



Great Falls CONNECTION

Inside



Senior
Living
Fall 2016

Senior Living

Great Falls Rallies Behind David Kim

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David Deuk Kim (right) with his son Philip and wife Soon Kim of Kim's Tailoring, located in the Great Falls Center Shopping Center on Georgetown Pike in Great Falls. Community responds to owner of Kim's Tailoring who had quadruple bypass surgery.

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OCTOBER 5-11, 2016

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Debating Pro & Con on Meals Tax

League of Women Voters hosts forum on Meals Tax issue.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area sponsored a debate-style panel discussion on the Meals Tax issue which will go before county voters in the Nov. 8 General Election. At question is whether the county's Board of Supervisors will be granted the authority to implement a 4 percent tax on certain prepared foods and beverages — an enactment that requires approval by voters.

While an ordinance detailing the specifics of the tax will not be written unless the referendum passes, the general framework includes all ready-to-eat prepared food and beverage in restaurants, lunchrooms, cafeterias, coffee shops, cafes, taverns, delis, push carts, hot dog stands and food trucks, as well as ready-to-eat foods — like deli items and salad/hot food bars — at grocery and convenience stores. Among the exemptions would be general groceries and vending machines, as well as schools, hospitals, employee-only cafeterias, and churches and nonprofits serving meals as fundraising activities. If the referendum is passed, the Board of Supervisors has indicated that it may hold public meetings to determine if additional exemptions are needed before the ordinance goes into effect.

IN REQUESTING this new source of revenue, the Board of Supervisors states that they are looking to reduce dependence on real estate taxes, while shoring up gaps in the county's budget. Of the estimated \$99 million that the board projects will be generated by the Meals Tax, 70 percent of the net revenues would be earmarked for the Fairfax County Public Schools and 30 percent to "county services, capital improvements, and property tax relief."

Plenty of impassioned opinions on both sides of the Sept. 29 debate were displayed by panel members and members of the audience at Luther Jackson Middle School in Falls Church.

Two teams each offered opening statements for and against the proposal and then tag-teamed the questions put to them by moderator Mary Kimm, editor and publisher of the Connection Newspapers.

Representing those in favor were Fairfax County School Board member Pat Hynes (Hunter Mill) and former School Board member Phil Niedzielski-Eichner, a management consultant. Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) and Jon Norton, CEO of Great American Restaurants (a Fairfax-based res-



From left: The Meals Tax forum panellists were management consultant Phil Niedzielski-Eichner and School Board member Pat Hynes representing the proponents, and Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) and Great American Restaurants CEO Jon Norton, opposing the proposal. Mary Kimm, editor and publisher of the Connection Newspapers, was the moderator.

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION



From left: Fairfax County teachers Elaine Saunders and Precious Crabtree are with School Board member Pat Hynes (Hunter Mill District) after the Meals Tax Forum. All three are in favor of the referendum. "It's the right thing to do for the kids and the schools," said Crabtree, who thought that the opposition didn't offer any practical solutions to replace the proposed tax.

taurant company), took to the stage in opposition.

From a business perspective, Norton warned that passage of the meals tax could hurt area restaurants, cause establishments to hire less, and mean less tips for employees.

Hynes argued that meals taxes were in place in surrounding jurisdictions and that "people still eat out."

Niedzielski-Eichner also disputed the validity of the study Norton used to support his position, pointing out that it was just

one study, conducted by a college student in Kentucky.

Despite major cuts to the central office and services and increased class sizes, the county now spends \$1,000 "real dollars" less per child in the school system than in 2008, Hynes said and that "Richmond doesn't leave us many options. This is one of the few ways we can independently raise revenue." She is determined to see the monies raised utilized to increase Fairfax County teachers' salaries, among other school needs. Comparisons show that teachers in

Fairfax County earn about \$20,000 less per year than those in surrounding school districts.

"This is a referendum on the quality of life in Fairfax County," added her team partner Niedzielski-Eichner. The rise in the county's population and the increase in residents needing some form of assistance has put an additional strain on the county's resources. Niedzielski-Eichner and Hynes made a case that the quality of life and the economic health of the region are tied to the quality of our schools. "People expect excellent schools here," said Hynes, and a failure to deliver on that expectation will have a serious negative impact.

Herrity disagreed that there are no other options except to enact what he calls a "regressive tax," that will negatively affect low-income residents, and "working moms and the elderly." Herrity advocates more fiscal responsibility from the Board of Supervisors. He pointed to "\$12 million that went out the door" at the last board meeting on projects that he does not see ever coming to fruition.

Herrity also believes that a revived commercial tax base is a part of the solution. According to Herrity, studies show that the county's "culture of 'No'" is contributing to the historically low commercial occupancy rates the area is currently experiencing. Fixing that problem and addressing spending issues is what needs to be done, rather than continuing to "feed the revenue monster," he said.

As to the lack of funds that come back to the county from Richmond, Herrity said that the county needs to go to the General Assembly with a plan: "We need to do it smart." The supervisor said that there are ways to request funds for specific programs that will bring more money back to the community, rather than the 25 cents per dollar that is Richmond's current return to the county.

Hynes reminded the opposition that good schools and high-functioning safety services are required to build the commercial base, as well as the residential base. Hynes used the recent Washington Post article that suggests that Fairfax County, once a "model of wealthy suburban living" is "starting to fray at the edges," but Herrity countered that he did not believe that services were deteriorating. "We still have one of the best school systems in the country," he said.

Hynes agreed, but cautioned that low teacher salaries are causing good teachers to leave the system, and Fairfax County public schools face new challenges, with nearly 30 percent of students now eligible for free and reduced-price meals, while enrollment continues to grow, especially in the lower income brackets.

Ever-increasing taxes would precipitate an exodus from the county, in Herrity's view.

Herrity also suggested seeking more cre

SEE MEALS TAX, PAGE 7

Dreams Come True in Great Falls

Havana Vintage celebrates 5 years in business.

BY PEYTON JACOBS
THE CONNECTION

While the weather was gloomy and dim this past Saturday, the doors to Havana Vintage Boutique were wide open and inside was anything but gloom. Cheerfully colored walls, luminous chandeliers, and the friendly faces of owner Nolkis Roman and her family greeted customers as they walked into the high-end consignment store to celebrate their five years in business.

Growing up on a farm in Baracoa, Guantanamo, Cuba, Roman did not know what her future would hold. She always loved clothing – creating and selling outfits for her dolls made of sticks as a child – and she dreamt of owning her very own store one day. After leaving her homeland behind and traveling to the U.S. in January of 1988, this ambition began to grow.

Her dream finally came true on Oct. 1, 2011 when Havana Vintage first opened. “As soon as I walked into the store, I said ‘this is it’. Great Falls has such a

wonderful sense of community, and I am so grateful to my customers for allowing my business to grow as much as it has,” Roman said.

Consigners from all over Virginia, D.C. and Maryland bring their upscale brand-name or vintage clothing, shoes, and jewelry, receiving 50 percent commission on these items. The store also has a selection of European soaps, lotions, home goods, handbags, wallets, and more.

Customer Ellen North said she and her daughters visit the boutique often, her youngest playing with a pair of men’s shoes and her oldest carrying a large assortment of dresses into the curtained dressing room as she spoke. “They are very aware of their different kinds of customers, and they always remember us when we come back!” she said, smiling.

As a live band played and Roman continued to greet incoming guests, her children, Genesis, Victoria, and Noah, stood in the front of the boutique, away from the band and the chatter of the customers. “I love helping out at the store and getting to spend time with my mom,” said Victoria. “Knowing that we are helping and contributing to her dream makes it a really rewarding experience,” added Genesis. “We are really proud of her.”

If you would like to learn more about Havana Vintage, visit their website at www.havanavintageboutique.com.



PHOTO BY PEYTON JACOBS/THE CONNECTION

Nolkis Roman (owner) and her husband, Eli Roman.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Nolkis Roman's children five years ago and now: From left — Genesis, 12, Victoria, 13, and Noah, 11.

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News

FCPS Beats Virginia On-Time Graduation Rate

The Virginia Department of Education has released graduation rates for school systems around the Commonwealth. Fairfax County Public Schools had 92.3 percent of its 2016 class graduate on time, compared with the state average 91.3 percent.

On-time graduation in Virginia is defined by four years of student information, including students moving, changes in enrollment, special education students and students with limited English proficiency.

