

Kim Carroll and Jean Ellison want everyone to come together to support those from a diverse community who might be very worried now about their welfare.

Vienna and Oakton CONNECTION

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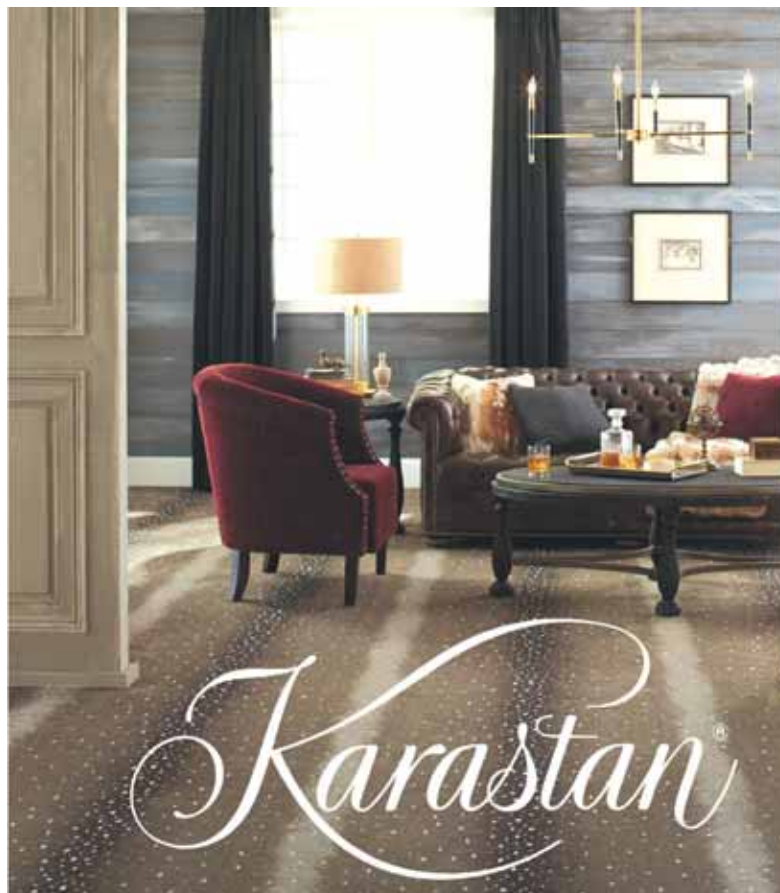
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Approximately 150 people walked from the Vienna Town Hall to the Town Green in a display of unity. Rally co-organizer Laura Magane Goyer says the walk and rally are inclusive, showing compassion toward one another.



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION



Dmitri Mehlhorn's grandmother emigrated from post-war Germany to the U.S. in 1952. Mehlhorn says his father would have been blocked from emigrating here had the U.S. not welcomed wartime refugees.

Stronger Together in Vienna

Community rallies in support of inclusion and kindness.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

A young mother living in a bombed-out German town in early 1942 fled with her children to a less-dangerous home in Germany, seeking safety and refuge. Eventually, in 1952, they made their way to the United States. Although the U.S. had been warring with Germany less than a decade earlier, the family became citizens. Her boy Rolf went on to earn a Ph.D. in physics from the University of California at Berkeley. On Sunday, Nov. 20, in Vienna, Virginia, Rolf's son Dmitri stood along with 150 other local citizens at a peaceful "unity" walk and rally from the Vienna Town Hall to the Town Green. On Mehlhorn's back was a sign that said, simply, "My father was a war refugee."

"I'm here to let my neighbors know I'm here for them; they are safe."

Approximately 150 Vienna-area residents rallied for an hour on a cold, blustery, wind-swept Sunday afternoon. Parents pushing strollers, kids walking alongside their bikes, dogs on leashes sidling up to their humans, and youths and adults of diverse races and backgrounds came together in a common purpose — to defend compassion and tolerance, and, to support those citizens threatened by the tenor of the times.

"We are doing this out of a sense of unity that can only be achieved through community," said co-organizer Laura Magane Goyer. "It is welcome to everyone. The bottom line is that we are inclusive, compassionate toward one another."

Some participants, such as Mina Salama, have confidence in the people's will regarding the new administration's cabinet picks. "I'm hoping that people will stand up and show their compassion," she said. "... [elected officials] are there to represent the people."

Although no participant identified him or herself as a Trump voter, one Republican — Karen Doner — did voice her position, which was not to vote Republican in this election. "I did not support the candidate because he's unfit for office based on his statements and actions," Doner said.

Extolling compassion, tolerance, inclusiveness, and diversity were the common sentiments of the rally's participants. Some carried signs with a positive mes-



Kim Carroll and Jean Ellison want everyone to come together to support those from a diverse community who might be very worried now about their welfare.

sage; others wore t-shirts or buttons pledging "Love Trumps Hate."

Most participants were hopeful although nobody articulated how love and compassion were to overcome hate and bigotry. The communal sense was that citizens let their neighbors, their community, know they are supported.

Tara Voight said that it is important for citizens to come together to support each other and to support diversity, tolerance, gender equality, and sexual orientation. "We have to support those who may feel intimidated, threatened," she said. "Standing together, to show love, compassion, and tolerance are the most important thing."

Kim Carroll and Jean Ellison carried a large sign that expressed a multitude of beliefs, from celebrating diversity to the cost of ignorance.

"We want everyone to come together to support those from diverse backgrounds who might be very worried now," Kim Carroll said.



Jelani Murray and Mina Salama believe that "love trumps hate."

Be Part of Children's Connection 2016

During the last week of each year, The Connection devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families. Even readers without children of that age spend time admiring and

chuckling over the issue. The annual Children's Connection is a tradition of well over a decade.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens or other creative efforts.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent

through email or delivered on CD or flash drive. Writing should be submitted in rich text format (.rtf). Artwork should be photographed or scanned and provided in jpeg format.

Some suggestions:

❖ Drawings or paintings or photographs of your family, friends, pets or some favorite

activity. These should be photographed or scanned and submitted in jpeg format. Photos of sculpture or larger art projects are also welcome.

❖ Short answers (50 to 100 words) to some of the following questions: If you could give your parents, family or friends any gift that didn't cost money what

Get creative and send art, poetry and more.

would that gift be? What are you most looking forward to in the upcoming year? What is one thing that you would change about school? What do you want to be when you grow up? What is your favorite animal? What is your favorite toy? What makes a good parent? What makes a good friend? Describe one of the best or worst things that ever happened to you? What is the best gift you've ever been given? Ever received?

❖ Your opinion (50 to 100 words) about traffic, sports, restaurants, video games, toys, trends, politics, etc.

❖ Poetry or other creative writing.

❖ News stories from school newspapers.

❖ Photos and text about activities or events.

We welcome contributions from public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers.

To be published, we must have the full first and last name of the student artist/writer.

Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location.

