



# Great Falls CONNECTION

EASTER FUN

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HomeLifeStyle

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## Egg Hunt Leaves No Gem Unturned

EASTER FUN, PAGE 10

Luke Elena, 4, of Great Falls throws a rugby ball into the net at the Great Falls Rugby's stand at the festival. His parents signed him up to play with the team.

### New Pastor Gives First Sermon After Installation

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PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

APRIL 12-18, 2017

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## Poetry Contest Winners Celebrated with Accolades and Ice Cream

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Great Falls Friends and Neighbors held an award reception on Tuesday, April 4, to honor the nine winners of the club's annual poetry contest. This is the 35<sup>th</sup> time that the GFFN has challenged fourth, fifth, and sixth graders from Great Falls Elementary School to express themselves through poetry — and possibly garner recognition and some cash prizes for their creative efforts.

Claire Abbott, GFFN community liaison, chaired the contest committee. "It's a wonderful turnout," she said, "and the children presented their works so well."

Choosing the winners was a daunting task for the panel of judges, lead by Pat Kuehnel, but eventually from the multitude, a first, second and third place was chosen for each grade level.

The poetry contest is timed to coincide with the school's poetry unit of study. Joanne Schilling, the reading specialist at Great Falls Elementary, said that having the students



**As her name tag explains, Sophie Colabatistto was at the Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Poetry Contest reception to cheer on her brother Gino, who took first place in the sixth grade division.**

actually try their hands at the literary craft really helped bring the module to life.

The first place winner from the sixth grade division, Gino Colabatistto, agreed.



**Iona Cameron Cadenazzi shows off her certificate for taking second place with her poem "Take Me Back."**

Of course, getting to write about one of his passions, "Hockey," went a long way to making the assignment that much more of interest. "But I didn't think I would win," he admitted. "It's good." Gino doesn't think

he'll make a career from his new found literary talents, but he does think filmmaking might be for him, so he will still be pushing the creative boundaries.

Iona Cameron Cadenazzi, who took second place among the sixth grade entries, may keep writing and may keep poetry "in my repertoire." She enjoys writing and doesn't mind editing her work to get it just right. Her submission, "Take Me Back" was a moving poem about loss that she had actually written in the fourth grade. She revisited her work and "just made it better this time."

After the awards were distributed and the poems read with confidence to an audience of teachers, family and friends, the winners were rewarded with ice cream sundaes from the Great Falls Creamery.

The 2017 Poetry Contest Winners, in first, second, and third order are:

Grade 4 – Tess Davis, Amiliya Smith, and Nika Kozyrenko

Grade 5 – Diego Tablett, Peyton Walcott, Claire Kim

Grade 6 – Gino Colabatistto, Iona Cameron Cadenazzi, Emma Wolff

## Writing Gala Celebrates Young Authors

**To local youth,  
words mean cash.**

BY CHRISTINA TYLER WENKS  
THE CONNECTION

**T**hinking outside the box and putting pencils to paper, students created stories for a chance to win money and bragging rights. Ten finalists have been named in the Great Falls Writers Group 2017 Youth Writing Contest. The top three receive cash prizes and read their works at the Youth Writing Gala on Saturday, April 29, at 4 p.m. at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike.

"So often, we seem to think that our small voices cannot carry above the roar of a crowd, but a small voice becomes mighty when we put pen to paper," said Michael Cappitelli, Great Falls Writer's Group Contest Committee Chair.

For a third year, the writing group hosted the contest to inspire, encourage and reward young writers. The Friends of the Great Falls Library is underwriting the cost of the event and donating cash prizes.

"Our groups are different, but our missions align," said Michelle Miller, president of the Friends of the Great Falls Library, about the partnership with GFWG.

About 50 sixth-graders from Colvin Run Elementary School, Great Falls Elementary School, Forestville Elementary, and home-schooled children from Great Falls participated in the contest held Jan. 21 at the Great Falls Library.

Without the aid of electronics, students



**Nick Spoto, foreground, and Connor Oakes, sixth-graders at Forestville Elementary School, are two of 50 students from Great Falls who accepted the Great Falls Writers Group writing contest challenge.**

wrote poetry, short stories, or essays inspired by a visual prompt — a large cardboard box on its side with nested boxes spilling from largest to smallest.

