



and Oakton Vienna CONNECTION

The band Donaldsons' Run performs Saturday at the Family Fun Jam at Jammin Java, a community fundraiser for Growing Hope Foundation, which raises money for children with cancer and their families.

Family Fun Jam at Jammin Java

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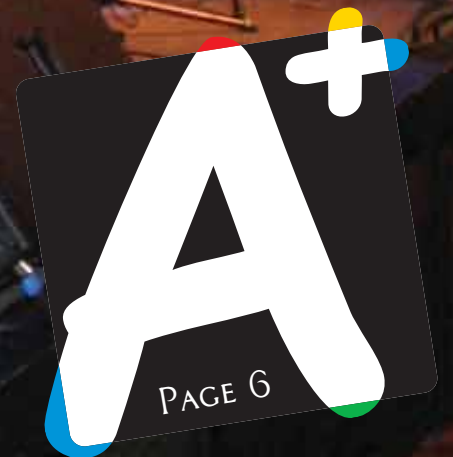


Old-time Country Fair Comes to Vienna

NEWS, PAGE 3

Local Charity Wins Big at Wiffle Ball World Series

NEWS, PAGE 8



Vienna Area Branch of AAUW to Host Open House

The American Association of University Women of the Vienna Area will hold an informational Open House on Saturday, Sept. 3, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, in Vienna. Learn about upcoming programs and events, and how the AAUW promotes equity and education for women. Light refreshments will be served. Mem-

bership dues will be discounted for those who join at this event. Contact ViennaAAUW@yahoo.com for more information.

Middle Eastern Food Festival Returns on Labor Day Weekend

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church will host its 23rd annual Middle Eastern Food Festival, Sept. 3 and 4, on the

church grounds — 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The Festival will feature authentic Middle Eastern food, pastries, music and dancing, as well as vendors, church tours, and activities for both children and adults.

Join in the fun from 11 a.m. – 11 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 3 and 12 noon – 6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 4. Smell the aromas from the outdoor grills, partake of Kibbee, Shish Kebab, Falafel, Fattoush, Hummus, and Stuffed Grape Leaves, or any number of other delicious menu choices, including

a roast lamb dinner at 6 p.m. Saturday evening and all day on Sunday. Then relax with a cup of Arabic coffee and mouth-watering pastry. Choose from Arabic favorites, such as Baklava, Maamoul, Namoura, or Ghraybeh, or old-fashioned American sweets like cakes, cookies and pies.

Once you've satisfied your appetite, join in the Debke dance, led by instructors, or participate in the backgammon tournament. Children, meanwhile, can enjoy the moon bounce, face painting, pony rides and the petting zoo, as well

as participate in some of the many games going on throughout the Festival.

The Festival will be held rain or shine. Admission and parking are free. To learn more, call 703-734-9566 or visit www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com.

Project Proposals Sought for VolunteerFest 2016

Does your area nonprofit or government agency need some volunteer power to accomplish a Wish List project? Volunteer Fairfax seeks project proposals for VolunteerFest, a National Day of Service. Visit <http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/non-profits/volunteerfest.php> to submit a *project proposal by Sept. 12. (*Must be a VF Partner or Associate member to submit.) VolunteerFest mobilizes hundreds of volunteers of all shapes and sizes to help nonprofits in our neighborhoods tackle tasks that they would not have the time, or resources, to accomplish on their own. Want to volunteer at a project? Volunteer registration opens Sept. 19. Save the date: Oct. 22.

Caregiving Events

September is Older Virginians' Mental Health Month and the county is hosting three community **presentations on caring for mental wellness**. Presenters are licensed county therapists and specialists in older adult wellness resources.

♦ Tuesday, Sept. 13, 11 a.m. to 12 noon

Herndon Senior Center – free and open to members and nonmembers, 873 Grace Street, Herndon

Call the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging at **703-324-5411** for registration and ADA accommodations.

♦ Monday, Sept. 19, 1-2 p.m.
George Mason Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale

Call the Community Services Board's Public Information Line at **703-324-7006** for more information and ADA accommodations.

♦ Tuesday, Sept. 20, 1-2 p.m.
Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria

Call the Community Services Board's Public Information Line at **703-324-7006** for more information and ADA accommodations.

Fairfax County is offering a new **Caregiver Support Group** the first Wednesday of each month beginning **Sept. 7, 10 a.m.** at Calvary Hill Baptist Church, 9301 Little River Tnpk., Fairfax. Find out more at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/caregiver.htm under Community Caregiver Support Groups or call **703-324-5489**, TTY 711.

Fairfax County's free **Family Caregiver Telephone Support Group** meets by phone on **Tuesday, September 13, 7-8 p.m.** We are having an open discussion on caregiving. Register beforehand at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices and click on Telephone Caregiver Support Group. Call **703-324-5484**, TTY 711.

Local Families and Newcomers alike will turn to our Annual Pullout Guide as they make millions of dollars in purchasing decisions this fall and beyond.

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Old-time Country Fair Comes to Vienna

Historic Vienna, Inc. hosts free activities reminiscent of an earlier time.

Step into a Norman Rockwell painting on Aug. 20 as Historic Vienna, Inc. hosts a country fair with a myriad of activities, at no charge, for families. The debut “Vienna’s Country Fair” takes over the Freeman House end of the Vienna Town Green from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 20. HVI refers to the fair as a “return to a simpler time.”

