

Strolling in the Rain at Vienna's Church Street

NEWS, PAGE 4

Making Plans for Vienna's 125th Anniversary

NEWS, PAGE 5

Community Center Renovation Details Revealed

NEWS, PAGE 8

Claire Verderese of Vienna spending time with Santa during the traditional Church Street Stroll on Monday, Dec. 1.

Free Estimates
Now's A Great Time for Your Landscape Project!

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

Tree Clearance Sale
30% OFF
All Trees 2013 & Prior

Rare, Hardy Bonsai
Kingsville Boxwood
25% OFF

Just Arrived!
Christmas Trees, Greens and Poinsettias

60-75% Off Pottery
Lowest Prices Since 2008!

Fragrant, blooming Citrus Plants 10% Off

FREE Fill Playground Chips & Organic Compost **\$29.99 cu. yd.**


Bagged, Shredded Hardwood Mulch \$3.49

Bulk Mulch \$24.99 cu. yd.

Cravens Nursery & Pottery
9023 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, Virginia
2 miles west of I-495 on Rt. 50.
1 mile from I-66 (Vienna Metro)
703-573-5025
Open 7 days a week
Visit our new Web site: www.cravensnursery.com

Follow us:   

Retirement living that's active and engaging



Vinson Hall Retirement Community is a well-respected, nonprofit CCRC located in McLean, VA offering independent residential living for military officers, their immediate family and select government employees of equal rank.

An **expansion** is underway to add 75 expansive, elegant independent living apartments and a community building featuring a short-term rehabilitation center.

VINSON HALL RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
supported by Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation
6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA 22101
Please visit us at www.vinsonhall.org 703-536-4344




garai
ORTHODONTIC SPECIALISTS
BracesVIP.com





Dr. Allen S. Garai

- Specialist in Orthodontics
- Diplomate, American Board of Orthodontics (Board Certified)
- Premier Preferred Invisalign Provider 2012, 2013 and 2014
- Attending Faculty— Orthodontic Department Children's/Washington Hospital

"BEST ORTHODONTIST"
Washingtonian Magazine
Families Magazine
"TOP ORTHODONTISTS"
Northern Virginia Magazine
Virginia Living
Health & Beauty Magazine

invisalign, invisalign teen and AcceleDent
At our iBracesVIP Center

Commitment to Excellence

- Our Promise to treat your teen with braces at **No Additional Cost** if invisalign does not satisfy our orthodontic standards
- **Latest Technology**
- **ITERO** laser scanner - No more messy impressions
- **AcceleDent** - up to 50% shorter treatment
- A **Board-Certified Orthodontic Specialist** to diagnose and treatment plan every case

Vienna
427 Maple Ave, West
Vienna, VA 22180
703-281-4868

Great Falls
9912D Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, VA 22066
703-281-4868

VIP
@ garai orthodontics

What are the needs and priorities of the homeless in Fairfax County this winter?

Jolie Smith, director of development, Shelter House:

"Housing. Affordable housing. We always need hygiene products. One thing people don't realize is that with food stamps you can't buy any hygiene products. So, we always ask people to give shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrush. Gift cards. A gift card from CVS can help people buy medications they may need. Gift cards are always in need. Think about what you need and those are the needs of our families."



Joe Meyer, executive director, Shelter House:

"This is a community that really cares about the issue that we have—homelessness and domestic violence. For a community to come together is one of the biggest things that I want to see this winter."



Scott Covino, board member, Shelter House, and daughter Lauren, 10, of Leesburg:

"It's getting the folks who need the help, help. It's usually trying to identify folks and make sure that they are in the system, that they're being recognized and make sure that they are not just out there on their own. And communicating that there are places they can go and things that they can do to help themselves. And we can help them do that."

Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D-Va):

"We need to make sure that this winter, which is expected to be a very tough winter, that we have the shelter for folks to make sure they can [have] shelter, they can have food, they can have healthcare. We need to do our part to provide for those individuals who need help today."



Brian Ricks, director, Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter:

"The biggest issue is affordable housing in Fairfax County. We are a rapid re-housing program. However, though, rents are really high in Fairfax and we have a lot of families that are low-income that may need additional support in housing. The biggest need is fair market housing in Fairfax."



— ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO

Gov. Terry McAuliffe carves the turkey served to families at Shelter House on Thursday, Nov. 27, in Fairfax.



PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO/THE CONNECTION

Homelessness, A Year-Round Issue

Gov. McAuliffe serves Thanksgiving lunch at Shelter House.

BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO
THE CONNECTION

"Do you like the stuffing? I made it," said Gov. Terry McAuliffe on Thanksgiving, as he mingled with guests of Shelter House. Earlier, the governor donned a hairnet and served lunch to invited clients and residents at the Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter in Fairfax.

"Fairfax County does an excellent job in providing for those who need shelter, who need food," said McAuliffe. "I was so honored to come out here with my family to show our support and give back a little bit." Though he said we all have something to be thankful for, there are those who are really in need.

Mo, his wife, and their two children arrived at the family shelter the night before. He was working two full time jobs when he got hurt at work. He lost one job and started falling behind on his bills. "It was just me providing for my family and I couldn't do it anymore," he said. He has been in the U.S. for 15 years, emigrating from West Africa. "I've never been in the shelter. Most of the time people talk about the shelter, and it's, like, you know, you are somebody who doesn't want to work. And, I'm not like that."

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT Jolie Smith said Mo's situation is very common. "Really, all they need is a hand up not a handout." With the help they receive, she has witnessed people bounce back. "A couple of month's rent, a secu-

rity deposit and they're off and running," she said.

But there are those whose needs require more than financial help. "Thanksgiving, you're supposed to be with your friends but right now, I cannot be with my family and friends," said "Lee" (name changed for security). Lee fled from domestic violence and her husband does not know where she is staying. "He kind of knows I'm in a shelter. He knows I have no friends, no relatives. He pushed me out. Where am I supposed to go?"

Lee never called the police because her husband was the only one working in the family. "Since I got married, I kind of lost myself. I used to be very confident...go to work. But I have been a housewife for eight

years. I don't know what I can do." Lee left her children with her husband, while she regains her independence and learns to be self-sufficient. "I want to get custody of them. I want to fight for them," she said.

McAuliffe visited the tables of the families he served and took photographs with them. Jennifer Erazo posed with him and nervously forgot to ask her question about housing for people with disabilities. "There's a lot of housing for low funds, domestic violence. There should be more for people with mental disabilities," she said. She is dealing with mental health issues and domestic violence.

LAST SEPTEMBER, McAuliffe announced his measure to expand healthcare services to over 200,000 Virginians. Through a series of executive actions, the plan includes care and coverage for people with mental illness. The plan was a reduction from a more ambitious one that was thwarted by the General Assembly when it shot down the expansion of Medicaid in the commonwealth. He said that about \$26 billion of Virginia taxpayer money has gone to Washington, D.C. and the commonwealth has a right to bring that money back. "It's unconscionable that we're not doing that," he said.

About 26.2 percent of sheltered homeless persons have a severe mental illness, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. But although mental illness may contribute to homelessness, the lack of low-income housing is the predominant cause of homelessness, according to a 1994 study by Shinn and Gillespie published in American Behavioral Scientist.

November is homelessness awareness month. Shelter House executive director Joe Meyer said that homelessness is not just a holiday or a seasonal issue. "It's a year-round issue that we need to address."



A father and son pray before eating their Thanksgiving meal, served at the Katherine K. Hanley Family Shelter by Gov. Terry McAuliffe on Thursday, Nov. 27, in Fairfax.



Visitors enjoying music under the rain during the traditional Church Street Stroll on Monday, Dec. 1.



PHOTOS BY TERRANCE MORAN/THE CONNECTION

Jon Vrana of Vienna helping in the celebration at historic Freeman store.

Strolling in the Rain at Vienna's Church Street

Residents, neighbors enjoy traditional season kick-off.

It started 18 years ago when the Historic Vienna organization and Vienna merchants decided to close Church Street for one night and bring holiday cheer.

Stores remained open, performers strolled the streets, a stage was set up and singers from local schools entertained the crowds. Santa came and helped Vienna's mayor light up the Christmas tree across from historic Freeman store. Citizens brought canned foods to share with those in need and bonfires were lit to roast marshmallows and warm visitors hands and hearts.

Dec. 1, 2014, was no different than previous years except this year the skies brought rain. But this did not dampen the spirits of those who came together to watch

their children perform on stage, nor delay Santa from arriving to light Vienna's tree.

The center of each year's holiday festivities is Freeman store, located at 131 Church Street N.E. The store was formed as a historic preservation in 1976 by Vienna's Town Council and offers hand-made gifts and holiday items. This year Vienna's Historic society collaborated with artist Rachel Peden, from Farnham, Va. to create and hand-paint 15 historic building replica ornaments. The collectible ornaments are available for sale.

