

# December Events Add Sparkle to the Holidays

NEWS, PAGE 3

Meadowlark Botanical Gardens' "Winter Walk of Lights" in a whimsical and magical winter wonderland.

## Last-minute Gift Ideas

NEWS, PAGE 8

## Transportation Strategy Update Launched

NEWS, PAGE 4



— REAL STORIES FROM THE EXPRESS LANES —

*"The Express Lanes have given me all kinds of time. It's really a love story."*

- Stephanie S.  
Fairfax Station, VA



Stephanie truly has an Express Lanes love story. She is a young 71 years old and lives in Fairfax Station. Her sweetheart is 77 and lives in Montgomery County, Maryland. Before the Express Lanes, they had to fight traffic on 495 to see each other. Now, however, she says meeting up is a breeze with the Express Lanes and they no longer let traffic keep them apart. The Express Lanes have opened up all kinds of pathways for Stephanie — including one to her heart.

See more real stories from the Lanes at [ExpressLanes.com](http://ExpressLanes.com)



Stephanie's story was one of our winning entries in our "Express Lanes Love Story" promotion.





Throughout the month of December, the Reston Town Center hosts horse-drawn carriage rides for \$5 per person fee; all proceeds go to local charities.



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Vignettes throughout the gardens and lakeside bring holiday magic to life at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens in Vienna.

## December Events Add Sparkle to the Holidays

From music to ice skating, area makes most of the colder months

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

With the two-year closure of the Vienna Community Center, local churches, nonprofits, and businesses have stepped up to fill the void left by the center's absence. Most holiday fairs have passed by early December but special events and activities remain.

Annual caroling on the Town Green will be on Thursday, Dec. 17, starting at 6:30 p.m. Weather permitting. 703-255-6360.

**Meadowlark Gardens' Winter Walk of Lights**, Nov. 14 to Jan. 4, evening/night, daily.

A half-a-million colorful LED lights create whimsical and fairytale scenes throughout the landscape of Meadowlark Botanical Gardens in Vienna, off Beulah Road.

It is a family-focused event with warm refreshments for sale.

Admission charge. To buy timed tickets, go to <http://winterwalkoflights.com/>.

**Horse drawn carriage rides, Reston Town Center**, Saturdays in December from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m.

All proceeds benefit local charities. \$5 per person, children 5 and under ride free with adult.

**"Magic Moments" art exhibition**, featuring works of Vienna Arts Society members; Dec. 1 to Jan. 2, Vienna Art Center.



**The kids and teen cooking classes at Culinaria Cooking School fill up with young budding chefs.**

Memories are reimagined through visual media, from the holiday season to days of the year.

The Vienna Art Center is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

During December the VAS Art Center is collecting non-perishable food on behalf of CHO, the Committee for Helping Others. Items may be dropped off at art center whenever it is open.

The Vienna Art Center is located at 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. For information on exhibition or food collection, call 703-

319-3971 or go to [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

**Holiday party hosted by the Vienna Arts Society**, Thursday, Dec. 10, 7 to 9 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Guests can nibble and imbibe in a unique setting while mingling with artists. The gift emporium is open for sales, with paintings, sculpture, pottery, scarves, jewelry and cards available to purchase. The special exhibition of VAS members' work, "Magic Moments" is on display.

**Santa at the Mill, Saturday, Dec. 12, 3 to 6 p.m.**

Colvin Run Mill, the oldest surviving mill in the metro region, hosts an old-fashioned family holiday reception for Santa and his friends. Christmas tree trimmed with Victorian decorations. Join the costumed 49th Virginia Volunteer Infantry caroling around a bonfire. Roast marshmallows and make a family craft. \$5 per person. (3-Adult) No reservations required. Phone: 703-759-2771.

**Outdoor ice-skating rinks**, Tysons Corner and Reston – December through February.

There is something "old-fashioned" and timeless about ice skating outdoors, dressed in cold-weather clothes with the prospect of a tummy-warming hot beverage to follow. Reston Town Center and Tysons Corner Center both offer an outdoor rink.

**Cooking classes for kids**, December break; Culinaria Cooking School.

Kick off winter break with kid-friendly cooking classes on Monday, Dec. 21 at Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna. Chefs Stephen and Pete will teach both a morning class and an afternoon class for kids and teens aged 9 to 17. Each class is \$65/person; \$120/person for both classes.

9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Pizza Pockets and Stromboli

2-5 p.m. Holiday Baking.

To register, go to <http://www.culinariacookingschool.com/2015/11/kidsteens-winter-break-classes/> or call 703-865-7920 for more information.

Culinaria is at 110 Pleasant Street NW.

### VIENNA CRIME REPORTS

#### NOTABLE INCIDENTS FROM NOV. 27-DEC. 3.

Some reports may be outside the date parameters due to extended investigations or other circumstances. Some cases are not included at all due to ongoing investigations.

#### INCIDENTS

**Fraud - 200 Block Cherry Street, SW. Between Nov. 6 at 12:47 p.m. and Nov. 7, 11:11 a.m.** A resident reported she received a telephone call from an individual claiming to be her grandson. The caller informed her he had been

incarcerated in Florida and asked for money to be bonded out. The caller instructed the resident to purchase a prepaid credit card and then call back with the security numbers and he would be released. After purchasing the cards and calling the number provided by the caller, the resident was in-

formed he needed to purchase another prepaid credit card to bail his friend out of jail also. The resident, believing the caller to be his actual grandson, purchased another credit card and

SEE CRIME, PAGE 5



# Transportation Strategy Update Launched

**Northern Virginia Transportation Authority launches work on a six-year TransAction program.**

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

Members of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) chose an appropriate location to announce the launch of the organization's TransAction update efforts last week. NVTA chairman Martin Nohe, a supervisor on the Prince William County Board of Supervisors, and Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and a member of the NVTA, met with other transportation agency representatives and members of the media in a gravel-filled construction staging area alongside the interchange between Route 7 and the Dulles Toll Road. In the months to come, the ground they stood on will be transformed into a major component of a roadway expansion and improvement project in the heavily trafficked area.

**IN AUGUST**, NVTA began a major update to TransAction 2040, the plans developed to address transportation in Northern Virginia through the year 2040. It is the first update to the plan since the passage of HB 2313 by the Virginia Legislature in 2013, the bill that provided the region with a sustainable, dedicated revenue stream of more



**From left: Martin Nohe, chairman of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, launches the update of the organization's TransAction transportation plans for the region with Authority member and Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Bulova. Dr. Dee Allsop, CEO of Heart+Mind Strategies, was available for questions regarding the survey his company conducted for NVTA as part of the update process.**

than \$300 million annually with which to tackle the transportation problems of the nine jurisdictions that are covered by the NVTA.

Many residents in those jurisdictions don't know that NVTA has a comprehensive, long-range transportation strategy. A recently completed survey, commissioned by the NVTA as part of the update, revealed that only 8 percent of Northern Virginians were

aware of the existence of TransAction. "In fact," said Nohe, "the number may be even lower," since he believes that some respondents may have answered that they were aware of the plan "without really knowing what it's all about." Some might not even know about the NVTA itself. These are two omissions of knowledge that Nohe and the NVTA have plans to remedy.

A new, interactive website is step one of

the NVTA's endeavor to educate the public and will include a number of "avenues to participate" in the process. Both the NVTA's web site, [www.thenovaaauthority.org](http://www.thenovaaauthority.org), and the new site, [www.NVTATransaction.org](http://www.NVTATransaction.org) provide easy-to-read documents that describe and track the organization's many projects, either completed, in progress, or on the books.

Next will be a major outreach campaign. NVTA staff will be heading out, armed with tablets, to "the places where people live, work, and play," said Nohe, educating, but more importantly, gathering input from constituents. The NVTA can speak with one voice on behalf of Northern Virginians, but Nohe and Bulova acknowledged that transportation problems and potential solutions were not necessarily "one-size fits all" across Planning District Eight, from rural portions of Loudoun County to the congestion faced by residents of Arlington, or from Metrorail users to drivers on the choked major arteries connecting the region. Input from all areas is essential to the success of any plans and critical to meeting the authority's mandate.

**THE UPDATE** process is expected to last about two years, targeted for completion in late summer/early fall of 2017. When adopted, the final version of the update will be known simply as TransAction and it will guide the NVTA's Six Year Program, covering FY2018-2023, and allocating over \$1 billion to multi-modal transportation improvements during that period.

Bulova urged citizens to visit both websites, to review the findings of the survey and to provide feedback. "It's my core belief," she said, "that a well-informed and educated community is a well-served community."

## Voter Services Chair Recognized by Board of Supervisors

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors presented the Barbara Varon Award to Sidney Johnson, Voter Services chair of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA), on Nov. 17. This Award was created to honor Barbara Varon, who served as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Fairfax County Electoral Board. It is awarded annually and shows appreciation for a county resident's "dedication to improving the community through volunteer service".

Nominees for the award must be a Fairfax County resident, demonstrate an appreciation for the diversity of our community's population and exhibit patriotism by participating in electoral process, educating others about the rights and privileges of all citizens to participate in electoral process, and/or participating in voter registration outreach.

Johnson, in her volunteer position as Voter Service Chair for three years, has



**Sidney Johnson, of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, receives the Barbara Varon Award for improving community through volunteer service.**

organized and participated in many voter registration drives as well as in a variety of voter outreach projects. She reached out to

a variety of diverse groups to increase voter participation and has been especially passionate about getting underrepresented citi-

zens engaged in activities that are civic, including voting. She has coordinated and overseen the publication of various voter guides such as Facts for Voters, the Voters' Guides, and a handout that lists all issues as well as candidates on the ballots.

This year Sidney organized 13 Meet and Greet Candidate Forums throughout Fairfax County, with the help of volunteers. These forums aimed to inform the public and give voters an opportunity to meet and interact with the candidates as well as to learn their positions on the important issues. In an attempt to reach more voters, Sidney helped organize the first televised Meet and Greet forums for the candidates for the Senate, House of Delegates, Sheriff, Clerk of the Court, and Soil and Water Commissioners.

