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Vienna and Oakton CONNECTION

Cougars Go To State Finals

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Monte Carlo Vienna-style

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Supervisor Cathy Hudgins looks on as guest speaker, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) addresses the attendees at the Hunter Mill District Community Summit.



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova answers a question from the public. Kristin Michaels from Fairfax County Public Schools is at the podium to talk about the FY 2018 county school budget.

Hunter Mill District Community Summit Held

Budgets, education, economic climate, immigration and Metro all on the agenda.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins held a community summit on Saturday, March 4 at the Frying Pan Park Visitors Center in Herndon. The chief order of business for the gathering was to present the Fairfax County FY 2018 Advertised Budget Plan to residents of the district, which includes Reston, the Town of Vienna, parts of Herndon, Oak Hill, and Tysons Corner.

County Executive Ed Long was on hand to make the financial presentation and field questions, but before he took to the podium, Hudgins welcomed her constituents and introduced guest speakers U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), Sharon Bulova, Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Tara Voight, Council Member from the Town of Vienna.

Connolly started things off by giving an overview of some of the recent happenings in Washington. “We will feel it,” said Connolly, referring to the freeze on government hiring, the possibility of another round of sequestration, and President Donald Trump’s announced plans to increase the military’s funding by \$54 billion. Spending on the military side “means commensurate cuts on the civilian side,” said the Congressman.

Northern Virginia is the 3rd largest region for federal contracts in the nation, Connolly told the audience. A major loss in that employment generator would have an enormous, negative ripple effect on the local economy.



Supervisor Cathy Hudgins looks on as guest speaker, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) addresses the attendees at the Hunter Mill District Community Summit.

CONNOLLY WENT ON to list a few of the agencies and services that are facing substantial decreases in federal funding, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. “You know. The folks who track our weather patterns, who watch out for hurricanes, blizzards” and other climatological events, he added, “helping us make important decisions and preparations.”

Funding for the Chesapeake Bay cleanup, a state/federal project begun in 2010 which has shown remarkable success in restoring water quality and improved the regional economy with significant job creation, has also been earmarked for a potential massive cut with the proposed downsizing of the Environmental Protection Agency by 20 percent. The restoration work could see a 93 percent cut, from \$72 million to \$5 million.

The Congressman also touched on the topic of Immigration, citing his attendance at Dulles airport following Trump’s Executive Order that effectively established a travel ban for people from seven Muslim-

majority countries. Connolly assisted in securing the release of an “American hero,” a woman who had assisted the U.S. military in Iraq.

Citing statistics that highlight the positive effect that immigrants and diversity have had on the county, Connolly said that “Fairfax has made it work by including everyone.”

Connolly, Hudgins, Bulova and Long all had something to say about Metro. Reston already has one of the Silver Line Stations at Wiehle-Reston. Before the project is complete, Hunter Mill will have two more stations in the district, with an increased responsibility for their care and upkeep.

County Executive Long said that Metro funding was workable in the FY 2018 budget, but that the following year posed a serious problem, since Northern Virginia would be picking up a larger portion of the operational tab. “The Feds have got to step up” and help break what Connolly called a vicious cycle of increasing fees, perceived poor service and reliability issues. Federal funding is made available for capital im-

provements to Metro, but Connolly pointed out that operational and maintenance monies are all up to the local jurisdictions — something that he said was unique to our area and placed an “unsustainable burden” on the region, especially since Fairfax County by Virginia law cannot create tax-based revenue sources and must continue to rely on real estate and property taxes to replenish the budget coffers.

Chairman Bulova highlighted a few successes that the county has chalked up, including the Diversion First Program, which seeks to offer alternatives to incarceration for persons with mental or developmental disabilities who “come into contact with the criminal justice system for low level offenses.”

Bulova also announced that the Board had appointed nine residents to the newly established Police Civilian Review Panel at their last meeting. The panel was part of the recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission in October of 2015.

The panel is made up of a “group...with impressive skillsets,” she stated. “They will offer...further transparency...and a separate portal for the community’s voice to be heard.”

AFTER BULOVA’S COMMENTS, the County Executive took over and with PowerPoint slides and a Citizen’s Guide pamphlet as communication tools, guided the attendees through the process, the driving factors, the timeline, and the specific disbursements in the county’s \$4.1 billion General Fund budget.

The Citizen’s Guide presents the amounts being directed to various needs, departments and services, along with a brief narrative that details what the monies are used for. It also includes some historical information for, and explains where certain funds are required by law and/or contract or obligatory debt service.

Long highlighted items that were not be-

SEE RESIDENTS, PAGE 5

OPINION

Independent, Civilian Oversight in Place

New auditor and panel will make an excellent police force better, more transparent and accountable.

In February, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors followed through in establishing two forms of independent oversight of law enforcement for the first time in county history.

Richard Schott will begin as independent auditor on April 17, reporting directly to the Board of Supervisors.

Nine members have been named to the county's inaugural Civilian Review Panel, chaired by Adrian Steel. More than 140 Fairfax County residents applied to be considered to serve on the panel, and those named appear to have a remarkable set of qualifications.

Independent, civilian oversight of law enforcement is a national best practice.

Schott is a 27-year veteran of the FBI where he specialized in training on officer use of force, civil rights and color of law issues. He worked on the Henry Glover and Danziger Bridge civil rights cases, prosecutions of New Orleans Police Department officers for civil rights violations after Hurricane Katrina.

The Office of the Auditor will handle cases of police use of force that result in serious injury and death and the Civilian Review Panel will handle complaints about Fairfax County Police abuse of authority or misconduct.

