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The Renaissance Program at The Sylvestery is directed at those persons in the early phases of memory impairment. In a maintenance-free environment, our residents enjoy life at their own pace through engaging activities. We promote physical and spiritual wellbeing based on individual abilities and group interests. The Sylvestery was designed to provide comfort, safety, and freedom. The Sylvestery features an awardwining layout, where residents move freely through continuous walkways, and numerous courtyards which invite residents to enjoy safe outdoor experiences. Through partnerships and continual research, we bring breakthrough technologies and tools that help our residents get the most out of life. Our staff plans a calendar of events based on their particular needs which includes additional outings. Residents of the Renaissance Program enjoy lunch and dinner in our Compass Rose Café.

The Sylvestery Memory Support is open to the community and does not require any military affiliation.

Contact Us For A Tour! 703-538-2975

The Sylvestery Memory Support

www.vinsonhall.org 1728 Kirby Road McLean, VA 22101





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News



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



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.

he 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 exwww.ConnectionNewspapers.com



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 Denice 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

- A Barrett House, Furnace Road, Lorton, Laurel Hill
- 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
- 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
- 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
- A 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
- A 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-finalreport.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

- Ken Moore



McLean High School students visiting Stanton Elementary in D.C. last year.



PHOTOS BY CAROLINE WATKINS/THE CONNECTION

McLean High students Sri Medicherla, Fatima Shahbaz, founder Michella Ma, and Stanton students.

Inspiring Students to Speak Up

McLean High students work with Longfellow Middle School's debate team and D.C.'s Stanton Elementary to improve students' public speaking skills.

By Caroline Watkins
The Connection

ublic speaking: these two words strike fear in almost anyone, whether 6 years old or 60. McLean High School senior Michelle Ma tackles this fear one child at a time through "The Speak Up Initiative." Launched in June 2014, the initiative works with Longfellow Middle School's debate team and D.C.'s Stanton Elementary to improve students' public speaking skills.

Through lectures, mentoring services and supplying high school volunteer judges to middle school debate tournaments, the project allows children to become more comfortable sharing their voices with large

"It started out as my Girl Scout Gold

During meetings, Stanton students gain confidence with their public speaking skills through group discussions and activities.

Award, which is analogous to Boy Scouts' Eagle Scout award, and was a derivation of one of my many loves in life: debate," said Michelle Ma, who also serves as one of the head captains of the McLean High School Debate Team.

Ma is working diligently to plan many activities for Speak Up in the upcoming school year.

She is now partnered with Anjali Khanna, senior at Thomas Jefferson High School and the founder of "Stand Against Silence." Khanna's nonprofit, also created for her Girl

Scout Gold Award, is a campaign that spreads awareness about the issue of rape on college campuses.

The two seniors look forward to encouraging their peers to partake in events spreading awareness for both causes throughout the school year, such as bringing a consent education workshop to Stanton Elementary in the fall.

"We both address the idea of shaping a more vocal generation, one that comprises individuals who are willing to 'Speak Up'

sue they feel most passionate about," said

Christina Shin, project mentor of Speak Up and debate teacher, said that the initiative has "encouraged McLean students to pool their talents together to mentor and inspire youth." Her favorite part about Ma's initiative is "the collective joy it brings to everyone involved. Witnessing smiles and hearing stories, I am inspired to be a part of this initiative because it is about empowering each other."

From the mentors who enjoy improving their community to the mentees who gain confidence through the initiative, Shin believes "Speak Up is a bridge between school communities and it is an important way to maintain a strong connection with our neighbors."

When Ma was asked if The Speak Up Initiative is related to a potential career in the future, Ma said she isn't sure of what job she wants to pursue—understandable, given that she is only 17 years old. However, she is proud of the fact that Speak Up has impacted her life in such a big way. Ma said, "With Speak Up, I feel like I finally have something that is real and something that is refreshing.

And for the time being, I just want to hold on to that."

Khanna's nonprofit, also created for her Girl and 'Stand Against Silence' on whatever is-

Newcomers to Business Community 25 businesses adding more than 1,100 jobs in Fairfax County.

uring the second quarter of 2015, the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority (FCEDA) provided services and resources to 25 businesses that are adding more than 1,100 jobs in Fairfax County. Many of these businesses are in the information technology and professional services sectors, and six are foreign-based firms using a Fairfax County location to expand in North America.

