



Many people in Great Falls would like to see Turner Farmhouse as one of the first properties to be considered for the Resident Curator Program.

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PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
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Sign at Turner Farm Park. Many people in Great Falls would like to see Turner Farmhouse one of the first properties to be considered for the Resident Curator Program.



Lewinsville House at 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Lewinsville Park.

# Historic Sites: Resident Curators?

In exchange for rehabilitating the property, the curator gains use of the property and pays no rent.

The Virginia General Assembly enacted legislation in January 2011 to ensure that local jurisdictions establish a Resident Curator Project.

Fairfax County is the first Virginia locality to pursue establishing such a project.

The Resident Curator Project Team held its inaugural meeting Monday, Aug. 24 in the Fairfax County Government Center.

Nineteen county properties made at least an initial cut from a list of 340 sites on the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites.

Resident Curator Project Team will hold public information meetings and issue requests for information as details of the program develop.

Possible properties include:

In Great Falls, there's the Turner Farm House on Georgetown Pike and the Purple House on Walker Road.

In McLean, the Pimmit Barn on Cherri Drive, Lewinsville House on Chain Bridge Road have potential for being considered.

In Vienna, Lahey Lost Valley House on Brookmeadow Drive, the Ashgrove House on Ashgrove House Lane and Hunter House, on Courthouse Road, could qualify.

In Herndon, Leesburg Pike is home to the McDannald House and Dranesville Tavern that have historic qualifications.

In Oakton, there's the Gabrielson House on Leeds Road.

Lorton had the most properties of any town, including the Barrett House, Stepson House, and the Hannah P. Clark House, all three on Furnace Road, the Minnick House on Old Colchester Road, the Lipscomb House (Physician's House).

Most of the properties are owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority, with the ex-



Lahey Lost Valley House, 9750 Brookmeadow Drive, Vienna, in Lahey Lost Valley Park was ranked second on a list for consideration for the resident curator program.

ception of Physician's House in Lorton and Purple House in Great Falls, both owned by the Board of Supervisors.

"The end goal is to rehabilitate and maintain underutilized historic properties and provide periodic public access to appreciate the historical significance of the properties," according to county documents.

"EACH OF THESE properties is so unique," Cindy Walsh, of the Park Authority's Resource Management Division, said at the inaugural meeting on Monday, Aug. 24. Walsh said she had heard not only from individuals who would be interested in living and restoring historic sites, but nonprofits, citizens associations, wineries, restaurants, art galleries, and a beekeeper.

The group will meet in September to try to determine how to proceed.

For example, the group knows there's a lot of interest in Turner Farm House in Great Falls, including from Great Falls Citizens Association, but Turner Farm House could be a very complicated process with master plan process that needs to be followed.

"I have people who are really interested in Turner Farm," said project manager

Denise Dressel, Park Authority Resident Curator Project manager. On the other hand, starting with a historic house on the list that is already ready for residential use compatible with Planning and Zoning might quicken getting started, said Michael Thompson from the Fairfax County Park Authority Board. Request for information and proposals, part of the process, would be significantly different depending on which properties are considered, he said.

"It's critical knowing which properties are on the table," said Christopher Daniel, from the Architectural Review Board.

The next group meeting is scheduled for September, and more will be known by that time. The group already has compiled lists ranking properties in terms of historic and publicly owned prerequisites, whether properties have been underutilized, the conditions of the properties, the public interest, location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, if properties have electricity, water and sewer utilities in place.

**RESIDENT CURATOR PROGRAMS** identify publicly-owned historic properties with no immediate or practical public use

## Possible Sites

A report commissioned by Fairfax County in 2014 ranked some of the possible properties for the Resident Curator Program in the order shown here. County staff caution that planning for the program is in its earliest stages and speculation about any particular property is premature.

Name, Address, Park

- ❖ Barrett House, Furnace Road, Lorton, Laurel Hill Park
- ❖ Lahey Lost Valley House, 9750 Brookmeadow Drive, Vienna, Lahey Lost Valley Park
- ❖ Gabrielson House 2514 Leeds Road, Oakton, Difficult Run Stream Valley Park
- ❖ Lamond House, 7509 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, McCutcheon Park
- ❖ Physician's House (Lipscomb House), Unnamed Service Road, Lorton
- ❖ Stempson House, Furnace Road, Lorton, Laurel Hill Park
- ❖ Ash Grove, 8881 Ashgrove House Lane, Vienna, Ash Grove Historic Site
- ❖ Hannah P. Clark House (Enyedi House), 10605 Furnace Road, Lorton, Old Colchester Park and Preserve
- ❖ Hunter House, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna, Nottoway Park
- ❖ Minnick House, 10419 Old Colchester Road, Lorton, Mason Neck West Park
- ❖ Turner Farm House, 10609 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, Turner Farm Park
- ❖ Banks Property, 7400 Old Telegraph Road, Alexandria, Olander and Margaret Banks Neighborhood Park
- ❖ Lewinsville House, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Lewinsville Park
- ❖ Pimmit Barn, 1845 Cherri Drive, McLean
- ❖ Dranesville Tavern 11919 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, Dravesville Tavern Historic Site
- ❖ Stone Mansion, 3900 Stoneybrooke Drive, Alexandria, Stoneybrooke Park
- ❖ Clark House 6332 Bancroft Mews Drive, Falls Church, Clark House Park
- ❖ Purple House, 720 Walker Road, Great Falls
- ❖ McDannald House, 11903 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, Dranesville Tavern Historic Site

**SOURCE:** Fairfax County Resident Curator Program Study, 2014 Final Report by John Milner Associates Inc. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/downloads/resident-curator-program-final-report.pdf>

and through an open and competitive process, select outside parties with skills, resources and vision to rehabilitate a property in accordance with accepted preservation standards for historic buildings. In exchange for rehabilitating the property, the curator gains use of the property and pays no rent.

