

2015 in Vienna — The Year that Was

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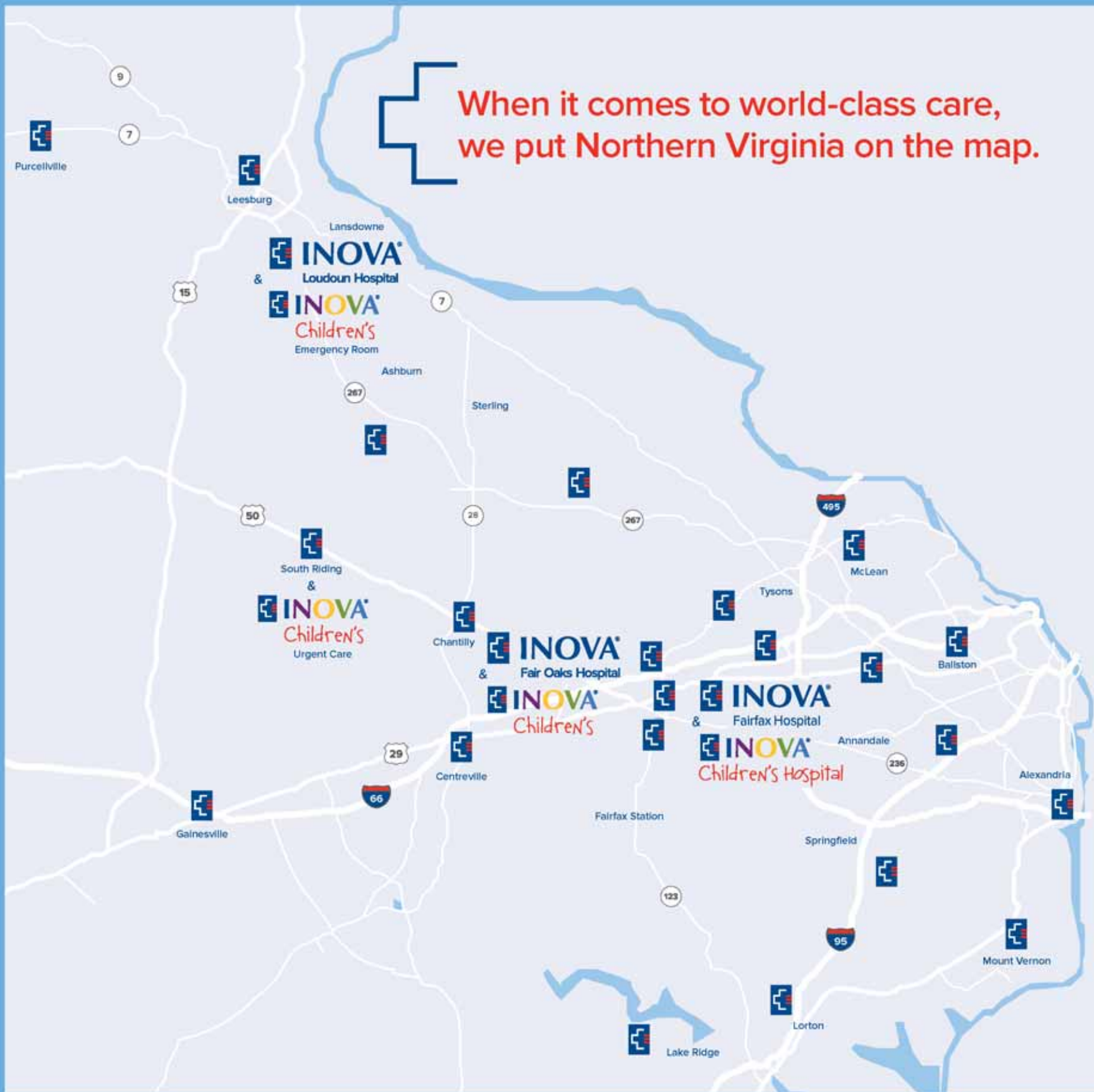
Elected Officials Reflect on 2015

NEWS, PAGE 3

Top Vienna Sports Moments from 2015

SPORTS, PAGE 8

The antique fire truck belonging to the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department readies for its annual Santa Run ritual, cruising Vienna's neighborhoods over a week's time with music, elves, candy canes and Santa himself.



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PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

The red caboose, permanently stationed in the Historic Church Street Corridor, is decked out in festive greens crafted by the Ayr Hill Garden Club. The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna maintains the caboose.

2015 in Vienna — the Year that Was

Community center renovation was
community's biggest newsworthy story.

DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Not much in the way of earth-shattering events happens in Vienna and not much changes there every year ... and that's the way most residents like it. The top news story of 2015 is the closure of the Vienna Community Center during its 1 1/2-year renovation and expansion, Phase 1.

A close second is construction of a mixed-use building – retail and condos – on Church Street Don't forget the new artificial turf at Waters Field ...

❖ Groundbreaking for the Vienna Community Center renovation and expansion in September 2015, signaled the beginning of headaches for many Parks and Recreation programs, as well as for community groups who have traditionally used the community center for special events and functions.

Re-opening of the community center, phase 1, is scheduled for January 2017.

Phase 1 plans call for expansion of the center by 15,000 square feet and for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification.

The enhanced facility will have a bright new lobby and a high school regulation-sized gym. The renovated community center will have a new lobby and entrance as well as a new 9,000-square foot high school regulation-sized gym/court at the back of the building.

The Town of Vienna budgeted more than \$10 million for the project.

Asbestos removal began in the

renovation's earliest stage.

During the closure, community center offices are at the Cedar Lane Shopping Center, 262M Cedar Lane SE, 2nd floor, units 4 and 7.

❖ Construction of retail space and residential units at 120 Church Street, N.W. began in fall 2015.

The vacant lot owned by Arrington Properties LLC will house a two-story, 9,000-square-foot mixed use building on the property fronting Church Street.

The ground floor will feature retails and businesses while the second floor will have condominiums.

The private/public parking garage originally proposed three years ago did not proceed.

❖ The artificial turf at Waters Field was replaced in late fall 2015.

Work to replace the turf at Waters Field was expected to be completed by Dec. 11.

Community athletic teams, from baseball to lacrosse and football, use the field throughout most of the year.

