



Watercolor Portrait, by
Celine Gorkowski, grade 8,
Thoreau Middle School, Art
Teacher Michele Physioc.

Westminster School
A Classical Education for the 21st Century
Presenting Challenge | Building Character | Instilling Confidence



Through the Arts Children Thrive

OPEN HOUSES:
K-8: January 10th 9:00-10:30 a.m.
PreK: January 12th 9:30-11:00 a.m.

SCHEDULE A TOUR:
Email: admissions@westminsterschool.com
3819 Gallows Road, Annandale, VA | 703-256-3620

WWW.WESTMINSTERSCHOOL.COM

Please visit
ST. MARK Catholic School
You are cordially invited to visit our Blue Ribbon School!

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, Jan. 8, 2017
11:00 am to 1:30 pm



ST. MARK Christian Formation Center
9972 Vale Road, Vienna

NEWLY SCHEDULED EVENT! Kindergarten Connections
Thursday, Jan. 5, 2017 8:40 - 10:00 a.m.
ST. MARK Early Learning Center
(behind the Church, 9970 Vale Road, Vienna)

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

The Raspberry Pi

Over summer break, I got a Raspberry Pi. I found it an awesome tool, and here's why. The Raspberry Pi is a computer chip with many ports that allow you to access and use many programming interfaces to create applications, hack things, and even create a cool mod for an application.

But first, you will need to assemble it. You can simply buy a kit and follow instructions from raspberrypi.org's help area. Check out the video section of it. You will be all set in less than an hour. Now let's get to programming on it.

An example of this would be writing this code in a Python 3 shell for Minecraft Pi (A version of minecraft specifically for Raspberry Pi):

```
>>>from mcpi import
Minecraft
>>>mc = Minecraft.create()
>>>x, y, z =
mc.player.getPos()
>>>mc.player.setPos (x, y +
200, z)
```

This code has the power to teleport you 200 blocks above your current position in-game! There is even a command that you can do to spawn in TNT that explodes when broken!

The best part is that you don't have any limits as to what you can do! You could open a franchise that creates apps using Raspberry Pi's or even upgrade Minecraft Pi to make it as good as the full version of minecraft!

—NEEL SHARMA, GRADE 6,
LOUISE ARCHER ELEMENTARY



OPENING EARLY 2017

ACT NOW FOR PRE-OPENING BENEFITS

Exclusive Charter Club membership & special pricing until Jan 31, 2017

Save up to \$10,000

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:

- Best-in-class professionals to deliver excellence in care and service
- Licensed nurses on-site 24/7 to preserve wellness
- Daily activities to keep isolation and loneliness at bay
- Housekeeping and maintenance to provide relief from homeowner demands
- Transportation to excursions to create routine opportunities for fun and enrichment
- Exquisite dining to make mealtime enticing and nutritious
- Safety and security measures to give you and your loved one peace of mind
- Two unique levels of memory care to make every moment count and each day as joyful as it can be

For more information about care and lifestyle options, call and tell us about your family's needs.

THE KENSINGTON
An Assisted Living Community
FALLS CHURCH

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

The Vienna / Oakton Children's Connection

is published by
Local Media Connection, LLC.

A digital version of this publication and 14 sister publications available at
www.connectionnewspapers.com/documents

For information on advertising email
sales@connectionnewspapers.com

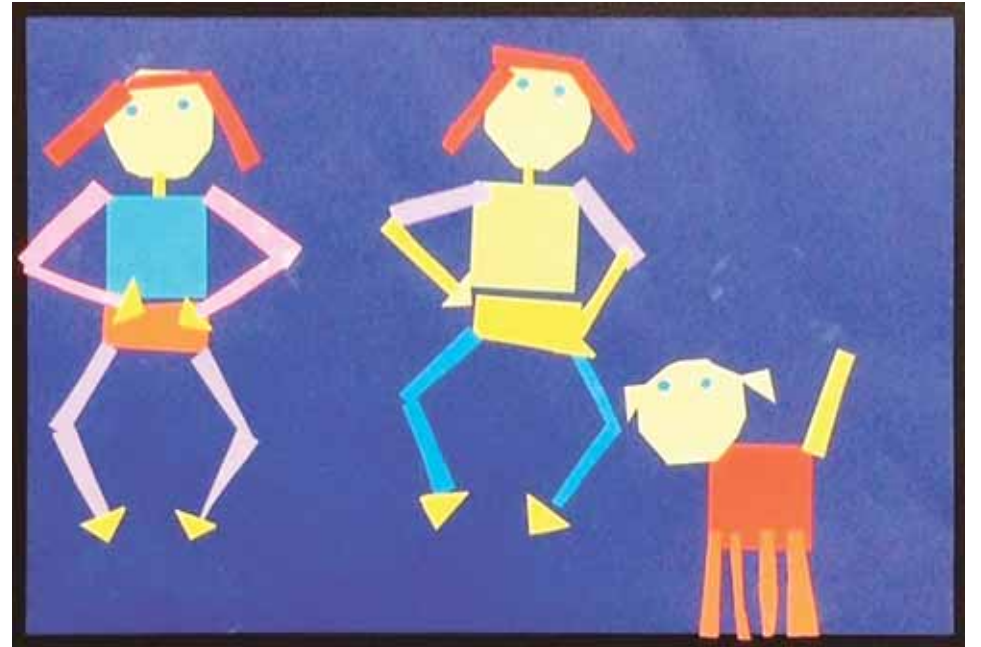
For information on local content email
vienna@connectionnewspapers.com

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

VIENNA/OAKTON CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHC
703-778-9414 OR VIENNA@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



"A Family Trip," by Angela Yan, 7, Yanshun's art studio, Grade 2, Oakton Elementary School, Oakton.



By Molly Samburg of Vienna, Grade 1, Art Teacher Lauren Grimm.