To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD or flash drive to: Children's Connection, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please send all submissions by Friday, Dec. 2. The Children's Connection will publish the last week of 2016.

You can see last year's editions by visiting www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/ and scroll down to Children's Edition.

Email submissions for the Children's Connection to the paper closest to you:
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Vienna@connectionnewspapers.com
GreatFalls@connectionnewspapers.com
Reston@connectionnewspapers.com
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This holiday season could be the best time for your family to discuss concerns about a senior you all love

For care tips during the holidays and when they're over,
please call **The Kensington Team**, who is always ready to help

The holiday season is a great time to share the joys of togetherness and tradition. But for families whose aging relatives are showing signs of decline, the holidays can also be stressful and even, sad.

If you notice that a senior family member seems more overwhelmed than overjoyed during the holidays, then use this opportunity to pay close attention to signs of concern, such as depression or confusion. While family is all together, talk among yourselves to consider the benefits of assisted living at The Kensington, such as:

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FALLS CHURCH

Information Center: 1212 W Broad St, Falls Church, VA | 703.992.9868 | www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com






FAITH

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

Compline Service, Sunday, Nov. 20, 8–9 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel of the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Rd, Vienna. Compline is the final service in the cycle of the Daily Office, and has been observed in Christian communities for centuries. The sung form of the liturgy includes no spoken text whatsoever—the service is led by a small group of singers called a schola, and all of the prayers and readings are sung. The service emphasizes spiritual peace at the close of the day, and features lush greenery, incense, candles, and icons. For more information, contact David Kelley at dkelley@holycomforter.com or the Church Office at 703-938-6521.

Taizé Contemplative Worship, Sunday, Nov. 27, 5–6 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel of the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Rd, Vienna. Holy Comforter's Music Ministry sponsors evening services in a contemplative style, offering a unique opportunity to decompress and prepare for the week ahead. The service occurs on the last Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. Taizé contemplative worship is a powerful and moving combination of song and scripture featuring lush greenery, incense, candles, icons, and considerable time spent in silent meditation. For more information, contact David Kelley at dkelley@holycomforter.com the Church Office at 703-938-6521.

Great Falls United Methodist Church will be holding its annual Living Nativity on Dec. 18. Three 20 minute, one act plays of this glorious event will begin at 5 p.m. and end at 6 p.m. Come listen to the story, sing some carols, pet the animals, enjoy refreshments, and rekindle your joy for Christmas. 10100 Georgetown Pike Great Falls www.greatfalls.umd.edu
Questions? Call 703-759-3705.

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church at the intersection of Lewinsville and Brook Roads in McLean, just a mile west of Tysons, invites you for a casual Saturday Service at 5 p.m., followed by conversation and fellowship or for Sunday Services at 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. Sunday School for Youth and Children takes place during the 10 a.m. Service. Look for our Pumpkin Patch this October, and check www.stthomasmcleanva.org for Special Events and Services through the year. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, 8991 Brook Road, McLean, 703-442-0330.

Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna offers a monthly Healing Eucharist with the Laying on of Hands and Anointing for Healing (first Sunday of the month, 5 p.m. at St. Mary's Chapel). The Healing Ministry is led by the Rev. Valerie Hayes and Alexandra MacCracken and includes a team of lay healers who have gone through intentional training and formation. Questions? Please contact the Rev. Valerie Hayes at vhayes@holycomforter.com.

Yoga Class with a Christian Focus is held Saturdays, 3–4 p.m., McGill Hall or the Library at the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. This group is suitable for those with beginner and/or intermediate yoga experience. Dress comfortably and bring a mat. Feel free to bring a towel, block(s) or strap if you have them. Questions? Please contact the Church Office at 703-938-6521.

Mom's Group meets second and fourth Thursday of the Month, 9:30–11:30 a.m. at the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna.

Please join the group for coffee and fellowship. The group meets in the Lillian Croy Room, near the Church Office. Childcare will be available just across the hall in the Childcare Center. If you are interested in joining the group, contact the Church Office at 703-938-6521 so that we can plan appropriately for materials and childcare.

SELECT NIGHTS | 5PM - 9PM
NOV. 16 - JAN. 1
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RESTON TOWN CENTER
HOLIDAYS ARE HERE!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

8 AM
Gingerbread Man Mile for Kids
Shops, restaurants, and ice skating open early

11 AM
26th Annual **RESTON HOLIDAY PARADE**

12:30 – 4:30 PM
Visits and Photos with Santa & Mrs. Claus
Mini-Train Rides

5 PM
Conservatory Ballet Performance

6 PM
Tree Lighting and Sing Along

6:30 – 10:00 PM
Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides

WEEKENDS

SUNDAYS 12 – 4 PM November 27, December 4, 11, 18
Mini-Train Rides

SATURDAYS 4 – 9 PM December 3, 10, and 17
Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides

THROUGHOUT DECEMBER
Holiday Performances and Strolling Carolers

NOVEMBER UNTIL MARCH
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Hyatt Regency Reston
Ice Skating Pavilion (seasonal)
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Jouissance Aveda
Kendra Scott
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Uncle Julio's
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...and much more!

OPINION

Celebrate, Shop, Dine Locally

Every day can be
“small business day.”

There is a joy to participating in community traditions and celebrations during the holidays, from walking along a sidewalk with the streets decked out for the holidays, to shopping in local stores, to being greeted by someone likely to be the owner of the store, to finding gifts that are not mass-produced.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambiance available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season. Small retail shops are part of defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that is otherwise unmatched.

We all benefit when local stores thrive, when local business districts beckon. An effort to support locally owned businesses has resulted in the recognition of Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, also called Shop Small. This year that day is Nov. 26.

Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to thrive, and communities depend on those businesses as well. Most small, locally owned businesses invest in community, helping to transform our towns and communities with a sense of place.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fundraising for local charities, advocating for improvements, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face tough challenges right now. Competition from big box stores and online sellers makes the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally owned retailers. But local families will literally spend millions of dollars to shop and exchange gifts during the next month in a variety of places.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at the mall. Everyone will shop online. Many will answer the call of the big box. But local shoppers should be sure to do some celebrating, shopping and dining locally. We promise it brings more joy.

Be sure to go to some of the hometown Christmas events coming up. Visit our holiday calendars to find more.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Go Local

Attend some hometown holiday events

❖ **VIENNA:** Santa Claus is Coming to Freeman Store Historic Vienna. Good old St. Nick will visit the Freeman Store on Sunday, Dec. 4, and again on Sunday, Dec. 11, from noon to 2 p.m. each day. Bring your children and bring your own camera to

Where to Give Locally

❖ **Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, www.cornerstonesva.org. Nonprofit providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality childcare, and other human services. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Gifts for Kids and annual Coat Drive. Sign up by Nov. 17 for Gifts for Kids, Alacia Earley at 571-323-9568 or alacia.earley@cornerstonesva.org.

