Puppets: Migration. p.m., at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean Hobey Ford's puppet show takes children ages 5-plus back the world of animals as a young Mexican girl, Beatriz, meets wild animals on a journey with her family. \$15; \$10, MCC residents. www.loydartists.com. **Coffee House Evening of Music**. 7-9 p.m., at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Dennis Trainor and Dennis Eigell play sounds from the 60s and 70s; goulash soup and fresh bread served.

Donations go to water initiative programs. info@elcvienna.org. What I Did Last Summer. 8 p.m., at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The WWII coming-ofage story set in Lake Erie about a rebellious 14-year-old who works as a handyman for a bohemian teacher; ages 15-plus. MCP offers a \$200 prize and publication for the winning essay on the subject of the play. \$16: \$14 for seniors, students and MCC

members. www.mcleanplayers.org. See Entertainment, Page 10





FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS AT 8:00 P.M • SUNDAYS AT 2:00 TICKETS: 866.811.4111 • MCLEANPLAYERS.ORG PRESENTED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH DRIMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC. 444 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY, 4016.

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Vienna/Oakton Connection * October 24-30, 2012 * 9

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www.mcleancenter.org/special-events

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For more information please contact: Bekah Atkinson at 301-592-0567, x12 • batkinson@thesienaschool.org www.exceptionalschoolsfair.com



10 Vienna/Oakton Connection VOctober 24-30, 2012

Entertainment

From Page 9

SUNDAY/OCT. 28

- What I Did Last Summer. 2 p.m., at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The WWII coming-ofage story set in Lake Erie about a rebellious 14-year-old who works as a handyman for a bohemian teacher; ages 15-plus. MCP offers a \$200 prize and publication for the winning essay on the subject of the play. \$16; \$14 for seniors, students and MCC
- members. www.mcleanplayers.org. Halloween Bingo. 2-5 p.m., at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street S, Vienna. Dress up to win the costume contest and play bingo for up to a \$1,000 prize. \$20. 703-938-2678.

Sunday Soirees: Happy Halloween. 3-5 p.m., at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Come in costume or not and dance in a low-key environment or sit and listen to The Wayne Tympanick Trio play; refreshments provided. \$5. 703-790-0123 ext. 711 or www.mcleancenter.org/special-

events/upcoming. **Trunk or Treat.** 4-6 p.m., at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Decorate the trunk of your car and fill it with treats to join a parking lot-full of other festive, treat-filled trunks; dinner provided by the church. RSVP at info@elcvienna.org.

TUESDAY/OCT. 30

Sixth Annual Non-Profit Forum. 8:15 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Gannett Conference Center, 7959 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce hosts a forum for non-profit professionals to empower attendees to strengthen their organizations; CIO Robert Machen of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital delivers the keynote speech. \$40; \$25, chamber members. 703-356-5424 or www.mcleanchamber.org.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 31

The Annual Spooktacular. 5-7 p.m., at Great Falls Village Centre Green, 776 Walker Road, Great Falls. Trickor-treat with area businesses in the heart of town. Children ages 12-andunder (6th grade) grab popcorn and drinks before going in the Great Falls Haunted House. www.celebrategreatfalls.org/

Spook.html.

Halloween Pet Parade. 4-4:45 p.m., at the parking lot by Grandmothers Back Room, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Come with a costumed, leashed pet in tow and parade. Judging is at 4:30 p.m., with prizes for special categories; pets must be cleared from area by 4:40 p.m. www.celebrategreatfalls.org/ Spook.html.