Scottish settlers first settled in 1760 and named the area Ayr-Hill. In 1849 Dr. William Hendrick agreed to settle in Ayr-Hill only if the town's name was changed to Vienna, his hometown in upstate New York. At the time the town of Vienna had 300 residents. Today Vienna's population is 14,000.

The second floor of Freeman's Store is a grand collection of historic paintings, posters, dresses, pharmaceutical items, an organ, and adding machine. Mike Berger, chairman of the Museum Committee, has



Mike Berger of Vienna next to his replica display.



Elves Becca Snyder (left) and Rachel Boyle from Vienna helping Santa.

In period costume he entertained the guests by playing the reconditioned organ from 1920 and the ukulele.

spent countless hours in assembling the display items and enhancing visitors understanding.

Helping in the celebration is Jon Vrana.

—TERRANCE MORAN



The collectible ornaments by Rachel Peden are available for sale.



Visitors to traditional Church Street Stroll on Monday, Dec. 1.

NEWS

Making Plans for 125th Anniversary

Town of Vienna was founded in 1890.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

The Town of Vienna's 125th anniversary is next year, and plans to commemorate it are already beginning. In fact, the Town Council has already allocated \$10,000 for it.

Parks and Recreation Director Cathy Salgado made a list of possible ways the Town could celebrate this historic day. Then she presented it to the Town Council so the members could tell her which ones they liked.

The actual date Vienna was founded was Feb. 28, 1890; and in 2015, it'll fall on a Saturday. But the overall idea is to pay homage to the founding of Vienna by holding special events and doing particular things, all year long. One way in which it could be honored is via a re-enactment on Church Street; and if the weather's good, it could even be held outside.

Another possibility is to have the local businesses stay open one Sunday a month, May through October, while closing a portion of the street for pedestrian strolling, music and a children's activity.

In addition, vertical banners celebrating Vienna and its history could be hung from the tall, light poles

on Maple Avenue. Salgado also said the Town's official crest, or seal, should figure prominently in the celebration. Another idea is replacing the Town Hall's existing weathervane with a new one or having the current one refurbished.

Noting that 25 percent of Vienna's residents are originally from another country, Salgado said they could be highlighted in the Town's newsletter and on the Town website. She said the many longtime residents could be featured, as well.

Another suggestion is that Vienna create a new, Town event in August. It would be a "Dinner in White," to which people would wear white clothing and eat together outside. They'd also sit and eat with people they don't know so everyone could get to know each other better and make new friends.

Yet another idea is to recreate a historic, Vienna horse race on the Fourth of July. Salgado also noted that the Town's official holiday card from 1948 could be revived and recreated.

"The banners would be the biggest cost, but I think they'd look very nice," said Councilwoman Linda Colbert.

"And we could leave them up the

entire year," added Councilman Howard Springsteen.

Salgado said there would be a total of eight banners in the center of Town. The Council members especially liked this idea, and Salgado said she'd look into their design and cost and report back to the Council at a later date.



Salgado

WEEK IN VIENNA

Recycle at Northside

Vienna residents may drop off motor oil, antifreeze and car batteries for recycling on Saturday, Dec. 6, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill St. NE. For more information call the Department of Public Works at 703-255-6380 or visit www.viennava.gov.

Vienna Town Council Meeting

The Vienna Town Council will hold a work session Monday, Dec. 8, at 8 p.m., in the Vienna Town Hall, 127 Center St. S.

Learn about Community Center

Residents may learn more about the Town of Vienna's planned Community Center renovation and expansion at a meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 10, at 7:30 p.m., at the Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E. There'll be a new lobby and entrance hall, relocated W&OD Trail, expanded parking and an 8,000-square-foot gym.

The design will incorporate many elements that'll create a park-like environment, including living walls, rain gardens, a permeable concrete parking lot, a

SEE WEEK, PAGE 8

Bathroom Remodel Special \$6,850

Celebrating 15 Years in Business!

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



**Free Estimates
703-999-2928**



Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
Est. 1999



Our Lady of Good Counsel presents...

Holly & Ivy

A CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE

Saturday, Dec. 6, 10-5
Sunday, Dec. 7, 9-3

Home Décor & Christmas Gifts
Fine Stationery, Jewelry, Ornaments
Childrens' Books & Accessories
Gifts for Baby... and much more!

The Used Book Sale is back!

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church
8601 Wolftrap Rd, Vienna, VA 22182
703.896.7424 • development@olgcv.org

Don't Outlive Your Money

Attend one of our **FREE My Wealth Summit seminars**

It's vital to plan carefully for your financial future. But, as in climbing a mountain, you also need an effective strategy to get back down safely.

At this seminar, there are NO slick sales presentations. Just sensible information about financial strategies.

- Thursday, December 4 at 7 pm
- Saturday, December 6 at 10 am
- Tuesday, December 9 at 7 pm

Class space is limited. **FREE REFRESHMENTS SERVED.** Reservations Required.

\$50 tuition WAIVED for Connection readers: Use code CP1411.

Call 1-800-560-0218
www.my-wealth-summit.com

USA Financial Planning Partners
10640 Main Street, Suite 203
Fairfax, VA 22030
703-821-7676

OPINION

Be Part of Children's Connection 2014

Annual edition showcases youth art and writing.

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

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

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

We welcome student's original ideas. Here are some suggestions:

❖ Drawings or paintings or photographs of your family, friends, pets or some favorite ac-

tivity. These should be photographed or scanned and submitted in jpeg format. Photos of sculpture or larger art projects are also welcome.

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

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

- ❖ Poetry or other creative writing.
- ❖ News stories from school newspapers.
- ❖ Photos and text about activities or events.

We welcome contributions from public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location.

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

Please send all submissions by Dec. 10. The Children's Connection will publish the week of Dec. 27, 2014.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Help! I've Lost Everything!

BY ANN EMMONS PETRI

You may think McLean is a nice, quiet place to live, but you are wrong. In our living room at this very minute lurks an almost invisible menace. It is small and innocent looking but in reality it is the scourge of our lives. Very simply put, it is our laptop computer. It is not what it seems to be. With a mind of its own, it waits patiently for the ideal time to strike.

"Help! I've lost everything!" is Bill's usual panicked response when things go terribly wrong while he's in the process of creating an important document or trying to compose a crucial email. Of course, you know without asking,

that he is expecting me to perform miracles! The trouble is, however, I am not the authority he thinks I am. The sad truth is that I am usually teetering just one tiny branch higher on the Tree of Knowledge. The only sure way I know to fix anything is to turn everything off and start from scratch.

Sometimes this works. But sometimes it doesn't and then we are left with only two options: the first is our trusty son-in-law Dan who is a computer genius and good at explaining things via email or on the phone, and the second is a call to our grandson Brian and his wife Ashley who live nearby and can be counted on to come over and sort it all out.

The trouble with either of these

arrangements is that our temperamental computer acts up fairly regularly and we hate to keep interrupting their busy schedules. And sometimes all three are away on business trips or vacations at the same time. And the worst part is, when we have to appeal to them for help it makes us feel like the two bumbling old fogies we are. Usually it only takes them a minute to explain in a few steps what had seemed like the riddle of the Sphinx to us.

So now, we have developed a totally new strategy. It is incredibly simple. We kowtow to, and humor the all-powerful beast. Whatever it wishes: that is our command. We are no longer masters of our own universe, but who cares?



PHOTO BY BRIAN HENSKE

Bill at the computer: With a mind of its own, it waits patiently for the ideal time to strike.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Meeting a Candidate

To the Editor:

I am not a political person, but I recently attended a young professionals event and met Craig Parisot, Republican nominee running for Virginia House of Delegates, 34th District, and I knew we had a new kind of candidate on our hands.

You think of a politician and you think of the same old tired stump speech, shake hands, swap names, then move on to quickly greeting the next face in the room. When Craig came up to me and initiated our conversation I could tell that this was someone who was eager to learn, listen and lay out a real vision for his candidacy.

He asked what the issues I cared about were, then relayed that he had the same concerns about including our business community in state and local politics, engaging younger people in policy decision making, and The conversation flowed on.

I was particularly impressed with his strong position on reducing regulations and taxes to increase take home pay - now that is true showing of someone who really understands the struggles of those like me who are new to the workforce and trying to scrape by and save up living in a place like pricey Northern Virginia. Even from this first meeting with Mr.

Parisot, I could tell that he would be a great representative for this area.

He is a breath of fresh air, and with him being a young, first time candidate with a business and technology background, he would be a perfect fit for this important House of Delegates seat. I urge anyone who isn't already familiar with Craig Parisot to learn more about him at craigparisot.com, and strongly consider voting for him in the special election for the vacated seat in the 34th District.

Sam Yeganeh
Vienna

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.
Send to:

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.
By e-mail:
vienna@connectionnewspapers.com

Vienna & Oakton CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
vienna@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ❖ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Amna Rehmatulla
Editorial Assistant
703-778-9410 ext.427
arehmatulla@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter ❖ 703-778-9438
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

Donna Manz
Contributing Writer
dmanz@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor ❖ 703-752-4013
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Don Park
Display Advertising
703-778-9420
donpark@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising
703-778-9411
classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com





Adopt/Donate/Volunteer
www.lostdogandcatrescue.org

Join Us For Our Annual
Holiday Remodeled Home Tour!