To qualify for the VDOE's accounting of "on-time graduation" for 2016, a student must have entered as a freshman in the 2012-2013 school year. In four years or fewer, they must then have earned one of the several diplomas recognized by the VDOE.

About 62 percent of FCPS students earned one of the different advanced studies diplomas — advanced studies, International Baccalaureate — while the Virginia average was 51.7 percent in 2016.

—TIM PETERSON

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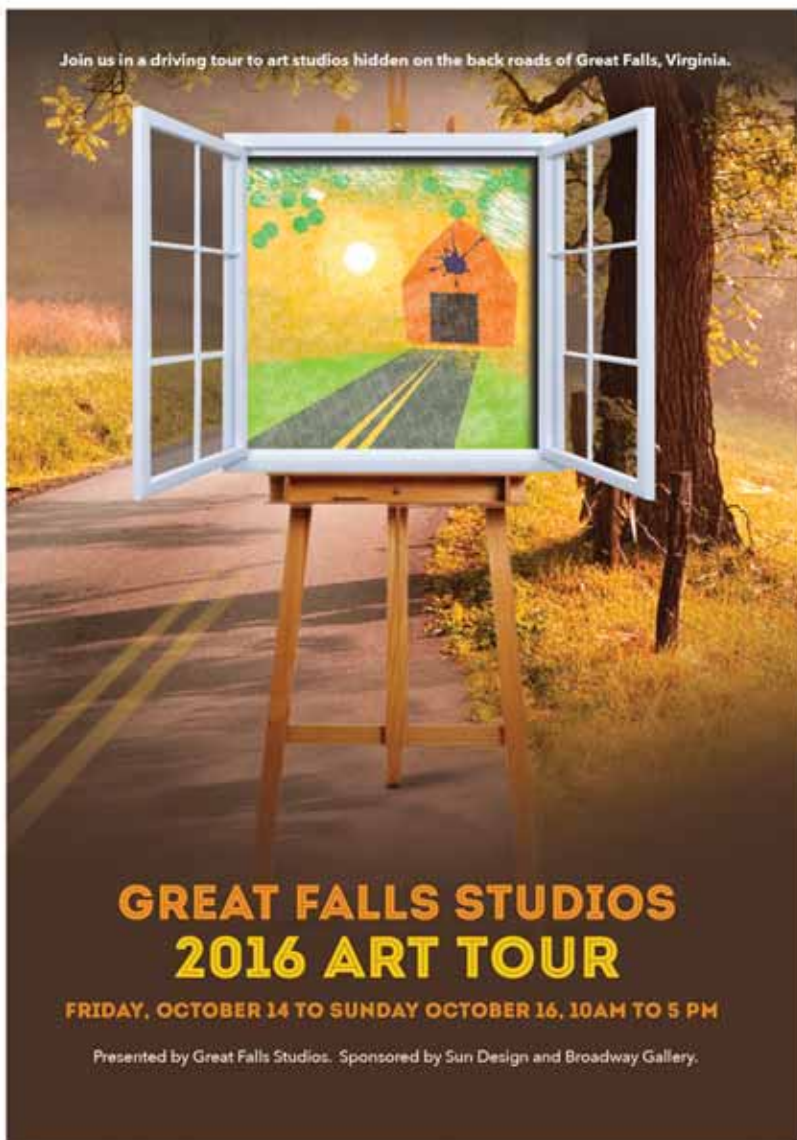
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OPINION

Voting Never Mattered More

Consider voting absentee in person since more than 500,000 other voters are likely to turnout on Election Day.

With more than 655,000 active voters in Fairfax County, and as many as 500,000 voters turning out on Election Day, it's a good time to consider voting early, and preparing for a longer-than-usual process if voting on Election Day.

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.

The Town of Herndon will have its first November election, moving from May in past elections, with the office of Mayor and six Town Council seats on the ballot. <http://herndonva.gov/government/mayor-and-council/town-elections>

Fairfax County voters will decide on three bond questions, including \$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/>

Virginia Voter ID

Virginia has a significant voter identification requirement, plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether that is absentee or on Election Day. But you can get a voter ID card if you don't have one of the other acceptable identifications.

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 have 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 complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter.

A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters Who Arrive Without Identification

If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo identification, don't panic or give up. You will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted.

A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board or to appear in person to apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, in-person submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered to the electoral board by noon on Friday, or the provisional ballot cannot be counted.

Also by noon on Friday following the election, the voter may appear in-person in the office of the general registrar, in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast, and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document may be provided to the electoral board to suffice the identification requirement.

Absentee Voting in Person in Fairfax County

Voting begins Sept. 23, and with record turnout possible, voting early if you qualify is a good choice.

There are 19 valid reasons to vote absentee in Virginia, including working and commuting to and from home for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day, which basically means anyone who commutes to a job. Check the Virginia Department of Elections list to see if you are eligible. <http://elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/index.html>

If you vote absentee in-person you will fill out the application when you arrive at the in-person absentee location.

Absentee Voting Begins Sept. 23

Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 2/3,
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax,
22035

Weekday Schedule:

❖ Sept. 23 to Oct. 14, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Thursday: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Closed, Monday,

VOTE: Upcoming Dates

❖ To vote in November's election, you must be registered by Oct. 17: Voter Registration Deadline - In-Person: 5 p.m., Online www.vote.virginia.gov ❖ 11:59 p.m. To determine whether you are eligible and registered to vote in this election, visit the Virginia Department of Elections website at <http://elections.virginia.gov/> or call Fairfax Elections office at 703-222-0776.

❖ In-Person Absentee Voting began Sept. 23 and will continue until Nov. 5. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm>

❖ 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

❖ On Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 8. Polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

❖ Nov. 8: Absentee Ballot Return Deadline: 7 p.m.

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

ON THE BALLOT IN FAIRFAX COUNTY:

- ❖ President and Vice President
- ❖ U.S. House of Representatives, 8th, 10th, or 11th District
- ❖ Meal Tax Referendum
- ❖ Three Proposed County Bond Questions
- ❖ Two Proposed Constitutional Amendments

See the Connection's community guide on how to vote and what's on the ballot at www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2016/aug/25/how-vote-fairfax-county/

Oct. 10, Columbus Day.

❖ Oct. 17 to Nov. 4, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

❖ Saturday Schedule: Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and November 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 5 is the last day to absentee vote in-person.

Absentee Voting at Satellite Locations
Saturday Schedule: Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and Nov. 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Weekday Schedule: Oct. 17 to Nov. 4, Monday - Friday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Satellite Voting Locations:

❖ Providence Community Center - 3001 Vaden Dr., Fairfax, 22031

❖ Franconia Governmental Center - 6121 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, 22310

❖ McLean Governmental Center - 1437 Balls Hill Rd., Community Room, McLean, 22101

❖ North County Governmental Center, 1801 Cameron Glen Dr., Community Rooms, Reston, 20190

❖ West Springfield Governmental Center - 6140 Rolling Rd., Springfield, 22152

❖ Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, 22003

❖ Mount Vernon Governmental Center - 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, 22306

❖ Sully Governmental Center - 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly, 20151

❖ Lorton Library - 9520 Richmond Hwy., Lorton, 22079 SATURDAYS ONLY (Closed Weekdays)

Great Falls CONNECTION

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PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Peggy Knight (left) and Helen Kelly of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area helped the organization sponsor a forum on a proposed Meals Tax referendum that will be decided by county voters on the Nov. 8 ballot.

Meals Tax Debated

FROM PAGE 3

ative ways to fund schools, citing the use of name-endorsement to re-build a high school in Winchester. Hynes didn't think that was an effective solution, replying "Winchester has the one [high] school. We have 180 schools in Fairfax County."

Niedzielski-Eichner doesn't necessarily disagree with all of Herrity's solutions, but calls them "decades in the making" when the meal tax monies would stay locally and could be used immediately. "We are in deficit, we have real needs now ... for schools, firefighters and police equipment."

Another major portion of Herrity's solutions to address school funding shortfalls involves possible cuts to the pension plans and social security supplements of new-hire county employees. Seeing the current system as a major spending problem, Herrity doesn't believe that offering something that doesn't affect them until age 55 or older is really much of an incentive for new, younger job seekers.

Several of his attacks on spending practices had been applauded by the audience, but this one met with less enthusiasm from the crowd. Cheers greeted Hynes' reply, "Our employees deserve a dignified retirement after a lifetime of serving the community."