THURSDAY/NOV. 1

- You Can't Take it with You. 7:30 p.m., at the James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. The Providence Players present the Pulitzer Prizewinning comedy classic about grandpa and his eccentric family as they clash with the stuffy Kirbys. \$18, adults; \$15, students and seniors. 703-425-6782 or www.providenceplayers.org.
- Noah Gundersen + David Ramirez. 8 p.m., at Jammin' Java., 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Two two musicians tour together. \$10. www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 2

- The Spelling Bee. 7:30 p.m., the Olson Theater at Flint Hill School, 10410 Academic Drive, Oakton. Four young regional spelling winners go to Cincinnati to compete for a four-year college scholarship and one speller goes missing only to return in a wheelchair; see what happens when people will do anything to win. Free with reservations. www.flinthill.org/ play.
- You Can't Take it with You. 7:30 p.m., at the James Lee Community Center Theater, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. The Providence Players present the Pulitzer Prizewinning comedy classic about grandpa and his eccentric family as they clash with the stuffy Kirbys. \$18, adults; \$15, students and seniors. 703-425-6782 or
- www.providenceplayers.org. What I Did Last Summer. 8 p.m., at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The WWII coming-ofage story set in Lake Erie about a rebellious 14-year-old who works as a handyman for a bohemian teacher and develops radical ideas leading to a clash between Charlie's conservative mother and the former member of the upper crust; ages 15plus. MCP offers a \$200 prize and publication for the winning essay on the subject of the play. \$16; \$14 for seniors, students and MCC members. www.mcleanplayers.org.



Halloween Pumpkin Carving

On Oct. 27 from 3-4 p.m., at Wildfire, 1714 International Drive, McLean. Parents and children carve pumpkins with guidance from Executive Chef Eddie Ishaq and NBC4Weekend Anchor Angie Goff; take home your carved pumpkin and a goody bag and benefit Food for Others. \$15 per child. 703-442-9110.

News

Pets for Veterans

From Page 5

sance, and a wine and cheese basket, following Post 180's annual Veterans' Day program. The Veterans' Day program starts at 11 a.m. The Woman's Club will sell tickets until 1 p.m. Post 180 invites the public to its commemoration at 11 a.m.

"Support for vets returning from deployment is lacking in this country," said Bob Hatter, Post 180 coordinator of the post's Veterans' Day program. "The American Legion, in particular Post 180, believes strongly in the support of returning veterans." Hatter said that it is the feeling of the almost-800 member post and its commander, Ron Patterson, that Companions for Heroes goes a "long way" to support veterans as they return home. "This is the only local campaign that I'm aware of that benefits both combat veterans and shelter animals at the same time," Stewart said. "It is truly a win-win situation for our veterans and the animals adopted to a loving home."

TO LEARN MORE about Companions for Heroes or to refer a "hero" to the nonprofit organization, go to http:// companionsforheroes.org/. Sharpe's story of his condition and subsequent therapy his adopted pit bull provided is at http:// companionsforheroes.org/team/davesstory/. American Legion Dyer-Gunnell Post 180 is located at 330 North Center Street, Vienna. Call 703-938-9535 for more information.

History Marker at Flint Hill Cemetery

From Page 3

Oakton Church of the Brethren was built over a Confederate war fort. Today, only the earthen fort walls remain intact, embracing 150 years of history. The fort's wall, too, will be illuminated.

"From an historical perspective, it's unique to have a community cemetery operating continuously for 160 years," Farmer said.

Scheduled to speak at the unveiling are Patrick Lennon, marketing manager of Visit

Fairfax, Pastor Bowman, Dave Farmer, Jim Lewis and Vienna Mayor M. Jane Seeman.

Hot cider and cookies will be served after the marker dedication and live period music is to be performed. "Listen closely as voices from the dead come to life," Lewis said. The Flint Hill Cemetery Civil War Trails Marker Unveiling Ceremony and Illumination is on Saturday, Oct. 27, at 6 p.m. at Flint Hill Cemetery, 2845 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, adjacent to the Oakton Church of the Brethren.







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Sports Oakton's Downer, Wandey Run Strong in Defeat

Cougars struggle to turn yards into points against Westfield.

By Jon Roetman The Connection

evon Burns' first touchdown was a display of balance. His second score was a flash of speed.

The Westfield receiver exhibited his arsenal of athleticism to the tune of 186 yards and two touchdowns on Oct. 19 as the Bulldogs defeated Oakton, 28-14, during a Concorde District football matchup at Westfield High School.

