

# Great Falls CONNECTION

Great Falls resident Nadia Ali, McLean resident Uma Krishnan, and Great Falls resident Menaal Saeed were committee members and part of team RainBo and Captain Glenn's Crew, which had raised over \$14,000 as of May 15.



## McLean, Langley High Unite to Fight Cancer

A+, PAGE 10

### Cutting Through Brooks Farm

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### Meals Tax? Ballot Possibility

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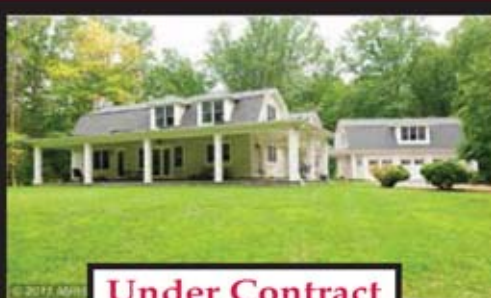
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For Sale

**FX9624108 - \$1,239,000 - Vienna**  
**10513 Dunn Meadow:** 4 BR, 2 BA, 2 1/2 BA  
Wonderful Home w/ Numerous Upgrades. Ideal for Entertaining inside & Out on the Back Patio. Hardwood Floors on Main Lvl w/ Elegant Crown Molding. Master Suite w/ 3 Walk-in Closets.



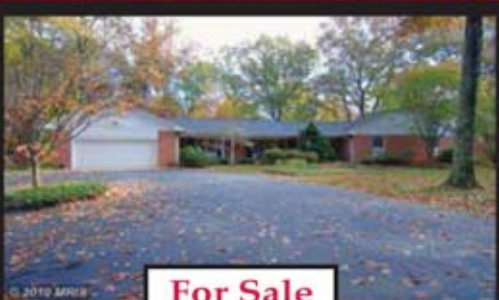
Under Contract

**FX7553818 - \$2,199,000 - Great Falls**  
**938 Leigh Mill Rd:** 6 BR, 5.5 BA  
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**20269 Island View Ct:** 5 BR, 3.5 BA  
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**FX9612600 - \$845,000 - Reston**  
**12202 Dorrance Ct:** 3 BR, 2.5 BA  
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Under Contract

**LO9587027 - \$850,000 - Leesburg**  
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# Meals Tax? Ballot Possibility

Board of Supervisors potentially set to approve meals tax ballot question on June 7.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

A majority of The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voiced support last week for including a Meals Tax Referendum as part of the 2016 General Election. They hope that a meals tax could provide additional revenue to support schools, without putting additional burden on homeowners with the property tax.

The debate and final vote is scheduled for the Board's June 7 session. Then it could be up to voters.

"If this is approved, it will be new revenue. It's diversified revenue," said Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay. "I want to put it on the ballot. Ask the voters."

"We have an opportunity here," said Mount Vernon Supervisor Dan Storck.

"This is a tool used by cities and towns within and adjacent to Fairfax County," said Hunter Mill Supervisor Catherine Hudgins. "It is time for Fairfax County to join these counties and begin diversifying our revenue sources."

"We have a coalition of groups to advocate for the meals tax," said Chairman Sharon Bulova. Bulova and Dranesville Supervisor John W. Foust advocated designating 80 percent of the money collected in a meals tax to Fairfax County Public Schools, and 20 percent to capital improvement projects.

In fact, the Board's budget committee approved by majority vote a ballot question based on a 70-30 split.

"I think this is likely to be the ballot question," said Budget Committee chairman Jeff McKay.

School advocates are front and center in supporting a meals tax, believing it will help bridge funding shortfalls.

"The community is ready to support this," said Pat Hynes, chairman of the Fairfax County school board, and the representative from Hunter Mill.

"Referendums focused on schools and capital improvements prove the ones most likely to pass," Hynes said, citing recent referenda on meals tax elsewhere in Virginia.

**NOT SO FAST.** Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity ensured another point of view.

"There is an advocacy group forming on the other side, chambers and restaurants," said Herrity, pointing out that it is actually

## \$96 Million Revenue

A one percent meals tax in Fairfax County would generate an estimated \$24 million in new revenue in Fairfax County; at the maximum 4 percent rate, a county meals tax would generate approximately \$96 million annually.

The following jurisdictions imposed a four percent meals tax on top of the 6 percent sales tax. Note: Montgomery County, Md. does not impose a meals tax but imposes a sales tax of 6 percent.

Locality	Sales Tax	Meals Tax Rate	Estimated Meals Tax Revenue
Alexandria	6%	4%	\$17.8 million
Arlington	6%	4%	\$37.1 million
Falls Church	6%	4%	\$2.9 million
Fairfax City	6%	4%	\$6 million
Herndon	6%	4%	\$2.1 million
Vienna	6%	4%	\$2.5 million
D.C.	0%	10%	\$378.9 million

"Other [possible] opportunities for revenue improvement: higher hotel occupancy taxes paid by hotel patrons, a higher cigarette tax consistent with the practice of surrounding localities, an admissions tax to places of amusement or entertainment, the possibility of a meals tax, and a re-evaluation of permit and user fees, set consistently to fully recover costs."

— McLean Citizens Association Resolution

in addition to a six percent sales tax already collected on meals.

"Certainly from the chamber's point of view, we don't want to see any tax that singles out any industry," said Jim Corcoran, president of the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

A potential four percent meals tax could create \$96 million annually in additional revenue for the county, more than \$20 million from non-county residents.

"Let's look at the equation on both sides," said Corcoran.

"It does not send the right message to businesses," many who make Fairfax County their headquarters, he said. "We have developed a business-friendly environment, internationally."

A "domino effect" could quickly erase revenue generated by the meals in loss of business and tourism, said Corcoran.

"The average taxpayer is not going to get tax relief. We're hearing our real estate taxes are getting higher and higher. This isn't going to alleviate that," said Providence District Supervisor Linda Smyth.