Kimm continued to referee the count-pointer count between the opposing teams. Before wrapping up, she said, "It seems like much of this debate is based partly on trust." She asked the panel if they thought the Board of Supervisors would do what they said they would if the referendum is passed.

"It was worded to give it the best chance to pass," was Herrity's response. With no guarantees on where money will go, he repeated that the school's budget would be determined next April.

"The referendum is a clear signal to the board," responded Hynes. Hynes and other proponents say the board will be held to account to use the money as planned, as an addition to the general budget process and for the purpose of raising teachers' salaries and other school needs.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the participation of citizens in government and works to increase understanding of major public policy issues. As an organization, the LWVFA has taken a position in favor of the Meals Tax, but hosted the Meals Tax Forum without comment or expressing their opinions during the debate in order to allow for unbiased discussion and public education.

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Old Town Alexandria • 703-836-5363

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1475 Chain Bridge Rd (McLean Commerce Ctr)
McLean • 703-356-0138



OUR CONGRESSWOMAN

BARBARA COMSTOCK



A Plan to Protect Seniors



Barbara's parents live with her at her home in McLean.

The Washington Post
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Barbara Comstock

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- Passed an amendment that stopped a planned increase in Medicare Part B premiums.
- Voted for a bill to ensure the Social Security Administration protects seniors from identity theft.
- Co-Sponsored the 21st Centuries Cures Act – which provides funding to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for research to find cures for Alzheimer's disease, cancer and diabetes.
- Passed the Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, which provides assistance to states and area agencies on aging and model programs.

ELECTION DAY
VOTE NOVEMBER 8TH

ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION:
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WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

Debating Meals Tax, Right to Work in Great Falls

On Oct. 11 at 7:30 p.m. (at the Great Falls Grange), Great Falls Citizens Association has arranged debates on two major ballot issues this November. The Fairfax County Meals Tax and the Virginia Constitutional Amendment popularly referred to as the "Right to Work" proposal have garnered the most attention beyond the Presidential and Congressional elections. The TownHall program will include:

❖ **Meals Tax debate:** featuring Supervisor Pat Herrity opposing the Meals Tax and Supervisor John Foust supporting it. Having two of the leading Fairfax County Board of Supervisors debate will provide a valuable opportunity to learn about the reality of the issues behind the rhetoric.

❖ **Right to Work debate:** For the proposed Virginia Constitutional Amendment on "Right to Work," there will be two distinguished speakers debating the pros and cons. James Young (Staff Attorney, National Right to Work Legal Defense & Education Foundation for more than 25 years) will make the argu-

ment for the amendment. Dan Duncan (President of the Northern VA Central Labor Council) will argue against.

❖ **Congressional Candidate Statements:** GFCA solicited personal statements from LuAnn Bennett (D), Barbara Comstock (R), and JD Thorpe (L) to the citizens of Great Falls about why they are running and why we should support them as our VA-District 10 Representative. Their personalized letters to the citizens of Great Falls will be available.

❖ **County Spending and Taxation:** GFCA is building a fact-base to better understand and evaluate County spending and taxation, and will present a brief tutorial that may be helpful to voters in understanding the arguments surrounding the Meal Tax and bond issues.

❖ **Educational Materials will be distributed:** In addition to the debates, GFCA will have detailed, printed information for voters on the other ballot items – including several county bond issues.

Dee Leggett Exhibits at Great Falls Library

"Shapes and Colors of our Southwest National Parks" is an exhibit of photography capturing shapes and colors of the National Parks and Monuments in Arizona and Utah taken during Great Falls photographer and author Dee Leggett's tour to the area with her husband in May. The exhibit, Oct. 3-31, 2016 at the Great Falls Library, portrays the broad, dramatic vistas of varied shapes, as well as intense and subtle colors throughout these magnificent locations. Leggett said, "I never realized how many shades of red and brown and how many textures existed in rock, and the variety of light and clouds, sun and rain expands it even further."

Leggett's photographs were taken from the trails in Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Zion, and Petrified Forest National Parks, as well as Wupatki and Cedar Breaks National Monuments in sun, rain, sleet, and snow. 2016 is the centennial year for the National Park Service (NPS) and Leggett has been contributing to the celebration.

Leggett and her husband Bob have visited more than 155 units of the National Park Service over the



"Grand Canyon Sunset" by Dee Leggett captures light on the rocks of the Grand Canyon. This photo will be on display at the Great Falls Library Oct. 3-31, 2016

past 40 years, enjoying, learning about, and photographing the protected natural areas as well as the historical and cultural areas.

Leggett is a member of Great Falls Studios and has been exhibiting her photography for more than 10 years. Her exhibit will be part of the Great Falls Studios Annual Studio Tour Oct. 14-17, 2016.

"Visions of Great Falls," Leggett's photo journal book of scenes and history of Great Falls is available. Contact her at 703-861-3335, DeeLeggett@aol.com or visit deeleggettphotography.vpweb.com

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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR 2016

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OCTOBER
 10/12/2016.....HomeLifeStyle
 10/19/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools
 10/26/2016.....Connection Families
 10/26/2016.....Election Preview
 Halloween is October 31

NOVEMBER
 11/2/2016.....Wellbeing
 11/9/2016.....HomeLifeStyle
 11/16/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools
 11/16/2016.....Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide I
 11/23/2016.....Connection Families: Celebrations & Gratitude
 Thanksgiving is November 24
 11/30/2016.....Holiday Gift Ideas

DECEMBER
 12/7/2016.....Wellbeing: Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II
 12/14/2016.....HomeLifeStyle: Home for the Holidays

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Great Falls Rallies Behind David Kim

Community responds to owner of Kim's Tailoring who had quadruple bypass surgery.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

David Deuk Kim, 59, of Kim's Tailoring started to get chest pains on Aug. 23, 2016. He had been very healthy up to that point, having medical checkups every two years that came up fine. Longevity had run in his family — his father lived to be 92; two uncles lived to be 94 and 93 — so he didn't think there was a problem. The only warning was that his cholesterol was 140. He had been working in his store in the Great Falls Center Shopping Center on Georgetown Pike, and around 9:30 a.m., he walked over to Ace Medical Care across the street to see what the problem was.

The doctor informed him that he just had a heart attack, gave him medication right away, and called an ambulance. So he was whisked away to Reston Hospital where they checked on him but said they couldn't open his chest. The next morning at 6 a.m., he went to Fairfax Hospital where the surgeon Dr. Eric Sarin performed a quadruple bypass. The surgery was a success; the only problem was that Kim did not have any medical insurance. And the cost for the procedure can run anywhere between \$70,000-\$200,000 depending on the hospital.

KIM, who is originally from Korea, is a beloved tailor in Great Falls who specializes in men's and women's alterations. Some 24 years ago, he and his wife Soon Kim, 57, set up shop; they originally made clothing by hand, but have since focused on alterations. He says the work is very seasonal: it's busy in the spring and fall, but slow in the summer and winter. When Kim came to this country in 1988, he did not speak any English. He took classes through Fairfax County Public Schools on the weekends to become more fluent. The couple has two children: son Philip and daughter Sue Kim Hong, both of Orange County, Calif.

Now the Great Falls community is banding together to help Kim with his medical expenses. In a few short weeks, 174 people have contributed \$20,661 (as of Saturday). And since his hospital stay, he has received 75 cards, 26 bouquets of flowers, and hundreds of digital notes from the community.

So how does he feel about the outpouring of support? "Wow. Amazing; what can I say? I'm really, really happy about it. I really appreciate the Great Falls community... So many people have called and have prayed for us," said Kim from his tailoring shop. "My wife and I we were crying a few days ago."

"It's something that we never expected. I mean, personally I had no idea that my dad had this huge impression on the community," said son Philip, who is visiting from California. "I was speechless. To this point, there's no way I can put into words how



David Deuk Kim (right) with his son Philip and wife Soon Kim of Kim's Tailoring, located in the Great Falls Center Shopping Center on Georgetown Pike in Great Falls.

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION



David Deuk Kim irons a garment in his shop, Kim's Tailoring, located in the Great Falls Center Shopping Center on Georgetown Pike in Great Falls.

grateful our entire family is. We're trying to figure out what we can do to give back to the community."

Philip said his dad's tailoring business tends to coincide with big milestones in the lives of Great Falls residents: homecomings and marriages, prom gowns, tuxedos, and

wedding gowns. Philip has postponed his life for three months to be with his parents; he plans on returning home on Dec. 1. He said his family has even received care packages and instructional videos from the community on how to help his dad get better.