Three of the most prominent announcements during the quarter:

❖ Walmart Technology, which is the IT and information security arm of the world's largest retailer, adding 173 jobs in the Reston area;

❖TEKsystems, an IT staffing subsidiary of Allegis Group, the largest privately

owned talent management firm in the world, adding 324 jobs in Reston; and, rated school system and other public ser-

♦Intelsat, the world's largest satellite services company, adding 109 jobs at its administrative headquarters in Tysons Corner.

"The announcements by Walmart Technology, TEKsystems and Intelsat illustrate how market leaders in diverse technology sectors look to Fairfax County to find the workforce and the partners they need to be successful.

This is what makes Fairfax County a market leader as a business location, most notably for IT and professional services firms," said Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D., president and CEO of the FCEDA.

Time magazine called Fairfax County "one of the great economic success stories of our time." Business growth and innovation

helps Fairfax County fund the nation's toprated school system and other public services that contribute to the quality of life of residents.

Fairfax County offers businesses a stateof-the-art telecommunications infrastructure, access to global markets through Washington Dulles International Airport, a vibrant investment capital community and a highly skilled, well-educated workforce.

"Today, one of the largest technology-based challenges exists in the retail sector, and Walmart is actively recruiting the world's best STEM-specialized talent that will help the company make this historic pivot," said Janis Parker Moore, senior HR manager for Walmart Technology. "Our Reston office in Fairfax County is an extension of that effort, drawing upon the indus-

try leading talent in the surrounding areas to help grow expertise and best-inclass technologies."

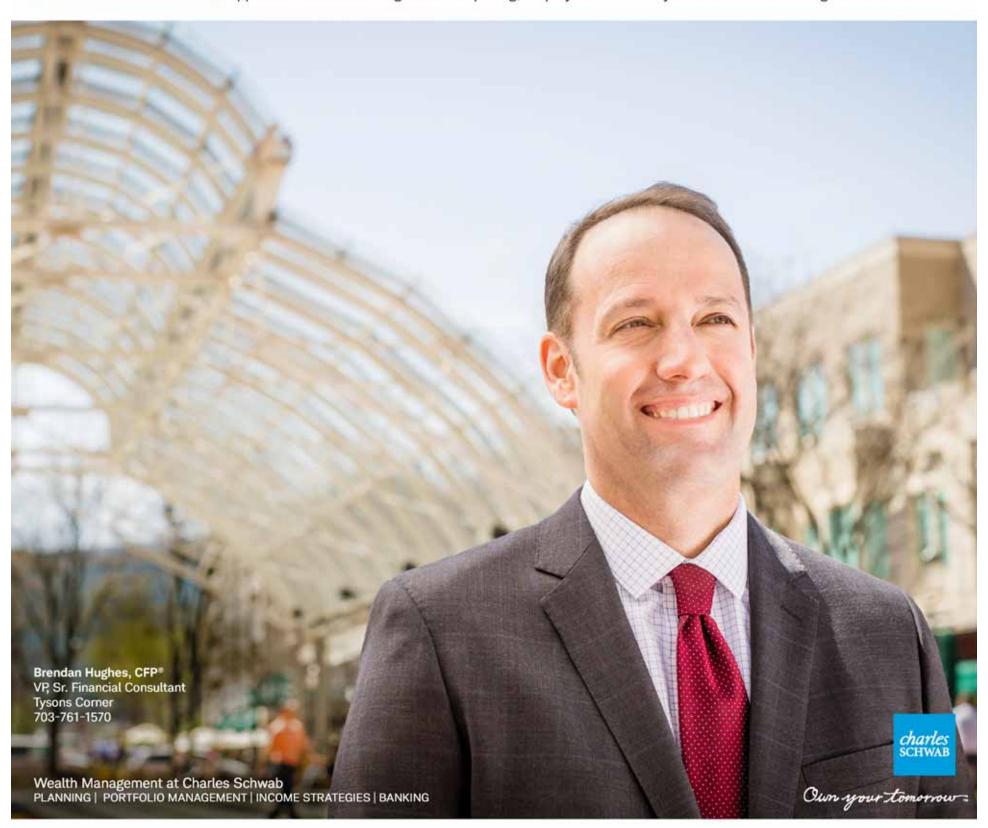
The award-winning Fairfax County Economic Development Authority promotes Fairfax County as a business and technology center.