—HELLEN KELLY  
AND PEGGY KNIGHT



## VIENNA CRIME REPORTS

FROM PAGE 3

telephoned the caller again and provided that information. During the Thanksgiving Holiday the resident spoke with his grandson who informed him he had never been to Florida and had not been incarcerated. Sgt. Farhan informed the resident he had been the victim of a scam.

**Fraud - 400 Block Niblick Drive, NE. Between Nov. 7 at noon and Oct. 29 at 12:05 p.m.** A resident reported he received a bill from AT&T for the purchase of cellular phones and service. He telephoned AT&T and informed them the purchase was made without his knowledge.

**Found Property - Nutley Street at Tapawingo Road, SW. Nov. 19, 10:30 p.m.** A resident responded to the Vienna Police Station to turn in a Roadmaster brand bicycle he found buried under leaves. The bicycle will be held at the police station in the event the owner is identified.

**Animal Case - 1200 Block Ware St., SW. Nov. 25, 6:26 p.m.** Officer Post responded to the area for the report of a dog running loose. Upon arriving she located the dog on the front porch of a residence. She attempted to put a leash on the dog, however, it fled through a hole in the fence into the backyard. Officer Post spoke to a neighbor, who informed her; the dog lived at that residence. The hole in the fence was covered to prevent future escapes.

**Open Door - 200 Block Ceret Court, SW. Nov. 25, 6:49 p.m.** A resident reported a neighbor's garage door had been standing open for several days. PFC Kiley responded and found the garage door open. The main door into the residence appeared to be secured. Nothing in the garage appeared to be out of place. The garage door was secured prior to leaving.

**Arrest - Narcotics Violation - Courthouse Road at Ware St., SW. Nov. 25, 7:50 p.m.** MPO Shaw responded to the area for the report of an unoccupied vehicle stopped in the intersection. While looking at the vehicle he detected the distinct odor of marijuana emanating from the vehicle. The owner of the vehicle was contacted and stated his son had been driving the vehicle when it ran out of gas. When the son returned to the vehicle MPO Shaw confronted him concerning the odor. After further interaction he located a measurable amount of marijuana in the vehicle. MPO Shaw issued a summons to the 24 year old man from John Marshall Drive, NE in Vienna for Possession of Marijuana. He was released after signing the summons.

**Noise Violation - The Bey Lounge. 303 Mill St., NE. Nov. 26, 1:56 a.m.** A resident reported there was loud noise emanating from the area of the Bey Lounge. Officer Post responded to the resident's home but was unable to hear any noise from the business. Sgt. Sylmar responded to the Bey Lounge and was unable to hear any loud noise coming from the business.

**Suspicious Event - 300 Block Tapawingo Road, SE. Nov. 26, 3:16 p.m.** A resident reported his neighbor had been cutting tree branches and placing them on his ve-

hicle. Officer Hylinski responded and found the discarded branches were lying next to the vehicle. After speaking with both neighbors Officer Hylinski determined this was an ongoing neighbor dispute that neither was willing to end.

**Arrest - Domestic Assault - Pekay Street, SW. Nov. 26, 5:40 p.m.** Officer Post responded to a residence after receiving a report that a domestic assault had occurred. Upon arriving she learned the mother and father were involved in a heated argument when the daughter attempted to intervene she was pushed by her father. Officer Post spoke with all the individuals involved and determined there was enough evidence to confirm a domestic assault had occurred. She arrested the 58 year old man from Pekay Street, SW in Vienna for Domestic Assault. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Domestic Assault. He was released on his signature. A Protective Order was also issued.

**Arrest - Narcotics Violation - 200 Block Lawyers Road, NW. Nov. 27, 2:08 a.m.** Officer Post was on patrol when she observed the driver of a vehicle commit a series of traffic violations. Upon her interaction with the driver she detected the odor of marijuana emanating from the vehicle. After speaking with the driver she detected a measurable amount of marijuana. The driver, a 22 year old man from Metropolitan Center Drive in Springfield, Virginia was issued a summons for Possession of Marijuana. He was released after signing the summons.

**Arrest - Obstruction of Justice - Maple Avenue at Branch Road, SE. Nov. 27, 12:17 p.m.** PFC Tracy was on patrol when he observed a vehicle with several equipment violations. As a result of those violations he conducted a traffic stop. He was informed by the driver the he would not provide his identification and indicated he does not subscribe to any form of government nor does he recognize the officer as a government official. After several unsuccessful attempts to identify the driver, PFC Tracy was left with no other option but to place him under arrest. The 25-year-old man from Mason Bluff Drive in Burke was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Obstruction of Justice, Expired Registration, Defective Equipment, and No Operator's License. He was held without bond.

**Animal Case - Quarantine - 500 Block Heritage Lane, NW. Nov. 27, 4:00 p.m.** ACO Barker responded to a residence after receiving a bite report from the Health Department. Upon speaking with the resident he learned "Albert," the cat, had bitten the resident's mother, who was visiting from Florida. The resident was informed of the quarantine process and requested to quarantine Albert in her home. ACO Barker will follow up with this case.

**Vandalism - Amphora Restaurant, 377 Maple Ave., West. Between Nov. 27 at 9:00 p.m. and Nov. 28 at 9:00 a.m.** An employee reported he returned to his vehicle, at the end of his shift, and discovered the two rear tires on his vehicle had been slashed.

For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to [www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

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

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

Questions?  
E-mail: [goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com)



THE CONNECTION  
NEWSPAPERS

## Top 10 School In The World



**Is Your Child Bored? Ours Certainly Aren't!!**  
Come See Why Families Have Moved From Around The Country Specifically For Their Children To Attend Nysmith.



### Small Classes 1:9 Ratio Nysmith Makes School Fun.

The award-winning Nysmith School diversifies academics up to four grade levels in a loving environment to meet the needs of each child. Daily science, computers, foreign language, logic, and much more. Minimal repetition, minimal homework. Come see how Nysmith will prepare your child for the future while having fun.

**SCHOOL Nysmith FOR THE GIFTED**  
Tours Daily.  
Herndon, Virginia  
Transportation Available  
703 552-2912  
[nysmith.com](http://nysmith.com)

## COUNTRY LIVING & CITY LIFE

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

**WESTMINSTER**  
AT LAKE RIDGE  
ENGAGED LIVING  
An Ingleside Community



Residents since 2010



Walk out your door to a forested trail, gather with friends for quiet coffee and conversation on a deck overlooking the water—enjoy wine tasting and shopping in the historic town of Occoquan along the river—yet you are a short ride away from the Smithsonian, the Kennedy Center or Wolf Trap. That's life at Westminster at Lake Ridge!

Here, retirement is a time of renaissance, the continued enjoyment of a fulfilling and engaged life, plus the peace of mind that comes with maintenance-free living and a full continuum of health services.

**Now accepting wait list deposits.  
Call or visit us today!**

703-791-1100 | [www.wlrva.org](http://www.wlrva.org)  
12191 Clipper Drive | Lake Ridge, VA





# OPINION

## Safety Net for Holiday Celebrations

It's an opportunity to talk about responsibility, alcohol and planning ahead.

**T**he holiday party season is here, and we will almost all be celebrating in some way. Some ways will involve celebrations that include alcohol.

It's up to you to make a plan to get home safely.

Plan to bring a designated driver. Plan to party (and live) where you can take public transportation. Plan to celebrate at home or someplace where you can spend the night. Plan to abstain.

And if all of that fails, the Washington Regional Alcohol Project has a safety net for you.

WRAP, a local nonprofit organization, will offer free cab rides to would-be impaired drivers throughout Northern Virginia during the winter holidays.

The annual Holiday SoberRide program will operate nightly from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. starting Friday, Dec. 11, 2015, and continuing until Thursday, Jan. 1, 2016 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk, holiday period.

During these times, area residents 21 and over, celebrating with alcohol can call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI for a no-cost (up to \$30 fare), safe way home. Callers will be responsible for fare amounts

over \$30.

WRAP also offers free cab rides for other holidays, including Halloween, Independence Day, Cinco de Mayo, and more.

Concerns about consequences of driving under the influence are well founded.

In Fairfax County in 2014 there were 740 alcohol-related crashes, which included 12 alcohol related fatalities and 476 alcohol related injuries. (Overall in Fairfax County in 2014, there were 13,680 total crashes including 32 fatalities and 7,649 injuries.)

In 2014, there were no fatal vehicular accidents in the City of Alexandria. But of the 1,777 total crashes, 99 were alcohol-related; and of the 757 injuries in crashes, 60 were alcohol-related.

In Arlington in 2014, there were 235 alcohol related crashes, with two alcohol-related fatalities and 78 alcohol related injuries. (Overall in Arlington in 2014, there were 2,469 with five fatalities and 1,094 injuries.)

In 2013, 10,076 people were killed in alcohol-impaired driving crashes, accounting for nearly one-third of all traffic-related deaths in the United States, according to the CDC. Tens of thousands more were injured. Holidays lead to an increase in impaired driving, the Christmas through New Year season in particular.

EDITORIAL

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Climate Scientists Warnings Go Unheeded in Congress

To the Editor:

In this vituperative political age of partisanship, it is no wonder that 86 percent of voters disapprove of Congress, a body in which the national good seems to be trumped by political ideology, grandstanding, name-calling, pandering, and distortion of the truth—all of which gets in the way of common-sense governance.

Some of this elbowing justifiably begins with legitimate differences of opinion. How big should the government be? How much should the government regulate? What should be our national position on social issues such as abortion, gay marriage or gun regulation? What trade-offs are we willing to accept to protect ourselves from terrorists? How do we respond to the income gap between rich and poor? How do we stimulate job growth and deal with compensation for work? How robust should our military be? How should our health care system be structured? Answers to these and multiple other complex questions often start with our values, our history, and our notions of fairness.

Like most of us, I have strong feelings about how best to proceed

on many of these issues. At the same time, I recognize that others have very different but equally impassioned views. Our political process is supposed to be about sorting out differences like these. The majority of us presumably hope we could marshal at least some civility as we struggle to find a way forward that is in our national best interest. The goal for most of us, it would seem based on the record of Congressional approval, is for Congress to give us outcomes that work.

