



Great Falls CONNECTION

George Washington's
Great Falls: A Tour of
Local Historic Sites

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

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Thank You, 2016 Graduates

NEWS, PAGE 3

July Fourth in
Great Falls

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10

Sophia Gabrielle Brodnax received Fred Amico's Principal Award for the enthusiasm she brought throughout her four years at Langley.

Anyone can look on a map to find parks. Not everyone can tell you where the hidden dog paths are.

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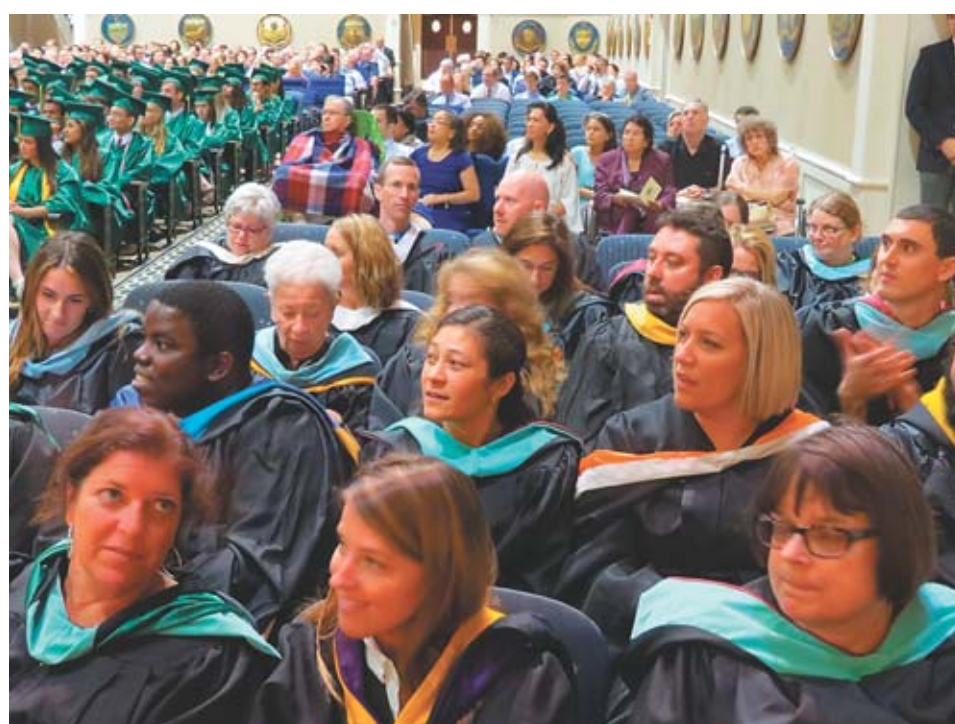
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Nadia Taj Ali, Deema Mohammed Aleissa and Zainab Ali moments before they entered the DAR Constitution Hall auditorium for their graduation Monday morning.



PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION
Faculty was there to congratulate and appreciate the accomplishments of the Class of 2016.

Thank You, 2016 Graduates

Langley High School seniors matriculate at DAR Constitution Hall on Monday, June 20.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Langley swim coach Ryan Jackson ensured that beloved physics teacher Scott Stone was part of the Langley High School Class of 2016 graduation. Stone died unexpectedly Feb. 19, 2016.

Jackson read words Stone had previously written: "Have the courage to embrace who you are to become," Stone had written.

"This is a long and difficult journey, but if you're light on your feet," he promised, it would be all the more enjoyable.

For all the accomplishments of the Class of 2016, including conference, region and state championships from multiple sports teams, national championships in scholastic competitions, musical and theater awards and half a million dollars raised for Relay for Life, Principal Fred Amico said he will remember how the class of 2016 "dealt with loss of a beloved teacher with love and equanimity."

He will also remember how students walked the halls with construction going on all around them, needing to use three dozen trailers during the process, "without ever complaining," said Amico.

"Well, with very little complaining," said Amico.

"You have been a joy to work with and I truly will miss all of you," he said.



Ameen Abdul Kareem Al-Dalli, one of the student attorneys in Langley's Case Day, and Mohammed Juma Rashid Al Jahwari.

Langley's Class of 2016 graduated at DAR Constitution Hall Monday morning, June 20, 2016.

IN HIS KEYNOTE speech, Jackson said "I believe in opening doors, not building walls."

Class president Stephen "Chris" Clark, on the other hand, had a presidential reference of his own: "Thank you for putting your faith in me to make Langley great again," said Clark.

Both asked Langley graduates to remember their parents who helped them along

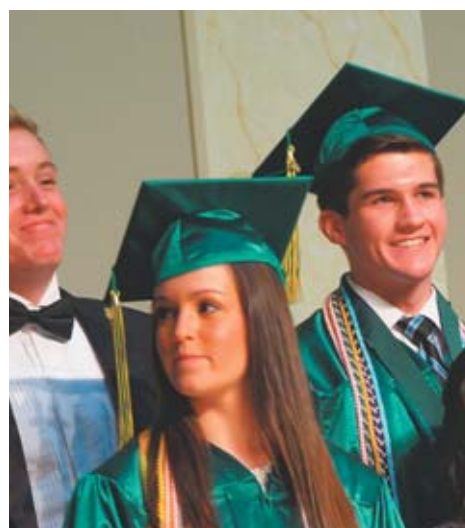
SEE LANGLEY, PAGE 4



Madrigals sang the national anthem and a piece by Stephen Schwartz.



Mikayla Allen and Jack Anderson.



Madrigals performed during Langley High School's Graduation ceremony on June 20, 2016.



Yasmin Khodaei and Mehk Khubohardani.



