

Swing band King Teddy played rousing danceable music throughout the Vienna Business Association gala evening on April 9.

VBA Hosts Debut Awards Gala

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Living Well Summit Piques
Interest of County Seniors

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Employment Expo in Tysons

NEWS, PAGE 2

Help Wanted: Mature Workforce at Employment Expo in Tysons

Older adults in search of work can discuss job opportunities with various industry representatives Monday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the “50+ Employment Expo” in the Sheraton Tysons Hotel.

“This is an opportunity to meet recruiters who are looking for mature workers and value what they bring to the workforce,” says Grace Lynch, communications and community outreach manager for the division of Adult and Aging Services for Fairfax County.

The expo also offers seminars about changing careers, and how to complete online job searches and applications. Participants can get constructive feedback on their resumes. They can meet with recruiters for government and nonprofit agencies, healthcare and retail industries, in addition to technology sectors.

Keynote speaker is ABC7/WJLA-TV chief meteorologist Doug Hill, who gives Washington-area residents more than 35 years of expertise in weather forecasting.

Hill knows a thing or two about changing careers before answering his call to broadcasting. He graduated from Towson State University, served his country four years in the U.S. Air Force at Andrews AFB and then his community as a police officer in Prince

George’s County.

Fairfax County officials predict a dramatic increase in population in coming years, according to a 2013 report that states 33 percent of county residents will be 50 years and older by the year 2040.

County government spokesman Brian Worthy points out the enterprising nature of older residents and cites a recent study of the Missouri-based Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, which tracks entrepreneurship across the country.

Older adults — not millennials — have created the largest increase in business start-up activity nationwide with 25.8 percent of entrepreneurs between the ages of 55 and 64. According to its 2015 Kauffman Index, this age group only represented 14.8 percent of startups in 1996.

Metropolitan Washington residents in this age bracket form the second highest rate of new business ownership with 8.36 percent in 2014, Worthy noted.

The event is sponsored by the Jewish Council for the Aging, Fairfax County and community partners.

Admission and parking are free to this job fair at 8661 Leesburg Pike in Vienna. No advance registration is required. Call the JCA senior helpline at (703) 425-0999 or visit www.accessjca.org/50plusjobexpos.

—MARTI MOORE

VIENNA CRIME REPORTS

Notable incidents from the Town of Vienna Police Reports from April 1-7

Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative

On Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Vienna Police Department will participate in a one-day initiative to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances from area homes.

There will be a collection site for old, expired, unused, or unwanted medications. Prescription medications, controlled or non-controlled substances, and over the counter drugs may be turned in anonymously at the collection point inside the Vienna Police Department located at 215 Center St., South, Vienna.

Participants may dispose of medication in its original container or by removing it and disposing of it directly into the collection box.

If an original container is used the individual should consider removing any identifying information from the prescription label.

Liquid products should remain sealed in their original container to prevent leakage.

Intravenous solutions, injectables, and syringes will not be accepted due to associated hazards.

Commercial businesses, pharmacies or other medical facilities may not use this as a means to discard expired medications or medical waste.

Incidents

Fraud - 500 Block Glyndon Street, NE. Between Jan. 1, 2009 at midnight and April 4, 2016 at 7:41 p.m. A resident advised a utility account had been fraudulently opened using his identity in Oklahoma.

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF VIENNA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Vienna Business Association co-founders, Kathy Georgen and DH Scarborough, were honored with VBA's "Tribute" award for their vision, dedication, and steadfastness to the business association's core values.



In an unscripted moment, VBA executive director Peggy James (left) shares a hug with chairman of the Board of Directors Mary Kay Claus, honored for her work putting together VBA's first awards gala despite obstacles. Presenting roses to Claus is Carole Wolfand. Emcee Jennifer Nycz-Conner, editor-at-large of the Washington Business Journal, stands to the left.

VBA Hosts Debut Awards Gala

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

The Vienna Business Association (VBA) honored its most outstanding 2016 volunteers at the business chamber's first awards gala held on April 9 at DeSales Hall of Our Lady of Good Counsel. More than 75 bought tickets for the festive dinner and awards program. A swing band, King Teddy, played throughout the four-hour event, during which guests bid on silent auction merchandise and services. Door prizes went out to several attendees, as well. Jennifer Nycz-Conner, editor-at-large of the Washington Business Journal hosted, and VBA Chairman of the Board Mary Kay Claus introduced the awards winners. On hand was U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) to congratulate VBA with entry into the U.S. Congressional Record lauding the young business association's accomplishments in its three-and-a-half year lifetime.

"You know that Congress is not unanimous on much but this went through with no opposition," Connolly said.

Members of the 180-member association were invited to nominate their colleagues for the awards; the board of directors voted on the nominees and eight volunteers were recognized.

VBA's first award of the evening, the "Honorary Community Involvement Award," was presented to John Lane, of W.T.G Properties. Lane's business property adjoins the caboose on Church Street and the business owner donates the use of his property for town events, from Oktoberfest to ViVa! Vienna! and more.