Welcome

Dear Readers:

This week, the Vienna/Oakton Connection turns over its pages to the youth and students.

We asked principals and teachers from area schools to encourage students to contribute their words, pictures and photos for our annual Children's Issue.

The response as always was enormous. While we were unable to publish every piece we received, we did our best to put together a paper with a fair sampling of the submitted stories, poems, drawings, paintings, photographs and other works of art.

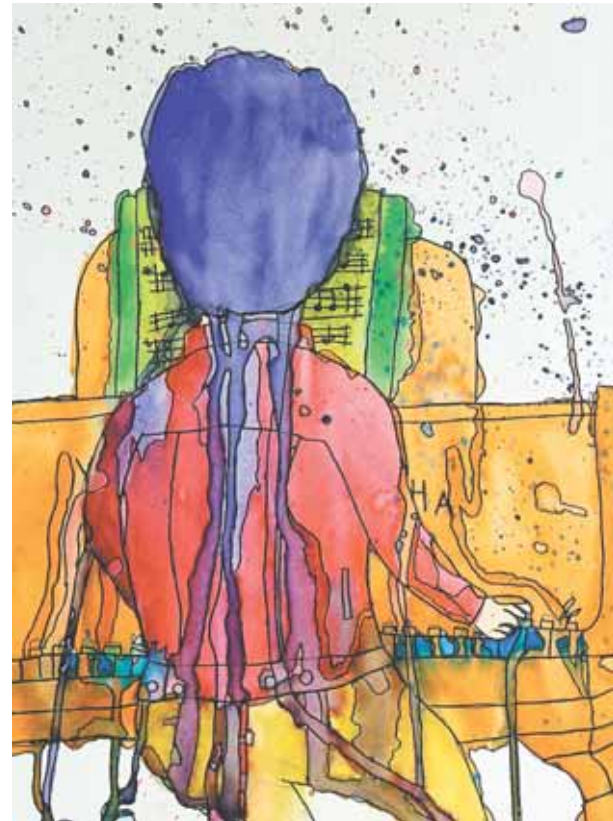
We appreciate the extra effort made by school staff to gather the materials during their busy time leading up to the holidays. We'd also like to encourage both schools and parents to mark their 2017 calendars for early December, the deadline for submissions for next year's Children's Connection. Please

keep us in mind as your children continue to create spectacular works of art and inspiring pieces of writing in the coming year.

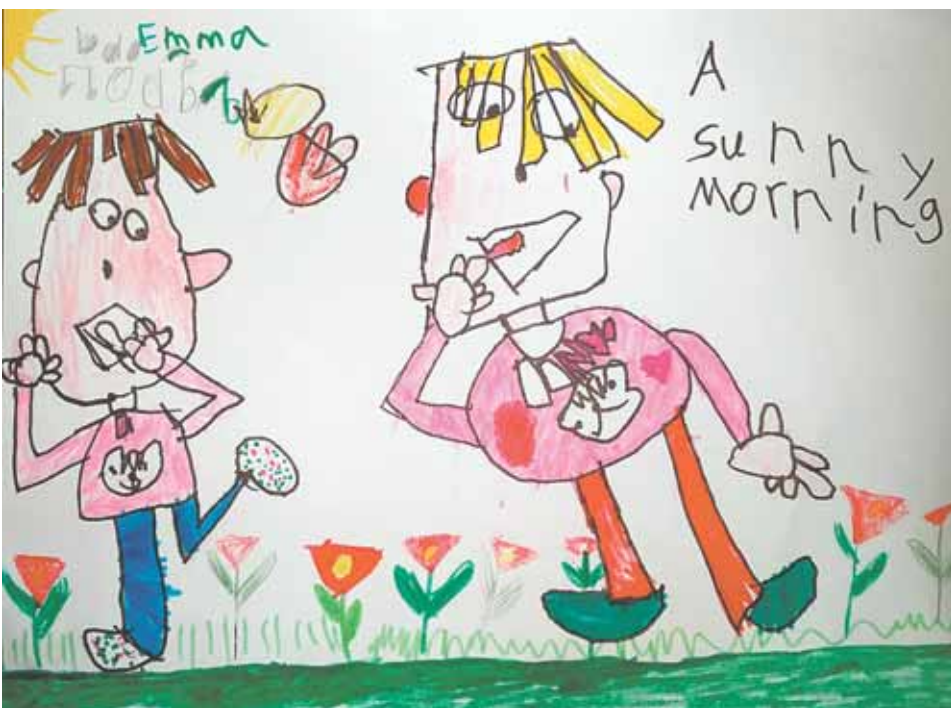
The children's issue is only a part of our year-round commitment to cover education and our local schools. As always, the Connection welcomes letters to the editor, story ideas, calendar listings and notices of local events from our readers. Photos and other submissions about special events at schools are especially welcome for our weekly school pages.

Our preferred method for material is e-mail, which should be sent to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com, but you can reach us by mail at 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 or call 703-778-9414 with any questions.

EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHC



"Watercolor Music," by Katelin Dow, Grade 8, Thoreau Middle School, Art Teacher Michele Physioc.