Fairfax County, the Town of Vienna, Vienna Youth Inc. and Greater Vienna Babe Ruth partnered to fund the new installation.

❖ To the disappointment of Vienna-area families – and to the Vienna Business Association [VBA] – the third annual First Night Vienna celebration was canceled for 2015. VBA, who funds the family-friendly new year's eve party on Church Street, uses revenue it raises from Oktoberfest to host First Night Vienna. Rain during the Oktoberfest festival dampened revenue, as well as the party.

A YEAR IN REVIEW

Highlights of 2015

Bipartisan Successes

Congressman Gerald E. Connolly (D-11): "It was a busy year for Congress which saw bipartisan action on major, long-overdue initiatives that will benefit every segment of our community. For starters, Congress passed another two-year bipartisan budget agreement that replaces some of the draconian sequester cuts, which have disproportionately harmed Northern Virginia. It's critical we maintain domestic and defense investments, and I will continue to push for relief from sequestration."

I was proud to represent Northern Virginia on the House-Senate conference committee that negotiated the new long-term transportation bill – the first in 10 years, which will provide more than \$530 million in new road, transit, and safety improvements across Virginia. Congress

also passed reforms to the Medicare payment formula to protect seniors and their doctors from harmful cuts, a perennial problem, and place it on a more sustainable path. We replaced the unpopular No Child Left Behind Act in favor of more flexible standards, and we passed new Trade Promotion Authority, setting rigorous labor, environmental, and enforcement standards for future trade deals. As you can see, Congress finally got something substantial done this year, and I hope these bipartisan successes will continue into 2016."



Gerald E.
Connolly

Thank You to Retiring Supervisors

Sharon Bulova, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors: "This summer, Fairfax County showcased our impressive public safety capabilities during the exciting World Police and Fire Games."

In March, to build on and enhance an already great Police Department, I convened a Police Practices Review Commission.

Recommendations from this 30+ member Commission centered on use of force, response to offenders suffering from mental illness, communications, oversight and recruitment. Changes resulting from the work of the Commission will help foster our culture of public trust and ensure the fair and timely resolution

of police-involved incidents.

I signed on to Michelle Obama's "Mayor's Challenge" to end Veteran Homelessness by the end of 2015. Thanks to our strong partnership with nonprofits and faith-based organizations, homeless veterans are now quickly identified and connected to support services and housing.

The year 2015 was an election year for local government. Please join me in saying 'Thank you' to retiring supervisors Gerry Hyland and Mike Frey and 'Welcome' to new Supervisors Dan Storck and Kathy Smith."



Sharon Bulova

Vienna's 100th Anniversary

Del. Mark Keam (D-35): "The year 2015 marked the 125th anniversary of the Town of Vienna, which is located in the heart of my legislative district. Throughout the year, we held several public events to commemorate this historic occasion, including an original theatrical performance by some of our local officials, educational programs hosted by Historic Vienna, Inc., a "White Dinner" and an anniversary-themed Halloween Parade. It was so nice to see the local community come together to celebrate our small town in the middle of a big and busy

county. It is remarkable that Vienna has been able to maintain such a family-friendly environment for so long, and I want to thank all of our residents and neighbors for helping make Vienna a great place to live, work, attend school, play and retire!"



Mark Keam

Independence Days

For many area seniors, aging-in-place is a strike for self-reliance.

DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Irene Coyne, 77, fills her days with activities, from crafting jewelry and knitting to volunteer work at a multitude of nonprofit organizations, such as Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna and Our Lady of Good Counsel Church. She even volunteers as an assistant at Culinaria Cooking School in Vienna.

"I try to measure my activities, distributing them throughout the week," said Coyne. "I went from my mother's house to my husband's house, and, now, I am doing what most kids do on their own in their 20s for the first time. I'm starting all over again and loving it at 77."

Coyne has lived alone for almost six years now. She sold her big Oakton home when it became too much to maintain while living alone and now lives in an Oakton condo.

"You get tired of paying people to do everything around the house," said Coyne. "I tried mowing the grass myself and it took me two to three days to do it. By the time I was through, it needed to be cut again."

There is a diverse age demographic in the condo community that Coyne now lives in, from young families with children to older residents, keeping her "young-at-heart." She chose traditional housing over an over-50 community because, in senior communities, there are "too many old people," she said.

"You live with many old people, it changes your attitude."

HER FOUR KIDS and six grandchildren are scattered about the country; one daughter lives in Vienna. To visit her grandkids in Florida, Coyne drove by herself. It took her two days in each direction but she did it. Her craft group is one she has been active in for 30 years.

Coyne is aging-in-place as the social sphere refers to it, what is more-commonly referred to as living "independently," outside the self-contained worlds of assisted living communities. To foster and support the execution of aging-in-place takes a village, as the saying goes. And the "Villages" model is what the Long Term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC) of Fairfax County supports. LTCCC helps volunteers set up age-in-place supported communities - Villages - in their neighborhoods by providing them with guidance and technical support.

The guiding precept of the Village concept is neighbors helping neighbors, or seniors helping seniors as described in the mission of Shepherd Center groups across



Local seniors Irene Coyne and Sally Dorn each sold their homes and moved to condos. They are active seniors aging-in-place, living independently.

the nation. A referral network of service providers helps those living independently maintain their homes.

Villages help older adults age-in-place in their communities by helping to coordinate and deliver services and support within their communities. The nearest "Village" to Vienna is the McLean Community.

Folks, said Michelle Scott, director of Shepherd Center of Oakton-Vienna [SCOV], should be able to live in their homes for many reasons - familiar surroundings, to remain independent, stay connected to the community, be less of a burden on their families, and remain self-sufficient. Economically, many elderly may not be able to afford assisted-living facilities and aging-in-place - living alone in their homes - may be their only recourse.

"Support programs like the Shepherd's Center will be more important than ever to support activities of daily living, such as shopping, transportation, friendly visiting," said Scott.

Sally Dorn, 83, lives in a Ballston apartment now. Like Coyne, she sold her big house and moved around since her husband died in 1994.

Dorn is 83 and still drives, but admits she cannot walk long distances. "I used to jog, play tennis," said Dorn. "Things I can't do anymore." A cleaning woman comes to Dorn's home once a month to help with the big chores, such as cleaning the bathtub. "I can't do that, anymore," Dorn said. Nevertheless, she likes living alone and independently.