Town of Vienna mayor Laurie DiRocco received the "Gratitude"

VBA members and friends George Creed, Tracy Murphy, James Cudney, and Jeff Bolletino share social time at the VBA awards gala on April 7. Behind them is member Victor Mendes.



award. Claus credited the town's elected and appointed officials for their support of the partnership of community and businesses within the town. Claus called 2015 a "spectacular year for this award."

The "Unsung Champion" award went to Town Councilwoman Carey Sienicki.

VBA identified Sienicki as a person "always available in the true meaning of growing and maintaining a community spirit and to do whatever might need bolstering at every and any event sponsored ... without being asked knows exactly what needs doing-always with a smile."

Viva Tysons publisher Johnny Hanna received the "Photo Historian Award" — and not because it was his birthday. Hanna was described as someone who "selflessly takes photos or through many forms of promotional media usage chronicles all of the VBA's memorable mo-

Vienna Business Association honors outstanding volunteers with festive program.

PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION



The "Hospitality Associate Extraordinaire" award went to good-neighbor-business-owner Victor Mendes of Vienna Vintner, always on hand to ensure the community and VBA has access to wine and wine tastings. Mendes has supported VBA since the business association's inception. He had long been a fixture at community events even before VBA came into existence.

Kathy Georgen and DH Scarborough, co-founders of the Vienna Business Association, were honored with VBA's "Tribute" award.

A special award and honor went to VBA Chairman Mary Kay Claus for her dedication and effort to bring the awards gala to fruition. After the original venue closed its business in January, Claus and her team secured an alternate venue and headed the direction the gala was to take.

ments, triumphs in the business accomplishments and community presentations."

Nathaniel Hoelk took the "Young Professionals' Mentor" award. Hoelk, owner of two Urban Mattress stores, created an arm of VBA dedicated to the younger generation of entrepreneurs. Hoelk spearheads VBA's young professionals network, taking it upon himself to organize young professionals within the community of businesses and residents to exchange ideas building a business.

The "Hospitality Associate Extraordinaire" award went to good-neighbor-business-owner Victor Mendes of Vienna Vintner.

This award was given to the restaurateur or other food/beverage-related business that has stood behind the VBA all year and has been willing to extend their services and their venue on behalf of their commitment to the Vienna Business Association.

Living Well Summit Piques Interest of County Seniors

Summit helps county residents improve with age.

BY MARTI MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Local residents can learn how to age gracefully Saturday, April 16, at the Living Well, Aging Well Summit in the Fairfax County Government Center.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., older adults, people with disabilities and their caregivers can see more than 100 exhibitors, and participate in seminars useful to improving the quality of their lives.

Keynote speaker Dr. Richard W. Lindsay will address the value of physical activity for living and aging well. He is a pioneer of the geriatric studies program at the University of Virginia's School of Medicine.

Part of the conference sheds light on transportation issues and offers solutions for people who cannot drive. Visitors will see the Fairfax County Connector bus, a Fastran shuttle and an accessible taxicab on display outside the government center entrance.

Across the street in the parking lot of the Pennino Building — at the corner of Post Forest Drive and the Government Center Parkway — CarFit specialists will examine the posture of senior motorists and make adjustments to maximize driver safety. Everyone is offered a free shuttle ride from this site to the summit, so they don't have to waste time finding a parking spot at the Government Center.

Inside, visitors can learn how to use Medicare for financial assistance with their long-term care needs, and access their medical records according to rules under the Health Insurance Portability and Accounting Act.

Instructors will show patients how to obtain valuable face time with medical professionals through their mobile devices without leaving the comfort of their homes.

People interested in volunteer opportunities may find a local non-profit organization in need of their time and expertise.

Area vendors will dispense health and wellness information. Diet, nutrition and exercise also are discussed at Living Well workshops — including a session on how to maintain the proper balance one needs to prevent falls and injuries.

Summit on Living Well, Aging Well

Recovering from a traumatic brain injury is an uphill climb for retired Army Lt. Col. Charles R. Thomas, 79, as he strolls up his driveway in Burke March 30. His caregiver, Gio Gavilanez — a certified nursing assistant with Vienna-based home health care agency Visiting Angels — holds onto a belt cinched around his client's waist to keep him balanced on a windy day as Thomas pushes a Drive Medical Nitro rollator his wife, Wanda, purchased last year for more than \$300 from Roberts Home Medical supply in Falls Church. Local residents like Thomas and their caregivers can visit more than 100 exhibitors and attend workshops on health and wellness issues

Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Living Well, Aging Well Summit in Fairfax at the County Government Center. The inaugural expo will show older adults and people with disabilities resources available to them through county agencies and community service providers. Admission and parking are free at the April 16 conference at 12000 Government Center Parkway. Registration is on the main level near the entrance. Visitors can call 703-324-7647, TTY 711 or sign up at www.livingwellfairfax.org.



