



## Vienna Idol Voted by Community on Town Green

NEWS, PAGE 13

Super-finalists Falling Home, Alex Giller, and Brian Bui wait for voting results for the 2016 Vienna Idol. At a dollar-a-vote, Brian Bui pulled in the most votes on June 10 to be awarded title of 2016 Vienna Idol.

### Vienna Bike Rodeo Kicks Off 'Bike/Walk to School Week'

NEWS, PAGE 16

### Lord and Lady Fairfax Honorees Selected

NEWS, PAGE 3

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 12 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14

PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

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PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION



**Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova with her choice for the Lady Fairfax honoree, Shirley Ginwright and the Lord Fairfax honoree, Michael J. Hershman.**



**Hunter Mill District Supervisor Catherine Hudgins with her choice for the Lady Fairfax honoree, Michele Hymer Blitz with the Lord Fairfax honoree, James G. Lewis, Jr.**



**Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth with her choice for the Lady Fairfax honoree, Anne Suter Zimmer with the Lord Fairfax honoree, Stephen A. McLaughlin.**

## 2016 Lord and Lady Fairfax Honorees Selected

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

**C**elebrate Fairfax, Inc. named the 2016 Lords and Ladies Fairfax at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, June 7 at the Fairfax County Government Center.

“We’re proud to honor the 2016 Lords and Ladies Fairfax. Since 1984, each supervisor has selected a Lord and Lady to represent their district. Each honoree dedicates time to the betterment of their community,” said Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova.

Each year the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors selects two people from each district who have demonstrated superior volunteer service, heroism, or other special accomplishments to receive the award.

Later that evening, the Lords and Ladies were honored at a cocktail reception and special dinner and hosted by Great American Restaurants, Celebrate Fairfax, Inc., and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

### The Chairman’s Selection: Michael J. Hershman and Shirley Ginwright

Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova read the following description of

Shirley Ginwright and Michael J. Hershman at the board meeting:

“Ms. Shirley Ginwright is one of the most devoted citizens of Fairfax County. She exemplifies community service in her countless efforts to bring people together and facilitate communal growth. Ms. Ginwright is the president of the Fairfax County NAACP, and served on the Fairfax County Chief of Police’s Diversity Council in 2013. Ms. Ginwright inspired and facilitated the establishment of the Communities of Trust Committee, and serves as the committee’s chairman. In addition, Ms. Ginwright served on the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, serving as the chair of the Subcommittee to Review Police Practices for Recruitment, Diversity, and Vetting. Ms. Ginwright has done invaluable work to make Fairfax County a leader in community and law enforcement engagement and is very deserving of the title Lady Fairfax.

“Mr. Michael J. Hershman is president and CEO of Fairfax Group, and is an internationally recognized leader on ethics and transparency in business and government. Mr. Hershman’s extensive resume begins with his career with U.S. military intelligence. He is a cofounder of Transparency International, a nonprofit coalition promoting transparency and accountability in business and government. For 20 years, he gave generously of his time and talents as one of two citizen members of the Board’s Audit Committee. Mr. Hershman’s dedication was on display through his impressive handling

of his role as chairman of the Board of Supervisors’ 70-person Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. Mr. Hershman ably steered the commission and subcommittees through six months of discussions that culminated in 142 policy recommendations for the Fairfax County Police Department, many of which have already been implemented. Mr. Hershman is a proud and dedicated leader in our local and global community.”

### Hunter Mill: James G. Lewis Jr. and Michele Hymer Blitz

Hunter Mill District Supervisor Catherine Hudgins read the following description of Michele Hymer Blitz and James G. Lewis Jr. at the board meeting:

“Ms. Michele Hymer Blitz, or Cookie as she is affectionately known, serves as the Hunter Mill District appointee to the Fairfax Area Disability Services Board and past board chair, a position she has held since 2006. Over her tenure, Ms. Hymer Blitz has proved to be a champion for county residents with disabilities, especially in employment and housing issues and is a member of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. Along with her advocacy for individuals with disabilities, Cookie is completing a two-year term as president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, and is also a long time mem-

ber of the board of directors of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington. Additionally, she is a trustee of the Jewish Federations of North America and serves as National co-chair of the Aging and Family Caregiving Committee. Ms. Hymer Blitz also enjoys volunteering at the Closet in Herndon and is a supporter of Cornerstones in Reston. In 2014, she was named one of “30 Social Justice Makers in VA” by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy.

“Mr. James G. Lewis Jr. is the ultimate storyteller. He shares his expertise, talents, extensive knowledge, and enthusiasm for local history with all. In fact, in most conversations with Mr. Lewis, you can count on hearing, ‘I have a story about that.’ As an avid historian with an interest in the Hunter Mill Road corridor, Mr. Lewis not only reports the history, he discovers it. His explorations have uncovered sites of skirmishes, encampments, graves and structures from the Civil War era and before. He shares this history with the community through his popular lectures; bus, walking, and cemetery tours; and numerous books and publications. He helped produce the documentary, ‘Danger Between the Lines,’ shown on public television and is a winner of the county’s historical award. He was instrumental with the research, applications and installation of several roadside markers that denote important historical events. Recently, Mr. Lewis expanded his repertoire

SEE LORD & LADY, PAGE 7

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Fairfax, VA

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## FATHER'S DAY PHOTO GALLERY



Eva Ulmer, 7, and her papa Frederik Ulmer, sitting out on their deck around the fire pit watching the stars in Vienna.



In this picture, taken in January 2016, Gabriella is playing dress up as a chef, since she loves pretending to do what daddy David Levin does!



Clare Plaisted, of Vienna, and her dad, Tony Plaisted, on a cherry blossom cruise on the Potomac this year.



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# VIENNA CRIME REPORTS

## Notable incidents from the Town of Vienna's Police Department from June 3-9.

### INCIDENTS

**Animal Case - Quarantine** - Hope Center, 140 Park St. SE. June 2, 9:14 a.m. A female technician at the Hope Center was bitten by a cat. The cat was placed in 10-day quarantine.

**Juvenile** - Cedar Lane School, 101 Cedar Lane, SW. June 2, 12:08 p.m. School staff called to report a disorderly student. When offic-

ers arrived the female student was no longer disorderly. The student remained at Cedar Lane School for the duration of the day.

