

Inside



HomeLifeStyle

Vienna Oktoberfest Under Blue Skies

NEWS, PAGE 3

Residents Receive Community Enhancement Awards

NEWS, PAGE 4

Seeing Red and Blue

NEWS, PAGE 2

Seeing Red and Blue

Colleagues say Gerry Connolly's vision central to productivity.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Gerry Connolly doesn't have 20/20 vision. His round wire-framed spectacles and cropped salt-and-pepper mustache have long accessorized his look, whether sporting a black pinstripe suit or a billowy navy University of Virginia windbreaker (his daughter Caitlin Rose is an alumna).

But when the Star-Texaco storage facility at the Pickett Road tank farm started leaking oil that seeped into groundwater near his Mantua home, he could see with great clarity something needed to be done.

"It was quite a drama," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors chairman and then-Braddock Supervisor Sharon Bulova. Bulova got to know Connolly in his capacity as president of the Mantua Citizens Association. "Gerry was magnificent in going to bat for his community. He was a calm, strong voice during that time."

That was nearly two decades ago, before Connolly's career in public office began in 1995 when he was elected Providence District supervisor on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. In 1999 no one opposed him for re-election and in 2003 he became chairman. He was re-elected in 2007, before being elected to Congress the first time in November 2008.

"He's a pretty quick study of problems," said state Sen. Richard Saslaw (D-35). "He's a pretty bright guy, but the experience accounts for a fair amount of that. There's not



U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly meets with Diane Rice of Vienna and Brody Rice, a third-grader at Thomas Jefferson Elementary, at Vienna's Oktoberfest on Saturday, Oct. 4.

Bio

Candidate: Gerald E. Connolly

Political Party: Democrat

Current Position: Third term as 11th congressional district representative. Currently serves on the House Committees on Foreign Affairs and Oversight and Government Reform.

Born: March 30, 1950 in Boston, Mass.

Residence: Mantua

Spouse: Cathy

Children: Caitlin Rose, 23

Education: B.A. in Literature from Maryknoll College. M.A. in Public Administration from Harvard University

Previous Organizations: Served as chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (four years), Providence District supervisor (nine years), chairman of the Fairfax County Legislative Committee, vice-chair of the county's Economic Advisory Committee, chairman of the Board of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC), chairman of the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC), member and chairman of the Board of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), chairman of the regional Emergency Preparedness Taskforce, Fairfax County representative and president on the Board of the Virginia Association of Counties (VaCo), a term as Mantua Citizens Association (MCA) president and two terms as Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations president.

many problems he hasn't seen."

Friends and colleagues who've known and worked with him over these years say it's his vision that drives his service-oriented work. He can see a finish line and methodically goes about reaching it.

"Gerry's not afraid to go out on a limb for something that he thinks is right," said Bill Bouie, chairman of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board and longtime friend of

SEE INCUMBENT, PAGE 16

Q&A with Gerry Connolly

Q: What do you think are your top three accomplishments in office?

A: ♦ The Silver Line. I wasn't alone, but I'm very proud of my championship of the Silver Line and the fact that it's up and running and succeeding. It took 19 years to sort of get people to reimagine it and get it built. It was a long, tough struggle.

♦ My environmental record: I got the first comprehensive environmental plan adopted in the history of the county. Out of that grew lots of different things, one was the cross-county trail.

♦ My work in IT. I've worked a lot with our business community to promote high tech. At the federal level, I've co-authored the first major comprehensive rewrite reform of how the federal government procures IT (FITARA). That would've been an obscure topic for us, except for the roll out of the health care website, right?

Q: If you're re-elected, what be would your top three priorities?

A: ♦ I'm going to continue to push my FITARA (Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act) bill until we succeed.

♦ I will work to make Congress more functional. I'm seeking out Republican partners, working across the aisle. Every bill I've introduced, pretty much, I've always got a Republican co-sponsor.

♦ As the chairman of the Sustainable Energy and Environmental Caucus, I hope to continue building on what I've done on the environment.

Q: Give our readers three reasons they should vote for you on election day.

A: ♦ I get things done. I'm not somebody who rests on promises. I've got a record.

♦ I'm a fighter for our region, our quality of life and our economic interests.

♦ I have a vision for where I'd like to see our country move: to stay competitive, to reinvest in itself. We have to invest in education, research and development and infrastructure. We're giving up our future to the competition. We're now investing only 2.4 percent of our GDP in infrastructure. It used to be 6 percent. In China today it's 9



percent.

Q: How would you show off northern Virginia to an out-of-town friend?

A: The four new stations on the Silver Line in Tysons. Or the Mosaic District, to eat in one of the restaurants there. Or Reston, it's such a vibrant community with lots of good restaurants there as well. I also

like taking people to our historic locations, Mount Vernon, Gunston Hall or Civil War battlefields.

Q: Tell us something you think people would find surprising about you.

A: I spent 20 years in the private sector in IT, working for two companies. They were both federal contractors in IT and defense and life sciences, broad spectrum. It gave me a great perspective when I look at contracting issues.

Q: Who are some of your heroes?

A: ♦ Saint Thomas More, Chancellor of England under Henry VIII, sacrificed his life rather than give in to the idea that Henry could break with Rome and become the head of the Church of England. He's a model

of great courage and principle.

♦ A Lutheran minister theologian named Dietrich Bonhoeffer fought against the Nazis in Germany and lost his life in a Nazi prison because of his involvement in the anti-Hitler movement. He was one of the few voices of courage in the church, Catholic or Lutheran, in Germany. He saw the establishment collapse in front of this irrational passion known as National Socialism and concluded we have to match that passion with our own: How passionately do you believe in what you say you believe? It better be high if you're going to counter that.

♦ Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt and Franklin Roosevelt are my three favorite presidents, favorite political leaders. They had incredible qualities of leadership that got tested.

Q: How do you relax, off the campaign trail?

A: When I had time, I used to do Civil War tours with Ed Bearrs, who's now in his 90s. I love to read. And get together with friends for intimate dinners. Once a year, I go up to my native New England, visiting with my family in Cape Cod.

— TIM PETERSON



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Sexton's German band played traditional German music on the main stage and children danced to the oompah beat.



Vienna's Fat Chance closed out the 2014 Oktoberfest with blues and classic rock.

VIENNA/OAKTON CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC
703-778-9414 OR VIENNA@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Sun, Blue Skies Kept Watch Over Vienna Oktoberfest

Live entertainment, food and beer, children's activities and streets of vendors mark Church Street festival.

A chilling wind late in the day scattered many of the fairgoers at Vienna's 7th Annual Oktoberfest on Saturday. But throughout most of the sunny day, thousands of local families stopped by the Oktoberfest grounds along historic Church Street, listening to live music, eating bratwurst and drinking beer in the beer garden, browsing among the tented booths along the route, and engaging in kids' activities.

Burgermeister Greg Bernhard opened the celebration at 11 a.m., pledging to protect the festival. Bernhard was accompanied by

the burgermeister assistant, Friderike "Ike" Butler — now of Vienna — who translated the welcome of "friendship and hospitality," or, as Butler summed it up, "gemütlichkeit."

For the second consecutive year, the Vienna Business Association (VBA) partnered with the Town of Vienna to produce a community festival that is family-friendly and fun for children of every young to not-so-young ages. Even the entertainment was diverse.

The main stage featured a rocking "School of Rock" band performing contemporary sounds, the oompah-sounds of Sexton's

German Band and the bluesy rock of Fat Chance to close out the festival.

Over on the Town Green, which hosted the children's stage and free activities for children, Rocknoceros opened the entertainment at 11 a.m. Performances, from dance to martial arts, continued on the Town Green throughout the day.

There were quite a few dirndls and lederhosen visible, too. Some of the wearers came from Germany, others had been stationed there. Maplewood Grill, Bazin's and Whole Foods offered brats, sides and hot soft pretzels, and Pure Pasty sold a

wurst pasty.

The Vienna Business Association sold hundreds of commemorative beer mugs and the few remaining will be sold at Vienna shops.

Local elected officials, from the Vienna Town Council to Del. Mark Keam, State Senator Chap Petersen and U.S. Congressman Gerry Connolly, greeted residents and took part in the event.

Proceeds from Oktoberfest benefit Vienna's First Night celebration, an alcohol-free alternative to traditional New Year's Eve celebrations. The family-friendly Church Street New Year's Eve event is free. Entertainment and venues are supported by local businesses.

— DONNA MANZ

Family Fun Day for 'Growing Hope' Draws Big Turnout

Live music, activities, food and fun raises funds for families of children with cancer.

The Vienna Town Green rung out with joyful sounds, from children's laughter to live pop music, on Saturday, Sept. 27, as the Optimists of Greater Vienna hosted its 9th Annual Family Fun Day and Fun Walk for "Growing Hope."

Every year, the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna sponsors the four-hour event to raise funds for the Optimists' childhood cancer campaign, supporting Growing Hope's local efforts to provide resources to children with cancer and their families.

"No one should go through an experience like this without the support of the community, friends and family," said Optimist, Pat Hackerson, whose Weichert Realty colleague lost a daughter. "We recognize the need for a cure for cancer, especially for the children. This [financial support] is for the babies, and ba-

bies are our future. And most of us have children and we can relate."

Hackerson's office has contributed more than \$4,500 to the Optimists' childhood cancer campaign over the past nine years.

Family-fun activities included a fun run, bounce-house, dunk tank, local artists, face-painting, live music, refreshments, raffle drawings, and a live auction. Vienna resident Mark Keam, representing the 35th District in the Virginia House of Delegates, volunteers 30 minutes in the dunk-tank each year, and ball-throwers did a pretty good job of dunking Keam on Saturday.

Donaldson's Run performed a selection of classic rock, songs like "Son of a Preacher Man" and "Heat Wave." It was enough to draw bikers and walkers from the W & OD trail and families walking down Church Street.

The McKinley family was one such family walking by. They heard the music and



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Two-year-old Kristina McKinley had her face painted by Angela McCall of Paint Me a Party. McCall volunteered her service.

dropped in for the bouncehouse and face-painting. "This is a great event," said Biljana McKinley. "It made me happy to live in Vienna."

Local businesses donated food, raffle and auction prizes to the Optimists. Amphora, Foster's Grille Vienna, Giant Food, Costco, Manhattan Bagel, Dunkin Donuts, Walgreen's and Starbucks provided free refreshments. Again this year, neither Donaldson's Run nor Angela McCall of Paint Me a Party took a fee for their services.