PHOTO BY MARTI MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Event chairwoman Melanie Rochon Bush, who holds a doctorate in health sciences and physical therapy, says the summit is “an opportunity for Fairfax-area residents to access information that is difficult to get in one place.”

Fairfax Grows Up

According to a 2014 American Community Survey of the U.S. Census Bureau, Fairfax County has more than 1.1 million residents. Although the median age is 37.6 years, nearly 272,000 residents are ages 55 years and older.

Fairfax County demographers released a 2013 study that predicts 33 percent of county residents will be 50 years and older by the year 2040. Instead of flocking in droves Down South, local retirees are staying put — especially in Prince William and Loudoun counties.

For this reason, Fairfax County spokesman Brian Worthy said the Board of Supervisors is committed to older adults through its “50+ Community Action Plan,” adopted nearly two years ago as the last of the baby boom generation born in 1964 came of age.

“It’s a vision and action plan the county is executing,” he says. It is one of the guiding principles organizers used to plan the Living Well, Aging Well conference, according to Bush.

Patricia Rohrer, long-term care program manager in the Fairfax County Health Department says the summit is a brain child of the government’s Long Term Care Coordinating Council — “a citizen-driven program to examine gaps in the needs of the long-term care community.”

Bush said Fairfax County provided space and staff support for this function but plays “no part in establishing a budget.” The Living Well, Aging Well Summit has received support from the local business community and volunteers.

Sponsors include the Fairfax County Long Term Care Coordinating Council, the Fairfax 50-Plus Initiative, the Department of Health’s Area Agency on Aging, AARP, local hospitals and businesses, as well as community and advocacy groups.

Admission and parking are free to the general public at 12000 Government Center Parkway. Registration is on the main level near the entrance. Visitors can call 703-324-7647, TTY 711 or sign-up online at www.livingwellfairfax.org.

FAITH NOTES

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

The Church of the Holy Comforter in Vienna, 543 Beulah Road, is offering the course “Your Faith, Your Life: An Invitation to the Episcopal Church.” Classes will be April 17; May 1, 15, 22; June 5 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Light lunch and childcare provided. Visit <https://ttsu.me/1tg> to sign up for a book and

Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, will host annual yard sale/flea market on Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. You can now reserve a 10x10’ space (\$25) to sell your own treasures or donate items to the church (they would pick up). Come shop, donate and/or sell your own things. 703-582-1640.

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 and 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.

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Parcel 1: (American Realty) 148,561 +/- Sq. Ft.; 5600 Backlick Road, Springfield; Braddock District; Tax Map #0802-01-0016; Acct. #407620309

Parcel 2: (Bengal) 8000 +/- Sq. Ft.; Lantana Trail; Gunston Manor, Lots 50-53, Block 24, Sec. B; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #1194-02240050; Acct. #408079493

Parcel 3: (Berkebile) 1.7783 +/- Ac.; Caisson Road; Sunrise Green; Legato; Springfield District; Tax Map #0563-01-0036; Acct. #407895000

Parcel 4: (Haight) 3.939 +/- Ac. Near Fairfax County Parkway & Hope Park Road; Springfield District; Tax Map #0671-01-0084; Acct. #407569254

Parcel 5 (Improved): (JFM) 8608 Rocky Gap Court, Lorton, VA 22079; Green Ridge Condos Addition; Lot 26; Mt. Vernon Dist.; Tax Map #0983-15-0026; Acct. #408045740

Parcel 6: (Jones) 2.6732 +/- Ac.; 11815 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22030; Lincoln Park, Lot 30; Tax Map #0671-04-0030; Acct. #407569308

Parcel 7 (Improved): (Kenney) 2547 Five Oaks Road, Vienna, VA 22181; Acredale, Lot 30; Providence District; Tax Map #0383-03-0030; Acct. #407812118

Parcel 8: (Pennsbury) 1.149 +/- Ac.; Carrleigh Parkway; Cardinal Forest, Parcel 11, Section 3; Springfield District; Tax Map #0793-01-0009; Acct. #407975430

Parcel 9: (Second Carr) 2.65 +/- Ac.; Southern Oaks Place; Hooes Road; Newington Commons, Parcel B, Section 1; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #0983-14-B, Acct. #407685462

Parcel 10 (Improved): (Uwazie) 9325 Maybrook Court, Alexandria, VA 22309; Mt. Vernon Grove, Lot 499; Mt. Vernon District; Tax Map #1104-02-0499, Acct. #407715885



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OPINION

Award Winning Connection Newspapers

Still striving to be the Connection to your community.

Connection Newspapers won dozens of awards from the Virginia Press Association for work done in 2015. Award winners were announced on Saturday, April 9, at an awards banquet in Richmond.

While the papers won awards in many categories, the common underpinning was community journalism, accessibility of information, and reporting on critical issues like transparency in government.