**Vehicle Tampering** - Oak Vale Court, NW. Between June 1 at 9 p.m. and June 1 at 10 p.m. A resident called to report their vehicle had been rummaged through.

**Hit and Run with Injury** - 400 Block Maple Ave., West. June

2, 4:43 p.m. Several citizens called to report multiple vehicles had been struck and the striking vehicle had fled the area. Two officers arrived and found two vehicles had been struck and the drivers of the vehicles were suffering from non-life threatening injuries. While on scene of the initial accident in the Maple Avenue West area, an officer responded to an additional hit and run which occurred a short distance away on

Wade Hampton Drive SW. At that scene a mailbox and street sign were knocked down, as well as damage to residential yards. Witnesses on both accident scenes provided matching descriptions of the striking vehicle, which were then broadcasted to surrounding jurisdictions. The striking vehicle was located in Fairfax County. Vienna Police Officers coordinated with Fairfax County Police Officers who arrested the male driver

for charges that occurred within Fairfax County jurisdiction. Officers from Vienna Police Department obtained warrants for felony and misdemeanor hit and run for the male driver.

**Domestic Dispute** - Casmar Street, SE. June 2, 11:33 p.m. Officers responded to the listed area for a domestic dispute. The offic

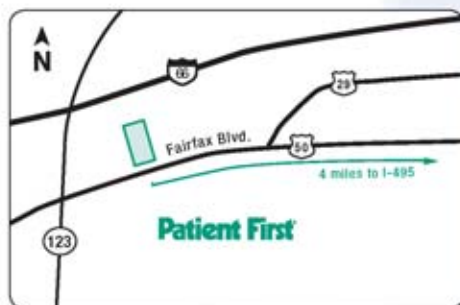
SEE CRIME, PAGE 13

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## Support for Police in Reforms

**Police commission recommendations come to Board of Supervisors for approval, implementation.**

EDITORIAL

In some ways, the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, brainchild of Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, was a bit of a miracle.

The 32 voting commission members included at least nine representatives from Fairfax County Police; former Commonwealth's Attorney Robert Horan; current and former law enforcement officers with experience from the FBI, DEA, state police and others; other former county officials; mental health advocates; attorneys; high powered consultants. Ranks of those participating swelled to 80 when others were appointed the five subcommittees.

How could such a large, intense group with so many viewpoints get anything done? It seemed crazy to expect much. But Bulova, apparently, was crazy like a fox. Bulova and commission chair Michael Hershman, expressed unwavering commitment to the process.

The 142 recommendations, the result of democracy in action, provide support and more resources to the FCPD, while providing for transparency and public confidence.

Police, Commonwealth's Attorney Ray Morrogh, county attorneys and others provided answers to questions and consulted on recommendations every step of the way. The commission and subcommittees met for literally hundreds of hours over nine months. Individual members took on in-depth research projects and reported back to subcommittees.

Members of the Mental Health subcommittee, chaired by Del. Marcus Simon, traveled to Texas for a first-hand look at an effective Crisis Intervention program. In January, the Community Services Board, Police and Sheriff's Office launched Diversion First, to get people having a mental health crisis who come into contact with law enforcement into treatment instead of jail. If this were the only accomplishment of the police review commission, it would be an achievement.

The Independent Oversight and Investigations subcommittee unanimously recommended formation of an Independent Auditor and a Civilian Review Panel. Independent oversight is a national best practice, and these issues come before the Board of Supervisors next month.

**Key recommendations include Independent Auditor, Civilian Review Panel, commitment to transparency, body cameras, data collection.**

The commission recommends the implementation of body worn cameras, a recommendation that appears to be set for delay. This might be necessary, but if so, the delay should come with a timetable for next steps.

Changing the culture from withholding information to sharing as much as possible, as soon as possible, and responding to Freedom of Information requests with as much information as possible are part of the recommendations of the Communications subcommittee. Police departments in Northern Virginia have invoked a blanket exemption to FOIA requests, which has been part of the erosion of public trust.

The robust collection and reporting of demographics covering all stops, frisks, citations, arrests, and use-of-force incidents by district station and magisterial district is also key to public trust and departmental excellence.

Bulova and the Board of Supervisors formed the commission in the wake of the death of John Geer in August of 2013. Geer, a Springfield resident, was standing unarmed with his hands up in the doorway of his own home when he was shot by Officer Adam Torres. Torres, charged with murder, was the first Fairfax County Police officer in the history of the department to be charged in such a death. Torres entered a guilty plea to involuntary manslaughter, with a likely sentence of 12 months; his sentencing is scheduled for next week.

Public outrage over Geer's death was compounded by obfuscation and silence, the failure to communicate, and a lack of public accountability. The police and county refused to release any information on the case for more than a year, and only then after repeated court orders. This tragedy and its aftermath no doubt had a negative impact on morale in the FCPD. The commission's recommendations acknowledge the excellence of the Fairfax police. It's a credit to the department that Chief Edwin Roessler aspires to make FCPD the best in the nation. It's a high bar, county residents expect no less, and steps in that direction are a positive reflection on every member of the department.

It now falls to Supervisor John Cook, chairman of the Public Safety Committee, to guide these recommendations through for approval by the Board of Supervisors overall. The process is underway, and deserves public attention to the details.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mary Kimm served as a member of the Fairfax County Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. Read more at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecommission)

## All Dulles Area Muslim Society Condemns Orlando Mass Shooting

The All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) condemns the tragic and horrific Orlando mass shooting, and rejects any possible motive for this terrible act, whose perpetrator is still being investigated as a possible hate crime, mentally unbalanced individual, and/or lone wolf terrorist sympathizer. We send our thoughts, prayers, and condolences to the families and loved ones of all those killed or injured.

We appreciate the Orlando Muslim community's response in condemning this attack, and we join in urging the entire Muslim community to take part in a blood donation drive for those injured in the attack.

For us in Virginia, this tragedy brings back horrible memories of April 2007, when Virginia Tech

student Seung-Hui Cho killed 32 people on the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University campus in Blacksburg, Virginia. This is also too reminiscent of the equally horrific hate crimes like the attack in South Carolina on an African American Church, attacks in movie theaters and schools and too many more. Such incidents are a too frequent reminder of the number of individuals driven by hate to commit unspeakable acts.