"I like the independence because I don't like people telling me what to do," Dorn admits she does not have much of a social life any longer although she has relatives



Estelle McNeill has lived in the same house in downtown Vienna for 60 years. Living on her own now, she can walk to local businesses or drive to events in the community.

living in the area. "Everyone I used to know is dead," she said. Her grown children live on three continents - in the U.S. in California, in Nicaragua and in England. She said she watches a lot of television - once she viewed a marathon of "The Walking Dead."

THE DORN FAMILY moved around a lot - living in places like Paris and Turkey for years - until her husband retired in 1992 and they moved to Northern Virginia. He died two years later and Dorn has lived alone since then. When the kids got out of school, Dorn found work with temp agencies doing office administrative work. As she aged alone, it made sense for her to move to a smaller place with less responsibility to maintain.

"I don't have the stamina to come out to SCOV, anymore," said Dorn.

Dorn's son convinced her to get another dog. Now, Dorn's life "revolves" around her new puppy. "I've been in prison ever since I got him," she said, laughing.

"It's hard to remember what you can do and what you can't do anymore," said Dorn.

Estelle McNeill, 89 1/2 years old and going strong, has been living on her own since being widowed four years ago. A Vienna resident for 60 years, McNeill lives in the same home she has always lived in - a cul de sac subdivision house just a few blocks from the center of Vienna.

"I have a close circle of friends. I can look out my kitchen window and can see three blocks from there," McNeill still drives but she can walk into town if wants to. Physically, she feels as if she is in "pretty-good" condition. McNeill said that when she and her husband moved into their Vienna house,

A YEAR IN REVIEW

Disruptive I-66 Plans

Super
visor

Linda Smyth (D-Providence District) "In Providence the most significant event of 2015 has



Linda Smyth

been the Virginia Department of Transportation's proposal for major changes to the I-66 corridor, which runs through the heart of the district. It was clear from VDOT's first public meeting in February that Providence residents would see the most impact to their homes and property from the plans to widen I-66 and replace bridges that cross the interstate outside the Beltway. The Commonwealth Transportation Board has recently approved a preferred alternative for the project that reduces the size of the footprint for the expansion and the impact on adjoining property. However, the enormous scope of the road construction in this area could still disrupt daily lives, commutes, and businesses for years for years to come."

she said, "This is it. I'm not moving again."

SENIORS such as Coyne, Dorn, and McNeill remain active and part of the larger world beyond their home life. Living independently is a common ground they each value. "What I miss the most is someone to share all the stuff, I do," said Coyne, whose close friend passed away recently. "It's hard finding someone to click with."

Seniors helping seniors as in SCOV or in church groups provides both a social outlet, as well as a safety net. There are people - young and old - to check up on the elderly living independently and assist them when and where necessary.

McNeill said she loves living independently. "I get out of bed in the morning and everything, every day, is an adventure. You just have to have fun, you can be content."

There are not many things that Dorn misses living alone but one of those things she does miss resonates with her peers. "I miss being younger."

For information and details on Fairfax County resources for the aging population, focusing on the "Villages" model, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/lccc/villages.htm>

To learn more about community "Villages," visit the Village to Village Network at www.vtvnetwork.org. For details on the McLean Community, go to www.mcva.weebly.com.

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NEWS

Reston Hospital Center Receives Chest Pain Center Accreditation

HCA Virginia's Reston Hospital Center received full Chest Pain Center Accreditation with Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) with Resuscitation from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (SCPC) on Nov. 11. To become an Accredited Chest Pain Center, the hospital and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) were thoroughly evaluated for the ability to assess, diagnose and treat patients who may be experiencing a heart attack. The team met or exceeded a wide set of criteria and an onsite review by an accreditation specialist.

"Reston Hospital Center is committed to offering the highest standards of safety and quality care for our patients. This accreditation represents our ongoing dedication to expand and improve our clinical practices," said John Deardorff, CEO of Reston Hospital Center.

"This accreditation reflects the dedication and professional excellence of the physicians and staff at Reston Hospital Center," said Dr. David Jacobs, medical director of the emergency department. "It also validates that we have the neces-

sary processes in place to reduce the time from the start of symptoms to diagnosis, and treat patients more quickly during the window of time when the heart muscle can be preserved."

Heart attacks are the leading cause of death in the United States, with 600,000 people dying annually of heart disease. More than five million Americans visit hospitals each year with chest pain. SCPC's goal is to significantly reduce the mortality rate of these patients by teaching the public to recognize and react to the early symptoms of a possible heart attack, reduce the time that it takes to receive treatment, and increase the accuracy and effectiveness of treatment.

An Accredited Chest Pain Center's (CPC) evidence-based, protocol-driven and systematic approach to cardiac patient care allows clinicians to reduce time to treatment during the critical early stages of a heart attack. Accredited facilities better monitor patients when it is not initially clear whether or not a patient is having a coronary event. Such monitor-

ing ensures patients are neither sent home too early nor needlessly admitted.

SCPC's CPC Accreditation process came about as greater numbers of facilities in the United States sought to establish standards and adopt best practices in the quality of care provided to patients experiencing chest pain. SCPC's CPC Accreditation process ensures that hospitals meet or exceed an array of stringent criteria and undergo a comprehensive onsite review by a team of accreditation review specialists. Hospitals that receive SCPC CPC Accreditation status have achieved a higher level of expertise in dealing with patients who present with symptoms of a heart attack. They emphasize the importance of standardized diagnostic and treatment programs that provide more efficient and effective evaluation as well as more appropriate and rapid treatment of patients with chest pain and other heart attack symptoms. They also serve as a point of entry into the healthcare system to evaluate and treat other medical problems, and they help to promote a healthier lifestyle in an attempt to reduce the risk factors for heart attack.



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OPINION

Merry Christmas

We wish you hope, peace, love and joy during this holiday season.

The pages of the Connection have been full of holiday spirit for more than a month. Menorah lightings, group and individual efforts to help the needy, stories of giving, secular celebrations, religious celebrations. Shopping locally. Giving locally.

Christmas is about the birth of Jesus Christ. Whether you believe the Christmas story literally or in spirit, you know it is the story of joy, hope and love, the promise of redemption.