"If people think the meals tax is coming on top of an increasing property tax, it will fail. Maybe it should fail," said Braddock Supervisor John Cook.

The Greater Reston Chamber, according to its CEO and President Mark S. Ingrao, "has a long held position by our members of opposing single-industry taxes particularly if they do not benefit the industry being taxed."

Ingrao said the Reston Chamber advo-

cated for additional funding for education at this year's General Assembly by supporting the restoration of Cost-of-Compete-Adjustment (COCA). "COCA recognizes that the costs of hiring and retaining teachers in northern Virginia is more expensive than in other parts of the state and the Chamber was part of a partnership that secured \$34.4 million this year," he said.

**MCLEAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION** supports looking at alternative revenue sources including a possible meals tax. MCA passed a resolution in March urging the Board of Supervisors to look at "other opportunities for revenue improvement."

"So we get to share the fun with others," said Dale Stein, MCA's chairman of the budget committee. "Why does everything need to 'be on the back of the real estate tax,'" he said.

David Edelman, of the The Fairfax County Council of PTA's, said, "Our main concern is getting sustainable funding for schools and unfortunately there aren't many options available to us."

"We'll definitely get the message out there if the Board of Supervisors puts it on the ballot," he said.

**THE BOARD** of Supervisors would adopt a Resolution directing the County Attorney to file a petition with the Circuit Court by July 26.

The Board of Supervisors will meet on June 7 and instruct County staff to prepare documentation on the impact of the meals

## Meals Tax

A possible meals tax could go to voters via referendum in the Nov. 8, 2016 general election. Under state law, the county would keep 100 percent of revenue generated by a meals tax. Counties can impose a meals tax if voters approve via referendum. If voters approve a meals tax, implementation could occur by July 1, 2017.

## Meals Tax History By the Numbers

### 1992

A county meals tax was defeated by referendum in April 1992.

### 102,000

Voters cast votes in the 1992 referendum, which was approximately 25 percent of registered voters.

### 58

Percent of the voters voted against the potential meals tax in 1992.

### 2004

Legislation to exempt Fairfax County from the voter referendum requirement on a meals tax passed the Virginia Senate but failed to pass the house.

### 2008

Loudoun County held a referendum for a meals tax in November 2008 to fund new school construction, but it failed by a 70-30 percent vote.

### 2013

Henrico and Middlesex counties approved meals tax referendums. A similar effort in Chesterfield failed to pass.

tax on the county; the Board could vote officially to prove or not approve the ballot question.

In 2008, Loudoun County held a referendum for a meals tax in November 2008 to fund new school construction, but it failed by a 70-30 percent vote.

In 2013, Henrico and Middlesex counties approved meals tax referendums. A similar effort in Chesterfield failed to pass.

"The meals tax ballot questions that have been approved are the ones that tell you where the money is going, and where it will go to schools and capital improvements," said McKay.

The Town of Herndon passed its meals tax in 2003.

"We estimated \$900,000, and it generated \$900,279. Not bad for estimating something right out of the chute," said Mary Tuohy, the Town's director of finance.

Herndon Town Council increased the rate from 1.5 to 2.5 percent in 2011, and directed funding to major Herndon downtown infrastructure projects. Herndon also uses the meals tax to promote its restaurants and dineONHerndon campaign, according to Town's spokesman Anne Curtis.

The Town's tax preempts a county tax, said Curtis and Tuohy, "and in fact was one of the reasons it was enacted in Herndon in the first place," said Curtis.

If county voters approve a meals tax, implementation could occur by July 1, 2017.

# Cutting Through Brooks Farm

**GFCA raises new issue surrounding controversial redevelopment proposal; says community never had chance to respond.**

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Great Falls Citizens Association has turned its attention to Dranesville Supervisor John W. Foust regarding potential development of the Brooks property.

"An additional community concern recently was triggered after public records research by the Lake Estates HOA uncovered a 1968 deed of easement that permits the Brooks Farm and adjacent property owners to combine their respective 16-foot and 34-foot parallel parcels of land to form a 50-foot-wide parcel for a public road connecting Brooks Farm to Springvale Road," according to Great Falls Citizens Association.

The community never had the opportunity to respond in January's public hearing to the possibility of a cut-through road because "the easement was never disclosed by the applicant," said Eric Knudsen, president of GFCA.

"The applicant appears to have the unilateral right to request VDOT approval to construct a roadway connecting the Brooks

Farm property to Springvale Road, thereby creating a cut-through to Walker Road via Forest Lake Drive," he said.

**THE COUNTY'S PLANNING COMMISSION** is still currently scheduled to reconvene on Wednesday, May 18, to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on the development of Brooks Farm.

The Board of Supervisors will hear and debate the proposal later in the year.

GFCA continues to oppose approval of the current proposal to rezone the 51.9 acre Brooks Farm property from the R-A zoning district to R-E Cluster (Residential Estate). The applicant proposes to build 20 single family detached homes on the farmland off Springvale Road and around Walker Lake.

More than 1,400 people in Great Falls signed a petition opposing the development.

Great Falls Citizens Association has held numerous meetings on the proposal — touching on environmental questions including septic, well, stormwater and tree canopy — including a Town Hall meeting last week, on May 10, attended by more than 70 residents.

"The application remains unacceptable to



FILE PHOTOS

**President Eric Knudsen and Great Falls Citizens Association believe new information regarding Brooks Farms and a potential application to redevelop the property warrants Dranesville Supervisor John Foust's attention. GFCA has asked to meet with him.**

the Great Falls community," said Knudsen.

The application, according to Knudsen's letter to John Foust, fails to "sufficiently address the environmental and stormwater management concerns" raised by GFCA's experts; "contains an unacceptable plan for tree preservation" and "fails to address the

likely damage to trees on existing properties;" and "fails to address the potential negative consequences of an existing easement for access to Springvale Road."