These methods of oversight were adopted

by the board following recommendations of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, established by Chairman Sharon Bulova in the wake of the police shooting death of John Geer and public reaction to 17 months when FCPD released no information about the case until forced to by court order.

Leadership of FCPD, especially Chief Edwin C. Roessler Jr., have embraced the almost all of the 202 recommendations of the commission, which acknowledged the overall excellence of Fairfax County Police.

Nevertheless, the county's first independent auditor will come on board with work to do.

In his mandate to monitor and review internal investigations of Police Department officer-involved shootings, in-custody deaths and use-of-force cases in which an individual is killed or seriously injured, Schott will begin with the investigation of the officer-involved shooting death of Herndon resident Mohammad Azim Doudzai in progress.

Among the questions for Schott will be why it took 45 days, rather than the recommended 10 days, to release the name of the officer involved in the shooting. The chief needed the additional time to fully investigate and mitigate any possible threats to the officer and his family, and respond to legal action by the officer seeking to stop the release of his name, a delay permitted by the new policy. The officer

was involved in two other uses of deadly force, one in 2005 and one in 2010, with the suspect wounded but not killed in those two incidents. (The officer received valor awards for the 2005 incident for rescuing the store manager during an armed robbery with shots fired.)

Other questions that we hope the auditor can answer for the public:

According to the chief's statement at the scene on the day of the incident, two officers used less lethal force (taser and foam bullet) while one officer fired his service weapon. Was a supervisor coordinating the plan? What was the sequence of events and uses of force? Was there an attempt to subdue the suspect without deadly force?

Why is so little additional information forthcoming about the incident? Subsequent releases have contained fewer details than were release on the day of the incident. What video exists and when will it be released?

The policy states: "It is important to note the 10 day period is primarily related to the release of officer names and is only designed as a limit to not be exceeded without cause, not a recommended standard, and the board and the public expect the Police Department to release other appropriate preliminary factual information and updates to the public as soon as possible."

Another area of inquiry is analysis of data released last year that indicates 40 percent of the subjects of use of force by FCPD are African American, while only 8 percent of the county population is African American.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Supporting Stand for Justice

To the Editor:

My name is Lily Gates and I am a local Vienna resident attending James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Upon reading Tim Peterson's article concerning the Prayer Vigil held at the ICE Office in Fairfax (Vienna/Oakton Connection, March 1-7, 2017), I was troubled with the reported harm that executive orders are bringing to our local community. While respecting the Governor's disclaimer about the uncertainty concerning the ICE's reported actions, there is clearly fear of, among other things, rifts forming between Police and community members.

What concerns me the most is the continual push for efficiency at the expense of emotional empathy: a continuous problem in our nation's struggle between the governmental systematic legislature and the "people's" personal communities. Where documentation is unable to portray human emotion, it is the duty of United States citizens to take new per-

spectives and implement this legislation both ethically and empathetically. I praise the current stands for justice that our local communities are already demonstrating (i.e. the Prayer Vigil), and hope we can continue defending the rights of our fellow neighbors and community-members; not losing touch of our humanity at the expense of respecting and upholding the law.

Lily Gates
Freshman at JMU

Freeze Hurts Community

To the Editor:

The federal hiring freeze is hurting my family, my neighbors and my community. I live in Fairfax County. My husband and many of my neighbors work for the federal government. My husband's department has already been cut many times over the years so there are barely enough employees to get the work done. And now the Trump administration is talking about 250,000 lay-offs in addition to the freeze. That number dwarfs what Mr. Trump claims he has cre-

ated by threatening U.S. companies. Federal jobs are equally as important to our economy as private sector jobs. In fact, since they are good paying and secure jobs, they greatly contribute to the safety and wellbeing of our nation. We need to make our voices heard concerning the importance of maintaining our federal workforce. Tell your U.S. Congressman and Senators.

Peggy Pridemore
Vienna

Community in Peril

To the Editor:

The malicious attack that occurred last November at Tysons Corner Mall in which a man used anti-Muslim slurs and then bit another man in the face is an appalling example of violent bigotry. Rightfully so, the perpetrator was charged with a hate crime.

As McLean residents, we are upset and deeply concerned that this incident occurred in one of our neighborhood social hubs — a place where we shop, eat, and socialize with our families. Our sense

of safety and community is in peril with this and other incidents of hate crimes in our region, such as the recent bomb threats against Jewish schools in Fairfax and Montgomery counties.

Intolerance and violence in the places where we live, work, and learn diminishes our basic American values of dignity and respect for everyone. Virginia's leaders must commit to counter this alarming trend, which has been on the rise since the November elections. Our leaders must speak out unequivocally and repeatedly against hate crimes that target members of our community, and immediately dedicate more resources toward investigating and prosecuting all suspected hate crimes.

For our part, we refuse to let any type of violence motivated by race, religion, or ethnicity become part of our everyday lives and vow to support our neighbors who are being targeted and marginalized.

Kathryn McCormick, Lori Boerner, Alicia Plerhopes, Carla Post, Christine Sonu Park, Nadja Golding
Members of Virginia Democracy Forward

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Residents Participate in 'Build-a-Budget' Exercise

FROM PAGE 3

ing funded in the "net neutral" budget plan, such as the second year of additional funding for the Diversion First program. He also pointed out areas where funds were provided that fell short of the requests made by their recipients. The largest gap of note was in the transfer to the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Operating Fund. Even though the Advertised Budget includes an increase of \$51.69 million over FY 2017, that number is almost \$61 million less than what has been requested by the FCPS Board.