While the schools were well-represented, Forestville dominated the top ten entries that were judged blindly. Judges include a librarian, an educator, and a nationally known best-selling author who writes for and works with this age group.

Works are judged on creativity, originality, content, relationship to the topics, grammar, and story development. Judges knew the works only by numbers, no names. Once scores are tallied, names and numbers were

matched to determine winners.

Participant performance in the contest's first two years demonstrated to sixth-grade teachers that this contest showcases writ-

### Writing Contest Finalists Named

The top ten finalists of the Great Falls Writers Group 2017 Youth Writing Contest are in alphabetical order:

- ❖ Thomas Buckley, Forestville Elementary School
- ❖ Bradley Cao, Forestville Elementary School
- ❖ Daniel Cao, Forestville Elementary School
- ❖ Morgan Frederick, Colvin Run Elementary School
- ❖ Helen Fu, Colvin Run Elementary School



PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA TYLER WENKS

**Aliaa Saleh writes an essay inspired by a prompt for the Great Falls Writers Group's third annual Youth Writing Contest.**

ers of all academic abilities.

"We must kindle the fires of creative writing and ignite excitement for the written word," said Kristin Clark Taylor, Great Falls Writers Group founder.

- ❖ Carly Hill, Forestville Elementary School
- ❖ Natalie Hutchinson, Forestville Elementary School

- ❖ Katie Merrill, Forestville Elementary School
- ❖ Connor Oakes, Forestville Elementary School
- ❖ Ann Shen, Forestville Elementary School

The top three winners will be named and receive cash awards at the Great Falls Writers Group Youth Writing Gala at 4 p.m. on April 29, at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.



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## FAITH

# New Pastor Gives First Sermon After Installation

BY FALLON FORBUSH  
THE CONNECTION

**R**ev. Hank Langknecht had a stern message for his congregation at Christ the King Lutheran Church on the fifth Sunday of Lent: “The easy mistake that Christians make is waiting for Jesus to come and do something.”

Langknecht’s sermon on the morning of Sunday, April 2, was about the story of the Raising of Lazarus from the Bible’s gospel of John. In this text, Lazarus is a follower of Jesus who becomes ill. His sisters, Martha and Mary, sent word to Jesus to come to his aid in the town of Bethany.

However, Lazarus dies before Jesus arrived to help. This left Martha and Mary questioning why Jesus waited so long to help his loyal disciple. Then, to their surprise, Jesus brought Lazarus back to life—four days after he died.

Langknecht told his Great Falls congregation about the easy sermon that could accompany the parable.

“Don’t worry if your faith is in disarray,” Langknecht said to his congregation. “Don’t worry if you’re confused about what Jesus means for us. Don’t worry for even a little bit. Jesus will show up.”

This was not the sermon he was going to preach.

“Jesus is not going to come ... it’s not going to happen,” he said. “Because it’s already happened. This is the radical claim at the heart of the Christian faith. God has already given to us all that God has to give. There’s nothing more to wait for.”

The promise of life after death will be discussed in many church congregations during Lent, the time from Ash Wednesday, March 1, to Easter Sunday, April 16, that is observed by the Roman Catholic, Eastern and some Protestant churches as a period of penitence and fasting.

Langknecht focused on reminding his congregation that they are already living this revived life.

“Our job now is to be the spirit that draws people together,” he said. “Our job now is to help others stand strong in the faith. We’re not Mary, Martha or Lazarus, we are Jesus to the world.”



PHOTOS BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

**Pastor Hank Langknecht leads congregants in Holy Communion during the service on Sunday, April 2. Participants commune either by dipping wafers into a chalice of wine or grape juice or by drinking from a common chalice. Sometimes described as a “gathering around the means of grace,” the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America believes that Jesus Christ is present during this rite through the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Langknecht told the audience that Christians have already been raised from the dead and have the power to minister to others.

“Who in this story can stare death in the face and make a claim for life, even if the world doesn’t believe it?” he asked. “It’s us. We are Jesus in this story.”