It is also about embracing the teachings of Jesus: to love thy neighbor as thyself; to help the needy; to feed and clothe the poor; to care for those who are sick; to treat others as you would have them treat you.

Matthew 7:12 "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Matthew 25:35-40 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we

EDITORIAL

see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

So let us share the verse relating the birth of Jesus from the Bible, Luke 2: 4-19:

"And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.'

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, 'Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.' And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds."

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Editor's Note about the rest of 2015: This is our last regular edition of 2015. Next week, after Christmas, we will publish our annual Children's Connection, devoted entirely to the artwork and writing of local students. Our next regular editions will publish Jan. 6-7, 2016, with deadline for content and advertising of Dec. 30 (late ads accepted).

In the meantime you can reach the editors at editors@connectionnewspapers.com and sales/marketing/advertising at sales@connectionnewspapers.com.

Digital replica editions of the most recent week's papers are available at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs

Past issues of the Connection back to 2008 are available at http://connectionarchives.com/PDF/

Advertising information, Special Section details here www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising

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The Time to Give

County promotes 11 ways to give back to your community.

BY WENDY LEMIEUX
FAIRFAX COUNTY OFFICE OF
PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS
(OP³)



It's the most wonderful time of the year ... to help others. Fairfax County has made it easy with its "Forget the Fruitcake — Ways to Give Campaign" that promotes 11 ways to give back to your community. Running through the end of the year, you can donate to any of these 11 county nonprofits, foundations and agencies in honor of anyone on your gift list. It makes shopping easy and offers you a nice tax deduction. But best of all, it helps those organizations succeed in bringing goods and services to those who need them most at this time of year.

On any given day more than 67,000 people go hungry in the county and more than 30 percent of the students in Fairfax County

schools are eligible for free and reduced lunch. Despite its affluent status, Fairfax has a population that benefits from programs such as "Ways to Give." There is something for everyone on your list whether they like animals, education, summer fun or community spirit. Gifts that give back include books, a week at camp, medical care, bikes, trees and food for the hungry.

Through a partnership with ad agency Williams Whittle, Fairfax County's Office of Public Private Partnerships has honed the mes-

sage and the graphics which has made a difference in the look and feel of the campaign. Williams Whittle liked the campaign in previous years and offered their professional services and contacts to make the program even better. And it's resulted in numerous pro bono advertisement and engagement from community stakeholders. One beneficiary of the increased exposure was the Fairfax County Restoration Project (FCRP) — whose mission is to restore the tree canopy in Fairfax County. When the first ad was placed in

the Connection in mid-November, FCRP reported a 70 percent increase in visits to their website that offers to plant five native trees in honor of a family member or friend.

This is the fifth year of the "Ways to Give" campaign that so far has resulted in an increase of 50 percent in web traffic. Although donation numbers won't be available until January, participating agencies and nonprofits have reported a surge in traffic to their sites.

To donate and learn more visit www.GiveFairfax.net.



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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/DEC. 24

Good For The Jews. 7:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Good For the Jews is a clever, hilarious music duo from New York whose Christmas Eve shows at Jammin Java have become a grand tradition. Join for the duo as they share songs about bar mitzvahs, Passover, Jewish girls, and relatives who live in Boca Raton. \$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

FRIDAY/DEC. 25

It's a Fu@*in SUPER bob Christmas. 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Join for some lively music from the Super bob rock band. \$12-\$15. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

SATURDAY/DEC. 26

Egypt "Annual Reunion Show." 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Join the band with a long history, and have some fun time listening to their music. \$15-\$18. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

MONDAY/DEC. 28

Winter Break Trip - David & Buster's. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Eat, drink and play games! Dave and Buster's is one of the best dining and entertainment attractions around. Lunch and a \$20 game card with unlimited arcade game play are included. Bring money for additional ticket games, if desired. Fees: \$65/\$55 MCC district residents. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-448-8336.

Deanna Bogart Band. 7:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Drawing on a variety of musical sources ranging from boogie-woogie to New Orleans R&B to swing to rock & roll, singer and barrelhouse pianist Deanna Bogart emerged as one of the most eclectic performers in contemporary blues. \$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY/DEC. 28-30

SciCamp. 9 a.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Explode, experiment and explore! Guaranteed days of hands-on, interactive science fun! Create slime, volcanoes and even experiments you can take home. Bring snack, lunch and drink. \$180/\$195. Ages 5 to 8. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/calendar.htm>.

Wild Chemistry. 9 a.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Discover hidden mysteries of the soil and stream through chemical analysis of water and sediments. Develop your skills as a junior scientist as you use materials and procedures professionals use in evaluating the health of ecosystems. Using scientific techniques, explore the natural world. Ages 9 to 12. \$180/\$195. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/calendar.htm>.

TUESDAY/DEC. 29

Winter Break Trip - Flight Indoor Trampoline Park + Sakura Hibachi. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. With the opportunity for casual jumping or testing your bouncing dodgeball skills, Flight Trampoline Park has something for everyone. After jumping around, participants will be immersed in a fine Japanese culinary adventure at a Hibachi restaurant. Gaze at skilled hibachi artists as they prepare a succulent meal right before your very eyes! Lunch and admission are included. Appropriate exercise clothing required. Fees: \$55/\$45 MCC district residents. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-448-8336.

Jammin Java Local Scene: Richtown + Cargo & The Heavy Lifters. 7:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Come join for some country music as Ryan Shepherd, a country singer, and the recording artist, Richtown, perform for the evening. \$10-\$15. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 30

Funny Photo Night. 5:30-9 p.m. Meadowlark, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. You provide your camera and smiles, and we will provide the props and staff to take your photo.

"Lady Sings the Blues" by Susan Webster, watercolor, can be seen in "The Blues Exhibit" at the Vienna Art Center from Jan. 5-23.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Ongoing

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

"The Blues" Exhibition. Jan. 5-23. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Exhibition of VAS members paintings with the theme, "The Blues." Free. 703-319-3971. www.ViennaArtsSociety.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://winterwalkoflights.com/>.

Bingo Night! 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 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.

<http://winterwalkoflights.com>. 703-255-3631.

Winter Break Trip - Autobahn Indoor Go Kart. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Experience a thrill like no other while driving an electric pro-style Italian go kart on two completely different Grand Prix-style racing tracks. Lunch and races are included in the fee. All participants must have an additional waiver signed by a parent or guardian. Fees: \$75/\$65 MCC district residents. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-448-8336.