❖ **Hunter Mill District Winter Coat Closet** distributed over 5,500 winter coats and jackets last winter, plus over 4,000 hats, gloves, mittens and scarves to individuals and families in need of winter gear. Bring coat donations to the North County Governmental Building, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, VA 20190 through Feb. 16, 2017, 24 hours a day. The Closet is accepting donations of new and clean, gently used coats and jackets, as well as new hats, gloves, mittens and scarves. Deliver any time to the 24-hour drop box at the Community Room of the North County Governmental Building, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, VA 20190.

❖ **SHARE** of McLean operates a food pantry; provides assistance to families to avoid eviction, keep utilities on and meet other needs in a crisis. Share of McLean will provide holiday assistance to more than 250 needy families (630-plus people) this year. Each family will receive a grocery gift card in November along with a bag filled with pantry staples and traditional items. In December, our families will be welcomed to a festive party, served a light meal, and Santa will travel all the way from the North Pole to take photographs with the children. Each person will receive a “wish” gift and families will be given a grocery gift card, a bag filled with toiletries, and a jug of laundry detergent. Help us help our neighbors in need by fulfilling a wish or donating Walmart, Target, Giant, or Safeway gift cards. Contact Chris Wilbur at ShareWishes@gmail.com for more information. Visit www.shareofmclean.org for more info about Share.

❖ **Herndon-Reston FISH** (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon,

capture the moment.

❖ **VIENNA:** Winter Walk of Lights at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens. From mid-November until just after New Year's Day, the 100-acre site is transformed into an animated lighted fairylane of scenes and vignettes. Roasting marshmallows, hot chocolate, and a snowflake shop round out the spectacle. The Winter Walk of Lights is open every day through Jan. 8, 2017, 5:30-10 p.m. Open Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's, too. To buy timed tickets online, go to www.novaparks.com/events/winter-walkof-lights

❖ **VIENNA:** Church Street Holiday Stroll Church Street Holiday Stroll, Monday, Nov. 28, 6 to 9 p.m. Historic Church Street closes down for the evening as the area between Vienna Presbyterian Church and Center Street is ablaze with sparkling lights, a visit from Santa, a petting zoo, firepits for marshmallow roasting, live entertainment, and shopping. Santa arrives at 6:15 p.m. on an antique fire engine; at 6:20 p.m., Santa and Mayor Laurie DiRocco light the tree. After the tree-lighting, Santa takes his seat to hear the wish-list of children who come to him. Local schools and choral groups sing seasonal music throughout the evening. The Vienna Community Band performs on the Showmobile Stage. Historic properties, including the train depot, Freeman Store, Little Library, and caboose, will be open. Church Street will be closed to vehicular traffic beginning at 5 p.m. For more information, contact Historic Vienna, Inc. at 703-938-5187.

❖ **McLEAN:** On Sunday, Dec. 4, the eighth annual WinterFest parade in McLean will welcome in the

703-391-0105 herndonrestonfish.org Herndon-Reston FISH has assisted local residents in short term crises by since 1969. FISH provides Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help by responding to emergency requests for rent, transportation, utilities, medical prescriptions and other needs. FISH operates The Bargain Loft, a thrift store, which needs donations of good quality saleable items, accepting and selling art, furniture, jewelry, household linens, dishes, pots and pans, books, women's designer clothing (clean and on hangers), puzzles, games, collectibles, small electronics and much more. If you have store questions, call 703-437-0600. Herndon-Reston FISH also provides Holiday Food & Gift Baskets during the November and December season.

❖ **LINK**, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more, needs contributions of food, coats and holiday toys for children, and needs volunteers. More than 4,000 adults and children have signed up for help with Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. Every year the goal is to provide each family with a week's worth of non-perishable food in November and again in December. When funds allow, grocery gift cards are also included. In November, clients also receive a voucher for coats and warm clothing. In December, children 16 and under receive gifts. holiday@linkagainsthunger.org. 703-437-1776 www.linkagainsthunger.org.

❖ **Committee for Helping Others** (CHO), Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. Last year 450 children had a special Christmas through the annual Christmas Store. 703-281-7614, www.cho-va.com

❖ **Alternative House** — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-506-9191. Alternative House provides shelter and services for homeless, runaway or abused teenagers, unaccompanied youth, and young mothers and their children. Requests for food and clothing are up more than 50 percent. www.thealternativehouse.org.

❖ **Touching Heart** in Herndon is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children to have giving hearts. www.touchingheart.com, 703-901-7355.

holidays as fun and fancy participants proceed down Old Chain Bridge Road. Pre-parade entertainment begins at 2:30 p.m. The parade steps off promptly at 3:30 p.m.

❖ **GREAT FALLS:** Celebration of Lights, Great Falls Village Centre Hill, Sunday, Dec. 4, 4 - 6:30 p.m. Celebrate the beginning of the season with our Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Drink hot cider or cocoa next to the fire as you listen to local children's choral groups sing seasonal music. The petting zoo and pony rides will keep the children busy until Mr. and Mrs. Claus arrive by antique fire truck. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/celebration-of-lights/>

❖ **RESTON:** Friday, Nov. 25, 26th Annual Reston Holiday Parade. 11 a.m. with Macy's-style balloons, musicians, dancers, antique cars, characters, community groups, dignitaries, special guest emcees, more. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Reston Holiday Parade on Market Street, tree lighting at Fountain Square. Rain or shine. <https://www.restontowncenter.com/> Visits and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. Reston Town Center 11900 Market St. next to Skate Shop. Donations for a 5 x 7 portrait benefit South Lakes High School Chorus. Mini-Train Rides 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. Reston Town Center 11900 Market St. Departures on Market Street next to Talbots. Donations benefit Cornerstones. Conservatory Ballet Performance 5 p.m. Fountain Square Reston Town Center 11900 Market St. The Nutcracker's Land of the Snow dance will be

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Vienna & Oakton CONNECTION

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OPINION

One of Fairfax County's Greatest Assets Is Our Diversity

We welcome and celebrate one another's differences and cultural backgrounds.

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

One of Fairfax County's greatest assets is our diversity. We are and will continue to be a County that exemplifies values of respect and acceptance, where we welcome and celebrate one another's differences and cultural backgrounds. Our diversity makes our community strong and vibrant, and I am proud of what every resident has to offer.

Immigration is a federal matter. Fairfax County partners with federal authorities on immigration issues when required. The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office piloted the Secure Communities program under a partnership with U.S. Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) in 2009, and has continued this partnership through the Priority Enforcement Program, where individuals who commit serious crimes and are in this country illegally are turned over to the Department of Homeland Security for deportation. Just being here without documentation is not considered a serious crime by DHS.

Fairfax County fully complies with federal and state laws requiring the County to ensure that people benefiting from public services are here legally. These federal and state laws are very clear about benefits that can only be provided to residents who are in this country legally. Such benefits include voting in elections, welfare, food stamps, and affordable housing. Many nonprofit and faith-based charitable organizations do serve Fairfax County residents who are in need regardless of their immigration status.