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**Langley
Graduation**

FROM PAGE 3

the way. Clark looked to the stands and thanked his mother and father, as a way for all of the graduates to thank their families.

"I know I couldn't have made it without you guys," said Clark.

"Hold on, let's give a round of applause to all Langley parents," he said.

"Here we go, congrats everyone," said Clark, moments before the passing of the diplomas.

JACKSON HAS ATTENDED the last 12 Langley graduations.

"Perfect attendance," he said.

He reflected on lessons he learned from past Langley graduation speakers, which included former colleagues as well as Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who helped with the founding of Langley's Case Day program.

He reminded students that "life isn't fair" and that Stone had warned students that they should "expect disappointments."

"Life isn't fair or unfair, life is simply something in which we all take part," said Jackson.

"If we remove all labels of good and bad, we see life for what it is," he said. "Besides, no one wants to attend your pity party."

Among Jackson's additional lines:

"Honesty matters. First and foremost be honest and true with yourselves."

"Be compassionate and empathetic. Like ethics, practicing these are not easy. They will always be worth the effort."

"Be a good person and exhibit good manners," he said. "Don't cheapen your good efforts by expecting something to be given back in return."

"Say 'please' and 'thank you.' Magic has the ability to bring joy to others and we all know that 'please' is a magic word. 'Thank you,' it takes a second to say and all of us have the ability."

"Continue on the path you set for yourselves and surround yourself with a team of motivated people."

"Learn from winning and from losing."

"Graduation is not an ending, it is a beginning."

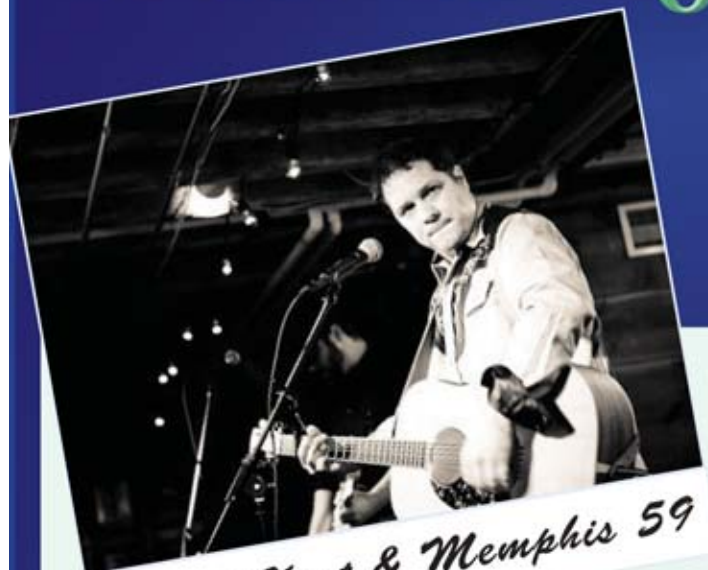
"Please do not settle. Do not peak in high school," he said.

"The world is there for you to explore and experience."

"Thank you."

**Concert on the
Green**

Sunday evening from
6pm to 8pm



Scott Kurt & Memphis 59

Great Falls Village Centre Green
at the Gazebo

Sunday, June 26

Scott Kurt grew up in America's Rust Belt, and the grittiness of his roots is evident in every aspect of his music. Scott captures the essence of hard living, hard work and hard times in deeply personal lyrics delivered by a whiskey-tinged barroom voice wrapped up inside a whole lot of full-tilt country-rock guitar.

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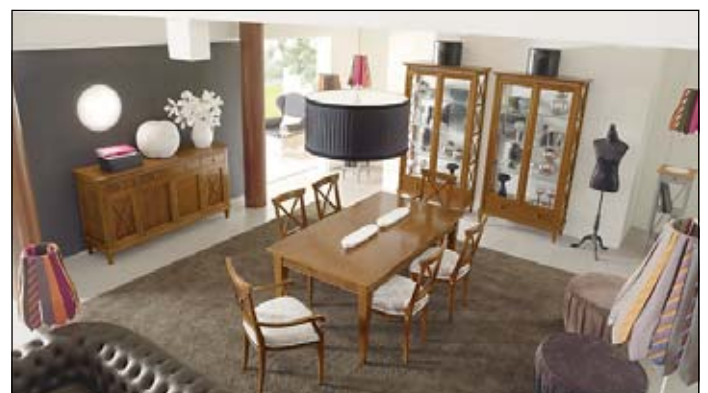
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Stem Gun Violence Epidemic

BY GERRY CONNOLLY
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE (D-11)



COMMENTARY

Last week, America woke to what has become an all-too-common nightmare. A man driven by hate and armed with assault weapons carried out our nation's worst mass shooting. In its aftermath 49 were dead, 53 injured, and communities across our country were left violated, vulnerable and wondering, "How this could happen again?"

It's a scene repeated too often in our country. 49 murdered in Orlando. In December, 14 were killed in San Bernardino. A year ago, nine were murdered during Bible study in South Carolina. Twenty innocent children and six teachers were gunned down inside a school at Sandy Hook. Thirty-three were lost at Virginia Tech — including five bright, young, talented students from our community. Twelve were killed in an Aurora movie theater. The list goes on.

We must have an honest conversation about the hate that is brewing. This time a man stole the lives of 49 people, many of whom identified as LGBT, and all of whom were celebrating and supporting inclusion, progress and freedom. The attacker's homophobic intent has been lost in the media coverage. Some have painted this

as an issue of terror, but we must be reminded that so much of the blood shed to gun violence has been at the hands of those who claim no allegiance to Islam or ISIS. America's dark history of mass killings has come from problems of mental illness to proclamations of white supremacy, and it's a fallacy to attribute the continuous violence to "Radical Islam."