With the score tied, 7-7, in the opening quarter, Westfield quarterback Chris Mullins threw a short pass to Burns on the right side of the field. An Oakton defender hit Burns near the sideline, but the Bulldog playmaker managed to stay in bounds and sprinted into the end zone for a 47-yard touchdown.

"I caught the ball, ran down the field [and] as I put my shoulder down in to him, I saw him duck his head," Burns said. "That's when I moved my feet ... and then I was gone."

Westfield was backed up at its own 4-yard line midway through the second quarter when Mullins connected with a wide-open Burns, who raced down the field for a 96yard touchdown, helping give the Bulldogs a 21-7 advantage.

"We run the ball well and people can put a lot of guys in the box to try to stop that, but if you've got a guy that you've got to fear like Devon, then that helps a lot because he can make you pay," Westfield head coach Kyle Simmons said. "If the safety is coming down into the box on play action, they can't catch back up with [Burns]. It's big."

Burns, a junior transfer from Freedom High School in South Riding, finished with four receptions and helped Westfield improve to 8-0, including 3-0 in the Concorde District. Mullins finished 7-of-13 for 257 yards, one touchdown and one interception. He also scored a rushing touchdown. Dalaun Richardson led the Bulldogs' ground attack with 17 carries for 93 yards and a score.

While the Westfield offense came up with big plays, the Bulldogs' bend-but-don'tbreak defense surrendered more than 400 yards to the Oakton offense, but limited to the Cougars to 14 points.

"The stats aren't going to be pretty for our defense," Simmons said. "It was funny, I was telling them a story about our 2007 team against Oscar Smith [in the state semifinals] and how we gave up something like 500-and-some yards passing, broke state records and whatnot, but we won the game. It's not about how many yards the other teams gets.

"It doesn't always feel good and it's not Trailing 21 12 & Vienna/Oakton Connection & October 24-30, 2012



Westfield quarterback Chris Mullins passed for 257 yards and two touchdowns, and ran for another score against Oakton on Oct. 19.

Photos by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection



Westfield receiver Devon Burns caught four passes for 186 yards and two touchdowns against Oakton on Oct. 19.

pretty, but what's the score at the end of the game? We have that kind of defense this year: they've got to get stops at the right time. We talk about make [an opponent] keep snapping it again and hopefully they'll make a mistake somewhere down the line."

Oakton was able to move the ball and pile up the yards. Quarterback Kyle Downer carried 24 times for 161 yards and a touchdown. He also completed 13 of 23 passes for 94 yards and was intercepted once. Running back Mike Wandey had 13 carries for 98 yards a touchdown. The Cougars finished with 401 yards of total offense, including 307 on the ground. However, the Oakton offense ran 19 plays from inside the Westfield 30-yard line, but managed just one touchdown—a 7-yard run by Downer in the third quarter. The Cougars' other score came on a 35-yard run by Wandey in the first quarter.

Trailing 21-7, Oakton moved the ball to

the Westfield 6 on the final drive of the second quarter, but threw an interception in the end zone on the final play of the first half. The drive lasted 17 plays, covered 89 yards and chewed up 7 minutes and 22 seconds, but produced no points.

After Downer's touchdown cut Westfield's lead to 21-14 with 8:31 remaining in the third quarter, Oakton got the ball back two plays later when Bobby Lam snagged an interception at the Westfield 31. The Cougars would drive to the Bulldogs 19, but Oakton missed a 36-yard field goal attempt.

Trailing 28-14, Oakton took over on its own 20 with 10:54 remaining in the fourth quarter. The Cougars moved the ball 56 yards in 13 plays, using more than six minutes, but turned the ball over on downs at the Westfield 24.

"Offensively, we felt great about the way we moved the ball and were able to put long drives on Westfield's defense," Downer wrote in an email. "We needed to improve in the red zone. After the interception, our defense gave us great field position and we needed to capitalize...

"We did a couple things to stop ourselves when we got close to scoring. The [Westfield] defense also tightened knowing their backs were against the wall. There is a smaller margin for error the closer and closer you get to the goal line and we did not capitalize."