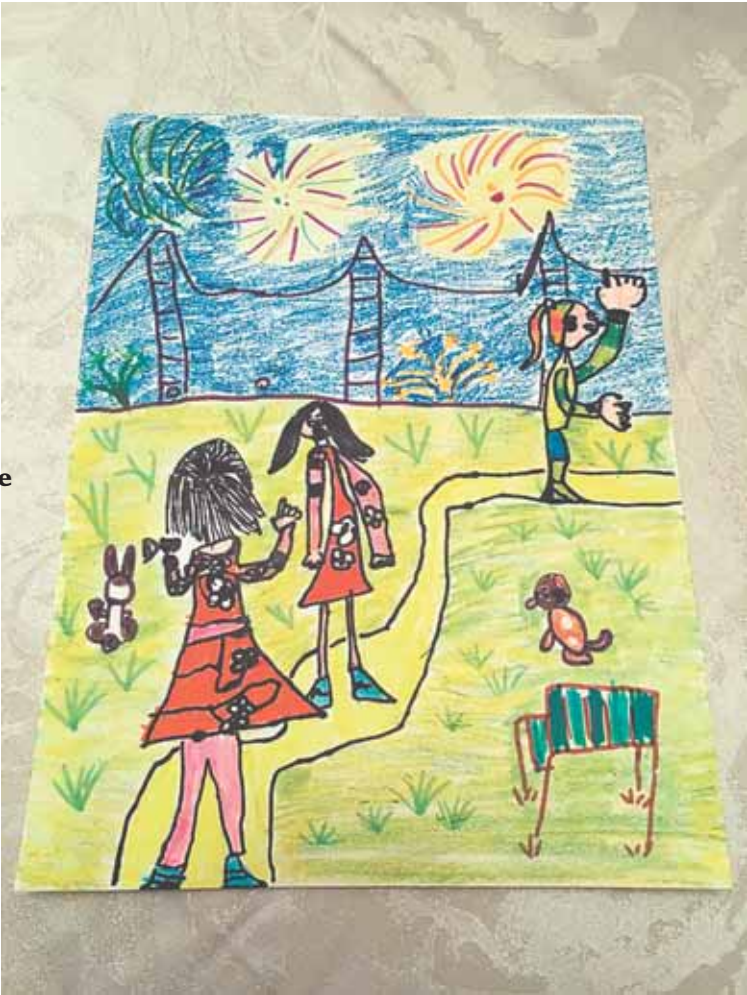


"A Sunny Morning," by Emma Huang, of Vienna, 5, Kindergarten, Laurel Ridge Elementary in Fairfax, Teacher: Ms. Lorna Cordero.



"Friends," by Eva Huang, of Vienna, 5, Kindergarten, Laurel Ridge Elementary in Fairfax, Teacher: Ms. Jacqueline Patterson.

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION



Watching fireworks with friends, by Marissa Lin, age 6, Grade 1, Freedom Hill Elementary, Vienna.



By Jeffrey Li, age 9, Flint Hill Elementary School.



“Family Portrait” by Ethan Forbes, age 4 of Vienna.

POETRY CORNER

There Is Nothing

It's as shapeless as a cloud
White wisps with no true form
It can have no meaning
Or all the meaning we give it

The soul within us
Intrigued by the small things
Moved on a whim
Taking flight above the cotton beds

The freedom to go anywhere
But with no direction
Roaming the skies
Until it reaches the end

While the sun is setting
Tucked under its satin blanket
It seems as if there is nothing
But from nothing comes everything

—RYAN MAI, OF OAKTON, GRADE 7,
WESTMINSTER SCHOOL

Summer in the Woods

The willow tree screams in silence as the wood-
pecker
Pecked, pecked, pecked
The fish glide along the water like tiny torpedoes
Passing the tree as if they don't care
The flower strokes the butterfly as it collects the
yellow pollen
Storing it for lunch
The fish spray a light mist
As the kind willow trees create a tunnel for me to
walk through
The rain pounds on the plants, punishing them for
taking their water
The curious animals gather close to see this ruckus

—ARTI MARZBAN, OF DUNN LORING, GRADE
3, WESTMINSTER SCHOOL



By Maylee Batucan, age 5, of Vienna, Birthday: Feb. 21, Grade: kindergarten, home schooled, Teacher: Yanshun Sui.

Merry Christmas

BY JONATHAN KONG, AGE 11.

Christmas is coming, spreading new holiday cheer,
Happily, we enjoy this time of the year,
Reaching out to everyone's heart,
It's definitely the gifts, for a start,
Still, Christmas isn't only about a toy,
This is also a time to enjoy,
Make someone else happy today,
Add some fun, now what else can I say,
Swell, have a Merry Christmas

Grade 6, Louise Archer Elementary, Vienna, Teacher: Ms. Sahai.



By Natalie Bernier, age 6, of Vienna, Grade 1, Yan's Art Studio, Fairfax, Teacher: Yan Shun Sui.

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION



"In Our Backyard,"
by Valerie Li, 12,
Longfellow Middle
School.

Great Falls United Methodist Preschool

Learning Through Play

New Student Applications For Enrollment

Due Tuesday, February 7, 2017

- Classes for 2's, 3's, 4's, Pre-K
- Morning sessions
- Highly experienced and qualified teachers
- Low student-teacher ratio
- Children's Chapel
- Music, Art, Movement
- Science, Math
- Literacy, Language Arts
- Two-week camp



10100 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, VA 22066

703-759-2432

gfump.org

Ledo
Pizza & Pasta
141 PARK STREET, S.E.
VIENNA, VA 22180
(703) 865-6220



**Color In
For Fun!**

"How To Quickly Get Rid Of Knee Pain Without Surgery Or Medication!"

FREE Report Reveals A Little-Known Knee Pain Removal Secret
That Quickly Eliminates Knee Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!
Get Your Life Back Now! Grab The **FREE REPORT** By Going To
The Web Address Below! (You'll Get It Instantly):

www.KneePainVA.com

Exclusions apply for Medicare, Personal Injury and Federal Employees.

Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee

TWO POOR TEACHERS
Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling

Select your
products from
our Mobile
Showroom
and Design
Center

Fully Insured &
Class A Licensed
Since 1999



Free Estimates
703-999-2928



Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

FREE KID'S MEAL

From the Just 4 Kids Menu!

141 PARK STREET, S.E.
VIENNA, VA 22180
(703) 865-6220

Valid only at Ledo Pizza Vienna. Valid Dine-In ONLY. Not Valid
with other offers or promotions. Valid for Kids 12 and under.
Must present coupon at purchase. Limit 1 per Kid.
Offer Expires 1/31/17.