Donations and raised funds stay in the community. Seventy-five percent of the Family Fun Day's proceeds go directly to Growing Hope. The remaining 25 percent is donated to the childhood cancer research program at Johns Hopkins University & Medical Center.

For more information on the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna or Growing Hope, visit www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org/childcc2014

—DONNA MANZ

NEWS

The DiFrancisco family of Knoll Street N.W. receives its award from (at right) Tara Ruszkowski and Mayor Laurie DiRocco.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



The Favias of Frederick Street S.W. with Tara Ruszkowski and Mayor Laurie DiRocco.

Residents Receive Community Enhancement Awards

On Sept. 22, the Vienna Town Council presented Community Enhancement, Beauty and Sustainability awards to four sets of local residents.

Elizabeth Callsen of Courthouse Circle S.W. holds her Community Enhancement award certificate presented by Tara Ruszkowski and Mayor Laurie DiRocco.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION



The Holden and Zebrowski family of Marshall Road S.W. receive a certificate from (on right) Tara Ruszkowski and Mayor Laurie DiRocco.

The Favia house on Frederick Street was recognized for its landscaping.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



The DiFrancisco home on Knoll Street was honored for sustainable landscaping.

The Holden and Zebrowski home on Marshall Road was honored for its sustainable garden.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Recognized for sustainable landscaping was the Callsen house on Courthouse Circle.

NEWS

Warning to Residents: Wild Animals Are Not Pets

Town of Vienna police are reminding residents that wild animals are not pets and shouldn't be treated as such. Vienna is home to numerous types of wildlife that often wander into residential neighborhoods. But with more contact between them and humans, there's a greater likelihood that wildlife will more easily adapt to humans and lose their natural fear.

So the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries provides the following tips to help prevent a seemingly friendly encounter with wildlife from turning into a dangerous situation:

1. If you are feeding wildlife, stop.
2. Don't leave pet food outside; keep pet feeding-

areas clean.

3. Close all openings under and into buildings. Animals look for places to den and raise their young — don't give them that opportunity.

4. Keep small pets inside or on a leash when outside; they may be viewed as prey.

5. Clear fallen fruit from around trees.

6. Wildlife may sometimes display symptoms not considered normal behavior. They may include, but are not limited to, stumbling, foaming at the mouth or aggression towards humans or domestic animals. In these circumstances, contact Vienna police at 703-255-6366.

WEEK IN VIENNA

Vienna Mayor's Walking Group

Vienna residents are welcome to join Mayor Laurie DiRocco's walking group. It meets every Friday at 9:30 a.m. at the Town Hall, 127 Center St. S. The walks are about 2.5 to 3 miles, with a different route every Friday. The next walk is Oct 10.

Fire Station Open House

This Saturday, Oct. 11, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department will join fire stations across the region in their annual, fire- safety open house. It's to celebrate National Fire Prevention Week and to share information about fire prevention and safety. This year's theme is "Smoke

Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month." Vienna's fire station is at 400 Center St. S.W.

Vienna Farmers Market

The Vienna Farmers Market is held Saturdays, from 8 a.m.-noon, in the Faith Baptist Church parking lot at 301 Center Street S. It will remain open during the construction on Center Street. Customers may access the market via Courthouse Road to Locust Street or via Park Street to Cherry Street.

Oakton Farmers Market

The Oakton Farmers Market is held Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854

SEE WEEK, PAGE 11



We Have Pumpkins!



Tree Clearance Sale

30% OFF
All Trees 2013 & Prior



Get Your Fall Color

Pansies, Mums, Cabbage, Kale



Free Estimates

Patios, Walkways, Retaining Walls, Landscaping & so much more!



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Great Falls Basketball is a non-profit educational organization

OPINION

Ebola? Whooping Cough? Enterovirus?

Wash your hands, get your flu shot.

There is plenty to be fearful about. Local outbreaks of whooping cough, due to some parents opting out of vaccines; whooping cough can be deadly for infants. Enterovirus, an upper respiratory illness mostly affecting children, which can become very serious very quickly for some children. The spectre of ebola killing thousands of people in West Africa, and also possibly arriving via any international airport.

But there are a few things you can do to protect yourself and those around you from likely the biggest infectious health threat in your neighborhood, influenza.

The flu will kill thousands of people in the United States this flu season, ranging from October to May. Over 30 years, the average number of deaths was more than 20,000 annually according to the CDC, although the number ranged from 3,000 to 48,000.

Flu vaccination is cheap, easy and effective. Getting vaccinated was associated with a 71

percent reduction in flu-related hospitalizations among adults of all ages and a 77 percent reduction among adults 50 years of age and older during the 2011-2012 flu season.

Get a flu shot. Make sure everyone in your family gets a flu shot. Most people with health insurance can get the vaccination without paying anything for it. Getting vaccinated doesn't just protect you, it also protects the people around you who might be more vulnerable, including young children, people over 65, pregnant women, people with other health conditions like being in cancer treatment or with chronic upper respiratory problems.

EDITORIAL

Quoting the CDC:

"Influenza is a serious disease that can lead to hospitalization and sometimes even death. Every flu season is different, and influenza infection can affect people differently. Even healthy people can get very sick from the flu and spread it to others. Over a period of 31 seasons between 1976 and 2007, estimates of flu-associated deaths in the United States range from a low of about 3,000 to a high of about 49,000 people. During a regular flu season, about 90 percent of deaths occur in people 65 years and older. "Flu season" in the United

More on Flu and Flu Vaccines

Centers for Disease Control
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm>
 Fairfax County
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/flu/>
 Arlington
<http://health.arlingtonva.us/flu/>
 Alexandria
<http://alexandriava.gov/Flu>
 Montgomery County
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/resident/flu.html>

States can begin as early as October and last as late as May.

"During this time, flu viruses are circulating at higher levels in the U.S. population. An annual seasonal flu vaccine (either the flu shot or the nasal spray flu vaccine) is the best way to reduce the chances that you will get seasonal flu and spread it to others. When more people get vaccinated against the flu, less flu can spread through that community."

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm>

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Home Values on the Rise

BY KERRIE B. WILSON
 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CORNERSTONE

Why do you live where you live today? Is it convenience to work or good schools? Access to attractions? Does the housing cost fit your budget?

For most people, finding the perfect home often comes down to a family's values and priorities for the stage of life they are in, choosing what's most important if you can't get everything in one home.

Yet, for many families and individuals in Fairfax County, there are only hard choices and tradeoffs that no person would willingly accept for their family. To afford a 2-bedroom apartment in our area at fair market rate of \$1,469 requires an annual household income of \$56,480. For a minimum wage worker that equates to 132 hours of work per week. In Fairfax County, nearly 1/5 of households earn less than would be required to pay that rent without some temporary or ongoing support. Do you move out miles and add hours and cost to getting to your job? Do you sacrifice housing safety or time with your children to work two or more jobs to pay the bills? The stress on those with limited incomes or ability to earn a "housing wage" hurts everyone in community.

Recognizing this, the Fairfax

County Board of Supervisors prioritized "livable, caring and affordable communities" that reflect the options families value. Despite the headline goal, we have not kept pace with housing production and preservation needed to support affordable living opportunities. Huge increases in construction and land costs have outstripped growth in household income, compounded by the reduction in government subsidies now available to bridge those gaps.

At Cornerstones, we understand the consequences for those who fall into this affordability gap and we are working on many levels to address the challenge.

Consider, the Brown family who entered the Embury Rucker shelter with their children this summer. Shaken by the reality of shelter living, they are willing to make changes. It won't be an easy road. Mr. Brown is unemployed and never completed high school. Mrs. Brown is an administrative assistant in a Reston-based business earning \$36,000. They have two elementary age children who have made friends and feel at home at a local elementary school. The Browns' total household income means they earn too much for some benefits, but not enough to



Kerrie Wilson

support their family. A short-term solution is a transitional housing program that emphasizes educational attainment and job training for people willing to work hard to increase earning potential in exchange for time-limited rent support.

Will the Browns' make it? They have a lot going for them, but will still join thousands of other families in Fairfax County who are on waiting lists for housing vouchers or other affordable rental subsidies essential to surviving this chapter in their life.

Long-term, the only sustainable solution requires a community investment. Cornerstones has worked in our community for more than 40 years to preserve affordable housing and give families like the Browns realistic housing options.

This month—after a long journey aided by our supporters and partners like Bozzuto, Wells Fargo, Fairfax County, Virginia Development Housing Authority, Freddie Mac and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce Best of Reston partnership—Cornerstones will purchase and assume sole ownership responsibilities for The Apartments at North Point in Reston's desirable North Point community. Walkable to shopping, on the bus

line, and just miles from the Silver Line metro, these attractive, accessible garden style apartments are available at below market rents—expanding the choice of living and working in a community rich with opportunities for service, great schools, and access to open space and recreational opportunities.

Who are these neighbors? North Point residents include teachers, government employees, retired individuals and students, and formerly homeless families like the Browns. Annual household income for our tenants range from \$15,000 to \$70,000 per year.

The permanent subsidy required for Cornerstones to guarantee affordability can be as much as \$25,000 per unit per year, depending on the situation of the individual tenant. As tenant income grows, so too will the amount paid towards rent and the equity we reinvest to keep homes affordable for all.

While the 100 units we own and manage are part of the solution, Fairfax County is still far short of the overall number of homes needed to support a healthy, thriving community; a minimum of 1,650 units are still needed just to meet the goals established under the 10-Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.

We are often asked to enumerate the benefits of our work. Ev-

SEE WILSON, PAGE 7

Vienna & Oakton CONNECTION

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LETTERS

Meeting ID Requirements

To the Editor:

Thank you for your informative editorial about the new Photo ID requirement ("Does the Change in Voter ID Laws Matter?" Connection, October 1-7, 2014) and the opportunity for those who do not have acceptable Photo IDs to obtain free ones for voting purposes from any general registrar's office.

The Fairfax County Office of Elections is not arranging transportation for people to get to the office, though some organizations may be. The county is taking the photo ID equipment out to libraries, government centers, in-person absentee voting sites, and other locations to enable citizens to get the IDs more easily. The schedules

of locations and times are on the Office of Elections website.

People who apply for a Photo ID too late to receive it in the mail can ask for a temporary photo ID. It will be accepted as a valid ID for voting. Registered voters going to the polls on election day who do not have an eligible photo ID can vote a provisional ballot and then go to the Office of Elections by noon on the Friday after election day, obtain a temporary photo ID, and have their provisional ballot counted.