This horrific Orlando attack however should not be used to vilify and stereotype the peaceful and law abiding Muslim community in America. Islam absolutely condemns and forbids terrorism and extremism. The Quran, Islam's revered text, states: "Whoever kills a person, it is as though he has killed all mankind. And whoever

saves a life, it is as though he had saved all mankind."

Islam promotes the sanctity of human life, the dignity of all humans, and a respect for human, civil rights. Islam teaches religious freedom and emphasizes the same universal moral values accepted by the majority of people of all backgrounds. These are the same principles on which the US Constitution was established and the Bill of Rights was approved.

Muslims believe there is "No compulsion in faith" and we reject violence, hatred, and discrimination toward anyone on the basis of race, color, gender, disability, religion, familial status, sexual orientation and national origin.

ADAMS' mission is to provide religious, social, and educational services to enable the Muslim community to fulfill its responsibilities and contribute to the betterment of society [www.adamscenter.org](http://www.adamscenter.org)

**Write** The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

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# Lord & Lady Fairfax Announced

FROM PAGE 3

of lectures to include talks on WWII milestones and events, which he shares around the county at no charge. With his enthusiasm and wealth of knowledge, he connects residents across generations to our rich local history.”

## Providence: Stephen A. McLaughlin and Anne Suter Zimmer

Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth read the following description of Anne Suter Zimmer and Stephen A. McLaughlin at the board meeting:

“Ms. Anne Suter Zimmer began volunteering with Lazarus at the Gate when her three sons were still in car seats. This was over 25 years ago. She tells the story of one son complaining about her proposed dinner menu when she happened to drive by a line of people waiting for free food at a Lazarus neighborhood site. Recognizing a teaching moment, she began her site deliveries of free food to make the point to her sons that there are people with much bigger problems in our own community. When Lazarus at the Gate transitioned into a new nonprofit called Food for Others, Ms. Suter Zimmer became a

member of the founding board of directors. This dedicated group led the all-volunteer management for the next decade. Ms. Suter Zimmer served on the board from 1995 until 2009 as a director, secretary and chairman. Ms. Suter Zimmer continues her hands-on volunteering as supervisor of the neighborhood food delivery site at Fairfax Circle and as an active member of the Program Committee.

“For more than two decades Mr. Stephen A. McLaughlin has served on the Fairfax County Athletic Council, which advises the Board of Supervisors on all matters related to county sports. He serves as the council’s current chairman and spends countless hours devoted to the improvement of Fairfax County’s sports programs. He is also a vital member of the Providence District Athletic Field Task Force which inventoried field needs and prepared a plan to add turf fields to the district where none had existed. Now, Providence boasts 12 fields. A director and past president of the Lee Graham Pool and Tennis Club in Falls Church, Mr. McLaughlin is also an active member of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club which has recognized him for “outstanding volunteerism.” That Mr. McLaughlin is able and willing to dedicate his time and talents to the improvement of our recreational opportunities, while working for the federal government, makes him an exemplary citizen whom Providence District is proud to call Lord Fairfax.”



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A.J. Galindo of Alexandria, Benjamin Waters of Fairfax and Kirby Nassetta of Arlington participated in Outward Bound Costa Rica's Gap Year program.



PHOTO COURTESY OF OUTWARD BOUND

## The Gap Year Trend

The pros and cons of taking a break in academic studies before college.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

Reappelling down an 80-foot waterfall, the ground appearing miles away, zip lining through thickets of dense, steamy rainforest, treating wounded travelers in the wilderness and engaging in other limit-pushing adventures — that's how three local young adults spent their time after graduating from high school.

"Scuba was definitely my favorite part of the course because of a strong reinforcement that I would enjoy working as a scuba instructor one day," said A.J. Galindo of Alexandria. His adventure was part of Outward Bound's Costa Rica program.

Galindo took what is known as a "gap year," which means taking an academic break for a year or a semester before beginning college. Gap year programs offer students an opportunity for "personal growth in ... leadership, self-awareness [and] ... character development," said Soizic Hagege, spokeswoman for Outward Bound Costa Rica.

After completing his Outward Bound program, Galindo enrolled in Thompson Rivers University in British Columbia, Canada.

The American Gap Association (AGA), an organization that accredits and sets standards for gap year programs, reports that taking a gap year has become an increasingly popular choice for American students. The association has seen renewed interest since Malia Obama's recent decision to take a year off before beginning her studies at Harvard University.

A RECENT AGA STUDY showed that students who took a gap year over performed academically in college. The organization released the results from a survey of its 2015

alumni. More than 90 percent of the alumni surveyed credited their gap year with increasing their self-confidence and maturity as well as offering time for personal reflection.

Uncertainty about future plans is one of the reasons students decide to take time off between high school and college. "Some don't know yet what they want to study, or want to take the opportunity to travel or work to get experience in the real world," said Francesca Reed, associate vice president for Enrollment Management and director of Graduate Enrollment Services at Marymount University. "A gap year ... can be a great opportunity for a person to mature and discover their interests before pursuing a college degree."

Experiences gained during a year away from school can offer clarity, says Jim McClellan, PhD, dean of Liberal Arts at Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria. "Few students know what they want from life or what will be their life's work when they first enroll in college," he said. "Few finish college in the same major where they began. Sometimes a year of reflection can help a student focus. A year abroad or in some environment beyond their previous experience can offer new perspectives. Working at a 7/11 convinced me I needed to continue college."

**"Sometimes a year of reflection can help a student focus."**

— Jim McClellan, Ph.D., Northern Virginia Community College

While the AGA reports that 90 percent of students are actively enrolled in a four-year institution of higher learning within one year of completing a gap year, the organization acknowledges that this option is not for everyone. The decision to delay college comes with a caveat that students may lose the academic momentum they gained through high school.

"There is a set of skills that a student learns moving through each grade level. Like playing tennis or any other sport, the more practice, the better the performance," said McClellan. "Laying out for a year leads to

skills atrophy. [For some students] it is better to continue on while in top form than to try to rebuild lost skills and regain good study habits."