Oakton dropped to 6-2, including 1-2 in the Concorde District. The Cougars won their first six games, but those opponents have a combined record of 17-31, and only Madison (7-1) has a winning record. Since then, Oakton has lost to district foes Chantilly (42-21 on Oct. 12) and Westfield.

"Offensively, we felt great about the way we moved the ball and were able to put long drives on Westfield's defense. We needed to improve in the red zone."

- Oakton quarterback Kyle Downer

"I think [entering] the Chantilly game, we had not faced very tough competition in a couple weeks and we were caught off guard," Downer wrote. "We really killed ourselves in that game, giving up five turnovers. With how poorly we [took care of] the ball, we still managed to out-gain Chantilly in terms of yards, which showed us how we really hurt ourselves.

"Last Friday, we knew what to expect and matched up punch for punch with Westfield. A few plays here and there and we easily could have come out on the other end. I think we realize the fine difference between district opponents now and what it takes to win in the district."

Westfield will host Centreville at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 26, and close the regular season at Herndon on Nov. 2. Oakton will host Robinson at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and finish the regular season at Centreville on Nov. 2.

"In the Concorde District, we come together as a family even more," Burns said. "We come out here, we execute [and] we do everything we have to do. The main subject is do your job and that's what everybody does on our team."

I Iomo Color

In September 2012, 124 homes sold between \$1,300,000-\$200,000 in the Vienna and Oakton area. omes sold in the \$1,300,000-\$600,000 range. ete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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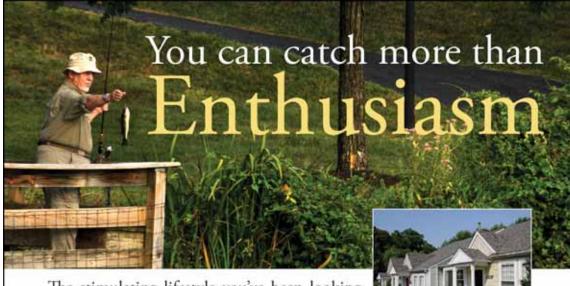
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...... VIENNA WOODS

FIOME SALES This week's list represents those how For the complet
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11041 HEATHLAND DR
1290 DIFFICULT RUN CT
11227 SORREL RIDGE LN
606 COTTAGE ST SW 5 6 3 VIENNA \$1,250,000 Detached
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2801 HILL RD			
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1403 TRAP RD 5 4 2			
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1711 MONTAFIA LN 5 3 1			
10337 SOUTHAM LN 4 4 1	OAKTON \$990,000	Detached 0.12 .	22124 HEARTHSTONE VILLAGE OAK
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2887 MELANIE LN 5 3 1			
2097 KEDGE DR 4 3 1			
1313 TULIP POPLAR LN 4 3 1			
9296 KILBY GLEN DR 5 3 1			
407 AYR HILL AVE NE 4 2 2	2 VIENNA \$820,000	Detached 0.29 .	22180 COUNCIL SQUARE I
1814 ABBEY OAK DR 4 3 0			
1316 COLVIN FOREST DR 6 3 1			
10431 LAWYERS RD 4 3 1			
9965 STONE VALE DR 5 3 1	VIENNA \$785,000	Detached 0.13 .	22181 COURTHOUSE COMMONS
1810 BATTEN HOLLOW RD 4 2 1			
10503 OAKTON RIDGE CT 4 2 1			
10334 DUNN MEADOW RD 4 2 1			
10605 SAMAGA DR 4 2 2			
7977 VIGNE CT 4 3 2			
1789 DAWSON ST 3 3 1			
2700 BERRYLAND DR 4 2 2			
11904 SAINT HELENA DR 4 3 0			
350 WINDOVER AVE NW 4 1 1	VIENNA \$685,000	Detached 0.37 .	22180 WINDOVER HEIGHTS
10317 MOUNTINGTON CT 5 3 1			
9562 LAGERSFIELD CIR 4 3 1	VIENNA \$675,000	Townhouse 0.08 .	
1837 NIGEL CT 5 2 1	VIENNA \$675,000	Detached 0.24 .	22182 WAVERLY
8501 WESTOWN WAY 3 3 1			
2707 CHANBOURNE WAY 3 3 1			
2650 OAKTON GLEN DR 4 4 1			
413 COURSE ST NE 4 2 1			
112 AYR HILL AVE NW 0 0 0			
1705 PRELUDE DR 4 2 2			
1711 PRELUDE DR 4 3 0			
8835 ASHGROVE HOUSE LN 3 3 1			
10418 ADEL RD 4 3 0			
3206 DOMINY CT 4 2 1			
9832 VALE RD 4 3 0			
8629 JANET LN 6 5 0	0	Detached 0.52 .	22180 OAKDALE PARK