— KEN MOORE



# Appreciating Customers in Great Falls

BY MARISSA BEALE  
THE CONNECTION

Jenni Rokni has been to all of the nail salons in Great Falls and claims that Great Falls Nails and Spa on Walker Road is her favorite.

"[It's] the one to go to," she said at the Aug. 29 Customer Appreciation Day in the Great Falls Business Center. "We've lived here for three years," she said of herself, her husband and children, and this year is the first that the local merchants have held an event for their customers.

"This is a great event," said Janet Hill, another client of Great Falls Nails and Spa who was present.

Great Falls residents who, like Hill and Rokni, make up the clientele of several local businesses, gathered for an evening picnic, hosted by Great Falls Nails and Spa and The Saddlery, a tack shop owned by Sarah Kirk. Reston-based band, The Cahoots, provided live entertainment playing everything from rock to funk and blues music, and for a small donation, parents could take their children for a pony ride on Pixie, a 23-year-old mare.

"I bought The Saddlery eight years ago," said Kirk. "We're also doing this as a fundraiser for Turner Farm."

"We would like to make this an annual event," said Kim Tran, owner of Great Falls Nails and Spa.

The first 50 guests walked away with tote bags from State Farm Insurance. Each bag contained more information about the businesses, as well as a complimentary organic nail polish, courtesy of Great Falls Nails and Spa.

"We would like to have all businesses out here in the future. The main thing is to thank clients," said Tran.

The Saddlery is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday, 12 to 5 p.m. Great Falls Nails and Spa is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Both are located at 731 Walker Road.

PHOTOS BY MARISSA BEALE/  
THE CONNECTION



Great Falls resident Mary Dacova (left) attended Customer Appreciation day with her daughter, Domenica Lopez, where she celebrated her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday.



Jenni and Omid Rokni with their children at this year's Customer Appreciation Day.



(From left) Katie Dinh, Kim Tran, Cindy Huynh, Hannah Le and Julie Werning with Janet Hill (sitting), one of the clients at Great Falls Nails and Spa.



(From left) Hannah Lee and Cindy Huynh, from Great Falls Nails and Spa; president of the Great Falls Business Center Stephen Dulaney; 34<sup>th</sup> District candidate for delegate, Craig Parisot; Kristin Parisot and owner of The Saddlery, Sarah Kirk.

## Beasley Exhibits at Katie's Coffeehouse

Throughout September 2015, recent travel paintings by Roberta Pruett Beasley will be exhibited at Katie's Coffeehouse, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Beasley is a member of the Great Falls Artists' Atelier at 756 Walker Road. She works with acrylic and acrylic mixed media. Come visit Katie's and join the artists for a reception at Great Falls Artists' Atelier at 756 Walker Road on Sept. 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m.



Roberta Pruett Beasley, Time to Travel, Triptych, acrylic mixed media.



## NEWS

# Great Falls Scout Collects Shoes for Eagle Project

**M**ore than 400 million children and adults worldwide are without shoes and can suffer from illness from soil parasites, the inability to attend school or travel to work. Peter Ongman is a rising senior at Langley High. He just returned from the World Scout Jamboree in Japan as chief youth leader (SPL) of the Jamboree troop for the Greater Washington area which had its meetings at St. Luke. He is also a member of Troop 55 in Great Falls. At the Jamboree Ongman mixed with more than 30,000 scouts from 150 countries and developed a much broader appreciation of the needs of people. For his Eagle Scout Project, he is working with Soles4Souls, a global charity, to collect new and gently used shoes of all types. Soles4Souls will distribute these shoes to people in extreme need due to poverty or natural disaster or war throughout the world. Help turn your unused shoes into a valuable resource to meet a very real and pressing need. Shoes can be dropped off into collection boxes in front of the Safeway in Great Falls on Saturday, Sept. 12 and Sunday, Sept. 13 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Peter Ongman back from Japan with the U.K. scout uniform he traded for his own and the first shoe donation for his Eagle Scout Project.**

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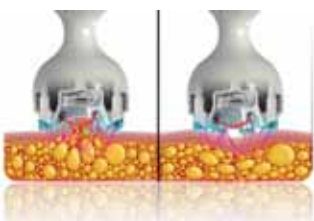
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# OPINION

## How to Vote; It Matters

Voting begins in two weeks, Sept. 18.

**E**lection Day is Nov. 3, and on that day, virtually every state and local office is on the ballot. In-person absentee voting begins Sept. 18, barely two weeks from now. Virginia Law allows voters to absentee vote if they could be “working and commuting for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day.” You’re allowed to count your worst possible commute in estimating how many hours you might be working and commuting on Election Day.

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

To vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address no later than Oct. 13, 2015.

You can check your registration status online by going to [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov).

It’s also worth noting that new, more restrictive voter identification regulations took effect last year.

**FAIRFAX COUNTY:** Each voter in Fairfax County can make choices in one State Senate district, one House of Delegates district, Clerk

of the Court, Commonwealth’s Attorney, Sheriff, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, District member of the Board of Supervisors, Soil and Water Conservation Board (vote for 3), School Bond for \$310 million, Public Safety Bond for \$151 million. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

As of last summer, there are new requirements for voter identification that voters must bring with them to the polling place.