Sidney Johnson

Voter Service Director
League of Women Voters
of the Fairfax Area

Wilson

FROM PAGE 6

ery dollar spent on affordable housing production or subsidy helps revitalize family incomes, business bottom lines and government revenues. Housing recipients benefit from reduced risk of homelessness, safer neighborhoods, improved physical and mental health and raising motivated children who succeed at school and in life. The most significant short-term economic impact from housing development is on employment. Each job supported or created through affordable housing projects generates another one or more at the local level. Every \$1 in rental income generates over \$2 in economic activity for local economies. It all adds up.

Cornerstones is proud to be part

of this equation, working locally to build thriving communities. At the same time we will engage in today's important values conversations, talking now with the Fairfax County Economic Advisory Commission as it creates a strategic plan that recognizes the role that housing and workforce development play in economic development

(<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/success/>). We have joined the county's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee in calling for revenue bonds for affordable housing (join the conversation on Twitter #FFXBonds4Home).

Home values are on the rise, in North Point and Fairfax County. Prioritize housing choice for your neighbors; it's a community value we can live with.

FAITH NOTES

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

The Antioch Christian Church offers a time of Prayer and Healing on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for anyone wanting encouragement and healing through prayers. People are available to pray with you or for you. Antioch Christian Church is located at 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna. www.antiochdoc.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. 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org.

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body & Soul Fitness.

Gain balance, energy and strength at 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean, holds a third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. which 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 Christian Healing Rooms are open, 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.

Centering Prayer Group meets Fridays, 9:30 a.m. at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. The hour includes a brief reading related to Centering Prayer, followed by a 20-minute prayer period. E-mail Martha Thomas at mmthomas211@hotmail.com or call the church at 703-759-3509.

TGIFairfax

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1:30am-3:30pm **SouthPaw** Southern Rock & Country
2:30 -5pm **Bruce in the USA**
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CALENDAR

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north@connectionnewspapers.com.
Deadline is Friday for the following
week's paper. Photos/artwork encour-
aged.

WEDNESDAYS THROUGH NOV. 12

Mommy & Me Art Escapes. 10:30-11:15 a.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Six-week class. Mothers will have the chance to “escape” into their own artwork and create their own masterpiece at one table while little ones are busy diving into their own projects at their table. \$150 per session. To register go to www.artspaceherndon.org. 703-956-6590.

THROUGH NOV. 13

Adventures in Learning. 10 a.m. on Thursdays. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Seniors: come in and learn during classes you can attend on a variety of topics of interest from health issues to world affairs for all adults age 50 or older, all taught by volunteer experts. Tuition payment of \$40 entitles you to attend any of the classes you like offered during the fall session. The class schedule and registration form will be available on: www.scov.org. You may print the registration form and mail it at any time during the term with your payment.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 8

Cre8tive Art. 10 a.m.-Noon. Tysons Corner Microsoft Store, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The Cre8tive series of workshops will introduce attendees to different forms of art using Windows 8.1. Learn how to create art and modify images. Free. Call the Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna (SCOV) office to register for classes or for additional information, 703-281-0538.

The History of Great Falls Historical Society. 7-9 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A panel of the earliest members and past presidents will tell the story of the organization's founding, and all of the projects and challenges it has undertaken over the last 37 years to capture and preserve the history of Great Falls.

Noam Pikelný & Stuart Duncan. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. Banjo pioneer and Punch Brother band member Noam Pikelný teams up with the Nashville Bluegrass Band's, Stuart Duncan, for an acoustic showcase. Tickets: \$25-\$30. For more information, visit www.wolftrap.org.
Pokemon League. 4:30– 6 p.m. Great Falls Library 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Come play Pokemon with your friends. School age 5 to 15.
Holiday Cards and Gift Tags with Jennifer Ellefson. 7-9 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Put together four cards and two tags. Learn basic design concepts and craft techniques. \$30 fee covers supplies and two glasses of wine. Registration is required with payment in advance. Call 703-956-6590 or go to www.artspaceherndon.org.

THURSDAY/OCT. 9

Loudon Wainwright III. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. Classic blues concert from a veteran musician. Tickets: \$25-\$30. Visit www.wolftrap.org.
Great Falls Rotary Club Weekly Speaker Series. 7:30– 8: 30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road Great Falls. Interested in joining? Download the membership form from our website.
Artists Meet for Coffee. 8:30 – 10



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

From fabulous to creepy, children marched in the 2013 Halloween parade in Vienna. This year's parade will be on Wednesday, Oct. 29.

a.m. Feel free to drop in. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists meet for coffee.
Great Falls Writers Group. 11 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Support group for writers.
Reading Buddies. 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Beginning readers and teens practice reading together.
A Bailar. 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Salsa, cha cha, and more – Latin dance and music for the whole family with Cantare, Latin and American music. All ages. Please sign up each child and adult separately. 703-242-4020.

FRIDAY/OCT. 10

Playdate Café. 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Toys and play space for children; coffee and conversation for grown-ups.
Drop-in Chess and Backgammon. 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. All skill levels are welcome.
2014 Sweet Home Virginia Gala. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Sheraton Tysons Hotel, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Tysons Corner. Approximately 600 business leaders, philanthropists, and community organizers will participate in the gala, awards and scholarships will also be presented. \$300. www.cfnova.org.
Simone Dinnerstein, Piano. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. Classical piano concert. Repertoire will include works by Robert Schumann, Johann Sebastian Bach, and Franz Schubert. Tickets: \$40. For more information, visit www.wolftrap.org.
Artists Meet for Coffee. 8:30– 10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists meet for coffee. Feel free to drop in.
Look at the Stars! 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. Turner Farm Park, Springvale Road, Great Falls. Observatory Open. Come to the observatory park for Friday Night viewings. For more information

visit <http://www.analemma.org/>.

SATURDAY/OCT. 11-SUNDAY/OCT. 12

Fine Arts Festival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. Showcases the works of some of America's top artists and spectacular new emerging artists. For more information call 703-956-6590 or visit www.artspaceherndon.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

Theatre IV's "Bremen Town Band." 2 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. \$15/\$10 MCC district residents.
Fall Leaf Collecting and Art for Kids. 9 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. This children's program starts with a walk to collect beautiful fall leaves and to discover how leaves change color. Back at the Visitor's Center while sipping on apple cider, the children will use these leaves to create animal artwork. The program fee is \$5 per child, and reservations are required. Space is limited to 20 children. Children younger than age 5 are required to be accompanied by an adult. Parents are welcome to join in on the walk and assist with the craft—regular garden admission applies. For reservations, call 703-255-3631 x103 or jmaloney@nvrpa.org.
October Bulb Sale. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Vienna Farmers Market, Center Street, Vienna. The Ayr Hill Garden Club will host their annual Spring bulb sale. This is the opportunity to buy unique premium spring blooming, fall planted, bulbs. Some of the many specialty bulbs offered include: four varieties of Alliums, the “Pittsburgh” tulip and an “instant garden” mix of bulbs. Sale proceeds go to support the five public gardens planted and maintained by Ayr Hill Garden Club in Vienna.
“Bremen Town Band.” 2 p.m. The

Alden, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. A menagerie of unlikely friends, including a donkey, a dog, a cat and a rooster, sets off in search of musical stardom in the German town of Bremen. The production is appropriate for children age 4 and older. Tickets are \$15 for the general public, \$10 for MCC tax district residents. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit: www.aldentheatre.org or call 703-790-0123.

2nd Annual Ellen's Walk

Fundraiser. 9 a.m. Lake Anne Elementary School, 11510 North Shore Drive, Reston. The Walk is an opportunity to honor the memory of Ellen Reich, wife of Norm Reich and friend to several OLLI members. Ellen had a distinguished career in early childhood education, both as a teacher at Lake Anne and Hunters Woods Elementary Schools in Reston. Ellen passed away in December 2012, after suffering for several years with what was ultimately diagnosed as Lewy Body Dementia (LBD). LBD is an umbrella term for two related diagnoses, referring to Parkinson's diseases dementia and dementia with Lewy bodies. To register, visit <http://ellenswalk2014.eventbrite.com>. A donation of \$35 for an individual and \$70 for a family is suggested. All proceeds will go to the Lewy Body Dementia Association (LBDA). If you'd prefer to donate directly by check, please send your check, made payable to LBDA, to Allan Ratner 11421 Great Meadow Drive, Reston VA. 20191. Donations may also be made directly on LBDA's website at: www.lbda.org.

Newmeyer Flyer Tribute to the Everly Brothers. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. The Newmeyer Flyer production company memorializes the legendary Everly Brothers in upcoming concert. Tickets: \$25-\$27. For more information, visit www.wolftrap.org.

McLean Volunteer Fire Department Open House. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. McLean Volunteer Fire Department, 1455 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Live rescue demonstrations, fire safety education, and other fun activities for the whole family.

McLean Orchestra Season Opening Concert: Russian Flair. 8 p.m. Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. A rich program of Russian favorites such as Tchaikovsky and more. Mclean-orchestra.org/tickets.

Cars & Coffee. 7– 9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House. Located at 760 Walker Road Great Falls. Gathering of antique, custom and exotic cars.

Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Bring recyclable bags. For more information visit www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org.

Awards and Artists Reception. 7-9 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. The reception and exhibit are free and open to the public. 703-956-6590. www.artspaceherndon.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 12

TF Halloween Schooling Show. 9– 4 p.m. Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Free to spectators, fees to participants to the horse show: \$10 office fee, and \$15 per class. For application and more information, go to <http://www.turnerfarmevents.org/>.
“Uncle” Gerry Dignan. 3 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE, Vienna. Music Together of Vienna brings a concert for young children (birth–age 8) and their families. Birth-8 years and families. Free. Toy donations will be collected.
Benefit Concert. 3 p.m. Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Come and hear the music of Elizabeth Flood, jazz pianist and vocalist who performs regularly in the metropolitan Washington D.C. area. Gifts of Hope

is an alternative gift-giving program that serves as an intermediary between donors and organizations serving individuals and families in need. www.giftsofhopemetrodcc.org.

MONDAY/OCT. 13

ArtsWeek Herndon Kids Day. 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 3:30 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Robbie Schaefer, local children's entertainer who is part of the noted band “Eddie from Ohio” and Sirius XMKids Radio, headlines. Includes free dance class, African drumming sessions and Robbie Schaefer's interactive concert at 3:30 pm. Additional guests, games and prizes are planned. Free and open to the public. Call 703-956-6590 or go to www.artspaceherndon.org.
Read to the Dog. 4:30-5:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls Library Meeting Room 2nd and 4th Mondays of the Month. Call 703-757-8560 to sign up.