GFCA has requested the opportunity to meet with Foust to address its new and ongoing concerns.

**THE APPLICANT**, Basheer/Edgemore-Brooks, spent more than a year revising its application in attempt to meet concerns of residents, especially regarding density, septic, stormwater, environment, well, water, preservation of trees, and other features of the property around Walker Lake.

"It is very clear this is a special piece of property to people in the community," said Gregory Riegle, representing the developers. "We went to great pains to ensure that we have complete answers to questions."

Great Falls was part of a downzoning more than 30 years ago designed to protect drinking water and the Potomac River, with much of the area zoned for one house for five acres.

GFCA passed a resolution opposing the rezoning application in May 2015.

The application has gone through numerous iterations

Since then, the GFCA and several neighboring HOA's and individuals have worked with the applicant to address the Great Falls community's concerns.

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**B5. Ginger Glaze Sauce with**

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**B7. Spicy Mango Sauce with** 🍗

Choice of: Chicken / Beef / Jumbo Shrimp

**B8. Panang Curry with** 🍗

Choice of: Vegetables / Chicken / Beef / Jumbo shrimp



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Panang Curry Chicken

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**Forestville Elementary Odyssey of The Mind 1st Place Division II at State Competition will be heading to the World Finals in Iowa. Pictured with their coaches, AJ Kassem and Michelle Stjohn are Miky Kassem, Julia Fremberg, Karma Kassem, Cayla Kassem, Kimberly Purdy, Khushi Sankar.**

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

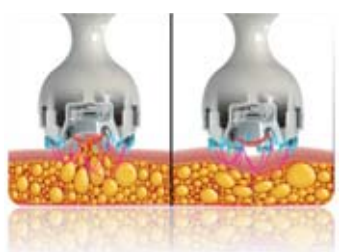
## Forestville Elementary Team Heads for the World Finals

Forestville Elementary School's Odyssey of the Mind team is heading to the World Final Competition on May 25-28 at Iowa State University in Ames. On March 12, at the Virginia State Odyssey of the Mind competition, two Forestville teams placed in their divisions. The Division 2 Team tied for first place with the highest score qualifying them to compete in The World Finals. Forestville was the only Elementary school competing against Middle Schools

in their categories division problem "Fins, Furs Feathers and Friends." The team's problem is to create and present a humorous performance depicting problem solving from the perspective of three different animals.

Heading to Iowa are the team's six members, Kimberly Purdy, Julia Fremberg, Khushi Sankar, Karma Kassem, Cayla Kassem and Miky Kassem, all sixth-grade students at Forestville Elementary.

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## In Search of Diversified Revenue

Fairfax County residents can expect to see meals tax question on November ballots.

Local governments pay for almost all of local services, including schools, by taxing a single industry, property owners.

In Fairfax County, property taxes pay for 65 percent of the budget. In Arlington, which has more revenue options as an urban county, property taxes pay for 57 percent of everything. In the City of Alexandria, property taxes pay for 58 percent.

It costs more every year to provide a consistent level of services, and the sources of revenue available to local governments in Virginia are very limited, forcing an outsized reliance on property taxes. The reason is that localities in Virginia have only the power explicitly given to them by the General Assembly, and the General Assembly allows very few options for localities to collect revenue.

Alexandria and Arlington already have a 4 percent meals tax on top of the 6 percent sales tax, and it's evident that the robust restaurant scene in both areas has not suffered as a result. Would-be diners do not drive to Fairfax County to avoid the tax. But whether Fairfax County can collect a meals tax will be up to voters in November, pending the Board of Supervisors putting the question on the ballot.

A meals tax is not a silver bullet, but it does add one more source of revenue. A 4-cent meals tax is roughly equivalent to the 4-cent increase in property taxes that Fairfax County residents will face this year. But the property tax is levied on people with no relationship to their ability to pay. The meals tax is related to spending, a more progressive approach, and will also collect taxes from non-residents.

This is one of the wealthiest regions in the country, and the highly educated population has high expectations. Schools, public safety,

EDITORIAL

recreational facilities, transportation, human services and other services and facilities cannot be allowed to atrophy because real estate values are flat. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors was correct to provide what Chairman Sharon Bulova called a "booster shot," mostly to schools but also to other needs in the county.

What is needed for the future is access to other, more diversified forms of taxes. While it is a pipe dream given the disposition of the General Assembly, what is really needed is to give localities a portion of the income tax. In the meantime, locals will have to press the state to pay for its fair share locally, and to allow increases in cigarette taxes and other possible sources of revenue.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## For the Benefit of All, Fairfax County Needs a Meals Tax

To the Editor:

For the strongest education for our children and for economic prosperity, Fairfax Co. must pass a Meals Tax. We all know the critical nature of the best education for all children but we need reminding that the highest quality schools also yield the highest housing prices.

Currently, Fairfax County is losing too many top teachers to neighboring school districts, especially Arlington County, who pay significantly higher salaries. I cite the following report to the FC School Board last December: A

study conducted by Segal Waters Consulting has revealed that Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) teacher salaries fall well behind those of other local jurisdictions, particularly in years 5-20 of a teacher's career. Over a 30-year career, an FCPS teacher earns \$142,000 less than our survey average and \$293,000 less than a teacher at Arlington Public Schools. When considering total compensation over a 30-year period, the gap narrows to \$52,000. The study was presented to the Fairfax County School Board at its Dec. 7, 2015 work session.

## Tax Relief for Some

Fairfax County provides real estate tax relief and car tax relief to citizens who are either 65 or older, or permanently and totally disabled, and meet the income and asset eligibility requirements. For an application, call 703-222-8234, or visit [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/taxrelief\\_home.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/taxrelief_home.htm).