In the wake of these almost weekly tragedies, the response from Congress is as predictable as it is disappointing. We offer our thoughts and prayers. We hold a moment of silence; anything to distract from the central cause, and common instrument, of these crimes. How many more must die before Congress acts?

This is a problem for which there are solutions. Expand universal background checks to keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people. Reinstate the assault weapons ban. Close the gun show loophole.

But the gun lobby and the Republican Majority it controls stand in the way of each of these reforms. For example, the NRA opposes expanded background checks for gun purchases even though majorities of gun owners and NRA members support them. The NRA

even opposes the CDC funding for research on gun violence and its effect on public health despite the fact that more than 30,000 people die in gun related deaths annually.

In 1994, Congress passed the Assault Weapons Ban, restricting certain types of weapons and capping the size of ammunition magazines. However, in the time since the ban has been allowed to lapse, these weapons of war have become a common tool for the mayhem unleashed in these mass shootings. Do I think an assault weapons ban would prevent all crimes? Of course not; but certainly our Founding Fathers did not envision AR-15 semi-automatic rifles when they drafted the Second Amendment.

In a shocking video, Virginia Tech survivor Colin Goddard demonstrated just how easy it is to skirt background checks. Without even a photo ID or background check, Goddard was able to purchase an AK-47. Closing the gun show loophole, which allows private dealers to forego background checks required of licensed dealers, would stem the flow of illegal weapons.

When we marked the three-year anniversary of Sandy Hook, I said if more politicians viewed the safety of the American people as more important than pleasing the NRA, reason would prevail and the club of gun violence victims and their families would not continue its unrelenting growth. Instead, our ever-more-frequent moments of silence and inaction speak volumes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Leaving the Judging to God

To the Editor:

"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." (Qur'an, 5:32)

The tragic event which took place early on June 12 at the hands of a despicable and deranged individual breaks my heart. The blatant disregard for the value of human life is shocking. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Orlando community, and especially with the families and friends of the victims. This goes against anything and everything that my religion and my allegiance to America, as a citizen of this great country, stands for and represents. Islam gives no one the right to violently cut short the lives of innocent people, or judge them for the way they choose to live. I don't drink alcohol and consider adultery a sin, does this mean I should kill those who drink or have affairs? Just as that makes no sense, neither does killing anyone for their sexual orientation. Islam teaches me to leave the judging to God and to focus my energy on attaining God's pleasure by showing compassion and serving all of His creation in whatever capacity I can.

I condemn all terrorist activity, everywhere. This is true regardless of where it happens and who it happens to because I love all of humanity. My love for humanity is not reserved only for Muslims nor only for Americans just because I, myself, am an American Muslim. My heart bleeds for every atrocity and every injustice inflicted on my fellow mankind, and I stand against any type of bigotry and discrimination towards any group or community. Why then does the media try to make me feel compelled to always publicly apologize for any and all unfortunate events that take place?

Let's please clarify that I am in no way responsible for the actions of any person in this world besides myself. No one. Not even my own children. I will work hard my entire life to teach them right from wrong and instill a love for service to humanity in their hearts, but in the end they alone are answerable for their actions. Everyone is solely responsible for their own deeds. "And no burdened soul can bear the burden of another; and if a heavily laden soul call another to bear its load, naught of it shall be carried by the other, even though he be a kinsman (Quran, 35:19)."

After the Virginia Tech or Sandy Hook shootings did the media turn to the killer's religion or community looking for condemnation or

an apology? No. And I'm glad they didn't because every sane person understood that the monster responsible for each tragedy was just that, a monster who represented evil alone. So please extend the same compassion to us! Why isn't it possible for someone of Asian/Middle Eastern descent who just so happens to be affiliated with Islam simply be a misguided insane madman executing a personal vendetta against mankind, and not tarnish an entire religion by being wrongfully portrayed as a devout believer waging a "holy" war, until and unless there is clear evidence otherwise?

Love for all, hatred for none.

Aisha Khan
Herndon

Harmful House Bill

To the Editor:

Last week, the U.S. House decided that keeping our air safe is not important and passed a bill to restrict implementation of the new standards for nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, particulate matter and lead. The "Smoggy Skies Act" (HR 4775) is an irresponsible attack on the Clean Air Act. This bill would double the time between EPA re-

views of harmful pollutants (from 5 to 10 years) and caters to corporations that want permits to pollute at levels beyond national health standards.

The standards in place protect our health and environment, and should be based on science, not considerations of cost and "technological feasibility" for companies that put profits before people. The connection between climate change and health, particularly asthma, is well established. Pumping more climate change pollutants into the air is impacting ozone pollen levels, increasing asthma attacks and allergic reactions. Richmond, Virginia, leads the list of the worst cities for asthma and allergy sufferers, and the health effects will only worsen.

Smog pollution already sends thousands of children to emergency rooms each year and costs Americans billions in health care costs, lost productivity and even premature deaths. Even more disconcerting is that smog pollution disproportionately hurts low-income communities and communities of color. Preventing attacks like HR 4775, and implementing the Clean Power Plan, is the next essential step in protecting our health.

Kelsey Crane
Reston



A Student Cast Sought for 'All the World's A Stage'

Starshine Theater! of Great Falls is celebrating its 23rd year of Performing Arts Programs for Pre-K, Elementary, Middle and High School-aged students. The troupe is currently enrolling a student cast of ages elementary through teen years in the original musical drama, "All the World's A Stage, The Life, Times & Greatest Lines of William Shakespeare." This will be the seventh staged production of the show in the 20 years since it was first researched and written for student performers by director Patricia Budwig.