Back to the 90s. 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Enjoy the evening as the three bands - RATM 2, Hostile Apostle and Enjoy! - bring music from the 90's. \$15-\$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JAN. 1-2

Rock This Holiday. 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Enjoy the evening with the variety of bands and individual singers collaborate and perform together for rock music and more. \$60-\$65. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

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 or 703-938-1142.

Trail and Ales with Caboose Brewing and Grass Roots Fitness. Mondays through Jan. 31. Caboose Brewing Company, 520 Mill Street, NE Vienna. Come Run with us every Monday night. \$1 Off All Pints! All paces welcome. We will run between 3-5 miles with options to go shorter or longer. You can walk or run. Dog and stroller friendly. Contact Joann Meginley at joannandfrancine@grassrootsfitness.org.

Tai Chi Beginners' Practice. Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. St. Luke's Catholic School Gymnasium, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Weekly Tai Chi practice. Group has met for over 20 years. Free. FreeTaiChi.org. 703-759-9141.

SUNDAY/JAN. 3

The Fred Eaglesmith Traveling Steam Show. 7 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. As a veteran of the music industry, Fred Eaglesmith performs lively rock'n roll music. \$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

MONDAY-THURSDAY/JAN. 4-7

The Band Battle - Prelims. 7 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Come join for some rock music and featured artists. \$10-\$15. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

FRIDAY/JAN. 8

The Tone Rangers. 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. In a few choreographed minutes, the Tone Rangers propel through 900 years of Western music—from Gregorian chant to classic rock to TV theme songs—in a fresh approach to contemporary a cappella music and comedy. Come listen to their beautiful voice as they were voted as the Best A Cappella Group for four consecutive years. \$16-\$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

FAITH NOTES

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

St. John's Episcopal Church services on Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24, will be:

- ❖ 4 p.m. - Family Service of Holy Eucharist with Christmas Music at 3:30 p.m.
- ❖ 7 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with Christmas Music at 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ 10 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with Christmas Music at 9:30 p.m.

There will be a Holy Eucharist service on Christmas Day at 10 a.m.

The church is located at 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-356-4902. www.stjohnsmclean.org.

Celebrate Advent and Christmas at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Weekly worship is Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays at noon. Holiday events include:

Thursday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, 5 p.m. family service; 8 p.m., Candlelight and Communion; 11 a.m., Candlelight and Communion. www.imtrinity.org.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, is holding Sunday evening worship service in a less formal atmosphere and more intimate setting to help you get ready for the week ahead. Sundays, 6 p.m. Communion offered. No childcare. 703-938-2119 or www.elcvienna.org.

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

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

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. www.jssa.org/growth-learning.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org.

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body & Soul Fitness. Gain balance, energy and strength at 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean, holds a third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. which allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Vienna Christian Healing Rooms are open, every Saturday, 1-5 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779 or www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com.

Chesterbrook United Methodist Church is at 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Worship service is at 11 a.m. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. for adults and children. 703-356-7100 or www.ChesterbrookUMC.org.

SPORTS



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Annie Clark, Lindsey Le and Victoria Thai, seen after the Conference 5 tournament, helped the Oakton girls' tennis team win the 2015 state championship.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Alex Marquis and the Oakton girls' basketball team reached the state semifinals last season.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Madison's Stephen LaRow (12) scored four goals during a 4-3 overtime victory over Cosby in the state semifinals.

Top Vienna Sports Moments from 2015

Oakton, Madison capture multiple state titles.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Vienna high school sports produced great individual efforts and multiple team championships during the year 2015.

Oakton High School captured three team state championships and Madison High School brought home a pair. Several other teams competed at the state level in their respective sports.

The following is a look at some of the top moments in Vienna high school sports from the year 2015.

Madison Volleyball Wins State Title

One year after experiencing an excruciating five-set loss in the state final in Richmond, the Madison volleyball team returned to VCU's Siegel Center and enjoyed the alternative outcome of a pressure-packed championship match.

Madison dominated opponents for most of the 2014 season, winning its first 33 matches while dropping just five sets. The Warhawks advanced to the 6A state championship match, where they went to a fifth set against First Colonial. Madison had match point seven times, but a state title and an undefeated season slipped through the Warhawks' fingers as they dropped the fifth set 25-23.

Madison wasn't as dominant the following season. The 2015 Warhawks lost six matches, including the 6A North region final against Langley, but Madison managed to get back to the state final on Nov. 20.

Facing Langley for a fifth time in 2015, Madison dropped the first set and two of



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The Madison volleyball team celebrates winning the 2015 6A state championship.

the first three, but battled back to win in five and capture the program's first state title.

Seniors Natale Zanellato, Jaynie Carter and Kendal Hall experienced both the 2014 state final loss and the 2015 championship. Against Langley in the 2015 final, Zanellato finished with 19 kills, Carter had 18 and Hall totaled 47 assists and five aces.

Madison Baseball Takes Home Title

In 2013 and 2014, the Madison baseball program produced a record of 43-5 and won a pair of Liberty District/Conference 6 championships. However, each season ended with the Warhawks being upset in the region tournament.

In 2015, Madison lost as many times as it had in the previous two years combined, but this time, none of the defeats occurred when it mattered most.

After suffering a 4-0 loss to McLean on May 8, dropping their record to 14-5, the Warhawks won their regular-season finale before putting together a postseason run that ended with the program's first state championship since 2002.

Madison defeated Chantilly 9-0 in the region championship game on June 5. Eight days later, the Warhawks beat the Chargers 6-5 in the state final.

Madison graduated first-team all-state selections Brian Eckert (pitcher) and Owen Socher (outfield), but many of the Warhawks' top players, including pitcher/first baseman Matt Favero and shortstop Pete Nielsen, will return in 2016.

Oakton, Madison Girls Advance to State Hoops Tourney

The Oakton and Madison girls' basketball teams represented the 6A North region at the 2015 state tournament.

Oakton defeated Madison 50-42 in the region championship game before both teams fell in the state semifinals.

The Cougars ran into a hot-handed Bethel team that shot 58 percent from the floor, including 6-for-6 from 3-point range, and pulled out a 73-63 victory. The loss snapped Oakton's 26-game win streak.