Even for students who feel certain that they want to take a gap year, Reed advises completing the college application process if obtaining a college degree is future goal.

"It is easier while they are still in school to gather letters of recommendation and use the resources of guidance departments when applying for college," she said. "It will also keep them focused with a future plan. If the student decides to go abroad or work full-time, it may be difficult to request a letter of recommendation while they are busy overseas or with work. Once accepted into college, they can defer their admission a semester or a year."

Boosted by a belief in the benefits of a gap year experience, a growing number of colleges and universities are supporting students who want to take time off between high school and college. "Most colleges are accommodating and will move their start date to the following year," said Reed. "Colleges and universities like to see students with a plan and a degree of motivation before entering college, and the gap year may be the perfect opportunity to do just that."

**RESEARCHING OPPORTUNITIES**, thinking about goals and having a plan in place about how the time will be spent are critical components of a successful gap year. "They shouldn't wait until they graduate to start planning," said Reed. "Do you want to travel abroad? Learn a new language or improve your foreign language skills? Volunteer either at home or abroad? Explore career interests? It's important to have something meaningful in mind. There are many programs available for students that are considering a gap year."

McClellan suggests an alternate option for students and parents who are concerned that a gap year could slow a student's academic progress. "Spending the junior year abroad is a better idea since no academic momentum is lost and the experience of living and studying abroad is of incalculable value," he said. "Plus, with two years of college completed and added maturity, the junior year abroad is more meaningful than a gap year."

## Considering Private School?

Small steps this summer can minimize stress of application process.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

The school year has just come to an end ... which means it's the ideal time to prepare to apply to leading independent schools.

A supply versus demand imbalance for a coveted spot at one of the local, top-tier private schools makes advanced planning a critical part of the process. Local admissions directors offer suggestions on what can be done during the laid-back days of summer before the demanding fall application process begins.

"Do your research over the summer," said Mimi Mulligan, assistant head of school and director of admission and enrollment management at Norwood School in Bethesda, Maryland. "Spend time educating yourself on the wide variety of independent school options in the area."

Perusing school websites and becoming familiar with a school's mission and philosophy toward education can help narrow down choices. Reading social media postings can give parents a sense of a school's culture and community.

Have a family conversation about the type of school that would best serve your child, advises Mulligan, who warns that a school's perceived prestige or reputation as a "top school" doesn't necessarily translate into a good match.

"Be realistic about your child's strengths, weaknesses, and learning style, then create a list of schools that you feel would be a good fit for your child and your family," she said. "This list should be based on your child's needs, not the name recognition of the school. By the time September is here, you will be ready to contact schools for their admission materials and to schedule a visit."

Talking to parents and students at prospective schools is one way families can get a sense of a school's environment. "Create a chart to compare [factors such as]: How the students treat each other. What is the teacher-student relationship like? How does the school care about each individual student and other things that are important to you?" said Terri Collins of Oak Crest School in McLean. "Ask to speak with two current parents to

get their perspective of what they see as the strengths and weaknesses of the school."

"I think one of the things would be to identify the type of school: a boarding school or a day school," said Scott Conklin, director of admissions at Episcopal High School in Alexandria. "Once you've come up with a list of schools, visit some of them. Most are probably open during the summer. Walk around campus and meet the admissions directors."

"Once families have narrowed down the list, they can send for information and begin to map out their fall visits," said Clare Dame, director of enrollment management at Randolph-Macon Academy. "Plan to visit no more than two schools in one day so that they have time to fully investigate each one and will have the time to assimilate the information."

Garnering logistical information is important in planning an appli-



Middle School Science teacher Debbie Pakaluk works with eighth-grade students in the chemistry lab at Norwood School.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NORWOOD SCHOOL

**"By the time September is here, you will be ready to contact schools for their admission materials and to schedule a visit."**

— Mimi Mulligan, Norwood School

cation strategy for the fall. "What are the processes? What are the dates? When are the Open Houses?" asks Richard S. Moss, director of admission at the Heights School in Potomac, Md.

However, Moss underscores the importance of creating a balance between advance planning and enjoying a summer respite, and questions the wisdom of focusing too much energy on an academic year

that is more than 12 months away. "Most importantly, families should ... have a good, restful, and productive summer," said Moss. "It is easy to think about the long-term goal of admission while sacrificing the immediately important goal of having a truly great break. ... Though it is good, as a parent, to be generally aware of the process so that in September you can hit the ground running."

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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

**"On the Street" Photography Show.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 2-Sept. 3. Vienna Arts Society, 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. Annual photography show with judge Denise Silva. Meet the Artists Reception and Awards on Saturday, Aug. 6 from 4-6 p.m. 703-319-3971. [artcenter@viennaartssociety.org](mailto:artcenter@viennaartssociety.org).

**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.

THURSDAY/JUNE 16

**Sallie Lowenstein.** 7:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. 703-319-3971. [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org).

**Vienna Arts Society Membership Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Vienna Arts Gallery, 513 Maple Ave. W, Vienna. Meeting and presentation by Sallie Lowenstein, author/illustrator. [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org). 703-319-3971.

**Lake Street Dive Concert.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap's Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Come see the multi-genre band Lake Street Dive in concert, with opening by The Lone Bellow. \$25-\$45. 703-255-1900. [wolftrap.org](http://wolftrap.org).

**Opening Exhibition Reception.** 7-9 p.m. McLean Project for Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Join in viewing the newest exhibits, meet the artists, and enjoy food and drink provided by J. Gilberts Wood-Fired Steaks and Seafood and The Vineyard. [trips@mpaart.org](mailto:trips@mpaart.org). 703-790-1953.

FRIDAY/JUNE 17

**Preschool Nature Nuts.** 10:30-11:15 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Learn about spring flowers. \$5. Register at [NOVAparks.com](http://NOVAparks.com).

**Kenny Rogers Concert.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap's Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Country Music Hall of Famer Kenny Rogers makes his final stop at Wolf Trap on his Final World Tour. \$30-\$60. 703-255-1900. [wolftrap.org](http://wolftrap.org).

SATURDAY/JUNE 18

**Musical Performance, Storytime and Book Signing.** Barnes and Noble Tysons Corner Center, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. With Grammy Award-winning Okee Dokee Brothers. 703-506-2937.