Karen Peterson, 53, of Great Falls, who

helped organize a fundraising campaign for Kim, said the response from the community has been overwhelming thus far. "I think it's the recognition that Mr. Kim is an institution in Great Falls and the community wanting to do something to help. The community wanted to take care of one of its own.... It's wonderful to help such a deserving family."

She added: "Even people who have moved out of the community have contributed; they still feel part of the community. They still have an allegiance to Mr. Kim."

Peterson said it was her neighbors in Great Falls who brought up the idea to help Kim; she just happened to know the technology on how to get him connected onto Facebook and the Nextdoor Portal. They didn't put out any flyers. They are using the fundraising website called youcaring.com. To contribute to Kim's cause, the URL is <https://www.youcaring.com/david-kim-653875>. Already, individuals have contributed \$100 here, \$250 there, even \$500, with many hidden amounts not listed. The total gross is above \$20,000 thus far.

PETERSON said an anonymous attorney is helping with the negotiations on Kim's medical bills, and another influential person in the community who has connections with INOVA's Board is asking for a reduction in his bills as a special circumstance. Kim said he is sorry about not having health insurance; but he plans on getting new insurance on Nov. 1. For now, he is working part-time while he's recuperating; he plans to go back to work full-time on Oct. 17.

"I really appreciate the Great Falls community... So many people have called and have prayed for us. ... My wife and I we were crying a few days ago."

—David Deuk Kim of Kim's Tailoring in Great Falls

Julianne Benson, a former Great Falls resident for 21 years who moved to Brambleton in Ashburn, stopped by the shop with a card and \$100 cash while we were conducting the interview. She had been using Kim's business, whom she calls the "salt of the earth," for over 20 years. "I've been thinking about you and praying for you," she said. "You're a light in our community and I just want to thank you so much... I love supporting our local businesses. The Kims are phenomenal. I'll continue to hold you close in prayer."

Kim's Tailoring is located at 9887 Georgetown Pike in the Great Falls Center Shopping Center. The phone number is 703-757-3355.

Real Estate: McLean and Great Falls Enjoy 'Best of Times' in Decade



By Karen Briscoe

The McLean and Great Falls real estate market has experienced a robust number of sales in the 1st three quarters of 2016. The number of transactions is up 9 percent over 2015 same time frame. In addition, compared to the 2006 market, it is up almost 16 percent. This is excellent news for the market area as we enter into fourth quarter and the national election cycle. It indicates an environment for the potential for price appreciation in some segments, provided demand remains strong relative to supply.

The segment that performed the best in these zip codes was the lower brackets, considered to be anything under \$1.25 million. Not surprising, most of the price points enjoyed greater sales year over year and higher than at 2006 levels as well. In the Tysons 22102 area of McLean the majority of the sales in this price point were condos. According to economists, this market niche comprises Millennial Generation as first-time home buyers. Further the first level move up buyer now is confident that their lower priced home will sell quickly so that they can more easily make the leap into the next price bracket. Bridge and other available creative financing options are more readily available options.

The best performing price points continues to be the \$1.25 to \$2 m price range. Much of this comprises in-fill new home builders tearing down an older existing home for the land value. In many cases the lots are purchased off market which could skew the numbers for the lower price points. As there remains very little available land for development in McLean and Great Falls it is difficult to project how long this trend will last. As builders compete for lots, there is less available for end-user owners that would buy the homes to live in. Although this scenario can be a healthy sign of a rising market these dynamics can make it challenging for a first or second time home buyer to purchase in the community.

The price points above \$2 m were generally flat for the first three quarters of 2016 over 2015 and

similar to the 2006 levels. The number of buyers who are qualified to purchase homes in this segment is considerably smaller and remains fairly constant. It follows that even in a strong market year this would hold true.

The good news is that McLean and Great Falls home sellers continued in 2016 to experience "best of times" market conditions. The sales volume is up this year over 2015 and the last peak cycle for the area that culminated in 2006. The balance of 2016 indicators show that homes priced correctly for the market and in top condition should sell for strong prices.

Karen Briscoe and Lizzy Conroy and their team HBC Group at Keller Williams are active and experienced Realtors in the Northern Virginia, suburban Maryland and Washington, D.C. marketplace. Contact via the means most convenient for you: www.HBCRealtyGroup.com, 703-734-0192, Homes@HBCRealtyGroup.com.

Free Seminars on Real Estate for Retirees

The Retiree Real Estate Education Association announces free public service seminars for November, 2016, on Independent Living & Retirement Communities, Options for Financing, Estate Planning & Tax, and Ageing in Place, given at McLean, Falls Church, Marshall and Madison High Schools. These are part of a series of 8 free seminars on real estate issues unique to retirees. Seminars are free, in the evenings at County public schools. For more information and seminar registration go to RetireeRealEstate.org.

McLean & Great Falls 1st-3rd Quarter Market Analysis of Home Sales (Based on Final Closed Price)

1 st -3 rd Qtr 2016 compared to 1 st -3 rd Qtr 2015 and 2006						
1 st -3 rd Qtr 2016 Sales: 846						
	>\$3 Mil	\$2-3 Mil	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$1-\$1.25 Mil	\$750k-\$1 Mil	<\$750k
1 st -3 rd Half 2016						
22101	11	26	90	69	119	54
22102	5	11	34	24	45	163
22066	3	14	47	35	67	29
	Total: 19	Total: 51	Total: 171	Total: 128	Total: 231	Total: 246
	Combined Total Upper Brackets: 241			Combined Total Lower Brackets: 605		
1 st -3 rd Qtr 2015 Sales: 775						
Zip Code	>\$3 Mil	\$2-3 Mil	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$1-\$1.25 Mil	\$750k-\$1 Mil	<\$750k
22101	8	23	71	65	111	62
22102	2	12	36	21	33	161
22066	1	15	39	40	51	24
	Total: 11	Total: 50	Total: 146	Total: 126	Total: 195	Total: 247
	Combined Total Upper Brackets: 207			Combined Total Lower Brackets: 568		
1 st -3 rd Qtr 2006 Sales: 713						
Zip Code	>\$3 Mil	\$2-3 Mil	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$1-\$1.25 Mil	\$750k-\$1 Mil	<\$750k
22101	7	26	57	40	97	93
22102	12	17	27	21	18	157
22066	3	14	51	26	39	8
	Total: 22	Total: 57	Total: 135	Total: 87	Total: 154	Total: 258
	Combined Total Upper Brackets: 214			Combined Total Lower Brackets: 499		

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

ONGOING

Meadow Farms Fall Festival Great Falls Oct. 3 - Oct. 31 Monday through Friday 8 - 7 p.m. Saturday 8 - 6 p.m. Sunday 9 - 6 p.m. 10618 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. We have pumpkins, gourds, cornstalks, mums, pansies, star bales, and everything else you need for the fall look. A huge selection of pumpkins. We will also have moon bounces, giant scarecrows, haunted buses and pipes for the kids to go through, weekend concessions and much more. Let your kids have a blast while you pick out your pumpkins and all your fall needs. www.meadowfarms.com

The Pumpkin Patch beginning Monday Oct. 10 4 - 7 p.m. then open daily Sunday - Friday 11 - 7 p.m. and 10 - 6 p.m. on Saturdays through Oct. 31. at St. Thomas' Episcopal Church 8991 Brook Rd McLean. All of the money raised by our pumpkin patch is donated to support local charities. 703-442-0330.

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

Visitor Center Museum 9200 Old Dominion Dr, McLean. Everyday through Oct. 10 - 5 p.m. Museum exhibits include the Patowmack Canal, Ecology of the Falls, American Indians, Potomac Watershed, Kayaking and a Kids room. Two audiovisual presentations play on the quarter hour: Film - George Washington Visualizing a Nation, and park slideshow - History of Great Falls. www.nps.gov/grfa

Canoe and Kayak Rentals at Riverbend Park 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. May 20 through Oct. 14. Boating Hours are Friday to Sunday 9 - 5 p.m., and holidays May through October. The river is wide and relatively relaxed in this section, so it's a great place for new kayakers. 703-759-9018 for boat rental and ramp openings. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/

Fishing Rod Rentals 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. Rentals available during visitor center hours. Fishing tackle and live bait are available for purchase. Reservations required for group rentals. \$6/rental (2hr max). Valid driver's license required. Our rod/reel combinations are perfect for beginners and children. A Virginia or Maryland freshwater fishing license is required for persons 16 years or older. The park does not sell fishing licenses. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/

Colvin Run Mill open 11 - 4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Rd, Great Falls. Fairfax County's operational 19th century water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily tours, school programs and special events. Fees: \$7/adult, \$6 students 16+ with ID, \$5 children & seniors. Winter Hours: January & February, 11am-4pm, last tour 3pm. Admission to park is FREE except for some special events.