An exemption and/or deferral of real estate taxes is available for qualified Arlington homeowners age 65 and older and certain totally and permanently disabled homeowners, call 703-228-3920 or visit <https://topics.arlingtonva.us/realstate/taxes-payments/real-estate-tax-relief/>

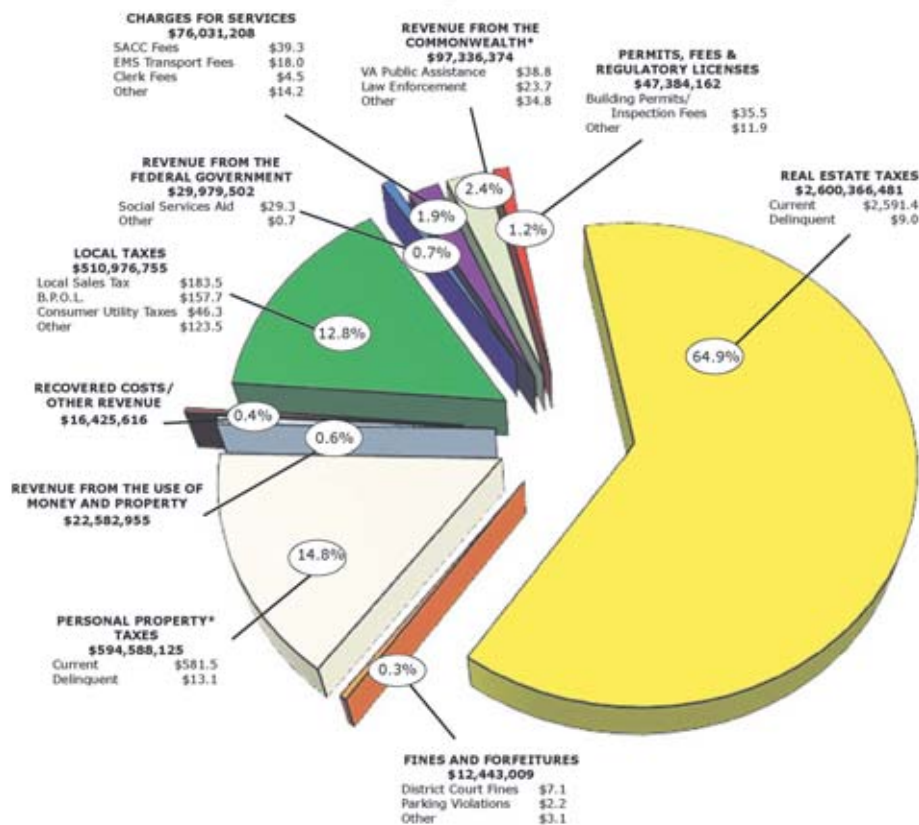
Residents of the City of Alexandria who are either 65 years of age or older or permanently and totally disabled by Nov. 15, 2016, may be eligible for the City's Real Estate Tax Relief Program for Elderly and Disabled Persons, call 703-746-3901, Option 6, or visit <https://www.alexandriava.gov/finance/info/default.aspx?id=2886>.

A Meals Tax will raise crucial revenues for schools, infrastructure and social services. Few, if any people do not eat out in D.C., Arlington or Alexandria because they have a revenue-producing meals tax. Few, if any will decline to eat out in Fairfax either.

Let's all get behind the Meals Tax for the benefit of our children and to maintain quality schools that raise the value of our homes.

Dennis and Shirley Bloomquist  
Great Falls

## FY 2017 ADVERTISED BUDGET PLAN GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS ("WHERE IT COMES FROM") (Subcategories in millions)



FY 2017 GENERAL FUND RECEIPTS\*\* = \$4,008,114,187 \*\*

\* For presentation purposes, Personal Property Taxes of \$211,313,944 that are reimbursed by the Commonwealth as a result of the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998 are included in the Personal Property Taxes category.

\*\* Total County resources used to support the budget include the revenues shown here, as well as a beginning balance and transfers in from other funds.

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PHOTOS BY DANIELLE GRAE/THE CONNECTION  
From left: McLean residents and freshmen at McLean High School Austin Jensen and Bryce Liquerman, McLean resident and sophomore at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Kai Amelung, School Board Member At Large Ryan McElveen, Dranesville District School Board Representative Janie Strauss, and School Board Member At Large Ilryong Moon showed their support by attending the Relay For Life.

## McLean, Langley High Students Unite to Fight Cancer

BY DANIELLE GRAE  
THE CONNECTION

**H**undreds of students from rivals Langley and McLean high schools walked through the night of May 14 at Cooper Middle School during the Relay for Life to raise money for the American Cancer Society (ACS).  
“We love our rivalry, but I love how you can see people from Langley and McLean meeting each other, becoming friends and

working together for something that's bigger than all of us,” senior and executive director from McLean High School Emma Chamberlayne said.

Chamberlayne worked for 12 months with her Langley High School counterpart, senior Will Pfadenhauer, and Relay For Life Community Manager Katie Sue Van Valkenburg of Oak Hill to oversee a committee of about 40 students from both schools to organize the event. The students recruited local cancer survivors to attend the event.

SEE RELAY, PAGE 12



After the survivor lap, the caretakers walked a lap around the track. Hundreds of students from schools such as McLean and Langley high schools walked the track.



During the relay, Langley High School junior Andrew Shapiro broke the 6, 12 and 24 hour world records for pull ups. Shapiro decided to seek the records in honor of his father, Allen Shapiro, who is fighting cancer.

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## Relay For Life Held at Cooper Middle

FROM PAGE 10

The night kicked off with the over 800 participants surrounding the track to cheer on cancer survivors doing a lap around the track. Smiles beamed on survivors' faces as they ran under bridges of raised arms, holding hands across the track. But one lap doesn't adequately symbolize the long-term journey of cancer survivors. A whole night of having at least one person from a team at all times on the track represents the ongoing battle.