Langknecht assumed the role of pastor of the church in late February and was officially installed on Sunday, March 26. He joined Christ the King from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, where he worked as a professor of homiletics and Christian communications.

He replaced Rev. John Bradford who was pastor of Christ the King for five years, beginning in 2011 and ending in June 2016.

## FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday at noon.

**McLean Bible Church** Fitness Class at Body and Soul Fitness. Gain balance, energy and strength at 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. [bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org](mailto:bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org).

**St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church**, 1830 Kirby Road, McLean, holds traditional services every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m. [www.stdunstans.net](http://www.stdunstans.net).

**Vienna Christian Healing Rooms** are open every Saturday, 1-4 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779 or [www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com](http://www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com).



## WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

### Christ the King Lutheran Church Announces Holy Week Events

Holy Week and Easter Services and events at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, Va. 22066 (703) 759-6808, <http://www.gflutheran.org> include:

Maundy Thursday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 16, 8:30 and 11 a.m.

A Children's Easter Egg Hunt will take place after the 11 a.m. service on the church grounds.

### Bluebell Festival Saturday at Riverbend Park

Riverbend Park Bluebell Festival will be held Saturday, April 15, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls.

Bring the family to Riverbend Park for the annual festival saluting Virginia's native bluebells. There will be face painting, live animals, a moon bounce, music and walks to see the bluebells and other wildflowers that carpet the forest at Riverbend. Enjoy a stroll with the family to see these signs of spring's awakening and don't forget your camera. Admission is \$7 per person and free for children age two and under. For more information, call 703-759-9018 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press/html/ir041-17.htm>.

### Town Hall Meeting on SunTrust Proposal

On April 18 at 7:30 p.m., Great Falls Citizens Association (GFCA) will hold a public town hall meeting in the Great Falls Library to discuss SunTrust Bank's application to build a new structure. SunTrust will make a presentation to the community, discuss their new building design, and take questions from the community.

SunTrust has proposed a new 32-foot high bank building at the corner of Walker Road and Columbine Street with 3,327 square feet of office space and 14 parking spaces. The bank would be accessed by the current road inside the Village Centre; it is estimated that the facility will generate about 200 vehicle trips per day.

The bank has proposed a drive-thru, requiring Fairfax County to grant them a special exception. In addition Fairfax County is being asked to waive three zoning rules:

- ❖ To permit construction of a commercial facility on the bank's 38,000 square foot lot; County rules require a minimum commercial lot of 40,000 square feet,

- ❖ To eliminate transitional plant screening that would normally be required along Columbine Street, and

- ❖ To eliminate a rule that would require the bank to install a loading space.

The Fairfax County Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings and a final vote on this request this summer.

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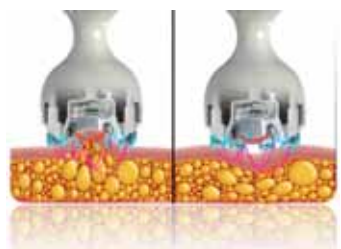


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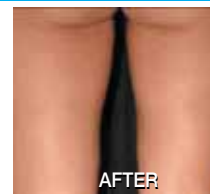
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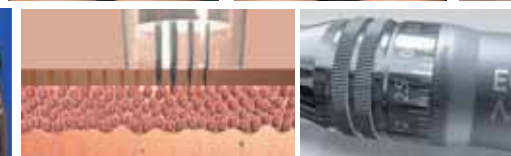
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# OPINION

## Your Award Winning Papers

**Richmond Times-Dispatch (daily) and the Mount Vernon Gazette/Local Media Connection (non-daily), win the VPA's highest awards.**

Virginia Press Association's highest award, the VPA Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service, went to Local Media Connection/Mount Vernon Gazette for coverage and editorials throughout 2016 relating to police reform in Fairfax County.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch won in the daily category for its series about the death of a mentally ill prisoner, Jamycheal Mitchell, in a Portsmouth Jail.