Lobby Hero 1st Stage Tysons Sept. 8 - Oct. 16 Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. 1st Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. What does it truly mean to be a hero? While struggling with a world of conflicting truths, the characters grapple with their own realities and those of the people around them. www.1ststage_tysons.org or 703-854-1856.

Art Walk in the Village: First

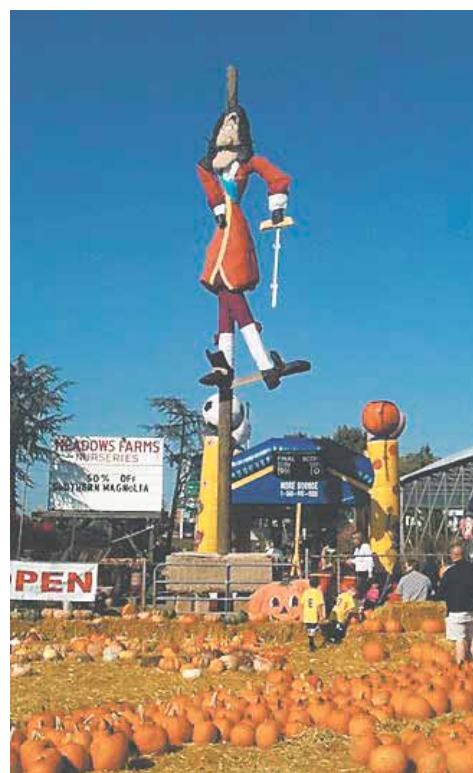


PHOTO COURTESY OF MEADOW FARMS

Meadow Farms Fall Festival in Great Falls is a great place to find pumpkins and fall decorations. The Festival days begin on Oct. 3 - Oct. 31 and include a wide variety of Fall themed activities including moon bounces, giant scarecrows, haunted buses. Meadow Farms Great Falls is open Monday through Friday 8 - 7 p.m. Saturday 8 - 6 p.m. Sunday 9 - 6 p.m. The festivities last all week and weekend at 10618 Leesburg Pike, Vienna.

Fridays beginning Sept. 9, 6 - 9 p.m. through Dec. 31 at 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Admission free and open to the public. Visit: <http://www.greatfallsart.org/artwalk/>

One-To-One English Conversation Oct. 1 through Oct. 31 101 Patrick Henry Library 101 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Call to Register. 703- 938-0405.

THURSDAY/OCT. 6

Celtic Fiddle Festival: The Barnes 1635 Trap Rd. 8 pm "Three of the finest folk violinists anywhere" said The Washington Post. The Barnes Showcase a fascinating combination of international and individual fiddling styles. www.wolftap.org/

SATURDAY/OCT. 8

Blessing of the Animals at the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, Vienna, 5 p.m. in the Front Circle followed by Holy Eucharist. Bring your dogs, cats or other animal companions for the Blessing of the Animals, as we celebrate St. Francis. Share your blessing by bringing pet food and toys to be given to a nearby animal shelter. Celebrate the role that our pets and animal companions play in our lives.

Aging in Place: Modifying Your Home to Fit Your Changing Lifestyle 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. As your lifestyle changes in your later years, living in your own home, with accustomed comforts, supports your emotional well-being. Home modifications, even small ones, can enhance your comfort and safety to make a big difference. Attend this workshop to find out how simple changes to your home can create an environment where everyone is welcome and can flourish. Advance registration is required. Light refreshments will be served. Cost: Free. Call AARP at 1-877-926-8300 or <http://states.aarp.org/novaevents>.

Inside Criminology: A discussion with Ph.D. candidate Jessica Kalbfeld and Ph.D. candidate in Linguistics, Taylor Jones. Following the 2pm performance. 1st Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road. \$30 general admission, \$27 seniors (65+), \$15 students and military. www.1ststage_tysons.org

Virginia Opera: The Seven Deadly Sins and Pagliacci 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts

Concert Hall Fairfax. The final collaboration between Kurt Weill and Bertolt Brecht, The Seven Deadly Sins is a sharp critique of capitalism. <http://cfa.gmu.edu/>

MONDAY/OCT. 10

Magic Dick & Shun Ng and The Slide Brothers 6 - 10 p.m. Hilton McLean Tyson's Corner 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia's annual Gala is an event that raises dollars to fund organizations, connect donors to nonprofits doing good work. Admission: \$300 tara.nadel@cfnova.org

FRIDAY/OCT. 14

GFS Art Tour. Through Sunday October 16. 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Great Falls Community Library, Large Meeting Room 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 58 Artists in 20 venues in Great Falls, VA. A self-guided driving event. Cost: free. www.GreatFallsStudios.com. GreatFallsStudios@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/OCT. 15

Protecting Our Seniors 8:30 - 2 p.m. Antioch Baptist Church 6525B Little Ox Rd. Fairfax Station. The Antioch Baptist Church Elderly Care Conference will address trends in elder abuse and exploitation. The Keynote speaker is Michele Leith, NOVA Community Outreach Coordinator, Offices of the Attorney General. Cost: Free. Contact: Adrienne Austin 703-425-0710 aaustin@antioch-church.org. Or visit www.antioch-church.org. Registration is required. Visit the website to register for the event.

Pumpkin Preparedness Race 8 a.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department 400 Center St S, Vienna. Inaugural 5k road race to support first responders across Northern Virginia. Brand new course across quiet Vienna streets. All proceeds benefit the Northern Virginia Emergency Response System. Register at www.preparedness5k.com

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Open House 10 - 4 p.m. 400 Center Street South, Vienna. The theme this year is "Don't wait, check the date." Replace smoke alarms every 10

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 13

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ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 12

years! Join us for a Vienna tradition: Fun and educational family friendly activities. info@vvfd.org 703-938-2678 www.vvfd.org/index.html

Halstead Square Festival 11 - 4 p.m. Halstead Square Dunn Loring Metro 2750 Gallows Road Vienna. Celebrate Northern Virginia's culinary and visual arts when Halstead Square Dunn Loring Metro hosts its first Food, Wine & Art Festival to benefit the Workhouse Arts Center. Cost: Free. www.halsteadsquare.com

Vale Fall Fair 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Vale Schoolhouse, 3124 Foxmill Rd, Oakton. Great family fun for everyone! Activities include: Haunted Forest, pie eating contest, costume parade, children's games, live music, bake, toy, and book sales, barbeque, artisans crafts, balloon sculpture and more! Free admission. For more information: cfennessy@cox.net or 703-716-4219.

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. nvmm.org. 703-938-5157.

"The Man Who Planted Trees" 2 p.m. The Alden 1234 Ingleside Avenue

McLean For ages 5+. Hear the wind, feel the rain, smell the lavender and laugh with Dog. In this ecologically inspired tale, a French shepherd sets out to plant a forest and transform a barren wasteland acorn by acorn. \$15/\$10 MCC tax district residents.

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SATURDAY-SUNDAY/ OCT. 15-16

Claude Moore Colonial Farm 1771 Market Fair. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. In the fall, warm yourself by the fires and enjoy autumn with crisp local apples, warm savory meat pies and hearty breads. Let market entertainers, tradesmen, and the militia amuse and educate you. Visit 1771.org/marketfair/ for more

SUNDAY/ OCT. 16

Vienna CROP Hunger Walk 2 - 4 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian and Environs, 124 Park St. NE, Vienna. The annual Vienna CROP Hunger Walk. The Walk is approximately 3 miles in length through the Town of Vienna. Check-in starts at 1:15 p.m. and concert in the sanctuary featuring "The Purple Halls" starts at 1:30 p.m. Proceeds go to Committee for Helping Others and Church World Service. Cost: Free. Sign up at www.crophungerwalk.org/viennava. Email betty.rahal@verizon.net or call 703-281-4032

**PLAN AHEAD
GREAT FALLS**

SATURDAY/OCT. 22

Fully Explore Historic Colvin Run Mill 1:30 p.m. 10017 Colvin Run Road in Great Falls. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, October 4 by calling 703-759-2771. See the entire historic mill, including areas that are rarely open to the public. The suggested donation for the tour is \$10 per person. fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvinrunmill/.