"This is a never ending thing," cancer survivor, Woodbridge resident, and Lorton Senior Center Assistant Director Kimberly Fregel said, comparing cancer to the relay. "People need to keep fighting cancer and funding more research so it can get to a point that cancer can be cured."

During the relay, Langley High School junior Andrew Shapiro broke the 6, 12 and 24 hour world records for pull ups. Shapiro decided to seek the records in honor of his father, Allen Shapiro, who is fighting cancer.

Although the relay has a goal of over \$150,000, even a small donation can help local cancer patients.

"If you donate to ACS, you might think you're donating to a weird abyss of cancer research. You're not," Van Valkenburg said. "\$10 can provide a ride for a patient to get to and from lifesaving treatment. Many people think they could just call an Uber. Some people can't afford that and skip chemo rather than pay for the ride, so it's important that someone donates that \$10."

The relay will continue to accept donations until



PHOTO BY DANIELLE GRAE/THE CONNECTION

**Cancer survivor Kimberly Fregel gets ready to walk the emotional survivor's lap and relay all night long.**

Aug. 31. You can donate online at the Relay For Life of Langley McLean's webpage: [http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY16SA?pg=entry&fr\\_id=71191](http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY16SA?pg=entry&fr_id=71191).



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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**On April 21, Rotary Interact club co-presidents Ashley Baradari and Thompson Brownlee give a presentation to the Rotary Club of Great Falls about the Interact Club's upcoming summer service project with Habitat for Humanity in Lynchburg, Va.**

## Great Falls Youth Club Not Resting This Summer

The Great Falls Interact Club will partner with Habitat for Humanity in Lynchburg, Va. this summer to help with the restoration of an energy efficient home for a local family.

Interact Co-Presidents Thompson Brownlee and Ashley Baradar presented the project to the Rotary Club of Great Falls at a meeting on April 21.

"The Rotary Club of Great Falls - and the Great Falls community at large - is very proud of the exemplary leadership and commitment to Service Above Self demonstrated by these youth," said Andy Klaff, Rotary Club of Great Falls member and mentor to the Interactors.

The Great Falls Interact Club was formed in 2012, shortly after the Rotary Club of Great Falls was founded. The Interact Club, like the Rotary Club, is part of Rotary International.

Most recently, the Great Falls Interact Club has been supporting a school and community in Tela, Honduras, through local fundraisers. Funds, raised here locally, have been used to support school playground renovations and meet other needs in Tela.

The Interact members will be holding various fundraisers - including bake sales and car washes in the Great Falls area - to help meet their fundraising goal of \$2,500.

Tax deductible contributions can be made to the Rotary Club of Great Falls Foundation, Inc. c/o Stan Corey, United Capital, 746 Walker Road Suite 16, Great Falls, VA 22066.

For more information about the Great Falls Rotary Club or the Interact summer service project, go to [www.rotarygreatfalls.org](http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org).

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## National Men's Chorus

Thomas Beveridge, Artistic Director

Thomas Pandolfi, piano

Paul Skevington, organ

Phil Snedecor, trumpet

## Memorial Day, 2016



**Sunday, May 29, 2016 5:00 p.m.**

**Saint Luke Catholic Church  
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See ticket info at [www.nationalmenschorus.org](http://www.nationalmenschorus.org) or call 202-244-7191.**

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## Vote on McLean Day

**McLean Community Center  
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**Saturday, May 21, from 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.**  
**Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road**


### Your Vote is Your Voice!

All qualified residents of Small District 1A Dranesville are encouraged to vote for members of the 2016-2017 MCC Governing Board.

- You need not be registered to vote in the general election
- Proof of residence, such as a driver's license, is required

**Absentee Ballot**

Vote now by absentee ballot and avoid the crowds! View the candidate statements on the Center's Website. Call the Center or send an E-mail message to "elections@mcleancenter.org" to request a ballot package be sent to your home. Or, stop by MCC at 1234 Ingleside Avenue or the Old Firehouse Teen Center at 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., and pick one up. Completed ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18 to be counted.



**The McLean Community Center**  
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## CALENDAR

*Send announcements to [connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). Deadline is Friday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.*

### ONGOING

#### "So Many Parks - So Little Time."

Through May 31. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Artist Dee Leggetts photographs of national parks. 703-861-3335.

#### Meadowlark Magic at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens.

May 2-Through June 20. 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Vienna Arts Society members exhibit their work. 703-255-3631.

#### Lashley Artist Showcase.

May 2-28. Broadway Gallery and Fine Art and Framing, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. The paintings of award-winning "plein air" artist Christine Lashley. [broadwaygallery.net](http://broadwaygallery.net). 703-450-8005.

#### Time Traveler Tuesdays.

4:30 p.m. March 29-June 7. Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. This weekly series will take participants on an interactive journey through time, focusing on a different period in Virginia history each week. Register at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvinrunmill/events.htm>.

#### 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](http://www.edimprovement.org). 571-213-3192.

### FRIDAY/MAY 20

**McLean Art Society Meeting.** 10 a.m.-noon. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean.

Nancy Still, an artist specializing and teaching the painting of miniatures will be the featured presenter. Guests welcome. 703-790-0123.

**Art + Crafts Event.** 6:30 p.m. McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. George Mason University Printmaking professor Helen Frederick, will describe her trip to San Pablito, Mexico to learn about the traditional Papel Amate papermaking technique practiced by the Otomi community. \$8. [mpaart.org](http://mpaart.org). 703-790-1953.

### SATURDAY/MAY 21

**BioBlitz2016.** 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Wolf Trap National Park, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Inventory as many species as possible. <http://friendsofwolftrap.org>.

### SUNDAY/MAY 22

**Trio Cleonice.** 3 p.m. The Alden, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. This dynamic young Boston-based piano trio has established itself as one of the most creative, communicative and exhilarating ensembles in the U.S. today. Free. [mcleancenter.org](http://mcleancenter.org).