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

By Cynthia Yuxin Huang, age 10, of Oakton, Grade 5, Sunrise Valley Elementary in Reston, teacher: Mr. Ian Kidder.



Pink and Yellow Flower, by Ava Kang, of Vienna, age 13, Grade 7, Congressional School, Falls Church, Art Teacher: Mrs. Rula Brock.

By Vivian Yu, Grade 5, Oakton Elementary School, Teacher: Yanshun Sui.



Blue Bird in a Tree, by Crystal Xia, age 12, Grade 8, Congressional School, Falls Church, Art Teacher: Mrs. Rula Brock.



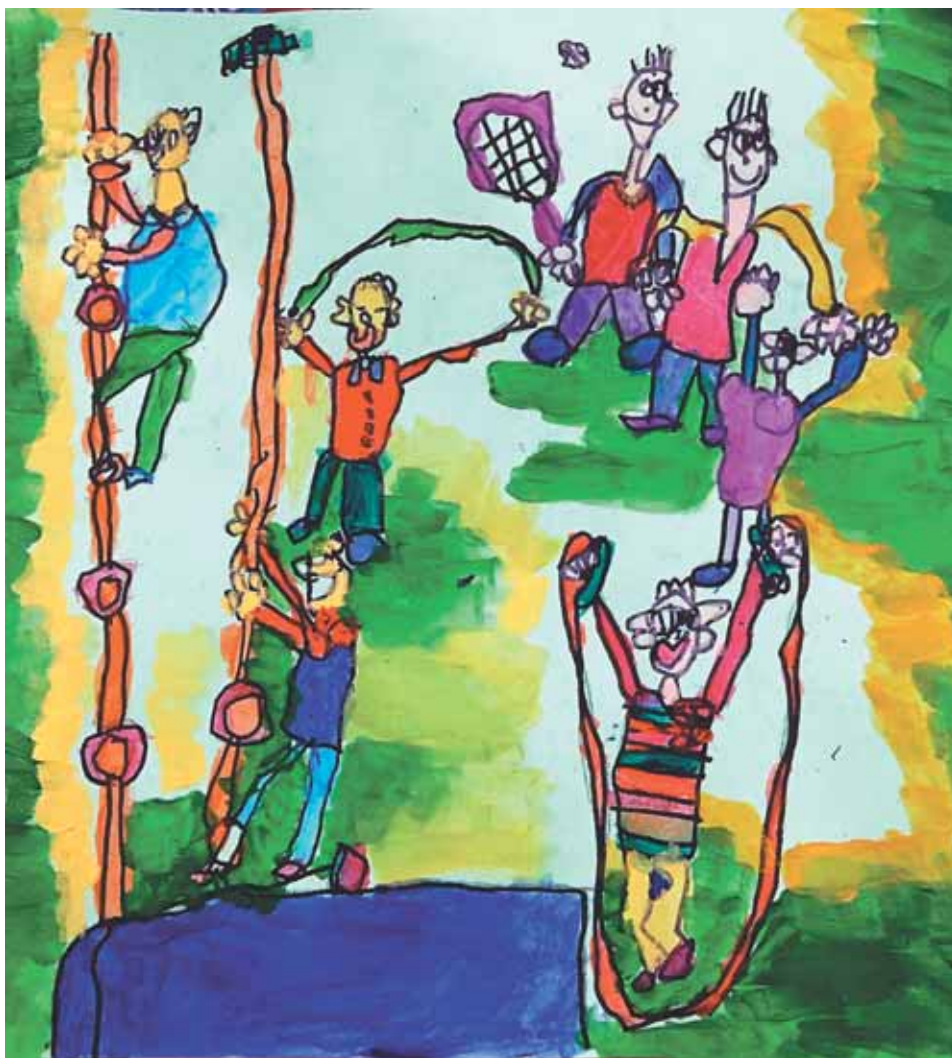
PAREDES GALLERY

Abigail Paredes, 14, of Great Falls, attends Dominion High School in Sterling.

“Room with a View,” by Abigail Paredes.



CHILDREN'S CONNECTION



By Eythan Huang. Grade 2, Flint Hill Elementary.



There's more to life than just financial goals. At Ameriprise Financial, we take the time to understand what's truly important to you. Together, we'll develop a financial plan customized for your life – to help you live more confidently today. And tomorrow.



Matt Felber
Financial Advisor
703.766.9300 x10
133 Maple Avenue East, Ste 306
Vienna VA 22180
matthew.t.felber@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/matthew.t.felber



Marie Isabel Laurion, CFP®, CRPC®
Financial Advisor
703.766.9300 x13
133 Maple Avenue East, Ste 306
Vienna VA 22180
marie.i.laurion@ampf.com
ameripriseadvisors.com/marie.i.laurion



Investment advisory products and services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., a registered investment adviser.
© 2015 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved. (10/15)

Mae's Dress Boutique

Mae's goes to the Inaugural Events

Over 200 Gowns - Inaugural Events & Holidays

Glamour, Glitter & Glitz



For the most enchanting collection, everything from short, mid-calf dresses to floor length gowns and evening separates in a splendid array of styles, fabrics and colors. Our experienced staff will personally assist your selection for that special occasion.

Winter Fashions
Are Here

Joseph Ribkoff

Featuring one of the largest selections of Joseph Ribkoff fashions in the area. This Canadian designer's clothing has versatility, quality and affordability. Joseph Ribkoff caters to the upper echelon of the fashion world with versatile dresses for all occasions, day or evening. The separates & related sportswear has trendy items not found elsewhere. These standout silhouettes with dashes of color are a must have for your wardrobe.