“This is perfect for families,” said HVI president Anne Stuntz. “It’s a fun and engaging way to teach children about country life and the Americana of decades-ago.”

For children, there are diverse activities, from a petting zoo of approximately 15 farm animals, to household “chores” such as butter churning, ice cream-making, and washing cloths the old-fashioned way. There will be a tractor and props for photo ops, reenactors bringing the period to life, and a returning highlight from last year — the

second annual bike parade and decorated bike contest. Children adorn their bikes at home, but, for kids who bring undecorated bikes to the parade, there will be on-hand accoutrements for decorating. The bike parade around the Town Green begins at 3 p.m.

Adding to the old-time craft activities is a Tom Sawyer-like fence white-washing, lasso practice, and pre-computer children’s games. American Legion Post 180 will sell fair-food, such as hamburgers, and, in a nod to modern times, a sno-cone truck will be on hand. Maple Avenue Market plans on having a booth selling its local produce. At the Little Library on the Town Green, a school marm will oversee her “charges” in the original Vienna library transplanted to the Town Green.

Local garden clubs participate in a plant competition, and reenactors will give his-



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Mr. and Mrs. Lydecker, original proprietors of the Freeman Store in 1859, aka Historic Vienna board members Leigh Kitcher and Jon Vrana. They will be helping to host Vienna’s Country Fair on Saturday:

tory “talks.” All afternoon, HVI has live bluegrass music.

“We wanted to connect our [current] agricultural exhibit to community events focusing on agriculture in the Vienna area,



Flyer announcing Vienna’s Country Fair.

things like gardening, fairs,” said Stuntz.

“It’s a celebration of Vienna’s roots,” Stuntz said.

—DONNA MANZ

Shepherd’s Center of Oakton-Vienna Chosen for Greater Washington Catalogue for Philanthropy

The Shepherd’s Center of Oakton-Vienna [SCOV] has announced its continued recognition as one of Greater Washington’s best community-based charities by the Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington. Being re-featured online by the Catalogue reflects the Shepherd’s Center’s status as an effective local charity dedicated to promoting and supporting purposeful independent living for mature adults.

Michelle Scott, ED, SCOV, said, “It is truly an honor to receive the ‘Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval’ from the Catalogue for Philanthropy.”

SCOV was selected to be re-featured online in the 14th annual Catalogue for Philanthropy, which has, since 2003, connected caring citizens with worthy community causes and raised more than \$33 million for featured nonprofits. SCOV had previously been honored with acceptance into the 2012-2013 Catalogue print edition.

The Catalogue’s vetting process is rigorous: members of a 130-person review team, made up of foundations, corporations, peer nonprofits and the philanthropic advisory community, evaluate charities on the basis of program impact and fiscal soundness, and each featured charity is visited on-site by at least one member of the review team.

“Donors know they can trust the Catalogue to help them make smart decisions about local nonprofits where their con-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left — Michelle Scott, Executive Director, SCOV; Shiva Tavana, Volunteer Coordinator and Jayne Young, Director of Operations & Events.

tributions will really make a difference,” notes Catalogue President Barbara Harman. “The Washington, D.C. region has one of the greatest wealth disparities in the nation — one of the most affluent [and well-educated] populations in the country, and also one of the poorest. We are in a unique position to help our neighbors by connecting donors and volunteers to worthy, local nonprofits working to strengthen the D.C.

region.”

Founded in 1997, the Shepherd’s Center of Oakton-Vienna is a volunteer-based nonprofit organization dedicated to providing opportunities for adults [50+] to seek rewarding lives and to live independently in their homes for as long as possible. The unique approach employed by the agency also allows for mature adults to volunteer their time providing vital services to the

more vulnerable seniors needing assistance.

As the country’s population is living longer and oftentimes isolated from family support, “aging in place” becomes a challenge. The concept of “Seniors Helping Seniors” truly defines the spirit and purpose of the Shepherd’s Center of Oakton-Vienna. Their personal enrichment and volunteer opportunities reached more than 3,000 older adults in the region.

Each year more than 250 volunteers at SCOV serve as medical drivers, companion drivers, friendly callers and visitors, health and wellness educators, office assistants, fundraisers, and grant writers. Volunteers also run programs such as SCOV’s Lunch n’ Life, Adventures in Learning, trips and outings, special events, and the caregivers’ support group.

Their signature fundraiser “What to Expect When You’re Electing” with the Capitol Steps is slated for Oct. 23, 2016, 3 p.m. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$35 at the door. Organizers are suggesting tickets be purchased early as this show is expected to sell out. Tickets: Visit www.scov.org/fundraiser-tickets or call 703-281-00538

To volunteer, donate or learn more about how you can help, visit their website at www.scov.org or contact Michelle Scott, Executive Director at 703-281-5088, director@scov.org.

OPINION

Election 2016: Much at Stake Nationally, Locally

Possible record turnout should motivate more early voting.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 8, and in some ways that seems like it can't possibly come soon enough. On Election Day in Virginia, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m., but early voting begins Sept. 23, about five weeks from now, and voters should have plenty of motivation to vote early.

It's hard to articulate how much is at stake in the coming election, and it's not just about the choices for U.S. President. Turnout will be extremely high, if not record breaking.

Nearly 32 percent of voters nationally voted before Election Day in 2012, according to census data, compared with just under 30 percent in 2008 and 20 percent in 2004, the New York Times reported.