Virginia law requires all voters to provide an acceptable form of photo identification at the polls. Voters arriving to the polls without photo ID will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality’s electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted.

Virginia’s photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections.

Here are the “acceptable” forms of identification: Valid Virginia Driver’s License or Identification Card; Valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran’s ID card; Valid United States Passport; Other government-issued photo identification cards (must be issued by U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political sub-

division of the Commonwealth; Valid college or university student photo identification card, must be from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; Employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer’s business; Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar’s office. “Valid” is defined as a genuine document, bearing the photograph of the voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months.

Any registered voter may apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar’s office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID Card will have to complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad.

### For More Election Information

Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov)

State Board of Elections, 804 864-8901 Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194 email: [info@sbe.virginia.gov](mailto:info@sbe.virginia.gov) <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>

### EDITORIAL

## Mystery of a Hitchhiker Helping a defeated figure in a pretty beach dress and flip-flops.

By JOAN BRADY

**M**y mother told me never to pick up hitchhikers. Or maybe she told me never to hitchhike. Probably both. But I did hitchhike twice in a single day, I was desperate, alone and needed help. I was 20 years old.

The first guy who picked me up had one hand on the wheel and the other down his pants. And the second told me that he was a burlesque cleaner and told me that women hired him to vacuum their homes and then vacuum off his clothes. I’m lucky I made it back to college without incident.

All of that ran quickly through my head a few weeks ago as I was driving home from dinner with my husband and saw a young woman, walking and crying, with her thumb stuck tentatively out.

I turned around and we passed her again in an attempt to assess the situation. Her need vs. our safety and the time it would take if we got involved. Her thumb wasn’t out anymore, but she was still crying. I u-turned again and we pulled over.

Jim rolled down his window, and asked, “Are you ok?”

“I’ve had better nights,” she sobbed.

“Do you have an address where you want to go?”

She was able to provide an address, albeit in the opposite direction of the way she was walking. It was about a 10-minute drive away. Jim unlocked the car door and she slipped inside.

We rode in an uncomfortable silence, punctuated only by her sobs, as I ran through a mental checklist. What happened to her? Where is her purse? Should we ask if we should call the police? She didn’t appear injured, but maybe there were injuries that we could not see? Is the address we are going to a safe place to drop her off? The questions ran in circles in my head.

I suggested she check the back seat for a box of tissues. Her sobs slowed as she grabbed a handful.

I asked if she was a student. She said no, and half laughed through her tears. “I’m 30, which makes it even more ridiculous that I am in this situation.”

What situation? What happened? I wanted to ask. But didn’t.

She didn’t have a trace of an



PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

### The hitchhiker

accent, so we were surprised when she told us she was was not American-born. Her father was U.S. military and her mother had been unwilling to move to the U.S. After years of trying to convince her mother to emigrate, this young woman had come on her own.

As we talked, her tears stopped to an intermittent sniffle.

“Can I ask you why you stopped?” she asked.

“Joan saw you as we drove by,” Jim answered. “We turned around because she said you looked like you were in trouble.” The tears returned.

“We’ve all been in your shoes at some point or another. And hitchhiking isn’t safe. We thought it was better if we picked you up than

someone else.”

Silence and then: “I’m not religious. I don’t even believe in God. But I think God put you in my path for a reason. Things have been really bad lately.”

“Everyone goes through bad stretches. You have to figure out how to focus on the positive, but also to learn from times like these and remember them. It’s what you do with these experiences that matters,” Jim counseled her.

I watched in the rear view mirror as she nodded tearfully.

There were so many questions destined to be unasked and unanswered as we pulled up at the address she had given us.

She thanked us again, told us she would pay-it-forward and walked into the apartment building, a defeated figure in a pretty beach dress and flip-flops.

Her story will likely remain a mystery that will haunt us for a long time to come.

*Joan Brady is a professional photographer; award-winning columnist; mentor and advocate for current and former foster children; a volunteer with paws4People, Fairfax Families4Kids, and others; and a resident of Great Falls. Reach her at [joan@joanbradyphotography.com](mailto:joan@joanbradyphotography.com)*

## Great Falls CONNECTION

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://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

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# NEWS

## Corrections

In the article "New Cycle Studio Brings Fitness and Fun to Great Falls" (Great Falls Connection, August 12-18, 2015) the correct website address should read [www.greatfallscyclestudio.com](http://www.greatfallscyclestudio.com).

In the article "An Evening of Fine Art" on the Green (Great Falls Connection, August 19-25, 2015) it should have been stated that The Canto Group sponsored the Aug. 9 Concert on the Green and the band was Diamond Alley.

## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### TUESDAY/SEPT. 8

**Vienna -Oakton Chapter 1116 NARFE(National Association of Active and Federal Retired Employees) Meeting.** 1 p.m. American Legion Post, 330 North Center Street, Vienna. The program will feature the Fairfax Office of Emergency Management on The Fairfax Alerts Team.

### FRIDAY/SEPT. 11

**Remembrance Ceremony.** 7 p.m. Great Falls Freedom Memorial, behind the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike. Great Falls lost six residents to the attacks on Sept. 11. The ceremony will honor them.