Thematically, the papers won multiple awards for stories and sections that were informative and helped make communities, events and resources more accessible to our readers.

Examples included Ken Moore's reporting on Robert Simon's role in Reston, which included coverage of Simon's 101st birthday, Simon's ongoing influence, and his obituary. The series won first place.

Print newspaper obituaries play a vital role in local communities, reflected in Jeanne Theismann's first place award for three obituaries in the Alexandria Gazette Packet. Earl Lloyd was born into "the cradle of segregation" yet persevered to become the first African American to break the color barrier in the NBA. Dr. Robert Wineland, "Dr. Bob," was a WW II

veteran and survivor of the Battle of the Bulge. He was a beloved local doctor for more than 60 years. And Ferdinand Day was the first African American to be elected to chair a public school board in the state of Virginia.

We are lucky to have cartoonist Steve Artley to skewer and edify many issues, including his first place cartoon that suggests Alexandria could solve parking and housing problems by placing both on barges in the Potomac River.

Jean Card, Renee Ruggles and Laurence Foong have collaborated over several years on the Insider's Guide to the Parks, which won awards in Mount Vernon and Vienna/Oakton, capping several awards for informational graphics.

Our Newcomers and Community Guide to Arlington was described as "Informative, well written, with good use of graphics." Winners included Steven Mauren, Eden Brown, Vernon Miles, Shirley Ruhe, Laurence Foong.

Sarai Johnson, Hope Nelson, Shirley Ruhe, and Steve Hibbard won second place for entertainment pages in the Alexandria Gazette Packet, weekly coverage of arts, entertainment, food and things to do in Alexandria.

Reporting on elections, the environment, health and fitness, and organizations that are designed to help others also garnered awards.

Kenny Lourie won for his ongoing column writing about living with cancer. Lourie both lives and writes with humor and perspective. The judge said, "Though filled with heavy subject matter, the author hooks readers by using his first-person perspective, humor and emo-

tion to describe the events of his life. These columns grab your attention from the first paragraph."

Abigail Constantino's photo that shows the great aunt of Natasha McKenna at a protest of McKenna's death in custody, won second place for general news photo. Eudora Paul's sign displays McKenna's last words: "You promised you would not kill me."

Tim Peterson's coverage of McKenna's death won second place in In Depth/Investigative. Peterson garnered the most awards of any Connection staff member, winning seven.

Mary Kimm's editorials on lack of police transparency and local government accountability won second place for editorial writing.

Kemal Kurspahic's opinion pages in the Herndon Connection won third place.

Jeanne Theismann, whose profile includes that she "dreams of one day writing headlines for the New York Post," won second place for headline writing in the Alexandria Gazette Packet. Headlines: Some Like It Haute, - story about the 10-year anniversary of a boutique warehouse sale; Soul Providers, a story about volunteers recognized for service to seniors; Something to Wine About, - on the opening of a new wine cellar; Luck Be a Lady, - on the opening of a new bath apothecary called Ladyburg; To the Rescue, about - a nonprofit started by firefighters to collect toys for underprivileged children.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Connection Awards - Partial Listing

- ❖ Ken Moore, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, First Place – Feature writing portfolio included a trip to the farmers market, remembrance of Latin teacher Christine Sleeper and celebration of the one-year birthday of the Silver Line.
- ❖ Marilyn Campbell, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – Health, science and environmental writing
- ❖ Kenneth Lourie, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – Column writing. Judge: "Though filled with heavy subject matter, the author hooks readers by using his first-person perspective, humor and emotion to describe the events of his life. These columns grab your attention from the first paragraph."
- ❖ Ken Moore, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – General news writing for election coverage. "Excellent coverage. ... Balanced and thorough. Effective at conveying why this is relevant for readers."
- ❖ Jon Roetman, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Second Place – Sports writing portfolio.
- ❖ Kemal Kurspahic, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong, Mary Kimm, Oak Hill/ Herndon Connection, Third Place – Editorial pages
- ❖ Ken Moore, Reston Connection, First Place – Feature series or continuing story, on Reston founder Robert Simon. Judge's comment: "This was an in-depth series, very informative and interesting to read." Moore covered several key moments, including celebration of Founder's Day 2015 and Simon's 101st birthday; later, Moore wrote Simon's obituary and covered the celebration of Simon's life.
- ❖ Jean Card, Laurence Foong, Renee Ruggles, Vienna/Oakton Connection, Second Place – Informational graphics, Connection Insiders Guide to the Parks.
- ❖ Mary Kimm, Great Falls Connection, Second Place –



PHOTO BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO

Natasha McKenna's great aunt Eudora Paul carries a sign with McKenna's words the day she was tasered by officers from the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department. Photo by Abigail Constantino won second place for General News Photo.

Editorial writing for multiple editorials on police transparency. Judge: "Brings important pressure to bear on people in power."