**Country Music Fest.** Noon-8 p.m. McLean VFW, 1051 Spring Hill Road, McLean. Bands, and barbecue and beans. Fundraiser for Bill Flammer, Sr. \$15. 703-883-9250.

**Amadeus Orchestra with Thomas Pandolfi.** 4 p.m. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001, Georgetown Pike, McLean. Pianist Thomas Pandolfi. \$30. [amadeusconcerts.com](http://amadeusconcerts.com).

### MONDAY/MAY 23

**Stroller Strong Moms.** 10-11:30 a.m. Nottoway Park, 9601 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Opening event, meet and greet, playtime. First class is free. [kelli@strollerstrongmoms.com](mailto:kelli@strollerstrongmoms.com).

### SUNDAY/MAY 29

**National Men's Chorus.** 5 p.m. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Memorial day concert. \$20. Students and children free. [nationalmenschorus.org](http://nationalmenschorus.org). 202-244-7191.

### MONDAY/MAY 30

#### Memorial Day Great Falls

**Freedom Memorial.** 11 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Taps bugler, patriotic songs, remarks by retired Air Force Brigadier General Richard Stephen Ritchie (one of five American aces during the Vietnam War), a reading of the names and bell-ringing for each of the 25 residents of Great Falls who have fallen in service to our country, a wreath-laying by local dignitaries, and a raising of the flags by Boy Scout Troop 55. 703-450-5220.

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 3-5

**Great Falls SpringFest.** Great Falls Village Green. behind the shops at Walker Road and Georgetown Pike. For updated information on time, events and performers, go to [www.GreatFallsStudios.com](http://www.GreatFallsStudios.com).

### SATURDAY/JUNE 4

**Cactus/Succulent Sale.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Hosted by the National Capital Cactus and Succulent Society, will be held in front of the Meadowlark Visitor Center. Cash only sale. [novaparks.com](http://novaparks.com).

**Community Flea Market.** 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Church of the Brethren,

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

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**The McLean Community Center**  
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101  
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## 101st McLean Day, May 21

Food, fun, rides at McLean Day in Lewinsville Park.

**Rides and More Amusements** - In addition to popular large amusement and children's rides, there will also be balloon artists, costumed characters and free laser tag.

**Festival Foods and More** - Lobsters, crepes, barbecue. But leave room for dessert, as there will also be lots of sweet treats.

**Stage Entertainment** - Local bands and other notable performers fill the air with music. This year there is a children's stage with engaging performers sure to hold young McLean Day goers' attentions.

For festival updates, driving directions, shuttle bus stop locations and a festival area map, visit [www.mcleancenter.org/special-events](http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events).



**Equestrian Kingsley Muller, 6, enjoys a trip on the carousel at the McLean Day festival 2015.**

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**"Two Greats – Great Falls and Great Blue Heron" captures life at Great Falls National Park. This photo will be on display at Katie's Coffee through May 31.**

## Exhibit Celebrates 50 Years of National Parks

Dee Leggett's central photograph for her art exhibit, "So Many Parks – So Little Time - Celebrating our National Parks' Centennial" is taken right here in our own backyard, at Great Falls National Park. It is celebrating 50 years as part of the National Park system. Her Great Falls photograph is surrounded by photos from National Parks throughout the U.S. Photos range from a sunrise in Gates of the Arctic National Park in Alaska to sunsets in Big Bend National Park in Texas and Acadia National Park in Maine; from the historical sites of the World War II and Washington Monuments to the natural beauty and diversity of Mount

Rainier, Yellowstone, and Yosemite national parks.

Leggett's "Visions of..." series of photo books includes "Visions of Great Falls." This book contains many photos from the park as well as photos from the local Great Falls community.

Leggett's exhibit shows Great Falls Park, as well as the magnificent diversity of National Parks at Katie's Coffee House at 760 Walker Road in Great Falls on display through May 31. Leggett is a member of Great Falls Studios and has been exhibiting her photography for more than 10 years. Visit [DeeLeggettPhotography.vpweb.com](http://DeeLeggettPhotography.vpweb.com) or email her at [DeeLeggett@aol.com](mailto:DeeLeggett@aol.com).

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14

10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Flea market with food and bake sale. Sales space available, \$15, for advanced reservation. [oaktonbrethren.org](http://oaktonbrethren.org). 703-281-4411.

**Spring Fair.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Pleasant Grove, 8641 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Includes plant sale, "attic treasures" quality yard sale and antiques, homemade bake sale, food, crafts, and artisan made quilts. All proceeds are donated to Pleasant

Grove. For information, see [www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org](http://www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org).

### SUNDAY/JUNE 5

**Israel Fest 2016.** Noon-4 p.m. Lerner Town Square at Tysons II. Join the community in celebrating Israel's 68th year of independence! Engaging events and interactive activities will run throughout the afternoon. [jccnv.org/Israel-fest](http://jccnv.org/Israel-fest).

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## PHOTO GALLERY!

### "Me and My Dad"

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PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The Madison girls' lacrosse team won the Conference 6 championship with an 11-9 victory over Langley on May 13.



Sophomore goalie Ellie Socher and the Madison girls' lacrosse team held Langley scoreless for the first 21-plus minutes of the second half of the Conference 6 championship game.

# Madison Girls' Lax Wins Sixth Straight Conference/ District Championship

Warhawks knock off previously undefeated  
Langley in tournament final.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Madison girls' lacrosse team entered Friday's Conference 6 tournament final as the five-time defending champion.

The Warhawks, however, felt their opponent was the one carrying the target on its back.

Langley, the tournament's No. 1 seed, was undefeated and had already beaten Madison, 14-10, during the regular season. But while the No. 2 seed Warhawks were an underdog on paper, they played like a team unwilling to relinquish its place atop the conference.