Saturday, *December 13th*, 2014 10-4pm
1795 Brookside Lane, Vienna, VA 22182



Featured artwork
from Great Falls
Studios artists will
also be on display!



SUN DESIGN

design/build | additions | kitchens | baths | basements | outdoor spaces
703.425.5588 SunDesignInc.com info@sundesigninc.com

MIDDLEBURG REAL ESTATE ATOKA PROPERTIES



CL8447613 **\$10,900,000**
BERRYVILLE - Majestically positioned on the Blue Ridge Mtns, 472 acre (9 parcels) Cassique Farm backs up to Appalachian Trail. 4 bdrm, 4.5 bath home w/ spectacular views, entertainment barn w/ 8 stalls, 2 wash bays, 8 pastures, 8 run-in barns, 6 wells, 4 septic, and 2 ponds.
Peter Pejacsevich 540.270.3835 Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399



FQ8470391 **\$4,300,000**
UPPERVILLE - Brick colonial on 50+ gorgeous acres in Greystone. 9000+ sq. ft. of spectacular living space, 3 finished levels, Heated pool, tennis court & brilliant gardens overlook picturesque pond w/ fabulous mtn views. Private & secluded.
Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacsevich 540.270.3835



LO8269159 **\$2,800,000**
MIDDLEBURG - Beautiful stone home on 40+ acres just minutes from the town of Middleburg. Goose creek runs through the property. 4 bdrm 5 bath house is perfect for entertaining. Exquisite 8-stall stone horse barn with tack room. Additional guest house and lot available.
Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacsevich 540.270.3835



FQ8451130 **\$2,300,000**
BOXWOOD HILL FARM - Exquisite family compound has it all: lovely 1812 farmhouse, HW flrs, pool/pool house, five fireplaces, 9' ceilings, high-speed Internet, unique barn, mtn views, idyllic setting, pond, tennis, skeet. Fenced w/creek.
Walter Woodson 703-499-4961 Alex Woodson 703-608-1776



LO8441685 **\$2,297,000**
STONEBROOK FARM - c.1750 house w/ Stone Addition c.1793 & recent total renovation w/ all of the charm of period home coupled w/ modern amenities. 3 additional guest houses, fantastic horse facilities, riding arena, 8+ stall barn/living space.
Peter Pejacsevich 540.270.3835 Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399



LO8371530 **\$1,899,000**
Spring Grove - 1820 stone home on 46 acres (2 lots). House features beautiful moldings, 6 FP, HW floors, Formal living & dining room, 4 bdrm, 4.5 baths. Bank Barn, 3 ponds, pool & pool house, apt over 3 bay garage. Private location.
Jane Hensley 571-550-2728



LO8175796 **\$1,765,000**
ROBIN CIRCLE, LEESBURG - Stone, brick and cedar estate on 3.54 acres. Heated indoor pool, a sports pub, racquetball court w/ hoop, audio/video system, roof top pavilion. 2, 2-Car garages & caretaker apartment.
Peter Pejacsevich 540.270.3835 Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399



LO8412399 **\$1,495,000**
PURCELLVILLE - Antique brick & stone home on 6.5 beautiful acres w/ mtn views. 7 fireplaces & solid cherry floors. 5 bdrms, 3 1/2 baths. Carriage house wing has two bedrooms/ large living area/kitchen area.
Scott Buzzelli 540.454.1399 Peter Pejacsevich 540.270.3835



FQ8482311 **\$675,000**
MARSHALL, VA - private & convenient turn key 3 br 2 ba just off of Atoka Rd between Upperville & Middleburg! Great kitchen w/ upgraded appliances, HW floors, a new deck & patio as well as a separate 2 car garage w/ loft space!
Ted Zimmerman 540-905-5874



FQ8415944 **\$425,000**
UPPERVILLE - Charming 4 bedroom house in a prime Upperville location! Built in 1840, and tastefully updated with new hardwood floors throughout, great bathrooms and kitchen, and a working fire place!
Laura Farrell 540.395.1680 Peter Pejacsevich 540.270.3835

540.687.6321

Please Consider us for all your Real Estate Needs!!



Be a part of our **Wellbeing** pages, the first week of every month.

Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

Questions? E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431



Bring the Magic of Christmas to Your Home

Collectible Ornaments • Exquisite Ribbon and Merrifield Bows
Custom Wreaths and Centerpieces • Trees and Greens
Poinsettias and Holiday Plants • Great Gifts

Beautiful Decorating Ideas—
MERRIFIELD'S GARDENING ADVISOR
Every Saturday at 8 am on NewsChannel 8

SANTA IS HERE!
Visit merrifieldgardencenter.com for Santa schedules at each location

Available Now at all three locations
The story of Bob Warhurst and the founding of Merrifield Garden Center
A great gift!



Free Seminar – Decorating with Fresh Greens and Flowers
Saturday, December 6 at 10 am at our Fair Oaks Location
Stop by and pick up your Free 2015 Merrifield Garden Center Calendar

MERRIFIELD
703-560-6222

FAIR OAKS
703-968-9600

GAINESVILLE
703-368-1919

Holiday hours: Daily 8 am – 9 pm



merrifieldgardencenter.com

Parking, Trail Plans, Glass and Brick

More details of Community Center renovation are revealed.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Slated to open in April 2016, the enlarged and renovated Vienna Community Center will be a state-of-the-art facility with a new, regulation-sized gym. And on Nov. 17, the Vienna Town Council approved its revised site plan.

When the work's completed, the Community Center will have two main entrances in the northeast corner of the building, leading into a new, 900-square-foot lobby. The current lobby would be transformed into new, administrative-office space.

People will enter the building from both Cherry and Mill streets so they may use both nearby parking lots. A glass corridor will run along the north wall of the existing building and connect the new gym with the new lobby.

A new, 9,115-square-foot, high-school-sized gym will be constructed to the west side of the existing building. It'll be 35 feet high and will contain bleachers and two, 4-foot-wide walking/running tracks (with two lanes) around the perimeter. It'll be striped for basketball, volleyball and badminton courts, and will have two electronic scoreboards.

THE TOTAL ADDITION to the Community Center's north and west sides will be 13,888 square feet and will also allow space for future expansion. The entrance to the existing gym will be via a T-shaped corridor going to it and also to the lobby. The second-floor will receive a new electrical system and revamped classroom space.

At a Nov. 10 Town Council meeting and a Nov. 17 public hearing, Parks and Recreation Director Cathy Salgado presented the latest details of the project.

"The handicap parking is closer to the building," she said. "And at the request of the Planning Commission, we added two electric-car charging stations next to the handicap parking. We fit in as many bike racks as we can, along the sidewalk, because



The Community Center's new gym will have live plantings on the exterior.

many people come to the community center by bike."

Salgado said a crosswalk from the trail connects to the front of the building so people can safely cross the street. Deputy Director of Planning and Zoning Matt Flis said they're adding 57 parking spaces, and Councilman Pasha Majdi suggested adding some for expectant mothers. It's all on-site parking, with another 18 spaces within 400 feet of the facility.

"We combined two parking lots into one," said Salgado. "But the parking-lot work has to wait until the renovations are done; the parking we have now will stay in place until then."

She then showed the Council samples of brick, glass and floor colors and materials. Just a small part of the building exterior will change and, said Salgado, "We've matched the brick exactly and tied it in with the rest of the building to marry the old with the new. And we put the Vienna Community Center sign on the building in the shape of a clock to mimic the [existing] clock tower and retain some of the history and fun of the community center."

She said LED recessed lighting will go underneath the canopy at the building's entrance. Pleased, Councilwoman Carey Sienicki said the place where people enter the facility from the parking lot should be inviting.

Regarding the living wall planned for outside the gym, Salgado said it's to "tell the town we care about our plants and making the Town beautiful. The vines aren't actually on the building, itself, but on a wire trellis. We should pick something native to Virginia that should retain some color over



Artist's rendition of the basketball court inside the new gym.

the winter."

Choosing the proper glass for the building is also important. "We don't want glare for people playing volleyball and basketball," said Salgado. "It's supposed to look gray and will also be energy-efficient; and it'll provide natural light for the hall, gym and lobby areas."

Inside, she said, "We're going to try more long-and-narrow overhead lights, rather than wide, bowl-shaped ones that collect bugs and dust. And I think we need to add some ground lights outside and on the building to light it better than it is now. In the long run, the interior lighting will save us 30 percent on energy costs and will also be dimmable."

Noting that there'll be "a nice gathering space" around the building's two entrances, Salgado said they want to make it special. And the Council members said perhaps some attractive feature or sculpture could go there.