- ❖ Ken Moore, Great Falls Connection, Second Place – Health, science and environmental writing; stories covering issues of deer, cleanup of groundwater contamination from gas station and tree preservation. Judge: "Excellent and informative."
- ❖ Laurence Foong, Great Falls Connection, Third Place – Informational graphics, Map of Property

Assessments. Judge: "A very interesting concept."

❖ Ken Moore, McLean Connection, Third Place – Feature writing portfolio. Judge: "Great reads on interesting topics. Who knew there was such a thing as pinball championship, especially out of someone's basement? Pull out information added neat and tidy facts and/or information."

❖ Abigail Constantino, Fairfax Connection, Second Place – General news photo, Natasha McKenna's great aunt holds a sign: "You promised you would not kill me." Judge: "Good capture of emotionally charged event."

❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Second Place – Personal service writing, coverage of three worthy causes. Judge: "This submission quickly makes the reader care about the causes championed in the stories. ... There was good detail presented in such a way as to make the reader want to donate to each of these causes by the end of the story — I was ready to get my checkbook out after reading each one."

❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Third Place – Government writing, coverage on aftermath of police shooting of John Geer, Virginia General Assembly. Judge: "A very comprehensive look at the Geer case was well-thought out and I was very impressed with the state legislature package."

- ❖ Tim Peterson, Springfield Connection, Third Place – Public safety writing, stories on sex trafficking, police and fire department training and National Night Out. Judge: "Each of the stories in this submission is comprehensive in its handling of the topic, as well as engaging for the reader. The information offered is very good, and the presentation attractive. There was adequate space given to each story, which was then complemented by excellent artwork."

Vienna & Oakton
CONNECTION

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CALENDAR

ONGOING

“Slice of Life” and The National Gallery of Art Copyists Exhibits.

Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 3-28. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Two exhibits by the Vienna Arts Society. Free. viennaartssociety.org.

Six Artists: What Matters Most.

April 2-May 14. The Frame Factory Gallery, 212 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. An exhibition and sale of artwork by local artists. Open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. theframefactory1.com. 703-281-2350.

Spring Delights.

Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. April 4-May 2. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. Exhibition of Vienna Arts Society members.

viennaartssociety.org. 703-319-3971.

Gentle Yoga.

Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Emmaus United Church of Christ, 900 E Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Gentle Kundalini Yoga, one free introductory session, senior discounts. Increase your flexibility, improve your breathing and health, reduce your stress. Ravi Kaur has 15 years experience teaching yoga. \$15 per session. www.edimprovement.org. 571-213-3192.

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.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NOVA PARKS

See the sunrise and enjoy a peaceful walk at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens on Sunday, May 1.

FRIDAY/APRIL 15

Preschool Nature Nuts. 10:30-11:15 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Preschoolers will learn about the fish that live in the Visitor Center and in our lakes. \$5. Register at NOVAparks.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 16

Model Trains and Thomas at Open House. 1-5 p.m. Historic Vienna Train Station, 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends. The layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. Free. Donations accepted. www.nvmr.org. 703-938-5157.

Bluebells at the Bend. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills

St., Great Falls. Celebrate the Virginia Bluebells as they blanket the banks of the Potomac River. Bring the whole family for fun including games, music, wildflower walks, wagon rides, and more. Registration not required. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/>.

Flower Show. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Small Standard Flower Show presented by The Great Falls Garden Club. A competitive exhibition of floral designs and horticulture, affiliated with National Garden Clubs, Inc. 703-759-3130.

Awards Reception. 4-6 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. For Spring Delights exhibit judged by Christine Lashley. Free. viennaartssociety.org. 703-319-3971.

Spring Community Garage Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 1420 Beverly Road, McLean. Vendor spaces are available

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

on a first-come, first-served basis for \$45. No spaces will be sold on the day of the sale. Residents selling used household items are welcome. Limited commercial vendors or flea market dealers are also welcome. Advanced registration is required. mcleancenter.org.

18 years' experience tapping. Free. nicki@caffeamouri.com.

SUNDAY/APRIL 24

Vienna 5K and One-Mile “Run for Fun.” Starting at 8:10 a.m. 128 Center St. S, Vienna. Sponsored by the Vienna Elementary School PTA. \$15-\$30. www.vienna5krun.org. 703-282-0084.

Oakton Elementary Family 5K.

8:30 a.m. Centennial Park, 131 Church St., Vienna. Proceeds benefit enrichment program at Oakton Elementary. \$12-\$35.

TUESDAY/APRIL 26

Creed Bratton. 6:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. “The Office’s” Creed Bratton headlines an evening of music and comedy. \$20-\$30. www.jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 28

Penny University Event. 7 p.m. Caffe Amouri, 107 Church St. NE, Vienna. Basis Independent School wants to hear your thoughts on “Creating A Positive School Culture.” With Head of School Sean Aiken. Free. To sign-up, nicki@caffeamouri.com.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 29-MAY 1

“Kaleidoscope” Vale Arts Spring Art Show. Friday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Vale Schoolhouse, 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton. Nine local artists exhibit more than 150 fine art paintings and collages. info@valearts.com. 703-860-1888.