**"The Magic of Bill Blagg Live."** 8 p.m. The Alden, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Critics and

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

The Critics Team Award went to McLean High School. From left are Laras Kettner, Emily Swett, Emily Lachow, Jack Posey, Gillian Wright, Jess Scarano, Julia Luigs, and Syona Ayyankeril.



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

# Cappies Gala Honors High School Theater

The 17th Annual Cappies Gala honoring high school theater was held Sunday, June 12 at The Kennedy Center. Winning the top prizes for the Best Musical was Woodrow Wilson High School in the District for "Hair;" and winning Best Play was Duke Ellington School of the Arts in the District for "The Story." This year's Masters of Ceremony were Judy Bowns, Janie Strauss and Ed Monk, who is retiring from Chantilly High School this year.

This year's show included 57 public and private high schools in Fairfax County, Arlington, Fauquier, Loudoun, Montgomery, and Prince William counties, and the cities of Falls Church, Alexandria, and Washington, D.C. The Cappies season extended from late October to early May.

The Cappies program was launched in the summer of 1999 by Judy Bowns, the Theatre Arts resource teacher with FCPS, and the late Bill Strauss (director, Capitol Steps), in cooperation with area theater teachers, for the purpose of celebrating and bringing public acclaim to high school theater.

— STEVE HIBBARD

The Andy May's Rising Critic Award went to Maggie Klein of Oakton High School.



## Mariners Draft Oakton's Rizzo

The Seattle Mariners on June 9 selected Oakton High School third baseman/shortstop Joe Rizzo in the second round of the MLB Draft.

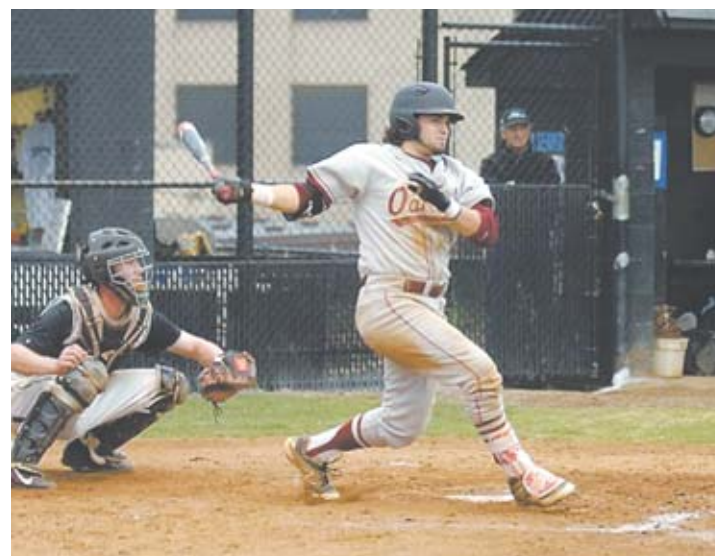
Rizzo, taken No. 50 overall, was the first player from Virginia selected in this year's draft. The University of South Carolina signee batted .389 this season with four home runs and 12 RBIs and had an on-base percentage of .542, according to stats provided by NOVA Baseball Magazine.

Flint Hill outfielder Khalil Lee (Liberty) was selected by the Kansas City Royals in the third round, No. 103 overall. He hit .471 this season with six doubles, four triples, six home runs and 23 RBIs, with

an on-base percentage of .634. He also went 7-0 on the mound for the Huskies with two saves and a 0.33 ERA. He struck out 87 and walked three in 43 innings.

The San Diego Padres selected West Potomac pitcher Jamie Sara in the 12th round, No. 354 overall. Sara, who signed with William & Mary, went 4-3 for the Wolverines with a 2.30 ERA and 1.09 WHIP. He struck out 74 and walked 21 in 45.2 innings.

The Washington Nationals chose Shenandoah University pitcher and 2012 McLean High School graduate Phillip Morse in the 16th round, No. 484 overall. Morse made 22 appearances for Shenandoah this season, compiling a 5-0 record with eight saves and a 0.88 ERA in 30.2 innings.



Oakton's Joe Rizzo, seen during the 2015 season, was selected by the Seattle Mariners in the second round of the MLB Draft.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

audiences alike rave about Bill Blagg's incredible, high-energy, grand-scale magic and illusion. \$20/\$15. mcleancenter.org.

**AAUW Used Book Collection.** 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. CDs, DVDs, software, children's books, records, and recent textbooks, all in good condition. Proceeds benefit scholarships for women. aauwbookfair@gmail.com. 703-527-4206.

**Harry Connick, Jr. Concert.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap's Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Come see Harry Connick, Jr., singer and pianist, in concert. \$40-\$75. 703-255-1900. wolftrap.org.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 19

**Studio Spotlight.** 3 p.m.-5:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Studio Artists perform their opera scenes and highlights. To include excerpts by Rossini ("The Barber of Seville"), Donizetti ("Daughter of the Regiment," "The Elixir of Love"), Bizet ("Carmen," "The Pearl Fishers") and Verdi ("Rigoletto"). \$20. 703-255-1900. wolftrap.org.

**Ray LaMontagne Concert.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap's Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Come see singer Ray LaMontagne in concert at Wolf Trap. \$39.50-\$69.50. 703-255-1900. wolftrap.org.

## TUESDAY/JUNE 21

**Lisa Loeb.** 10:30 a.m. Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Lisa Loeb performs childhood favorites from her most recent album, Nursery Rhyme Parade! Using catchy, rhyming



**Lisa Loeb performs from her recent album Nursery Rhyme Parade! at Wolf Trap on Tuesday, June 21.**

PHOTO BY JUAN PATINO

vocals, parents and children alike will share in the magic of music. \$12. wolftrap.org.

## WEDNESDAY/JUNE 22

**Pirate School.** 10:30 a.m. Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Set sail on a swashbuckling adventure with Pirate Billy Bones as he teaches zany lessons on how to stand, talk, laugh, and eat like a boisterous buccaneer. 4 and up. \$10. wolftrap.org/woods.

## THURSDAY/JUNE 23

**Up in Arms.** 10:30 a.m. Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Meet Melvin the Monster and Red the Rat as they set off on a quest to earn their license to scream. Ages 4-9. \$10. wolftrap.org/woods.

## THURSDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 23-26

**Riverdance.** Thursday and Friday 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wolf Trap's Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Come see Irish traditions meet present day in Riverdance's dance, music, and song. \$20-\$75. 703-255-1900.

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# Vannicola Throws First High School No-Hitter in State Semis

## Madison softball falls to Osbourn Park in state championship game.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**M**adison pitcher Katie Vannicola thought she had surrendered a hit when Grassfield's Haley Taormina led off the bottom of the seventh inning with a line drive to the left side of the infield.

Instead, third baseman Alex Echazarreta made a lunging catch that preserved Vannicola's afternoon of greatness. The Warhawks pitcher responded by getting the final two outs and securing Madison its first trip to the state final in more than a decade.

Vannicola tossed her first high school no-hitter and the Madison softball team defeated Grassfield 4-0 in the 6A state semifinals on June 10 at Robinson Secondary School.

The following day, Osbourn Park beat Madison 4-0 in the state championship game. The Warhawks defeated the Yellow Jackets during the regular season, but lost to Osbourn Park in the 6A North region and state finals.

Madison made its first state tournament appearance since 2013 and advanced to the state final for the first time since 2004. The Warhawks have not won a state title since 1989.

**MADISON** was in the state final thanks in large part to Vannicola, who held defending state champion Grassfield without a hit on Friday.

"Unbelievable effort," Madison head coach Jim Adkins said. "She made the necessary adjustments she needed to on the mound. We saw a couple things in their hitters that made us stick to a game plan and she executed it to perfection. ... Grassfield is a heck of a team — defending state champion — and we knew we were in for a ballgame and we needed that kind of effort from Katie and she came in and delivered."

Vannicola, a senior who will play for Georgetown University, walked three, hit one batter and struck out seven. She had come close to throwing no-hitters in the past, but finally pulled it off in the state tournament stage — thanks in part to Echazarreta's tremendous catch for the first out of the seventh.

"I can't thank her enough for that one," Vannicola said. "As soon as it came off the bat, I thought it was a hit — but there she was."

Echazarreta said the play was "pure reaction."

"We work on stuff like that — they hit the balls really hard at us — and practice makes perfect," she said. "... I was so happy that I came up [with] that for Katie. She deserved that no-hitter."

Echazarreta also helped Vannicola's cause at the plate. The sophomore third baseman led off the fourth inning with a double off



**Madison pitcher Katie Vannicola threw her first high school no-hitter during the Warhawks' 4-0 win over Grassfield in the 6A state semifinals on Friday.**

**"We work on stuff like that — they hit the balls really hard at us — and practice makes perfect. ... I was so happy that I came up [with] that for Katie. She deserved that no-hitter."**

— Madison sophomore Alex Echazarreta



**Catcher Julia Hoy is one of four senior starters the Madison softball team will lose to graduation.**

the fence in left-center field and later came around to score on a squeeze bunt by sophomore shortstop Cameron Pistilli.

Echazarreta went 1-for-4.

"She played great," Adkins said. "Alex has been a leader all year long. Only a sophomore, but for her to step up and really get

us started with that ball of the fence, it was huge. It was a huge rally igniter and really, quite frankly, the catch in the seventh inning was probably the best of all of it."

Madison scored three runs in the fourth inning. Two batters after Pistilli's bunt plated Echazarreta, senior left fielder Peyton

Thomas drove in a run with a groundout. Senior center fielder Blake Brackett then hit a popup to the left side of the infield, and two Grassfield players mis-communicated and dropped the ball, allowing another run to score, giving Madison a 4-0 lead.

That was plenty of run support for Vannicola, who did not allow a runner to reach third base. Grassfield did manage to hit a pair of fly balls with home-run distance that went foul, but Vannicola was unfazed.

"You know that it's going to be over the fence when you see the ball hit, but it's good to turn around and just see that it's slowly but surely going foul," Vannicola said. "You just know not to pitch them there again."

Sophomore right fielder Kristen Williams gave Madison a 1-0 lead with an RBI single in the second inning.

**THE FOLLOWING DAY**, Madison failed to score a run against Osbourn Park pitcher Emily Weatherholtz, who also shut out the Warhawks in the region final.

Madison finished the season with a 24-5 record, including a loss to McLean in the Conference 6 championship game.

"I'm extremely proud of this team," Adkins said. "This team really kind of fought, scratched and clawed all year long. We knew they were talented. We ... to some degree expected to be here. We also knew there were four or five teams in the region, OP being one of them, that in any given day you might win you might lose. Emily Weatherholtz is a phenomenal pitcher. We didn't do what we had to do at the plate to scratch out runs. Whether they scored [one run] or four runs, you've got to score to win and that's 14 innings in a row now that we haven't scored off of her, so clearly we've got some work to do to try and make some improvements."

Adkins said sophomores Echazarreta and Kristin Giery will likely pitch for Madison next season following the graduation of Vannicola.

"[Vannicola] absolutely has been the heart and soul of this program for the three years since I've been here," Adkins said. "She's been the bulldog in the circle that you hand the ball to and you know that you're going to be in the game. She really is the reason Madison softball has been successful the last three years, at least as a cornerstone — and obviously we put some good players around her. Anybody of that caliber, you'll miss."

The lawn of the Vienna Town Green was blanketed with contestant supporters and community guests out for a lovely evening of good music and small-town ambiance.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOWN OF VIENNA

## 2016 Vienna Idol Voted by Community on Town Green

**Brian Bui pulled the most cash-votes to take the title.**

It took 45 auditions, months of preparation and community outreach, and dozens of sponsors and volunteers to come down to this moment: Vienna Idol 2016 finals. On June 10 on the Vienna Town Green, the community converged to listen to the six finalists competing for three top spots. Using the one-vote-per-dollar system, Town Green audience members voted for Brian Bui as this year's Vienna Idol.

Earthy, jazzy Alex Giller was second runner-up, and the bouncy duo Falling Home came in first runner-up to Bui. Zach Dorman, Tina Franklin, and Brian Johnson rounded out the performance finals.