Lastly, Fairfax County complies with the federally mandated requirement that we educate all children, despite immigration status. The United States Supreme Court

ruled in *Plyler v. Doe* (1982) that the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment prohibits denying a free public education to immigrant children based on their or their parents' legal status.

Our local police officers work hard every day to keep our residents safe and build trust with the community. We believe in community policing where residents are not afraid to call law enforcement if their safety is at risk or to report information critical to resolving an investigation. We do not ask, nor do we have the resources for, our police officers to become immigration officials. Any immigration efforts on the local level above and beyond our current cooperation with ICE would compete with police officers' responsibility for community policing and law enforcement.

Additional immigration efforts would also compete with fiscal resources against other county programs. While we always support maintaining safe communities, we will also not risk our core values of respect for all people and community policing.

Fairfax County has spent the past two years developing and implementing very thoughtful recommendations of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission to increase police transparency, modify use of force policies, and improve communication between our police department and the residents they serve. The Fairfax County Communities of Trust Committee has also been hard at work for two years encouraging community dialogue and building relationships between public safety and residents.

Be assured, I will be vigilant to any future policy changes that could negatively affect our community and all the progress we have made. Our diversity makes our community great. We will continue to be a community that is inclusive and respectful to all people, because that is the lifeblood of Fairfax County.

EDITORIAL

FROM PAGE 6

performed by Conservatory Ballet Repertoire des Etoiles in front of the huge Christmas tree. Tree Lighting and Sing-Along 6 p.m., Fountain Square Reston Town Center 11900 Market St. See Santa and Mrs. Claus light up the Christmas tree, followed by a holiday sing-along with The Reston Chorale. Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides, 6:30 - 10 p.m. Reston Town Center 11900 Market St. Departures on Market Street next to Talbots. \$5 per person, children 5 and under ride free. All proceeds benefit Volunteer Fairfax.

❖ **RESTON:** Jingle on Lake Anne will take place on Saturday, Dec. 3. Santa arrives by boat. Music. Market. Activities. <http://lakeanneplaza.com/event/jingle-on-lake-anne/>

❖ **HERNDON:** The Herndon Community Center at 814 Ferndale Avenue will be the scene of a number of holiday happenings, including a large Arts and Crafts Fair and a Holiday Storybook

Holiday Celebration Sunday Dec. 4 from 10 - 4 p.m. Storybook Holiday Celebration Saturday Dec. 17 from 10 - 11:30 a.m. Admission is \$9 per child and includes craft projects, a visit with Santa and a reading of a holiday story by a special guest.

❖ **HERNDON:** Holiday Homes Tour, a time-honored tradition that kicks off the holiday season and allows the public the opportunity to visit local homes decorated for the holidays. Homes on the tour are selected for their historic, architectural or community interest. The 2016 tour will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. www.facebook.com/holidayhometour.

❖ **CENTREVILLE:** Bull Run Festival of Lights and Holiday Village Nov. 23, 2016 - Jan. 8, 2017 7700 Bull Run Dr. Centreville. A 2.5 mile stretch will be illuminated by holiday light displays. The cost of driving through the light show is Monday - Thursday, \$15 per car; Friday - Sunday & Holidays, \$20 per car.



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A Special Holiday Message from Fairfax County's Wastewater Management Program




PROTECT YOUR PIPES

Save your cash. Put grease in the trash. Never down the drain!

This greasy criminal is wanted for clogging drains on Thanksgiving. Protect your pipes by putting grease in the trash or by recycling your used cooking oil at the I-95 landfill complex in Lorton or the I-66 transfer station in Fairfax.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/wastewater/preventing_backups.htm

To obtain this information in an alternate format, call 703-324-5033, TTY 711.



Celebrate the Season with The Reston Chorale

Home for the Holidays
Saturday, December 3
4:00 and 7:00 pm
Reston Community Center
Hunters Woods, Reston

Guest Artists:
Washington Symphonic Brass



Reston Sings!
Handel's *Messiah*
Tuesday, December 6
7:30 pm
Saint John Neumann
Catholic Church, Reston

Guest Artists:
Crossley Hawn, *Soprano*
Barbara Hollinshead, *Mezzo*
C.J. David, *Tenor*
Richard Giarusso, *Bass*

Tickets and Information: RestonChorale.org

50th Season
The Reston Chorale

Supported in part by:
Arts Council of Fairfax County
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Special thanks to:
THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Santa posed for photo with the crowd in front of the Christmas Tree lighting at The Plaza in Tysons Corner Center.

Tree-Lighting Celebrated at Tysons Corner Center

Tree-Lighting Ceremony featuring “American Idol’s” Kris Allen and WASH-FM’s Loo Katz and Chilli Amar was held on Friday, Nov. 18 at Tysons Corner Center’s Plaza area near the ice skating rink. Allen, who won Season Eight of “American Idol,” performed from his new Christmas Album “Somethin’ About Christmas.” Meteorologist Doug Hill also did a live broadcast during the event. The Fairfax Choral Society’s Youth Choir sang holiday songs and Santa was there to take photos with the crowd.

— STEVE HIBBARD

The Fairfax Choral Society’s Youth Choir (ages 5-9) sings holiday songs by the Christmas tree before the lighting.

The 42nd Street Singers performs Christmas Carols inside Tysons Corner Center Mall.



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Fairfax Water

PUBLIC HEARING ON WATER RATES AND PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2016, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges and the 2017 Annual Budget. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water’s offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2017, include the following:

1. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$10,240 to \$16,020.
2. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,150 to \$1,240.
3. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$10.10 to \$12.20.
4. An increase in the Base Commodity Charge from \$2.68 to \$2.81 per 1,000 gallons of water.
5. A decrease in the Turn-Off / Turn-On Charge from \$52 to \$44.
6. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge.
7. An increase in the Overhead Charge for Labor from 104% to 105%.
8. A decrease in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$46 to \$35.

Revenues are expected to be \$171.3 million in 2017. Water sales are expected to provide \$149.2 million. Approximately \$22.1 million is expected from connection charges, investment income and other sources.

The major areas of operation and maintenance expense are:

Category	— \$1,000s —	
	2016	2017
Personal Services & Employee Benefits	\$ 53,877	\$ 55,808
Power and Utilities	10,417	10,572
Chemicals	6,342	7,566
Purchased Water	4,512	5,376
Supplies and Materials	5,173	5,248
Insurance	1,176	1,201
Fuel	567	625
Postage	632	654
Contractual Services	10,473	10,671
Professional Services	748	910
Other	2,305	2,484
Subtotal	96,222	101,315
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(9,616)	(9,305)
Total	\$ 86,606	\$ 92,010

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:

Debt Payment	\$41,129,000
Improvement Fund	\$11,000,000
General Fund	\$25,733,000

A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our website at www.fairfaxwater.org/rates. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017.

Interested parties may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, to be included in the record of the public hearing.

*Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

8 ♦ VIENNA/OAKTON CONNECTION ♦ NOVEMBER 23-29, 2016

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VIENNA/OAKTON CONNECTION ♦ NOVEMBER 23-29, 2016 ♦ 9

HOLIDAY CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

CHO Food, New Toy, and Bike Drive Nov. 1- Dec. 31 at various locations around Vienna. Dish soap, canned fruit, chili, canned beef stew, diapers and wipes, canned salmon, Spam, tuna, tomato sauce, and laundry detergent are in particular need. CHO requests that no food be expired.

The Lights, Camera, Save! Video Contest is a competition that encourages teens to write and produce a 90-second video to explore the value of saving and use their creativity to inspire others to become lifelong savers. This program inspires students to take an active role in being smart money managers and ties in well with new state financial literacy requirements.

The Contest is open to students age 13 – 18 years old and is free and easy to enter. Students can win up to \$5000 in the national competition. Burke & Herbert Bank is awarding \$350, \$100, and \$50 to the top three local winners. The entry deadline is December 1. save@burkeandherbertbank.com

Drop-off boxes are available at Town Hall, 127 Center Street S; Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E; Bikes @ Vienna, 128 Church Street NW; Caffe Amouri, 107 Church Street NE; Doctors Covel, Stack, and Henon, 120 Beulah Road NE; Evolution Fitness, 216 Dominion Road NE; Rexall Drug Store, 150 Maple Avenue W; Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant Street NE.

Gently-used bikes are accepted on Nov. 26, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at two locations: Vienna Presbyterian Church – Mill Street parking lot - and Antioch Christian Church at 1860 Beulah Road. Bicycles will be renewed as a courtesy by local bike shops.

Bring new unwrapped toys to Vienna Presbyterian Church, from 9:30 a.m. to noon, on Dec. 9 for distribution by CHO from 9:30 till noon. Gift cards from Target delight teens.

Winter Walk of Lights at Meadowlark



Botanical Gardens open every day beginning on Friday, Nov. 18, 2016, through Jan. 8, 2017. Open Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's, too. The walk of lights runs daily from 5:30 - 10 p.m. Last tickets sold at 9:30 p.m. This family-friendly six-week winter wonderland of spectacle is only a few years old but has garnered a loyal following from throughout the Northern Virginia area, particularly Vienna and its environs. To buy timed tickets online: <https://www.novaparks.com/events/winter-walk-of-lights>

The Freeman Store & Museum Wednesday through Sunday noon - 4 p.m. 131 Church Street NE Vienna. The Freeman Store & Museum is dedicated to Preserving and promoting Vienna's heritage through the identification, preservation, and interpretation of history significant places, events, and persons. historicviennainc.org

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

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

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 flexibility, improve breathing and health, reduce stress. Ravi Kaur has 15 years experience teaching yoga. \$15 per session. www.edimprovement.org. 571-213-3192.

TUESDAY/NOV. 22

The 18th Annual Community Thanksgiving Worship Service 7:30 p.m. Hosted by Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. Clergy will lead the service with prayers for peace and thanksgiving. Local choirs will join together under one roof to provide an evening of inspirational music. An offering will be collected to support those in

need this holiday season. Bring family or friends — this is a joyous way to begin celebrating the holidays.

THURSDAY/NOV. 24

Thanksgiving Day Dinner Christ the King Lutheran Church in Great Falls 10 a.m. 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Please bring an offering of canned food. <http://www.gflutheran.org/>

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/NOV. 25-27

Thanksgiving Art and Craft Show presented by The Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild (NVHG) at the recently renovated Spring Hill RECenter, 1239 Spring Hill Rd., McLean. The show will feature the original handmade craft and artwork of approximately 80 juried artists and artisans offering original jewelry, woodworking, photography, painting, fiber art, pottery, fused and stained glass, and much more. Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults (free for children 12 and under) and includes free return and free parking. For more information, visit www.nvhg.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 26

The Nutcracker 7:30 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Classical Ballet Theatre's Nutcracker includes stunning costumes, dancing, and enchantment, and it celebrates some of the most beautiful choreography and professional talent in the Washington Metropolitan Area. www.virginiaballetcompany.org/performances/

SUNDAY/NOV. 27

Young Soloists Recital at The Alden 3 p.m. This free classical music series, features professional musicians who have won

SEE HOLIDAY CALENDAR, PAGE 12

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

HOLIDAY CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

international recognition. The series also includes Young Soloists Recitals that showcase the talents of local school-age musicians. Cosponsored by the Music Friends of the Fairfax County Public Library and The Alden. www.mcleancenter.org/alden-theatre

MONDAY/NOV. 28, 2016

Church Street Holiday Stroll. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Freeman House and Store, 131 Church St. N.E., Vienna. Enjoy fun family-friendly activities including a visit from Santa, petting zoo, free hot chocolate and roasting marshmallows at supervised bonfires. Visit www.viennava.gov.

Redskins Personal Appearance

6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Ruth's Chris Steak House in Tysons Corner 8521 Leesburg Pike, Suite 150, Vienna. Join Ruth's Chris Steak House as we host our "Redskins Meet & Greet" for the 2016-17 NFL Season. Admission: \$15 gmytysons@ruthschris.com 703-848-4290 www.ruthschris.com/restaurant-locations/tysons-corner

TUESDAY/NOV. 29 - DEC. 3

2016 Bitar Cosmetics PSA

Women's Professional Squash Tournament Qualifying rounds begin at 4 p.m. Tuesday. The event will be held at The McLean Racquet & Health Club 1472 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA. Watch top local players and US Girls # 1 Marina Stefanoni vie for 4 spots in the main draw. To purchase tickets please contact Jay Naseem @ jay@jahangirsquash.com or call 703-691-5916 <http://www.jahangirsquash.com/category/tor/>



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Marshmallow roast during the 2014 Church Street Stroll in Vienna. This year's Church Street Holiday Stroll will be held on Monday Nov. 28th from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Freeman House and Store, located at 131 Church St. N.E., Vienna. Enjoy fun family-friendly activities including a visit from Santa, petting zoo, free hot chocolate and roasting marshmallows at supervised bonfires. www.viennava.gov.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/ DEC. 2-4

McLean Holiday Crafts Show.

11 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. This highly regarded, juried show features fiber arts, wood, ceramics, pottery, jewelry, glass, holiday decor, fashion, items for children, gourmet foods, paper art, photography, sculpture, paintings and more. Cost: Adults \$5, children free. Visit <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>.