SUNDAY/APRIL 17

Voce Chamber Singers. 4 p.m. Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, Vienna. American choral classics featuring the world premiere of a new Voce commission by DC-area composer, Stephen Caracciolo. \$25. voce.org/tickets. 703-277-7772.

Spring Cleaning Workshop. 1-4 p.m. KW Realty Office, 774-A Walker Road, Great Falls. Workshop hosted by AV Architects & The Canto Group. www.thecantogroup.org. 703-599-0453.

MONDAY/APRIL 18

50+ Employment Expo. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sheraton Tysons Hotel, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. Meet job recruiters. Attend seminars on changing careers, online job searching, continuing education, starting your own business, job training, and job interviewing. Chief meteorologist Doug Hill from ABC 7/WJLA-TV News is the keynote speaker. Free. Find out more at www.accessjca.org/50plusjobexpos or call Micki Gordon at 301-255-4209, TTY 711.

THURSDAY/APRIL 21

Penny University Event. 7 p.m. Caffe Amouri, 107 Church St. NE, Vienna. Try Tap with Kayla Moore, who has

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Modular Homes Come of Age

Cost-controls and customizable interiors spur interest.

By JOHN BYRD

What's behind the growing popularity of modular homes? Recent research shows that a house composed of architecturally-specific, pre-constructed modules can be assembled on a homeowner's lot for 10-15 percent less than the cost of a comparably-sized "stick-built" house. A house that would normally cost \$500,000, therefore, can be designed and constructed in the \$425,000 range.

Moreover, a modular home — one that's been designed as appreciably finished components produced under factory conditions — is a solid piece of work. To assure units can be shipped and installed safely, framing material is substantially reinforced. Also, since the process generates less waste — it can be an eco-friendly choice.

Modular homeowners Marcelo Dobrauchi and Rita Tersio, husband and wife, are eager to show people what's possible and to share their journey.

What you'll see from the curb is a lovely, seemingly-traditional Colonial-style home that's actually composed of pre-constructed modular units.

The components were assembled in Pennsylvania, loaded on six flatbed trucks and delivered to their new half-acre destination in less than a day. Modules were then assembled on the site in two days.

The follow-up consisted mainly of interior finish work tasks like installing the Brailizan etuve flooring or the glass facing cabinets in the master bathroom, kitchen and butler's pantry.

Tersio and Dobrauchi moved in with their two children this past November and soon began entertaining friends.

Details

The Tersio-Dobrauchi home at 508 Plum St., SW in Vienna, will be open to the public on June 11. Call 703-761-0604 or visit www.terranovackb.com.

For the couple, who operate Terranova Construction K&B, the move has inaugurated a new phase in their professional development. As a rule, they had concentrated on remodeling solutions in conventionally constructed "stick-built" homes. But in 2003 on a business trip in Pennsylvania they witnessed a pre-constructed housing component being whisked through the air on a crane and decided to investigate.

"In an instant we saw how much more solidly constructed a modular home is than a house built by traditional methods," Tersio said. "We decided to familiarize ourselves with the current practices. Basically, we wanted to know how effectively a home coming out of this process could be customized."

One decision led to another and last year the couple purchased the Vienna lot, which soon became the



PHOTO COURTESY OF TERRANOVA K&B

The island provides a food prep sink and shelves for cookbooks. In total, the kitchen is 320 square feet. There's a butler's pantry through the door that segues to a formal dining room.

site of the 4,200-square-foot, two-level structure they had shepherded from rough sketches to the finely detailed residence they now occupy.

"We wanted to comparison-shop two building methods," Tersio said. "As remodelers, we often see clients agonizing over price differences in upgrade choices. So we asked ourselves: suppose the homeowner has already saved a substantial upgrade voucher since the house itself costs less to construct? Since our specialty is interior design, we thought this alternative

process was worth exploring."

Certainly this concern for presentation is evident in their new home where the couple opted for formal finishwork detailing and personal-use spaces throughout.

There is a 140-square-foot master bathroom with custom-cabinetry and fine mosaic tiling; a 200-square-foot formal dining room that incorporates wainscoting and embossed paneling; a spacious in-law suite; and a family room designed for puzzles and

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Modular Homes

FROM PAGE 8

board games. There is a second floor art studio and above all, a suite of rear rooms that revolves around a gourmet kitchen.

"We thought a lot about breakthrough kitchen design trends," Tersio said. "There's been a movement toward transitional-style: open, well-integrated spaces with effective work triangles that use formal design elements to define key activity zones."

To put their new kitchen to the test, the couple sponsored a cooking class last January led by Luca Tinti, a Tuscan chef who is also engaged to Tersio's sister.