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OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY/SUNDAY, **OCTOBER 27 & 28**

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**

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Centreville

..\$999,900....Sun 1-5 . Birch Haven .. 703 402-9471 6487 Trillium House Ln..... Jean Marotta.

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..Century 21..703-989-7735 .Fd Duggan 5501 Quail Ct

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11501 Lilting LnRE/MAX703-503-4365
8723 Cross Chase Cir\$749,900Sun 1-4Virginia Clark-BillupsLong & Foster703-967-8700
11215 September Ln

Herndon

12913 Framingham Ct\$395.000..Sun 12-3... ..Long & Foster..571-277-6338

Leesburg

43672 Augusta National Terr..\$549,000....Sun 1-4..Cathy/John McCambridge ...Samson Props...703-906-7067

Springfield

.Rich Langguth.. ...Century 21...703-609-3079 7107 Ayers Meadow Ln......\$814,900....Sun 1-4.... 6650 Debra Lu Way.....\$439,900....Sun 1-4.. ...Debbie Mesen .Weichert..703-201-7723

Vienna

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252 Glen Ave SW	\$1,285,000	Sun 1-3	Vicky Beach-Chrisner	Fieldstone	703-669-3142
1007 Cottage St SW	\$1,199,500	Sun 2-4	Terry Weiss-Worley	Keller Williams	703-636-7300
10691 Water Falls Ln	\$1,100,000	Sat 1-4	Phil Chernitzer	REO	703-256-7648
2010 Roundhouse Rd	\$975,000	Sun 1-4	Lisa Moffett	Coldwell Banker	703-938-5600
9999 Courthouse Rd	\$899,000	Sun 1-4	Amal LafhalW	/ashington Luxury?	703-639-0665

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.

Oh "K," Finally

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Off the cancer couch and onto the street to participate in my first fundraiser event for lung cancer research. With the assistance and support of LUNGevity Foundation, on November 4th, I will be joining hundreds of fellow lung cancer survivors, supporters and volunteers in "Breathe Deep DC," (a local "grassroots" event) for a 5K walk around the monuments in Washington, D.C. This is D.C.'s 'only walk to support lung cancer research.' "Breathe Deep DC" was founded by Bethesda resident, Jerry Sorkin, himself a three-time cancer survivor, having been most recently diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer in August 2007. In its three years of existence, "Breathe Deep DC" has raised some \$800,000 for lung cancer research. And so, through the initiative of Team Captain, Jennifer Meacham, a longtime friend, Team "Kenny's Column" has been registered and is on track, rain or shine to walk the talk on November 4th. For more information on how to participate, donate, volunteer, learn more or to simply dip your toe in the can cer water, go to www.lungevity.org.

As for yours truly, I am cautiously optimistic that I can complete the distance. 5K is nearly three miles, right? I think I have the energy. I know I have the interest and desire. However, the neuropathy in my feet (a common side effect of chemotherapy) makes walk ing distances somewhat challenging. I'll wear comfortable sneakers and loose-fitting clothing and certainly won't be in a hurry. Still, the walk will cover a distance that I've rarely ever walked - in my life, and will require being on my feet for a lot longer than I would prefer Nevertheless, at this juncture, I am committed (or rather should be) and determined. I've been extremely fortunate to have outlived my prognosis by as many months as I have ("13 months to two years," originally; 44 months and counting at present - thank God!), and the timing of this event, relative to my current health and treatment regimen couldn't be better. It's now or it might be never. And it's high time I got in the game, so to speak.