Sometimes, however, an issue comes along that so defies common sense and incontrovertible fact that it should make open-minded people wonder if Congress can resolve anything. Who would imagine that despite dire warnings from virtually every climate scientist in the world, a majority of members of the House of Representatives would vote to embarrass the United States during the world's most important conference on climate change by voting to limit the Environmental Protection Agency on its rules to lower power plant emissions? The evidence that our world's climate is rapidly changing in ways that will lower

the life-expectancy of our children is overwhelming. And yet the majority of our elected representatives in the House, driven apparently by narrow party ideology, has actually impeded solutions. Do campaign contributions from carbon industries and other special interests have anything to do with it?

Those members of Congress (including, regrettably, our own representative in the 10th Congressional District of Virginia) who vote to trivialize or combat this issue, are putting their credibility and judgment on the line for dealing with almost any issue and

## Safe Ride Home

WRAP's 2015 Holiday SoberRide program will be offered from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. nightly from Dec. 11, 2015 to Jan. 1, 2016. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294 (TAXI). You must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service. See [www.SoberRide.com](http://www.SoberRide.com).

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided more than 63,000 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

We know that many young people over 21 are living at home with parents, or will be visiting for the holidays. Parents, be brave. Have a conversation with your children, whether they are under or over 21. Be sure those over 21 have a plan, and are equipped with the SoberRide number.

SoberRide is not available for underage drinkers, but parents still should talk to their children about their plans, and tell them out loud that you expect them not to drive impaired and not to get into a car with an impaired driver. Tell them to call you, and you'll come get them if necessary.

The consequences and vulnerabilities of drinking to excess are significant, more so for underage drinkers and young adults, even beyond drinking and driving. Don't let the opportunity to talk about it pass you by.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Jonathan Fisher  
Great Falls

## Write

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

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail: [north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com)

## Vienna & Oakton 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

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

NEWS DEPARTMENT:  
[vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com)

Kemal Kurspahic  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

Abigail Constantino  
Editorial Assistant  
703-778-9410 ext. 427  
[acconstantino@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:acconstantino@connectionnewspapers.com)

Bonnie Hobbs  
Community Reporter ♦ 703-778-9438  
[bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com)

Donna Manz  
Contributing Writer  
[dmanz@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dmanz@connectionnewspapers.com)

Jon Roetman  
Sports Editor ♦ 703-752-4013  
[jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@jonroetman](https://twitter.com/jonroetman)

ADVERTISING:  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

Don Park  
Display Advertising  
703-778-9420  
[donpark@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:donpark@connectionnewspapers.com)

Andrea Smith  
Classified Advertising  
703-778-9411  
[classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

Debbie Funk  
National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

David Griffin  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

Editor & Publisher  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@MaryKimm](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

Executive Vice President  
Jerry Vernon  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

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

Special Assistant to the Publisher  
Jeanne Theismann  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@TheismannMedia](https://twitter.com/TheismannMedia)

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)





## NEWS

# Tysons Gets New Name, Post Office

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), working with Tysons Partnership and the U.S. Postal Service, secured the formal rebranding of the U.S. Post Office building on Spring Hill Road in Tysons. Previously labeled as "West McLean Post Office," the building at 1533 Spring Hill Road is now officially named, "Tysons / West McLean, Tysons VA 22102. New signage will be installed immediately.

The news was announced Dec. 2, at the annual shareholders meeting of Tysons Partnership, held at Convene Conference Center in central Tysons. "One hundred sixty five years ago, Tysons was known as 'Peach Grove, Va.,' and had a post office at the intersection of Route 123 and Route 7," said Barry Mark, vice-chairman of Tysons Partnership and vice president of Capital One. "We now have a modern post office named after our emerging new city; a great testament to the work we are doing to build a vibrant community."

"Tysons is a Boom Town," said Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and a speaker at the Partnership meeting. "It is

very gratifying to see the Comprehensive Plan for Tysons develop in this positive manner. I salute the Tysons Partnership for its leadership."

The United States Census Bureau last month officially proclaimed that the name of Tysons is "Tysons, VA." The word "Corner" is officially dropped and will no longer be used. Census public-facing geographic products will reflect the change beginning in summer 2016, and the Census will work with the U.S. Board on Geographic Names [BGN] at the U.S. Geological Survey [USGS] to update their databases so that all federal mapping agencies reflect the new name. Finally, other data users, including mapping companies such as Google, Bing, Apple, MapQuest, TomTom, etc. will update their systems over the next several months, based on the Census action.

Tysons is a Census Designated Place ["CDP"] encompassing 2,100 acres bounded on the north by the Dulles Toll Road [Rt 267] and the Capital Beltway [I-495]; bounded on the southeastern side by Magarity Road, and on the southwestern side by Gallows and Old Courthouse roads.

## 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 **Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax** will hold "From Newtown to New Hope: An Interfaith Memorial Service" on Monday, Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. at 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Clergy and commu-

nity leaders from Fairfax County and beyond will gather to honor the 90,000 victims of gun violence at an Interfaith Memorial Service. 703-281-4230.

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, is holding Sunday evening worship service in a less formal atmosphere and more intimate setting Sundays, 6 p.m. Communion offered. No childcare.

703-938-2119 or [www.elcvienna.org](http://www.elcvienna.org).

**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).

What are slim thighs, lifted seats and sculpted arms made by?

**pure barre**



Treat your friends & loved ones to the fastest, most effective way to change your body.

Purchase a gift card today!



**PURE BARRE VIENNA**  
218 Maple Avenue West | Vienna, VA 22180  
[www.purebarre.com/va-vienna](http://www.purebarre.com/va-vienna) | [vienna@purebarre.com](mailto:vienna@purebarre.com)  
703.281.4100

**garai**  
ORTHODONTIC  
SPECIALISTS  
BracesVIP.com



Dr. Allen S. Garai

- Specialist in Orthodontics
- Diplomate, American Board of Orthodontics (Board Certified)
- Elite Invisalign Provider
- Attending Faculty – Orthodontic Department Children's/Washington Hospital
- Over 15 years of teaching orthodontics and private practice

"BEST ORTHODONTIST"  
Washingtonian Magazine  
Families Magazine  
"TOP ORTHODONTISTS"  
Northern Virginia Magazine  
Virginia Living

## Exceptional Smiles, Exceptional Service

The American Association of Orthodontics recommends children see an orthodontist at the age of 7.



Please call our office to set up your child's Complimentary Consultation

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



703.281.4868  
[BracesVIP@gmail.com](mailto:BracesVIP@gmail.com)  
[www.BracesVIP.com](http://www.BracesVIP.com)

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



## Visit These Houses of Worship

Welcoming, Diverse, Progressive

### ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • Reston



7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
Sunday School: preschool - grade 2  
Music: grades 3 - 7  
10:25 a.m. Sunday School Grades 3 to 6  
Music 4 years to 2nd grade  
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service  
Nursery care provided at 9:00 a.m. service  
The Rev. James Papile, Rector  
The Rev. Laura Cochran  
703-437-6530  
www.stannes-reston.org  
1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

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

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

To Highlight Your Faith Community,  
call Karen at 703-917-6468

## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE Last-minute Gift Ideas

From memorial contributions  
to over-the-top “wow,”  
The Connection looks at  
unique gifts for the holidays.

DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

What makes a gift one-of-a-kind? When it is customized to the recipient's interests and joys. Here are a few last-minute gift ideas, from the noble to the sublime ...

**For one-of-a-kind pet bed or dog mats,** check out [www.janery.com](http://www.janery.com). The Vienna entrepreneur designs and sews her own throw pillows, catnip-infused cat mats, cat toys, washable dog mats, and waterproof designer-fabric dog beds.

Jane Pearson was inspired to create waterproof dog beds when a dog she rescued from the streets of Richmond manifested medical issues.

Janery supports U.S. manufacturers, giving back to the community, and bringing distinctive and functional pet products to the home. The business donates a portion of its proceeds to foundations for homeless people and pets.

**For many people,** a donation in the memory or name of a loved one – human or non-human – is a most satisfying gift. Think of charities such as the American Cancer Society, Alzheimer's research, a pet sanctuary for homeless pets. Most charities will mail or e-mail an acknowledgement to your recipient.

**Nothing says “excitement” better than the gift of travel.** Plan a vacation with a travel agent and stuff the travel documents (airline reservations, tour and hotel vouchers) in a glittery box and wait for the reaction.

**Stay active while having fun: ballroom dance.** Give a series of dance classes to parents. In the Vienna/Tysons area is an Arthur Murray dance studio ... you might see your neighbors there.

**Who doesn't love food?**

You can build a gift basket of gourmet food items tailored to the likes of your recipient, from Vermont maple syrup to DOC Prosecco and locally-cured meats



“Chase the Submarine” makes and sells gourmet sandwiches, the likes you've never seen before in Vienna. The newly-opened sandwich shop sells gift cards in any denomination.

PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION



... because there is nothing like an Italian sports car ... Alfa-Romeo has returned to the U.S. and in doing so has brought Italian “forma” and cachet back at a price under \$100,000. There is a local Alfa-Romeo dealership at Tysons Corner.

and preserves.

The Freeman Store sells made-in-Virginia products and Cocoa Vienna makes its own elegant and rich gourmet chocolates on-site. Vienna's newest sandwich shop and wine/beer bar, Chase the Submarine, cures many of its own meats and makes unique side dishes to accompany the subs. Beers are locally-crafted. Newly-opened Chase the Submarine, owned by a few of Vienna's most well-known business owners (Michael Amouri and Tim and Joey Ma) sells gift certificates.

**For the person who has everything** — or has no kids going through college — think Italian sports car. Under \$100,000? Check ... racetrack-ready? Check. Engine in rear? Check. Hits 160 miles-per-hour? Check, check, check ...It's the U.S. return of the Alfa-Romeo, just in-time for the holidays. The car debuted in the U.S. in November.

Early pricing for the Alfa-Romeo 4C is about \$70,000 and boasts 237-hp 1750 turbo engine, going from 0-60 MPH in 4.1 seconds. It has won the 2015 Drivers' Choice Award and was called the Best Performance Car by MotorWeek magazine.