"We wanted to welcome Luca to the family," Tersio said. "But were also responding to people who wanted to see just how customized a kitchen designed from a modular construction process can be."

At the end of the day, Luca's satisfaction that his requirements had been met spoke volumes.

"This space was obviously designed for serious cooking," Tinti said. "For instance, there are sources of water in all the right places ... pot-filler behind the gas range, the sink on the food prep island and the bow-shaped farm sink."

"There's a professional caliber gas range. Several ovens. Pull-out spice racks. It's not just an exceptionally well-organized plan; it also provides work stations for a whole range of steps necessary for sophisticated cooking."

The 4-foot-by-12-foot food prep island, for instance, is positioned to support work triangles formed



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TERRANOVA K&B

Marcelo Dobrauchi notes that, while a modular home costs 15 percent less than a "stick-built" alternative, its customization and finishwork potentials are comparable.



The foyer.

by perpendicular counter surfaces on either side of an archway which segues to the butler's pantry and formal dining room beyond. The island also doubles as a three-stool dining counter.

It's a plan that allows one dish to marinate — while another is being sauteed on the gas range, and a third is in the warming oven.

As a chef, Luca particularly appreciated finding all the necessary cooking implements at his fingertips.

"I could swivel in one direction and find cooking utensils, specially-sized pots and pans, and mixing bowls in custom-designed drawers" he said. "In the pantry, there's a special cubby for the pasta-maker. There's even a case for cookbooks

built into the island."

None of this praise is a surprise to Dobrauchi, who is a seasoned kitchen designer. Still, the ease with which he could execute the kitchen's finishwork was a pleasant departure from the realities of the stick-built process.

"My experience in designing this house may be somewhat like that of a playwright who is so close to every detail of his work that he's completely forgotten about the audience until opening night. Suddenly people are excited about effects they are seeing for the first time, and all I can say is 'Yes, that's the reaction I intended to inspire.'"

That said, Marcelo is equally enthused about the home's master bathroom, formal dining room and the old-world elegance of the spacious family room.

"The modular home design process can remove a lot of drudgery because you have the option to work with pre-existing templates," Dobrauchi said. "On the other hand, there's nothing you can't adapt to your requirements, and this allows the homeowner to concentrate on interior design, which is the arena where they really get to express themselves."

John Byrd (byrdmatx@gmail.com or www.HomeFrontsNews.com) has been writing about home improvement for 30 years.

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Wading is the Hardest Part



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

And so it begins, the storm after the calm. Ten weeks or so of relative peace – and some quiet, since my last diagnostic scan. But now, five days ahead of my next scan, scheduled for April 13, I am emotionally behind. Why (aside from the obvious)? Because even though the scan will occur this Wednesday, I/we won't know the results until the following Thursday, April 21, eight days later, when we see the oncologist for a face-to-face appointment. Eight days of waiting, eight days of talking yourself in and out scenarios both good and bad, eight days of dealing with the devil – and hopefully not coming to any agreement; and finally, eight days of rationalizing your prior behavior, justifying your current behavior and wondering whether any future behavior will reflect the past, present or territory as yet uncharted.

And of course, it's the "territory as yet uncharted" (I don't have to explain what I mean, do I?) that worries and scares me the most. Not having been down this road before makes anticipating one's behavior-to-be/ reaction challenging. Oh, I suppose if I thought about it long enough I could develop some sort of action plan. But it's thinking about such a negative eventuality that seems and feels counterproductive. It's almost as if my thinking about such realities can somehow contribute to their actual occurrence, so, if I don't think about it, it won't happen. How's that for intelligent thinking? If I don't then it won't. If only it were that simple.

As the old saying goes: "Denial is more than just a river in Egypt." For a person originally characterized as "terminal" – in February, 2009, with stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer, now living into my eighth year post-diagnosis, life is a bit of a double-edged sword – that cuts both ways: it's a miracle that I'm still alive and given the amazing set of totally unexpected circumstances, it's equally perplexing why I've survived this long. Moreover, how is it possible that I've beaten my original life-expectancy odds so soundly? I mean: am I further from the beginning or closer to the end? Presumably, I was given a "13-month to two-year" prognosis for a reason. Do I simply ignore the underlying facts which led my oncologist to make that statement/prediction? I can't, and that's always my problem during the final few weeks leading up to my quarterly scan and the subsequent follow-up appointment with my oncologist. This can't go on forever, can it?

As much as I'd like to blur my reality, my nature prevents me from doing so. And though I may not dwell on it or allow it to dominate my conversation or become depressed or morose about any of it, I do acknowledge its affect; mostly with humor and off-putting redirection. Figuratively speaking, how does one live with both the weight of the world on your shoulders and the sword of Damocles hanging over your head without ignoring certain facts and figures and making light somehow of an extremely heavy burden?