There are 19 valid reasons to vote absentee in Virginia, with one that applies to almost everyone who commutes to work. If you could be working and commuting to and from home for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day, you qualify to vote "absentee in person." If you vote absentee in-person you will fill out the application when you arrive at the in-person absentee location.

The deadline to register to vote on Election Day is Oct. 17.

Visit the Virginia Department of Elections website to check that you are registered or call Fairfax County Elections office at 703-222-0776.

Virginia has a stringent voter identification requirement, plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether that is absentee or on Election Day. Among accepted ID: valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; other government-issued photo identification cards issued by the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth; valid college or university student photo identification card from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia displaying a photo; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business. Any registered voter who does not possess one of the required forms of identification can apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID Card will have to complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Zika Virus, No Problem!

To the Editor:

Representative Connolly's commentary about the Zika threat [The Connection, August 10-16, 2016] is a perfect example of why we are fed up with career politicians. There is no problem big enough that can't be solved by throwing taxpayer money at it. Zika virus in Virginia, no problem! We have a whole list of projects on which to "spend money responding to this growing public health crisis." Fairfax County is currently spending 2.75¢ for every \$100 of our property assessments, to tear out efficient storm drains, replacing them with swamps and ponds to incubate mosquitos. That's because the politicians thought that too much deer poop and lawn fertilizer was washing into the Potomac. Now we can fund research programs to figure out how to keep those swamps and ponds from producing mosquitos. Your editorial by Mary Kimm, on

the same page, mentions the 1,063 structurally deficient bridges in Virginia and the "lapses" in Metro maintenance for 40 years. Where did all the funding go that was collected and programmed for those projects? Where did the gas tax money go? Maybe we should "develop" another lottery, like we did for missing education funds. Career politicians are the problem. No research or development study is necessary!

Gene Phillip
Great Falls

Disappointing Sanitation

To the Editor:

I attended the 4 H Fair & Carnival two years ago and may not go again. I should have written you about this sooner but got distracted. I was very disappointed in the sanitation and hope it got better. I would hope someone would have noticed the same thing as I did and had it corrected, but just

in case I will tell you what I discovered two years ago.

1) There were two hand washing stations outside the animal petting building. One of them you had to hold the faucet on as you used it. How could you properly wash your hands holding the faucet handle on? The second faucet handle was so loose, it would not turn on.

2) There was another hand washing station about 60 to 70 feet away from the baby chicken handling exhibit. This hand washing station was poorly labeled, too far from the baby chicken exhibit, you had to hold the faucet handle on, and it had no soap. There was a bulletin about 2 years ago about

Ramping Up to Election Day

- ❖ **Sept. 23:** In-Person Absentee Voting Begins
- ❖ **Oct. 17:** Voter Registration Deadline - In-Person: 5 p.m., Online: 11:59 p.m.
- ❖ **Nov. 1:** Last Day to Apply for an Absentee Ballot by Mail, Fax, Email or Online: 5 p.m.
- ❖ **Nov. 5:** Final Day for In-Person Absentee Voting
- ❖ **Nov. 8:** Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: 7 p.m.
- ❖ **Nov. 8:** Election Day, Polls Open 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter.

While the Presidential election will take top billing, every seat in the U.S. Congress is on the ballot, with one hotly contested race in Northern Virginia.

In Fairfax County, voters will decide whether to enact a four percent meals tax, a topic voters will hear a lot more about in coming weeks. Bond questions include \$120 million in transportation bonds for Metro; \$107 million in bonds for parks; and \$85 million for building and renovating senior and community centers, and homeless shelters. More at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/>

For more information on voting in Fairfax County:

Voter Registration: 703-222-0776, TTY 711
Absentee Fax: 703-324-3725
Email: voting@fairfaxcounty.gov
Election Officer Info: 703-324-4735, TTY 711
Email: elect@fairfaxcounty.gov

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

the hazards of children handling baby chickens, you probably read it. It was quite explicit in stating that you must take appropriate precautions when handling baby chickens and recommended against it.

3) Here is the good news, the stand alone restroom by the park entrance has warm water, a motion sensor activated faucet, soap and paper towels.

So at least there was one correctly functioning hand wash station.

4) There were mosquitos breeding in puddles by the carnival.

Jack Johnson, Esq
Falls Church

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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The Connection
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail: north@connectionnewspapers.com

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NEWS

Helping Local Businesses Add Nearly 600 Jobs

During the second quarter of 2016, the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority [FCEDA] provided services and resources to 38 businesses that are adding 585 jobs in Fairfax County. Many of these businesses are in technology sectors and professional services, and five are foreign-based firms using a Fairfax County location to expand in North America.

Through the first half of the year, the FCEDA has worked with companies adding more than 2,300 jobs.

The FCEDA works with companies ranging from global technology firms to startups, many of which are minority-, woman-, or veteran-owned. In the second quarter, ServiceSource, a non-profit that provides employment and support services to residents with disabilities, announced it would add 195 jobs.

"We are proud to do business in one of the most dynamic, diverse and economically strong counties in the nation," said ServiceSource President and CEO Janet Samuelson. "Our location also allows us close proximity to our valued federal and commercial customers."

Among other companies displaying significant job growth in the second quarter:

❖ Aerotek of Fairfax, which specializes in IT staffing, adding 70 jobs.