Save **\$50.00** with this coupon
Off First Purchase of 100.00*

*Excludes sale items, alterations, sales tax and prior purchases
CM 12/28

Hours: Monday to Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm

maesdressboutique.com

703-356-6333

1319 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA 22101

Easy access - 5 minutes from Tyson's Corner

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

THOREAU MIDDLEART GALLERY

Artwork submitted by Thoreau Middle School Art Teacher Michele Physioc.



Watercolor Music, by Katelin Dow, Grade 8.



Watercolor Music, by Katie Rodgers, Grade 7.



Watercolor Music, by Sydney McCarthy, Grade 8.



Watercolor Portrait, by Celine Gorkowski, Grade 8.



Balancing the Holidays, by Savannah Le Tendre, Grade 7.



Watercolor Music, by Daniel Jacobson, Grade 7.



Watercolor Music, by Mati Turunen, Grade 7.



Holiday Fun, by Lauren Richardson, Grade 7.



Watercolor Music, Ellie Saunders, Grade 8.



Watercolor Music, by Nora Galvin, Grade 8.



Snowman, by Sydney McCarthy, Grade 8.



Sleigh Ride, by Corinne Church, Grade 7.



Bridge in Winter, by Riley Stevens, Grade 8.



Peaceful Snowman, by Tami Nguyen, Grade 8.



Santa's Workshop, by Tran Vo, Grade 8.



195

Average minutes in fine arts education per week

13

Average Class Size

Explorers Wanted

We are committed to offering students a well-rounded education, including ample time for the fine arts. Speech, drama, music, and art, plus design lab, are infused throughout the curriculum. Every day our students question, collaborate, create, and lead through our innovative academic program.

Preschool - Grade 8 Open House: January 10 at 9:00 a.m.
www.congressionalschool.org

Inside or out...



...Tech Painting's got you covered!



Serving: VA, DC, MD, OBY
703-684-7702
www.techpainting.com

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

COLVIN RUN ELEMENTARY ART GALLERY

Artwork submitted by Sandy Pugh
Art Instructor.

By Alexis Woosley
Anderson, Grade 2.



COLVIN RUN ELEMENTARY

Artwork submitted by teacher Lauren Grimm.

By Molly
Samburg, of
Vienna,
Grade 1.



By Chloe Xie, Grade 3.



By Ponteha Aryavand of
Great Falls, Kindergarten.



By Morgan Frederick of
Great Falls, Grade 6.



By Sanika Kale of Great Falls, Grade 5.



By Ellie Wen,
Grade 2.



By - from left - Ellena Suh,
Grade 2; Cayden McCusker of
Great Falls, Grade 2; and
Claire Nitowski, Grade 2.

By Rhys Frischling of
Great Falls, Grade 3.



By Rocco Zhang,
Grade 4.



“Gifts to Give”

By fifth graders in Katy Curran's class at Hutchison Elementary in Herndon.

If I could give my mom a gift I'd give a helpful thing, a hug or a nicest card and a love candy and if we could go to Vietnam to have fun and at home finding the notes.
—ANDY NGUYEN

If I could give a free gift to my mom and dad it will be a card, it will be shiny. Inside the card say i love you. Mom gave me a kiss in the head. We'd all be happy.
—BRYAN RIVERA-ARGUETA

If i can give a gift to my mom with no money it's going to be Spanish song to make her feel the best mom in world.
—JOSE HERNANDEZ

I will give you a hug because you have been really nice to me and you have never talked behind my back and I trust her because I have been best friend since second grade and I have never heard that someone says to me that she is talking behind my back or she said something mean and I love her like a sister.
—NANCY PARADA-RODRIGUEZ

My Mom and I would like to give her a card it would say I love you song. I'm so happy she is the best Mom in the world. Her food is best in the world.
PS - I love you Mom
—LESLIE PORTILLO

Dear mom, I love you because you do all the work in the house and you care about me and our family, that's why I love you.
—PATRICK CASTILLO

My friends are my family. It will be a hug, a card of love and a stuffed animal. I will give a stuffed animal that i have because it will make her or him feel great. And I will give her or him help them if they need help. And I will give them a big kiss and a big hug, all day long love.
—SANDY ARANA TOME

I will give my mom a hug and a kiss so she is happy and give her lot of hugs.
—SANTIAGO PANOZO

If i could give a gift to my dad it would be a handmade ship, because he likes ships.
—UMAIR BHALL

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Build Your Community

Support Your Local Businesses.

THE CONNECTION
to your community

www.connectionnewspapers.com


RED Vacuums
 Reliable Efficient Dependable Vacuums
the Vacuum Experts











**Hot Price
Dyson Repairs
\$19.95!**
Phone, Bag, Belt, Bulb, Hose, Filter, Motor, Cord, Hook, etc.
Tune-Ups, Reg \$59.95, Now \$30

Compact C1 Homecare Miele
Free Bags

BLOWOUT!
UNBELIEVABLE LOW PRICE!
\$199.99

- High suction power – 1,200 W
- Floor head with metal soleplate
- Stainless steel telescopic
- 29.5 ft operating radius
- Warranty 7 Years (Motor & Body)

TRADE-IN
Your Old Vacuum in any condition and take
***\$100 OFF**
a new Vacuum Purchase
*Some Restrictions Apply


Full Service Special
\$39.99

- Deodorize & Sanitize
- New Bag, Belt, Bulb
- Complete Diagnostic
- Unclog Suction Channel
- Clean Fan, Motor, Brush
- Grease Bearings
- Seals, Gaskets, Wheels
- All Electrical, Cord & Hook

1 Year Parts & Labor Warranty

WHY BUY AT RED VACUUMS?