She said they want to place art against the brick in the long hallway, and Majdi suggested using artwork from local students. Salgado said the upstairs hallway where children's classes are held "might be a nice place to do that." Regarding the flooring, she said they'd like hardly any tile and are considering "finished, textured concrete requiring little maintenance," plus carpet for the offices.

"We hope to get this out to bid in early February [2015], with the bid award in early April and groundbreaking May 1," said Salgado. "There'd be at least a 15-month gap between phases one and two."

She said relocating the W&OD Trail will make it safer as it passes by the Commu-

nity Center so pedestrians don't have to cross it to enter and exit the building. "It now goes adjacent to Park Street and the culvert and makes an S curve as it crosses Park," said Salgado. "The trail will be widened to 18 feet, and we're putting in a tear-drop median down the center of the trail on both sides – plus rumble strips at the intersections – to hopefully slow down bikers."

She said they're closing the building's Park Street entrance so they could move the trail to the other side. And at the fire marshal's request, they included a turn-around for a fire truck. The loop in front will remain for buses; and at the Planning Commission's request, there'll be a sidewalk visible from the building for people walking through the parking lot.

DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING, Donna Kourtz, a nearby Center Street resident, said her neighborhood's biggest concern is the increased traffic in the Cherry and Mill streets intersection during and after construction. She said it's already heavily congested and, "At times, Mill Street folks have a hard time exiting the parking lot. Maybe another stop sign on Cherry Street or a three-way stop sign would help."

Mayor Laurie DiRocco said she and other residents could leave comments on the Town Website. "We'll be meeting with local residents Dec. 10 at the Community Center, and you'll all be getting letters in the mail," added Salgado. "Then we'll have monthly meetings, plus a pre-construction meeting with the contractors, to lay out the ground rules."

Local Voice Sings Opera

Danielle Talamantes goes from Vienna to NYC's Metropolitan Opera.

DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Danielle Talamantes' life story sounds like a Hallmark made-for-TV movie. Local girl sings in community, takes her voice to next level in international competitions, is discovered by agent of New York's Metropolitan Opera. Girl understudies for three years and in February, 2015, makes her onstage singing debut there in "Carmen," singing all eight performances when the production resumes in February.

"I feel so ready, so at-home at the Met," said Talamantes. "I just can't wait to be onstage with colleagues I've come to know and love."



Danielle Talamantes

TALAMANTES CHOSE Virginia Tech's Music Department over conservatories because, she said, conservatories seemed too intense of an environment. Besides, she wanted to experience traditional college life. "Turns out that it was the best of both worlds."

In her senior year at Tech, she had a tonsillectomy, but elected to stay in Blacksburg working with a voice coach. She took a year off from college between her undergraduate and graduate school years. When she returned to Vienna after getting her Master's degree from Westminster Choir College, Talamantes knew her voice was still in the developmental state. She started a voice studio in 2001 and worked at Harmonia for a couple of years. She worked at Vienna Presbyterian Church and started her own private studio there.

The bridge between training and making it to the big-time is competitions, national and international ones, and for several years Talamantes competed internationally. It was at a New York City competition in 2009 when one of the judges recognized Talamantes' talent and hired her at The Metropolitan Opera. Her contract has been renewed every year and in February, Talamantes will make her stage debut there as Frasquita in

Bizet's "Carmen."

A coach bus has been chartered to take family, friends and fans of Talamante to her performance at the Met on Feb. 13, 2015. The coach is open to the public with advanced booking. Guests will spend the night in New York and return to Vienna the following day. Rooms have been blocked at the Empire Hotel, 44 West 63rd Street, New York, NY 10023 at a rate of \$209 per night for a deluxe king or a double/double. Reservations for hotel room are made directly with the hotel.

ON NOV. 23, at Vienna Presbyterian Church, Talamantes hosted a CD-release concert and reception to thank her supporters and promote her debut album, "Canciones Españolas," a collection of classical Spanish music – canto lirico - from Spain and Central and South America. "It's in my blood," said Talamantes, whose father's side of the family comes from Mexico. "I think people really need to hear this music."

For her debut album, Talamantes partnered with esteemed classical pianist, Henry Dehlinger, of Vienna. Talamantes admits there was an element of "risk" debuting with a collection of not widely-known Spanish "art" songs, but the Vienna native, a soprano, recognizes the wealth of repertoire available. "Rather than seeing this collection as a risk, I see it as a unique shoe of Spanish canciones," Talamantes said.

Talamantes and Dehlinger met through a mutual friend at Vienna Presbyterian Church about three years ago. After many casual jams in which the two teamed together, they came up with the idea of producing an album.

When she's not touring the country in operas or concerts, Talamantes continues to operate her voice studio in Vienna. Her dreams are falling into place.

To sign up for the Met-bound bus trip on Feb. 13, email leslie3156@aol.com or visit www.daniellelatalamantes.com/.

Santa Picture Day

Saturday December 6, 2014
8AM to 2PM

**Holiday Treats and Refreshments for All.
\$16 Savings in Posh Paws Boutique,
your pets' Holiday Headquarters.**

One 5x7 for \$20.00
Two 5x7 for \$30.00

Like us on facebook
follow us on twitter

Seneca Hill donates all proceeds to local charities.
Seneca Hill Animal Hospital, Resort & Spa
11415 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066
Corner of Leesburg and Georgetown Pikes
703-450-6760
www.senecahillvet.com

Your personal financial goals deserve a *personal approach*

Putting the needs of clients first is the approach we believe in. We'll work with you to find the right financial solutions to help you plan for your unique goals. And together, we'll track your progress over time, adjusting your plan along the way to help get you where you want to go.



Matt Felber
Financial Advisor
133 Maple Avenue East, Suite 306
Vienna, VA 22180
703.766.9300 x10
matthew.t.felber@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/matthew.t.felber



Marie Isabel Laurion, CFP®, CRPC®
Financial Advisor
133 Maple Avenue East, Suite 306
Vienna, VA 22180
703.766.9300 x13
marie.i.laurion@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/marie.i.laurion



Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC.
© 2013 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

WEEK IN VIENNA

FROM PAGE 5

nature-inspired color scheme and areas where people may gather. Work is set to start in 2015.

Join the Holiday Reception

Vienna Mayor Laurie DiRocco and the Town Council invite the public to celebrate

the holidays at the annual Holiday Reception on Friday, Dec. 12, from 4-6 p.m., at the Town Hall, 127 Center St. S. Enjoy the sounds of the holiday season with the Madison High Madrigals from 4:30-5 p.m. and the Vienna Choral Society from 5:30-6 p.m.

Light refreshments will be provided by the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary. It's a free event and an RSVP is not required. For more information, contact the mayor's office at 703-255-6311 or at mayor@viennava.gov.

Help Feed Hungry Families

The Whole Foods store in Vienna has made Our Daily Bread the beneficiary of its "Feed 4 More" program. Through Dec. 31, store customers may purchase a pre-packed bag containing such greatly needed items as pasta and pasta sauce, black beans and canned tomatoes. ODB will then receive these food donations to distribute to its Food Bridge clients.

Leaf Collection in Vienna

Vienna's fall leaf collection will continue through December. Residents are asked to rake their leaves to the curb any time between now and Dec. 31. Leaf piles should be free of limbs, sticks, acorns or other debris which may clog the vacuum hose. Or residents may bag their leaves for collection. Place them in clear, plastic bags or

paper yard-waste bags. For more information, call 703-255-6380 or visit www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?NID=163.

Oakton Farmers Market

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

Maple Avenue Traffic Signals

The Vienna Town Council on Nov. 17 awarded a \$580,000 contract to Arden Co. Public Works Director Dennis Johnson said it's to rebuild both traffic signals at Maple Avenue and Lawyers Road, and at Maple Avenue and Center Street.

CALENDAR

Send announcements to north@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

THROUGH SUNDAY/JAN. 4, 2015

Meadowlark's Winter Walk of Lights. 5:30 p.m. Meadowlark Botanical Garden, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. A winter wonderland, including a flowing stream of softly glowing lights, a two story animated fountain and a Gingerbread Village. Admission: \$13 adults, \$8 children ages 3-12; children under 3 are free.

THROUGH WEDNESDAY/DEC. 24

Santa HQ at Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, Tysons Corner. Visit Santa's Magical Workshop & Observatory, presented by HGTV - for photos and family activities, located in Fashion Court on level one between Nordstrom and Bloomingdale's - beginning November 14th. Reserve your space online to see Santa. Ongoing event.

THURSDAY/DEC. 4

35th Annual Tiny Tots Holiday Concert 2014. 10 a.m. & 7 p.m. James Madison High School, 2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna. The James Madison High School Wind Symphony and Color Guard present an exciting concert celebrating the spectrum of seasonal music. Purchase tickets at: <http://james-madison-band.ticketleap.com/tiny-tots>

Civil Twilight with Special Guest Baby Bee. 8 p.m. The Barns Wolftrap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Stirring alt-rock with impassioned vocals and atmospheric melodies. \$22. 703-255-



Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, off Beulah Road, features more than 500,000 LED lights in its spectacular Winter Walk of Lights Festival. The walking tour of the light displays and scenes opened on Nov. 14 and runs through Jan. 4, 2015.