The dealership closest to Vienna and McLean is at Tysons Corner. And, if you yearn for a red Italian sports car, you can check out the one in the showroom. Safford Alfa-Romeo of Tysons Corner is at 8448 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, opposite Best Buy on Leesburg Pike, Rt. 7.

### WEEK IN VIENNA

## Call to End Gun Violence

On Monday, Dec. 14, the third anniversary of the Sandy Hook school shootings, clergy and community leaders from Fairfax County and beyond will gather at 7:30 p.m. to honor the 90,000 victims of gun violence and to call for people of faith to renew

their commitment to ending gun violence at an Interfaith Memorial Service at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. UUUCF's Senior Minister Rev. David A. Miller will lead this service of music and reflections. Other service participants will include: Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34), Rev. David K.

North, director of Mosaic Harmony choir and pastor at Holy Redeemer Metropolitan Church in College Park, Md.; Rev. Kate Walker, minister at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church; Imam Ali Siddiqui, from the Islamic Center of Northern Virginia; and Senior Rabbi Amy Schwartzman, from Temple Rodef Shalom in Falls Church.

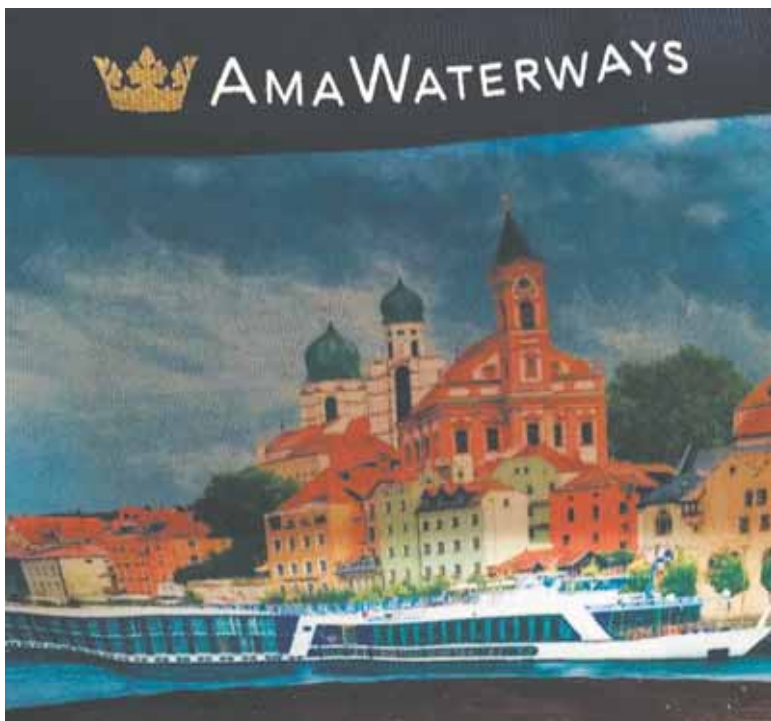
## ‘Spotlight on Women Artists’

The Vienna Branch of American Association of University Women (AAUW) will host “Spotlight on Women Artists” on Saturday, Jan. 9 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St NW, Vienna. The informational event will feature a docent from the National

Museum for Women in the Arts Erin Garland, who will talk about work in the museum's collection with an emphasis on artists in the Washington D.C. area. The program is open to the public and light refreshments will be served. There is ample parking behind the building. The entrance is in front of the building on Pleasant. For more information, contact: ViennaAAUW@yahoo.com



One of Jane Pearson's dogs gets cozy on a “Janery” dog bed, designed and crafted by Pearson.



Local travel agencies that are a part of the community support your interests all the way. Under the tree or in a gift box, the gift of travel makes memories for families.

# Maplewood Grill

## Bring the Bunch for Brunch!

Join us for Christmas Eve and  
New Year's Eve celebrations.

Also Open New Year's Day

Gift Certificates Available

Open 7 days a week, lunch and dinner.

132 Branch Road, S.E., Vienna, VA • (703) 281-0070 • Visit [www.maplewoodgrill.com](http://www.maplewoodgrill.com)

# Fairfax Water

## INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY NEEDED

We are seeking expressions of interest from owners of industrial-zoned property located in Fairfax County between the City of Falls Church and the City of Fairfax, or within either City, who are or may be interested in selling their property. The desired property must have several specific attributes and features to meet Fairfax Water's needs. At a minimum, however, any property must meet at least the following criteria:

- 1) Have I-5 or I-6 zoning in Fairfax County or the equivalent zoning in the City of Fairfax or Falls Church
- 2) Be at least 3 to 4 acres in size. If the parcel(s) have split zoning, at least 3 to 4 contiguous acres, must be zoned I-5 or I-6 or an equivalent zoning.

Fairfax Water will consider expressions of interest from multiple owners of contiguous properties meeting these criteria and totaling at least 3 to 4 acres, however all owners must express interest in selling.

If you are an owner of property meeting these criteria, please send the following information to Fairfax Water, to the attention of Ms. Jamie Hedges, Director, Planning and Engineering by December 29, 2015.

Information for submitting an expression of interest:

- Name(s) of property owner(s)
- Contact information for property owner(s)
- Signed statement of interest of property owner(s)
- Parcel identification number(s)
- Street address of property(ies)
- Jurisdiction (Fairfax County, City of Falls Church, or City of Fairfax) in which the property is located
- Current zoning and parcel size
- Identification of any existing land use restrictions (e.g. special exceptions, proffers, utility easements, floodplain, etc.)

PLEASE SUBMIT EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST BY DECEMBER 29, 2015, TO:

Jamie Bain Hedges, P.E.  
Director, Planning and Engineering  
Fairfax Water  
8570 Executive Park Avenue  
Fairfax, VA 22031

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

[WWW.FAIRFAXWATER.ORG/ABOUT\\_US/PROPERTY.HTM](http://WWW.FAIRFAXWATER.ORG/ABOUT_US/PROPERTY.HTM)

Or email to: [jhedges@fairfaxwater.org](mailto:jhedges@fairfaxwater.org)

## Open a World of New Possibilities! Register Now for Winter Classes at the McLean Community Center



- Parent & Child Workshops
- Soccer & Fitness
- Adult Learning & Science
- Dance, Music & Art
- CPR, Babysitting & Safety
- Writing & Theater
- Culinary Arts

Gift certificates available.  
Classes make great gifts!

For a complete listing of classes, day trips, performances and events, visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)—and register online.



The McLean Community Center  
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101  
703-790-0123; TTY: 711  
[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)



# CALENDAR

From left: Lawrence Yang, Michael Gorospe, Jess Bice, Binette Nam and Michael Williamson in Oakton High School's production of 'Treasure Island.'



PHOTO BY  
HUNTER CARRICO

## Vibrant, Energetic, Exciting Oakton High School's production of 'Treasure Island.'

BY JACOB ATAGI  
WEST POTOMAC HIGH SCHOOL

CAPPIES REVIEW

It's the 1700s, pirates are sailing the high seas, and there's treasure to be found! With lively main actors, an energetic ensemble, and carefully choreographed scenes Oakton High School's "Treasure Island" captures the swashbuckling adventures of the time.

Premiering in the Tony award winning Alley Theatre in 2007, Ken Ludwig's play adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's book "Treasure Island" follows the story of a young Jim Hawkins (Madison Carter) and his journey for buried treasure. The drunk and paranoid pirate Black Dog (Max Torti) stumbles into Jim's family tavern, and after dying from a heart attack leaves Jim with a map leading to buried treasure. Jim with the help of a wealthy but eccentric Squire Trelawney (Madeline Doane) and the intelligent Dr. Livesy (Sam Harmic) embarks on a voyage to Treasure Island. On the way to Treasure Island the charismatic and calculating Long John Silver (Michael Williamson), a pirate who has joined the crew as a cook, leads a mutiny leaving Jim and his allies on the island. With a little quick thinking and the help of the marooned sailor Ben Gunn (Tim Cerva) Jim is able to outwit the pirates and come home with treasure and the story of a lifetime.

The main actors in the play grabbed your attention the moment they stepped on stage. Especially notable was Williamson. His well crafted pirate voice rang throughout the theatre adding to his already strong stage presence. Williamson's peg leg walk, and excellent facial expressions made the play very believable. Doane wonderfully alleviated the darker parts of the play with great comedic timing and mannerisms that continued to contribute to her scenes' hilarity.

The energy and engagement of the pirate ensemble made every scene vibrant and exciting. One stand out in the ensemble was Erick McIntosh playing Israel Hands, a rough and tumble pirate mutineer. McIntosh always brought great physicality to every scene he was in and made the fight scenes fantastic to watch. Torti, while only in the first act, was the highlight of the scenes he was in. Torti made use of every second he was on stage, using masterful mannerisms and facial expressions to really capture the paranoia of the pirate Black Dog.

The real treat of the evening was the fight scenes, choreographed by Craig Lawrence. They spanned the entire stage and incorporated blood for wounds, and characters handsomely handled their weapons. This along with the great choreography of the fight, made for a visually impressive scene.

In order to capture the adventure of life on the seas, this show needs lots of physicality and energy. Oakton High school did all of this and more, putting on a wonderful production of "Treasure Island."

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

### WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY/ DEC. 9-13

**Conservatory Ballet's "The Nutcracker."** Check for times. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. More than 85 area students make holiday magic come to life performing in Conservatory Ballet's 43rd annual production of The Nutcracker. [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com). 703-476-4500.

### THURSDAY/DEC. 10

**Face Painting.** 5:30-9 p.m. Meadowlark, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Children will enjoy festive snowflakes, snowmen and other holiday face painting images. Free. <http://winterwalkoflights.com>. 703-255-3631.

**Naked Health Holidays.** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Clyde's, 8332 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. 'Tis the season to party, eat, drink. Do it all without putting on weight. It can be done. Find out how to maximize the eat and drink and minimize the bulge. \$45. Dawn@nakedhealth.com. 703-217-8383.

### FRIDAY/DEC. 11

**Mayor and Town Council's Holiday Reception.** 4-6 p.m. Town Hall, 127 Center Street, South, Vienna. Everyone is invited to celebrate the holidays with the Vienna Town Council at the Annual Holiday Reception at Town Hall. Free. 703-255-6304.