SUNDAY/DEC. 4

McLean WinterFest parade & celebration

2016 Begins at 2:45 p.m. on Old Chain Bridge Road The star of the parade, Santa, will be riding on top of the McLean Volunteer Fire Department's antique fire engine. Visit: <http://www.mcleanvfd.org/2015-winterfest-parade/>
Jill's House Event to Support Special Needs 7:30 p.m. at McLean Bible Church 8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. The program is "A Star is

SEE HOLIDAY CALENDAR, PAGE 12

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A CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE

Saturday, Dec. 3, 10-5
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Brighten the holiday season of more than 2,000 Northern Virginia children through Northern Virginia Family Service's **GIFTING FOR FAMILIES** holiday gift drive.

nvfs.org/gifting

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The Children's CONNECTION 2016

This keepsake, award-winning issue will be filled with the artwork and writings of local children starring their families, friends, pets, schools and more. Our family readers are your best customers, who take time to savor this edition during the holidays and beyond.

Be Part of the Children's Connection

During the last week of each year, The Connection devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families. The edition has won many awards.


We welcome contributions from public and private schools, individuals and homeschoolers. We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories, photography, photos of sculpture or gardens, or other creative efforts.

To submit material, identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school if applicable, name of teacher and town of school location. E-mail to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. To send CDs or flash drives containing artwork and typed, electronic submissions, mark them clearly by school and hometown and mail the CD to Children's Connection, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Please send all submissions by December 16.

Publishing December 28

Advertising & Materials Due: December 16

For More Information: Call 703.778.9431



Alexandria Gazette Packet CENTRE VIEW CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS Mount Vernon Gazette POTOMAC ALMANAC

HOLIDAY CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

Born, An Evening in December" with Ellie Lofaro, international speaker, and singing group, Point of Grace. This is an all women event. A quilt silent auction of 13 quilts will be featured in the church's Main Lobby with proceeds also going to Jill's House. The quilts have been generously donated by local quilting guilds including the Reston Quilters Unlimited and friends. www.jillshouse.org

SUNDAY/DEC. 18

McLean Symphony Family Holiday Concert. 3 p.m. at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. Features Antonio Vivaldi's Winter from "The Seasons" and highlights from Gian-Carlo Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Admission: \$25/adults, \$20/seniors, \$15/students.

Plan Ahead Vienna

SUNDAY/DEC. 11

"Fancy Nancy Splendiferous Christmas" at 1 & 4 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. For ages 4+. What could be fancier than Christmas? This year, Nancy is especially excited. She has enough money to buy a brand-new sparkly Christmas-tree topper. But when things don't turn out the way Nancy planned, will Christmas still be splendiferous? Admission: \$15/\$10 MCC tax district residents/ <http://mcleancenter.org/alden-theatre>

SATURDAY/DEC. 12

A Holiday to Remember Concert 8 p.m. Oakcrest School- 850 Balls Hill Rd, McLean. This concert will be a family friendly one hour matinee featuring holiday favorites like Trepak from Nutcracker and Caribbean Sleigh Ride. Parking will be available at the Chesterbrook School, 1753 Kirby Rd.<http://mclean-orchestra.org/our-season/>

SUNDAY/DEC. 13

A Holiday to Remember Concert 3 p.m. Vinson Hall- 1735 Kirby Rd. McLean. This concert will be a family friendly one hour matinee featuring holiday favorites like "Trepak" from "The Nutcracker" and "Caribbean Sleigh Ride." <http://mclean-orchestra.org/our-season/>

SATURDAY/DEC. 17

"John Eaton's Holiday Songbook" 2 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. Jazz pianist and musicologist John Eaton's first-ever holiday concert last year was such a hit that we're bringing it back! Hear your Great American Songbook favorites with a yuletide twist. Admission: \$35/\$20 MCC tax district residents. <http://mcleancenter.org/alden-theatre>

SUNDAY/DEC. 18

McLean Symphony Family Holiday Concert. 3 p.m. at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. Features Antonio Vivaldi's Winter from "The Seasons" and highlights from Gian-Carlo Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Admission: \$25/adults, \$20/seniors, \$15/students.

Great Falls United Methodist Church Living Nativity 5 - 6 p.m. Three 20 minute, one act plays will kick off the event. Come listen to the story, sing some carols, pet the animals, enjoy refreshments, and rekindle joy for Christmas. 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. www.greatfallsumc.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF McLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

'Fancy Nancy's Splendiferous Christmas' cast.

'Fancy Nancy's Splendiferous Christmas' Arriving to Alden

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Where and When

New Holiday musical entertainment for children and families is on its way to the Alden Theatre at the McLean Community Center. It is an energetic, colorful production with original music based upon the NY Times best-selling book "Fancy Nancy's Splendiferous Christmas" by award-winning author Jane O'Connor with illustrations by Robin Preiss Glasser.

"It is so easy to get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season and fall into the same routine," said Danielle Van Hook, director, Youth Theatre Programs, McLean Community Center. "This year, the Alden has scheduled a new production from New York's Vital Theatre that "is full of catchy music and an exciting reminder to all of us about what Christmas is all about—family!"

With a talented five-member cast, "Fancy Nancy's Splendiferous Christmas" takes "the beloved literary characters out of the book and places them in a larger than life set in front of the audiences eyes," added Van Hook,

The musical's book was developed by Carol Lustik and Matthew Hardy, with original music by multiple Emmy Award-winning Randy Klein, lyrics by Matthew Hardy. The catchy tunes are full of swing and pop music with plenty of charming kid and adult-friendly lyrics.

For those less familiar with the book "Fancy Nancy's Splendiferous Christmas," it takes a young girl, Nancy on a journey of discovery, learning and fun.

McLean Community Center presents "Fancy Nancy's Splendiferous Christmas" performed by Vital Theatre at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. Performance: Sunday, Dec. 11, 2016 at 1 p.m. Tickets: \$15/\$10 for MCC tax district residents. Call: 703-790-0123 or visit www.mcleancommunitycenter.com Note: Length of performance is approximately 60 minutes. Best for children 4+

She is very excited; she finally has enough money to buy a brand-new glittering Christmas-tree topper. You see, Nancy wants to make this the most fabulous Christmas tree ever. Alas, things don't go as she hoped and dreamed, at least to start.

Will Christmas still be splendiferous? For adults, please think of that O. Henry short story "Gift of the Magi" to know that things will work out for Nancy at the end. Christmas will not be ruined.

The production will be energetic, with a colorful set and costumes according to Van Hook. "Fancy Nancy's Splendiferous Christmas" is suited for children and, of course, parents and grandparents,

Awakening the imagination of a child is one of the missions of the Off-Broadway and touring Vital Theatre Company. The theatre troupe has received awards for its work. For its commitment to excellence, the company received recognition from the American Theatre Wing which produces the annual Tony Awards.

Be inspired and cheered by "Fancy Nancy's Splendiferous Christmas" to catch the bright spirit of the Holidays.



WOLFTRAP ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE

Rescued and Safe

Wilbur, a one-week-old piglet was rescued from a high-kill shelter in Mississippi and brought to safety in Northern Virginia by the Wolftrap Animal Rescue League. Volunteer Jordan Rice feeds Wilbur from a bottle.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left — Sasha Pasmanik, David Pan, Max Golub, Christina Luckett and Zoe Lu.