The FCEDA offers site location and business development assistance, and connections with county and state government agencies, to help companies locate and expand in Fairfax County. In addition to its headquarters in Tysons Corner, Fairfax County's largest business district, the FCEDA maintains marketing offices in six important global business centers: Bangalore, Munich, London, Los Angeles, Seoul and Tel Aviv. Follow the FCEDA on Twitter and LinkedIn.

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OPINION

How to Vote; It Matters

Voting begins in two weeks, Sept. 18.

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

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.

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 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

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

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

BY JOAN BRADY

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?"

EDITORIAL

She was able to provide an address, albeit in the opposite direction of the way she was walking. It was about a 10minute 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



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

"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

■ McLean

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NEWS

Weichert, Realtors Recognizes McLean Office, Associate

Pruce L. Green, regional vice president of Weichert, Realtors, announced the McLean/Dolley Madison office was recognized for outstanding performance in July. The office led the region, which comprises locations throughout Fairfax, Loudoun, Fauquier and Delaware counties, for resale dollar volume.

Additionally, Sales Associate J.D. Callander of the McLean/Dolley Madison office was individually recognized for her exceptional industry success during the month of July. A top producer, Callander led the region for resale dollar volume.

Invite this top neighborhood specialist in to learn about the real estate services that Weichert, Realtors has to offer. She can be reached in Weichert's McLean/

WEEK IN MCLEAN

Volunteers Needed

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area



J.D. Callander

Dolley Madison office at 1313 Dolley Madison Boulevard or by phone at 703-760-8880.

seniors to medical appointments and other activities. Opportunities to volunteer for other services are also available. No long-term commitment, and hours are flexible to fit your schedule. Visit www.scov.org, call 703-281-5086 or email volunteer@scov.org.

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From left - Michael Caplin, president of Tysons Partnership; Ralph Masino, chief financial officer, ASG Security; Denise Balzano, founding member and board member of SafeSpot; Ray Morrogh -Commonwealth's Attorney for Fairfax County.

Honored for Supporting SafeSpot for Children

afeSpot Children's Advo-Security, one of the largest secacy Center of Fairfax curity firms in the nation. honors Ralph Masino "I am humbled and honored to with its first ever "Impact be recognized by such a vitally Award" for his dedication to important organization," said raise funds and build aware- Masino, "There is no better ness for the Center which pro- cause than helping innocent vides vital services to victims children who have had to enof child abuse in Fairfax dure such horrific challenges.

Great Falls resident Masino is time and energy to the uplift-Chief Financial Officer of ASG ing work of SafeSpot.'

Vietnam Veterans Help Children Of Homeless Veterans

/ ietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 227 of Northern Virginia, fulfilled its founding principle of "Never Again Shall One Generation of Veterans Abandon Another" by donating sixty \$75 gift credit cards to children of veterans who are in the Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (VASH) program. The gift cards are intended to help pay for school supplies and other Len Ignatowski, vice essentials for the coming school **president of Vietnam** year. The financial grant is the **Veterans of America**

fifth consecutive year. For chapter information or to sixty \$75 gift cards for make a donation, call Len homeless veterans' Ignatowski at 703-255-0353.

Free Estimates



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Chapter 227 presents children school needs to **Kimoela Cato, lead social** worker for the Veterans **Administration Northern** Virginia program.

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WELLBEING

Workplace Fitness

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

> BY MARILYN CAMPBELL The Connection

t'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,"

for health and wellness. "It's really important to connect well-being," she said. "That has 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

— Janet Walker, life/work connections manager, George Mason University being programs people interact over more than

everybody."

"It's really

important to

and wellness

connect faculty and

staff into well-being

practices. It benefits

just work." The effort underscores the role the Advancement of Well-being. of workplace health and fitness "Our programs focus on topics for programs can play in decreasing well-being and integrating mindstress and improving overall well-

A National Institutes of Health ees who participated in compre-

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such as fitness, weight control and smoking cessation, showed a 14percent decline in illness over a grams. two-year period, as well as a sixpercent 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 Ma-

Bliss says university officials hope to impact the well-being of 10 million people within the next part of an initiative to get moving four years through the center. "We want to be a replicable model for

> been one of our strategic 10year goals." "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, di-

rector of well-

and mindful living coordinator at the Center for

fulness practices." Amy K. Turner, executive director of Innovation Health, a Northstudy of more than 29,000 employ- ern Virginia health insurance company formed as a result of a part-

hensive workplace health pro- nership between Aetna and Inova grams that included components says her company has improved the health of its workforce through tailored employee wellness pro-

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

Group fitness activity can lead to success, 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.