Through the years, the popular play has provided a venue for hun-

dreds of local students to grace the stage. Dramatic, singing and dance/action/stage battle roles are available for each student. High school and middle school Students may also serve as "Actor-Mentors." Teens with skills in acting, singing, playing a musical instrument, dance, martial arts or theater tech serve as role models by assisting the younger cast members during rehearsals, and enjoy performing challenging character roles in the show. Rehearsals and performs on stage in Great Falls. Contact Patricia Budwig, at StarshineTheater@aol.com or 703-790-9050.

FAITH NOTES

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

Oakton Church of the Brethren will have its Vacation Bible School, August 1-5, 9:20 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$20 per child; 40 family maximum. Registration is open at www.oaktonbrethren.org. 703-281-4411. The church is located at 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna.

Epiphany United Methodist Church is holding a Vacation Bible School, July 18-22 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Free. Register at <http://epiphanyumc.weebly.com/vbs-registration-form.html>. The church is located at 1014 Country Club Lane NE, Vienna. 703-938-3494.

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

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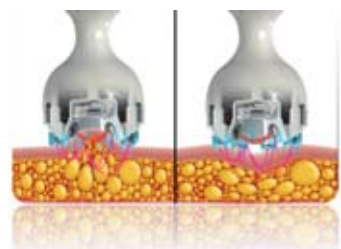
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Susan Finta, a National Park Service ranger, explains Matildaville's role in the Pawtomack Company's construction of the locks at Great Falls National Park.



PHOTOS BY NANCY CHRISTY
Janet Al Hussaini (right) prepared the entire menu from scratch, which delighted all of the guests.

George Washington's Great Falls: A Tour of Local Historic Sites

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY, PRESIDENT
GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Great Falls Historical Society conducted its first bus tour around sites that George Washington frequented during his lifetime in Great Falls.

The sites included: locks and the site of the former Matildaville village which were developed by the Pawtomack Company, which he founded to open a waterway from the Shenandoah to the Ohio Valley; the Towlston Grange, which was more than 5,000 acres in George Washington's day, where his close friend, Bryan Fairfax lived and where he stayed and foxhunted; the Difficult Run tract of land with an 80-foot drop, where the Colvin Run Mill is currently situated; and the William Gunnell House on Innsbruck Avenue, an aristocratic 1750s structure.

It is presumed that Washington may have visited and stayed there as he and the Gunnells were friends.

Over 30 people participated in the tour. All had one thing in common - they were curious about George Washington and wanted to know as much as they could about his connection to the village.

They were surprised by the depth and breadth of his connection to land and people in Great Falls. Most remarkable was his vision. He envisioned a unified country of many states. He envisioned a mill seat on a piece of land with a big drop. He enjoyed his friends and took advantage of the countryside to foxhunt and more.

The entire group lingered over the fresh, healthy, homemade lunch as they made new friends, and discussed the implications of all they had seen. The weather cooperated handsomely.

The Great Falls Historical Society was formed in 1977 to foster community spirit by bringing the past into the present. The committee who prepared this event included Greg Haymans, Karen Washburn, Nancy Christy, Janet Al Hussaini, Alex Brudno and Kathleen Murphy, as well as Jinny and Sean Beyer, who allowed a visit to their remarkable and historically significant home.



Greg Haymans presents the history of George Washington's connection to the Difficult Run tract of land on which the Colvin Run Mill now stands. Alex Brudno displays historic photos and documents in George Washington's handwriting.



Jinny Beyer (speaking) and Karen Washburn (to her left) led two groups through the Beyer Residence and the lovely gardens. Formerly the William Gunnell house, it was built circa 1750 and it is believed that George Washington visited the house on occasion. The Gunnell House is on the National Register of Historic Places and has been placed under a permanent conservation trust, which will prevent the 10-acre property from ever being divided.

OBITUARY

Prolific Author, Robert F. Dorr, Dies

A source of energy, inspiration and courage to the Great Falls creative community.

BY KRISTIN CLARK TAYLOR

When author Robert F. Dorr took his last breath on Sunday, June 12, 2016, not only the writing world but the entire, larger community whispered a final farewell and breathed a sigh of sadness right along with him.

Born in Washington, D.C., in 1939, and raised in both the District and the nearby Maryland suburbs, Dorr was prolific, writing more than 80 books and more than a thousand magazine articles over the course of his distinguished career as an author, journalist and columnist.

His passion for writing came early: In 1955, at the age of 16, he published his first magazine interview, written on the Underwood typewriter he purchased as a newspaper delivery boy - the first purchase he ever made - and from that moment forward, he remained true

to his craft, penning articles, writing books and entertaining countless readers with his characteristic quick wit and keen observations.

To the Great Falls creative community, Bob was a source of energy, inspiration and inexhaustible courage. Though suffering from a progressive brain tumor that his own doctors described as "undefeatable" on the day they gave him his terminal diagnosis, Dorr remained undaunted and unafraid, always ready to offer an encouraging word to the legions of local writers who were inspired by his wisdom.

"The thing about writing," he told the Great Falls Writers Group at an open event only about five weeks before his death, "is that you must make the time for it; you must make it a priority in your daily life."