Fairfax County funds approximately 72 percent of the FCPS budget, while the average school district in Virginia receives only about 41 percent from its local government, with the rest coming from the State. "If our county only funded 41 percent of the FCPS budget, we would save about \$817 million," said Long.

There were plenty of comments and queries from the audience. "Why not just ask for a dollar more per month in the real estate assessments?" asked one woman. Long replied that after the increases of the prior year, the softening of the housing market, and the decisive defeat of the proposed Meals Tax Referendum during the November elections, it was determined that maintaining the tax rate at \$1.13 dollars per \$100 of assessed property value was advisable.

Long also said that the FY 2019 outlook was such that it was best to budget conservatively this year and continue to prepare for the future.

Following Long's presentation and a question and answer and public commentary session, Kristin Michaels, FCPS Assistant Superintendent for Financial Services provided an overview of the FY 2017 Budget for the county's schools.

WHEN ONE RESIDENT QUESTIONED the collaboration between the county's Board of Supervisors and the school board, and why the budget process didn't start until January, Chairman Bulova responded that the two boards "have a stronger working relationship than ever before." The county board and the school board participated in a joint retreat in 2016 to "better know each other" and to brainstorm on ways to support education in the community.

"And the budget happens all year long," she added. According to Bulova, almost immediately after the adoption of one budget, work begins on how to achieve the financial goals of the next year and beyond. To additional comments, Bulova acknowledged that the county could do better when communicating with residents. "I just have started a Council on communications and public engagement," she said. The Council focuses primarily on land use issues, but Bulova said that the recommendations for improved communications would no doubt be applicable to all interaction between the county and its residents.

Attendee Leila Gordon, the executive director of the Reston Children's Center, commented that in this community there was a strong spirit of partnership, but that what was needed was not to think only about where to find more money, but how to do things differently. It was time to utilize a more holistic approach to solving our problems and "bring fresh voices and ideas. Think big picture and how each action relates to all families in the region."

After a break and a presentation by Sookyun Oh, D.C. area director of the National Korean American Service and Education Consortium on using a "lens of equity" when developing a budget, the remaining audience members were given a chance to participate in a "Build-a-Budget" exercise.

Wireless electronic polling devices were distributed. Supervisor Hudgins read a series of questions asking the public to make decisions about building a balanced budget for the county. The participants all seemed eager to answer and sometimes surprised by their collective answers.

SEVENTY-FOUR PERCENT of the respondents voted to adjust the tax rate to allow for "providing excellent services for every resident of Fairfax," yet, at the same time, 40.31 percent expressed their overall approval of the budget as it was presented, despite the items that could not be funded, or the gap in the funding request by the School Board.


Later in the survey, almost 41 percent said that they would support an increase to fully fund the schools transfer request and county services.

Thirty-three percent indicated a loss of confidence in Metro and said they would need to see significant improvements in several areas before supporting additional funding, while 44.44 percent acknowledged the Metro problems, but said they would still support increased funding, even if it meant more taxes.

A lack of affordable housing in the region had been mentioned by several of the speakers and by members of the public. During the budget exercise, 36.58 percent agreed that they would support the re-establishment of the \$.01 housing tax. The majority, 57.05 percent, preferred to see an increase in the developers' contribution to support affordable housing.

During the activity, a number of the participants shouted out "Is there another option?" when answering a particular survey question. Several noted at the conclusion that picking a priority was more difficult than they would have originally thought.

Hudgins thanked them, saying their participation served to illustrate the difficulties in building a budget for the good of all citizens with the funds available, and also provided additional valuable input for consideration as the budget process continues through the call for adoption at the Board of Supervisors meeting on May 2.




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COMMUNITY

Celebrating the Persian New Year

The Nowruz
Festival will be
held Sunday,
March 12 at
Tysons Corner
Center.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Following 3,000 years of customs and traditions, the colorful Nowruz Festival — the Persian New Year celebration — will be held on Sunday, March 12, 2017, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. This year's festival, with more than 75 booth vendors, is free and will be held in front of Bloomingdale's at Tysons Corner Center.

Nowruz, which normally falls in early Spring, is when Persian-Americans will join locally to celebrate the new year. There will be 75 vendors offering traditional and exotic foods as well as jewelry, artwork, crafts, and other traditional Persian products. A main stage will be set up that provides entertainment with 60 musicians, dancers, artists, costumed characters, and traditional players.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Nowruz Festival celebrating the Persian New Year will be held on Sunday, March 12, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Tysons Corner Center.

The Nowruz Festival is a family-friendly, fun celebration that celebrates life, love and good will. Of all the Persian national festivals, the New Year celebrations are at once the most important and the most colorful. This festival embodies a wealth of ancient rites and customs, and is about the only one in Persia which is not confined to the traditions of only one religious group. It symbolizes that continu-

SEE NOWRUZ, PAGE 7

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COMMUNITY



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Nowruz Festival celebrating the Persian New Year will be held on Sunday, March 12, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Tysons Corner Center.

Celebrating the Persian New Year

FROM PAGE 6

ity of the ancient Persian culture which has survived so many adversities and vicissitudes.

The venue provides a fun place for people to celebrate with family and friends, to taste delicious Persian food and enjoy traditional and modern Persian entertainment. Among the traditions, is a ceremonial table called the cloth of seven dishes (each one beginning with the Persian letter Sin).

The symbolic dishes consist of Sabzeh or sprouts, usually wheat or lentil, representing rebirth. Another is Samanu or a sweet, creamy pudding. Another is Seer, which is garlic in Persian, which represents medicine.