And the timing to which I refer is even a bit better than that. Last month, I meant Carrie Friedman, Nurse Navigator for Inova Fairfax Hospitals' Thoracic Oncology Program, who came upon a few of my cancer columns and after reading them, contacted me about speaking at their third annual "Shine a Light on Lung Cancer" event to be held November 15th at the Dewberry Life with Cancer Family Center located at 8411 Pennell St., Fairfax, VA 22031. Sponsored in part by the Lung Cancer Alliance and Inova Hospital's Life with Cancer Center, the event was created to help raise lung cancer awareness (November being the official Lung Cancer Awareness Month). For further informa tion, go to www.inova.org/events and click on "Shine a Light on Lung Cancer" or call Ms. Friedman at 703-776-3777.

As it has also happened, last month I was contacted by Audrey Weisiger who, likewise after reading a few of my cancer columns, has asked me to appear on a new weekly Internet radio program she's hosting (December 12th is the air date). Ms. Weisiger, a recently retired elite-level figure skating coach (she coached Michael Weiss of Fairfax for 18 years, she told me) is reaching out to the community in this new endeavor in hopes of sharing first-hand accounts of individuals dealing with and/or overcoming their unique challenges.

In my three-plus years of writing about my experiences as a stage IV lung cancer patient, I have received countless cards, letters and emails from many fellow patients, their family members and friends, thanking and encouraging me as I have continued to chronicle the demands of being diagnosed with a terminal disease. Only once before have I been involved in a cancer-related event of any kind. Yet, in the next month, I will have immersed myself in three of them. I've always been hesitant to do so, fearful of its effect on me. I guess I've matured and have realized that this cancer thing is much bigger than I am. It's time to stand up and be counted, not merely sat down and read.

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



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The County Line

Lawmakers Urge 'No' Vote on Eminent Domain Amendment

Local leaders say amendment won't increase property owner's protections, but it may shut down popular parades.

> By Victoria Ross The Connection Newspapers

n 2007, a populist backlash against a Supreme Court decision allowing the government to use the power of eminent domain to aid private development led Virginia legislators to pass a law restricting that power.

Now a measure on the Nov. 6 ballot seeks to enshrine those restrictions in the Virginia Constitution, and provide additional areas of compensation to landowners.

Many local lawmakers question the wisdom of incorporating these provisions into the constitution, where they say it will be difficult to change, and may lead to "unintended consequences."

"This is not something that belongs in the Constitution," said Del. Scott Surovell, (D-44), who wrote about the issue in his Sept. 29 online newsletter, "The Dixie Pig."

"The language in this amendment is completely unnecessary—it bans actions currently illegal in Virginia."

OPPONENTS OF THE AMENDMENT, which include The Virginia Association of Counties and the Virginia Municipal league, say that taxpayers should be concerned.

They argue the amendment goes too far, requiring taxpayers to compensate landowners not only for the value of condemned property, but for lost access to their property and lost benefits.

Fairfax County officials say the proposed amendment invalidates the current public use definition in the code and creates uncertainty as to what constitutes public use, which could invite litigation.

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) said business owners could construe this amendment as "taking away or diminishing" their profits when streets are closed and their shops are shut down during popular parades and festivals, such as Viva Vienna or the City of Fairfax Fall Festival, events that attract up to 40,000 people during one weekend.

"These are community-building events, and we're concerned the language in the amendment can be read by individuals as way to seek compensation for lost profits," Bulova said.

"A shop owner could complain they lose revenue, that festival vendors are taking their business away," Bulova added. "What if someone decided to make that an issue and seek compensation for lost profits under (the amendment)? The Town of Vienna can't afford to reimburse every shop owner..."