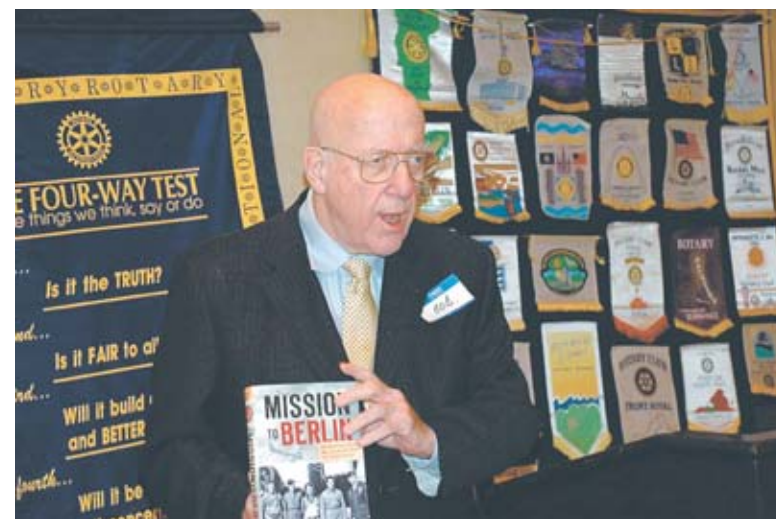
Just this past month, GFWG dedicated their annual anthology titled "Two Minutes," to Dorr in a special ceremony at the Great Falls

Library, which he attended with his entire family. Dorr, a contributing writer to the anthology, wrote as part of his entry:

"Time itself has become different and more urgent for me. My life has undergone a change. Two minutes, to me, is precious. I won't see my grandchildren grow up or learn who will become our forty-fifth president, but I'm having a great time with friends and family."

His son Bob Porter Dorr remembers his father with warmth, wonder and the utmost respect: "I grew up following my dad around the world during his career as a Foreign Service Officer," he said.

"He was this larger-than-life guy who seemed to be this amazing mixture of Dalton Trumbo, James Bond and Benny Hill," says the junior Dorr. "In the office, he was this pinstripe diplomat. At home, he was this slightly disheveled, starving writer, moonlighting with bourbon and cigarette bouncing to



Great falls writer Robert F. Dorr died on Sunday. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

the clickety-clack of the constant, two-finger jabs of his Underwood typewriter."

The author, who served in the U.S. Air Force and spent 25 years as a senior Foreign Service Officer, was also a well-regarded expert on military aviation, amassing one of the largest private collections of military photographs in the country. His most recent novel, "Crime Scene: Fairfax County," was released in January. Though typing eventually became impossible, the determined Dorr still managed to

write to the very last word, finishing the manuscript with his characteristic grace, grit and good humor.

He is survived by his wife, Young Soon Dorr, his sons Lawrence Gerald Dorr III and Robert Porter Dorr, his daughter-in-law Lisa Marie Fritsch, and three young grandchildren, Robert, Sophia and Lily Dorr.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED
Leading the rollicking "Twilight Bark" performed by Boxers, Scotties, Poodles and Chihuahuas are Riya Dongre, Isabel Butler, Elena Tempesta, Lilly Witte, Melanie Lindsey, Katelyn Chen and Carissa Chen.

Colvin Run Elementary Stages '101 Dalmatians'

A group of talented fifth and sixth graders at Colvin Run Elementary School brought the story of Disney's "101 Dalmatians" to the stage on June 10 and 11. The fifth- and sixth-graders took well-deserved "Bow Wows" and celebrated with awards and a cast party. The students enjoyed making new friends and seeing a show come to life from casting, to learning the music and choreography, to getting their costumes for the first time and finally performing on stage.



The home of Roger and Anita (William Bertin and JoJo Phillips), who with their nanny (Cristina Sayegh) are raising a dalmatian family including Pongo and Perdita (Kieran Parnaby and Leah Connell) and their puppies (Tiffany Bennett, Sophia Go, Elise Taggart and Yuto Matsuki).

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ENTERTAINMENT



CONNECTION
FILE PHOTO

The Celebrate Great Falls float makes its way down Columbine Street during the a previous Great Falls Fourth of July parade.

Great Falls Celebrates the Fourth

Great Falls begins its Fourth of July celebrations with a 5K Walk/Run at 8 a.m. Great Falls Freedom Memorial.

From 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., there will be a blood drive at the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department.

At 9 a.m. babies and toddlers will have a chance to promenade at the Little Patriot Parade at the Village Centre Green. Awards for "Young George Washington," Little Miss Betsy Ross," and "The Star Spangled Family."

The little patriots will be followed by the Main Parade at 10 a.m. See the floats, horses, antique cars and pets making a loop in the Main Parade. Be sure to spot the winning floats for Best Neighborhood,

Best Business and Best Organization.

After the parade, enjoy burgers, dogs and snowcones along with music, field games and festivities on the Village Centre Green with your Great Falls neighbors. Festivities, food and fun will be from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Then, pack up the family and come tailgate with your neighbors at Turner Farm Park, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Gates open at 6:00 pm. Live music, games, contests and food trucks will entertain until the Big Show gets underway just after dusk.

For more information, go to <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org>.

CALENDAR

Send announcements to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. Deadline is Friday at noon for the following week's paper.

ONGOING

Great Falls Summer Market.

Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road Great Falls. <http://greatfallsfarmersmarket.org/>

Great Falls artist Betty Ganley.

Month of July. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Nautical and floral subjects in watercolor. 703-759-4673.

June Floral Show. June 1-30.

Broadway Gallery Fine Art and Framing, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. Reston Chamber Member features Floral Show at Great Falls Gallery with works of art by Vladimir & Alena Piven, Olaf Schneider, Anastasia Carson, David Sloane, Matthew Moore, and Linda Griffin. broadwaygallery.net. 703-450-8005.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JUNE 20-24

Primitive Beginnings. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Children will learn nature awareness, free play, archery, learning to build friction fires and more. Focus will be on skill building and outdoor play. Bring lunch. 6-9 years old. \$285/\$300. To register: fairfaxcounty.gov/parks and search for Riverbend Park.

Junior Potomac Adventure Camp.

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Campers enjoy rock climbing, canoeing, tubing and hiking. Bring lunch. 8-12 years old. \$399/\$414. To

register: fairfaxcounty.gov/parks and search for Riverbend Park.