In addition to attracting people from Virginia, Maryland and the District, this year, organizers hope to attract international guests from other countries that celebrate Nowruz, including Turkey, Afghanistan, and

Tajikistan, among others.

The goal is to share the Nowruz Festival with both Persians and non-Persians. The event sends out positive messages, like celebrating earth, spring time, love and peace to the community.

Planners want to bring different musicians and dancers from other countries that celebrate Nowruz, as well as new musicians that offer more variety to the festival. They also want to bring different historical and costumed characters from Persia (like Haji Firuz, a traditional herald of Nowruz dressed in a red costume and tambourine) that will interact with the crowd.

The Nowruz Festival will be held Sunday, March 12, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Tysons Corner Center in front of Bloomingdale's, at 8100 Tysons Corner Center, McLean, VA 22102. For details, contact organizer Shohreh Asemi, at 202-369-1515 or visit <http://nowruzfestival.org>.

Local SoberRide Partners with LYFT

SoberRide, Greater Washington's popular free safe ride service to prevent drunk driving will now be solely available via the Lyft mobile app ridesharing platform.

The collaboration, billed by both organizations as an "anti-drunk driving and pro-safety partnership" kicks-off officially with this month's St. Patrick's Day holiday when Lyft will provide SoberRide trips to would-be drunk drivers throughout Greater Washington beginning at 4 p.m. on Friday, March 17, 2017 (St. Patrick's Day) and continue until 4 a.m. on Saturday, March 18, 2017 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

During this 12-hour period, area residents age 21 or older celebrating with alcohol may download Lyft to their phones, then enter the code SOBERRIDE in the app's 'Promo' section to receive

their no cost (up to \$ 20) safe transportation home. The SoberRide code is valid for new and existing Lyft users.

In addition to Lyft's provision of WRAP's SoberRides this year, the ridesharing service will be donating \$1 to the nonprofit organization for each new Lyft customer using the SoberRide code in 2017.

SoberRide is offered throughout Lyft's Washington, D.C. coverage area which includes all or parts of: the District of Columbia; the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's; and the Northern Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William.

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 66,296 free safe rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

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Peter Pejacsevich 540-270-3835 | Scott Buzzelli 540-454-1399



39207 JOHN MOSBY HWY, ALDIE • \$989,750
Historic home c1803 in the heart of Aldie, beautifully restored interior, private front and back porches, stunning swimming pool with exceptional outdoor entertainment center, gazebo and hot tub, exquisite professionally landscaped gardens all beautifully manicured, brick walkways, extensive patios, fencing. Detached art studio and 2 car garage. Must see!
Peter Pejacsevich 540-270-3835 | Scott Buzzelli 540-454-1399



25589 CREEK RUN TER, CHANTILLY • \$558,750
Rarely Available 3BR/3.5BA home w/ golf course views! 2 gar & 4,000+ s/f of open living space. HW flooring & wood blinds throughout. Incredible 2 story LR. Formal DR. FR w/gas FP, KIT w/granite & breakfast area. MBR suite w/2 walk-in closets, dressing area & sep tub/shower 2nd BR w/cathedral ceiling. Main level laundry/mud room. Fin LL w/huge rec room. Large screened porch!
Peter Pejacsevich 540-270-3835 | Scott Buzzelli 540-454-1399



353 VIRGINIA AVE, HAMILTON • \$314,900
Great Opportunity for a first time home buyer or investor. 3 bedroom detached home, one level living, eat in kitchen, wall to wall carpet, wood stove, back deck, patio, and large outbuilding. Large fenced back yard. Property in good shape but could use some TLC. Sold as is.
Mary Kakouras 540-454-1604



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MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM

ENTERTAINMENT

Monte Carlo Vienna-style

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Are ya' feeling lucky? If Monte Carlo is not on your travel horizon this summer, you still have an opportunity to try your luck in an elegant atmosphere focusing on gaming and foods of the world — right here in Vienna.

The Rotary Club of Vienna hosts its annual Casino Night and Taste of the World on Saturday, March 11, 7-11 p.m. The festive ambiance of a colorful and sophisticated casino takes over the ballroom of Westwood Country Club for one evening.

"This is an opportunity to bring the community together to celebrate being a small town in a big city," said Vienna Rotary public relations committee co-chair, Cristin Etheredge. "What makes this event special is the heart-felt sense of community. People who come to Casino Night incorporate our motto, 'service above self.'"

When the Tysons Chamber of Commerce passed the casino-night torch on to Vienna Rotary, the humanitarian service club — most well-known for ViVa! Vienna! — embraced the community outreach as both a community social event as well as a fundraising tool. Rotary returns to the local community about 90 percent of its net proceeds from ViVa! Vienna! in the form of weekly check distributions.

"All year long, Rotary supports the community," said PR co-chair Jody Scholes. "This is an opportunity for the community to support the Rotary which, in turn, continues to support the community."

Etheredge and Scholes note that there is great value in the ticket price, from valet parking and gaming "cash" to global cuisine and gaming tables. Casino Night is an opportunity to network, and, to rekindle old friendships. It is, also, as Scholes says, an opportunity to dress up, to elegantly present one's self. "A friend told me, 'oh, my goodness, this sounds like so much fun because my friends and I are looking for



PHOTO COURTESY OF CRAIG RICHEY

One of the many gaming tables at Casino Night, this year held on March 11, Westwood Country Club.

an opportunity to pull out our nice dresses and pretend we're in Monte Carlo for the night."

Taste of the World features unlimited culinary sampling from some of the local area's most prominent restaurants, including Bazin's on Church, Clarity, Earl's, Eddie V's, Founding Farmers, Caboose Brewery, Paddy Barry's Irish Pub, Vienna Inn, and Seasons 52.