❖ Vectrus of Reston, offering support services to government and commercial customers, adding 30 jobs.

❖ 3Pillar Global of Fairfax, which develops customer-management software, adding 28 jobs.

"We are building a diversified, technology-based economy in Fairfax County, and we are proud to have employers that can take advantage of our strong economic base to provide job opportunities in a wide range of sectors and to residents of all skill-sets and abilities," said Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D., president and CEO of the FCEDA.

The Fairfax County Economic Development Authority promotes Fairfax County as a business and technology center. The FCEDA offers site location and business development assistance, and connections with county and state government agencies, to help companies locate and expand in Fairfax County.

Click [here](http://www.fairfaxcountyedea.org/2016-business-announcements) <<<http://www.fairfaxcountyedea.org/2016-business-announcements>>> to see a list of companies that worked with the FCEDA in April, May and June 2016 and are adding 585 jobs to the Fairfax County economy.

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- [1-866-703-6293](tel:1-866-703-6293)
- MSRSVP@ahmdirect.com

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Create a Back-to-School Game Plan

Educators tell how to make the transition less jarring.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

As a single mother of a fifth grade student, Christine Schull is already making back-to-school preparations. Her plans include more than purchasing notebooks, pencils and new shoes. She knows that she and her daughter will have to shift their schedules and prepare to get back into a scholastic mindset.

"She gets up early every day ... but because it is summer, she wants to go to bed late ... about two or three weeks out, I will be much more firm about her bed time," said Schull, assistant dean and professor of Early Childhood Education at Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria. "Also, to start getting her academic muscles flexing, I usually supplement with some academic enrichment. I am hiring someone to work with her once a week just to give her a taste of what she will experience in fifth grade."

Whether a child's summer is packed with camps and vacations or filled with lazy days and complaints about being bored, students often find the back-to-school transition to be challenging. From the prospect of reuniting with friends to getting reacquainted with homework, it is not uncommon for children to experience mixed emotions about jumping back into a busy fall schedule.

"Going back to school is really more than just a one-day event," said Dr. Lisa Turissini, Ed.D. assistant professor and chair of the Department of Education at Marymount University. "This type of transition is about the forming of a new habit. Brain researchers agree that the forming of a new habit also includes the breaking of an old one."

Having a conversation with children and assessing their feelings about returning to school is a good place to start, recommends Licensed Clinical Psychologist Jerome Short, Ph.D., associate professor of Psychology at George Mason University.

"Children have a variety of ways of thinking, feeling, and acting toward the upcoming transition back to school," he said. "Some children are optimistic and excited about school and are already preparing for the first day. Others may be anxious or avoid thinking about a new school year, and may need more support, structure, and encouragement from parents to prepare themselves."

He encourages parents to listen to their children's concerns and expectations and empathize with their feelings. "Summarize what they tell you, and tailor your approach to their needs with their input," added Short.



PHOTO BY JAMES KEGLEY FOR NORWOOD SCHOOL
Science teacher Sarah Boor works with students at Norwood School. Educators say now is the time to prepare children for a return to school.

It's not just children who may experience school anxiety. Some parents may be worried about their children starting a new school, changing schools, facing more rigorous academics or dealing with difficult social situations. "Fear of the unknown can cause anxiety," said Turissini. "Working with your children to build resilience and manage their emotions can be beneficial for the whole family. Children are extremely capable of dealing with change, and parents can help them by creating an environment at home that encourages them to share their feelings about returning to school."

Reconnecting or connecting with other parents and students for support can help with the transition. "Others may help motivate, empathize, or make school preparations fun," said Short. "There are opportunities to increase children's communication abilities and social skills if they spend time together on school tasks."

Planning ahead and establishing a regimented sleep schedule in August can help parents get their children acclimated to the early wake up times for the upcoming school year. "If you want your child to have a less painful transition back to a new school year, now is the time to take proactive measures to change your child's bedtime routine," said Turissini.

"...[It] gives their biological clock time to adjust so the transition is not so abrupt," she said. "A regular bedtime and wake up time will build the needed structure into a child's schedule, and this new habit will help [a child] to embrace the new routine that the school year brings."

"Don't do it all at once, do it gradually," said Mark R. Ginsberg, Ph.D., dean of the College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University. "Start with [moving your children's bedtime] one-half hour earlier, then 15 minutes earlier."

Other recommend time adjustments include reestablishing routines that might have been lost during the summer. "If your summer has been schedule-free, get back to some of your old routines now. Start those regular family meal times or game nights," said Turissini.

In addition to rearranging sleep schedules, now is the time to tackle back-to-school shopping and schedule doctor visits. "Take a day to get those school clothes, school supplies, and backpacks purchased," said Turissini. "Make sure your child's physical exam is up to date. You know the school medical forms will be forthcoming."

Completing summer reading lists and other summer assignments can also get students ready to learn. "We want students to return to school learning ready, which means children should be reading for pleasure ... for about 30 minutes a day," said Karen O'Neill, head of Lower School at Norwood School. "Sustained reading is a skill that requires practice at home."

Parents can reinforce a child's interest in books by reading to their child or reading their own book while their children read. "Don't turn on the television in another room while your child reads," said Ginsberg. "Have a family reading hour. Modeling the behavior is powerful for the child." He suggests setting challenging and achievable goals and being mindful of those that could prove unrealistic. "Start with 20 minutes of reading and then increase it from there," he said.