TUESDAY/OCT. 14

Learn to Draw Cartoons. 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Learn to draw cartoons with artist Bud Little. Ages 6 and up. Please register for this program at 703-757-8560.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 15

Cre8tive Movies. 10 a.m.-Noon. Tysons Corner Microsoft Store, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The Cre8tive series of workshops will introduce attendees to different forms of art using Windows 8.1. Edit, add effects and sound to your own movies. Free. Call the Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna (SCOV) office to register for classes or for additional information, 703-281-0538.
Morning Book Group. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Call branch for title of book to be discussed, 703-757-8560.
Jaws. 1 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Midday movie screening at the Alden Theater. Free.
Pokemon League. 4:30 – 6 p.m. Great Falls Library. 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Meeting Room. Age 5 to 15. Come play Pokemon with your friends.
An Article of Hope. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Local filmmaker Dan Cohen, director and producer of the film will answer questions afterwards. Free and open to the public. Call 703-956-6590 or go to www.artspaceherndon.org.
Pokemon League. 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Come play Pokemon with your friends. Ages 5-15.

THURSDAY/OCT. 16

Reading Buddies. 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Beginning readers and teens practice reading together.
Black 47. 7 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Avenue E., Vienna. Black 47 play a uniquely Irish form of rock ‘n’ roll that touches on many social and political issues, and yet is never less than entertaining and riveting. Purchase tickets at: <http://jamminjava.com/>
Sam Amidon with Bill Frisell and Shahzad Ismaily. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk artist Sam Amidon performs with jazz guitarist Frisell, bassist Ismaily, and rebel rock guitarist Cy Dune. Tickets: \$25-\$27. For more information, visit www.wolftrap.org.
Evening Book Group. 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Call branch for the title of the book being discussed, 703-757-8560.
Book Sale. All day. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Wide selection in excellent condition

Focus on Transportation



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

The panel participates in the question and answer session after each gave a presentation to the attendees of the “What You Need to Know about Transportation in Five Minutes or Less,” seminar. From left are Charlie Kilpatrick, commissioner VDOT; Nick Donohue, Virginia deputy transportation secretary; Doug Allen, CEO VRE; Aubrey L. Layne, Jr., Virginia secretary of transportation; Camelia Ravanbakht, interim executive director, Hampton Roads Transportation Planning; Renee Hamilton, NoVa District deputy administrator, VDOT; Hal Parrish, mayor, City of Manassas and Northern Virginia Transportation Authority board member; Richard Sarles, out-going CEO/general manager, WMATA, and Helen Cuervo, NoVa District administrator, VDOT.

Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance presents regional priorities at 10th annual event.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

What You Need to Know about Transportation in Five Minutes or Less” was the working title of this year’s Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance (NVTA) seminar and reception held on Sept. 30 at Capital One’s auditorium in McLean. With the often confusing alphabet soup of Virginia’s transportation-related agencies, organizations, alliances, boards, and commissions it was good that the NVTA meant five minutes per speaker. No one could make sense of the Commonwealth’s transportation current state of affairs, its history, or plans for the future in 300 seconds.

Thankfully, the NVTA gathered the key players from those various organizations and gave each five minutes to make a presentation in keeping with the theme of their 10th Annual Seminar – “Regional Priorities and Prioritization.” The speakers were all recognized authorities on the subject and stayed on point with materials and comments that were accessible to audience members less in-the-know on all of the details of each agency and the projects they impact, as well as the most subject-knowledgeable in the audience. Bob Chase, president of the NVTA, in his role as moderator, for the 10th time, made the introductions, kept the speakers within their time budgets, and directed the Q & A session following the presentations.

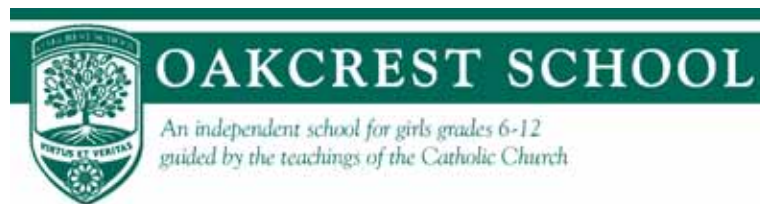
According to the NVTA members, the seminar title was carefully chosen. Chase made reference during his opening remarks to a document published earlier this year by the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board titled “Regional Transportation

Priorities Plan” that “listed no actual priority projects. I’m not sure how we get to solving problems if we have no priorities,” said Chase. “The good news is that efforts are underway in Virginia to address this deficiency.”

ANOTHER REASON why prioritization of projects is critical and was a key focus of the seminar is the passage of HB 2 by the Virginia Legislature earlier this year and HB 599 which addresses prioritization for projects funded through the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). As a follow-up to the historic bi-partisan passage of HB 2313 in 2013, which provided significant state funds for transportation for the first time in 27 years, HB 2, “Provides for the development of a prioritization process for projects funded by the Commonwealth Transportation Board ... that shall weigh factors such as congestion mitigation, economic development, accessibility, safety, and environmental quality.” With real money on the table with which to proceed, and a “wants and needs” list for each locale that far outweighs the funds currently or foreseeably available, some scoring method needs to be developed and implemented to ensure that the state gets the best “bang for the transportation buck” from every project chosen. As speaker Aubrey L. Layne, Jr., the Virginia secretary of transportation said, “Accountability was missing from the process.” By scoring each proposed project and benchmarking it to the requirements of HB 2, Layne noted that the selection process would be fairer and more transparent. According to Layne, even projects already underway and those that are exempt from HB 2 should still be examined and scored.

Nick Donohue, Virginia deputy transportation secretary, provided more detail on the HB 2 Process, praising the “remarkable, unanimous, bi-partisan vote” that led to the bill which took effect on July 1. “The process will be developed over the next 12 months by the Commonwealth Transportation Board,” said Donohue, and applied to “projects based on the (planning document) VTrans 2040 needs assessment toward the drafting of a six-year improve

SEE TRANSPORTATION, PAGE 10



Open House

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2014
2:00-4:00 P.M.

*Presentation by Head of School: 2:45 p.m.

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NEWS

New Bridge Over Potomac River?

FROM PAGE 9

ment program." Donohue, as well as several other speakers, also reminded the audience that many of Northern Virginia's transportation plans had to also take into account emergency evacuations from the District. "It's just one more of the realities our region faces."

While there was much discussion regarding future transportation needs for a region that has grown from two million people in 1970 to more than five million today — with growth projections reaching almost seven million by 2040 — a number of the speakers addressed the status of recent projects and those currently in progress, like Helen Cuervo, Northern Virginia District administrator for VDOT. Cuervo reported on the opening in August of three eastbound lanes as part of the Route 50 widening project, with the three westbound lanes on schedule to open in spring of 2015. FY2014 saw more than 670 lane miles paved in our region, with another 826 lane miles scheduled for paving in FY2015. Express Lanes on 95 were also reported to be on schedule for a late 2014/early 2015 opening, running from Edsall Road in Fairfax County for 27 miles to Garrisonville Road in Stafford County. Cuervo also provided updates on improvements for Route 7 and work on interchanges along Route 28 and other highly congested byways. The Express Lane project and other projects noted by Cuervo that extend well into Loudoun and Prince William counties from Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria all served as prime examples of the "regional" cooperation that the NVTa believes essential to effectively address the transportation woes of Northern Virginia.

Mayor Hal Parrish of the City of Manassas represented the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, the body created by the General Assembly in 2002. Embracing the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William, and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park, the authority is responsible for preparing a regional transportation plan and has the power to implement transportation facilities in the plan, acquire land for the provision of transportation facilities, and contract to provide, or operate transportation facilities. Parrish reported that the authority has already approved 34 projects. The first year of approved projects are valued at \$209,793,000.

He noted that 70 percent of available funds would be utilized for regional projects included in the TransAction 2040 Plan that have been evaluated by VDOT for congestion mitigation or emergency evacuation as called for in HB 599, as well as mass transit capital projects (30 percent would be designated as local funds and distributed to the individual localities for their specific needs). To receive full funding, the localities would be required to enact the local Commercial and Industrial Property Tax at \$0.125 per \$100 valuation, or dedicate an equivalent



ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Virginia Secretary of Transportation Aubrey L. Layne Jr. received enthusiastic cheers when he mentioned the need for "another crossing of the Potomac."

amount to the transportation fund. Other speakers included outgoing WMATA CEO and General Manager Richard Sarles, who was awarded with applause from the crowd when he spoke of Metro's "Eight Car Train Initiative" to add to the current train length and increase ridership significantly. CEO Doug Allen outlined the plans for Virginia Railway Express's growth, particularly along 395, 95, and I-66.

SPEAKING OF I-66, no discussion of transportation in Northern Virginia could be complete without someone addressing the problems on the highway that many consider the most congested in the entire region.

Charlie Kilpatrick, commissioner of VDOT, presented "I-66: What's the Fix and When?" Although the plans do seem to take aim at the goal to "improve multimodal mobility along the I-66 corridor by providing diverse travel choices and to enhance transportation safety and reliability," most of the proposed works from the Beltway to Haymarket will still be a long time coming. Kilpatrick described the vision of I-66 with two express HOV-3 lanes, three non-tolled general lanes, ramp-to-ramp connections and a Rapid Bus Service with direct access opportunities from Park-and-Ride lots to Express Lanes. But even with much planning and preparation already underway, no construction on this project seems likely before 2017 at the earliest.

The Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance (NVTa) is a private sector organization focused on collaboratively developing ways to make better transportation a reality for the region's citizens and businesses. It leads a coalition of more than 20 major Northern Virginia business organizations, aimed at supporting transportation investments of the greatest regional significance. The presentation materials of the seminar's speakers are available on the website www.nvta.org, which also contains information on all aspects of transportation in the region and links to related sites for further information.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to north@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 8

Carfit Safety Evaluation. 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street South, Vienna. Carfit experts can determine if your car fits you properly for maximum safety and suggest improvements. Mature drivers in general are safe drivers, but in case of accident they can have more chance of injury if their car is not individually fit to their needs. Learn how to best position yourself to maximize safety when driving your vehicle. Free. Call 703-255-6360 to register and for more information.

THURSDAY/OCT. 9

Candidate Meet and Greet Forum. 7 – 9 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Come and meet your candidates for the 8th and 10th Congressional Districts in an informal setting. Learn their views on important issues and interact one-on-one with them. The current congressmen for these districts are Jim Moran (8th) and Frank Wolf (10th).

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

State Historical Marker Unveiling. 10 a.m. 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Public ceremony to unveil the new "Fields of Fire" marker, which highlights activities of the Union Army's XII Corps during the Civil War and a heat wave in the region that afflicted marching soldiers and made a tinderbox of county fields and woods.