The combination gaming-and-food night features signature dishes from the area's popular restaurants and a variety of popular gaming tables, as well as a Wheel of Fortune game of chance. Buy raffle tickets or bid on silent-auction donations.

Raffle and auction prizes range from vacations and hotel accommodations to golf outings, local professional-sports tickets, as well as gift certificates to Vienna-area restaurants and gift baskets and services.

"The people coming already want to support Rotary," said Scholes. "They like the excuse to write out a check to us."

Tickets include unlimited food samples, one drink ticket, \$25,000 in gaming cash, and 20 raffle tickets to bid as you please. Individual tickets purchased in advance are \$85 per person; use EARLYBIRD promo code. At the door, tickets are \$95 or \$180 per couple. Westwood Country Club is at 800 Maple Ave. East. Purchase tickets or get more information at www.ViennaCasinoNight.com or 703-981-4911.

CALENDAR

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

SATURDAY/MARCH 11

Spring Bazaar. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St., South, Vienna. The Auxiliary to the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department will hold their Spring Bazaar and Craft Show. Free. Call 703-309-3468 or email Dancers1023@aol.com for more.

Effective Communication

Workshop. 1-3 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Tom Pfeifer, the author of "Write it, Speak it: Writing a Speech They'll APPLAUD!" presents tools for a more effective communicator and leader. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call 703-938-0405.

SUNDAY/MARCH 12

McLean Newcomers Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. at Nostos, 8100 Boone Blvd., Vienna. Cecilia Glembocki, Executive Director of the Virginia Egg Council will speak about her 35 years of organizing the White House Egg Roll. To R.S.V.P. for the luncheon, e-mail Gloria Cohan, gloriacohan@gmail.com by March 10. Visit McLeanNewcomers.org.

MONDAY/MARCH 13

Lunch N' Life. Noon at St Mark Catholic Church 9970 Vale Road Vienna. Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna's first Lunch N' Life event of the year, with "Scandals in the City" Alice Roosevelt Longworth as portrayed by entertainer, Elaine Flynn. \$10, prepayment required by Wednesday, March 8. No refunds. Visit www.scov.org or call call 703-281-0538 for more.

TUESDAY/MARCH 14

39th Annual Valor Awards. 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. To honor public safety heroes from the Fairfax County Police Department, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department, Fairfax County Office of the Sheriff, Town of Vienna Police Department, and Town of Herndon Police Department who have put their personal safety at risk to keep our community and businesses safe. Chris Lawrence, News Anchor with News4 at 4, NBC4, will act as emcee. Registration is available online. Entry is \$125 for a single ticket, or \$1,250 for a table of 10. Email athompson@novachamber.org.

THURSDAY/MARCH 16

Vietnam Veterans Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane. Volko Ruhnke will discuss the development of his successful board game, "Fire in the Lake, Insurgency in Vietnam." Call Len Ignatowski at 703-255- 0353 or visit www.vva227.org.

MARCH 17-18

Disney's Musical. Friday 7 p.m., Saturday 3 and 7 p.m. at Kilmer Middle School, 8100 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. \$10. Email Leisa Sheridan at leisafs@msn.com for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 18

Old-Fashioned Egg Hunt & Roll 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Freeman House, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Children 12 and under and their parents are welcome to participate in an egg roll and visit with Easter Bunny, hosted by Historic Vienna, Inc. Visit www.viennava.gov.

SUNDAY/MARCH 19

Breakfast Buffet. 10 a.m.-noon at American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N. Adults \$9, children 12 and under \$3. Call 703-938-6580 for more.

MCC is on the MOVE!

Due to the scheduled renovation of the Ingleside facility, on April 3, 2017, the McLean Community Center will temporarily relocate to the McLean Square Shopping Center.

Administrative Offices
6631 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, Va. 22101

Class Programs/Registration Office
6645 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, Va. 22101

Special Events and performances offered by The Alden will be held at select community venues.

Please check our website, www.mcleancenter.org, or call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, for updates.

SPORTS

Cougars Go to State Finals

The Oakton Cougars secured a spot in the Virginia 6A basketball finals.

BY WILL PALENSCAR
THE CONNECTION

The Oakton Cougars secured a spot in the Virginia 6A basketball finals after defeating the Langley Saxons 52-40 in the semifinal on March 4.

The Cougars' track to the finals was not an easy one. After losing to the Saxons 64-36 in the 6A Regional Final, Delaney Connolly was held to 4 points in the game. In the two games following that game Connolly dropped 26 points against Patriot and 22 against Ocean Lakes. Connolly, despite battling the flu has elevated her game at the most important time of the year.

The Cougars arrived at the game after defeating Patriot 73-55, and Ocean Lakes 58-40. Langley, winners of 11 consecutive games arrived after beating Battlefield 45-41, and Woodbridge 55-40.

Langley would start the semifinal game with Oakton with an early 15-11 advantage after playing the first 8 minutes.

Early in the second quarter Oakton's Maddie Royle was called for her third foul. Royle, upset after the third foul, was also charged with a technical and her fourth foul. Oakton Coach Fred Priester was forced to sit Royle who scored 19 points against Ocean Lakes. Oakton's stifling defense would hold Langley to just 3 points in the quarter and take a 19-18 lead at half.

In the third quarter, the Oakton defense would continue to wreak havoc on the Langley offense, outscoring the Saxons 17-9 and allowing the Cougars to pull away from Langley.

With a 36-27 lead to start the fourth Oakton would finish off Langley and end their season outscoring the Saxons 16-13 and advancing to the state final game, 52-40.