Delaney Connolly recorded a double-double for the Cougars, finishing with 16

points and 11 rebounds.

In the other semifinal, Madison's Kelly Koshuta scored 32 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in her final high school game, including a pair of free throws to send the game into overtime, but she couldn't keep the Warhawks from losing to Cosby 70-60.

The 6-foot-2 Koshuta, a first-team all-state selection, went on to play for Virginia Tech.

Madison's LaRow Scores 4 Goals in State Semis

Senior midfielder Stephen LaRow made sure the Madison boys' soccer team's first-ever trip to the state tournament wasn't of the one-and-done variety.

LaRow scored four goals against Cosby in the 6A state semifinals on June 12, leading the Warhawks to a 4-3 overtime victory at Robinson Secondary School.

Madison played in the state final the following night, losing to Langley 2-0. The Warhawks finished the season with a 12-8-1 record, including a loss to Langley in the 6A North region final.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

The Madison baseball team won the 2015 6A state title.

Metro's New Manager Meets the Public

Farewell paper tickets, welcome General Manager Wiedefeld.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

In 1965, federal legislation allowed for the creation of a mass transit system for Washington, D.C. The Washington Metro system would be part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's vision to rebuild cities and bring the nation together. Washington Metro system was begun with ambitions, and started service in 1976. Almost forty years later, new General Manager Paul Wiedefeld is trying to win back public support for the transit system.

WMATA transit systems have been facing a loss of credibility with frequent delays and lack of transparency. Wiedefeld said his priority is safety and to improve reliability. Wiedefeld is a former head of Baltimore-Washington In-



Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce CEO Jim Corcoran, new Metro general manager Paul Wiedefeld, Chair of the Board of Directors of the WMATA Mortimer L. Downey, and Fairfax County Supervisor Catherine Hudgins attended a Dec. 17 public meeting at Wiehle-Reston East station. Wiehle-Reston East station is the current final stop for the Metro's Silver Line.

ternational Thurgood Marshall Airport and a former Maryland transit official. The new GM says he will not seek to raise wage transportation fees until 2017. With the opening of the Silver Line, Metrorail serves a total of 91 stations on a 118-mile system in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia.

Since accepting the position of general manager, Wiedefeld has

fielded questions from riders at a public forums, including the newly formed WMATA Riders' Union. The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission hosted a forum at the Wiehle-Reston East station Thursday, Dec. 17 to hear from the public about WMATA and help identify solutions for Metro. Attending were Wiedefeld, Fairfax County Supervisor Catherine Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), Chair of the Board

of Directors of the WMATA Mortimer L. Downey, and Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce CEO Jim Corcoran.

Virginia's two principal (voting) directors on the WMATA board include Corcoran, who represents the state government, and Hudgins who represents Fairfax County on the panel. In January, Hudgins will reach the 12-year mark as a Metro board member.

After an introduction, Wiedefeld joined Hudgins, Downey, and Corcoran in taking questions from an audience of over twenty persons at the Wiehle-Reston East station. Wiedefeld shared he uses the Metro in his work commute. Downey said the Metro radio system needs to be replaced, so at the same time equipment to improve cell phone reach will be installed. FCC Commissioner Michael O'Rielly and Downey hope the project can be completed in less than five years. Wiedefeld also said a nationwide search is underway for a new safety director at Metro.

Arlington resident Audrey Clement encouraged Wiedefeld to fo-

cus on maintenance issues during his first year as manager. Other topics mentioned at the Reston meeting included the possibility of a frequent-flyer or frequent-rider program, along with time changes for Metro morning peak hour fare. WMATA will also try out a flexible "name your own price" passes. Some in audience wondered if praise is shared with Metro staff. "I never hear anything back if I call in to compliment a conductor," said Merrifield resident Kerry Morse. This lead to questions on whether Metro staff and station managers could enjoy a sense of ownership or pride on the stations and lines they worked.

Arlington resident Brian Gannon, who works in Reston as a facility manager at the Reston Community Center at Hunters Wood, attended the Dec. 17 Reston meeting. While Gannon said the official WMATA mobile phone app could be improved, he was glad Metro has a permanent manager. "I like how the general manager is making himself available and listening. I am optimistic," said Gannon.

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

JANUARY

1/6/2016..... Wellbeing, Renewal, Resolutions
1/13/2016..... HomeLifeStyle
Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Jan. 18
1/20/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools
1/27/2016..... Community Guide
1/27/2016..... Winter Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment; Valentine's Preview

FEBRUARY

2/3/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts I
2/3/2016..... Wellbeing – National Children's Dental Health Month
2/10/2016..... HomeLifeStyle
2/10/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts II
2/17/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools
2/24/2016..... Pet Connection

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The Sycamore School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Notice of Trustee's Sale 2050 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204 Arlington County

In execution of a Deed of Trust dated October 11, 2013, in the original principal amount of \$555,000.00, recorded as Deed Book 4732 at Page 1740 of the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Arlington County, Virginia, the undersigned Trustee will on **Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**, by the front main entrance to the Arlington County Courthouse, 1425 N. Courthouse Road, Arlington, VA 22201, offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder, the following property, with improvements thereon commonly known as 2050 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204 and more particularly described as follows:

Parcels 2,3, and Part of Lot 2, Estate of Benjamin Perry Improved by premises known as 2050 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA and as more particularly shown on plat attached hereto and made a part of hereof entitled "Lot 2 of the Partition of the Estate of BENJAMIN PERRY and a Vacated 16.5' Outlet Road" by Alexandria Surveys International, LLC, dated Mark 5, 2002, as the same is duly platted and attached to the corrected Deed recorded in Deed Book 4196 at page 1179 among the Land Records of Arlington County, Virginia.

RPC: 31024007

This sale is subject to any reservations, restrictions on use, covenants, obligations, rights of way, conditions, easements, leases and mechanic's liens, if any, whether of record or not of record, to the extent any of the foregoing apply and take priority over the lien of the Deed of Trust.

Deposit of \$20,000.00, or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, by cashier's or certified check, shall be required to qualify as a bidder prior to the sale, except for the Noteholder.

The deposit, without interest, is applied to the purchase price at settlement. Settlement will be held on or before fifteen (15) days after the sale. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser.