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# Great Falls Lacrosse Fall Programs



**Beginner Lacrosse Clinics**  
Has your son or daughter been interested in lacrosse but hasn't given it a try yet?  
Lacrosse is a fast paced, fun team sport for both boys and girls. This fall is a great time to try!

**WHEN:** Saturday Sept 5<sup>th</sup> or Sunday Sept 6<sup>th</sup>  
10am – 11:30am

**FREE!**

**WHERE:** Leo Santaballa Park (behind GF Library)

**WHO:** anyone 5-15 who has never played lacrosse but would like to give it a try  
(Boys & Girls are separate but at the same time and location)

**Fall Clinics**  
Brush up your skills and develop your level of play!

**WHEN:** Saturdays (starting 9/12 – times may adjust)  
9:00-10:30 for Little Lax, U7 and U9  
- (will split into age/ability specific stations)  
10:30 -12:00 for U11, U13 and U15

**WHERE:** Leo Santaballa Field or Village Field

**WHO:** Both experienced and new players, boys and girls

**Fall League Play**  
**WHAT:** Sunday games (combination of box and field lacrosse) and optional Wednesday practices

**WHEN:** Games start 9/12 and run for 7 weeks

**WHERE:** Nike 4 and Mclean High School

**WHO:** Boys & Girls 7-15 with at least one year experience



**TO REGISTER: [www.greatfallslacrosse.com](http://www.greatfallslacrosse.com)**



# Workplace Fitness

## Employer-based health and wellness programs are good for business.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

It's Wednesday afternoon and a cohort of George Mason University staff, students and faculty hit the pavement. Clad in attire ranging from running shorts and brightly colored sneakers to neutral walking shoes and business suits, the group takes part in "Who's Walking Wednesdays," part of an initiative to get moving for health and wellness.

"It's really important to connect faculty and staff into well-being and wellness practices," said Janet Walker, life/work connections manager at George Mason University. "It benefits everybody in terms of their own personal health and wellness. It creates a community where people interact over more than just work." The effort underscores the role of workplace health and fitness programs can play in decreasing stress and improving overall well-being.

A National Institutes of Health study of more than 29,000 employees who participated in comprehensive workplace health programs that included components such as fitness, weight control and smoking cessation, showed a 14-percent decline in illness over a two-year period, as well as a six-percent increase in productivity.

Workplace health programs can also consist of health education, fitness programs, health coaching and screenings.

"There's all sorts of research about how time spent outdoors and taking walking breaks at work fosters creativity and problem solving," said Jeanne Bliss, director of marketing, Center for the Advancement of Well-being at George Mason.

Bliss says university officials hope to impact the well-being of 10 million people within the next four years through the center. "We want to be a replicable model for well-being," she said. "That has been one of our strategic 10-year goals."

**"It's really important to connect faculty and staff into well-being and wellness practices. It benefits everybody."**

— Janet Walker, life/work connections manager, George Mason University

"We're in a position to help the next generation in terms of how they connect with their own workforce in terms of health and well-being," said Brandice Valentino, director of well-being programs and mindful living coordinator at the Center for the Advancement of Well-being. "Our programs focus on topics for well-being and integrating mindfulness practices."

Amy K. Turner, executive director of Innovation Health, a Northern Virginia health insurance company formed as a result of a partnership between Aetna and Inova, says her company has improved the health of its workforce through tailored employee wellness programs.

Innovation Health has also created corporate wellness programs for its corporate clients. In fact, the company received the Loudon Chamber of Commerce Healthy Business Award, which honors the winners of the Loudon Healthy Business Challenge, a competition designed to recognize Northern Virginia businesses that have improved the health of their workforce through tailored employee wellness programs. A group mentality is one of the keys.

Group fitness activity can lead to success,



Staff, students and faculty at George Mason University take part in "Who's Walking Wednesdays," an effort to increase physical activity and well-being. Research shows that workplace health programs can lead to increased productivity.

say experts. "I feel like when you do it in a group and you're part of a group, you're more committed," said Turner. "It holds people accountable and promotes success. Our 'Get Active Challenge' is where employees set fitness goals and challenge other teams within their corporation," she said. "It engages employees to work together in teams, challenges them. We've found that it improves employee satisfaction."

## Fairfax County Announces Drug Take-Back Day on Sept. 26

The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County, in partnership with Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, Fairfax County Police Department, Covanta, the Drug Enforcement Agency and more than 130 local pharmacies will host its fourth annual Drug Take-Back Day, Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout, on Saturday, Sept. 26.

According to the 2013-2014 Fairfax County Youth Survey, over 13 percent of high school seniors have used painkillers without a doctor's order. Moreover, four out of five heroin abusers report prior abuse of prescription drugs.

"There is an alarming connection between prescription drug abuse and heroin abuse," said Whitney Strand, executive director for the Unified Prevention Coalition.

"To combat this community issue, we need to provide a free, safe, confidential, and eco-friendly solution for Fairfax County's young adults. Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout, with the help of countless local partners and law enforce-

ment, achieves just that."

Individuals can bring unused or expired medications (pills or liquids – no pressurized canisters or needles) to any of the eight local Fairfax County district police stations for disposal from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26.

Drop-off sites

♦Fair Oaks District Station, 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, VA 22033

♦Franconia District Station, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310

♦West Springfield District Station, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152

♦Mason District Station, 6507 Columbia Pike Annandale, VA 22003

♦McLean District Station, 1437 Balls Hill Road McLean, Virginia 22101

♦Sully District Station, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151

♦Reston District Station, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, VA 20190

♦Mount Vernon District Station, 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306. Visit [www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org](http://www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org) for more information about proper disposal of medications year-round.