- ✓ FREE Maintenance for 3-Years
- ✓ FREE Assembly & Delivery
- ✓ FREE Service Contract on your New Vacuum
- ✓ FREE Annual Cleaning on New Vac Purchases


171 Maple Ave. E Vienna, VA 22180
Hours: Mon-Sat 9AM-7PM
Sun 10AM-6PM
703-255-3500



December 31

Church Street

Food Trucks

6PM TO MIDNIGHT



FIRST NIGHT VIENNA

DECEMBER 31, 6PM - MIDNIGHT

HISTORIC CHURCH

MUSIC ~ KIDS ACTIVITIES ~ FOOD TRUCKS

FIRSTNIGHTVIENNA.ORG

FREE ADMISSION




For unique gifting shop online:

www.DaraGlobalArts.com

like us on facebook to follow our fun events

<http://www.facebook.com/DaraGlobalArts>






Bringing peace and harmony through art...

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

Odyssey of the Mind

BY MULAN PAN

I'm sure many of you have heard of it, and some of you might even be in Odyssey of the Mind competition, but for those who aren't, I wanted to give you an insider's view of what it's all about. I've been participating in Odyssey of the Mind, which I will refer to as OotM, since fourth grade, and I absolutely love it! It's a great enrichment activity for me, and it helps me relax and have fun with friends.

When I first started out, our team chose the balsa wood problem. In this problem, we had to build a structure that could support the most weight possible. It could only be made of balsa wood and glue and could weigh no more than fifteen grams. The amount of weight held translated into points. This part of the problem took the most time and effort, where we experimented with many different designs. Every week, teammates would bring in their newly made structure, and we would carefully load weights onto it until it smashed. After we recorded the weight held, we would then analyze it to figure out how it broke so we could improve the design. Guess how much weight our final structure held? Over five hundred pounds!

While trying to build a balsa wood structure, we were presented a long-term problem. We had to come up with a solution to the problem, which had to incorporate the structure, and turn the solution into an eight-minute skit. The judges would decide how creative and effective our solution was and award us points. They would also look at our handmade props, costumes, and other things along those lines, and award us Style points for those.

The Spontaneous part must be my favorite. We were presented a problem, and we had no clue beforehand what it would be. They gave us a limited amount of time to solve it, so we had to think on our feet, getting our creative juices really flowing. An example of a problem would be, "What was the best thing since sliced bread?", in which each member would give a different response. The more creative responses our team gave, the more points we would get.

Last March, our team got first place in Regional Competition. It was the best day of my life! I must admit, we weren't the best sports about it though. We kept jumping



"Mutant Penguins Celebrating Christmas"

Artwork by Mulan Pan, grade 6, resident of Great Falls and student at Forestville Elementary School.



around, screaming, "We won! We won!", the shining gold medal bouncing on our chest. Later in April, we attended the State Competition, where we got third place! This year, our team is determined to get to the World Competition (and maybe even win!).

Overall, OotM is a great sport for the mind. You get to make new friends, exercise creativity, and crush your rivals in the competi-

tion. You also learn how to cooperate with your teammates. OotM allowed me to delve deeper into my strengths, as well as find new ones. Although I've only been participating in this event for two years, I have no trouble saying that it's become my favorite part of my after-school life.

Mulan Pan, 12, is a sixth grader at Forestville Elementary School, Teachers: Ms. Conner, Ms. Donlon, and Ms. Kroog



By Nicole Holtz Djiba, age 9, Grade 3, Waples Mill Elementary.



Eric Holtz Djiba, age 9, Grade 3, Waples Mill Elementary.

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

CUNNINGHAM PARK ELEMENTARY

Artwork submitted by Alice Bredin-Karny,
Art Specialist at Cunningham Park Elementary.



By Lizzie Britt,
age 8, Grade 2,
Cunningham Park
Elementary
School, Vienna.

By Jenna Jumaili,
age 10 Grade 4,
Cunningham Park
Elementary School,
Vienna.



For a free digital subscription to one or all of the 15 Connection Newspapers, go to www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Be the first to know – get your paper before it hits the press.

Complete digital replica of the print edition, including photos and ads, delivered weekly to your e-mail box.

Questions?
E-mail:
goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com



THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Visit These Houses of Worship To Highlight Your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

Welcoming, Diverse, Progressive

ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • Reston



7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Sunday School: preschool - grade 2
Music: grades 3 - 7
10:25 a.m. Sunday School Grades 3 to 6
Music 4 years to 2nd grade
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service
Nursery care provided at 9:00 a.m. service
The Rev. John C. N. Hall, Rector
The Rev. Laura Cochran
703-437-6530
www.stannes-reston.org
1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

450 ORCHARD STREET, NW
VIENNA, VA 22180
703-938-8525
email: fbcvoffice@fbcv.org
www.fbcv.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP, 7:45 AM & 10:00 AM
CHRISTIAN LEARNING ACADEMY (SUN.) 9:00AM-9:45AM
MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM



By Matthew
Moth Elementary
School, age 7,
Grade 1,
Cunningham Park
Elementary
School, Vienna.

By Savannah
Vernon, age 10,
Grade 4,
Cunningham Park
Elementary School,
Vienna.



THE 4 WEEKS of Holiday SPECIALS

Plaka Grill would like to celebrate the holidays with you by offering the special offer below. We want to wish you health and happiness this Holiday Season and prosperity in the New Year!

Receive a Thank You Gift Card with every Gift Card purchase!

Free \$5 with \$25 Gift Card
Free \$10 with \$50 Gift Card
Free \$20 with \$100 Gift Card

Plaka Grill gift cards make great stocking stuffers for everyone on your list!

plaka
GRILL

110 Lawyers Rd NW, Vienna VA | 703.319.3131
513 W Broad St, Falls Church, VA | 703.639.0161
www.PlakaGrill.com

(No cash value and cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 12/31/16)

Seldom Wrong But This Time I'm Write

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Because of the change in some of our publication deadlines for December, I have had to write multiple columns weeks in advance, somewhat unusual for me. Typically, I write my column five days before publication, so time-wise, I'm fairly current and emotionally present as well. Writing ahead, as December dead-lines (it's nothing new. I've been managing to accommodate these deadlines for years) is still a bit off-putting. Though I want to think ahead and live like I have a future; as a cancer patient, it's difficult not to live in the present. Thinking, feeling, projecting ahead, seems presumptuous almost.