**VBA Holiday Lunch.** 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. American Legion, Post 180, 330 Center St. N, Vienna. Come join for lunch and Good old-fashion holiday sing-a-long! Fees: \$20 VBA members and if RSVP by Dec 9; \$25 future members if RSVP by Dec. 9. Reservations highly recommended. 571-550-2483.

**Holiday Tea.** 2-4 p.m. Our Lady of Good Counsel, 8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. Adults 55 and older are invited to celebrate at a Holiday Tea. Sponsored by the Shepard Center of Oakton-Vienna and the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department, the afternoon includes tea, snacks, and dancing to the music of Tallwood Trio. \$10. Reserve a ticket at 703-281-0538.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 12

**Traditional Holiday Tale, "A Christmas Carol."** 1 and 4 p.m. The Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Perhaps the best loved holiday story of all time, Theatre IV's adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic is particularly suited to children. \$10, \$15. <http://mcleancenter.org/alden>.

theatre. 703-790-0123.

**Coffeehouse Talk.** 7 p.m. Caffe Amouri, 107 Church St. NE, Vienna. It's the season of pie, stuffing, and mashed potatoes. So what's the real deal with carbohydrates? A conversation with Patricia Collins, MA, MS, RDN, LNT, LPC. [www.caffeamouri.com](http://www.caffeamouri.com).

**CHO Christmas Store.** 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park Street, NE, Vienna. Last year because of the generosity of the community and churches, we were able to make Christmas a very special time for 450 children in this area at our annual Christmas Store. We are collecting gently used jackets and bikes, new toys, gift cards for teens, and food gift cards for the Store. Volunteers are also needed to help clients shop. For more information, call CHO at 703-861-7614 and leave a message in box #1. Any overall questions, contact at [edjporter@gmail.com](mailto:edjporter@gmail.com).

**Model Railroad Open House.** 1-5 p.m. Vienna Railroad Station, 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna.

Celebrate the holidays seeing and hearing model trolleys and trains including Thomas and some of his friends and the Polar Express on display and in operation. Great family fun and activity for the young and young at heart. [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org). 703-938-5157.

**Pancake Breakfast and Santa Arrival.** 8 a.m.-noon. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St., South, Vienna. All you can eat pancakes, sausage, bacon, juice and coffee. Santa Claus will make his arrival at 10:30am to greet all. There will also be tours of the fire equipment available. Free-\$8. [joanie@vffd.org](mailto:joanie@vffd.org).

**Vienna Jammers Show.** 1:30-3 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Get ready to get your foot tappin' and head boppin' as you take a musical journey with Vienna's very own youth percussion ensemble. The members of the ensemble use a combination of traditional and non-traditional instruments. <http://jamminjava.com/event/988317>. 703-255-1566.

**Troop 55 Open House.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The Boy Scouts of Troop 55 would like to warmly extend an invitation to all WEBELO 2 Cub Scouts, 5th, and 6th grade boys to attend an open house. RSVP to Raymond Merrill at [raymond.merrill@gmail.com](mailto:raymond.merrill@gmail.com).

### SUNDAY/DEC. 13

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

**MEET 300 ARTIST ENTREPRENEURS IN PERSON!**

**SUGARLOAF CRAFTS FESTIVAL.**

**DECEMBER 11, 12, 13, 2015**

**Dulles Expo Center**  
Chantilly, VA • RT 28 AT WILLARD RD  
Admission \$8 online, \$10 at the door - good all 3 days  
Children under 12 and parking are FREE  
Fri. & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5

**SugarloafCrafts.com**  
SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN WORKS, INC. • 800-210-9900

DISCOUNT TICKETS, show info, exhibitor lists, directions and more at:

**SHILLELAGHS**  
THE TRAVEL CLUB

*Celebrating our 50th Anniversary*

**Sunny Florida via Motorcoach from Vienna or Rockville • January. 8-19. \$2599**  
Includes coach transportation, 11 nights hotel, daily breakfast, 3 dinners, 2 lunches, Sightseeing, Call for Details.

**Bermuda Cruise from Baltimore • May. 7-12.....\$475**  
Includes 5-nights cruise on RCCL's Grandeur of the Seas. With all meals & entertainment.

**Azalea Festival in Norfolk • April. 21-24.....\$650**  
Includes Motorcoach from Vienna or Rockville, 3-nights hotel in VA Beach, Daily breakfast & dinner, Sightseeing, reserved seating at parade, Virginia Intl. Tattoo Show - Call for details.

**SHILLELAGHS TRAVEL CLUB**  
100 East Street SE, Suite 202 • Vienna, Virginia 22180  
**703-242-2204 1-800-556-8646**  
Please visit our Web site at: [www.shillelaghstravelclub.com](http://www.shillelaghstravelclub.com)  
for a listing of all our upcoming trips and socials.

**Build Your Community**

**Support Your Local Businesses.**

**THE CONNECTION**  
to your community

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



# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

**Colonial Wassail.** 1-4 p.m. Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. In the dead of winter the Claude Moore Colonial Farm's apple trees need encouragement to bear well in the coming year. Gather in the Farm's orchard to wassail the trees with singing, dancing and chants to ensure a "howling crop." Enjoy hot spiced cider, sugar cakes, a roaring bonfire and 18th-century games. Adults, \$3. 3-12 years, \$2. Under 3, free. Weather permitting. [www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org).

## MONDAY/DEC. 14

**Jane Getter Premonition.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. The seasoned lineup here features guitarist/vocalist, Jane Getter, plus Adam Holzman on keyboards (Miles Davis), Stu Hamm on bass (Steve Vai/Joe Satriani) John Mader on drums (Pat Benatar, Steve Miller) & guitarist Alex Skolnick (Ozzy Osbourne). <http://jamminjava.com/>.

**"From Newtown to New Hope: An Interfaith Memorial Service."** 7:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Clergy and community leaders from Fairfax County and beyond will gather to honor the 90,000 victims of gun violence and to call for people of faith to renew their commitment to ending gun violence at an Interfaith Memorial Service. 703-281-4230.

## THURSDAY/DEC. 17

**Holiday Crafts for Children.** 5:30-9 p.m. Meadowlark, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Visit the craft table and make a free craft to decorate for the holidays. <http://winterwalkofflights.com>. 703-255-3631.

**Caroling on the Town Green.** 6:30 p.m. 144 Maple Ave., Vienna. All ages are welcome to participate in traditional caroling and to enjoy the marshmallow-roasting stations. Weather permitting. 703-255-6360.

## FRIDAYS/DEC. 18

**VBA Lead Share Breakfast.** 7:30-9 a.m. American Legion, Post 180, 320 Center St, Vienna. Fee for breakfast required. Any questions, contact Linda Christ at [Linda@LindaAChrist.com](mailto:Linda@LindaAChrist.com).

## SATURDAY/DEC. 19

**John Eaton "Holiday Spectacular."** 2 p.m. The Alden, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Musicologist, humorist and jazz pianist will share the history and harmonies of some favorite seasonal songs. [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org). 703-790-0123.

## SUNDAY/DEC. 20

**Filene Center Backstage Tour.** 2 p.m. Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Stand on a world-class stage, learn how a theater runs, and get a sneak peek at where the stars get ready. Tours are limited to 30 participants. 703-255-1827 to RSVP or for additional information.

## SATURDAY/JAN. 9

**"Spotlight on Women Artists."** 10 a.m. Vienna ArtCenter, 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. Features a docent from the National Museum for Women in the Arts. Erin Garland will tell us about work in the museum's collection with an emphasis on artists in the Washington, D.C. area. [ViennaAAUW@yahoo.com](mailto:ViennaAAUW@yahoo.com).



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**Oakton High School freshman Samantha Condro brings breathtaking elegance to her performance as Snow Queen in the Conservatory Ballet's "The Nutcracker."**



**Ryan Davis, an Oakton High School junior lifts, turns and catches his partners with a strength and confidence that impress audiences in the Conservatory Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker."**

## Conservatory Ballet's "The Nutcracker" Spreading Holiday Cheer

More than 85 area students make holiday magic come to life performing in Conservatory Ballet's 43rd annual production of "The Nutcracker." Performances run Wednesday, Dec. 9 through Sunday, Dec. 13 at the Reston Community Center located in the Hunters Woods Village Center. In addition to six full-length perfor-

mances, there are two shortened toddler matinees that run 1 hour 30 minutes. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com); by phone at 703-476-4500, press 3; and in person at the box office on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 4-9 p.m., Saturday: 1-5 p.m., and two hours prior to curtain time.

## Ongoing

**Weekly Storytime.** Wednesday and Saturday. 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.

**"Harvey."** Check for show times. Nov. 12-Dec. 20. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, this beloved classic is a treat for the whole family. Veta Simmons and her daughter Myrtle Mae have just moved back into town and are making quite a splash on the social scene. Gatherings and engagements abound as Myrtle Mae peruses for a viable suitor. \$15-\$30. [www.1ststagetysons.org](http://www.1ststagetysons.org). 703-854-1856.

**Great Falls Decorating Contest.** Through Dec. 22. Bring out your lights, bows, tinsel, inflatables and everything festive to help light up the holidays in town. Submit pictures of your business, organization or neighborhood to [info@celebrategreatfalls.org](mailto:info@celebrategreatfalls.org) and then vote for your favorites on our website. Voting runs through Dec. 22. [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

**Meadowlark Gardens' Winter Walk of Lights.** Nov. 14-Jan. 4. A half-a-million colorful LED lights span the lakeside and gardens of Meadowlark Botanical Gardens off Beulah Road in nostalgic and fairytale scenes of the holiday season. <http://winterwalkofflights.com/>.

**Bingo Night!** 4 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 13, 20, 27. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street South, Vienna. The Vienna Volunteer Fire Department hosts smoke-free bingo every Sunday night in the Flame Room and activities include 33 games for a \$100 prize each and one \$1,000 jackpot game. Admission: minimum \$10. 703-255-6300.

**53rd Annual James A. Bland Contest.** Through Monday, Feb. 15. Vienna Lions Club invites elementary and high school vocalist and instrumentalists to present a song or piece for cash prizes. For information and application, contact Susan Stiles at [sandcs89@yahoo.com](mailto:sandcs89@yahoo.com) or 703-938-1142.