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## ENTERTAINMENT



**Sam David in her role as Chris leads the Women's Institute ladies in a tai chi class. From left — Sam David, Liz Weber, Jennifer Greene, Kathryn Johnston, Shayne Gardner and Diane Sams.**



**Jennifer Levy in her role as Brenda lectures the Women's Institute ladies on the "History of Broccoli." Seated from left: Liz Weber, Kathryn Johnston, Jennifer Greene, Shayne Gardner, Sam David and Diane Sams.**

# 'Calendar Girls' on Alden Stage

BY DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

**W**e are a show about a sisterhood of women in a bonded group; thinking and doing what others didn't expect," said Diane Sams, co-producer and a featured actor in the upcoming McLean Community Players production of Tim Firth's "Calendar Girls."

"Calendar Girls" is based on a true story and what became one of the most popular plays in British theater history. The production rights to produce the show only now became available to U.S. community theater groups. The McLean Community Players (MCP) is the first in this area to produce the show.

Set in a small English village, "Calendar Girls" is about two long-time friends, Annie and Chris, who are members of a local women's volunteer organization. After Annie's husband passes away, Chris and Annie decide to raise money for the local hospital by producing a calendar with shots of their organization's members engaged in local and very traditional activities such as knitting, baking, and gardening. Oh, with one unique photo fact; the women will be nude, or close to it.

"It is always a challenge and a privilege to do the first area production of a play. I am fortunate to have such a talented, dedicated and brave cast and production staff," said Robert Sams, veteran MCP director.

In an interview with the ensemble all were clearly comfortable with what is ex-

pected of them. As Diane Sams put it, with nods and warm laughter from everyone around the table, our characters are "ordinary women who come together to do and accomplish something extraordinary. As actors we are performing a very positive depiction of women even as we are a sisterhood of women with the bra off."

For newcomer Sam David (Annie), "Calendar Girls" depicts how "a group of friends come together on a journey and support each other; that is the true heart at the center of the play and each character." Cast members Shayne Gardner, Jennifer Greene, Anne Hilleary, Jennifer Levy, Kathryn Johnston, Elizabeth Leader, Carole Preston, Liz Weber each described the play in their own way as "touching and very well written; showing what people will do to sup-

## Where and When

McLean Community Players present "Calendar Girls" at Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Performances on weekends Sept. 18- Oct. 3. Friday and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees, Sept. 20 and 27 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$18 to \$20. For tickets, call 703-790-9223 or visit [www.McLeanPlayers.org](http://www.McLeanPlayers.org). Note: Show includes some partial nudity. Suitable for ages 17 and older.

port each other and to benefit others".

There were agreeing smiles from the cast when Hilleary indicated the audience "will be able to identify with someone of the characters or situations" and what they accomplished.

A journey full of comedy and determination after a major personal loss.

## Art On Location Jill Banks celebrates the Journey of Life in her new exhibit "Along the Way" at Great Falls Library.

**A** look around the Meeting Room at the Great Falls Library during award-winning artist Jill Banks' "Along the Way" solo exhibition of twenty-plus original oils transports the viewer to the mountaintops of Colorado, coast side on the Pacific and Atlantic, Europe, friendly U.S. towns, fields full of horses close to home. Everywhere Banks goes, her easel and painting supplies go, too. She is enjoying life, capturing it as it happens, on location, brush in hand. Works on view track Banks' participation in Fine Art Festivals, painting expeditions, and plein air (in the open air) competitions including Wayne Plein Air (Pennsylvania), Telluride Plein Air (Colorado) in which top artists are chosen

from around the country to capture their views of the town over several days, from life versus photographic reference. When not on the road, the artist looks for inspiration inside and outside of the studio – painting still lifes, interiors, people, exploring life closer to home. Banks hopes to see you at the reception on Saturday, Sept. 12, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Walker Road, Great Falls and at the Artists' Atelier, the working studios she shares with nine fellow artists at 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. The reception is at both locations, same day, same time. The "Along the Way" exhibition continues through Sept. 30 at the Great Falls Library. See [www.JillBanks.com](http://www.JillBanks.com) for an online preview of the show and more information.

Banks encourages others to find

his/her artist within, sharing her knowledge and passion for painting in classes, workshops and demos. She is offering three weekly classes this fall conducted through the Great Falls School of Art. Students can join her Tuesdays, starting Sept. 15 for Still Life Plus, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or for Evening Paint, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. She also teaches "Painting the Plein Air Landscape" on locations throughout the region on Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., starting Sept. 10. Register for classes at [www.GreatFallsArt.org](http://www.GreatFallsArt.org) or see more information on Banks' website's Classes page.

Banks is a founding member of the Artists' Atelier, the working studios and gallery space of 10 artists now located at 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. More of her work can be seen there during



**"Spanish Dancer," oil, by Jill Banks.**

PHOTO BY  
GREG STALEY

open hours on Wednesdays, 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., by appointment anytime and whenever an artist is in working. She will be exhibiting at the King Street Art Festival in Old Town Alexandria, on Sept. 19 and 20. Other upcoming events include MPA McLean Artfest on Sunday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in

McLean Central Park (at the corner of Old Dominion Drive and Dolley Madison Boulevard) and the Great Falls Studios Annual Tour where she'll be demonstrating and exhibiting on October 16-18 at the Artists' Atelier. Banks can be contacted at [jill@jillbanks.com](mailto:jill@jillbanks.com) or by phone at 703-403-7435.