The Warhawks built a six-goal second-half advantage and held on for an 11-9 victory over the Saxons on May 13 at Langley High School. Madison captured its sixth consecutive Conference 6/Liberty District championship and defeated Langley in the conference/district final for the fifth time in six seasons.

"Awesome," is how midfielder Andie Battin, one of four seniors on the Madison roster, described the feeling of victory. "I'm a senior, so 4-for-4 (in conference/district championship games). It's pretty exciting."

Battin said not being the top seed resulted in less stress for the Warhawks.

"Definitely thought we had something to prove, especially since, normally, we're the ones that everyone wants to beat," Battin said. "It's definitely different [being] on the other side of that."

**MADISON** fell behind early during its regular-season loss to Langley. On Friday, the Warhawks never trailed and entered half-time with a 7-5 lead.

"I think we used their win as motivation to work harder at practices," Madison sophomore goalkeeper Ellie Socher said,



Madison sophomore Ashley Go, left, scored a goal during the Conference 6 championship game.

"and really show up today [and] come together as one."

Madison scored three times in the first 10 minutes of the second half and extended its lead to 11-5 when junior attacker Annabel Bentley found the back of the net with 4:47 remaining.

Langley made a late push, scoring four goals in a 1-minute, 35-second span, but the Saxons couldn't avoid their first loss of the season.

"The four-goal surge displayed what our team can do when we play as one team together on the field," Langley senior attacker and Conference 6 Offensive Player of the Year Halle Duenkel wrote in an email.

First-year Madison head coach Adam Norton said the Warhawks focused on limiting Langley's opportunities in transition.

"Their transition is lethal," Norton said. "Our main goal was to, basically, try and kill that and force them into [a] settled [offense], where we could control the situation better."

Madison held Langley scoreless for the

first 21-plus minutes of the second half.

"It was stellar," Norton said about Madison's defensive performance. "We have had issues with being a little leaky — letting people get unabated to cage and that didn't happen today. Our motto was 'one more pass' — force one more pass out of the offense so that there's a chance for the slide, there's a chance for a bad throw, a bad catch, an interception. It buys us a chance."

Madison featured a balanced scoring attack, with seven different players netting at least one goal. Olivia Choutka, Carly Rogers, Zoe Dyer and Bentley each had two goals, and Anya Saponja, Diana Lowther and Ashley Go each scored one.

Junior midfielder Emma Crooks, a first-team all-conference selection, led Langley with four goals. Anna Hofgard finished with three goals for the Saxons, and junior attacker Rebecca Bair and Duenkel each had one.

What went wrong for Langley?

"We lacked a sense of urgency during the



Langley senior Halle Duenkel was voted Conference 6 Offensive Player of the Year.

game," Duenkel wrote.

**LANGLEY** entered the 6A North region tournament as the No. 2 seed from Conference 6 and faced Osbourn Park on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline.

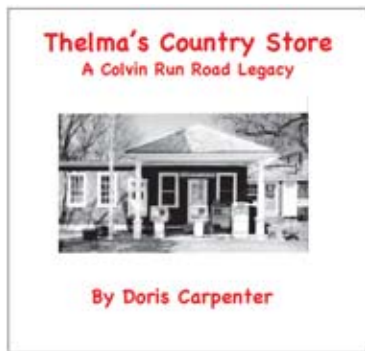
"The feeling after (the loss to Madison) was painful and gut-wrenching," Duenkel wrote. "To regroup, we are focusing on our team and what to improve upon before the regional tournament."

Madison entered the region tournament as the No. 1 seed from Conference 6 and faced Osbourn on Tuesday.

"[T]his is the first game I've seen them come together like that," Madison assistant and former head coach Amanda Counts said about the Warhawks' performance against Langley. "That was an end-to-end performance and we hardly had to give any feedback from the sidelines. They know what it's about and finally they put it all together. Those girls who had been here three times before, I guess, spread the message to their teammates."



## NEWS



**Thelma's Country Store book cover**



**Doris Carpenter's four children, Reyan (far left), Anson, her oldest son, Dea, Noah Shenk (her grandson) and Thione Carpenter Shenk were very proud of their mom, the new author.**

# Thelma's Country Store - A Legacy Remembered

PHOTOS BY TR COOK

## Doris Carpenter authors book on Great Falls historic store.

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY  
PRESIDENT/GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Last Wednesday, May 11, Doris Carpenter returned to Great Falls for the first time since she moved to Colonial Beach, Md. — where she became the next-door neighbor of her daughter — to sign her book, “Thelma’s Country Store: A Colvin Run Road Legacy.” Four of her eight children and one grandson were present for the exciting occasion, and many local residents showed up to purchase and have Doris sign their first edition book at the great unveiling.

Although Doris knew who Thelma was since the late 1960s, when she moved to Great Falls with her husband and 8 children, she did not really get to know Thelma until the mid-1980s, when one of her children returned home and told their mom that Thelma needed “a helping hand” as she was going into surgery the next day. Doris volunteered immediately, showing up the next day to make sandwiches and serve ice cream at Thelma’s Country Store — she helped out as needed over many years. Doris later had the opportunity to interview Ken Roberts,



**Carpenter signs Kurt Cylke's book.**

whose family owned the store from 1931 to 1950, about his memories of the place.

Somehow, Doris knew instinctively that she was a witness to the unfolding of important history. She had the presence of mind to gather artifacts and documents of historic importance that have been included in the book.

Doris has donated her collection and the proceeds of the book to the Great Falls Historical Society in support of its mission of promoting community spirit by bringing the past into the present.

The book may be purchased at the GFHS tent at the Great Falls Farmers Market; at [www.gfhs.org](http://www.gfhs.org); by mail at GFHS, P.O. Box 56, Great Falls, VA 2206; or by phone with a credit card by calling Alex Brudno at 540-656-0648.