1900. <http://www.wolftrap.org/Barns.aspx>.
48th Annual McLean Holiday Homes Tour. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tour starts at 1173 Ballantrae Lane. Showcases four distinctive homes in central McLean. \$25 in advance, \$30 on tour day. Sponsored by Woman's Club of McLean. Tickets at Mesmeralda's, McLean; Karin's Florist, Vienna; Great Dogs of McLean; tour houses. Benefits local charities. No children. 703- 556-0197 or www.mcleanwc.org.

FRIDAY/DEC. 5

35th Annual Tiny Tots Holiday Concert 2014. 10 a.m. James Madison High School, 2500 James

Madison Drive, Vienna. The James Madison High School Wind Symphony and Color Guard present an exciting concert celebrating the spectrum of seasonal music. Purchase tickets at: <http://james-madison-band.ticketleap.com/tiny-tots> for

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 5 - 6

Renaissance Feaste. 7 p.m. Capital Church, 10233 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. Langley High School's choirs, including the Madrigals and the Women's Chamber Choir, present Renaissance-style dining and musical event. The holiday celebration features costumed servers, jesters, minstrels, and musicians in a festive "Greate Hall" environment.

Fashioned after a 16th-century gathering of landed gentry, the event offers entertainment and traditional Madrigal songs such as "Masters of This Hall," "Gloucestershire Wassail," and "Deck the Halls."

Tickets adults \$30; student \$20. For more information on the Langley choirs and tickets for the Renaissance Feaste, visit www.langleychorus.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 5-14

Christmas Market & Winterfest. Friday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tysons Corner Center Outdoor Plaza, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, Tysons Corner. Festival will include 30 vendors selling German holiday goods. Plus, mulled wine, German beer, German fare, hot chocolate and coffee. Enjoy the spectacular Christmas tree, entertainment, beer garden and other festive activities. Ongoing event.

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

Holiday Sing-A-Long. 4 p.m. Wolf Trap's Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. No tickets are required, but patrons are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy donation for Toys for Tots. For more information, visit wolftrap.org.

The Nutcracker Tea. 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Boulevard, McLean. Delight in a contemporary twist on the beloved holiday classic while you enjoy afternoon tea, petite sandwiches and pastries. All children will go home with a nutcracker doll and pictures to remember their day. \$79 per person. Event also takes place on Dec. 13 and 20.

Authentic Darjeeling Teas. 1-3 p.m. Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run

Road, Great Falls. From India's Himalayan foothills, the "Champagne of Teas" has recently been granted Protected Origin Status. Taste and compare the unique qualities from the four seasonal flushes and learn why tea garden location can impact the final flavor of Darjeeling teas. Tea infused treats included. Advance reservations and payment (\$30 per person) required through the Mill at 703-759-2771.

Holidays with Santa Paws. 12-2

p.m. Clemyjontri Park, 6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Friends of Clemyjontri, Inc. will join with the Fairfax County Park Authority to ring in the holidays with Santa Paws. There will be holiday-inspired crafts and goodies along with plenty of photo opportunities on the magical grounds of the newly renovated Clemyjontri Park. Bring your Pennies for Clemy and receive a Holiday treat from the Friends. www.friendsofclemy.com.

Holiday Ballroom Dance. 8-9 p.m. Viennese Waltz lesson, 9-11:30 p.m. dance. \$20 for the evening. Colvin Run Dance Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Live music from the Dance-tet playing favorite dance tunes from the 1930s to today. Attire is ballroom casual, everyone is welcome. 703-759-2685 or www.colvinrun.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 6-7

Gingerbread House Decorating Class. 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Boulevard, McLean. Learn to make your own sugary home at a Gingerbread House Decorating Class, taught by The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11



"EXQUISITE THAI CUISINE"

★★★ *Conde Nast Traveler*
"50 Best" *Washington Post*
".. Would be equally hip in Paris, Bangkok or Soho."
The New York Times March, 1998

www.busara.com



Photo by Kenneth M. Wyner

Join Us For Lunch & Dinner

Open Daily: Mon – Sun
11964 Market Street (Reston Towncenter) Reston • 703-435-4188
8142 Watson St. (Tysons) McLean • 703-356-2288

FREE Delivery Available
Please call for details for each location.



The Magic of Christmas Comes to Life

Now - Jan. 4, 2015

Packages from \$259* including UNLIMITED ENTRY to ICE! and a \$100 Resort Credit.**

Book your holiday getaway today!

ChristmasOnThePotomac.com
(301) 965-4000



Conveniently located just 8 miles south of downtown Washington D.C. and across the Potomac River from Old Town Alexandria, in National Harbor, MD. *Valid for one night stay now - 1/8/15. Price is per room, plus tax, resort fee, ticket handling fees and parking for standard accommodations. Not valid in conjunction with groups or other offers. Not retroactive. Package pricing, components, show schedules and entertainment subject to change without notice. **One (1) \$100 resort credit per night, applied upon arrival and valid toward dining or seasonal spa treatments. Other restrictions may apply. Frosty the Snowman TM & © Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. & Classic Media, LLC. Based upon the musical composition FROSTY THE SNOWMAN © Warner/Chappell. Shrek, Madagascar, Kung Fu Panda and all related characters and properties © 2014 DreamWorks Animation L.L.C. Pepsi and Pepsi Globe are registered trademarks of PepsiCo, Inc.

For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Be the first to know – get your paper before it hits the press.

Complete digital replica of the print edition, including photos and ads, delivered weekly to your e-mail box.

Questions?
E-mail: goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com



THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS



Dough-boy ornaments are personalized at purchase. The designs range from traditional holiday to hobby and career interests.

One-of-a-kind Gifts on Display in Vienna

Every Thanksgiving weekend, the Vienna Community Center hosts the three-day juried holiday craft show presented by the Northern Virginia Handcrafters' Guild. Shoppers and browsers come from throughout the region to choose one-of-a-kind handcrafted gifts for friends and family.

— DONNA MANZ



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION
Hand-painted decorative art pieces herald the holiday season.



Customers line up to buy hand-crafted fabric holiday ornaments and home accessories.

Health Fair on Dec. 13

Antioch Christian Church and Everest College Nursing Students will host a fun filled carol sing-a-long and informative Health Fair on Dec. 13. This health fair will be a four-hour Open House event held on Saturday at Antioch Christian Church located at 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna. The fair will have 26 different stations that provide a wide array of health information for women, men, teens, children and the elderly. Topics range from Heart Health Diabetes Disease, Ebola Awareness, Keeping jolly during the holidays to Stranger Danger. Participants will be able

to gather health information, talk with the nursing students about their researched health projects and participate in demonstrations, blood pressure and blood sugar screenings. Participants will be able to obtain a freshly baked treat at the bake sale and participate in four service projects: Food Collection for CHO, winter coat collection, Medical supplies collection for Brother's Brother, and an opportunity to select a toy or outfit to purchase for our Adopted Family Project for a family with 3 school-aged children. Consider participating in one of these service areas when you visit the fair.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

Corner's Pastry Team. The class includes all the ingredients to construct a beautiful gingerbread house as well as a special souvenir. \$75 per child, ages 3 to 12, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Event also takes place on Dec. 13, 14, 20 and 21.

FRIDAY/DEC. 12

Annual Holiday Reception. 4-6 p.m. Vienna Town Hall, 127 Cedar Street S., Vienna. Mayor Laurie DiRocco and the Town Council invite the public to celebrate the holidays at the annual Holiday Reception. Enjoy the sounds of the holiday season with the James Madison High School Madrigals from 4:30 to 5 p.m. and the Vienna Choral Society from 5:30 to 6 p.m. Light refreshments will be provided by the Vienna Volunteer

Fire Department Auxiliary. No cost and no RSVP required. For more information, contact the Mayor's office at 703-255-6311 or mayor@viennava.gov.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 13-14

Visit from Santa. 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Santa Claus will be visiting the Freeman Store. Seated in his special chair next to Historic Vienna's beautifully decorated Christmas tree – courtesy of the Optimist Club and the Ayr Hill Garden Club – he will meet his young visitors and hear their Christmas wishes. Parents (and grandparents) are encouraged to bring their cameras to capture the looks of joy and wonder as the little ones talk to the Man In Red. For information call 703-938-5187 or visit www.historicviennainc.org.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

New Year's Eve in Entyse Wine Bar & Lounge.

9 p.m. to Midnight. The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Boulevard, McLean. Celebrate the New Year with live musical entertainment provided by The Christopher Linman Jazz Ensemble and culinary delights. As the clock strikes midnight, welcome 2015 with a complimentary champagne toast. \$100 minimum food & beverage purchase per person.