Wednesdays," an effort to increase physical activity and well-being. Research shows that workplace health programs can lead to increased productivity.

where employees set fitness goals their corporation," she said. "It gether in teams, challenges them. ployee satisfaction."

uids – no pressurized canisters or

needles) to any of the eight local

"Our 'Get Active Challenge' is and challenge other teams within engages employees to work to- We've found that it improves em-

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❖McLean District Station, 1437 Balls Hill Road McLean,

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 Individuals can bring unused or Columbia Pike Annandale, VA

Fairfax County district police sta-Virginia 22101 tions for disposal from 8 a.m. to 2 ♦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 for more information about proper disposal of medications

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

he Unified Prevention seniors have used painkillers with- expired medications (pills or liq- 22003 hood and Community Services, Fairfax-Falls Church Commu-

Fairfax County Youth Survey, ment, achieves just that." over 13 percent of high school

Coalition of Fairfax out a doctor's order. Moreover, four County, in partnership out of five heroin abusers report with Fairfax County Neighbor- prior abuse of prescription drugs. "There is an alarming connection

between prescription drug abuse nity Services Board, Fairfax and heroin abuse," said Whitney County Police Department, Strand, executive director for the Covanta, the Drug Enforcement Unified Prevention Coalition. "To Agency and more than 130 lo- combat this community issue, we cal pharmacies will host its need to provide a free, safe, confifourth annual Drug Take-Back dential, and eco-friendly solution Day, Operation Medicine Cabi- for Fairfax County's young adults. net Cleanout, on Saturday, Sept. Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout, with the help of count-According to the 2013-2014 less local partners and law enforce-



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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.



Photos Irish Eyes Photography by Toby/Courtesy of McLean Community Players

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

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 expected 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 Johnson, 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. Note: Show includes some partial nudity. Suitable for

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.

Where Sounds Become Visual Color Riffs: Interactive art with music exhibit by Barbara Januszkiewicz.

he artistic style of Mid-Atlantic to capture how the music sounds and feels watercolor artist Barbara Januszkiewicz will be featured when McLean Project for The Arts opens its art exhibition from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 10. Color Riff by Barbara Januszkiewicz features paintings designed to spark a dialogue between the use of color and its conceptual link to music.

Januszkiewicz is recognized for her unique style and use of difficult media like watercolor, a media that she has mastered completely and takes to the next level with her ability to capture the complexity of color. For this exhibit, however, she displays her latest work of watercolor-like acrylics on unprimed canvas, a new medium for Januszkiewicz.

"Januszkiewicz has a flowing, vibrant style akin to that of the Color School's Morris Louis," raves the Washington

Januszkiewicz has been influenced directly by music in her career. She strives

in her paintings. "I find it intriguing that there is a vocabulary of words that apply to both music and visual art, like movement, patterns, perspectives and layering," she

"Music is my muse," she continues. "I am inspired by the gritty undertones and rhythm patterns of the blues. I take a song's chord progressions and play with the idea of a mirror cord in the colors I paint with. Blending the music and corresponding color notes, I work to create luminous paintings that reflect the emotionalism and improvisational freedom that we find in music genres like jazz."

Viewers can interact with the art through unique and rare online content. Video and audio clips of the musicians and music that have inspired Januszkiewicz's artwork will be connected via a smartphone app to the

Exploring the effects of every genre from jazz to thumping garage rock to vintage blues can now be witnessed in exhibit,



ings designed to spark a dialogue between the use of color and its conceptual link to music.

Color Riff by

Januszkiewicz

features paint-

Barbara

where sound becomes visual.

The public, press and art supporters are welcome to tour the exhibit and see the artwork and interact with the artist on

Thursday, Sept. 10 from 7-9 p.m., McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Color Riffs runs through Oct. 24.

CALENDAR

Send announcements to 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

"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 whereever 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

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 GreekCatholic 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

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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12 at Lerner
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international
different
wines, beers
and more.

Connection File Photo



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. Nonmembers are invited to come meet the club members and to hear about their various activities. For further information contact: Elaine Varner, 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

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 craftmaking. To participate in craft, families are encouraged to bring a picture of themselves. Age 3-7 with adult.

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.

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.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT.16

Jammin' Juniors Concert. Two of a Kind. 12:30 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free admission.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 18

Back-to-School Party. 7-10 p.m. Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean. \$35/\$25 OFTC members.