Vienna Idol founder and organizer, Michael Amouri of Caffe Amouri, took to the stage and social media to thank the community, neighbors and friends, the Town of Vienna Parks and Recreation Department, volunteer coordinators/judges/production crew, contestants, and sponsors for making Vienna Idol 2016 "such a great success."

"I can't even think of everyone to list, but in no particular order....Thank you Celia Blalock, Penny Oszak, DaVo David Oszak, Nicki Amouri, Tammy Moore, John Asman, Tom Kylo, Monica Melendez, Jeff and Laura Kilburg Bollettino, Mary Foerster, David Salzberg, Donna Manz, Carey Sienicki, Vienna Smiles, Caboose Brewery, Fisher Custom Homes, Whole Foods Vienna, School of Rock, Town of Vienna, Kathie Rawson.....I've probably missed a couple but thank you, all," Amouri said.

Vienna Idol was founded five years ago to fundraise on behalf of the Khristin Kylo Memorial Fund, founded by Tom and Julie Kylo to honor the memory of their daughter who died from an epileptic episode. The fund provides scholarships to James Madison High School students who epitomize Khristin's spirit, donations to research into Sudden Unexpected Death from Epilepsy (SUDEP), and seizure watches for epilepsy patients. The Madison graduate died at



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**At a dollar-a-vote, Vienna Idol contestant Brian Bui pulled in the most votes on June 10 to be awarded title of 2016 Vienna Idol.**

the end of her first semester at Princeton University.

Besides the funds for the Khristin Kylo Memorial Fund – netting more than \$13,000 - Vienna Idol raised enough money to purchase three seizure monitor watches selling for \$800 each. The monitors alert emergency contacts to a seizure.

To see more photos of the 2016 Vienna Idol competition, go to <https://www.facebook.com/viennaidolva/timeline>.

—DONNA MANZ



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**FCPS Board Member Dalia Palchik and Optimist Club President Joe Miller with the 2016 Helping Hands Awards recipients.**

## Vienna Optimists Honor 'Helping Hands'

Eleven sixth-grade students were honored at the 20th Annual "Helping Hands Awards" presented by the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna on May 4. The awards were presented at a banquet at Westwood Country Club.

The faculty and staff of the participating schools selected the honorees as outstanding volunteers and contributors to community life. In alphabetical order by school, the Helping Hands winners are:

Olivia Bell, Cunningham Park; Marianne Costanzo, Flint Hill; Pratistha Dhungana, Freedom Hill; Ava Bredehoeft, Louise Archer; Mettika Ukey, Marshall Road; Devon Alquist, Oakton; Noor Samimi, Stenwood; Triana Andino, Vienna; Helen Sparling, Waples Mill; Anna Kwartin, Westbriar; Alexis Stengle, Wolftrap.

Guest speaker Dalia Palchik, Fairfax County School Board Representative for Providence District, spoke of the importance in her life of people reaching out to help in education.

She praised the students for their volunteer work and giving spirit and encouraged them that what they do makes a positive difference for others.

The Helping Hands Awards were established by the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna in 1997 to honor sixth-grade students whose actions on behalf of their class, school or community embody the tenet of Optimist International, that "giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of humankind, community life and the world."

The Optimist Club donates \$200 to each school in the student's honor, and requests that the school engage the Helping Hands winner in deciding how the funds will be spent.

The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna is an all-volunteer organization serving the youth of Vienna for over 60 years. For more information about the Club, its programs, and membership, visit [optimistclubofgreatervienna.org](http://optimistclubofgreatervienna.org) or [facebook.com/viennaoptimists](https://www.facebook.com/viennaoptimists).

## CRIME

FROM PAGE 5

ers spoke with both a male and female subject. Both subjects stated nothing physical took place, only a verbal dispute. Both subjects were provided with information about counseling services.

**Arrest – Driving While Intoxicated** - Marshall Road and Nutley Street, SW. June 3, 12:05 a.m. An officer observed a vehicle make a traffic violation. When he spoke with the driver he observed signs of possible impairment. The driver of the vehicle was offered

standard field sobriety tests, which they failed. The 40-year-old male driver from Columbia Pike, Arlington was arrested for driving while intoxicated and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

**Animal Case - Quarantine** - Hope Center, 140 Park St., SE. June 3, 9:57 a.m. A female technician with the Hope Center called to report a cat was euthanized after biting its owner. The cat was sent to the health department for rabies testing.

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### 21 Announcements

**ABC LICENSE**  
Pork, Inc. trading as Earl's Sandwiches, 2605 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. John B. Snedden, owner  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspapers legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200

**ABC LICENSE**  
Quinns 1776 LLC trading as Quinns, 1776 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA 22209. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises and Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Reese Gardner Managing Member  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

### 21 Announcements

**ABC NOTICE**  
Caribou Hunter, LLC trading as Matchbox American Kitchen & Spirits, 1100 S. Hayes St. Arlington, VA 22202. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises and Mixed Beverages on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Ted Neal, II Chief Executive Officer  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

**ABC NOTICE**  
Passion Food Ten, LLC trading as TenPenh Tysons, 7900 Westpark Dr, Tysons Corner, VA 22101. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises and Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. David Wizenberg, Member  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

### 21 Announcements

**ABC NOTICE**  
Highgate Hotels, L.P trading as Westin Arlington Gateway, 801 N. Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA 22203. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On & Off Premises and Mixed Beverage Restaurant (Seating Capacity over 150 seats) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Rickey D. Whitworth, Vice President  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

### 28 Yard Sales

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### 21 Announcements

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### 21 Announcements

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-Thomas A. Edison

## Control And/Or Lack Thereof



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If being diagnosed with a "terminal" form of lung cancer makes you feel anything, it is loss of control; along with all the anxieties associated with feeling powerless. As I may have written previously, "terminal" is all it's cracked up to be. That prognosis hangs over your head, almost physically – or so it seems, but most assuredly: emotionally and spiritually. The trick is; there is no trick. Compartmentalizing, deluding, pretending, denying, hoping, praying, laughing and crying are but a few of the methods I've employed over these past seven-plus years in an attempt to overcome that original "13 month to two year" prognosis. Being open to diet and lifestyle changes and non-Western alternatives, and maintaining a positive attitude and a self-effacing sense of humor have likewise contributed – or so I've been told, to my above-average years of survival.