SUNDAY/ OCT. 23

New Dominion Chorale 4 p.m. St. Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The chorale will be joined by Paul Skevington, and some of Washington's finest professional singers, the soloists from The District Eight vocal ensemble. Cost: \$15-30. www.newdominion.org

SATURDAY/ OCT. 29

Concert: The David Trio 4 - 6 p.m. Saint Francis Episcopal Church 9220 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. This Italian ensemble brings the sound of violin, cello, and piano to St. Francis chancel. The sardonic Shostakovich Op. 67 Trio is balanced by a gentle Schubert Notturmo and the spirited energy of Haydn's A-flat major Trio. Cost: Season pass \$150 or \$30 at the door. Visit: http://amadeusconcerts.com/

MONDAY/OCT. 31

Halloween Spooktacular 5 - 7 p.m. The Spooktacular provides younger children with a central place in Great Falls to have fun "trick or treating." Great Falls vendors offer candy around the Village Green. Pets, on leashes, are welcome to join in the Pet Parade. Visit: www.celebrategreatfalls.org/spooktacular

TUESDAY/NOV. 8, 2016

Election Day. General election. Visit www.sbe.virginia.gov/ and www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm



McLean Community Center
The Center of It All



Here's What's Happening at MCC

Aging in Place:

Modifying Your Home to Fit Your Changing Lifestyle



Saturday, Oct. 8, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

FREE; Advance registration is required.

Light refreshments will be served.

To Register: Call AARP at 1-877-926-8300 or http://states.aarp.org/novaevents.

McLean Traveler Day Trip

Harper's Ferry, West Virginia



Thursday, Oct. 13

9:15 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

\$135 per person/\$130 MCC district residents. Online registration not available, please call the Center.

Onstage @ The Alden

Puppet State Theatre of Scotland
"The Man Who Planted Trees"



Saturday, Oct. 15, 2 p.m.

\$15/\$10 MCC district residents



Haunted Gingerbread House Workshop

Thursday, Oct. 20, 6:30-8 p.m.

\$45 per house/\$35 MCC district residents

Activity No. 1271.215, Preregistration required

The Alden, Speakers & Education

"Jazz Masters with John Eaton: Frank Loesser"

Saturday, Oct. 22, 1 p.m.

\$12/\$5 MCC district residents



The McLean Community Center
www.mcleancenter.org
Home of the Alden Theatre
www.aldentheatre.org



1234 Ingleside Ave.,
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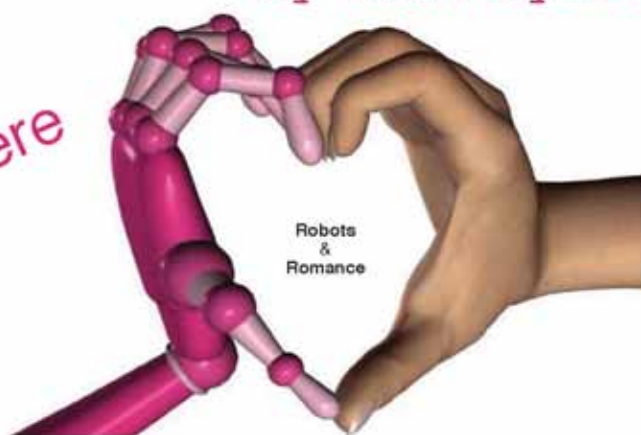
McLEAN COMMUNITY PLAYERS

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Comic Potential

By Alan Ayckbourn

**Area
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OCT. 7-22

Friday & Saturday at 8:00 pm • Sunday at 2:00 PM

Alden Theatre • McLean Community Center

Tickets: 866-811-4111 OR www.McLeanPlayers.org

See the Accessibility page at www.McLeanPlayers.org for dates of audio-described and sign language- interpreted performances.

The McLean Community Players, Inc. is funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County. Comic Potential is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

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By KENNETH B. LOURIE



I have a web site:

www.kennywithcancer.com. Original, I know. But now what do I do with it? I mean, other than feeding my ego (a little bit) and providing a more central/accessible location for my nearly 350 cancer columns (published every week since June '09) — and the occasional non-cancer and/or sports-themed column, what is the point of it, really?

I can't really say it's to bring awareness to the cause of this non-celeb because I know very little, even now, nearly eight years post diagnosis. And reading what I write is hardly news or noteworthy. Oh sure, the columns are mildly amusing and moderately informative, but compared to what exactly? Nor do I provide resources for other cancer patients, families or interested parties to educate themselves about this dreaded disease. I offer few facts, few figures, few recommendations, but lots of feelings. I only know what I don't know which, given its rather ample supply, has enabled me to maintain this seven-plus years output of weekly columns, having never missed a deadline during the entirety of my treatment, even during the early days of heavy-duty chemotherapy when occasionally I was down, but not quite out.

I suppose my columns do chronicle a cancer-patient's journey, so to speak, in real time; hopefully not in a boring, self-indulgent tone that turned some of you readers off. Perhaps there was still some meat left on the bone that offered some observations and emotions that drew you in and better acquainted you with the trials, travails and tribulations of a characterized-as-"terminal" stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer "diagnossee."

Writing about that diagnosis and my life as a cancer patient has come naturally to me. It has enabled me to share, which in a way, has lessened the burden on me, almost as if we were all in this together (strength in numbers and all of that). And I suppose that's sort of true since I've involved you regular readers in so many intimate details. I've held nothing back: the good, the bad and the ugly; no, not the movie. As a result, I imagine, I have received correspondence encouraging and commending. I assure you, none of it has fallen on deaf ears. And to be honest, I've not written about my having cancer for the greater good; I've not written about it to make friends and influence people, nor have I written about it to affect any policy change. I've simply written about because it has made me happy to do so.

And what little anecdotal agreement exists in the cancer-patient/treatment world, it is that happiness, laughter, positivity, etc., helps patients in ways that medicine in and of itself seems not always capable of doing. Unfortunately it appears not to be something which can be prescribed — in pill or liquid form, but something nonetheless that needs to be discussed and behavior-modified to attain, especially if it seems not to be happening by itself. I'm living proof of that. Rather, I hope my columns are living proof of that. In my posted-columns-to-be, if there is a joke or funny popular culture reference in my column, we will link it to the original, if available in the public domain so visitors can see exactly what I'm saying. I want my site to be more than just for sore eyes, but a sight to see as well; living and breathing, just like me.

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

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LETTERS

'It's About the Issues'

To the Editor:

Much has been made about the personalities of the two Presidential candidates. All we really have to do is take a close look at the issues.

One candidate has fought for universal healthcare for decades; the other wants to repeal the Affordable Care Act, denying health insurance coverage to millions.

One supports comprehensive immigration reform; the other wants to deny people access to the U.S. based on their religion.

One supports a woman's right to choose under Roe v. Wade; the other wants to punish women for having abortions.

One wants to create jobs by investing in infrastructure, clean energy, and scientific/medical research; the other has a plan that Brookings and Moody's say will create larger budget deficits and higher unemployment.

One supports the nuclear inspections agreement with Iran; the other wants to cancel the agreement which would allow Iranian weapons production to resume.

One is an experienced diplomat who has cultivated long-term relationships with world leaders; the other does not believe in the Geneva Conventions, threatens not to support NATO, and cozies up to Russia.

One supports indexed minimum wage increases; the other does not support changes for a living wage.

One has specific plans to address global warming; the other believes global warming is a hoax.

We get to decide.

Barbara Glakas
Herndon

BULLETIN BOARD

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

MONDAY/OCT. 17

St. Johns Wood is on the Reston P and Z Preliminary Agenda. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the North County Government Center, 12000 Bowman Towne Road, Reston. Due to the potentially large amount of community input, the residents are asked to submit their input ten days in advance of the meeting. The public comment will be limited as follows: Individual citizen comment: Two minutes per person, representative for HOA or neighborhood organization: Four minutes per organization.

ONGOING

Passages Divorce Care. Tuesdays 6:45 to 9:00 p.m. beginning September 13th. Vienna Presbyterian Church is located on the corner of Maple Avenue (Rt. 123) and Park Street in Vienna, Virginia. Cost to cover materials \$20, scholarships available. 703-938-9050, www.viennapres.org, or send an email to Passages@ViennaPres.org.