# CALENDAR

Send announcements to [north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

**Summer Reading Program.** Friday-Sunday, through Sept. 5. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Attend summer events and check out books. All ages. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/>.

**Great Falls Concerts on the Green.** Sundays, through Sept. 6. 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Come out on Sundays and listen to some live music. Visit <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

**"Gold Rush."** Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. through Sept. 26. at Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Artwork with "gold" as the theme. This can be interpreted in many ways, gold colors, gold coins, golden hair, gold leaf and more. The show is open to the public, and visitors can also view small items of original art, scarves, jewelry, notecards etc. All hand made by VAS artists – great for gifts.

**Vienna's Summer on the Green Concert Series.** Fridays-Sundays, through Sept. 27. 6:30 p.m. at Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. Come out on the weekend and listen to some good music. Visit <http://www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2640>

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 2

**Pokemon League.** 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Drop-in and play Pokemon with your friends.

**Oak Marr Farmers Market.** 8 a.m. - noon. Wednesdays, May 6- Nov. 18. Oak Marr Park & RECenter, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/viennamkt.htm>

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 3

**Emi Sunshine.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Avenue, East, Vienna. Ten-year-old Emi Sunshine, a future country music legend, has been getting standing ovations wherever she has performed this year.

**Reading Buddies.** 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Teen Volunteers available to read to or with beginning readers. Ages 3-9.

**STEM Project.** 4 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. National Honor Society tutoring project in STEM subjects for elementary school students.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 4

**Playdate Cafe.** 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Toys and play space for children. Coffee and conversation for grownups. Ages birth-5.

**McLean Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Fridays, May 1-Nov. 20. 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mcleanmkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mcleanmkt.htm)

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 5-6

**22nd Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival.** Saturday: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Sunday: 12-6 p.m. Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The Festival will feature authentic Middle Eastern food, pastries, music and dancing, as well as vendors, church tours, and activities for both children and adults. [www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com](http://www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com).

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 9

**Jammin' Juniors Concert: Bari Koral Family Rock Band.** 12:30 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Free admission

**Alden Theatre Usher Event.** 7-8:30 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Want to be a part of the arts? Learn how you can become an usher at The Alden.

**McLean Newcomers and Neighbors' Monthly Coffee.** 11-12 a.m. Regency Apartments Community Room, 1800 Old Meadows Road, McLean. Non-members are invited to come meet the club members and to hear about their various activities. For further information contact: Elaine Varner, [emvarner@verizon.net](mailto:emvarner@verizon.net).

**Small Wonders.** 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Short stories for you and your child. Age 13-23 months with adult.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 10

**Textures in Watercolor.** 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. At the Vienna Art Society's monthly members' meeting, watercolor artist Rachel Kazan will demonstrate "Textures in Watercolor." Learn fun ways to use saran wrap, salt, rubbing alcohol and gesso to make wonderful textures in watercolor that can be used for rocks, mountains, water, feathers and other highly textured objects. [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

**My First Book Club.** 4:30 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. A book discussion group for boys and girls. Ask for title. Grades Kindergarten - 2.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 12

**National Grandparents Day Celebration.** 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Grandparents are invited to bring their grandchildren for a Grandparents Day celebration, which will include storytime and craft-making. To participate in craft, families are encouraged to bring a picture of themselves. Age 3-7 with adult.

**Artist Reception.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls and at the Artists' Atelier, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Jill Banks' "Along the Way" Exhibit of 20+ oil paintings at the Great Falls Library and at the Artists' Atelier. At the Artists' Atelier, see more of Banks' exhibit plus work of her nine studio mates and special exhibit of artist Armand Cabrera's oils. [www.JillBanks.com](http://www.JillBanks.com)

**Great Tastes of Tysons Festival.** 12-6 p.m. Lerner Town Square at Tysons II, 8025 Galleria Drive. World-renowned chefs, international wines and foods, outdoor grilling, workshops and more. Visit <http://tastetysons.com/> for more.

**Model Trains and Thomas at Open House.** 1 to 5 p.m. 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends in the Historic Vienna Train Station along the W&OD trail just past the Caboose. The layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org).

**Great Falls Farmers Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Year round. Great Falls Village Centre, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls.

## MONDAY/SEPT. 14

**Legos in the Library.** 4 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Have fun and make new friends. Hundreds of Legos await you and your creativity.

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 15

**Canasta Group.** 12:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Enjoy socializing while you play Canasta with this weekly group meeting.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

**Fall Bazaar.** 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A silent auction, crafts and curios, baked items, youth toys and activities, clothes and sports equipment, jewelry and scarves, used books and more.

# MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL

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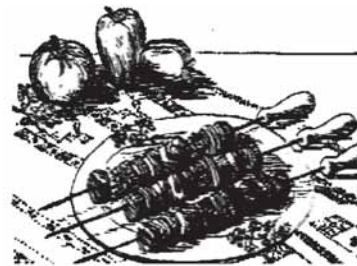
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## SPORTS

# McLean Volleyball Finishes Runner-Up at NVVA Invitational

**T**he McLean volleyball team finished runner-up at the NVVA Invitational on Aug. 29 at the Virginia Volleyball Center in Sterling.

The Highlanders defeated Islamic Saudi Academy and Fairfax in the second round of pool play to advance to the championship match, where McLean lost to Oakton 2-0 (25-20, 25-17).