TUESDAY/OCT. 14

Chapter 1116 Vienna- Oakton of NARFE(National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees) Meeting. 1:30 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, Vienna. The speaker will be Gayle Nelson, Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Nelson will give updates for the coming year's choice for federal employees. Meeting is open to all members and their guests. Free.

Congressional Candidate Meet and Greet. 7-9 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Meet candidates for congressional districts 8 and 10. Sponsored by AARP Virginia, AAUW McLean Branch, the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans of Virginia (CAPAVA), League of Women Voters Fairfax Area, and the McLean Citizens Association.

Book Sale Set Up. All day. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place,

Oakton. Used book sale. Wide selection for all ages in excellent condition.

Computer one-on-one. Noon. Oakton Library 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Internet basics, email, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 15

ESL Conversation Group. 2 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Practice English in this casual conversation group.

THURSDAY/OCT. 16

Great Falls Rotary Club Weekly Speaker Series. 7:30– 8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road Great Falls. Interested in joining? Download the membership form from <http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org/>.

SATURDAY/OCT. 18

Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Weichert Realtors, 1760 Reston Parkway, Reston. Clean our your unwanted household items. A donation of \$25 per space to Habitat for Humanity is all you need to reserve your space. Cash from all the items you sell is yours. 703-264-0000.

Financial Fitness. 12 p.m. Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Lecture series for ages 55+. \$7/\$5 MCC district residents.

MONDAY/OCT. 20

Vienna/Oakton Vision Impaired (VIP) Resource Group Meeting. 10:15 a.m. – Noon. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue, Vienna. The guest speaker is Duveen Winter, who will demonstrate the newly released "E-Bot," as well as the new 24" Clearview CCTV/digital magnifier with speech. If you need a ride, please call The Shepherd Center (3 day advanced notice is required) at 703-281-0538. For other VIP related inquiries, please contact Chato Carter at 703-938-1533.

English Conversation. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for non-native speakers. Adults.

Computer One-on-One. Noon. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Internet basics, email, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Adults.

Spanish Conversation Group. 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Practice Spanish as a foreign language in this casual conversation group.

WEEK IN VIENNA

FROM PAGE 5

Hunter Mill Road in Oakton.

Police, Fire Games Help Needed

The 2015 World Police and Fire Games will need upwards of 3,000 people to take on a wide variety of roles across the National Capital Region. These include welcoming visitors, transporting athletes, joining the medical team, assisting sports coordinators, helping

out behind the scenes on the technology team. For more information or to volunteer, go to <http://fairfax2015.com/volunteer>.

Want to Join Vienna Police?

The Town of Vienna Police Department is looking for people interested in becoming police officers here. The salary and benefits are competitive with other areas. For application information, call 703-255-6350 or visit:

<http://agency.governmentjobs.com/Vienna/default.cfm>.

Preserving the Past to Enrich the Future

22nd Annual Centreville Day

October 11, 2014 10am-5pm
in HISTORIC CENTREVILLE PARK

5K Zombie Slouch Fun Run 9am
Be a Ghoul for Good - Help families facing childhood cancer.

Join Our Parade at Noon!

NEW! Pet Costume Show (register your pet today)
NEW! Free Mini Health Fair
*Ventanilla de Salud * Grace Clinic * Local health providers*

On the Showmobile Stage with DJ Myra Flemister:

Alliance Theatre, The VaDeatles! The Outliers Rock Band Centreville Dance Theatre NoVA Wushu Academy St. John's Choir, Not Just Dance Hallelujah Mission Tae Kwon Do

FREE CHILDREN'S RIDES
from G&C TIRE and AUTO

Shop in the Marketplace; Eat Well at the Food Court; FCPA History Train; Trick or Treat Trail; Alpha Delta Kappa Children's Area; Hands-On History at Mount Gilead; Tours of Stuart-Mosby Museum, Old Stone Church, Spindle Sears House, St John's Church, FCPA Van and Ghost Tours

www.CentrevilleVA.org

CENTREVIEW

SOCIAL SECURITY

OFFERS UNEXPECTED FLEXIBILITY AND CHOICES

SOCIAL SECURITY is our country's single largest Federal program and the sole means of support for many retirees. Remarkably, it offers a high level of flexibility to optimize your retirement income needs. Waddell & Reed invites you to learn about Social Security's unexpected options.

The Waddell & Reed office of Vienna, VA invites you to attend "Filing for Social Security: Flexibility and Choices for Your Retirement Income." This educational presentation about Social Security filing options includes ample opportunity for questions. There is no charge for this event, and you are welcome to bring guests. Light food and refreshments will be served. Please RSVP as space is limited.

Tuesday, October 14, 2014
6:30 pm

The Waddell & Reed Office of Vienna, VA
8100 Boone Blvd, Ste. 310 • Vienna, VA

Please R.S.V.P. to Sylvia Ezell
at 703-556-4800 or sezell@wradvisors.com by Friday, October 10

This seminar is a general overview of certain rules related to Social Security and the ideas presented are not individualized for your particular situation. This information is based on current law which can be changed at any time.

The information is provided for informational and educational purposes only. It is based on data gathered from what we believe are reliable sources but it is not guaranteed and should not be relied upon for financial advice. For your specific financial needs, please discuss your individual circumstances with your financial advisor.

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McLean QB Maffei Sets State Record for Completions

Senior signal caller completes 42 passes in loss to Herndon.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

McLean coaches scrapped their offensive game plan after falling behind early in their Oct. 2 contest against Herndon, relying almost exclusively on the right arm of senior quarterback Brian Maffei to bring the Highlanders back.

Maffei completed short passes. He connected with receivers down the field. He threw four touchdown passes, including three to receiver Patrick Dolan.

At the end of the night, the McLean football team fell short against Herndon, 51-35 at McLean High School. Maffei's performance, however, was worthy of a place in the VHSL record book.

Maffei completed 42 of 71 passes for 415 yards, with four touchdowns and two interceptions. His 42 completions would set a single-game state record, according to the Virginia High School League Book of Records. The previous best total of 39 was shared by West Potomac's Cole Walter (2008) and Falls Church's Adam Daly (2013).



McLean quarterback Brian Maffei completed a state-record 42 passes during a 51-35 loss to Herndon on Oct. 2.

Maffei said he realized he set a state record the following morning, when a teammate's mother posted the news on social media.

"I'm not going to lie, it felt pretty good knowing I set a new state record," Maffei said, "but I was still pretty upset because of the loss."

Maffei, a first-year starter for the High-

landers, missed the previous three games with an ankle injury he suffered during McLean's season-opening victory over Washington-Lee on Sept. 5. The Highlanders went 2-1 in his absence, including wins over Marshall and South Lakes, with receiver CJ Downey filling in at quarterback.

Maffei's 27-yard touchdown pass to Downey cut the Herndon lead to 44-35 with

3:27 remaining in the fourth quarter, but the Highlanders would get no closer.

"It was a very big help getting our quarterback back in," Blair said. "The Downey kid, he played very well coming off the bench not having any game experience at the quarterback spot. ... [Maffei has] a very good command of the offense. ... It's been four weeks since he's seen action and he's knocking some rust off too [and] ... he [led the offense to] 35 points."

Maffei's first touchdown pass was a 3-yard toss to Dolan with 2:46 remaining in the second quarter, cutting the Herndon lead to 17-9. Maffei's 19-yard touchdown pass to Dolan with 25 seconds left in the first half made the score 24-15.

Maffei's third touchdown pass to Dolan, this one a 15-yarder, came with 10:20 remaining in the fourth quarter, cutting the McLean deficit to 38-29. McLean's final points of the evening came courtesy of a 27-yard touchdown pass from Maffei to Downey with 3:27 left.

"We obviously had a lot of success offensively," Maffei said. "We missed a couple opportunities and we wished we had a couple plays back. ... I missed some of my throws. I could have easily had six or seven more [completions]. ... There is always room for improvement."

With the loss, McLean dropped to 3-2. The Highlanders will travel to face Stone Bridge at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10.



Flint Hill running back Cameron Vaughn rushed for 208 yards and two touchdowns against Bishop Ireton on Oct. 3.

Flint Hill's Vaughn Rushes for 208 Yards in Loss

The Flint Hill football team dropped to 1-4 with a 24-21 loss to Bishop Ireton on Oct. 3, but it wasn't for a lack of effort from running back Cameron Vaughn.

The senior carried 25 times for 208 yards and two touchdowns against the Cardinals, and caught one pass for five yards.

Vaughn's 24-yard touchdown run gave the Huskies a 7-3 lead with 11:47 re-

maining in the second quarter. After Bishop Ireton regained the lead, Vaughn broke loose for an 82-yard touchdown run, giving Flint Hill a 14-10 advantage.

Vaughn was the lead of a Husky offense that totaled 359 yards, including 283 on the ground.

Flint Hill has dropped four straight after winning its season opener against Paul VI. The Huskies will host St. James at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 11.



Vienna Broncos running back Jared Cole reaches for the end zone.

Vienna Broncos Start the Season 4-0

Playing physical football on defense and a balanced offensive attack has allowed the Vienna 100-pound American Broncos to amass a 4-0 record. Vienna beat Dulles South 40-12 and Gum Springs 30-0 in the last two highly-anticipated matchups.

Quarterback Colin O'Connor is 9 for 17 on the season, including an 80-yard touchdown pass to David Wallis against Dulles South. Jared Cole has rushed for 326 yards, including 104 yards and three touchdowns against Gum Springs. Michael Indelicarto has added 162 rushing yards for the season. The offensive line is anchored by Jack

Taylor at center, with Tanner Hughes, Marvin Coon, Jack Gurley, and Michael McMahon controlling the line of scrimmage.

The defense has been continually sending 11 men to the ball in a bad mood. Joey Murray, Justin Duenkel, and Ryan Moses all registered sacks against Gum Springs. Jacobs Oliver, David Hibbs, and Collin Gardner pounded the quick Gum Springs attack. Shutdown corners Michael Leone (1 sack) and Indelicarto did not allow a pass of more than 7 yards to the outside, preserving the shutout. The Vienna Broncos are composed of players from Vienna, Great Falls, Reston, Burke and Chantilly.

NEWS

Tysons Rezoning Consternation

MCA debates details of proffer agreements for two businesses.

BY REENA SINGH
THE CONNECTION

Like most McLean Citizen Association board members, President Sally Horn is concerned how new Tysons businesses will affect McLean.