The Retiree Real Estate Education Association announces free public service seminars for October, 2016, on Decluttering, Ageing in Place, and Downsizing, given at McLean, Falls Church, and Marshall High Schools. These are part of a series of 8 free seminars on real estate issues unique to retirees. Seminars are free to the public and are presented in the evenings at Fairfax County public schools. For more information, or to register for a seminar, go to RetireeRealEstate.org.

P/T BOOKKEEPER/RECEIPT (GREAT FOR MOMS or RETIRED!)

Small property management firm in McLean, Virginia seeks detail oriented part-time bookkeeper/receptionist 3-5 days per week 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Applicant will oversee all aspects of front desk administration. Excellent accounting, organizational and communication skills required. Call 703-356-2041.

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Must be a prolific, fluent, accurate writer, rewriter and researcher with knowledge of AP style and clean copy. Self-starter who can work independently and collaboratively with strong organizational skills, external and internal customer service skills, high productivity, attention to detail and drive to make our community content the best and most comprehensive in the region.

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Send cover letter, resume, three clips or work examples and a several story ideas to Mary Kimm, Publisher and Editor, Local Media Connection/Connection Newspapers at resumes@connectionnewspapers.com. Positions available immediately. More at connectionnewspapers.com/job-openings

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OBITUARY



Patrick Anthony DeStefani, 51, of Harrisonburg, lost his battle with Pancreatic Cancer on Sunday, September 25, 2016, at his home.

Mr. DeStefani was born in Arlington, Va., on September 13, 1965, and was the son of James and Evaline DeStefani.

The family moved to Vienna where Patrick attended public school, and graduated from Oakton High School in 1983. Pat was a very intelligent, charismatic, and athletic young man participating in football, basketball and baseball. As he carried his love for sports into adulthood, and was a huge fan of his favorite teams, the Baltimore Ravens and the Baltimore Orioles. Continuing his education, he attended Northern Virginia Community College and Radford. He served for over 13 years United States Army and the Air Force reserves. He excelled as a marksman, communicator, and driver for the base commander. After the service, he found employment with Bell Atlantic, Shoppers Food Warehouse, United States Post Office and most recently, Securitas at Microsoft.

On October 3, 1992, he married Sabrina Smith, who he met in 1990 at Camp Lettis in Annapolis. On March 21, 1994, their son Dante Vincent DeStefani was born, and he was his dad's pride and joy.

In addition to his parents, wife and son, he is also survived by a brother, Gary DeStefani and wife, Shannon; nieces, Erin, Lauren, and Kaitlyn DeStefani; father-in-law, John Smith; mother-in-law, Elaine Pierce; uncles, Bruno and wife, Sue DeStefani, Roger Dewitt, and Donald Keck; aunt, Thelma Dewitt, Dorothy Knotts, Audrey Dewitt; and a host of cousins, friends, and co-workers.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, October 7, 2016, at 5:30 pm, at Blessed Sacrament 154 N. Main Street, Harrisonburg, Va. 22801.

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A Deli, Inc. trading as A Deli Italian Food & Wine, 1301 S Joyce St, Unit D 25, Arlington, VA 22202. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine & Beer On & Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages, Kawal Kapoor President
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

ABC LICENSE

Gong & Yuan LLC trading as Human Gate, 4233 N. Fairfax Dr., Arlington, VA 22203. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Mixed Beverage On Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages, Gong & Yuan, LLC
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Senior Living

FALL 2016

Thomas Robinson from Herndon is listed bowling 220 with no handicap. This is his first year entered in the Senior Olympics competition, but he says he has been bowling for over 40 years since he was 10. Robinson says this was sort of an accident. He was signing up for the volleyball competition and just happened to notice bowling. He pulls out his favorite brown ball “that smells like root beer — no kidding” and wipes it off with a cloth to get some of the oil off the ball. Then he swings his long arm back and lets go — another strike. Robinson wins gold in the 50-54 year age group with a score of 726 for three games.

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The Kensington Falls Church Presents the Parkinson's Communications Club

Announcing an Introductory Orientation with
Codrin Lungu, MD and Susan Wranik, MS, MA, CCC-SLP
Saturday, October 22, 2016 • 1:30-3:30pm

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The Kensington Falls Church is pleased to announce its collaboration with the Parkinson Foundation of The National Capital Area (PFNCA) to offer the Parkinson's Communications Club. The Club establishes a wellness and prevention program for individuals with Parkinson's disease and their care partners, with a focus on maintenance of communication skills. It stresses the importance of speaking louder to be heard in social settings.

The Parkinson's Communications Club is led by a licensed speech-language therapist, Susan Wranik, who has been trained in LSVT LOUD therapy (Lee Silverman Voice Treatment,

which improves vocal loudness by stimulating muscles of the voice box and speech mechanism through systematic exercises). The Club, however, is not therapy. Rather, it is a group approach to applying the exercises and skills of LOUD and/or other therapies. The first of weekly sessions begins in November 2016 in Falls Church. The program is available at no cost.*

Please join us for an orientation with Dr. Codrin Lungu, Chief of the Parkinson's Disease Clinic at the National Institutes of Health, and Susan Wranik, MS, MA, CCC-SLP, Speech-Language Pathologist and President of Susan I. Wranik Associates, LLC. RSVP requested.



Codrin Lungu, MD is a board-certified neurologist who specializes in movement disorders. He is a member of the Parkinson Foundation of The National Capital Area Medical Advisory Board. He is currently involved in collaborative research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in several areas related to movement disorders.



Susan Wranik, MS, MA, CCC-SLP is a Speech-Language Pathologist and President of Susan I. Wranik Associates, LLC. She provides comprehensive assessment and treatment of speech, swallowing, memory and cognitive issues related to stroke, traumatic brain injury, Parkinson's, dementia and other neurogenic diseases. Home visits. Licensed in DC, MD, VA.



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Senior Living

Life at Vinson Hall — Living the Difference

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

Mary DeMaris is headed down on the elevator at Vinson Hall with her black case of art supplies, an artist headed to a still life class out of the building. “There is a club here for everything — poetry, art, choral group, photography, book, gardening,” she said.

Vinson Hall residents can use the bus and courtesy car for errands, doctor’s appointments and other scheduled outings.

“The food is excellent. I don’t know I can pick a favorite. Hmmm, the soups here are unique, delicious. The dining director — he’s a real foodie,” said Mike Solari, the purchasing and catering manager at Vinson Hall. “You’ll never believe it but the favorite is chicken livers with a light gravy if they like. And the seafood dishes, oh seafood Newburg. Lots of people use imitation seafood, but we use real shrimp, crab, lobster and scallops in this dish.”

Norman Zalfa from Arlington, said, “Well, I like pound cake. I don’t like a lot of cream and other stuff so I mentioned it to the chef. He made a pound cake for me and had it delivered to my apartment.”

Solari says that in his opinion you eat with your eyes first so he presents a nice plate. Sometimes when he creates the weekly menu, “It’s what I feel like. I try to have one pork, chicken, beef, seafood and pasta every week and to be sure that I’m not repeating the same thing too often.” Solari says he listens to what people ask for and what they don’t like. Solari says the only way he adjusts his menu for older appetites is to take out the salt. “We use herbs instead.”

“Hi Norman,” Zalfa waves at a man going by with his walker. “That’s my next door neighbor. He was a submarine commander.” Vinson Hall independent living is open to commissioned officers and their immediate



Mike Solari, the purchasing and catering manager at Vinson Hall, readies the dessert cart for lunch with coconut cake, chocolate mousse and lemon cakes. Soon it will be full of tarts and other choices offered in the formal dining room.

family from all U.S. uniformed services. They are now accepting government employees of equal rank from the Departments of State and Defense, the CIA and Foreign Service.

Zalfa continued, “We go check on Norman. He is 91-years old. My wife, Grazia — she’s from Italy — went to Eden Center and bought bok choy and other vegetables and made him a bowl of soup today.”

There is no required meal plan at Vinson Hall for independent living so that a person can choose whatever they feel like eating any day from three kitchens — the main dining room, the bistro with cooked to order choices, snacks or light fare.

“My favorite thing is networking with people,” said Zalfa. “It’s small enough you get to know people. It’s a family, really. There is a men’s club that gets together, takes walks, works as a support group.”

LaVonne Boyer, a four-year resident, says it is easy to make friends here and “there are so many interesting, intelligent and ex-

perienced people living here.” She is busy packing for a weeklong trip to Cancun where her family has time-shares and always gather the third week in September. She says right now she has a crazy daily life because her daughter has stage 4 cancer and three children so Boyer does everything she can to help. “Today my daughter is on Capitol Hill where they asked her to lobby for experimental trials and approval of a new medication.” Boyer says when her surgeon husband died early, she went into real estate in Springfield for 35 years to put her children through college.