**Vienna Lions Club Christmas Tree Sales.** Weekdays noon-8 p.m.; Saturdays & Sundays 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Through Dec. 17. Walgreen's lot, 225 Maple Ave East, Vienna. Help the Lions help the youth, vision- and hearing-impaired of our community. Fresh, live, beautiful Christmas trees, wreaths, roping, Virginia peanuts, extra-large coloring books all for sale at the best prices in Town.

**Dennis Crayon and Susan La Mont Exhibit.** Through Dec. 20. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. View the works of two accomplished artists while attending a performance of "Harvey." [www.1ststagetysons.org](http://www.1ststagetysons.org). 703-854-1856.

**Nutcracker Tea.** 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Dec. 12 and 19. The Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Delight in a contemporary twist on the beloved holiday classic by the South Riding Dance School while you enjoy afternoon tea, petite sandwiches and pastries. All children will go home with a nutcracker doll. \$79 per person. [www.ritzcarlton.com/tysons](http://www.ritzcarlton.com/tysons). 703-748-4068.

**Enchanted Forest Tea.** 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Dec. 13, 20. The Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Watch a dazzling performance by the South Riding Dance School as the Snow Fairy strives to save the woodland ballerinas from the Icicle King, whom is trying to freeze over the forest. Enjoy afternoon tea, petite sandwiches and pastries. \$79 per person. [www.ritzcarlton.com/tysons](http://www.ritzcarlton.com/tysons). 703-748-4068.



**McLean Community Center**  
*The Center of It All*



## Here's What's Happening at MCC

**Old Firehouse Teen Center  
Friday Field Trip  
ICE! at Gaylord Hotel  
National Harbor**

**Friday, Dec. 11, 3:30-10 p.m.**  
\$50/\$40 OFTC members



**Onstage @ The Alden  
Theatre IV: "A Christmas Carol"**

**Saturday, Dec. 12, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.**  
\$15/\$10 MCC district residents

**Onstage @ The Alden  
John Eaton Holiday Spectacular**

**Saturday, Dec. 19, 2 p.m.**  
\$35/\$20 MCC district residents

**Be a Part of the Arts!  
Alden Theatre Usher Event**  
**Monday, Dec. 21, 5:30-6:30 p.m.**

**Old Firehouse Teen Center  
Winter Break Trip  
Dave and Buster's**  
**Monday, Dec. 28, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.**  
\$65/\$55 MCC district residents

**Old Firehouse Teen Center  
Winter Break Trip  
Flight Indoor Trampoline Park  
+ Sakura Hibachi**  
**Tuesday, Dec. 29, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**  
\$55/\$45 MCC district residents

**Old Firehouse Teen Center  
Winter Break Trip  
Autobahn Indoor Go Kart**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 30, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
\$75/\$65 MCC district residents

**The McLean Community Center**  
[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)  
**Home of the Alden Theatre**  
[www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org)



1234 Ingleside Ave.  
McLean, VA 22101  
703-790-0123, TTY: 711





# SPORTS

**Five-foot-5 Madison guard Daniel Ungerleider knocked down five 3-pointers and scored 18 points during a 64-51 victory over Robinson on Dec. 4.**



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

## Ungerleider Leads Undersized Madison

### Warhawks win two games at 'Readers are Leaders Tip Off.'

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

Following Friday's "Readers are Leaders Tip Off" contest against Robinson, Madison senior guard Daniel Ungerleider was asked about his listed height of 5 feet, 8 inches. "That's not accurate," he said.

Ungerleider, a team leader playing in his third varsity season, is actually 5 feet 5, which is fitting for the vertically-challenged Warhawks, whose tallest players are listed at 6-3. But while Ungerleider's roster height is off by a few inches, the accuracy of his perimeter shooting helped the Madison boys' basketball team earn its second victory in as many nights.

Ungerleider made five 3-pointers and scored a team-high 18 points as Madison defeated Robinson 64-51 on Dec. 4 at South Lakes High School. The Warhawks won both of their games at the two-day event, including a 43-40 victory over Archbishop Carroll on Dec. 3.

Madison opened the season with a 62-47 loss against Vienna rival Oakton on Dec. 1.

"I think it was a huge confidence builder," Ungerleider said about the Warhawks' performance at the "Readers are Leaders Tip Off." "We were all pretty disappointed after the first loss and we were talking together about [how] we've got to come focused each game. Even yesterday, we didn't play as well as we thought we should have, so it was great to come out today [with] the entire team ready to

play and the entire team contributing ..."

Madison built a 38-26 halftime lead against Robinson. Ungerleider opened second-half scoring with his fourth 3-pointer, and added his fifth in the final quarter. He averaged 12.3 points during the Warhawks first three contests and knocked down 10 3-pointers.

"He doesn't back down," third-year Madison head coach Kevin Roller said about Ungerleider. "He competes. Some friends of mine call him 'The Bulldog.' We joke sometimes because I'm 6-3 and he's not, but when you dribble the ball this far off the ground, you become a one-man press break. When he's focused, he controls a high school basketball game. That simplifies everything offensively: get him the ball and he's going to control what happens — and then he can shoot the ball a bit."

Roller also praised junior forward Nick Conforti, who finished with 14 points against the Rams.

"He's my 5-foot-10 4-man right now," Roller said. "I thought he was exceptional tonight."

Junior guard Johnny Corish scored 11 points for the Warhawks. Senior guard Taiga Walker finished with nine points and senior guard Brett Wellde had eight.

Senior center Dillon Most and sophomore forward Johnny Hecht are Madison's tallest players, both listed at 6-3. How do the Warhawks compensate for their lack of height?

"All five guys have to box out," Roller said. "For a high school team, we're not perfect, but we box out about as well as any high school team I've ever coached."

Madison faced Trinity Christian School on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Warhawks will host Marshall at 7:15 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11 and will open Conference 6 play at home against Hayfield on Dec. 15.

Connection's deadline. Oakton will travel to face Broad Run at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10.

## Oakton Boys' Basketball Beats Madison

The Oakton boys' basketball team opened the 2015-16 season with a 62-47 victory over Madison on Dec. 1.

The Cougars faced McLean on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. Oakton will host Broad Run at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Paige Galiani, seen last season, and the Langley girls' basketball team started 2-0 this year.**

## Langley Girls' Basketball Starts 2-0

After winning 21 games last season, the success of the Langley girls' basketball team has carried into the 2015-16 campaign.

The Saxons won their season opener against Osbourn, 48-43, on Dec. 1 and defeated Edison 51-43 on Dec. 3.

"We have competed hard in each game," head coach Amanda Baker wrote in an email, "and have played well as a team."

The Edison program has won three consecutive region championships.

"The Edison game was a great opportunity to see how we measured up against a top team early in the season," Baker wrote. "It's great to be 2-0, but we understand it's only December and we will need to continue to improve as we prepare to face more quality opponents each week."

Paige Galiani led Langley with 17 points against Osbourn. Lizzy Shamloo finished with a team-high 15 points against Edison.

Langley faced Robinson on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Saxons will travel to face HD Woodson at St. John's College High School at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11.

— JON ROETMAN

## Newman Enters Third Season as Langley Boys' Coach

After a pair of sub-.500 seasons, third-year Langley boys' basketball coach Scott Newman thinks this is the year the Saxons turn things around.

"I feel like we're ready to turn the corner as a program," said Newman, a Saxon assistant before taking over as head coach in 2013. "We had a great run when I was [Travis Hess'] assistant and it's taken us a little time to reboot things, but ... this is my favorite team since I've been the head coach at Langley."

Why does Newman think so highly of this group? It starts with seniors Nate Shafer, a 6-foot-5 forward, and Tavon Tarpley, a 6-foot-3 guard.

"We have a strong senior class, led in particular by a really dynamic duo of Nate Shafer and Tavon Tarpley," Newman said. "Those two kids are really, really tough players. Nate, to me, is the best 5 man in the region. People can say what they want about the kid over at West Springfield or [Lake Braddock's] James Butler; those kids might have more of a D-I prospect ... but if you talk about who do I want on my team right now, there's no one in the region I'd rather have than Nate. He, to me, is a D-I player at a D-III height."

Forwards John Rau (6-7) and Finn Gundersen (6-4), and guard Chris Miner (6-4) are also members of the senior class.

Junior point guard Chas Battaglia, sophomore combo guard Colter Carton and junior guard Grant Hughes are expected to be primary contributors.

Langley dropped its season opener to Osbourn, 51-50, on Dec. 1. The Saxons faced Robinson on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline.

Langley will play three games in the Bahamas Dec. 10-12 and will return to face South Lakes on the road on Dec. 15.

BY JON ROETMAN

### BASKETBALL ROUNDUPS

## Oakton Girls' Basketball Starts 3-0

The defending 6A North region champion Oakton girls' basketball team started the 2015-16 season with a pair of road victories.

The Cougars defeated Madison 57-42 on Dec. 1 and beat South County 44-32 on Dec. 3.

Oakton beat Stafford in its home opener on Saturday.

The Cougars faced McLean on Tuesday, after The



# HomeLifeStyle

## Ideas for Decking the Halls

Local designers create opulent holiday designs.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

From traditional to glamorous, fresh to faux and high-end to old school, local tastemakers tell how they create holiday dazzling holiday design extravaganzas.

Karen Velehoski and the rest of the design team at Merrifield Garden Center in Fair Oaks spend nearly a year planning and building the holiday displays that overtake each store during the Yuletide season.

In creating the holiday wonderlands, the designers assemble each space around a theme, maintaining consistency in style, color and texture. Their goal is to dream up design concepts that will inspire.

"We hope that people will get ideas for their own homes, but the first step is to focus on color," said Velehoski. "You can incorporate family heirlooms or decorations that you've had for years if you coordinate the colors. You can really use ribbons to tie the colors together easily."

For example, they designed a rustic space that draws inspiration from a snow-covered forest. "It's decorated with things like branches, berries, birds and other outdoor animals," said Velehoski. "And we used red, plaid ribbon to keep the outdoorsy feel."