This is not to imply that I have to somehow presume a future and write about cancer subjects — or not, which have not yet happened. Hardly. My columns are rarely time-sensitive or date-specific. Still, my columns are generally better written when I'm writing from current feelings, facts, circumstances, etc. And though many of the feelings, facts and circumstances relating to my condition don't exactly change on a daily, weekly or even monthly basis (thank God!), surprisingly, my reaction to them sometimes does. Moreover, writing multiple columns at one time also forces me to pile onto myself emotionally the effects of my disease. Which, if you must know, I'd rather not do. In fact, if there's any way I can not think about my situation, that's a 'way' I'd like to be.

Not that I moan and groan or woe is me about my age 54-and-half-terminal-diagnosis, as those who know me or have regularly read my columns likewise know; but sometimes I'd prefer not to have my hand forced. And even though reading or hearing about other people who have been diagnosed with lung cancer, or who have succumbed to its ravages, doesn't bother me — too much, really (I've matured); occasionally, I'd rather be blissfully ignorant.

Although I readily admit that being ignorant too long concerning my disease is hardly penny-wise but it is most definitely pound-foolish. The trick is, somehow not getting consumed by one's circumstances and maintaining an optimistic point of view. And since I'm a funny guy (though not really fun), I am able to humor myself — and others, so these less-than-ideal circumstances under which I attempt to thrive are not overwhelming, except when forced to confront my demons and focus on myself when newspaper deadlines are advanced and jumbled and I'm having to write four columns in two weeks instead of writing one column in one week.

Though it's not exactly trouble, it is to quote Jerry Seinfeld from a long-ago Seinfeld episode, "something." 'Something' I could likely live without, but 'something' unfortunately I must live with, every December. But I'm a "big boy," as my father used to tell me, with "broad shoulders" (figuratively speaking to my ability to handle the load), so I'll manage. In fact, in another paragraph, I will have completed the task and the presumptive weight of it will be off my 'broad shoulders.'

Now I can relax a little bit, exactly what one (especially this one with cancer) needs. Between the holidays and advanced deadlines, the column-writing and the ad-selling; I'm living and learning with my ever-evolving circumstances (further from the beginning or closer to the end; I never know).

Nevertheless, I am extremely happy to have been there and finished doing it yet again. I hope to see you all back here next year. Happy Holidays!

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

ZONE G: • ARLINGTON • GREAT FALLS
• McLEAN • VIENNA/OAKTON

CLASSIFIED

703-778-9411

ZONE G AD DEADLINE:
MONDAY NOON

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

OBITUARY

Johnson, Richard Lee, 88, of Radnor, PA, formerly of Vienna, VA. Beloved husband of Anne Chapman (nee Hungerford) Johnson, Father of Anne Johnson Graf (Chappy) (Bayard H.) of Strafford, PA and Jessie Edwards Johnson of Purcellville, VA. Also survived by five grandchildren and his sister Lois Johnson Held of Milwaukee, WI. Funeral service will be at St. John's Episcopal Church, McLean, VA on Wednesday, December 28th at noon. In lieu of flowers contributions in his name may be made to St. John's Church Memorial Fund, St. John's Episcopal Church, 671 5 Georgetown Pike, Post Office Box 457, McLean, VA 221 01-0457.

101 Computers

101 Computers

HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

JENNIFER SMITH ♦ Serving the Area Since 1995

- Speed Up Slow Computers
- Virus Removal
- Computer Setup
- Help with Windows 8 & 10



571-265-2038

Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:
703-917-6400

Employment: 703-917-6464

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Thai Boys Inc. trading as Tom Yum Thai, 226 Maple Ave. W, Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises and Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Tanitta Diewtragulchai, 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.

I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate.
-Arthur Wing Pinero

Unleash your hidden superpowers

Become a foster parent

Kids in our community need super parents like you.

Call us today!
855-367-8637
www.umfs.org



LIFETIME METAL ROOFING

Storm Proof Metal Roofing

Will your roof withstand another storm season?

Call us today for a free roof inspection!

WE FINANCE!

CALL 800-893-1242

WWW.METALROOFOVER.COM

by VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

SINGLE WIDES
DOUBLE WIDES
HOUSES

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Low Vision Patients with

MACULAR DEGENERATION

DMV offers a special permit allowing low vision patients to drive with bioptic telescopic glasses.

Call for a FREE phone consultation with Dr. Armstrong, Optometrist

Offices in: Roanoke, Harrisonburg, Wytheville, Virginia

Learn more at: www.VirginiaLowVision.com
Dr. David L. Armstrong (866) 321-2030



21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Donate A Boat or Car Today!

BoatAngel

"2-Night Free Vacation!"

1-800-CAR-ANGEL

www.boatangel.com

sponsored by boat angel outreach centers

STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN



21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

SPECIAL OFFER!

WAS \$36.79
\$19.84
NOW ONLY



Save 35% & FREE SHIPPING

Call Toll-Free 1-800-270-5919 to Order Item SPX45

or Visit PittmanDavis.com/SPX45

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

CLASSIFIED

For Local...

- Employment
- Employees
- Services
- Entertainment
- Announcements
- Real Estate
- Cars
- Trucks
- Vans
- RV's
- Boats
- Pets
- Yard Sales
- Crafts
- Hobbies
- And More!

For All
Your
Advertising
Needs...

It Works.
Week
After Week.

703
917-6400

Place
Your
Ad
Today!