"At least one week before the first day of school, create the morning routine that will allow your child to arrive at school with time to organize belongings, chat with friends, and create a mindset for learning," said O'Neill.

Invite children's participation when creating a back-to-school plan. "From my own experience as a parent and educator, it's best

to engage them in a conversation, rather than telling them what to do," said Ginsberg. "Rather than being directive, be collaborative with the child. Ask them what it is that they think they need to do to get themselves ready."

Going from a carefree summer to a structured school year packed with activities can be jarring for some students. To ease the blow, Turissini suggests having candid conversations about the upcoming school schedule and ways in which the family can establish balance.

"Going back to school is really more than just a one-day event. [It's] about the forming of a new habit ... the forming of a new habit also includes the breaking of an old one."

— Lisa Turissini Ed.D.,
Marymount University

"Create a family calendar of school, extracurricular, and family activities," she said. "Allow for some downtime on the calendar for each child so they can choose to do whatever it is they would like. Kids don't inherently know how to add balance to their lives, so as a parent, it is important to look for the opportunities to model balance at home, work, school, and personal pursuits."

To ease anxiety about back-to-school transportation, Michele Claeys, associate head of school and head of middle school for Norwood School, suggests "if your child walks to school or takes a bus, walk the route together or check out the bus stop together." Whether traveling by car or bus or on foot, talk about what the schedule will look like on school mornings, including any chores that have to be done before leaving the house. Consider inviting your child to write out a schedule for the morning, including the time needed for each task.

Claeys also recommends taking time to review the curriculum for the upcoming year with your children, if it is available, and talk about some of the things they will be learning. "Hopefully this will inspire excitement about all the learning to come," she said.

Considering a Private School?

Educational consultants can help families navigate application process.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

For families considering an independent school for the 2017-2018 school year, the admissions process begins this fall. From essays and interviews to school visits and standardized tests, the process for getting into kindergarten may feel nearly as daunting as applying to college.

Narrowing down the vast field of potential schools to find the best fit, completing the application and securing a slot at one of the area's top private schools are all challenging tasks. That's why many families rely on an educational consultant to help them understand and navigate through the entire process.

"Schools have as varied personalities as students do," said Mark H. Sklarow, CEO of the Independent Educational Consultants Association (IECA) in Fairfax. "Level of competitiveness, exploration versus memorization, independence versus group work, philosophies of learning, uses of technology, requirements in sports and the arts ... the list goes on."

When choosing a consultant, avoid those who guarantee that they can obtain admission to a particular

school or secure a specific dollar amount in scholarship funding, advises Sklarow. Additionally, educational consultants should not complete admission application forms or write or re-write student essays.

An educational consultant's role is to guide students and parents through the admissions process. Consultants usually begin by meeting with families and getting to know the child's educational needs, identify strengths and weaknesses, and consider their interests and dislikes. Ideally, consultants combine the information they glean from their conversations with the family with their knowledge of area schools to help families decide on schools that are a good fit.

"Consultants can help families select a school that is the right fit. 'Parents need to be realistic about their child's strengths and weaknesses and learning style,'" said Mimi Mulligan, assistant head and director of Admission and Enrollment Management for Norwood School. "All independent schools offer fine academic programs, but we each have a unique school culture."

Consultants aim to give students and families unbiased advice and recommendations based on their professional judgment of a student's needs and abilities. Consultants who are IECA members, for example, have "visited hundreds of campuses to understand the culture beyond the numbers to ensure such a successful pairing," said Sklarow.

Sklarow advises families to begin working with an independent educational consultant during the academic year before the year they plan to apply to an independent school.



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Local Charity Wins Big at Wiffle Ball World Series

Waters Field was the center of attention on Saturday, August 6th, for the 21st Annual Northern Virginia Wiffle Ball World Series [NVWWS]. The event, sponsored by Vienna Youth Inc., the Greater Vienna Babe Ruth League, and the Joe Cassella Foundation, looked to continue the legacy of Brian Bedell, the Vienna native to whom this tournament is dedicated.

Forty-Eight teams, ranging from rising seventh graders to forty and older, made their way to Waters Field at 8 a.m., stepping onto the hallowed competition grounds known as “The Field of Dreams.” The opening ceremonies began with an introduction speech by Jodi Leigh of The Leigh Agency, who has been organizing the event for the last five years, and guest speakers, including: Todd Casey from the VYI Board of Directors, Bill Scopa from Greater Vienna Babe Ruth, Frank Cassella from the Joe Cassella Foundation, as well as Past Chairman of the 2-Young Foundation and long time tourney-participant, Michael Ryan. Abby Miller, a Loudoun local who is one of the nation’s leading advocates for childhood cancer awareness, performed the National Anthem. Distinguished guests included Vienna Town Council members Carey Sienicki, Linda Jane Colbert, and Howard Springsteen.

The NVWWS featured a four-tiered bracket, spanning four divisions of play, including a Kid’s League, Minors, Majors, and Masters respectively, each crowing their own distinct champion before facing off for the overall title. Additional activities throughout the sunny afternoon included moon bounces, face painting, various games, snow cones and even a silent auction, which provided entertainment for all ages, with food and drink catered by the Vienna Inn keeping everyone well nourished.