I wouldn't characterize these last seven years, however, as my friend Sean has joked, as "being on the clock," but cancer patients are usually on something. And the "something" we're most typically on is, a schedule. For me: 24/7 urine collection on Tuesday, pre-chemotherapy lab work on Wednesday (two days prior to Friday infusion), pre-infusion medication taken at home beginning Thursday and continuing through Saturday, Friday infusion, post-chemo weak for the next seven to 10 days; repeat every four weeks; quarterly C.A.T. scans followed by a quarterly face-to-face appointment with my oncologist to discuss the scan/results, P.E.T. scans every six months, M.R.I. of the brain once a year; plus my daily regimen of pills, supplements, apple cider vinegar, alkaline water, wheat grass, among other miscellaneous presumptive anti-cancer options.

Given this chronology of treatment and routine/maintenance, it's extremely difficult (let me amend that: I'll say challenging instead) to plan, schedule, coordinate, arrange and commit to social activities, especially those involving travel away from home. Because, at least for me, the cancer stuff comes first and is foremost – as does my daily routine – so anything that upsets that figurative apple cart is yet another complication/blip on my radar that initially serves no particular purpose other than reinforcing some of the less obvious problems/negatives of living life as a cancer patient undergoing treatment.

Perhaps understanding this lack of control/fairly rigid set of circumstances – as well as my recurring attempts at extending my life as long as possible – my oncologist, to his credit, has regularly given me opportunities to stop, start, change, etc. my treatment/schedule in order to enhance the quality of my life and give me back some control. Rarely have I taken advantage, however. As much as I respect and appreciate his opinion, it has always been difficult for me to find that balance. The logistics of juggling my mandated routine along with my personal routine – and dealing with the subsequent fears of not doing/maintaining either, given the fact that I've survived so long adhering to them, is a hurdle I've been unable to overcome.

I've often heard it said that laughter is the best medicine. I wonder though, as it pertains to cancer patients like myself, currently still on treatment, if breaking/braking routine – and saying the heck with it, for awhile anyway, is not the pause that refreshes? As much as I like to laugh, I'd like to live a little, too.

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

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# Vienna Bike Rodeo Kicks Off 'Bike/Walk to School Week'

**Annual kids' obstacle course embraces safe biking.**

The Department of Parks and Recreation of the town of Vienna, in partnership with the Vienna Police Department, INOVA Health Services Brain Trauma Center, Spokes, and Bikes@Vienna, hosted a "bike rodeo" to kick off the 8th annual "Safe Routes to School Bike/Walk Challenge Week."

Under the guidance of Vienna police officers and community volunteers, 126 young bike riders went through the rodeo course, and received bike-and-helmet checks. Inova brain trauma volunteers gave out 66 free bike helmets to little kids and young teens, fitting the children after they chose their helmet, while Bikes@vienna and Spokes did safety checks on their bicycles. The rodeo with bounce house took over the parking lot of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department.

"We partner with the police department, Spokes, bikes@Vienna, Inova trauma center, and Safe Routes to School, to kick off the walk/bike to school challenge," said Brian Hanifin of Vienna Parks and Recreation. "We want to have a fun course to show kids the right way to ride their bikes in town. And the most important part is we get to make sure everyone's helmets and bikes are up to safety standards before they can go through the course."

This year, June 13 through 17, students at the community's seven elementary schools are encouraged to walk or bike to school, even those who usually take the bus.



**A Vienna police officer adjusts the helmet of a young girl participating in the Town of Vienna-sponsored bike rodeo kicking off Vienna 'Safe Routes to School Bike/Walk Challenge Week.'**

At the end of the week, the schools with the most improvement, highest overall participation, and highest biking participation are recognized with trophies at a community celebration on Friday evening.

The challenge encourages youngsters to adopt a healthy lifestyle that embraces ex-



**Two children practice their biking skills around the obstacle course set up by Vienna Parks and Recreation and monitored by Vienna police officers and volunteers.**

PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

ercise along with a healthful diet.

In 2015, Westbriar Elementary School won the overall Challenge Cup for most improved participation. For several years, Westbriar PTA has sponsored a monthly "Wednesdays are for Walking/Biking" par-

ticipation. Parents of bussed children will drive their kids – and bikes - to safe drop-off spots off Old Courthouse Road and accompany their children on the walk or ride to Westbriar.

—DONNA MANZ

## WEEK IN VIENNA

### North County Governmental Center Grand Opening

Hunter Mill District Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins invites you to a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting ceremony, on Saturday, June 18, 2016, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., at the North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston.

Like the Grand Opening celebration, the new facility is shared with the Reston District Police Station. Captain Ronald T. Manzo, on behalf of the Fairfax County Police Department, will be welcoming the community along with Supervisor Hudgins.

In addition to the ribbon cutting and the official unveiling of the newly completed public art sculpture, the community is invited to stop by for a day of family activities. You can tour the building and station, enjoy some summer treats, and attend a storytime courtesy of the Reston Regional Library. Also, meet members of the K-9 unit, watch the landing of the police helicopter,

admire the motorcycle squad as they navigate the demonstration course, and explore a fire truck inside and out. At this family-friendly event, there will be interactive displays, and public safety vehicles to explore.

To RSVP or for additional information, contact the Hunter Mill District office at 703-478-0283, or e-mail to [RSVPHuntermill@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:RSVPHuntermill@fairfaxcounty.gov).

### Used Books Collection for Scholarships for Women

Used Book Collection, sponsored by the AAUW McLean Branch, will be held Saturday, June 18, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Also, bring your CDs, DVDs, software, children's books, records, and recent textbooks, all in good condition. Proceeds benefit scholarships for women. [aauwbookfair@gmail.com](mailto:aauwbookfair@gmail.com). 703-527-4206.



CONTRIBUTED

### Raising Funds for Childhood Cancer Research

Kids across the country set up lemonade stands on behalf of the Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation, a children's network of financial support made possible the old-fashioned way. ALSF was founded by a little girl - Alex - who is in remission, and her mission to support childhood cancer research took on a national life of its own. This small group of Vienna children raised \$500 in two hours of lemonade sales on Sunday, June 12. The community was generous with many buyers donating \$10 or more.