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. wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 24

Josh and the Jamtones. 10:30 a.m. Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. "Rocksteady" with Josh and the Jamtones in this interactive, ultra-powered dance party. Featuring stadium rock choruses and A cappella

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11



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ENTERTAINMENT



Betty Ganley's "Dockside Cluster" will be on display in July at Katie's Coffe House in Great Falls.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

sing-a-longs. Ages 2-8. \$10. wolftrap.org/woods.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JUNE 24-25

FWSA Soccer Tournament. Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna. Fairfax Womens Soccer Association is hosting a soccer tournament and 40th anniversary celebration. fwsasoccer.org. 703-728-1793.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 25-26

Women's Soccer Association Tournament. Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna. Tournament to celebrate Fairfax Women's Soccer Association 40th anniversary this year. \$25 individuals. \$400 teams. fwsasoccer.org.

Vienna Wireless Society National Field Day.

2 p.m. Burke Lake Park, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station. Local amateur radio operators ("hams") will join thousands nationwide on the weekend of June 25-26 to show off their amateur-radio and emergency-communications capabilities. To learn more about amateur radio, visit <http://viennawireless.net/> or go to <http://www.arrl.org/newham>.

SUNDAY/JUNE 26

Wagon Ride to Poohsticks Bridge. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Journey through the woods to Poohsticks bridge. Listen to Winnie the Pooh's story and play Poohsticks on the bridge. Meet at the Nature Center. 2 years or older. \$6/\$8. To register: fairfaxcounty.gov/parks and search for Riverbend Park.

Build Your Own Bat House. 10 a.m.-noon. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Build a bat house to hang in your yard. 3 years or older. \$8/\$10. Additional \$15 per bat house. To register: fairfaxcounty.gov/parks and search for Riverbend Park.

Scott Kurt and Memphis 59. 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls. Tom Petty meets Rascal Flatts – rockin' guitar! <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JUNE 27-JULY 1

Fishing Adventures. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Fish from shore and boats using spinning tackle. Enjoy a chartered fishing trip on the Chesapeake Bay and an introduction to fly-fishing. 12-15 years old. \$449-\$464. To register: fairfaxcounty.gov/parks and search for Riverbend Park.

TUESDAY/JUNE 28

SOLE Defined. 10:30 a.m. Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Separate your hands from your feet and clap along to the rhythmic beat! With a fusion of tap dance, sand dance, and body percussion, these spirited performers create a free flowing conversation through music and movement. Ages 4 and up. \$8. wolftrap.org/woods.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 29

123 Andres. 10:30 a.m. Children's Theatre-in-the-

Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Bailar, or dance along, with 123 Andrés as he takes you on a melodic journey to the Latin music world. Ages 2-7. \$8. wolftrap.org/woods.

THURSDAY/JUNE 30

Furia Flamenca Dance Company. 10:30 a.m. Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Experience the thrill and elegance of flamenco! Combining fiery percussive footwork and passionate music. \$8. Ages 5 and up. wolftrap.org/woods.

SUNDAY/JULY 3

Tom Principato. 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls. One of the most unique guitarists around, combining his rich blues background with high-energy rock, and a highly charged, emotionally expressive delivery. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

Desert Highway. 5 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Eagles tribute band. Part of the Alden's Sunday Summer Concerts. Free. aldentheatre.org. 703-790-0123.

MONDAY/JULY 4

Great Falls 4th of July Celebration and Parade. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. 5K Walk Run, Blood Drive, Little Patriot Parade, and floats, horses, antique cars and pets making a loop in the Main Parade. Fireworks start after dusk. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/4th-of-july-celebration-parade/>

Vienna 4th of July Festival and Fireworks Show. 4-9:30 p.m. Live musical entertainment, arts and crafts for kids, antique and classic car show and fireworks. Visit www.viennava.gov for more.

McLean Fourth of July. 6:30 p.m. Churchill Road Elementary, 7100 Churchill Road, McLean. Free shuttle buses. Disc jockey, snack vendors. mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY/JULY 9

All Stars and Healing Wall Reception. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Vienna Arts Society will be working with the troops on the mend at Fort Belvoir Hospital. Starting bid for unique puzzle pieces is \$20. ViennaArtsSociety.org. 703-319-3971.

SUNDAY/JULY 10

Emma Bailey. 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls. Soothing Emma Bailey country with the Standing Room Only Rock Band. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

The English Channel. 5 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. British Invasion tribute band. Part of the Alden's Sunday Summer Concerts. Free. aldentheatre.org. 703-790-0123.

MONDAY-FRIDAY/JULY 11-15

Olympic Camp. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Providence Baptist Church, 8980 Brook Road, McLean. For rising first- to sixth-graders. Cooking for fun, acting, experiments and explosions, magic, dance and sports. ProvidenceToday.org. 703-893-5330.



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Directions: From Rt. 66 Exit onto Rt. 123 N towards Vienna. Continue into Vienna. Off Maple Avenue Turn right on Center Street. Follow Center Street to Waters Field on Left.

Note: Parking is limited so carpooling is encouraged. Parking is available at the Vienna Firehouse, Faith Baptist Church, Vienna Elementary, or on the street where authorized.

WWW.NVWWS.ORG

SPORTS

Top Spring, Winter Sports Moments

The following is a look back at some of the top moments in local high school sports from the 2016 winter and spring seasons.

Madison's Vannicola Throws No-Hitter

Katie Vannicola's first high school no-hitter earned the Madison softball team its first trip to the state championship game since 2004.

Vannicola did not allow a hit against Grassfield in the 6A state semifinals and Madison won 4-0 on June 10 at Robinson Secondary School. The future Georgetown hurler struck out seven, hit one batter and walked three.

Vannicola received some help from her defense, including third baseman Alex Echazarreta catching a line drive in the seventh inning.