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Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

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6/1/2016..... Wellbeing  
6/8/2016..... Father's Day Dining & Gifts  
6/8/2016..... HomeLifeStyle  
6/15/2016... A+ Graduations & Summer Learning  
6/15/2016..... Father's Day Dining & Gifts  
*Father's Day is June 19*  
6/29/2016..... Connection Families

### JULY

7/6/2016..... Wellbeing  
7/13/2016..... HomeLifeStyle  
7/20/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools  
7/27/2016..... Connection Families: Our Pets

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- Reston Connection
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- Vienna/Oakton Connection



## Colvin Run Elementary Runs for Sports

**Colvin Run Elementary covers 617 miles on Saturday, May 7 and collects sports equipment for Hybla Valley Elementary.**



# Clutter



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Either it's the cancer/seven-plus years of chemotherapy, or it's my age. Regardless, information retention and recall is not quite what it used to be. What goes in doesn't exactly come out, or if it does, it's somewhat after the fact. I wouldn't say it's embarrassing yet, and it hasn't led to any speech impediment-type of hemming and hawing. But it has led to something, other than this column, that is.

I haven't quite resorted to index/flash cards, nor am I avoiding human interaction as a way to minimize the awkwardness. I am still going about my normal business – or lack thereof, and wondering if time is on my side or has it been usurped by powers greater than me. And since there's no real definitive answer, I'll try to stop questioning whether what I think I'm experiencing is inevitable or am I, as any Three Stooges aficionado would appreciate: simply "a victim of circumstance."

Granted, I may not be the sharpest knife in the drawer, but if we're invoking utensils here, neither am I a spoon. I can accept the fact that in the knife category, I'm closer to a butter knife than I am to a steak knife; meaning I get the job done, probably with less haste, but likely with more waste. Nevertheless, the job gets done and more often than not, it's without further ado. And while I'm using ado/adieu, I don't feel as if this lack of recall/retention is indicative of me bidding adieu. However, it does give me pause about my status as a long-time (in the stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer world, when one's prognosis was originally "13 months to two years," seven-plus years is a long time) survivor. Maybe I'm simply experiencing what any person nearing the age of 62 does. It's not the cancer, it's dare I say/hope: middle age. Although I'll admit I may be on the downside of it, and approaching what I'll call "older" age (not "old" age).

But let's be honest here, when an oncologist advises you at age 54 and a half that your prognosis is at best two years and that he can "treat you but can't cure you," and that perhaps, "you should take that vacation you've always dreamt of," not only does your middle age (or what's left of it) rapidly disappear, so too does your "older"/"old" age.

Quite unexpectedly then, given your prior good health and no history of cancer in your immediate family, your mind/brain quickly gets overloaded with facts, figures, feelings and fears it had never considered before. Ergo the clutter. Not that there's a limited amount of space in your head for all this new/never-expected information, but it does seem to crowd out more familiar, less impactful stuff. At least that's my story/rationalization and I'm most definitely sticking to it.

But my reality is: I am stuck with it, unfortunately. No cure doesn't exactly conjure optimism. Nevertheless, as a long-suffering Boston Red Sox fan (until 2004, that is, when "the curse" was finally broken as the Sox won their first World Series in 86 years), hope springs eternal, and so I remain ever hopeful. It's just that occasionally, I have difficulty remembering/articulating that hopefulness – among other things. No worries though. I know the information is still in my head, somewhere. I'm sure I'll get it out, eventually.

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

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## News

### Send Photos for Father's Day Galleries

Father's Day is Sunday, June 19, and as in years past, this newspaper will publish a gallery of photos of fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and sons and daughters. Send your photos, including names of everyone in the photo, ages of children, town of residence and a brief description of what is happening to north@connectionnewspapers.com or upload directly to connectionnewspapers.com/fathersday/ Please include the words "Father's Day" and your town of residence in the subject line.

## BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/ The deadline for submissions is at noon on Friday.

### SATURDAY/MAY 21

**Used Book Collection.** 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave., East, Vienna. Sponsored by the AAUW McLean Branch. Also, bring your CDs, DVDs, software, children's book, records, and recent textbooks, all in good condition. Proceeds benefit scholarships for women. aauwbookfair@gmail.com. (703) 527-4206.

### THURSDAY/MAY 26

**Home/Investment/Discussion.** 8-9 a.m. The Old Brogue Back Porch, 760 Walker Road, Suite C., Great Falls. Informal conversation with experts offers homeowners a fresh perspective on investment and alternative ways to save through property development. 703-865-5065. AVArchitectsbuild.com.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 11

**Disability Resource Fair.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. ServiceSource Disability Resource Center, 10467 White Grante Drive, Oakton. The fair will provide personal access to experts in the disability field. We will have resources, nonprofit partners, and vendors covering a range of disability topics including children, autism, aging, and veterans. communications@servicesource.org. 703-461-6000.

### ONGOING

The **Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltombudsman/.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs.** For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

**Respite Care** volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Fairfax County needs a volunteer **Senior Center Marketing Coordinator** to assist the Friends of Fairfax County Senior Centers with marketing. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

The **Lewinsville Senior Center** in McLean needs instructors for the following classes: Line Dance, Zumba Gold, Certified Arthritis Exercise, Square Dance, Basic Guitar, Art and Basic Spanish. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.





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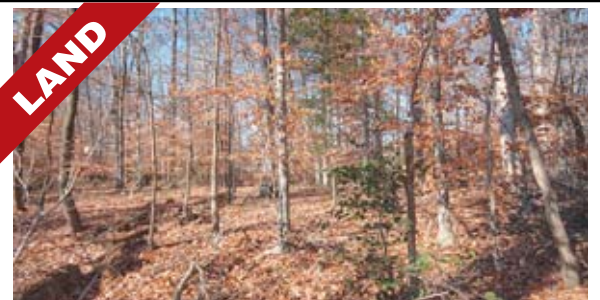
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