Generally, I can manage, as you regular readers know. And as friends and family will attest, when there are fissures in my emotional underpinnings, it is during this two-week period – which occurs every 13 weeks, leading up to and then waiting for scan results when I am the most uncomfortable. And though it is all very familiar to me – after seven-plus years, it still doesn't totally minimize my reaction. Let's be honest: my life is at stake here, so how can I possibly act normally? Soon I'll know, but not soon enough. Unfortunately, there's nothing I can do about it in the interim. I just have to wait. Hopefully, the results will be worth the wait.

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

SPORTS



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



South Lakes senior Antonio Martinez (8) and Madison senior Gunnar Almquist battle for the ball during Monday's match in Vienna.

Conor Gill and the South Lakes boys' soccer team earned their first win of the season on Monday with a 1-0 victory over Madison.

South Lakes Boys' Soccer Earns First Victory

Seahawks beat defending state runner-up Madison.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

South Lakes boys' soccer coach Marty Pfister joked that a recent minor achievement by the varsity team was cause for joy following a rough start to the 2016 season.

On Monday night, the Seahawks gave their coach a more significant reason to be pleased.

Sophomore forward Bardia Kimiavi scored in the 10th minute and South Lakes held on for its first win of the season, beating defending state runner-up Madison 1-0 in Vienna.

The Seahawks entered the match with an 0-4-1 record.

"We've been working hard all year," Pfister said. "It seemed like every mistake we made was scored on."

South Lakes standout goalkeeper TJ Bush, who will play for JMU, suffered an injury in the season opener and his absence has

affected the team, Pfister said. Bush was a first-team all-conference selection last season and helped the Seahawks hold opponents to just five goals during the regular season.

"The defense all of the sudden, which was kind of young, doesn't have a big stud keeper back there," Pfister said. "Mistakes go the wrong way and you lose confidence [and] one or two wins that we should have had turn to losses."

Can Monday's victory boost the team's confidence?

here under the lights and win a game like 1-0, so hopefully we can build off of that."

Junior goalkeeper Dean Huber helped South Lakes defense shut out Madison on Monday.

Junior forward Conor Gill is the Seahawks' leading goal scorer this season.

Madison entered the match having won three straight after an 0-3 start, but couldn't put one in the net.

"[T]hey got one in and they put seven guys behind the ball for the rest of the game," Madison head coach Matt Griep

just lost it and they would clear it and we would [come back] again and it was just that over and over and over again."

The Warhawks have been without a pair of starters due to injury: senior center back John Dyson (sprained MCL) and senior outside left fullback Nick Bomgardner (torn meniscus). Griep said Dyson could return in a week-and-a-half, but Bomgardner might not return.

Dyson, whose long throw is a big part of Madison's offense, should make a significant impact when he returns, Griep said.

"It's been difficult trying to figure out where we're going to generate our goals from, especially with John Dyson out," Griep said. "We don't attack the sideline and end line like we would with him because we can't take advantage of the throw-in. ... John Dyson will be a great help to add some vocal leadership out on the field. I think that's something that we truly do lack at this point and time. Nobody has stepped up to fill that leadership role."

Senior forward Gunnar Almquist and junior midfielder Blake Machonis each have four goals for the Warhawks.

South Lakes (1-4-1) will host Edison at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, April 14. Madison (3-4) will travel to take on Yorktown at 7:15 p.m. on Monday, April 18.

"We just needed a win. I was glad when the varsity beat the JV the other day just because we needed something positive. ... It was good to come out here under the lights and win a game like 1-0, so hopefully we can build off of that."

— South Lakes boys' soccer coach Marty Pfister

"We just needed a win," Pfister said. "I was glad when the varsity beat the JV the other day just because we needed something positive. ... It was good to come out

said. "I thought we did well in winning possession of the ball and maintaining possession. We were able to build attacks up until we got to about the final third and then we

Langley Girls' Lax Starts 7-0

The Langley girls' lacrosse team is off to its best start since 2009, winning its first seven games.

Langley improved to 7-0 with a 20-4 victory at Washington-Lee on April 7.

Langley is led by first-year head coach and former Langley and University of Oregon lacrosse standout Maggie Kovacs. Coach Kovacs is supported by another Langley alum, coach Annie Swanson, and local coach Bucky Morris.

Langley has a strong group of senior co-captains: Halle Duenkel, Morgan Kuligowski, Mackenzie Regen and Samantha Suib.

The Saxons have strong chemistry coming into this year. Goalie Megan O'Hara looks strong in the net with defensive support from Lilly Byrne, Ali Leto, Charlotte Smith and Lauren Bell. Anna Hofgard, Marina Smith, Emma Crooks, Elise Kim, Claire O'Connor and Sareena Dhillon have been



The Langley girls' lacrosse team is off to a 7-0 start.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

big contributors on the offensive side of the ball. Many of the girls have played together since grade school.

A different Saxon led the team in scoring

in each of the first six games.

"We are starting to play like a team," Kovacs said, "and that's the only way we are going to achieve our high goals."