The Warhawks would lose to Osboun Park 4-0 in the state final the following day.

Madison finished the season with a 24-5 record, with three of its losses coming in the Conference 6, 6A North region and state championship games.

South Lakes Boys' Lax Wins Conference

For the South Lakes boys' lacrosse team, a double-digit win streak developed into the first conference title in program history.

South Lakes defeated Yorktown 8-5 in the Conference 6 championship game on May 13 at Langley High School, giving the Seahawks their first title. South Lakes finished the season with a 16-3 record, including a 13-7 loss to Colonial Forge in the state quarterfinals.

After losing to Stone Bridge in the second game of the season, the Seahawks kept on winning. A five-game win streak turned into a 10-game win streak and eventually South Lakes entered the conference tournament final with a 12-1 record, having won 11 straight.

South Lakes made it 12 in a row with the win over Yorktown. Tommy Jung scored three goals for the Seahawks and Matt Hughes scored two.

Herndon's Menendez No-Hits South Lakes

Herndon junior Antonio Menendez tossed a no-hitter against South Lakes on April 2 and the Hornets defeated the Seahawks 2-0 in Reston.

Menendez struck out 10, walked two and hit two batters. He threw 86 pitches, including 53 for strikes.

It was the first varsity no-hitter for Menendez, who is committed to Wake Forest.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Madison pitcher Katie Vannicola threw her first high school no-hitter in the state semifinals.



PHOTO BY WILL PALENSCAR

Paige Galiani and the Langley girls' basketball team reached the state final for the first time in program history.

Langley Girls Reaches State Final

The 2015-16 Langley girls' basketball team reached the state championship game for the first time in program history. Along the way, the Saxons won their first conference/district title since 1988 and upset previously unbeaten Oakton in the state semifinals.

Langley gave two-time defending state

champion Cosby trouble in the state final and had a chance to tie with less than a minute remaining, but the Titans went on to capture their third straight championship with a 42-37 victory on March 9 at VCU's Siegel Center. Langley ended the season with a 26-6 record and the deepest postseason run in its history.

The previous day, the Saxons defeated then-unbeaten Oakton 47-38 in the semifinals. The 38 points were a season low for the Cougars.

Senior guard Paige Galiani became the program's all-time leading scorer during the regular season. She scored 17 points and hit a late 3-pointer that led the Saxons to a 34-32 win over Landstown in the state quarterfinals on March 5 at Old Dominion University. She totaled 11 points, four rebounds and two blocks against Cosby in the state final.

Senior guard Lizzy Shamloo had 12 points, nine rebounds and three steals against Cosby.

Great Falls U-11 Boys Win Lacrosse Championship

The U-11 Great Falls Boys Team defeated Fort Hunt 4-3 in a close and hard-fought win this past Sunday at McLean High School, winning the Northern Virginia Youth Lacrosse League Championship. The Great Falls boys were ranked No. 8 out of 23 going into the Championship tournament, managing to snatch the No. 1 spot. The team is led by head coach Denny Sisson and assistant coach Mark Spoto. The team roster includes: Sam Borrer, John Cook, Bradley Cruthirds, Joseph Duncan, Phelps Henry, Will Horstman, Zachary Jones, Mikey Kieffer, Raman Mathur, Jake Moser, Hunt North, Jack Pino, Owen Ruskavich, Denison Sisson, Nicholas Spoto, Andrew Vivenzio, Charlies Williams, Liam Willson.



WEDDINGS



PHOTOS BY SUNNY MATHUR/PHOTOGRAPHICK STUDIOS

Neil and Riddhima arriving at the reception at River Bend Golf and Country Club.

Neil Mehta and Riddhima Gandhi Celebrate Wedding in India, Great Falls

Raksha and Dinesh Mehta of Great Falls have announced the marriage of their son, Neil Mehta, to Riddhima Gandhi, the daughter of Shabnam and Gaurang Gandhi of Mumbai, India. The couple was married on Dec. 24, 2015, in Udaipur, India. The families celebrated the marriage in Great Falls on May 14 and 15.

The lead up to the traditional Hindu wedding ceremonies in India in December included a traditional Mehndi, or henna ceremony; a Sangeet, consisting of musical and dance performances by friends and family and a Baraat, or wedding procession, by elephant and boat.

The U.S. celebrations in May included a reception at River Bend Golf and Country Club, with several Bollywood-inspired dances and performances by friends and

family, as well as a Laxmi Pravesha at the home of Dinesh and Raksha Mehta, with a ritual puja to welcome their new daughter to their home.

The couple met in Palo Alto, California, in January 2011, where they were both pursuing graduate degrees at Stanford, she a master's in international policy and he an M.B.A.

The bride, 28, is a consultant for Castalia, an advisory firm based in Washington specializing in infrastructure development in emerging markets. She graduated with first-class honors from Cambridge.

The groom, 32, works at Apollo Global Management, an investment firm in New York, where he specializes in financial services investing and strategy. He graduated cum laude from Harvard, from which he also received a master's in applied mathematics.

Neil and Riddhima performing their first dance to "Tumhi Ho Bandhu" (translation: You are My Soulmate) from the Bollywood movie "Cocktail" at the reception at River Bend Golf and Country Club.



Pandit Shri Tripathiji of the Rajdhani Mandir in Chantilly (left) presiding over a ritual puja welcoming Riddhima (seated, right) to the Mehta family home after her marriage to Neil (seated, left), with the blessings of their parents (standing from left, Dinesh Mehta, Raksha Mehta, Shabnam Gandhi and Gaurang Gandhi). The puja was performed on May 15 at the Mehta residence in Great Falls.