State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) said there was "some concern by local governments that some businesses could sue if their street access was lost for a street festival," but he said litigation fears are overblown.

"The eminent domain amendment basically puts the current state law into the Constitution, so it's not a major change at all," Petersen said.

Surovell—who is also Petersen's law partner in the Fairfax firm of Surovell, Isaacs, Petersen & Levy PLC

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—said requiring the government to pay for not only the value of land, but for lost profits and lost access could run up the costs of infrastructure projects all over Virginia.

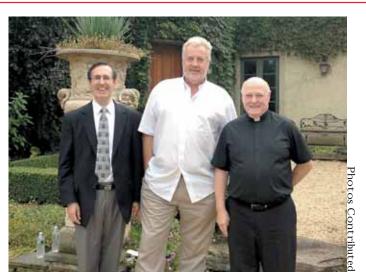
"Imagine what that means for widening U.S. 1 or what they would have meant in terms of the disruption caused on Route 7 for the construction of the Silver Line. This bill will make roads and transit even harder to construct," he said.

BUT SUPPORTERS contend the amendment is needed because—without the counterweight of a constitutional amendment—Virginia's statue is subject to change by future legislators and special interest groups.

Del. Rob Bell (R-Albemarle), who co-authored the statute to stop "eminent domain abuse," maintains that eminent domain is used so "developers with connections to City Hall can force a reluctant property owner to sell."

"I just don't see a large enough problem where we need a statewide constitutional solution," Surovell said.

Bulova agreed: "Eminent domain is a very heavy power and absolutely needed only for the greater good. We haven't used it to force people off their property. That just doesn't happen in Fairfax County and it never has."



(From left) Principal Louis Silvano, Charles Owen, Father David L. Martin.

St. Luke School Celebrates 50 Years

t. Luke Elementary School (SLS) in McLean is celebrating 50 Years of Catholic education. The school was founded in 1962, and last Thursday, Oct. 18, it held a 50th Anniversary Celebration on the feast day of St. Luke. The entire school celebrated with a special mass at 9 a.m. That same evening, the new principal, Louis Silvano, invited parents, faculty, parishioners and friends in the commu-

nity to attend a reception in the gymnasium from 7-9 p.m. The pastor of St. Luke Parish, Father David L. Martin, unveiled a painting by Brother Mickey McGrath specially commissioned for the 50th Anniversary. The recent Apostolic Blessing from Pope Benedict XVI was on display. Approximately 150 people attended the celebration. In conjunction with the yearlong Golden Anniversary Celebration, Principal Silvano announced three major advances to take place at SLS this year.

A new junior kindergarten classroom for 4-year-old children will be added to the elementary school. SLS plans to open the new JK classroom in August 2013. This will be a fullday junior kindergarten providing a comprehensive program that focuses on the cognitive, social-emotional and physical development of children in preparation for kindergarten.

An outdoor classroom where students can experience nature first hand has been designed for use in 2013. It will include a butterfly garden, a planting area, a mini-amphitheater, a labyrinth and a garden sanctuary for reflection. It will accommodate seating for three full



Principal Louis Silvano with 50th Anniversary Painting

grades at a time to enjoy and to explore nature. The architecture of the outdoor classroom has been designed by Great Falls resident and internationally recognized landscape architect Charles Owen of Fine Landscapes LTD.

Principal Silvano believes the outdoor classroom is an essential addition to the SLS curriculum as many children in today's society are suffering from "Nature Deficit Disorder." SLS is one of a handful of schools across the country recently named to pilot LEGO Recruiter from LEGO Education. This hands-on program seeks to work with teachers to elicit the universally loved and everpresent LEGO building blocks to inspire learning, excitement and creativity in the classroom. The program, run by school Technology Coordinator Timothy Burns, is being incorporated into the 2012-13 school year.

SLS is hosting an Open House on Monday, Nov. 12, from 9 to 11 a.m. The public is invited to come in to meet faculty, students and parents.

St. Luke School, grades K-8, is located at 7005 Georgetown Pike in Mclean.