The Van Metre Road to the Final Four ended with Vienna American as the Kids League Champion, Redwood Wiffle Jam as the Minors League Champion, Fast Plastic as the Majors League Champion, and the NOVA Yankees as Masters League Champions. Following a brief rain delay, the overall championship tournament concluded in grand fashion, for the first time ever, the winner was determined via the extra-innings home run derby. The NOVA Yankees, a long-time Masters League entry and underdog in the finals, squared off against Fast Plastic, three time champions of the NVWWS, with the NOVA Yankees hitting a walk-off homerun to hoist the Bedell/Cassella

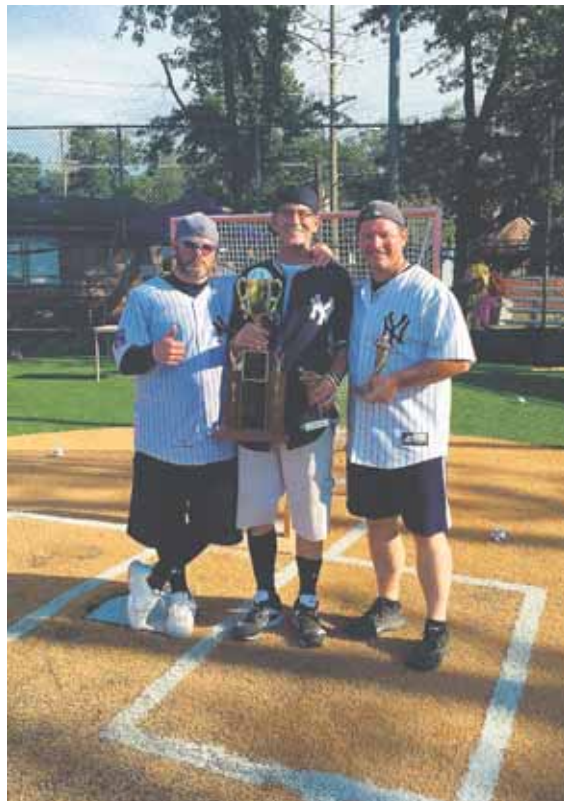


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

NOVA Yankees were crowned as Masters League Champions. From left: Eric Townsend, Bill Kirkendale and Dan Emory.

Cup. Long-time player and behind-the-scenes creative designer for the NVWWS, Frank Bilotto, was formally inducted into the NVWWS Hall of Fame this year for his continued dedication to the annual tournament.

The Joe Cassella Foundation is sincerely thankful for the incredible turnout for this year’s tournament, and equally delighted with the large number of teams and sponsors that contributed to the success of the fundraiser.

The Joe Cassella Foundation is based in Leesburg, VA and its mission is to provide financial assistance for medical expenses to families of children who are ill in the Washington D.C. Metro area. This organization was born from the loss of an amazing man and inspired by the overwhelming support his family received throughout their journey. To find out more, go to www.JoeCassellaFoundation.org or visit us on Facebook!

Two Reports of Fox Bites in Springfield Area

A fox or foxes are still at large after two reports of bites in the Springfield area on Monday, Aug. 8, Fairfax County Police said.

Animal Protection Officers of FCPD first responded to an incident of an 81-year-old woman being bitten while in her front yard in the 8600 block of Kenilworth Drive around 10:33 a.m. The woman went to a hospital for medical attention.

Police said the second incident happened around 1:57 p.m. later that day. An 84-year-old man was mowing his lawn in the 5600 block of Ventnor Lane when police re-

ported he “was confronted and bitten by a fox.” The man also went to the hospital for treatment.

Animal Protection Officers have set traps for the animal or animals involved with the confrontations with humans, but have yet to bring anything in. It’s still unknown, then, whether the foxes involved have the rabies virus.

Though the aggressive behavior observed in the foxes is one of the signs of rabies, FCPD said.

The Animal Protection Police are asking residents to keep their dogs on leashes when walking in public areas.

“If bitten or scratched by an animal, wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water and seek medical attention right away,” the statement said.

Animal bites, sick and injured animals should be reported immediately to the Animal Protection Police at 703-691-2131, TTY 703-877-3715.

More information is available online at fcpdnews.wordpress.com/2016/05/22/what-you-need-to-know-about-the-rabies-virus/

—TIM PETERSON



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLY TRANSFIGURATION CHURCH

Nikki Haddad points to some of the Middle Eastern dishes for sale at Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church’s annual Middle Eastern Food Festival running over Labor Day weekend.

Middle Eastern Food, Culture on Display

Middle Eastern Food Festival returns on Labor Day weekend.

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church will host its 23rd annual Middle Eastern Food Festival, Sept. 3 and 4, on the church grounds — 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The Festival will feature authentic Middle Eastern food, pastries, music and dancing, as well as vendors, church tours, and activities for both children and adults.

Join in the fun from 11 a.m. – 11 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 3 and 12 noon – 6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 4. Smell the aromas from the outdoor grills, partake of Kibbee, Shish Kebab, Falafel, Fattoush, Hummus, and Stuffed Grape Leaves, or any number of other delicious menu choices, including a roast lamb dinner at 6 p.m. Saturday evening and

all day on Sunday. Then relax with a cup of Arabic coffee and mouth-watering pastry. Choose from Arabic favorites, such as Baklava, Maamoul, Namoura, or Ghraybeh, or old-fashioned American sweets like cakes, cookies and pies.