Members debated two Tysons rezoning resolutions on their contribution to the urban center — stating their hope that the money would be kept in Tysons.

“If they give this money, where are they going to put these parks?” asked Horn. “Are they going to Vienna? McLean?”

Much of the discussion — and amendments — came from an application from Tysons Westpark L.C. to use the former Westpark Hotel site at 8401 Westpark Drive for two residential buildings, a one-story accessory building and a 300 unit hotel.

The company's proffer — a required contribution to the community — was to create an athletic field off of Gallows Road if they entered into an agreement with another company or \$2.2 million by June 30, 2015. Another proffer was to contribute \$2.2 million for a new community library to be built by the site.

However, if the company chose to give the \$2.2 million rather than use it for the field, board member Mark Zetts said the Board of Supervisors will make the decision on how to use the money.

Two of Horn's three proposals on the resolution passed — to state that MCA does not object to the resolution rather than supports it and to urge that the county place the athletic fields in Tysons and not elsewhere.

“I want all 20 fields in Tysons, period,” said Zetts. “We can talk about fields elsewhere after the 20.”

He said there is a tremendous pressure to put recreation areas in Tysons Corner to give its new citizens a place to play sports close to their homes and new schools rather than come to McLean.

Although height flexibility is allowed if 20 percent of the units were contributed to workforce housing, many were worried it would set a precedence if the resolution passed.



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/ CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

The vacant Westpark Hotel at the Route 7 and Westpark Drive intersection was debated at McLean Citizens Association's meeting Oct. 1.

“I am really disturbed that the height is violating the height restriction,” said board member Katherine Probst.

She said she would rather the MCA be told beforehand about any major zoning restrictions before the resolution was placed before the Board of Directors to vote on.

The resolution passed 21 to nine with three abstentions.

THE RESOLUTION REZONES Amherst Property's six-story office building on Jones Branch Drive into a residential building with ground floor retail also passed.

The proffer on the resolution included a monetary proffer for an athletic field equal to \$1.81 per ground floor area by June 30, 2013 or \$2.38 per square foot when the first occupancy permit is issued as well as a 10-year space for the Fairfax County Fire Marshal office in an adjacent building.

“This is a 10 year holiday for the fire marshal,” said Bill Denk. “If we're going to have a bunch of proffered space, it's eventually going to be an obligation for the county.”

The location is 1/2 a mile from two Metro stations, but a block away from a bus station.

“Long term, this whole area will redevelop,” said Zetts.

The resolution passed unanimously with one abstention, but there was a motion to reopen the resolution to negotiate where the athletic field would be placed after the discussion with the Tysons Westpark L.C. resolution. The motion failed.

“Tysons is a very complicated issue,” Horn told the board members. “If you're interested about learning about more, please go to [planning and zoning] meetings.”

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Week Of, Weak On, Week Off

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



This column completes the three-week arc which describes what I have endured mostly successfully for approximately five years now: chemotherapy every three weeks – with one year off for good behavior (not really good behavior; the year off was to switch to a twice-daily pill, Tarceva, to be taken at home, since the previous treatment was no longer stemming the tide). It's been my experience that these anti-cancer drugs don't exactly work forever. Realistically speaking, if they work at all – on/in you, you take them until they don't work anymore; then you hope there's another drug somewhere: in the pharmacy, in the office, in the pipeline, that the cancer won't recognize and ignore, to give you hope that as a patient, you haven't run out of treatment options. And so far, as you regular readers know, my body's tolerance (let's call it "good behavior") has been above and beyond; his "third miracle," my oncologist says.

Two weeks ago, I wrote about the weak-week immediately following chemotherapy. Last week, I wrote about the week-of/week preceding the actual infusion, waiting for the lab results and dealing with the associated anxiety pertaining to all of it. This week, I'd like to jump ahead to two weeks post-chemotherapy, the week after I feel worst and the week before I feel anxious again worrying about new results and then anticipating the Friday infusion and the subsequent post-chemotherapy discomfort to follow. This of course is my favorite week, my week feeling most normal, my week when cancer is not top of mind, more so middle of mind. But I'll take it in the middle, that's a significant enough displacement so I don't mind it there. (This may be a bit of mind over matter/any port in a storm, but when you're in the cross-hairs, any break in the usual action, any respite from the incessant emotional, mental and physical demands of living with cancer is well worth the time it takes to get there. I never bemoan its arrival if delayed; I cherish the relief it brings whenever and however it makes its presence felt.)

Obviously, even during this third week/week off, my disease is hardly forgotten or a thing of the past. Most definitely it's still a thing of the present. Moreover, if it were not for my ability to compartmentalize, rationalize, delude and pretend, this off week wouldn't be so helpful. It is part of my process in order to try and secure a future. Although, it is a little challenging sometimes to maintain the illusion when my daily routine is so cancer-centric. But after five-plus years of it, the routine has become almost second nature and not, believe it or not, a constant reminder that I have cancer; more like a means not to a premature end. It's not even anything I think about any more.

Just like the week-of, weak-on and week-off have become. It's what I do. It's who I am. It's how I roll. Nothing to complain about. Something more to write about. If I had my druthers, I'd rather not be writing about life in the cancer lane. But since this seems to be my permanent address, and I'm a homebody at heart, I'll continue to write about what I know best. It used to be sports and chocolate; now it's about living with cancer. Living being the operative word. And you know what, it makes me happy writing about it.

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

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPOSAL TO CLEANUP AT UNDERGROUND STORAGE
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There has been a release from an underground storage tank
system at:

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The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requiring
Fairfax Petroleum Realty, LLC to develop a Corrective Action
Plan Addendum (CAPA) to address cleanup of methyl tertiary
butyl ether (MTBE) in groundwater at the site. If you have
questions regarding the cleanup, please contact:

Kleinfelder
1340 Charwood Road, Suite 1
Hanover, Maryland 21076
(443) 925-6048

Attention: Mark Steele

The CAPA was submitted to the Northern Regional Office of
the DEQ on October 2, 2014. If you would like to review or dis-
cuss the CAPA with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to
contact Alex Wardle (Alexander.Wardle@deq.virginia.gov) at
(703) 583-3822. The DEQ Northern Regional Office will con-
sider written comments regarding the CAPA until December 5,
2014 and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is signifi-
cant public interest. Hard copy of the CAPA will be available at
the Great Falls Library. Written comments should be sent to
the DEQ at the address listed below. DEQ requests that all
written comments reference the tracking number for this case;
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Department of Environmental Quality
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BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to north@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 8

Carfit Safety Evaluation. 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street South, Vienna. Carfit experts can determine if your car fits you properly for maximum safety and suggest improvements. Mature drivers in general are safe drivers, but in case of accident they can have more chance of injury if their car is not individually fit to their needs. Learn how to best position yourself to maximize safety when driving your vehicle. Free. Call 703-255-6360 to register and for more information.

THURSDAY/OCT. 9

Candidate Meet and Greet Forum. 7 – 9 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Come and meet your candidates for the 8th and 10th Congressional Districts in an informal setting. Learn their views on important issues and interact one-on-one with them. The current congressmen for these districts are Jim Moran (8th) and Frank Wolf (10th).

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

State Historical Marker Unveiling. 10 a.m. 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Public ceremony to unveil the new "Fields of Fire" marker, which highlights activities of the Union Army's XII Corps during the Civil War and a heat wave in the region that afflicted marching soldiers and made a tinderbox of county fields and woods.

TUESDAY/OCT. 14

Chapter 1116 Vienna- Oakton of NARFE(National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees) Meeting. 1:30 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, Vienna. The speaker will be Gayle Nelson, Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Nelson will give updates for the coming year's choice for federal employees. Meeting is open to all members and their guests. Free.

Congressional Candidate Meet and Greet. 7-9 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Meet candidates for congressional districts 8 and 10. Sponsored by AARP Virginia, AAUW McLean Branch, the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans of Virginia (CAPAVA), League of Women Voters Fairfax Area, and the McLean Citizens Association.

Book Sale Set Up. All day. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Used book sale. Wide selection for all ages in excellent condition.

Computer one-on-one. Noon. Oakton Library 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Internet basics, email, Microsoft Word and Powerpoint.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 15

ESL Conversation Group. 2 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Practice English in this casual conversation group.

THURSDAY/OCT. 16

Great Falls Rotary Club Weekly Speaker Series. 7:30– 8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road Great Falls. Interested in joining? Download the membership form from <http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org/>.

SATURDAY/OCT. 18

Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Weichert Realtors, 1760 Reston Parkway, Reston. Clean our unwanted household items. A donation of \$25 per space to Habitat for Humanity is all you need to reserve your space. Cash from all the items you sell is yours. 703-264-0000.

Financial Fitness. 12 p.m. Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Lecture series for ages 55+. \$7/\$5 MCC district residents.

MONDAY/OCT. 20

Vienna/Oakton Vision Impaired (VIP) Resource Group Meeting. 10:15 a.m. – Noon. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue, Vienna. The guest speaker is Duveen Winter, who will demonstrate the newly released "E-Bot," as well as the new 24" Clearview CCTV/digital magnifier with speech. If you need a ride, please call The Shepherd Center (3 day advanced notice is required) at 703-281-0538. For other VIP related inquiries, please contact Chato Carter at 703-938-1533.

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Incumbent Connolly Is a 'Calm, Strong Voice'

FROM PAGE 2

Connolly. "He's a guy of true conviction." Bouie and Connolly each attended seminary earlier in life, and each ended up pursuing a different sort of public service.

"HE'S GOT A PASSION for parks," said Bouie. "He uses our parks and trails. He's the father of the Cross County trail. It was his vision to connect the entire county."

More than the parks and rec centers, Bouie said a needs assessment found trails were the Park Authority's most in-demand amenity. The full trail now touches every magisterial district in the county, "which is no easy feat," said Bouie.

"Gerry, along with the trail advocates, heard that message loud and clear. He went into action to make sure we were able to provide such an amenity."

Another, more expansive, example of what Bulova said is Connolly's "commitment to getting things done" is the first phase completion of the \$5.6 billion Metro Silver Line rail extension.

"WITHOUT HIM we wouldn't be here today," said Richard Sarles, Metro's CEO and general manager, at the July 26 ribbon-cutting in Reston.

Bringing the vision of the new rail to life was a lengthy process, spanning Connolly's time as an elected official, across various levels of government.

"There was period of time when the project was in danger of falling apart again because of funding issues and discord on the [Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority] board," said Bulova. "Gerry moved the Silver Line forward during a really rocky time."