With the win Oakton (26-4) will face Colonial Forge (24-6) in the 6A Final in Richmond at the Siegel Center on the campus of Virginia Commonwealth on March 11. Langley ends the year with a (25-5) record. Oakton was led by Delaney Connolly's 31 points and Mina Mori's 10. Langley was led by Jordyn Callaghan's 12 points and Ellie Buckley's 10.



Oakton's Delaney Connolly #44 connects on two of her game high 31 points.



Oakton's Delaney Connolly #44 and Mina Mori #14 gave this kind of attention to Langley's Jordyn Callaghan #1 in Oakton's semifinal win over Langley. Connolly scored 31 points and Mori added 10

PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR/THE CONNECTION

Call for Candidates McLean Community Center 2017 Governing Board Election

Qualification:

Must be a resident of Small Tax District 1A-Dranesville.

Petition to Become A Candidate:

- Candidate must pick up own petition packet at the Center, and return own petition.
- Adult candidate must have ten (10) signatures of adult tax district residents on petition.
- Teen candidate must be 15-17 years old as of McLean Day (May 20) and have ten (10) signatures of teens also 15-17 years old who live in the tax district and in the candidate's high school boundary area.

Positions:

- Three (3) Adult Seats - Three-year terms.
- Two (2) Youth Seats - One-year terms. One (1) each for the Langley and McLean High School boundary areas.

Key Petition Dates:

- **January 23:** Petition Packets are available at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, VA.
- **March 17:** Completed Petitions are due at the Center by 5 p.m.

☐ For more information visit the Center at:
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA 22101
call: 703-790-0123, TTY: 411
email: elections@mcleancenter.org
or visit: www.mcleancenter.org/
about/candidates



McLean Community Center
The Center of It All

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Hearing on the McLean Community Center's FY 2019 Programs



Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

The Governing Board and Staff of the McLean Community Center are **seeking input from residents** of Dranesville Small District 1A at a Public Hearing on Programs for FY 2019, which runs July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. MCC programs are scheduled to return to the newly renovated Ingleside facility in the Fall of 2018.

The Board and Staff are interested in hearing residents' suggestions for class offerings, community events, theater programs, exhibits, tours, youth events and teen activities when they return home to the Center.

If you would like to speak at the hearing, call the Center to have your name placed on the speakers' list. You also may submit comments in writing to: george.sachs@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The hearing will be followed by the regular monthly meeting of the Governing Board.



The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

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No More "Dating"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not until next year, anyway. Besides, there will be enough water gushing under that bridge, almost as much seen a few weeks back flowing onto the Oroville Spillway in Northern California. At least I hope so. Because if there's no more 'gushing,' there's likely no more, well; we don't have to talk about that. Not talking and planning for one's future is bad for a cancer patient's business; self-fulfilling prophecy and all that presumptive karma. And with all the dos and don'ts and hopes and prayers in the cancer world, my general philosophy has been not to mess with Mother Nature, too much, if you know what I mean? I don't necessarily believe in leaving well enough alone, but neither do I believe in poking the bear.

I mean, I acknowledge that I'm dying, but aren't we all really? Reminiscent to a few years back when a former ESPN Sports anchor (Dan Patrick, I believe it was, now of NBC Sports) made famous a similar characterization concerning a ballplayer's injury, when he said: "He's listed as day to day, but then again, aren't we all?" Oh yeah. A little perspective goes a long way, even a decade or so in arrears. I guess that's what's so enriching about reading. Unfortunately, reading is not fundamental for me, writing and listening is. And as with my unexpected non-small cell lung cancer diagnosis at age 54 and a half (lifelong non-smoker, no immediate family history of cancer or premature death; I know, any death is premature), I make the best of my situation and endeavor to strive to stay alive. I don't dwell on the negative. Sure, I accept and understand my reality (maybe in some dispute, but not in my head though), but having been raised with a positive attitude by both my late parents, I am able to endure until science/medicine finds a cure. It's not ideal, but it's a living — thank God!

And even more so the day after chemotherapy, as I sit and write on Saturday, March 4. Reminded as I am of the situation I find myself living in and trying to learn from to cope and always hope. Somehow trying to find a way to continue to take cancer in stride while not hiding from the harsh realities that affect many cancer patients. Just as occasionally looking in the mirror is not a pretty sight, nor is droning on and being cancer-centric. Though I am mostly cancer-centric in my weekly column, I hope its contents provide enough context that it sheds some light on how one lives with a terminal disease rather than how that same one puts off death.

I don't mean to imply that being diagnosed with cancer is akin to having a bad roommate where you can sort of close their bedroom door or try to ignore their comings and goings except as it concerns rent and utilities, but similar elements have to be enforced. 'Enforced' may be too strong a word. Maybe ingrained would be a better word? You have to own the responsibility of living with a terminal disease, but somehow try and not believe it. It sort of invokes the quote about minor surgery: "Minor surgery is someone else having it." When it's me having it, it's major. Compartmentalizing one's cancer diagnosis/prognosis is crucial to its acceptance. Obviously, it dominates your thinking and awareness, but it can't be allowed to control it. You just hope when you peel away the emotional layers you impose to maintain an even/humorous keel (in my approach, anyway), it won't resemble the damage seen on the Oroville Spillway.