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

SUNDAY/SEPT. 20

Food for Others Tysons 5K. 9:30 a.m. 7925 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. The second annual Tysons 5K organized by Food for Others volunteers to benefit the food bank. Last year they had approximately 200 participants and raised over \$9,000. This event allows people who live and/or work in Tysons to support less fortunate neighbors while enjoying a great run or walk.

Tysons Farmers Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 8400 Westpark Drive, McLean. Sundays, through Nov. 15.

MONDAY/SEPT. 21

Tiny Tots. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Join us for an exciting storytime featuring stories, rhymes and songs. Ages 13 - 23 months with adult.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 23

Treasured Two-Fives. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. An early literacy enhanced storytime featuring stories, rhymes and songs. Age 2-5 with adult.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 24

Starlight Storytime. 7 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Wear your favorite pajamas and join us for stories and songs. All ages.

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MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL

Labor Day Weekend

Saturday, Sept. 5, 11:00 am-11:00 pm Sunday, Sept. 6, 12:00 noon-6:00 pm

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean, Virginia (near Spring Hill Road)

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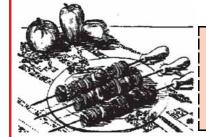
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Sun., Sept. 6, All Day

SPORTS

McLean Volleyball Finishes Runner-Up at NVVA Invitational

he McLean volleyball team finished tial." 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

"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-

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

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

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

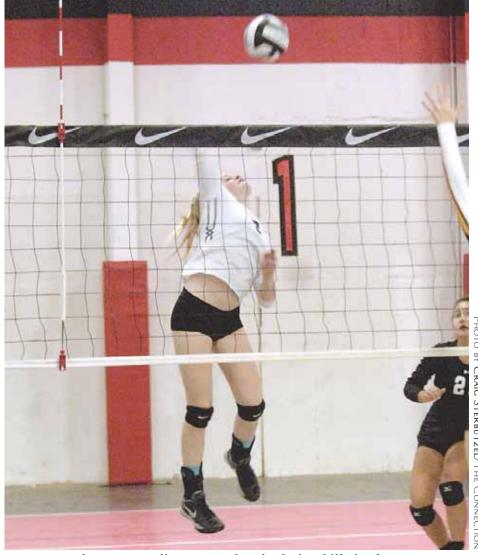
McLean failed to qualify for regionals last season, falling to rival Langley in the opening round of the Conference 6 tournament.

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 thirdplace match.

— Jon Roetman



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

Oakton Field Hockey Competitive at LB Tourney

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



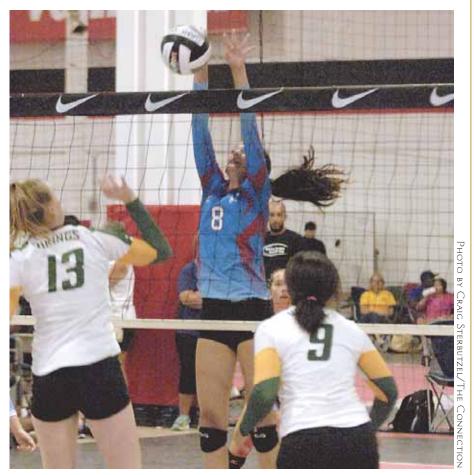
Junior midfielder Catherine Leighty and the Oakton field hockey team went 1-3 during the **Blast ALS tournament at Lake** Braddock, Aug. 26-27.

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 preseason 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



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.

News

Middle Eastern Food Festival Returns for Labor Day Weekend

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church in McLean hosts food and fun for families.

> By Donna Manz The Connection

abor Day weekend marks the "unofficial" end of summer and launches the football season. Locally, it marks the annual aromatic Middle Eastern food festival hosted by Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church of McLean. For two days, area residents can feast on shawarmas and kabobs and gooey, honey-laden Middle Eastern sweets. Beyond being a church fundraiser, the food festival is community outreach, an introduction to the culture of Middle-East Christians.

"We do this because it's our way of reaching out with our message about our faith and hospitality's role in it," said Father Joe Francavilla.

"Our faith and traditions comes from where Christianity began, Jerusalem. Our food festival welcomes people to our church. It's an incentive for people to come and try our food, and, in the process, experience the hospitality of the people here."