THURSDAY/JAN. 8, 2015

Dobet Gnahoré. 8 p.m. The Barns Wolftrap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Discover delicate ballads and sensuous African grooves from this Grammy-winning vocalist, percussionist, and dancer praised as one of contemporary African music's most charismatic talents. \$25-30. 703-255-1900.

NEXT WEEKEND!

SUGARLOAF CRAFTS FESTIVAL.

DEC. 12, 13, 14, 2014
Dulles Expo Center
 CHANTILLY, VA • RT 28 AT WILLARD RD

FRI 10-6
SAT 10-6
SUN 10-5

Tickets \$8 online, \$10 at door - good all 3 days
 Children under 12 and parking free

TICKETS - www.SugarloafCrafts.com

32nd Annual McLean Holiday CRAFTS SHOW

A Juried Arts and Crafts Show Since 1982

Friday-Sunday
December 5-7

Friday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Saturday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
 Sunday: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Admission: \$3 adults, \$1 age 13 and younger.
Good all three days!

Featuring 70 fine artisans from across the country!

- Fiber Arts • Wood • Pottery • Jewelry
- Glass • Holiday Decor • Gourmet Foods
- Paper Art • Photography • Soft Sculpture
- Silhouette Cuttings • Paintings and more!

The McLean Community Center
 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
 703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org/special-events

SPORTS

Oakton Girls' XC Places 4th at Nike SE Regional

Madison harriers compete at Foot Locker South.

The Oakton girls' cross country team, which captured its second straight VHSL 6A state championship on Nov. 15, finished fourth at the Nike Southeast regional meet on Nov. 29 in Cary, N.C.

The Cougars posted a score of 176. Blacksburg (Va.) won the event with a score of 86, followed by Western Cary (N.C., 106) and Lake Braddock (143), which placed runner-up in 6A at the VHSL state meet.

The top two teams and the top five unattached individuals qualified for the national meet on Dec. 6 in Portland, Ore.

Sophomore Casey Kendall led the way for Oakton, finishing 15th with a time of 18:07.7. Sophomore Leya Salis finished 24th for the Cougars with a time of 18:16.7. Senior Allie Klimkiewicz finished 35th

(18:30.4), freshman Kira Buttrey was 80th (19:01.7) and junior Jill Bracaglia finished 97th (19:19.3).

Patriot High School sophomore and VHSL state champion Rachel McArthur won the individual competition with a time of 17:16.

Klimkiewicz (third), Kendall (fourth), Salis (11th) and Buttrey (15th) earned all-state honors at the VHSL state meet.

Members of the Madison girls' cross country team competed at the Foot Locker South regional meet on Nov. 29 in Charlotte, N.C.

Madison sophomore Devon Williams finished 24th with a time of 17:57. Senior Amanda Swaak came in 28th (17:59), junior Morgan Wittrock finished 36th (18:08), senior Laura Sullivan took 93rd (18:48) and junior Catherine Stone finished 136th (19:31).

Ryen Frazier, a senior at Ravenscroft School in Raleigh, N.C., won the event with a time of 16:27.

The Madison Warhawks placed third at the state meet. Williams (eighth), Swaak (10th) and Wittrock (13th) earned all-state honors.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Oakton sophomore Casey Kendall, seen during the VHSL state meet Nov. 15, finished 15th at the Nike Southeast regional meet on Nov. 29 in Cary, N.C.

Langley Boys' Basketball Enters 2014-15 with Increased Depth

Saxons have just one senior on the roster.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Second-year Langley boys' basketball coach Scott Newman hopes to build on the success the team experienced near the end of last season, when it finished third in Conference 6 despite a slow start.

Increased size and depth should help the Saxons' cause.

While Langley's roster includes just one senior, Newman said this year's team has the talent to allow him to play 10 or 11 players on a given night rather than the rotation of seven or eight he played last season. Mix in five players listed at 6 feet 3 or taller and Newman is excited for his second year at the helm.

"Our greatest strength is our depth," said Newman, who was a Langley assistant before taking over head-coaching duties last season. "... It's unlike any team I've coached at Langley."

One big reason for Newman's optimism is 6-foot-4 forward Nate Shafer. The junior is a shot-blocking force at the defensive end and can score in the paint.

"Nate Shafer is just a tremendous shot-blocker and interior defender," Newman said. "... When we're forced to help [on



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Aaron Kim, seen last season, is one of five members of the 2014-15 Langley boys' basketball team with varsity experience.

defense], Nate can [make a difference]. ... Whenever we have a breakdown, having Nate at the back of the defense ... really [helps. He] cleans up a lot of mistakes that we make. ... I would be really surprised if he was not one of the two or three guys in discussion for Defensive Player of the Year in our league."

Along with Shafer, senior guard Alex

Callaghan, junior guard Daniel Salamone, junior forward Chris Miner and sophomore guard Aaron Kim return with varsity experience.

Callaghan will start at point guard for the Saxons. Salamone and junior guard Tavon Tarpley are two of the Saxons' top perimeter players.

"[Salamone has] really matured and ad-

"Our greatest strength is our depth. ... It's unlike any team I've coached at Langley."

— Langley boys' basketball coach Scott Newman

vanced his game," Newman said. "He'll be one of our key perimeter threats. ... [Tarpley is] long, he's athletic, he's quick and he's our best perimeter defender. He's also crafty on offense and gets to the rack."

Six-foot-4 sophomore Sami El-Rafey could see significant time at forward. Six-foot-6 junior John Rau provides Langley with additional size in the paint.

Langley opens the season with a home game against Osbourn at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 3. After hosting Herndon on Dec. 5, the Saxons will travel to face rival McLean on Dec. 12.

"The No. 1 thing that I've taken away from my first year going into my second year is I'm trying to be much more level as a coach and more consistent and even-keeled," Newman said. "I'm taking an approach to build their confidence and believe in their abilities."

WELLBEING

GMU Chosen To Join Healthy Campus Initiative

George Mason was recognized for its commitment to health and wellness.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

George Mason University's well-being and wellness programs recently received national recognition when the Fairfax-based university was chosen as the first higher education institution in Virginia to join the Healthy Campus Initiative, an effort to encourage colleges and universities to make their campuses healthier by adopting guidelines around food and nutrition, physical activity and programming.

Last month, the Partnership for a Healthier America unveiled the pilot program at the American Public Health Association's annual conference in New Orleans. (Leaders from The Healthier Campus Initiative praised Mason for its commitment to a health and for agreeing to adopt more guidelines on food and nutrition, physical activity and programming in the next three years.

"We are proud and challenged to continue this energy toward a Healthier Campus Initiative," said Bill Ehling, executive director of Mason recreation. "I am continually appreciative of the past efforts and results to provide a genuine sense of a healthier community at George Mason University."

Mason officials point to statistics from The American Public Health Association, which show that during the first year in college, students' overweight and obesity rates increase by more than 15 percent. Additionally, most college students do not meet dietary and physical activity guidelines. PHA officials say, at the same time, the college years are a time when lifelong habits begin to form because most students are making their own choices about healthy eating and fitness.

"As a Mason alumni," said Kerry Ross, director of benefits and faculty/staff well-being, "it gives me



PHOTO BY ALEXIS GLENN

George Mason University's wellness efforts recently earned national recognition for the school.

"It gives me great pride to see our community coming together in the areas of wellness and well-being."

— Kerry Ross, George Mason University

great pride to see our community coming together in the areas of wellness and well-being. Mason has demonstrated its commitment to these initiatives for years with opportunities like the annual Health and Fitness Expo, Wellness by Mason, the Well-Being Learning Community, and now our strategic goal of becoming a Well-Being University. We are honored ... to take that commitment to a new level as a partner in the Healthier Campus Initiative under the auspices of The Partnership for a Healthier America."

The Partnership for a Healthier America was created in 2010 in conjunction with first lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! Campaign with a goal of developing strategies to end childhood obesity.

"We know that going to college is a time of change for many students. We also know that means it's a time when new habits are formed. By creating healthier food and physical activity environments today, campuses and universities are encouraging healthier habits that will carry over into tomorrow," said the partnership's CEO Lawrence A. Soler in a statement.

The Vienna Business Association and the Town of Vienna present

HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2015

December 31

Church Street

Food Trucks 6PM to 11PM

Entertainment 7PM to Midnight

FIRST NIGHT VIENNA

2014

Title Sponsor

urban mattress

Visit These Houses of Worship To Highlight Your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

Welcoming, Diverse, Progressive

ST. ANNE'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH • Reston



8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

Nursery care provided at 10:00 a.m. service

The Rev. James Papile, Rector
The Rev. Laura Cochran, Assoc. Rector

703-437-6530

www.stannes-reston.org
1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

450 ORCHARD STREET, NW
VIENNA, VA 22180
703-938-8525
fbcvoffice@verizon.net
www.fbcv.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP, 7:45 AM & 11:00 AM
CHURCH SCHOOL 9:30AM-10:30AM
MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM

A HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!