The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by certified or cashier's check, or wire transfer. Settlement shall be at the offices of the undersigned Trustee, or other mutually agreed upon location. The property and any improvements thereon shall be sold in "as is" condition without any warranties. The successful bidder shall assume all loss or damage to the property from and after the time of the sale. Purchaser shall be responsible for all costs of the conveyance, which shall be by special warranty including, but not limited to, the preparations of the deed, Regional Congestion Relief fee, and the grantor's tax. Real estate taxes shall be adjusted as of the sale date. The sale is subject to such additional terms as the Trustee may announce at the time of sale. The purchaser will be required to sign a Memorandum of Sale incorporating all the terms of the sale.

George J. Shapiro, Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Last week I was "naive and delusional." This week, not so much. Meaning: I'm well aware of my circumstances and not minding what usually matters. To that point, there's no doubt there are days/weeks that are more challenging than others. And even though I'm a veteran of the cancer wars, seven years and counting come this Feb. 27, I have been to have been blessed with the proper temperament and attitude for the task at hand: enduring the stress and strain of dealing with a cancer diagnosis and all its effects and affects and not going negative/dark in the process. It's not as if cancer has become my new best friend, more like a roommate I've learned to accept — who's not moving out any time soon, but I have learned to manage, mostly. (I am a Libra after all, and balance is my symbol.)

Still, over time, you do get used to the demands. You find a way to ignore the symptoms, not so much that it risks your health, but enough so it doesn't "anguish" your daily life. Because there's definitely no future — or rather not much of one, when every day becomes an emotional battle to the hopefully-not, death, so to speak. I don't want to give cancer too much credit but, it's a fairly powerful adversary and contributing to its strength serves no purpose and creates no advantage. It doesn't need any help doing all the harmful physical, emotional and spiritual, things it does. Granted, nipping it all in the bud is much easier in the garden than it is in the doctor's office/infusion center, but unless you become the master of your domain, the king of the castle, the lord of the manor, the more difficult your cancer experience will be.

This is not to imply that a positive attitude cures cancer. (But I doubt it hurts.) This is more to say that being miserable, feeling sorry for yourself or "woeing" is me, though understandable under the circumstances is boring and as Prince Kuragin (a character from Downton Abbey) said: "Nothing is more tedious than other person's misfortunes." And I certainly don't want to be tedious and boring. As a matter of fact, I'll make the extra effort — even when I don't feel like it, to avoid being thought of as anything but healthy and dare I say, normal. The more positivity I can exude, the more positivity I likely will receive in turn. It's not exactly chemotherapy, targeted treatment or immunotherapy, but "Good Vibrations" is more than just a Beach Boys classic. It's a way to my heart and soul, and hopefully to my lungs as well.

When it comes to being a cancer patient, I know what I know/what I feel, and more importantly — in my mind, anyway, I know what I don't know. Facts, figures, protocols, drugs, clinical trials, I don't know. As my wife's deceased, maternal grandmother, Franny would say: I'm as "dumb as a post." For me, ignorance is sort of bliss. I don't worry about what I don't know; I already have enough trouble worrying about what I do know.

Ergo my strategy: take the good with the bad — which is easy, and when there is bad, compartmentalize it somehow; put it in "the vault." To summarize; and with all credit and respect to Bing Crosby (singing in "White Christmas"): I must "Accentuate the positive. Eliminate the negative. Latch on to the affirmative." Moreover, I have to believe if I want to feel good, I have to think good — thoughts that is. And the more humor and normalcy I have in my life, the better I'll feel and think. I don't know if my future will be any better because of it but my present sure will be.

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

Success with a Little Help

Northern Virginia Family Service is changing families and changing futures.

Crystal Farrington isn't afraid to work. In fact, she worked at a dry cleaning company for seven years and increased her salary by 50 percent in that time. The problem is that going from \$8 per hour to \$12 per hour still leaves you living in poverty. In trying to make ends meet, Crystal went to social services in spring 2013. She and some family members were living in a hotel on Route 1 in Mount Vernon at the time.

She was told that she didn't qualify for much because her income was too high. However, she noticed a sign about the Vehicles for Change (VFC) program, which led her to Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS).

As the NVFS caseworker helped Crystal get an affordable vehicle to get to and from work, she saw something in Crystal...a drive and tenacity. She told her, "You are supposed to do something much greater Crystal." The caseworker told her about the Training Futures program, located in Tysons Corner.

Just weeks later, Crystal's mother died of pancreatic cancer. Crystal said that she felt



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Crystal Farrington: Northern Virginia Family Service has helped change her future.

as if her VFC caseworker took her under her wings and let her cry on her shoulder. She also encouraged her again to apply for Training Futures and in October 2013, Crystal began the Training Futures (TF) program. TF is an intense program which required that Crystal reduce her hours at the dry cleaning company. Resourcefully, she found another nonprofit to assist her with affordable housing which required that she pay a very modest stipend enabling her to focus on the Training Futures program.

"It amazed me that a stranger could have more faith in me than I did in myself," shared Crystal. In March 2014, Crystal graduated from Training Futures and was even selected by her classmates as a keynote speaker. She said that the program gave her confidence and purpose. It also landed her a job. Crystal is now a concierge in an office building in downtown D.C. She is the "go-to person" for 12 businesses covering administrative tasks and distributing weekly events. Her job is to stay abreast of all that is happening in the city. With regular 8 a.m.-5 p.m. hours, a \$35,000 salary and benefits, Crystal sees a bright future for herself and her children.

Having grown up poor, Crystal is proud to shout out to the world, "I'm above the poverty line!" NVFS is changing families and changing futures.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to north@connectionnewspapers.com by Friday.

Victor Zheng, 21, of McLean, is among five University of Virginia scholars who have received Critical Language Scholarships to assist them in pursuing their love of language. They will spend seven to 10 weeks in intensive language institutes this summer in one of 13 countries to study languages the U.S. government has deemed "critical." Zheng will study Chinese in Dalian, China. He is a third-year history and Chinese major who is learning Mandarin Chinese.

"I applied out of a desire to have another opportunity to go back to China and be immersed in its environment," he said. "I also just inherently love being abroad where I believe I learn the best and the most." Zheng, who is a member of U.Va.'s Virginia Glee Club, plans to pursue a master's degree in international relations.