Once you’ve satisfied your appetite, join in the Debke dance led by instructors, or participate in the backgammon tournament. Children, meanwhile, can enjoy the moon bounce, face painting, pony rides and the petting zoo, as well as participate in some of the many games going on throughout the Festival.

The Festival will be held rain or shine. Admission and parking are free. To learn more, call 703-734-9566 or visit www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com.



Heidi Kaska and Nancy Betress show off some of the 20,000 pieces of sweets for sale at the Middle Eastern Food Festival held over the 2015 Labor Day weekend in McLean.

PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/ THE CONNECTION

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Cirque du Soleil "Kurios." July 21 to Sept. 18. Tysons II, The Lerner Town Center, 8025 Galleria Drive, Tysons Corner. \$39-\$170. 1-877-924-7783. cirquedusoleil.com/kurios.

Frames of Mind Aug. 2 to Sept. 10. The Frame Factory, 212 Dominion Road NE, Vienna, VA 22180. The exhibition brings together some of the area's top watermedia floral, figure and landscape painters at local business and gallery the Frame Factory. All works are for sale. Frame Factory contact: 703-281-2350 www.theframefactory1.com/gallery.htm

Evenings on the Ellipse. 5:30-7 p.m. Thursdays through Aug. 25. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Fun music and good company. Paradise Springs and The Winery at Bull Run will be offering complimentary tastings of their premium reds and whites. If it rains, concerts will be moved inside to the Government Center Forum. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance/>

Paint the Town. Sept. 6-Oct. 1. 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. Vienna Arts Society members exhibition. ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Bingo Night. Sundays. 4 p.m. Flame Room, Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S, Vienna. \$10. www.vvfd.org/bingo.html.

"The Way I See It" Exhibit. Aug. 2-Oct. 1. Vienna Arts Society Gallery, 513 Maple Ave. W, Vienna. Reston resident Bob Kaminski will showcase his work in abstract and representational styles. ViennaArtsSociety.org. 703-319-3971.

"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@viennaartsociety.org.

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

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

ValeArts Fall Show "Artful Aspirations" Sept 30 through Oct. 2 at 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday 10 a.m. 6 p.m. Saturday & Sunday at the Vale Schoolhouse 3124 Fox Mill Rd. ValeArts welcomes Reston artist Betsey Mulloy to the fall show "Artful Aspirations". Contact: Diana Eichler or visit valearts.com

SATURDAY/AUG. 20.

Vienna's County Fair. Noon-4 p.m. Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. farm animals, crafts, a home grown garden fruits and vegetables competition, a bike decorating contest for kids, living history re-enactors, and old-fashioned music and games. 703-938-5187.

SUNDAY/AUG. 21

The 19th Street Band. 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Ellis Paul performs at Jammin Java with Dave Navarro on Sunday, Aug. 21.



PHOTO BY MARTIN GIRARD/SHOOTSTUDIO.CA COSTUMES: PHILIPPE GUILLIOTEL 2014 CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

The Curiosistanians, Cirque du Soleil "Kurios," at Tysons II, The Lerner Town Center, 8025 Galleria Drive, July 21 to Sept. 18, 2016.

The 19th Street Band has followed the traditions of The Carter Family and The Kingston Trio while also integrating modern elements of Americana, Country, and Rock 'n Roll. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

Ellis Paul with Dave Navarro. 4 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Jamminjava.com.

115 Pleasant St. NW. Vienna. Vienna Arts Society members exhibition. ViennaArtsSociety.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 11

Mike Terpak Blues Explosion. 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 17

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

SUNDAY/ OCT. 2

Wine Tasting Event - Open to the Public 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Rd., Oakton, Virginia 22124. The Vienna Branch of the American Association of University Women is pleased to sponsor this fundraiser to benefit the AAUW Fund. Jacqui Lafon will share her knowledge of old world and new world wines. Join us and learn how to choose the best wines for different foods, master the fine points of wine etiquette and experience 6 wine tastings with appropriate light bites. Our event concludes with a wine basket raffle. To reserve your spot, please e-mail or call Diane Hoyer at dthoyer@hotmail.com or 703-421-0564 by September 30th. Cost: \$35. This event is not sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, its Board of Directors, or staff.

MONDAY/ AUG. 22

NEEDTOBREATHE Concert 7 p.m. at the Filene Center 1551 Trap Rd, Vienna, VA 22182 Grammy-nominated rock group NEEDTOBREATHE's performance at Wolf Trap for the Performing Arts in Vienna, VA. Cost: \$27-55 <http://www.wolftrap.org/tickets/calendar/performance/16filene/0822show16.aspx>

SUNDAY/AUG. 28

The Beat Hotel. 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls. New Orleans Mardi Gras Swamp Funk. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 1

Paint the Town Reception. 4-6 p.m. 115 Pleasant St. NW. Vienna. Vienna Arts Society members exhibition. ViennaArtsSociety.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 4

The Alan Scott Band. 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls. A combination of driving, danceable rock combined with time-honored blues, funk, and Brit Pop influences. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 10

Paint the Town Reception. 4-6 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE

McLean Community Center Governing Board

Public Hearing on FY 2018 Budget (July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018)

Monday, Sept. 12, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center

Residents who wish to speak at the Public Hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers' list. Copies of the draft budget proposal will be available during the public hearing. Written comments may be delivered to the Center's address (shown below,) marked "Attention: Executive Director," or sent by email to feedback@mcleancenter.org. Written comments may be provided after the public hearing up through Monday, Sept. 26.