Our Thanks to Our Customers for
Their Support Throughout 2014.
We Look Forward to Serving
Your Flooring Needs in 2015.

VIENNA FLOORS

ESTABLISHED IN 1984

208 DOMINION ROAD • VIENNA, VA

HARDWOOD-CARPET-WOOD LAMINATES-CERAMIC TILE-SHEET VINYL

703-938-3160

WWW.VIENNAFLOORS.COM

Providing Free Estimates Since 1984

Since It Ain't Broken...

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Apparently, at least in the near term, we're (meaning my oncologist) not going to fix it. And by fix it, I am referring to my chemotherapy infusion, which will continue to be every three weeks, as it has been for almost six years; save for a year or so when I was able to take pills at home, and on-site infusions were not necessary. Last week, at my most recent face-to-face appointment with my oncologist, given my higher-than-hoped-for creatinine levels, (which led to a one week's delay in my regularly scheduled infusion), I had inquired about extending my infusion interval to four weeks to give my kidneys a break. Considering the ongoing damage these vital organs have suffered after six years of non-stop chemotherapy, I thought – to quote my deceased father, "that the idea had merit." And it does have merit and my oncologist has always been concerned about the effect. In fact, per his orders, I had seen a nephrologist (a kidney specialist) a few years back. After examining me on multiple appointments, the doctor suggested there was no real need for a return appointment. Though my creatinine levels were abnormally high, her assessment was, considering my pre-cancer/pre-chemotherapy lab work history had been normal, it would likely go back down if we stopped chemotherapy; but since it's highly unlikely that we'll be stopping chemotherapy, given my diagnosis, there was nothing to be done other than watching and managing the levels as my oncologist has been doing. And that's what we've done and I've not been back to see her since.

Nevertheless, it is cause for concern. The kidney is a major organ. As it goes, so might yours truly go, and consequently its affect has been an ongoing theme/point of awareness during my six years of treatment. Fortunately, miraculously maybe (for all I know), a week later the second/rescheduled lab work showed that my creatinine levels had returned to its previous high normal and thus chemotherapy went on/in as semi usual. And thus begins, according to my oncologist, my new normal: I will continue to be scheduled for infusion every three weeks with my pre-chemotherapy lab work completed the Wednesday before the Friday. If my creatinine levels are high, we'll delay, and reschedule the infusion for a week later as happened during this past interval. Now, we didn't discuss what schedule we'd follow if abnormal creatinine levels persist. As has been established during previous conversations between Team Lourie and my oncologist, scenario questions are not helpful and we rarely venture into any what-ifs/what-abouts until absolutely necessary.

But what we did discuss at this last appointment was my future, a little bit. Considering the "shrinkage" written about in last week's column, my oncologist was very encouraged and characterized my treatment going forward as something we're going to be doing for awhile. But he said it so matter-of-fact, that we sort of took it for granted. He didn't really fuss about it and we didn't either. He said it. He didn't really emphasize it. But he meant it. It was all good, that's for sure.

On the way home, my wife, Dina and I reviewed what my oncologist had said and we became even more giddy at what had transpired/been said. It was certainly news with which we could live and that's what we intend to do. I'm not about to look a gift oncologist in the mouth. Since nothing seems broken, I'm not looking to fix anything.

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

ZONE G: • ARLINGTON • GREAT FALLS
• McLEAN • VIENNA/OAKTON

HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CONTRACTORS.com

703-778-9411

ZONE G AD DEADLINE:
MONDAY NOON

ELECTRICAL

ELECTRICAL

K & D ELECTRIC
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting
Ceiling Fans
Phone/CATV
Computer Network Cabling
Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc...

Licensed/Bonded/Insured

Office 703-335-0654
Mobile 703-499-0522
lektrkman28@gmail.com

GUTTER

GUTTER

GUTTER CLEANING
Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

PINNACLE SERVICES
lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est.
email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com
web: lawnsandgutters.com
Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!

IMPROVEMENTS

IMPROVEMENTS

R&N Carpentry

♦BASEMENTS ♦BATHS ♦KITCHENS
Foreclosure specialist/Power washing
♦Exterior Wood Rot More!
Deck & Fence repair, Screen Porches
No jobs too large or small
Free est. 37 yrs exp. Licensed, Insured
703-987-5096

The HANDYMAN
A DIVISION OF NURSE CONSTRUCTION

BATHROOM REMODELING, DRYWALL,
PAINTING, CERAMIC TILE, CARPENTRY,
POWER WASHING & MUCH MORE

You have tried the rest - NOW CALL THE BEST!!
Proudly serving Northern VA - 46 yrs. exp.

Licensed Insured
We Accept VISA/MC
703-441-8811

R.N. CONTRACTORS, INC.

Remodeling Homes, Flooring,
Kitchen & Bath, Windows,
Siding, Roofing, Additions &
Patios, Custom Deck, Painting

We Accept All Major Credit Cards
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic

Phone: 703-887-3827 Fax: 703-830-3849
E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com
www.rncontractors.com

Picture Perfect
Home Improvements

(703) 590-3137

Remodeling Bathrooms, Kitchens & Basements

Exterior & Interior Repair, Painting, Carpentry,
Wood Rot, Drywall, All Flooring, Decks

•FREE Estimates •EASY To schedule
•FAST & Reliable Service •NO \$\$\$ DOWN!

Handyman Services Available
www.pphionfine.com

"If it can be done, we can do it"
Licensed - Bonded - Insured

LAWN SERVICE

LAWN SERVICE

PINNACLE SERVICES, INC.
LAWN SERVICE

**MOWING, TRIMMING, EDGING,
MULCHING & TRIM HEDGES**

Friendly Service for a Friendly Price

703-802-0483

Leaf Cleanup Services

\$45.00 per man per hour
Disposal extra
info@perfectlandscapes.com
703-433-2739

MASONRY

MASONRY

BRICK AND STONE
Custom Masonry
703-768-3900
www.custommasonry.info

Patios, Walkways, Stoops, Steps, Driveways
Repairs & New Installs • All Work Guaranteed

PAVING

PAVING

GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION
Walkways, Patios, Driveways,
Flagstone, Concrete
FREE ESTIMATES
Licensed, Insured, Bonded
703-250-6231

TREE SERVICE

TREE SERVICE

Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

Fall Cleanup...
Tree removal, topping & pruning,
shrubbery trimming, mulching,
leaf removal, planting, hauling,
gutter cleaning, retaining walls,
drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience - Free estimates
703-868-5358

24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:
703-917-6400

Employment: 703-917-6464

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

HAULING

ANGEL'S HAULING
Junk Trash Removal,
Yard/Construction
Debris, Garage/Base-
ment Clean Out,
Furniture & Appl.

703-863-1086
703-582-3709
240-603-6182

TREE SERVICE

ANGEL'S TREE REMOVAL
Brush & Yard Debris
Trimming & Topping
Gutters & Hauling
Angeltreeslandscaping-hauling.com
703-863-1086
703-582-3709
240-603-6182

An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them.
-Werner Heisenberg

LANDSCAPING

JUNK HAULING
Junk, Rubbish,
Homes, Offices,
Commercial,
Yard/Construction
Debris, Lot Clear
out, 24 hrs day,
General Hom Work.

703-520-3205 N-VA

TREE SERVICE

TREE SERVICE

Quality Tree Service & Landscaping
Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured

**Leaf Removal
Gutter Cleaning**

25 years of experience
Free estimates
703-868-5358
24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

EMPLOYMENT

BUSINESS OPP

BUSINESS OPP

TELEPHONE
A great opportunity to
WORK AT HOME!
NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER
No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!
301-333-1900
Weekdays 9-4

TELEPHONE
A great opportunity to
WORK AT HOME!
NATIONAL CHILDRENS CENTER
No sell! Salary + Bonus + Benefits!
301-333-1900
Weekdays 9-4

Operations Manager
Gainesville, VA - Must have Commercial
Plumbing background, excellent
communications, organization, & financial
skills. Seeking Leader with positive
attitude. Must be able to pass background
check & drug test.
Call 571.248.8727 to apply

Educational Internships
Unusual opportunity to learn many aspects of
the newspaper business. Internships available
in reporting, photography, research, graphics.
Opportunities for students, and for adults
considering change of career. Unpaid. E-mail
internship@connec
tionnewspapers.com

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

101 Computers

101 Computers

26 Antiques

26 Antiques

HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

JENNIFER SMITH ♦ Serving the Area Since 1995

- > Speed up Slow Computers
- > Troubleshooting
- > Virus Removal
- > Computer Setup



(571) 265-2038

jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

FALLS CHURCH ANTIQUES

Best Kept Secret of The Metro Area!



Unique collection of antiques and collectibles, including furniture, jewelry, glassware, pottery, sterling silver, paintings, prints and more! Fun home and gift ideas!

Christmas Shop Now Open!

Falls Church Antique Co.

250W. Broad St. Falls Church, Va • 703-2419642

25 Sales & Auctions

25 Sales & Auctions

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

BID ONLINE!