"I had real clarity," said Connolly, "I can't imagine our future without it. We have to have this. I think it's a transformative investment that's going to change the Dulles corridor and anchor this part of northern Virginia to the core of Metro. That's absolutely essential for our economic future."

He didn't do it alone, but what colleagues describe as his "personable" and appropriately "light-hearted" and "serious" demeanor helped him engage across party lines and public offices.

"He had a lot of interaction with Secretary [of Transportation Ray] LaHood and Congressman Wolf, in bipartisan fashion," said Eileen Filler-Corn, Virginia House delegate from the 41st district. "Just focusing on trying to reduce the cost."

Working together with LaHood, Wolf, 8th District representative Jim Moran and senators Warner and Kaine, Connolly and company secured a \$1.9 billion TIFIA (Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act) loan from the Department of Transportation for the second phase of the Silver Line.

"A lot of people go into politics to make a point," said Filler-Corn. "I think Gerry goes into politics to make things happen."

"My philosophy about being in this job is making a difference," Connolly said, "getting something done for people, for my com-



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

Local, state and national officials at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Silver Line July 26 this year. Connolly (far right) was instrumental in bringing the project to completion. "Without him we wouldn't be here today," said Richard Sarles, Metro's CEO and general manager.



Howard Springsteen (left) of the Vienna Town Council and U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (right) hand out plastic fire helmets in front of a 1946 fire truck at the Oct. 4 Oktoberfest in Vienna.

munity."

Del. Mark Keam (D-35) jokingly said Connolly's constant presence around his district makes constituents "spoiled." "I see him probably one to two times per week," said Keam. "Most people know him by name. He's the epitome of a representative."

Part of Connolly's vision philosophy derives from the WWII-era Lutheran minister and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer. The minister died in a Nazi prison, having challenged the conviction of a collapsing arts, academic and religious establishment.

"How passionately do you believe in what

you say you believe?" said Connolly. "He had clarity about that in a very difficult time. It took a lot of courage and he gave his life for it. That was a profound insight to me."

THOUGH HE DIDN'T ENTER the clergy, Connolly made humanitarian work an early priority in his time on the Board of Supervisors, committing to end homelessness in Fairfax County. He led the adoption of a homeless coordinator and housing initiative, part of a systematic policy.

Louis Crandell was a Fairfax County waste

"Most people know him by name. He's the epitome of a representative."

— Del. Mark Keam (D-35)

water lab tech before a work-related fall left him with frontal lobe brain damage, living on disability compensation. Crandell spiraled downward with substance abuse after charges filed against him in North Carolina cost him his benefits. He found himself living in a tent in the woods.

Linda Wimpey, founder of the homelessness outreach organization FACETS, recommended Crandell meet Connolly and ask for help.

"I tell you, it was like magic," said Crandell. "It's a direct result of Mr. Connolly that I'm not on that forest floor right now."

Connolly and his constituent services staff investigated Crandell's charges (which were ultimately dropped) and insurance situation, and helped Crandell find another job and subsidized housing. Crandell now volunteers with FACETS and at First Baptist Church on Braddock Road.

"He was so pleased with this whole set of initiatives that bettered his life," said Connolly, "that came into our office and framed it as 'I am a walking advertisement for all you were advocating.' It works."

"He says his door's always open," said Crandell. "That's literally the truth."

PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

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The Family That Plays Together ... Needs New Space

Innovative Great Falls solution with art studio meets needs of three generations.

BY JOHN BYRD

“A home is a machine for living in,” architectural pioneer Eduard LeCorbusier said in the 1930s, by which he meant good residential design should meet current lifestyle requirements, yet retain enough flexibility to readily transition into a place that supports newly arising needs.

Design consultant Mindy Mitchell, concurs on some basic principles.

“You want a solution that fully responds to everyday needs,” Mitchell says. “But it’s also useful to consider how you might be re-using key spaces from time to time, or even a decade from now.”

This may be especially true in a “creative” household, Mitchell adds, where the goal is fostering an environment that organically responds to all sorts of overlapping projects..

Case in point: the recently re-invented lower level plan to the Great Falls home of Lesley and Tim Hackman, two long-term residents now actively involved in the community’s burgeoning art scene.

Looking around the sunny family play space, which will be featured in the upcoming remodeling home tour Oct. 17-19, it’s a little hard to imagine that last year the Hackmans were scarcely using the suite at all.

Recently retired, Tim was free from professional obligations. The couple’s two



PHOTO COURTESY OF MITRO HOOD

In the newly designed family entertainment area, a wall-sized console with a flat screen television stretches out in front of an L-shaped “viewing” couch. A fully stocked beverage center is on the opposite wall convenient to an outside patio.

daughters were out of the house, raising families of their own. Like most empty-nesters, the Hackmans were idly wondering how to better use a spacious home designed for past needs.

“We had been talking about upgrading some rooms, but weren’t using the lower level for much more than laundry and storage,” Lesley recalls. “All the light in the entire suite originated from windows and doors on the rear [side of the house], so the interior rooms were too dark. Still, we hadn’t gotten too far into an actual plan.”

Then an unexpected turn brought latent remodeling considerations to the fore: last spring the entire lower level was flooded by three inches of water when a sump pump failed; it was a situation that could not be ignored.

“One way or another, we knew we were

going to have to do something about it,” Lesley said.

A professional organizer as well as a space planner, Mitchell has been working with Sun Design Remodeling for close to a decade.

“I’m generally the point person and *de facto* project manager,” Mitchell said. “My job is to help owners get a clear idea of what they’re looking for so that the design process is focused and on-track from start to finish.”

This is especially critical, Mitchell notes, when the makeover needs to satisfy a diverse agenda.

Lesley wanted functional studio space for her quilting and photography, but she had also decided to babysit two of her grandchildren three days a week, a commitment that would require work stations for arts

Details

Visit the Hackmans’ remodeled lower level during the Great Falls Studio Tour, Friday-Sunday, Oct. 17-19, 1-5 p.m. daily. Visit greatfallsstudios.com/tour.php or www.SunDesignInc.com or call 703-425-5588.

and crafts projects as well as kitchenette suitable for the occasional cooking lesson.

They wanted a media center large enough for the extended family (both daughters live in the metro area), and places to prepare and share a meal with easy access to an adjacent outdoor patio and backyard barbecue.

On an entirely different note, the lower level still had to perform its duties as the family laundry room. And it should also provide quarters for the occasional sleep-over guest.

“It’s when an agenda becomes more specific that space planning really needs to be thoughtful and precise,” Mitchell says.

The existing full bath is enlarged and upgraded into something suitable for overnight guests while one wall of the studio now accommodates a handsome custom cabinet that conceals a comfortable Murphy bed. The redesigned “all purpose room” (laundry/kitchenette/dining table) now features a full-sized refrigerator, microwave and dishwasher.

Lesley Hackman says the makeover has proven to be a perfect solution in this newly active phase of her life.

“I can spend the morning or afternoon working on art projects and helping the grandchildren. Then take a hot bath. It’s a great environment,” she said. “I’m really glad we created it.”

Planting for Fall Planning your autumn garden and yard.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

As the first few weeks of fall unfold, carrying with them the promise of rich and vibrant colors, many local residents are starting to plan their fall gardens, both ornamental and edible. Pruning and overall garden cleanup will make way for fall plants. In fact, this is the perfect time to clear away summer foliage and plant, horticulture gurus said.

“Because the ground is still warm and air is cool, there is less transplant shock for plants when you take them out of the con-

tainer to plant them,” said Kelly Grimes of Good Earth Garden Market in Potomac, Md. “Now is a great time to put in a landscape.”

The first step is preparing the ground. “You have to amend the soil; that is mixing in compost and soil so the plants’ roots can grab a hold of the soil with compost,” said Grimes. “That really helps any planting.”

Katia Goffin of Katia Goffin Gardens in McLean, Va., likens planning a garden to putting together a puzzle. “Everything has to [look] like it belongs,” she said. “It’s about designing your bed line so it enhances your property, versus ‘I stuck this in my garden and doesn’t it look good?’”

Take a few minutes and actually plan out your garden because no matter what you decide to plant for fall, an aesthetically appealing garden starts with an effective strategy. “It is getting a good plan together,” Goffin said. “It is a question of scale and putting it together right. You have to look at your plot of land and decide where you want plants to go and how you want it to look.”

FOR DECORATIVE GARDENS and yards, mums and pansies are among fall’s

SEE PLANTING, PAGE 7

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THE MAP

The Studios. The numerals in the red squares correspond to the number given to each studio. The numbers run roughly from west to east and north to south on the map. At right, you will find an alphabetical listing of the artists by medium, and the number of each artist's studio. These numbers will also be found on the road sign nearest the studio. Wheel chair access is marked , hands-on activities marked .

Sun Design venue. The yellow-and-brown sun icon  corresponds to a location where Sun Design is showcasing home renovations. Join Sun Design and Children's Author and Homeowner, Lesley Hackman for a remodeled home tour, 735 Forest Park Road.

THE ARTISTS

Studio Tour Headquarters #12 

Digital Artists

Walt Lawrence.....#19
Terri Parent.....#19

Fiber Artists

Dory Emmer.....#26
Cindy Grisdela.....#19
Vad Moskowitz.....#3

Jewelry Designers

Jorge Adler.....#15
Donna Barnako.....#19
Richard Masaniello.....#26

Layered Paper Artist

Ronni Jolles.....#19

Mixed Media Artists

Roberta Pruett Beasley.....#19
Penny Burk.....#21
GuruSangat Khalsa.....#20
Heidi Mraz.....#10

Painters

Naz Akbar.....#13
Leslie Anthony.....#14
Jill Banks.....#19
Karen Bateman.....#9
Hwa Crawford.....#18
Coty Dickson.....#14
Jennifer Duncan.....#17
Elaine Elmsky.....#19
Robert Gilbert.....#24
Lori Goli.....#11
Layla Gray.....#14
Yeganeh Hejazi.....#19
Carol Howard.....#19
Yiyun Huang Huff.....#7
Linda Jones.....#26
Tina Learned.....#19
John McCabe.....#19
Begoña Morton.....#4
Pat Neuman.....#8
Ann Noel.....#11
Vandana Pamecha.....#25
Gali Pean.....#14
Jay Pigeon.....#11
Lockini Rumburg.....#1
Judith St. Ledger-Roty.....#19
Lisa Tureson.....#19

Photographers

Jan Bender.....#2
Robin Kent.....#22
Dee Leggett.....#11
Silvia Gonzalez Roman.....#18
Dean Souleles.....#23