There's another winter scene that sparkles with décor in hues of gold, copper and platinum, and a classic display that pays homage to time-honored traditions. "It appeals to people who like greens, reds and poinsettias," said Velehoski. "This year we incorporated a little bit of black with that red, white and green which is pretty."

There's even inspiration for those with a penchant for pastels. "It has an icy look," said Velehoski. "It has an icy, frozen winter wonderland feel with snowflakes and icicles. We used a lot of pale blue, pink and a touch of silver."

Simple, clean and fresh are words that Gretchen Fuss, an interior designer with Tchoupitoulas Furnishings in Alexandria, uses to characterize her holiday design aesthetic.

"I don't like to over do it when it comes to holiday design," she said. "I love the mood and ambiance of white lights. It changes the feel of a room. I like candlelit rooms."

Fuss says she uses a minimalist approach to incorporating family heirlooms with new acquisitions. "I do little vignettes where I'll have a piece, for example, that my mother once used to store ornaments in, and I'll use that to display fresh greenery."

The designer has even created holiday adornments of her own. "I've made holiday sculptures," said Fuss. "I even made little flower-shaped sculptures that I put together to make a six-foot tall Christmas tree."

Fuss adds white back-lighting, which shines through each flower petal, illuminating the tree.

Candles, ribbons and bows hanging on a mantle, swags of greenery and garlands draped over wall art and mirrors are what visitors who enter the spaces created by the designers of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria will see.

"... A string of lights combined with ornaments might flow down the center of a table, or shine inside a cloche combined with a winter wonderland theme," said designer Amanda Mertins.

For an exterior space, Mertins advises using a twinkling wreath or a lit arrangement in an urn to greet guests at the front door.

Maintaining thematic consistency is a precept that designer Jenne Whitlaw, of GTM Architects in Bethesda, Md., recommends when conceiving ideas for holiday spaces. "Pick a central focal point, and echo the sentiment around the space, for both indoor and outdoor," she said. "This allows the eye to bounce around your holiday canvas, experiencing asymmetrical visual harmony and balance."

For those who prefer holiday decor in muted hues, Whitlaw suggests, "neutrals [like] winter white and pale greys, when paired with light, reflective metallics and sparkle add elegance and a sense of timeless wonder to every room."

For a touch of whimsy, Whitlaw recommends adding decorations to unexpected places. "For a surprising embellishment, how about placing ornaments around the vanity in your powder room?" asks Whitlaw. "Chandeliers are also a perfect theatre in the round for cascading trinkets and greenery."

"I love the mood and ambiance of white lights."

— Gretchen Fuss,  
Tchoupitoulas Furnishings



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MERRIFIELD GARDEN CENTER

Designers at Merrifield Garden Center spend almost one year creating holiday displays.



This rustic holiday space incorporates branches and animals.

**Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel**  
**From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee**

**TWO POOR TEACHERS**  
Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



**Free Estimates**  
**703-999-2928**



Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



Visit our website: [www.twopoorteachers.com](http://www.twopoorteachers.com)

**RED Vacuums**  
Reliable Effolient Dependable Vacuums  
Sales - Service - Parts

**HUGE CHRISTMAS SALE**

**dyson**  
Authorized Retailer  
VG Motorhead Cinetic Animal Ball Multifloor

**ALL DYSON 15% OFF**

**Miele**  
DIAMOND TRAINER

**10% OFF**

**Miele Vacuums**  
Powerful and elegant, Miele vacuums clean better and provide the best air filtration of any vacuum on the market.

**Recieve Up To \$100 off**  
Of a New Vacuum Purchase  
When you **TRADE IN** your old vacuum (working or not)  
One coupon per customer. Not valid with any other offers.

**TUNE UP Special**  
**\$29.99** Reg \$49.95  
Includes:  
• Complete Vacuum Diagnostics  
• New Bag, Belt, Light Bulb  
• Unclog & Clean Suction Channel  
• Clean/Grease Brush & Bearings  
• Deodorize & Sanitize Vacuum  
• 6 month Warranty Parts/Labor

**703-255-3500**  
[www.redvacuums.com](http://www.redvacuums.com)



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

# CLASSIFIED

703-778-9411

ZONE G Ad DEADLINE:  
MONDAY NOON

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

# HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CONTRACTORS.com

703-778-9411

ZONE G Ad DEADLINE:  
MONDAY NOON

I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate.  
-Arthur Wing Pinero

## 9 Land

**5 ACRES, R-1, Lorton, Sub-dividable,**  
Price \$699,000.  
Public Water Access and 6 Bedroom Perk Approved Beautiful Horses next door, Call Bob at 703-690-6969

## 21 Announcements



**VA GOLD BUYERS & LOANS**  
21580 Atlantic Blvd. #120 Sterling, VA 20166

**703-444-7804**

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

Latinos como tú sirviendo a nuestra comunidad

- We are Local
- We Buy Gold, Silver and Diamonds
- Over 40,000 Satisfied Customers
- We are Licensed and Specialize in State Sales

**Not Ready to Sell? Please call us for our Lending Options!**

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

## 26 Antiques

## 26 Antiques

**We pay top \$ for STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY, FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.**  
Schefer Antiques  
703-241-0790  
[theschefers@cox.net](mailto:theschefers@cox.net)

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

### LEGAL NOTICE

We are pleased to announce that Women's Health Corporation has joined Inova Medical Group.

To make an appointment or To request medical records please contact:

703.748.9880  
6845 Elm Street, Suite 600  
McLean, Virginia 22101

To move your records to a provider Outside our network, customary fees apply.

## 101 Computers

## 101 Computers

## HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

JENNIFER SMITH ♦ Serving the Area Since 1995

- Speed Up Slow Computers
- Virus Removal
- Computer Setup
- Help with Windows 8

**571-265-2038**

[Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com](mailto:Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com)



## THE CONNECTION CLASSIFIED

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

Employment: 703-917-6464

E-mail: [classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

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

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

## LIFETIME METAL ROOFING

by VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS

[VACarolinaBuildings.com](http://VACarolinaBuildings.com)



Licensed & Insured  
Financing Available  
Competitively Priced  
Lifetime Warranty  
Local Contractor  
Energy Efficient

**WE ALSO BUILD SHOPS, GARAGES & BARN!**

[MetalRoofover.com](http://MetalRoofover.com)

Call For Your Free Roof Inspection!

**434-645-7411**  
**1-800-893-1242**

## GUTTER

## GUTTER

**GUTTER CLEANING**  
Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned  
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards  
**PINNACLE SERVICES**  
lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est.  
email [jamie@lawnsandgutters.com](mailto:jamie@lawnsandgutters.com)  
web: [lawnsandgutters.com](http://lawnsandgutters.com)  
Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!

The reward of a thing well done, is to have done it.  
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

## LANDSCAPING

### A&S CONSTRUCTION

SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up  
Leaf Removal  
Hauling.  
**703-863-7465**

## MASONRY

## MASONRY

## BRICK AND STONE

## Custom Masonry

**703-768-3900**

[www.custommasonry.info](http://www.custommasonry.info)

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

## PAVING

## PAVING

## GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION

Walkways, Patios, Driveways,  
Flagstone, Concrete  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
Licensed, Insured, Bonded  
**703-250-6231**

## TREE SERVICE

## TREE SERVICE

## Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured

**Leaf Removal Gutter Cleaning**  
25 years of experience  
Free estimates  
**703-868-5358**  
24 Hour Emergency Tree Service



## Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

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

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

**24 Hour Emergency Tree Service**

## WINDOWS & GLASS

## WINDOWS & GLASS

## CHESAPEAKE/POTOMAC WINDOW CLEANING

Residential Specialist/Family owned/operated  
Working Owners Assures Quality  
No Hidden Fees/No Broken Window Springs  
30 yrs Experience in local area

Licensed **703-356-4459** Insured

## IMPROVEMENTS

## IMPROVEMENTS

## R.N. CONTRACTORS, INC.

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

**We Accept All Major Credit Cards**  
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic  
Phone: 703-887-3827 Fax: 703-830-3849  
E-mail: [rncontractorsinc@gmail.com](mailto:rncontractorsinc@gmail.com)  
[www.rncontractors.com](http://www.rncontractors.com)

## A&S Landscaping

- All Concrete work
- Retaining Walls • Patios
- Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions
- French Drains • Sump Pumps
- Driveway Asphalt Sealing



**703-863-7465**

LICENSED

Serving All of N. Virginia

**Picture Perfect**  
Home Improvements  
**(703) 590-3187**

## Remodeling Bathrooms, Kitchens & Basements

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

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

Handyman Services Available

<http://www.pphonline.com/>

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



## LAWN SERVICE

## LAWN SERVICE

## J.E.S. Services

Your neighborhood company since 1987

**703-912-6886**



## Landscaping & Construction

Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured

- Planting & Landscaping Design
- Drainage & Water Problems
- Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New
- Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid
- Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose
- Retaining walls of all types

All work Guaranteed



## I Beg Your Indulgence

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Even after seven years as a patient in the cancer whirled, I still find it emotionally difficult to promptly return a well-meaning phone call or a likewise intended e-mail when the message/content is clearly having to do with my health and welfare. Not that I don't appreciate, and on many levels, most likely need these kinds of communications; nevertheless, the challenge of summoning up the intestinal fortitude to discuss, detail, outline, rehash, speculate, articulate, wonder, hope, fear, introspect, extrovert, try to make light of and not be made heavy by, in addition to all the other miscellaneous anxieties a cancer patient experiences 24/7, is often too much. And as regularly as we are left alone with our own thoughts, sometimes, the emotional road less traveled is the one fraught with fewer bumps and bruises.

Not that I want to get stupid and live in a "cone of silence," where I can't be heard and others can't hear me; that wouldn't be smart. Still, as often as not, the effort to respond in kind is not respectfully honored. It's an odd reaction to be sure. Receiving inquiries is one thing, a helpful thing, almost like "Thing" from "The Addams family," but not responding is quite another thing. It's not exactly akin to trudging through the snow – uphill, in winter, as our parents all claimed they did, but the emotional weight of it is something that I'm probably having difficulty explaining – as much as I'm trying.