Great Falls July 4th Fireworks



Friends of the Fireworks

We need your support to light up the skies and keep our annual 4th of July Parade and Hometown Holiday celebration in Great Falls this year. Please consider being a part of this wonderful Great Falls tradition through a donation or volunteering to help!



Bronze Sponsorship ~ \$500

- 10 VIP Bronze Viewing Area passes & 2 Bronze Parking passes
- Recognition at the event
- Name Listed in (2) Great Falls Connection full page advertisements and on the "Friends of the Fireworks" page on the Celebrate Great Falls website
- Tax deductible up to \$450



Silver Sponsorship ~ \$1000

- 15 VIP Silver Viewing Area passes & 2 Silver Parking passes
- Name Listed in (2) Great Falls Connection full page advertisements and on the "Friends of the Fireworks" page on the Celebrate Great Falls website
- 15' x 15' (approximately) Reserved Area
- 2' x 4' Banner at the event
- Tax deductible up to \$900



Gold Sponsorship ~ \$1500

- 20 VIP Gold Viewing Area passes & 6 Gold Parking passes
- Logo placement in (2) Great Falls Connection full page ads
- Name listed on the "Friends of the Fireworks" page on the Celebrate Great Falls website
- 20' x 20' (approximately) Reserved Area
- 3' x 6' Banner at the event
- Tax deductible up to \$1250



Platinum Sponsorship ~ \$4500

- 50 VIP Platinum Viewing Area passes & 20 Platinum Parking
- Logo placement in (2) Great Falls Connection full page ads
- Name listed on the "Friends of the Fireworks" page on the Celebrate Great Falls website
- 20' x 20' (approximately) Reserved Area
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Family Donations encouraged!

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Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

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21 Announcements

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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 or 800-552-3200

21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Rooting Around



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As rare as this beginning may sound, a funny thing happened to me at my dentist's office this past week: the apparent need for two root canals followed up by two crowns (neither of which will make me king or master of my domain) for a not-so-grand total of between 8 and 10 thousand uninsured/out-of-pocket dollars (the specific pocket yet to be determined and the timetable likewise yet to be decided).

And it's not as if the consequence of my inaction was a shock. Hardly. My dentist and my dental hygienist, Sandy, have been advising/cajoling me and attempting various preventive procedures for years hoping to avoid this eventuality, for my sake, really. Nevertheless, despite their consistently best efforts to get me to floss and/or use whatever flossing alternative exists on the market, I have unfortunately through no fault of theirs, reached my infected point, at least on the X-Rays I was shown, of no return. Not that needing root canals or any other variety of dental repair is at all unusual – or unexpected after reaching a certain middle age, it was more the manner in which the need/recommendation was suggested to me by my dentist and his hygienist – and my reaction to it, that I thought was column-worthy. I thought especially so in the light of having been diagnosed with stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer in early 2009.

Separating out the cost-anxiety for a moment and trying just to deal with the bad, inconvenient, negative, time-consuming news, the message I received, softly and clearly, was one offered up as sympathetically and presumably as empathetically as possible, given my underlying cancer diagnosis, with which the practice is well acquainted. And I appreciated the sensitivity with which the dental assessment – and cost, was discussed. However, if I had to bet a dollar, I would say their initial concern was more about yours truly finding the necessary unreimbursed dollars to solve this long-standing tooth decay than was its impact on me as a cancer patient, as evidenced by their assurances of financial assistance.

And since I was not yet in the excruciating pain that my dentist described was likely forthcoming, nor flush with cash ready to commit to this huge/not totally unexpected expense, I took their advice in stride (in the dental chair, actually) and hesitatingly authorized their first step: e-mailing the referred endodontist for price/plan/schedule, etc.

Now this is where the subject finally gets funny, and I don't mean hysterical (because I'm not crazy or laughing heartily) and I don't mean ironic (because it's not exactly a twist on reality), but it was as Jerry Seinfeld once said: "something." And the something it was I think was context. I have the ultimate weight on my shoulders: cancer – and by association I'm told, on my teeth, too. I'm already living with terrible news, the worst kind of news, a "terminal" prognosis given at age 54 and a half due to an "incurable" form of lung cancer. And what was funny to me was the serious, somber and sorrowful tones and expressions with which this root canal need was given. If I hadn't already received a cancer diagnosis seven-plus years ago, I would have thought I was receiving one right there in the dentist's office.

Root canal? Is that all you got? Hey, I may not be thrilled about the cost and I'm certainly not looking forward to the pain and inconvenience. I'll get it done when I get it done. In the interim however, to be honest, I can't worry about it too much. I have cancer: "The Emperor of all Maladies."

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



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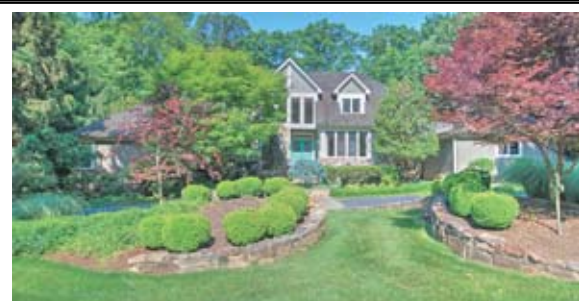
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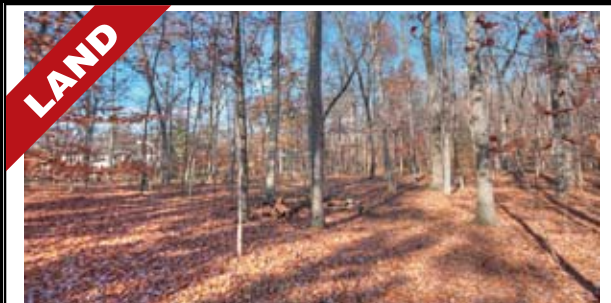
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