Graham P. Lobel, the son of Doug and Betsy Lobel of McLean, received a Bachelor of Science degree cum laude, from Haverford College, in Haverford, Pa., at the school's 177th Commencement on Sunday, May 17. Lobel graduated with High Honors in Chemistry. At Commencement, Lobel also received The George Peirce Prize in Chemistry, for excellence in undergraduate research. Lobel graduated from the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in 2011.

Fishburne Military School in Waynesboro, Va. announced Cadet Second Lieutenant **Chase Dixon** from Vienna as Officer of the Month for October. Dixon is a senior and the son of Mr. Michael Filan and Mrs. Elizabeth McElroy-Filan. Cadet Dixon is the Executive Officer of Alpha Company and is a member of the Key Club.

Masato Chang, of Vienna, an eighth-grader at Longfellow Middle School was awarded first prize at the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) for the State of Virginia. He will travel to Florida in January 2016 to represent the State of Virginia for the next round.

George Mahaney-Walter, son of Mary Claire Mahaney and Herbert Walter of McLean, was awarded the degree of Master of Business Administration in recent commencement exercises at the Simon School of Business of the University of Rochester.

Gabrielle Greco, of Vienna, daughter of Drs. Stephen and Judith Greco, was named to the Dean's List at the College of William and Mary for the Spring Semester.

Chun-Ming "Chris" Chen of Vienna and Maria Vera Alvarez of South Riding have been awarded **Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarships**. Both students attend Northern Virginia Community College.

Chen and Vera Alvarez are among 90 students nationally to receive the prestigious award which provides up to \$40,000 a year toward tuition, books, living expenses and required fees for the final two to three years needed to earn a bachelor's degree. It is the largest private scholarship for two-year and community college transfer students in the country.

Kathryn Seymore Hahne of Vienna, was named to the Dean's List at the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy for the spring semester of 2015. The University of Virginia established the Batten School in 2007 as part of its strategic plan and as an expression of its Jeffersonian heritage.

Saba Chinian of Vienna, was named to the Dean's List at the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy for the spring semester of 2015. The University of Virginia established the Batten School in 2007 as part of its strategic plan and as an expression of its Jeffersonian heritage.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

TUESDAY/DEC. 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.

MONDAY/JAN. 4

Town Council Meeting. 8-10:30 p.m. Town Hall 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. Agendas are made available to the public on the Town's website after 12 p.m. on the Friday preceding a scheduled meeting. www.viennava.gov.

JAN. 5, 7, 12

ESL Registration. 7-8 p.m. St. Mark Catholic Church, 9972 Vale Road, Vienna. Classes begin Jan. 19 and ends March 17. Classes held Tuesdays and Thursdays. \$25 for English classes, \$10 for conversation, writing, citizenship and workshop. Textbook cost extra. Cash only. 703-502-9433.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 6

Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce Brand Launch. 8:30-10 a.m. Silverline Center Atrium, 7900 Westpark Drive, Tysons. Meet staff and members of the board of directors. Hear plans for future collaboration. Learn about upcoming meetings and events where businesses can get involved. Call 703-749-0400 for registration information.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 20

Fairfax Commission on Aging. Noon. Oakton Regional Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The public is welcome to attend and join in the comment period that begins each session. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/coa.htm. 703-324-5403, TTY 711 for meeting access needs.

Oakton Student Honored for Scientific Research

Daniel Chae and his teammates won a \$30,000 scholarship in Siemens Competition.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

A high school senior from Oakton received a national honor recently for a scientific research project on 3-D tissue printing. Daniel Chae, a student at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, was named a national finalist in the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology.

Chae hopes that his research will draw others into the discipline. "If there were to be a dramatic advancement of society using discoveries in science, then more people would become engaged in science and math," he said.

Along with his teammates Alan Tan of Fremont, Calif. and Sidharth Bommakanti of Pleasanton, Calif., Chae beat out hundreds of high school students from around the country to make it to the national competition. The team presented their project at the National Finals in Washington, D.C.,

earlier this month and will share a \$30,000 scholarship.

"These students have invested significant time and energy developing highly sophisticated projects that advance research and exploration in critical fields," said David Etzwiler, CEO of the Siemens Foundation.

The research project assessed 3-D printed structures as an alternative to plating dental pulp stem cells (DPSCs) for use as implants. The team found that DPSCs are able to differentiate substantially more on 3-D prints than on currently used structures, suggesting that 3-D printed structures could be a cheaper and better alternative for bone or dental implants.

The team was able to convert the challenge of having two different kinds of 3-D printers in the lab into an opportunity by comparing the structures from the two printers, which helped draw conclusions about the reproducibility of 3-D printers.

The collaborators created a plan for managing their geographic and time zone differences. "We dealt with that by dividing up the work and knowing what each person's responsibility would be," said Chae.

They used Skype and social media to connect with each other. "From the first day we recognized the variety of perspectives within our team," said Tan. "These very perspectives are what caused our success together."



PHOTO COURTESY OF DANIEL CHAE

Daniel Chae, a high school senior from Oakton, became a national finalist in the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology.

"Daniel was an integral part of the team, providing guidance as well as friendship," added Bommakanti.

Chae, whose role model is American scientist Linus Pauling, says that he realized

his predilection for science and math as early as sixth grade when he joined a MathCounts team. In seventh grade he competed in the Science Olympiad and a Rube Goldberg Machine Contest. "In seventh grade I also had a math teacher who inspired me to continue pursuing a high level of math," said Chae.

Chae is a chemistry and biology tutor and says he spends about six hours studying each evening, staying up as late as two o'clock in the morning. Outside of the science lab, Chae enjoys archery and is proficient in Korean. He is also the co-president of the Latin Honor Society at Thomas Jefferson.

"Daniel is fantastic and is one of my right hand men running my Latin organizations," said Christine Conklin, a teacher at Thomas Jefferson and faculty co-sponsor of the Latin Honor Society.

Chae has a weighted grade point average of 4.5 and plans to attend college next fall and continue his scientific pursuits. "I'm still interested in studying chemical and biological engineering and becoming a medical doctor."

Established in 1999, the by the Siemens Foundation, the Siemens Competition supports intensive research that improves students' understanding of the value of scientific study and informs their consideration of future careers in these disciplines.

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