Maybe this is all just an excuse to obfuscate my ill-mannered and disrespectful negligence. How poorly was I raised that I don't know enough to provide a common courtesy? People ask, you answer. When one is sick or "diseased," and friends, family and co-workers reach out, one is not supposed to pull back, right? I should appreciate their support and absorb whatever positive energy/good vibrations they're sending. Let's face it, as I do most days; living with cancer is not exactly a solitary pursuit. Although it may seem like it, at home, alone, especially at night when tossing and turning and not sleeping becomes an Olympic sport, the cancer experience is not a meal best served cold, if you know what I mean.

Regular interaction with humans, and I don't mean radio, television or Internet, is the next best thing to being there/reaching out and actually touching someone or being touched (which is likely another benefit). Moreover, being made to feel alive and well – and dare I say, normal (not diagnosed with cancer), is the goal, but the figurative elephant in our world is not just in one room, one time; it's in every room all the time; it's herd but not seen. But difficult to ignore nonetheless.

Stage IV lung cancer is like that. It's typical that when symptoms manifest themselves, the patient is already inoperable and tumors which gave the patient no indication that they even existed, have now metastasized (moved/grown). Ergo, the staging. There is no stage V, by the way. This is not to imply that it's ever too late. It's just hard to assimilate when the diagnosis comes out of the blue and previously you were feeling in the pink. In this context, the silence of it (meaning the lack of symptoms) was not golden; any more than my silence now in not responding to well-wishers is golden. It's not. It's self-indulgent and most times I readily acknowledge it. However, I feel powerless to affect it. Please don't take my lack of a timely response personally. I'm just trying to navigate as best I can. As George Costanza made famous on a long-ago "Seinfeld" episode: "It's not you. It's anybody, it's me...."

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

## COMMUNITY

# White House Ornaments Sale to Help Artemis House

Great Falls Friends and Neighbors continue the tradition of selling the White House Ornaments — available in the retail stores in Great Falls — that help their efforts each year to raise funds for the local Artemis House Shelter.

Artemis House shelters women and children that are victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

This year's ornament honors President Calvin Coolidge. President Coolidge actually started the tree lighting tradition on Dec. 24, 1923. The 60-ft tree came down from his native state of Vermont, and was replanted in the center of the Ellipse. The ornament symbols on the tree all represent objects of importance to President Coolidge, and the tree lights up to commemorate the

President's historic event.

There are two Great Falls Retail Stores helping sell ornaments this year:

Great Dogs of Great Falls, Great Falls Shopping Center, 9859 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, 703-759-3601; and The Studio, 10123 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls, 703-757-2330.

The ornaments sell for \$25 each.

## Fairfax County Companies Designated As Best Workplaces for Commuters

Ten companies in Fairfax County were honored as Best Workplaces for Commuters. "Promoting alternate ways to work, and policies such as teleworking and flex time, help make Fairfax County a better place to live and work by reducing congestion on our roadways," said Fairfax County Department of Transportation Director Tom Biesiadny. "We are pleased that Fairfax County is leading the nation in "Best Workplace" designations and are committed to continuing to expand these programs in years to come."

This year's recipients are:

Horizon Industries Limited (8245 Boone Blvd., Vienna)

Prosperity Metro Plaza (2675 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax)

FUTREND (8605 Westwood Center Drive, Vienna)

U. S. Geological Survey (12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston)

Kimley-Horn (11400 Commerce Park Drive, Reston)

Freddie Mac (multiple locations in Tysons and Herndon)

Synaptex Corporation (1818 Library St., Reston)

National Student Clearinghouse (2300 Dulles Station Blvd., Herndon)

FOX Architects LLC (8484 Westpark Drive, McLean)

Pyramid Systems Inc. (2677 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax)

The BWC designation acknowledges employers who have excelled in implement-

ing green commuter programs such as ridesharing, transit benefits, biking and walking, teleworking, alternate work schedules and other strategies.

Since 2010, Fairfax County has partnered with the National Center for Transit Research on the Best Workplaces for Commuters program to designate 57 local organizations with this elite, national recognition. Follow #FairfaxBWC on Twitter for more information on program updates and events here in Fairfax County.

For more information on Fairfax County's commuter programs and resources, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/news/trytransit.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/news/trytransit.htm) or contact Fairfax County Department of Transportation at 703-877-5600, TTY 711.

### 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.

#### THROUGH SATURDAY/DEC. 12.

**Wish List Project.** Take a look at the wish lists and take this opportunity to spread some cheer this December. Wish List Angels directly help families in area shelters, alternative housing and children in foster care. Make wishes come true by signing up to sponsor a child's wish. Find out how at <http://wishlistangels.com/>.

#### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 9

**Planning Commission.** 8-10 p.m. Town Hall, 127 Center Street, South Vienna. 703-255-6341.

**Youth and Education Committee Meeting.** 9:30-10:30 a.m. LearningRx, 8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 130, Vienna. Join us each month to plan for the Job Shadow Program, Chamber Stars, and other educational programs. Registration required at <http://business.tysons-chamber.org/events/details/youth-education-committee-meeting-12-09-2015-2957>.

#### THURSDAY/DEC. 10

**Town/Business Liaison Commission.** 7 p.m. Town Hall, 127 Center Street, South, Vienna. 703-255-6341.

**New and Prospective Member Orientation.** 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Tysons Chamber of Commerce, 7925 Jones Branch Drive Suite LL210, Tysons. If you are a new Chamber member or are considering joining the Chamber, or have been a member and want to learn all the new and exciting things we're doing, this will be time well spent, guaranteed! Join for a catered lunch by Silver Spoon Catering as you learn more about the Chamber and how to make the most of your membership through the various events, committees, member to member benefits and marketing

opportunities. Registration required at <http://business.tysons-chamber.org/events/details/new-and-prospective-member-orientation-12-10-2015-2901>.

#### SATURDAY/DEC. 12

**Understanding the Tax Code.** 1 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Phil Gaudiano, CPA presents a program on tax updates that highlights any recent changes to the tax law. Covered topics will include the Affordable Care Act, repair & maintenance regulations, business expense deductions, and various credits. Adults/older adults are welcome. 703-356-0770.

#### MONDAY/DEC. 14

**Town Council Meeting.** 8-10:30 p.m. Town Council Chambers, 127 Center Street South, Vienna. All Town Council meetings are open to the public and individuals are invited to attend and provide their input. 703-255-6300.

#### TUESDAY/DEC. 15

**Emerging Leaders Council Meeting.** 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. 7925 Jones Branch Drive Conference Room, Tysons. Want to create instrumental partnerships, be viewed as a leader and become a voice in the boardroom? Join for the council meeting. Any question, contact at [sbrown@tysons-chamber.org](mailto:sbrown@tysons-chamber.org).

#### TUESDAYS/DEC. 15, 22

**TIPS I: Lead Sharing & Networking at Fleming's.** 12:15-1:30 p.m. Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar, 1960A Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Free to join, \$16 for lunch. Contact Peter Himmelberger, Travel Cruise and Tour, 703-496-4125 or [phimmelberger@travelcruiseandtour.com](mailto:phimmelberger@travelcruiseandtour.com).

#### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 16

**Women's Leadership Council.** 9:30-10:30 a.m. 7925 Jones Branch Drive Suite TBD, Tysons. join us for a one hour informational/planning

meeting about upcoming events sponsored by Women's Leadership Council. Any question, contact Carla Doyle at 443-909-8665.

#### THURSDAY/DEC. 17

**Community Enhancement Commission.** 7:30 p.m. Town Hall, 127 Center Street, South Vienna. 703-255-6360.

#### MONDAY/DEC. 21

**Alden Theatre Usher Event.** 5:30-6:30 p.m. The Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Want to be a part of the arts? Learn how you can become an usher at The Alden. [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org). 703-790-0123.

#### ONGOING

**Food Drive for CHO.** Places vary. Please help CHO to help others in our area. All food contributions greatly appreciated. CHO is making plans for the holidays. Please bring new unwrapped gifts for children and teens to Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., NE, Vienna, on Dec. 11 between 9 a.m. and noon. Questions? Contact at [cho@cho-va.com](mailto:cho@cho-va.com).

**Langley Lacrosse Equipment Drive.** Through Dec. 12. Langley Girls Lacrosse is collecting used boys and girls lacrosse equipment to distribute at the clinic on Dec. 12. Their goal is to collect enough equipment that all kids in attendance at the clinic will be able to keep something. Drop off at Langley High School's Athletic Office, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean; or to the donation box at 9805 Arnon Chapel Road, Great Falls.

**The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna** has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area 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](http://www.scov.org) or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 703-281-5086 or email [volunteer@scov.org](mailto:volunteer@scov.org).





# Mae's Dress Boutique

1319 Chain Bridge Rd, McLean, VA 22101 • 703-356-6333

*Area's Premier After Five Store  
Fabulous Selection & Great Prices*



*All the fashions for the Holidays including Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, Preteens as well as Mother of the Bride, Mother of the Groom, Grandmothers, Charity events, Military Galas, Debutants and all the accessories. Above all, the epitome of the good taste and quality in every price range with a flair for fresh fashions and a professional staff with personalized*

**Service... Service... Service**

**Evening Gloves - All lengths**

Opera - Above Elbow - Below Elbow - Wrist

Color - Black and White



Also  
Featuring

*Joseph Ribkoff*

*Featuring one of the largest selection of Joseph Ribkoff fashions in the area. This Canadian designer's clothing has versatility, quality and affordability. Joseph Ribkoff caters to the upper echelon of the fashion world with versatile dresses for all occasions, day or evening. The separates & related sportswear has trendy items not found elsewhere. These standout silhouettes with dashes of color are a must have for your wardrobe.*



**\$50.00 Coupon**

**off First Purchase of 100.00\***

With this coupon. Expires December 24, 2015

\*One coupon per household. Excludes prior purchases sales items, alterations, sales tax.

CV12/9

**Gift Certificate Sale**

**20% Off\***

**Your Holiday Gift shopping made easy  
Issued in any amount. Available in  
person or by phone 703-356-6333**

\*For recipient use only. Non transferable.

CV12/9



**Expert alterators on the premises. Sizes offered 4 to 26.**

**Hours: Monday to Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm**

**maesdressboutique.com**

**Easy access from Beltway – Four minutes from Tysons via Route 123**