"I was pleased with the team's performance," third-year McLean head coach Bill Musgrove wrote in an email. "Oakton has a strong team this year, and I was happy with the way we competed. I was also happy with the improvement we showed since our scrimmages. Our defense all day was a strength."

Sophomore outside hitter Madison McArthur led the Highlanders with nine kills against Oakton. She also had an ace.

"Maddie is our terminator," Musgrove wrote.

"A lot happens to get the ball to that spot, but she is definitely our best player when it comes to finishing points. I am not sure there are many players who have spent as much time in the gym to get better, and she is only a sophomore, so if she keeps working hard, she has yet to reach her poten-

tial."

McArthur and senior setter Autumn Brenner were named to the all-tournament team.

"[Brenner] has the ability," Musgrove wrote, "to turn bad passes into hitting opportunities."

Musgrove called junior libero Natalie Luu "the heart of our defense."

McLean failed to qualify for regionals last season, falling to rival Langley in the opening round of the Conference 6 tournament.

The Highlanders faced Annandale on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. McLean will host Thomas Jefferson at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 3.

"We play in the toughest conference in Fairfax County," Musgrove wrote. "In this tournament, three of the top four finishers were from our conference, and Langley and Madison are top teams who were not in this tournament. Our goal is to keep getting better so that when October comes around, we compete in our conference schedule. It's a tough road, but I think this team has what it takes."

Fairfax defeated South Lakes in the third-place match.

— JON ROETMAN

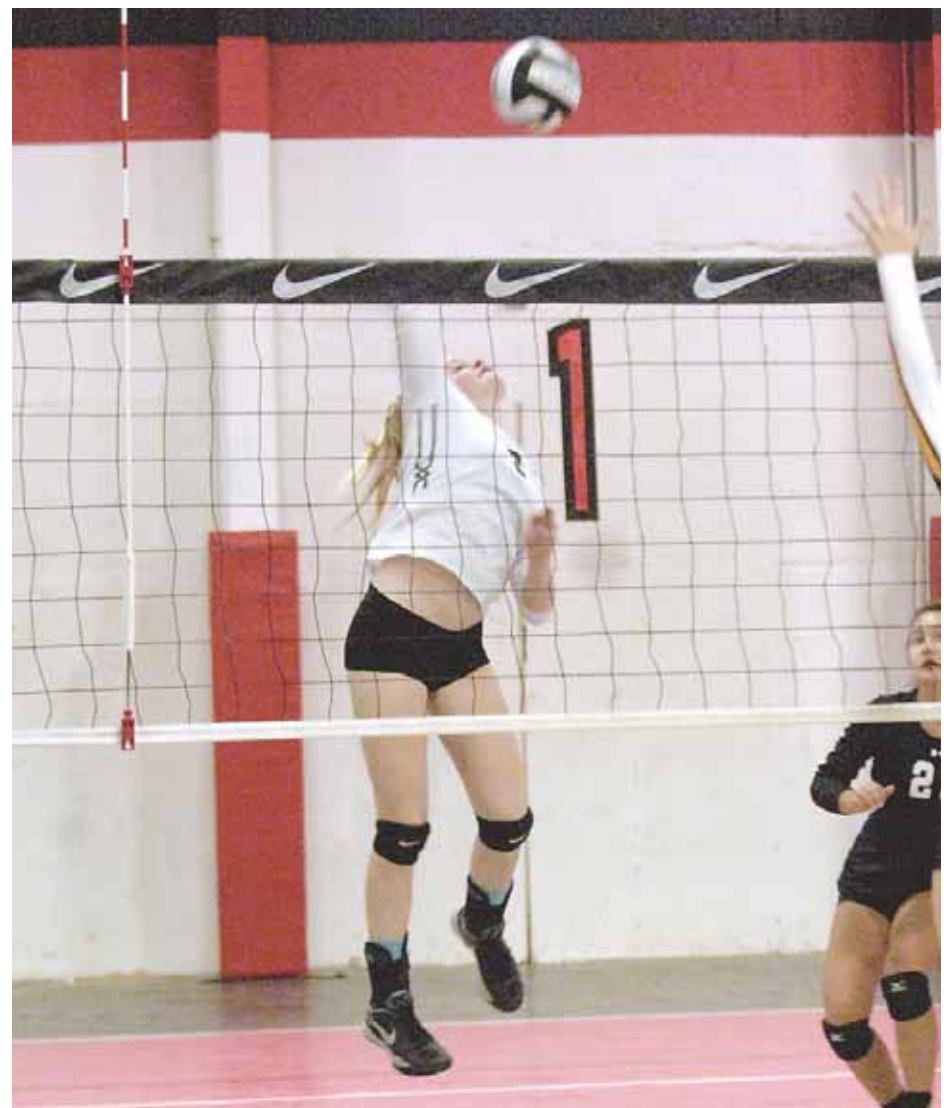


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**McLean sophomore Madison McArthur had nine kills in the NVVA Invitational championship match on Aug. 29.**

# Oakton Field Hockey Competitive at LB Tourney

**T**he Oakton field hockey team played in four competitive contests during the Blast ALS tournament at Lake Braddock Secondary School, but the Cougars' offensive struggles led to a 1-3 record.

Each of Oakton's four games was decided by one goal during the two-day event Aug. 26-27, but the Cougars scored just one goal.

On the first day, Oakton opened with a 1-0 loss to Centreville, but responded with a 1-0 win over defending 6A North region champion Fairfax. Senior forward Mackenzie Brooks scored for the Cougars.