THE CONNECTION

ZONE G: • ARLINGTON • GREAT FALLS
• MCLEAN • VIENNA/OAKTON

HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CONTRACTORS.com

703-778-9411

ZONE G AD DEADLINE:
MONDAY NOON

ELECTRICAL

ELECTRICAL

K & D ELECTRIC

COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting
Ceiling Fans
Phone/CATV
Computer Network Cabling
Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc...

Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Office 703-335-0654
Mobile 703-499-0522
lektrkman28@gmail.com

LANDSCAPING

A&S CONSTRUCTION

SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up
Leaf Removal
Hauling.

703-863-7465

If tomorrow
were never to
come, it would
not be worth
living today.
-Dagobert Runes

LAWN SERVICE

LAWN SERVICE

GUTTER

GUTTER

GUTTER CLEANING

Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

PINNACLE SERVICES

lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est.
email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com
web: lawnsandgutters.com
Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!



IMPROVEMENTS

IMPROVEMENTS

**Our Prices Are Tough to Beat
Our Quality is Guaranteed!**

Windows & Doors • Roofing • Gutters



(703) 587-7762
Quality Builds Trust

www.mainstreet-home-improvement.com

A&S Landscaping

- All Concrete work
- Retaining Walls • Patios
- Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions
- French Drains • Sump Pumps
- Driveway Asphalt Sealing



703-863-7465

LICENSED

Serving All of N. Virginia



RN. CONTRACTORS, INC.

Remodeling Homes, Flooring,
Kitchen & Bath, Windows,
Siding, Roofing, Additions &
Patios, Custom Deck, Painting

We Accept All Major Credit Cards
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic

Phone: 703-887-3827

E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com

www.rncontractors.com



PAVING

PAVING

GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION

Walkways, Patios, Driveways,
Flagstone, Concrete
FREE ESTIMATES

Licensed, Insured, Bonded
703-250-6231

J.E.S. Services

Your neighborhood company since 1987

703-912-6886



Landscaping & Construction

Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured

- Planting & Landscaping Design
- Drainage & Water Problems
- Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New
- Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid
- Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose
- Retaining walls of all types

All work Guaranteed

TILE/MARBLE

TILE/MARBLE

BATHROOM REMODELING

by Brennan Bath and Tile

Partial or Full. Kit. Floors, Backsplashes.
Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles
and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp.

www.brennan-tile.com

703-250-2872

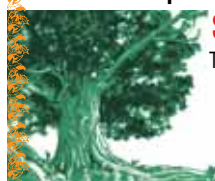
Licensed • Bonded • Insured

TREE SERVICE

TREE SERVICE

Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.



Summer Cleanup...

Tree removal, topping & pruning,
shrubbery trimming, mulching,
leaf removal, planting, hauling,
gutter cleaning, retaining walls,
drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience – Free estimates

703-868-5358

**24 Hour Emergency
Tree Service**

THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:
703-917-6400

Employment: 703-917-6464

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Opening
Early 2017
**NOW
HIRING**



Announcing Group Interviews for The Kensington Falls Church

Interview at our Information Center

on any Thursday from

December 15 until January 5 • 11am & 4pm

1212 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA

Have you been searching for an organization with heart? Where you can make a difference in many lives? Where you can grow professionally and personally? Kensington Senior Living has been built upon two key values: a Love for Seniors and a Spirit to Serve. We are looking for individuals who share these values and would like to join our team in Falls Church, where we will love and care for our residents as we do our own families.

**Now hiring qualified full-time (starting at 30 hours/week)
and part-time team members**

*(Health and dental insurances, life insurance, paid time off and
paid holidays for full-time positions. One free meal per day.
401k plan for team members who wish to contribute.)*

Care Managers (CNAs)
Care Supervisors (CNAs)
Licensed Professional Nurses (LPNs)
Wellness Nurses (LPNs and RNs)
Activities Coordinators
Concierges
Dining Coordinators
Cooks

Prep Cooks
Utility Staff
Servers
Maintenance Assistant
Housekeepers
Porters
Drivers
Laundry Attendants



THE KENSINGTON

An Assisted Living Community

FALLS CHURCH

703.992.9868

www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com

Information Center:

1212 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046

**For immediate consideration or more details,
email FallsChurchCareers@KensingtonSL.com
or call 703-992-9868.**



Reston's 4th Annual Camp Expo is Bigger & Better Than Ever!

Reston Camp Expo

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

Reston Community Center • 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA

Don't miss your chance to learn about hundreds of Reston-area summer camps and out-of-school activities – all in one place. This year's event will also feature youth sports organizations and providers! Bring the whole family out for a fun and informative morning of snacks, music, games, prizes and resources:

- **Fingerprinting**

Protect your child with fingerprinting and ID tools provided by the Office of the Fairfax County Sheriff.

- **Win a FREE Week of Camp**

Door prizes include many fun items and a free week of camp.

- **Activities for the Kids**

Enjoy the "camp experience" with hands-on games and crafts.

- **Scholarships**

Discover the range of fee waiver and camp scholarship opportunities.

- **Summer Employment**

Find out about summer camp employment and volunteer opportunities.

- **Learn More**

Get info on registration dates, camp requirements, locations and fees, while meeting directors and staff teams.



THE EVENT WILL FEATURE MORE THAN A DOZEN NON-PROFIT PROVIDERS INCLUDING:

Boy Scouts of America, Cornerstones, Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services, Fairfax County Office for Children/SACC, Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax County Public Schools, Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE), Rec-PAC, RecQuest, Reston Association, Reston Community Center, Reston Regional Library, YMCA Fairfax County Reston and more!

This event is coordinated by local non-profit organizations and Fairfax County government agencies in support of the Reston Opportunity Neighborhood program. It is hosted by Reston Community Center.



www.restoncommunitycenter.com

2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston VA 20191
To request reasonable ADA accommodations,
call 703-476-4500, TTY 711.