Underdogs Win Robotics Trophy at Tournament

The Underdogs, a Robotics team of eighth graders Max Golub, Christina Luckett, David Pan, Sasha Pasmanik, and Zoe Lu, won the First Lego League (FLL) Core Values Teamwork Trophy at the recent FLL Regional Tournament held in Woodbridge. That award honor is given to the team that best exhibits FLL's ethos of Gracious Professionalism that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community.

Also, Underdogs displayed the FLL hallmark quality of Coopertition, which emphasizes

kindness and respect in the face of fierce competition. The Underdogs understand that competition and mutual gain are not separate notions. Since the Underdogs also did the FLL Challenge exercise in record time, they were awarded the FLL Core Values Teamwork Trophy.

FLL is an organization that fosters Science, Technology, and Engineering (STEM) skills in students. FLL is unique in that it also gives emphasis on the "real-world" skills of teamwork and collaboration. All Underdogs hail from the Vienna and Great Falls areas.

46th Norwegian Holiday Festival / Bazaar

Friday, Dec. 2 & Saturday, Dec. 3
10am - 6pm 9am - 4pm

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TFTT: Turkey For the Turkey



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Thanksgiving might be my most favorite day of the year. It is a day when I can eat/feel most normal. (Cancer issues notwithstanding.) To assure that this day would indeed satiate my savage beast, I changed/rearranged my chemotherapy infusion interval so the feast would not occur on the first Thursday following my previous Friday infusion but rather 13 days hence — on the second Thursday. This will, if my most recent pattern follows — going on for nearly two years now, enable me to eat/have no eating issues (other than the many non-cancer related ones I've had/maintained my entire life) whatsoever relating to my chemotherapy and enjoy the day — and night without any challenges other than buckling my belt.

Not that I look the least bit undernourished, but I don't eat like a normal adult either. Heck, I don't eat like a normal child and I'm not referring to whether I eat using silverware — which I do, or hold silverware more like an "entrenching tool" ("Firesign Theatre") which I don't. If I had my druthers, I'd order off the children's menu. That's not to say I'd be properly-mannered sitting at a Downton Abbey dinner, but at least I'd know enough to select my silverware from the outside-in and likely not embarrass myself in the process; that is until I return every portion back to the kitchen untouched. And therein lies my problem.

I don't like anything. I eat the same things over and over and over again. I don't view this as a problem, more like a continuing opportunity. To say, as I often do, that I eat 10 things, might be hard to digest, but not for me. In addition to not eating much variety, I won't try anything, and if I am compelled to do so, won't do so in front of anybody, that's for sure. If I don't like the food's appearance, texture, color, smell, description, lineage, heritage, place of origin, birthplace, where it's been, with whom it's been, even its name and general unfamiliarity, I won't touch it "with a 10-foot Pole. Stretch Polansky, tallest Pole I ever saw," (to quote Hawkeye Pierce from a long-ago M*A*S*H episode).

Not that this juvenile behavior has stunted my girth. Hardly. But it has narrowed my "confinement beam" ("Star Trek") so to speak. I eat a lot of very little. Thanksgiving however, is the lot of which I eat. Not so much the deserts, which are usually a variety of pies and such which generally don't interest me (and besides, unlike the turkey, I'm stuffed after the meal) but the main course: white meat turkey, potatoes, "stuffing/filling/dressing", gravy (nowadays), vegetables, hot rolls and even cranberry sauce. If there's anything I'm leaving off my plate, it's probably not on my short list. And when it comes to my eating habits/choices, as you've presumably come to read, it's an extremely short list.

Fortunately, for me and my peculiarities, we have almost always spent Thanksgiving at family or friends; all of whom are extraordinarily capable in the kitchen and given our close association over the years, well-acquainted with and somewhat amused by my food issues. Never more so than when my wife, Dina's cousin, Gary makes a big production of pouring himself a glass of milk at the table. Nevertheless, I've always felt a welcome addition and never uncomfortable (although sometimes I've eaten at the children's table).

I wouldn't say I'm counting the days until Thanksgiving; I already did that weeks ago when I made the decision to change my pre-Thanksgiving infusion date to Nov. 11th from Nov. 18th, but I'm certainly monitoring the calendar very closely. My oncologist regularly encourages me to find quality in my life. Thanksgiving is quality — and quantity — I value in my life, and I'm damn lucky to still have it.

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

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The cast of 'Little Women the Musical' appearing at George C. Marshall High School's Black Box theater Nov. 29 - Dec. 2. From left: Filipe Mourao (Laurie), Kayla Johnson (narrator), Jackson Gurdak (Mr. Laurence), Maddie Miller (Beth), Holly Waters (Jo), Carolyn Nee (Meg), Samantha Feldman (Amy), Sonali Doshi (Marmee), Itzel Trejoh (Aunt March), Sam Bock (Professor Baehr), and Will Hemmingson (John Brooke)

Marshall High Presents 'Little Women'

After you've polished off the last of the turkey this Thanksgiving and before you head into the holiday rush, bring the family to experience Marshall High School's rendition of a beloved classic, "Little Women, the Musical" which opens on Tuesday, Nov. 29.

The show continues Marshall Theatre's season of celebrating strong women. "Little Women" tells the story of the four March sisters growing up in Concord, Mass. during the Civil War. With their father off at war and their mother struggling to raise them at home, the sisters face both hardships and rivalries but also celebrate their love and friendships. The play features the strong-willed second daughter, Jo March. A feminist before her time, Jo is a plucky and passionate budding author, who struggles to balance society's expectations while striving to provide for her struggling family. She brings life to the play through her stories within the story that are filled with romance, adventure, and melodrama. Each sister pursues a different path as the play proceeds, with twists and turns that

challenge the girls and their bonds of sisterhood.

"Little Women" will be performed in Marshall's "Black Box," a smaller and more intimate space rather than the school's auditorium to offer audiences a greater connection with the story, the music, and the characters.

"Our intent is to draw the audience into the play," said Director Jason Tamborini. "Through our minimalist set, small cast, and close seating, the audience will feel they know these characters and can share in the same joys and heartaches. These timeless characters remain inspiring role models for girls and boys even today."

Show dates for "Little Women, The Musical" are Nov. 29, 30 and Dec. 1, 2, and 3 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the box office and are \$8 for teachers, students, and seniors and \$12 for adults. The George C. Marshall High School Statesmen Theatre, is located at 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church.

Contact: Priya Doshi, 703-403-2435
priyaldoshi@yahoo.com for more information.