The 22nd Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival, celebrated Sept. 5 and 6 on church grounds, features Middle Eastern food – the kind families make at home - pastries, music and dancing, along with children's outdoor activities, and vendors. Kids can jump in a bounce house, have their faces painted, pet farm animals and take a pony ride all at no charge.

It takes 250 pounds of beef, 250 pounds of lamb, 450 pounds of chicken, 200 pounds of butter, 150 pounds of sugar, and 100 pounds of flour – not to mention the boxes



Nikki Haddad points to some of the Middle Eastern dishes for sale at Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church's annual Middle Eastern Food Festival running over Labor Day weekend.



Shaved, marinated beef and lamb, the makings of shawarma, are roasted and served in a wrap.

and boxes of phyllo dough – to pull off this annual food festival.

The shawarma meat – beef and lamb, and

chicken - is marinated, roasted and shaved, and cooked slowly for hours to infuse the spices. The ground beef kofta is grilled, as well

The kitchen serves entrée platters, sandwich platters, a lamb dinner, a la carte items and thousands of sweets from date shortbread cookies to baklava.

Prices range, approximately, from \$3 for a meat pie, made of ground beef, onions, tomato, and spices in a yeast dough to \$15 for the roasted lamb dinner.

"The first year I did this, we sold \$300 worth of sweets," said sweets chair, Samira Bailey in her 21st year organizing sweets. "Now, we're selling \$15,000 worth gross." The volunteers are making approximately 12,000 pieces of sweets to sell at the festival. The Wednesday before the festival, the preparation of the shawarma process begins. Sweets, except baklava, are baked in August and frozen for the festival.

Bailey said her participation in the festival is rooted in the historical backdrop of the Middle East. "It's my way to keep our traditions alive," said Bailey. "Most of us Christians from the Middle East have moved out ... there is always religious conflicts. We leave and this is one way to keep our traditions alive."

The Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Middle Eastern Food Festival runs from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 5, and from noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 6. The roasted lamb dinner is sold from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday and all day on Sunday.

"We love to share what's most precious to us, which is faith in God," said Father Francavilla. "We share our faith through hospitality. You have to understand the role faith plays in our daily lives."

"When you are in someone's house, sharing a meal, you are protected and treated with respect.

When you are a guest here, you are treated like that."

Festival admission and parking are free, and the festival runs rain or shine. To learn more, call 703-734-9566 or visit: www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com. Holy Transfiguration is located at 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean.

Bank of Georgetown Hosts Dinner at Alternative House

n Aug. 11, 30 Alternative House teens enjoyed taco night with Bank of Georgetown CEO Mike Fitzgerald and a group of Bank employees at Culmore Teen Center, an Alternative House location that provides an escape from Fairfax neighborhood gangs and violence. Alternative House is the only Northern Virginia emergency shelter and serves as a refuge for runaway, homeless, abused and at-risk youth. Bank of Georgetown hosted the dinner as part of the its 10th anniversary service initiative, "Give Back: Tenfold," which supports 10 local nonprofits to which employees volunteer their time and resources. Employees across the Bank's 13 locations in Maryland, Virginia and D.C. organized into

teams and designed projects that would impact their designated nonprofit and reflect Bank of Georgetown's commitment to the community. Team Alternative House is also raising money and awareness for the organization by increasing attendance at its Open Door Information Sessions and hosting a Back to School supplies drive and a Thanksgiving basket food collection.

Through October, branches are accepting the following donations to benefit Alternative House and other nonprofits: men's professional attire, winter clothing, and jackets (new/gently used), deodorant, lotion, socks, hats, undergarments, school supplies and pantry items for Thanksgiving baskets. Visit www.bankofgeorgetown.com/

givebacktenfold to learn more.



An Alternative House teen shares her artwork with Bank of Georgetown CEO Mike Fitzgerald. As part of its 10th anniversary service initiative "Give Back: Tenfold," Bank of Georgetown hosted a taco dinner at Culmore Teen Center, which serves as a refuge for youth in Northern Virginia.

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE Target Stores, Inc, trading as Target Store T3210, 1500 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209. The above establish-

ment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer Off Premises license

to self or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Rachel Vegas, VP

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing. 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices.
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lins, owner NOTE: Objections to the issu

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ABC LICENSE MMSJ, Inc. trading as Basillini Italian Restaurant, 235 Maple Ave. E, Vienna, VA 22180.

for a Beer and Wine on and of Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic bever ages. Caroline Kamel, secretary NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publish-ing date of the first of two re-

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