On the second day, Oakton lost to Woodson and Lake Braddock, each game ending with a 1-0 final score.

"Unfortunately we could not find the backboard in three of our games, but dominated most of them," second-year Oakton head coach Allison Ryneski wrote in an email. "We only have seven returning players so learning to play with a new team and a new offensive line will take some time. I am very excited for the new team and seeing what they will accomplish in the games ahead."

Senior goalkeeper Katie Smith returns for Oakton and is part of what Ryneski called a "very strong" defense. Senior defenders Jenna Colturi and Jenna Ollen, and junior defender Carly Golden also return.

Brooks, senior midfielder Sarah Clinton, and junior forward Maddie Rouse are returning front-line players.

Oakton went 6-10-1 last season and failed



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

**Junior midfielder Catherine Leighty and the Oakton field hockey team went 1-3 during the Blast ALS tournament at Lake Braddock, Aug. 26-27.**

to qualify for the regional tournament.

"My expectation for the girls this year is to push themselves to be better athletes on and off the field," Ryneski wrote. "Our theme for this year is to work hard because many times hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard. I want the girls to see how their hard work in the long pre-season will pay off during the season."

Oakton lost to West Springfield 1-0 on Monday, dropping its record to 1-4. The Cougars will host Langley at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 2.

— JON ROETMAN



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## Marshall Finishes Ninth at Invitational

**Freshman middle blocker Devon Lussier and the Marshall volleyball team finished ninth at the 18-team NVVA Invitational on Aug. 29 at the Virginia Volleyball Center in Sterling. The Statesmen, led by head coach Ty Hart, defeated Edison and lost to Woodbridge in the second round of pool play before defeating Robinson 2-0 (26-24, 25-21) in the ninth-place match.**





The labyrinth at St. Francis Episcopal Church was dedicated to the Rev. William F. Myers (pictured), who has served as “a friend and spiritual leader whose efforts and guidance led to the establishment of St. Francis parish.”



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The new labyrinth was made possible with a donation from the Salzer family of Great Falls, shown here with Father Myers.

## St. Francis Dedicates New Labyrinth in Great Falls

St. Francis Episcopal Church in Great Falls recently dedicated a new labyrinth on the church grounds. The labyrinth is set near a wooded grove on the church's six-acre property and offers a wide, circular path for quiet walking and meditation.

The project was completed with a donation from the Salzer family of Great Falls and was dedicated to the memory of Jane Salzer and to the Reverend William F. Myers, who helped nurture the church during its formative years and continues to provide spiritual leadership to the parish.

Labyrinths date back thousands of years and are often

connected to holy places of worship. They are found in many religious traditions in various forms. Over the past 50 years, labyrinths have become popular again as a tool for spiritual pilgrimage.

The most famous Christian labyrinth is at Chartres, near Paris, which dates to 1201. The National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., has a replica of the Chartres design. The St. Francis labyrinth is a 40-foot-diameter circle featuring a Santa Rosa design that merges the seven circuits of classical labyrinths and the quarter and half turns of ancient medieval labyrinths. The Santa Rosa Labyrinth was originally designed by Lea Goode-Harris, Ph.D.

([www.labyrinthtales.com](http://www.labyrinthtales.com)).

The public is welcome to visit and walk the labyrinth. St. Francis is located at 9220 Georgetown Pike, approximately four miles west of the Capital Beltway. The labyrinth is located on the northwest portion of the grounds near the memorial garden. Parking is available in front and at the rear of the church.

For more information on St. Francis Episcopal Church, which celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> year in 2014, visit the church online at [www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org](http://www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/stfrancisgf](https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisgf). Call the church at 703-759-2082.



Parishioners of St. Francis church enjoy their first walk along the new labyrinth, a single, spiraling path that can be walked for spiritual contemplation and quiet reflection. The labyrinth is open to the public.



Clarence Ashley, a long-time parishioner, enjoys his first stroll around the labyrinth.



Kevin and Jessica Maxson were among those celebrating the new labyrinth. Kevin served as senior warden of St. Francis for two years and recently received the Franciscan Cross in honor of his contributions to the church. His wife Jessica, a teacher at the St. Francis Creche preschool, served as chair of the labyrinth committee.

### FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

**The Great Falls United Methodist Church** will hold their annual **Fall Bazaar on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2015 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**at 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls (703-759-3705).** Come enjoy a pork barbeque dinner (11 a.m.-5 p.m.) with dessert and beverage for \$10.

There will be a silent auction, crafts and curios, baked items, youth toys and activities, clothes and sports equipment, jewelry and scarves, used books and previously owned hand

tools/ hardware for sale, and more.

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, is holding Sunday evening worship service in a less formal atmosphere and more intimate setting to help you get ready for the week ahead.

Sundays, 6 p.m. Communion offered. No childcare. 703-938-2119 or [www.elcvienna.org](http://www.elcvienna.org).

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers musical, educational, outreach and fellowship ministries in addition to worship services, including a 7:45 a.m. worship service without music; 9 a.m. worship service, children's chapel and children's choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday school and adult forum; and 11 a.m. worship service with adult choir. 703-759-2082.

**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](http://www.antiochdoc.org)



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NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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**ABC LICENSE**  
Collins Restaurant Group, LLC trading as Arosto at Dunn Loring Station, 2676 Avenir Pl. Unit J, Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Paul Collins, owner  
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