“I always use the gym. The most appreciated person around here is George, the personal trainer who evaluates each person and then sets up an individual training program,” said Zalfa.

Zalfa reports that he has broken almost every bone from his years of horseback riding in Wyoming, Ecuador and Brazil. “And then there was my motorcycle. And the time I passed out riding my bike and



LaVonne Boyer, 4-year resident at Vinson Hall, says, “There are so many clubs for anything you want to do.” She tries to take advantage of as much as she can. Boyer is on the Chapel Committee.

broke my hip.” But he says that his wife Grazia says no more motorcycles, “and when she says no, she means no.”

Zalfa remembers World War II. “I was 14 when I enlisted but lied and used another kid’s name. I wanted to be a hero.” Now Zalfa runs a business and teaches courses in Arlington on how to organize one’s estate.

Boyer says she uses the gym a lot, the pool and the weight machines. The gym is currently moving into a new expanded space. In addition, new space is being added on the garden level including a dance studio for yoga and stretching, a cyber cafe and some new office space.

A resident’s meeting is underway in the auditorium, also used for community events and guest speakers. Another larger auditorium in the Community Building hosts

dances, performances, and the McLean orchestra performs there as well. A piano sits outside the main dining room which has been set for lunch with white tablecloths and with a sign in front about the wine tasting.

Dave DeClark, the director of marketing says Vinson Hall bottles its own wine from grapes in California. Their specialties are offered at dinner and at happy hours during the week.

DeClark says in addition to independent living Vinson Hall Retirement Community offers assisted living, long-term care and skilled nursing at Arleigh Burke Pavilion and Memory Care at the Sylvestery. DeClark says they draw residents from a seven-mile radius. No military affiliation is required for these residences. He adds that a new addition just opened in November 2014 with 75 new independent living apartments, all named after Presidents “but only one after Washington since there was only one first President of the United States.” Vinson Hall is located at 6251 Old Dominion in McLean.

TJ Student Creates ‘HeartScribe’ for Seniors

Mobile app helps manage health data. electronic way of doing what they were already doing.”

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

When Vienna resident Rohan Taneja’s grandfather experienced heart failure last year, he was inspired to create a mobile application that would help senior citizens to better manage their health metrics and share them with caregivers and doctors.

When a “Shark Tank”-style assistive technology challenge for Fairfax County High School students came across his radar, Taneja

decided it was the perfect opportunity to develop his app.

In March of this year Taneja, now a senior at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, presented his project called HeartScribe to the challenge judges as a finalist.

“Many seniors have to measure their blood pressure, glucose and other things every day, and write all that down,” Taneja said. “This makes that job a whole lot easier. In a matter of seconds, you can record all that data on your phone and bring it to your doctor. It’s an

Using the app saves seniors time and the stress of losing their documentation, he said.

Taneja won first place in the competition, along with around \$1,300 in prize money. He used the money to make informational flyers, buy devices to demonstrate the app and help launch it.

Taneja wanted to take the project further. He started visiting several senior centers and talking with elderly people about his app, what they liked and didn’t like.

“That’s when I realized it could be really helpful,” he said.

Though he wrote the app by

himself, he’s also reached out to the tech world for advice, including the Refraction co-working space in Reston.

From his senior feedback, Taneja has made numerous tweaks to the app, including making the buttons significantly larger and simplifying the interface to make it easier to use.

The app is live and available for free in the Google Play store, and works with any Android device. Taneja makes no money from it. “I guess you could call it one big service project,” he said. “It was fun making it.”

The TJ senior chose Google to start because he learned the Java



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

When Vienna resident Rohan Taneja’s grandfather experienced heart failure last year, he was inspired to create a mobile application that would help senior citizens to better manage their health metrics and share them with caregivers and doctors.

coding language for Google in a programming class. However he’s currently working on versions for iPhone and web browsers.

Regaining Mobility

Local orthopedic surgeons offer keys for successful joint replacement surgery.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Tired of the limited mobility and pain that have thwarted her love of foreign travel and fall hiking, Lynda S. Johnson, 72, scheduled a knee replacement surgery for later this month. She chose a doctor, found a pet sitter to watch her Cairn terrier, and enlisted her sister to live with her while she recovers.

"I had been debating for months about whether to have it," she said. "I was in so much pain, though, that I don't really think I have anything to lose."

For Johnson and approximately 7 million other Americans living with a hip or knee replacement, the decision to undergo such a surgery is fueled by a quest for less pain, more mobility and an overall boost to their quality of life.

Nearly 90 percent of patients who have knee replacement surgery experience less pain and 85 percent of the replacement joints still work after 20 years, according to the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. Most patients will feel better, and feel better quickly.

Addressing overall health issues like high blood pressure, diabetes and obesity can boost the chances that a joint replacement surgery will be successful, says Dr. C. Anderson "Andy" Engh orthopedic surgeon, Anderson Orthopedic Clinic at Inova Mount Vernon. "Work on both your overall health and conditioning," he said.

Patients should be up and out of their hospital beds as soon as possible. "Patients are walking with assistance hours after their surgery. The reason patients do better when they get up and move around is that they decrease the risk of pneumonia and blood clots," said Dr. Mark P. Madden, an orthopedic surgeon with OrthoVirginia. "We start out with patients using a walker and having someone assist them in walking, and they generally progress to become fully weight bearing without any assistance at all."

Also, have a support system in place prior to surgery, whether it's a significant other, grown child or close friend. Often dubbed coach or advocate, that person might at-

tend medical appointments with a patient prior to surgery, serve as their point of contact the day of surgery and provide morale support throughout the recovery process.

"The more eyes and ears in addition to the patient's, the better," said Engh, explaining why it's so helpful to have someone with the patient at appointments and throughout the recovery. "We approach things that we have to do with set expectations, and sometimes those expectations can keep us from hearing other things. Having another person there is a good reality check and note taker."

The coach should be able to spend a significant amount of time with the patient during the early recovery period. "That person can expect to be with you 16 hours a day for two to five days after surgery," said Engh. "I don't want someone alone by themselves all day during work hours. The coach or advocate is like a safety marshal who keeps the patient safe and reminds them to take their time during their recovery."

Dr. George Aguiar, an orthopedic surgeon at Reston Hospital Center, advises patients to determine how they will get help with grocery shopping, transportation, pet care and house cleaning in advance. "Having these types of things handled before you go into surgery can only help the recovery process."

Patients should plan ahead to safety-proof. "Do everything you can do to avoid a fall within the first two to three months after your surgery," said Engh. "Have clear pathways and be aware of rugs that can catch your feet. Have good, secure handrails on stairways to help prevent falls."

Timing also plays a role in the success of joint replacement surgeries. "Some patients ask if they're too old to have surgery," said Engh. "Don't wait until you're home bound to have this surgery because the recovery will be quite long."

To decide whether joint replacement surgery is the best option, says Madden, work with a physician and weigh the effect the pain is having on one's quality of life.

"There's no right answer for every patient," said Madden. "The real answer is to work with your doctor to find the right treatment."



PHOTO BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION

Men's doubles semi-finals teams in the 80-89 age group pose for a group photo before the match begins. From left are Neil Lane from Reston and his partner Phil Doherty from Burke, Jerry Vance from Annandale and his partner Bob Wilkinson from Fairfax. Vance and Wilkinson won the match 9-7 (8 game pro set) to advance to the finals.

From the Beginning to the End

982 participants signed up for 2016 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics.

The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics (NVSO) opened Sept. 10 and ran through Sept. 21 with another record registration of 918 participants. Saturday opening day ceremonies were followed by track and rowing events at Thomas Jefferson Community Center in Arlington and diving competition at Yorktown High School Aquatic Center.

Fifty events were held at 25 different venues across Northern Virginia including horseshoes and bocce at Fairfax Senior Center-Green Acres, field events at Stone Bridge High School Stadium, swimming at Claude Moore Recreation Center, tennis mixed doubles at Wakefield District Park and Wii Bowling at Greenspring Retirement Community Center in Springfield. There were two 100+ age group entries this year, Vera Punke from Arlington and Hilda Gross from Burke entered in the duplicate bridge competition held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Arlington.

— SHIRLEY RUHE

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