Girl Power: The strong women of 'Little Women the Musical'. From left: Kayla Johnson (narrator), Maddie Miller (Beth), Holly Waters (Jo), Sonali Doshi (Marmee), Carolyn Nee (Meg), Samantha Feldman (Amy), and Itzel Trejoh (Aunt March)

NEWS

Sergeant Patrick Kiley and Dispatcher II Amy Milliman Receive Service Recognition Award

On Oct. 31, 2016, Sgt. Patrick Kiley and Dispatcher II Amy Milliman received a Service Recognition Award for their outstanding effort in organizing the 2016 Cops and Kids Fun Run. Sgt. Kiley and Dispatcher Milliman were responsible for every detail of the Fun Run, which our department hosted for the first time in several years. Their new ideas, hard work and dedication to the success of the event made the Fun Run bigger and better than ever. The event was attended by approximately 600 citizens. Through their hard work Sgt. Kiley and Dispatcher Milliman were able to collect enough sponsorships from the community to have the event entirely funded, with no expense to the town. The event allowed the citizens to interact with Police Department personnel and helped to strengthen the wonderful relationship we have with our incredible community.



On Nov. 16, Officer Walter J. Harter joined the Town of Vienna Police Department. Prior to joining the department, Officer Harter served with the Fairfax County Police Department for approximately 27 years, where he worked in patrol, background investigations, personnel resources division and internal affairs, including 2 years as a sergeant and 3 years as a second lieutenant in patrol. He spent the last two years as a second lieutenant in the Robbery Section. Officer Harter was born in Brooklyn, N. Y. In 1989, he began his career in law enforcement with the Fairfax County Police Department. He graduated from the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy's 13th Session. Officer Harter was in good company in the 13th Session, as the current Town of Vienna's Chief of Police James Morris, Deputy Chief of Police Daniel Janickey, Master Police Officer Eric Hall and Officer John Sterling also graduated from that same session. Officer Harter and his wife of 16 years have two children. An avid athlete, Officer Harter has completed the Ironman Triathlon twice. When he is not

Town of Vienna Police Welcomes New Officer

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Pictured, from left: to right Officer Walter J. Harter with his badge presentation from Colonel James Morris.

patrolling the streets of Vienna, Officer Harter enjoys watching NY Yankees and NY Giants games. Officer Harter obtained his Bachelor's Degree from Bluefield College in Virginia.

FAITH NOTES

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

Compline Service, Sunday, Nov. 20, 8–9 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel of the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Rd, Vienna. Compline is the final service in the cycle of the Daily Office, and has been observed in Christian communities for centuries. The sung form of the liturgy includes no spoken text whatsoever—the service is led by a small group of singers called a schola, and all of the prayers and readings are sung. The service emphasizes spiritual peace at the close of the day, and features lush greenery, incense, candles, and icons. For more information, contact David Kelley at dkelley@holycorforter.com or the Church Office at 703-938-6521.

Taizé Contemplative Worship, Sunday, Nov. 27, 5–6 p.m. in St. Mary's Chapel of the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Rd, Vienna. Holy Comforter's Music Ministry sponsors evening services in a contemplative style, offering a unique opportunity to decompress and prepare for the week

ahead. The service occurs on the last Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. Taizé contemplative worship is a powerful and moving combination of song and scripture featuring lush greenery, incense, candles, icons, and considerable time spent in silent meditation. For more information, contact David Kelley at dkelley@holycorforter.com the Church Office at 703-938-6521.

Great Falls United Methodist Church will be holding its annual Living Nativity on Dec. 18. Three 20 minute, one act plays of this glorious event will begin at 5 p.m. and end at 6 p.m. Come listen to the story, sing some carols, pet the animals, enjoy refreshments, and rekindle your joy for Christmas. 10100 Georgetown Pike Great Falls www.greatfallsumc.org Questions? Call 703-759-3705.

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church at the intersection of Lewinsville and Brook Roads in McLean, just a mile west of Tysons, invites you for a casual Saturday Service at 5 p.m., followed by conversation and fellowship or for Sunday Services at 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. Sunday School for Youth and Children takes place during the 10 a.m. Service. Look

for our Pumpkin Patch this October, and check www.stthomasmcleanva.org for Special Events and Services through the year. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, 8991 Brook Road, McLean, 703-442-0330.

Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna offers a monthly Healing Eucharist with the Laying on of Hands and Anointing for Healing (first Sunday of the month, 5 p.m. at St. Mary's Chapel.. The Healing Ministry is led by the Rev. Valerie Hayes and Alexandra MacCracken and includes a team of lay healers who have gone through intentional training and formation. Questions? Please contact the Rev. Valerie Hayes at vhayes@holycorforter.com.

Yoga Class with a Christian Focus is held Saturdays, 3–4 p.m., McGill Hall or the Library at the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. This group is suitable for those with beginner and/or intermediate yoga experience. Dress comfortably and bring a mat. Feel free to bring a towel, block(s) or strap if you have them. Questions? Please contact the Church Office at 703-938-6521.

VIEWPOINTS

What Are You Most Thankful For?



Carey Sienicki, Vienna Town Council member

"I am thankful for our Vienna community, most especially for those who give freely of their time, talents and treasures to ensure that our Town has health, wealth and happiness now and for the future."

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly, (D-11)

"This holiday season, I am thankful for the love of my family and friends, and for the trust my constituents have once again placed in me. Serving Northern Virginia is one of my greatest privileges because of the community we have fostered. We respect each other and celebrate our differences, recognizing that it is our diversity which makes our community strong and vibrant. Each day, working together, we push towards a more fair and just society. These values are more important now than ever, and because of our shared commitment, I am thankful and proud to continue to represent you in Congress. I wish everyone a happy holiday season."



Julia Kreyskop, attorney, Vienna community supporter

"I'm grateful that my loved ones and friends are healthy and gainfully employed."

Michael Amouri, owner- Caffé Amouri; co-owner, Chase the Submarine

"I am thankful, not only for all the incredible friends I've made at Caffé Amouri over the past six years, but also for the other friendships I've seen take place, grow and blossom in our shop. Helping to form these friendships is one of my greatest pleasures. And....I'm thankful that the Vienna community loves great coffee."



Mary Ellen Larkins, Vienna glass artist

"Thankful for eight years with the Obama Family as our First Family. What a kind, loving, moral family. They will be truly missed. Thankful for my husband of a blessed 46 years together. Thankful for a wonderful daughter and her family and especially my grandchildren. Thankful for nature around me. Thankful for my dear friends. Thankful for art and music that takes away pain. Thankful for the Vienna Community."

Del. Mark Keam (D-35)

"As we wrap up a year that featured one of the most divisive presidential elections in modern times, it's hard to know what good, if any, has come out of this hyper-polarizing experience. And even today, the election result continues to pit some Americans against others at a time when we should be coming together to celebrate another peaceful transition of government. So, as we enter Thanksgiving week, I'd like to take a step back and refocus on the fundamentals."

As an active participant in our political process, I am thankful that I live in America where we continue to uphold the 240 year-long tradition of selecting leaders from among us, no matter how imperfect they may be. I appreciate that our democratic system allows the majority to rule, but also affords the minority the right to express their opposition and to seek changes from within.

I am also grateful for the opportunity to represent the residents in Vienna and surrounding areas who are actively engaged in their communities and know each other well enough to respect any differences we may have and to honor our civic discourse."



— DONNA MANZ