Potters

Barbara Gatterdam.....#16
Laura Nichols.....#9

Printmakers

William Tutthill.....#6

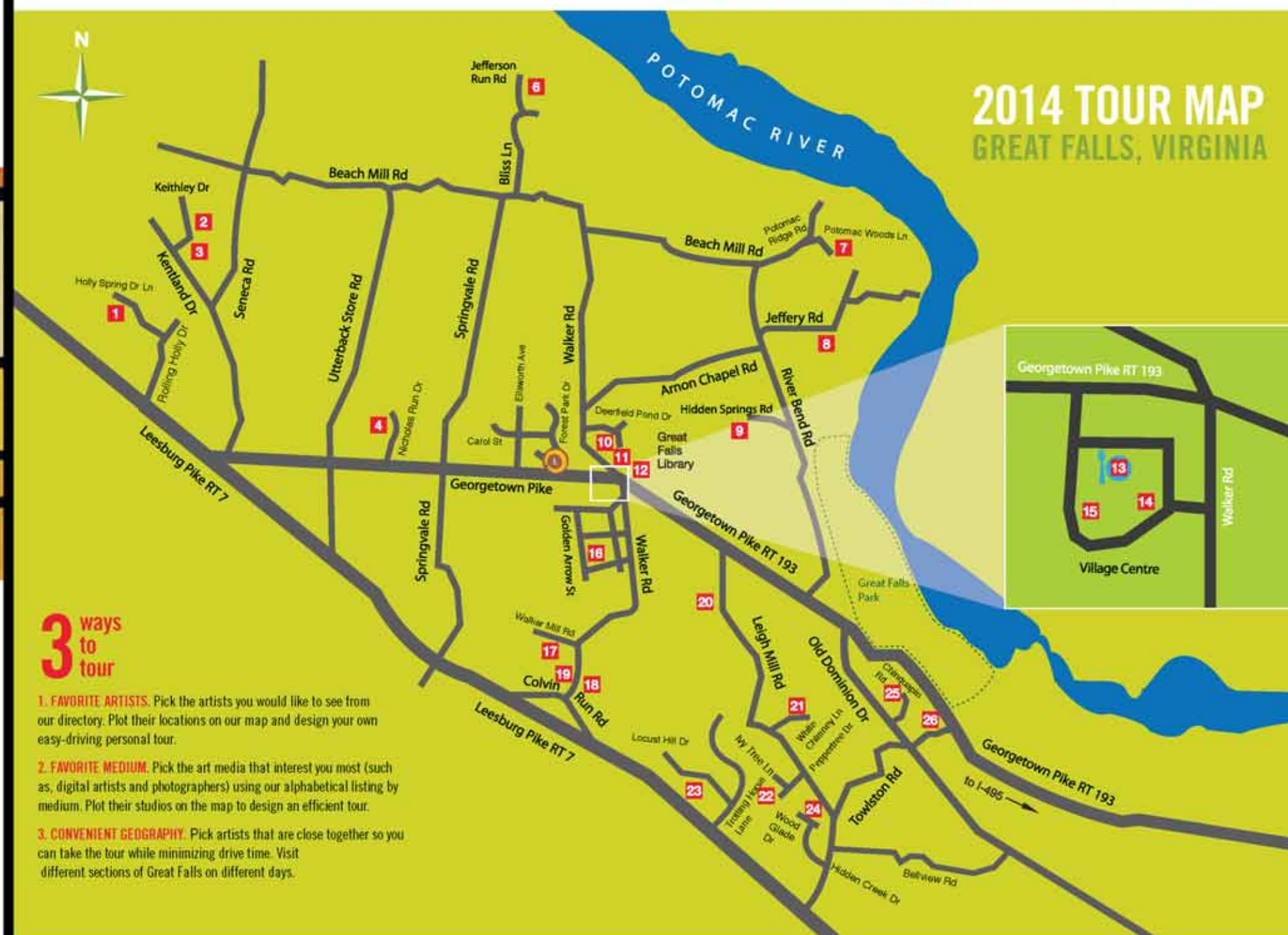
Wood Carver

Michael Long.....#20

Great Falls School of Art.....#19

The Old Brogue.....#13

Most artists are open for all 3 tour days. Refer to the full brochure available at all studios for exceptions.



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3. CONVENIENT GEOGRAPHY. Pick artists that are close together so you can take the tour while minimizing drive time. Visit different sections of Great Falls on different days.

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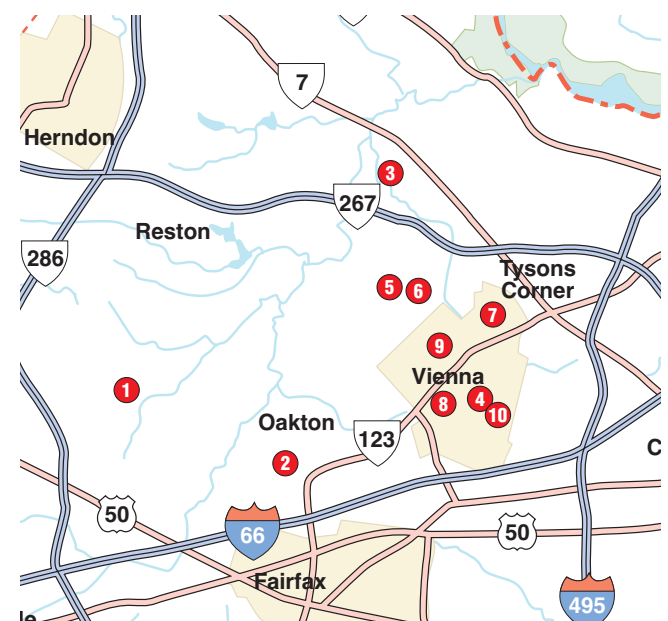
6 1862 Brothers Road, Vienna — \$1,500,000



4 900 Glyndon Street SE, Vienna — \$1,574,482

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1 11797 STUART MILL RD	5	..	6	..	1	OAKTON	...	\$2,198,430	...	Detached	...	2.92	22124	...	NONE	...	08/15/14
2 3003 WEBER PL	5	..	4	..	1	OAKTON	...	\$1,729,795	...	Detached	...	0.92	22124	...	WEBER PROPERTY	...	08/18/14
3 1359 BLAIRSTONE DR	5	..	5	..	1	VIENNA	...	\$1,665,000	...	Detached	...	0.46	22182	...	MAYMONT	...	08/27/14
4 900 GLYNDON ST SE	5	..	4	..	1	VIENNA	...	\$1,574,482	...	Detached	...	0.32	22180	...	DIANE MANOR	...	08/26/14
5 9519 FRANCIS YOUNG LN	5	..	4	..	1	VIENNA	...	\$1,510,000	...	Detached	...	0.36	22182	...	FRANCIS YOUNG ESTATES	...	08/14/14
6 1862 BROTHERS RD	5	..	6	..	1	VIENNA	...	\$1,500,000	...	Detached	...	2.65	22182	...	ANKER OAKS	...	08/29/14
7 1102 WESTBRIAR CT NE	5	..	5	..	1	VIENNA	...	\$1,489,900	...	Detached	...	0.51	22180	...	WESTBRIAR CC HILLS	...	08/28/14
8 206SW CHERRY ST	5	..	5	..	1	VIENNA	...	\$1,415,140	...	Detached	...	0.25	22180	...	WEST VIENNA WOODS	...	08/28/14
9 330 SHERWOOD DR NE	6	..	6	..	2	VIENNA	...	\$1,395,000	...	Detached	...	0.30	22180	...	SHERWOOD MANOR	...	08/07/14
10 302 ADAHIRD SE	5	..	5	..	1	VIENNA	...	\$1,340,000	...	Detached	...	0.26	22180	...	IRIS MANOR	...	08/15/14

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Fall Plants

FROM PAGE 3

best flowering plants. "Mums need full sunlight to open and come in obvious, bold fall colors," said Grimes. "Pansies will take part sun, are a great color and will continue to bloom through spring."

Yarrow, asters, sedums, Lenten roses, and coral bells are among the fall plants that Jonathan Storvick, natural resource manager at the Office of Sustainability at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., recommends.

"Fall is a great time to plant larger-sized perennials and container shrubs," said Storvick. "It also happens to be the time of year when nurseries are trying to get rid of a lot of their stock, so you can find some great deals."

For example, said Joel Cook of Merrifield Garden Center, in Fairfax, Merrifield and Gainesville, Va., "Burning bushes have beautiful fall colors like orange and fire red. As far as trees, maples like Japanese maples, sugar maple or black gum maple have beautiful colors."

Another eye-catching option is the yellow twig dogwood. Its "bright yellow branches and twig color ... are also fantastic for winter," said Mark White of GardenWise in Arlington, Va.



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Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Clifton residents to hold tour of remodeled homes to benefit widow.

Neighbors help each other. That's what communities have always been about. Long-time Clifton resident Bob Gallagher is rallying his friends and peers to help his neighbor Elsa Armendaris.

Armendaris, a mother of seven, needs funds to repair the badly deteriorated driveway to her home, which is also a local day care center. To help out, Gallagher, who is a principal at Sun Design Remodeling, has organized a tour of three newly remodeled Clifton homes, each the handiwork of a different remodeler.

"The homes are all pretty spectacular in

their own right," Gallagher says. "We've found that homeowners really enjoy seeing what their neighbors are doing. But this is also about helping a local person in need; that's the sense of community which Clifton has always exemplified."

In addition to showcasing a home recently renovated by Sun Design Remodeling, the tour will feature recent work by Daniels Design and Remodeling and Kohlmark Group Architects and Builders, all active in Clifton and environs for years.

Tim Reed of Tibbs Paving will be donating the labor, equipment and trucking needed for the driveway re-paving.

A native of El Salvador, Armendaris lost her husband, David, to leukemia six years ago and, as the sole means of her family's support, decided to set up her home as a day care center.

Since it was convenient to nearby Clifton Elementary, parents would leave their children with Armendaris before and after school. But when Clifton Elementary closed in 2010, the day care center lost more than half its students. Not long after that, the winding asphalt driveway leading to the house began to seriously deteriorate.

That's when her friend, Christina Gallagher, whose children had attended the

day care center, offered to ask her husband, Bob, for ideas.

"I just thought there must be a way that a community as old and close-knit as Clifton could help one of its own," said Bob Gallagher, who grew up in Clifton where his father practiced medicine. "My company has learned a lot from doing our own home tours, so a coalition of remodelers already active in Clifton seems like a logical way to reach out to the community."

Remodeler's Charity Home Tour, Nov. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.RemodelersCharityHomeTour.com or call 703-425-5588 for more.

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