Date Change: The date of the **Finance Committee Meeting of the Whole (MOW)**, a full board budget work session, has been changed to **Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2016** at 7:30 p.m., at the Center. The MOW will be preceded by a brief Special Meeting of the Governing Board at 7 p.m.



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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Wednesday July 27, firefighters responded to the fire around 11 a.m. on the 12100 block of Fairfax Hunt Road.

Police to Release Name of Two-Year-Old Murder Victim

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Despite pleas from the girl's family, Fairfax County Police will soon release the name of the young victim who was found dead along with the body of Roy Eugene Rumsey, 58, at the scene of a house fire in Fairfax on July 27.

"We're trying to be sympathetic to the family," said Maj. Ed O'Carroll, director of the police Public Affairs Bureau.

O'Carroll said police have received "dozens of calls" from the family, friends of the family and the family's legal counsel, asking them to not release the name.

But on advice from the County Attorney, Fairfax County Police Chief Ed Roessler decided to move forward with the release.

"What we've been doing for decades is still accurate," O'Carroll said, "sharing the names of homicide victims."

O'Carroll confirmed Rumsey — the girl's father — murdered her, set the house on fire, then killed himself.

The department has grappled with the name release; it's unusual for there to be such a young victim.

"It's tragic for everyone," O'Carroll said.

Virginia state senator and lawyer Scott Surovell (D-36) is representing the family of the dead child.

"The family is devastated by the sudden loss of their beautiful two-year-old baby," Surovell said in a statement. "She was an incredibly happy, vibrant and loving child. She will be forever missed. The family thanks you for respecting their privacy at this time."

Regardless the girl's age, O'Carroll said the case is still a homicide, and "the community has the right to know" the name of the victim.

Surovell declined to comment beyond the statement.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

WEDNESDAY/ AUG. 24

Finance Committee Meeting of the Whole
7:30 p.m. at The McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue. Governing Board encourages residents of Small District 1A-Dranesville who have suggestions, comments or concerns regarding the Center's FY 2018 budget to attend this meeting. At this meeting chaired by MCC Governing Board Treasurer Paul Kohlenberger, the full board will continue work on the FY 2018 budget, which began with a staff presentation at a July Finance Committee meeting. Call: 703-790-0123 or Visit: www.mcleancenter.org

WEDNESDAY/SATURDAY/SEPT. 7-10

Quarterly Book Sale. Friends of the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library will hold Quarterly Book Sale. Books and media for all interests and ages. Wednesday 1 - 5 p.m.; Thursday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bag sale/half price sale - \$7 per bag
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Smaller scale weekly book sale. 7700 Leesburg Pike Falls Church. TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com 703-338-3307

MONDAY/SEPT. 12

Public Hearing on the FY 2018 Budget 7:30 p.m. t The McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue. The hearing will give residents another opportunity to review and comment on the Center's FY 2018 budget. District residents who wish to speak at the public hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to have their names placed on a speakers' list. In addition, written comments may be sent to the Governing Board by mail (address to: McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean VA 22101), fax (703-556-0547) or E-mail (George.sachs@fairfaxcounty.gov).

ONGOING

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

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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 or 800-552-3200.

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The band Donaldsons' Run performs Saturday at the Family Fun Jam at Jammin Java, a community fundraiser for Growing Hope Foundation, which raises money for children with cancer and their families.



The crowd at the Family Fun Jam at Jammin Java in Vienna.

Family Fun Jam at Jammin Java

On Saturday, Jammin Java of Vienna hosted the Family Fun Jam, a fundraiser for the Growing Hope Foundation, which raises money for children with cancer and their families. The event included music by the Donaldsons' Run Band, and games including Twist and Shout, Limbo, Freeze Dances and a raffle. It was the idea of Terry Donaldson of Donaldsons' Run Band to host the fundraiser, and The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna contributed as the main sponsor.

"The Growing Hope Foundation of Fairfax helps raise money for children with cancer and their families," said Anna Ryjik, who organized the event with Susan Bauer. "They provide social and educational counseling and try to stick to local families in Northern Virginia."

She added: "We hope to raise a large amount of funds to support Growing Hope for all the work they do in the community for families affected by cancer."

Margy Jost, Director of the Board of the



Terry Donaldson of Vienna of the band Donaldsons' Run, whose idea it was to hold the fundraiser.

Growing Hope Foundation, said: "The Optimist Club of Greater Virginia has been supporting Growing Hope since 2006, in-



The Hula Hoop Contest done to the music "Twist and Shout." cluding this event today with overall support of the entire organization. We provide nonmedical supportive care for children's treatment for cancer."

There will be another Family Fun Day for Growing Hope, sponsored by the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna, on Saturday, Sept. 24, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. It will include live musical enter-

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION



Ella Garcia of Alexandria does the Limbo Contest to Chubby Checker's "Limbo."

tainment, fun activities for the whole family, free food, a balloon artist, face painting and a free T-shirt for those who donate. Combined with corporate donations, proceeds from the two events are expected to raise between \$30,000 to \$35,000 for Growing Hope.

—STEVE HIBBARD



Jammin Java employees Grace Albert, Richard Smith and Katie Murphy.



Margy Jost of the Growing Hope Foundation with Joanie, Chris, and Rachael Lussos of Fairfax.