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

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21 Announcements

PUBLIC NOTICE

VOLUNTARY REMEDIATION PROGRAM (VRP) ACTIVITY

DEQ VRP Site 00671

10th Street Flats
3100 to 3128 10th Street North, and
932 North Highland Street
Arlington County, Virginia 22201

VRP Participant:
10th Street Flats LLC,
4401 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 600,
Arlington, VA 22203

The 10th Street Flats Property, located at 3100 10th Street North (formerly 3100 to 3128 10th Street North, and 932 North Highland Street) in Arlington County, is participating in the Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) administered by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The property was the former site of commercial activities that included a battery store, fuel storage, vehicle sales, and vehicle maintenance. Environmental investigations found on-site petroleum and volatile organic compound contamination of soil and groundwater. Remedial actions to mitigate potential risks to human health and the environment from the contaminants have been proposed by 10th Street Flats, LLC and accepted by VDEQ-VRP. The remedial action consisted of soil excavation and disposal. A Certification of Satisfactory Completion of Remediation will be requested from DEQ-VRP. Questions or comments regarding this notice will be accepted for 30 days from the date of publication and should be addressed to the contact below:

John Diehl
Environmental Consultants and Contractors, Inc.
43045 John Mosby Highway
Chantilly, VA 20152
703-327-2900
John.Diehl@eccfirst.com

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify existing wireless telecommunications antennas on a building located at 815 S 18th Street, Arlington, Arlington County, VA 22202. The modification will consist of replacing three existing antennas with three new antennas and adding three new RRHs at a center-line elevation/center height of +/- 62 feet above grade/ground level on the +/- 73-foot building. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6117000556-SF c/o EBI Consulting, EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail S, York, PA 17403, or via telephone at 617-715-1817/781-273-2500.

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21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE

TSKAAB, LLC trading as The Black Squirrel, 2670 I Avenir Place, Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer & Wine, On & Off Premises & Mixed Beverages license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

Thomas S. Knott, managing member
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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ABC LICENSE

Sugar Factory PFC, LLC trading as Sugar Factory (and Sugar Factory American Brasserie), 1100 South Hayes Street, #H37, Arlington, VA 22202. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On; Mixed Beverage (seating capacity 151 seats or more) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.

John L. Sullivan, Manager
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.

Light tomorrow with today!
-Elizabeth Barret Browning

21 Announcements

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Spring 2017 HomeLifeStyle

Reston homes and gardens will be part of Virginia's Historic Garden week on Tuesday, April 25. Featured here, a home on Lake Newport Road. See <http://www.vagardenweek.org>

PHOTO BY DONNA MOULTON/FAIRFAX GARDEN CLUB

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PHOTO COURTESY OF WINN DESIGN + BUILD

White and gray painted cabinets like those in this kitchen by Winn Design + Build will dominate kitchen color schemes in 2017.

Kitchen Trends for 2017

Local designer share popular design ideas.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Those looking for kitchen design ideas have a new source of inspiration: the National Kitchen & Bath Association's (NKBA) list of trends for 2017. Local designers reveal which trends are most popular in the Washington, D.C. region.

NKBA predicts that contemporary-styled kitchens will overtake traditional to become the second most popular design after transitional. Locally, Michael Winn, president of Winn Design + Build expects to see "a strong move towards transitional and contemporary styles, with no fussy designs."

Homeowners are looking for "kitchen spaces that look comfortable, calming and clutter-free," said Shannon Kadwell of Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc.

Clean lines, built-in shelving and simple door styles dominate kitchen designs. Megan Padilla, senior designer for Aidan Design reports an interest in custom storage ideas.

"We're inspired by our work with clients who often have collections of table décor — everything from antique trays to vintage oyster plates," she said. "By creating custom storage these cherished items can be readily accessible."

When it comes to painted cabinetry, gray is the new white and the popularity of both colors shows no signs of slowing down, according to the NKBA survey. However, blue painted and high gloss kitchen cabinets are emerging, especially in the Washington area, says Winn.

"Blues and grays are very popular [and] white continues to be popular."

For overall color schemes, two-toned kitchens are gaining popularity while blue and black are emerging as sought after colors. "We're seeing a rise in product offerings available in matte black — from appliances to plumbing fixtures to cabinet hardware," said Padilla. "We love it paired with white in a classic black and white kitchen, but also as an accent piece. Matte black also pairs beautifully with brass, which has been trending for the past couple of years."

Quartz is the most sought-after kitchen countertop material, followed by granite. "Most of our clients aren't really interested in a kitchen that [is] too trendy since they plan to have it in place for 15-20 years," said Padilla. "We've seen an uptick in interest in incorporating color by way of alternate neutrals. Navy blue is probably the top choice, but taupes and lighter blues are also on the list."

An interest among homeowners in incorporating technology in kitchen design is increasing as well. About one third of the NKBA professionals surveyed reported recent projects that included wiring and pathways for future tech integration. "I would also expect the technology side to be a focus in D.C.," said Samantha Klickna, project developer with Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. "The ease and comfort of controlling your home while at the office or on travel is very appealing and convenient for the city dweller."

Induction cooktops and convection ovens are trending higher, and microwave drawers are surpassing freestanding or built-in microwaves in popularity. "People have been purchasing appliances like steam ovens and induction ovens now more than ever before," said Kadwell. "People have less time, but still want to cook. They want to be able to cook quickly, so they're looking for appliances that can accomplish that."

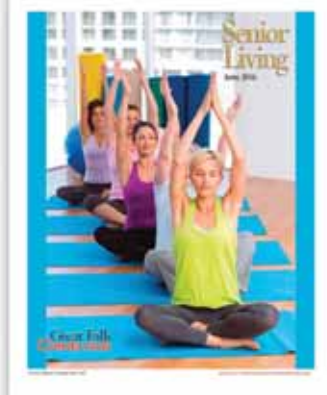
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Tour Local Gardens

Garden Club of Virginia hosts 84th Annual Historic Garden Week.