Commercial & Field Food Service

To Include:

Bread Slicers
Motorized Carts
Meat Slicers
Label Printer
Meat Tenderizer
& Much More!

Location:

Fort Myer, VA

Bid Dates:

December 1st - 3rd

Bid Online at:

BidOnSurplus.com

Search For:

21149

Call: 480-367-1300

Beyond the Barn Doors
...vintage home furnishings

HOLIDAY SHOW

Featuring Gifts for the Holidays, home accessories & furnishings that are "old, new & just plain cool!"

December 5th & 6th 9:00 am-5:00 pm

December 7th 10:00 am-3:00 pm

VALE SCHOOL HOUSE • 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton, VA

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

3 RE for Rent

Rent to buy homes available. No qualifying necessary. Downpayment required. Go to www.RentToBuyNOVA.com for full details.

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for antique furniture and mid-century Danish/modern teak furniture, STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, jewelry and costume jewelry, paintings/art glass/clocks. Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790. Email: theschefers@cox.net

29 Misc. for Sale

KENMORE DRYER
\$50 Exc. cond. 703-525-5369

Donate A Boat or Car Today!

BoatAngel

"2-Night Free Vacation!"

1-800-CAR-ANGEL

www.boatangel.com

sponsored by boat angel outreach centers

STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN



21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LIFETIME METAL ROOFING

by VaCarolina Buildings, INC



**100% Financing
Free Estimate
Free Roof Inspection**

**1.800.893.1242
metalroofover.com**

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ABSOLUTE AUCTION

ANTIQUE AUTOS, ROAD TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT
DECEMBER 6 - MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

Buicks, Cadillacs, Pontiacs, Lincolns and Fords from 1929 through 1983. Convertibles, Coupes, Sedans and Woody Wagons. Condition: Professionally restored to good/runs/drives to parts cars. Also selling: Freightliner FL80 road tractor, Cat 977L loader, Pace American Two Car Enclosed Trailer and numerous other items.



For more information, go to woltz.com or call 800-551-3588. VA# 321. 10% Buyer's Premium (13% Buyer's Premium online).

NEWS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATHRIN SWOBODA

Nature Visions' Best in Show in Fine Art: "Delicate Nectar Gatherer" by Kathrin Swoboda.

Exploring the Beauty of Nature

Kathrin Swoboda, of Vienna, received the Nature Visions' "Best in Show in Fine Art" award at the recent 2014 Nature Visions Photo Expo. Her photograph is titled "Delicate Nectar Gatherer." The photograph was taken from her Vienna home. Nature Visions is one of the premier photography expos in Northern Virginia. The expo was held Nov. 14-16 at the Hylton Performing Arts Center in Manassas. "This year there were 1,335 entries from 155 local photographers for our nature and fine art competitions.



Kathrin Swoboda.

The talent and creativity is a joy to behold," said Bill Corbett, McLean Photo Club and President, Nature Visions Photo Expo. Camera clubs and their membership from throughout Northern Virginia and beyond were contributors to the Expo.

"I am a physician turned stay-at-home mom turned amateur nature photographer.

I like exploring the beauty of nature with a camera to capture what can't be seen with the naked eye," said Swoboda. "This award inspires me to seek art in nature," added Swoboda.

BULLETIN BOARD

—DAVID SIEGEL

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

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 3

Human Rights Defenders: Relevant International Law and Strategies. 7:15-9 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. A presentation by David Padilla, international human rights consultant. How lawyers and other activists try to defend victims of human rights violations around the world. www.uucf.org.

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

Region 1 Listening Tour. 9 a.m. Hunters Woods Elementary, 2401 Colts Neck Road, Reston. Superintendent Jane Garza invites students, parents, employees, and community members to join her at the Region 1 Listening Tour Meeting. Garza will discuss school issues and the priorities for Fairfax County schools and listen to ideas, comments, and questions from the audience. Those planning to attend the meeting are asked to please register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/listeningtour2014-15>.

TUESDAY/DEC. 9

Great Falls Citizens Association Meeting. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Dranesville School Board Representative Jane Strauss will be the featured speaker. Strauss will speak to residents about current local schools issues, including school renovations and the annual budget process. She will take questions following her remarks. Also participating in the program will be the four PTSA presidents from Forestville, Great Falls

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 10

Expansion and Renovation Meeting. 7:30 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, SE, Vienna. Learn more about the Town of Vienna's planned Community Center renovation and expansion. The Vienna Community Center, originally built in 1966, is one of the town's most vital sites. The renovation is slated to begin in 2015 with funds budgeted from two Capital Improvement Plan periods. Further community update meetings will be held as plans progress.

Herndon Bus Operations Facility Meeting. 7 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. A meeting held to present the proposed renovations to the Herndon Bus Operations Facility.

League of Women Voters Meeting on Fairfax Schools. 7:30-9 p.m. Reston Art Gallery at Heron House, Lake Anne Plaza. Later high school start times and full-day Mondays: what do these mean for the rest of the Fairfax school calendar and schedules for students and parents? Free, open to the public (men and women), call 703-757-5893. Background papers at www.lwv-fairfax.org.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/DEC. 19-20

Citrus Sale. Friday: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday: 8 a.m.-noon. American Legion, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Proceeds used to support veteran needs, local community, youth, and patriotic activities. Seedless Grapefruit, and Navel Oranges fresh from Florida. Pure Maple Syrup will be available at all sales. Call 703-356-8259 for additional details and reservations.

For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Complete digital replica of the print edition, including photos and ads, delivered weekly to your e-mail box.

Questions? E-mail: goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Capitol Steps Performs at Shepherd's Center

The sold-out audience was rolling in the aisles when nationally recognized comedy troupe, Capitol Steps, appeared at the 2014 benefit performance for the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV). SCOV serves older adults in Oakton, Vienna, Merrifield, Dunn Loring and portions of Fairfax and Reston.

Founded in 1997, the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna is a volunteer-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing opportunities for adults (50+) to seek rewarding lives and to live independently in their homes for as long as possible. Last year SCOV's services, personal enrichment and volunteer opportunities reached more than 3,000 older adults (50+) in the region.

In 2014 the agency was recognized by the National Volunteer Caregiving Network with their Program of the Year award. In 2012 SCOV was voted the Best Nonprofit of the Year by the Vienna Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Each year more than 200 volunteers at SCOV serve as medical drivers, companion drivers, friendly callers and visitors, health and wellness counselors,



Pictured at pre-event reception are, from left, Jude and Richard Duesterhouse, SCOV Board Chair; Mark Eaton, Capitol Steps; William Kirby, SCOV Board Vice Chair and Nina & Don Kissenger, Homewatch CareGivers of Falls Church, Silver Sponsor.

fundraisers, and grant writers. These volunteers run programs such as Lunch n' Life, Adventures in Learning, trips and outings, special events, and caregivers' support

groups. Services and programs are available to anyone age 50+ who lives in Oakton, Vienna, Merrifield, Dunn Loring and portions of Fairfax and Reston.

The 2014's SCOV Capitol Steps event received additional support from Ready Hands Home Care, Presenting Sponsor and Navy Federal Credit Union, Platinum Sponsor. Additional Sponsorship support was provided by the Estate Planning & Elder Law Firm, P.C.; VLP Financial Advisors; The Law Office of Michele H. Wright, P.L.C.; Booze/Allen/Hamilton; Arden Courts; Ashby Ponds; Heavenly Paws; Home Care Assistance; Homewatch Caregivers of Falls Church; Money & King; Sunrise Senior Living; A First-Class Move; Heavenly Paws; Tall Oaks Assisted Living; Greenspring; The Balch Family; Goodwin House; Fisher Group, LLC; Advent Funeral Home; Arbor Terrace of Herndon; Doc Talker; Garai Orthodontists; Great Falls Assisted Living; Hale, Ball, Carlson, Baumgartner, Murphy, PLC; Title One Settlement Group; The Woodlands; Westminster at Lake Ridge; Vienna Manor and Comfort Keepers.

To learn more about SCOV and how you can support their mission, visit their website at www.scov.org or call Michelle Scott, Executive Director at 703 281-5088, director@scov.org.



YOU'RE INVITED TO REACH THE TOP

Let The Wise Investor Group's expert insight into financial planning, investments and the economy help you reach your own financial summit!

Saturday, January 24, 2015

Fairview Park Marriott
8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
3111 Fairview Park Drive
Falls Church, Virginia

A continental breakfast will be served.

R.S.V.P. by contacting Baird Corporate Events at 888-331-1907. If you are unable to join us in person, we encourage you to sign up for a recorded version of the seminar.

Admission is \$45 for clients, \$65 for non-clients. All proceeds to go to Hopecam, a nonprofit connecting hospitalized and homebound children undergoing treatment for cancer with loved ones and support networks.



©2014 Robert W. Baird & Co. 800-FW-BAIRD, rwbaird.com, Member SIPC, MC-43208.