During the last eight days of April every year nearly 26,000 visitors tour homes and gardens across Virginia.

This year, Historic Garden Week features 30 tours organized and hosted by 47 Garden Club of Virginia member clubs. Nearly 250 private homes, gardens and historic sites will be open. For nearly a century the Garden Club of Virginia has been committed to preserving the beauty of Virginia for all to enjoy. Garden Club of Virginia members were early leaders in conservation and environmental concerns. Tour proceeds fund the restoration and preservation of more than 40 of Virginia's historic public gardens and landscapes, a research fellowship program and a centennial project with Virginia State Parks.

RESTON TOUR Tuesday, April 25

Hosted by Garden Club of Fairfax, the tour headquarters and

facilities are at The Lake House, 11450 Baron Cameron Ave., Reston. Tickets, maps and restrooms are available on tour day. Tickets \$40 per on tour day, advance tickets are \$30.

See www.vagardenweek.org. By mail before April 10, send a self-addressed stamped envelope and check made out to "The Garden Club of Fairfax" to Marty Whipple, 11508 Yates Ford Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22093. 703-978-4130. Fairfax@vagardenweek.org.

Complimentary refreshments will be served 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lake House. Reston Town Center, Lake Anne, and North Point Village Center are minutes away and offer a variety of eateries and lunch options for visitors.

The Reston tour includes Round Pebble Lane, garden only; Stones Throw Drive home and garden; and three modern homes and gardens on Lake Newport.

For more, including tours in Alexandria and Leesburg, see www.viriniagardenweek.org

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BEFORE: Above, owners Jack and Marie Torre wanted square footage for a larger kitchen and dining room, but “set-back” rules prohibited building in the rear, and the front-facing roof overhang limited options for re-designing the facade.

AFTER: Best Whole House Makeover in 10 states, left: Sun Design Remodeling’s conversion of a circa 1960s split-level into a neoclassical style residence has been named a regional “Contractor of the Year” (COTY) winner by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry.

From Split-Level to Neoclassical

Conversion wins regional “Contractor of the Year” award.

BY JOHN BYRD

Converting a circa 1960’s split-level into a spacious neoclassical-style residence has won Sun Design Remodeling a regional “Contractor of the Year” award from the National Association of the Remodeling Industry. The Fairfax residential makeover was named the best whole house remodeling in the “\$250,000 to \$500,000” range in a 10-state area that extends from Maryland and Florida to as far west as Tennessee. Owners Jack and Marie Torre have been so pleased with the outcome that they’ve held an several open houses just to show the changes to curious neighbors. Another open house will be held in the annual Parade of Home, April 22-23.

To accommodate the owner’s requirements, Sun Design added a 300-square-foot addition, introduced a front veranda with a foyer, and elaborated the exterior in a wholly new architectural language.

The Torres had purchased the 3,000-square-foot brick and siding structure in 1984, and found a perfect spot for raising children. As the children moved on, however, the couple recognized that the changes they wanted to make to the house were apparently infeasible.

“We couldn’t add on to the rear because of set-back restrictions,” Jack Torre said. “The bigger problem, though, was a six-foot roof overhang in front, and the seven steps

required to walk from the ground level foyer to the primary living area.”

The couple were actively looking at relocating when a chance visit to a Sun Design remodeled split-level nearby convinced Marie Torre to make an appointment with Bob Gallagher, the company’s president.

In the first meeting, a “wish list” emerged that included a larger kitchen, a formal dining room with a tray ceiling, a family room with a view of the tree-lined back yard, and a spacious first-level powder room.

With these goals in mind, the design team focused on how best to configure the essential components within a well-inte-

grated whole.

Since new space couldn’t be added on the rear, the east side of the house was designated for the new dining room/sitting room wing.

Still more problematic: under the existing plan, one entered the house from a narrow front foyer — ascending to a main level hall that segued in three directions.

What was missing, Gallagher observed, was a “procession” in which rooms unfold in an inviting orderly sequence.

“The structural challenge was finding an optimal way to raise the front door to the main level of the house,” Gallagher said.



The split-level’s former bow window was converted to a set of French doors which overlook the new veranda. Though the execution makes the addition hard to detect, the dining room beyond the fireplace is actually in the home’s new wing.

“This would require extending the front foyer eight feet to get past the existing roof overhang. We also needed to redesign the front elevation to better rationalize the difference between the grade at ground-level and the home’s main living area — a distance of about seven feet.”

What evolved was not merely a larger foyer, but an improved and more appropriate architectural context that allows for a front verandah that surrounds and presents the front entrance to the home.

The resulting interior meanwhile revolves around two comparatively modest additions: a 44-square-foot foyer aligned with the front door; 300-square-foot west wing that houses a formal dining room and an adjacent rear-of-the house sitting area.

The new addition includes a two-sided fireplace visible in the living room. The enlarged kitchen now accommodates a custom-designed banquette, and storage pantries.

The gourmet kitchen, according to Marie Torre, provides spaces for all cooking utensils, even items formerly stored in the basement.

Replacing the roof over and raising the ceiling from eight feet to nine feet has made the living room feel substantially larger.

Better yet, the remade rear elevation — which includes a “bump-out” with divided light windows and French doors — invites abundant natural light.

“This is a completely different house,” said Marie Torre, “One much more satisfying to occupy.”

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors design and remodeling seminars as well as tours of recently remodeled homes. Headquartered in Burke, Sun Design also maintains an office in McLean. Visit www.SunDesignInc.com.