The judges noted, "The Mount Vernon Gazette covered the complex issue of police reform from February through December 2016, sparked by the shooting of an unarmed man by a Fairfax County police officer. ... The Gazette focused community attention on the case, particularly on the efforts of citizens and representatives of law enforcement agencies working together on reforming police practice. This led to the creation and implementation of a Civilian Review Panel to provide oversight of police policy, procedures and activities. ... The approach of the Gazette in this matter provides a good illustration of the positive role a community newspaper can play when it takes an activist approach to issues of importance to its readers." Editor Mary Kimm and reporter Tim Peterson accepted the award.

Virginia Press Association honored its 2016 award winners on Saturday, April 8, 2017 in Richmond at its annual dinner. The Connection papers, including the Alexandria Gazette Packet, garnered more than 35 awards in many categories, including investigative reporting, education coverage, headline writing, photography, column writing, sports writing, obituaries, environmental writing, food writing, graphics, and more.



PHOTO BY ROBIN MOGLE

**Local Media Connection writers and photographers won 37 Virginia Press Association awards for work in 2016, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service. Pictured here from left, John Bordner, Mark Mogle, Mary Kimm, Shirley Ruhe, Tim Peterson, Vernon Miles, Eden Brown, Andrea Worker and Jeanne Theismann.**

aries, environmental writing, food writing, graphics, and more.

Shirley Ruhe was the top award winner, earning seven different awards including two first place awards, one for investigative reporter for her series on sex trafficking.

Other first place award winners include photographer Mark Mogle, who also won two first places; Bonnie Hobbs for General News for her coverage of the rise and fall of the mayor of the City of Fairfax; Eden Brown for Education writing; Tim Peterson for Public Safety writing

and for Sports writing; Joan Brady for Feature Series on foster care alumni success stories; Jeanne Theismann for headline writing; Alexandra Greeley for food writing. Steven Mauren, editor-in-chief, won first place for Editorial Pages in Alexandria Gazette Packet, along with Mary Kimm, cartoonist Steve Artley, and designers Geovani Flores and Laurence Foong.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## 2016 Virginia Award Winners

- ❖ Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service, the association's highest award, went to **Local Media Connection/Mount Vernon Gazette** for coverage and editorials relating to police reform in Fairfax County.
- ❖ **Shirley Ruhe**, 1st Place, In-Depth or Investigative Reporting, Arlington, Investigative Series-Sex Trafficking
- ❖ **Mark Mogle**, 1st Place, General News Photo, Wreaths Across America, Arlington Connection
- ❖ **Eden Brown**, 1st Place, Education Writing, Arlington Connection
- ❖ **Shirley Ruhe**, 1st Place, Column Writing, People at Work, Alexandria Gazette Packet,
- ❖ **Jeanne Theismann**, 1st Place, Headline Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ **Steven Mauren, Mary Kimm, Steve Artley, Geovani Flores and Laurence Foong**, 1st Place, Editorial Pages, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ **Mark Mogle**, 1st Place, Picture Story or Essay, "Plaid Tidings," Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ **Tim Peterson**, 1st Place, Public Safety Writing, Burke Connection
- ❖ **Bonnie Hobbs**, 1st Place, General News Writing, Fairfax Mayor Caught in Sex-for-Meth Sting, Fairfax Connection
- ❖ **Joan Brady**, 1st Place, Feature Series or Continuing Story, Great Falls Connection,
- ❖ **Alexandra Greeley**, 1st Place, Personal Service Writing, Food Features, Great Falls Connection
- ❖ **Tim Peterson**, 1st Place, Sports Writing Portfolio, Springfield Connection
- ❖ **John Bordner**, 2nd Place, General News Photo,

- Kluge Farewell, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ **Shirley Ruhe**, 2nd Place, Feature Series, Homelessness, Arlington Connection
- ❖ **Kemal Kurspahic and Staff**, 2nd Place, General Makeup, Fairfax Connection
- ❖ **Marilyn Campbell**, 2nd Place, Personal Service Writing, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- ❖ **Jon Roetman**, 2nd Place, Sports Writing Portfolio, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- ❖ **Shirley Ruhe**, 2nd Place, Column Writing, In the Kitchen, Mount Vernon Gazette
- ❖ **Jean Card, Laurence Foong, Renee Ruggles**, 2nd Place, Informational Graphics, Guide to the Parks, Fairfax Station Connection
- ❖ **Shirley Ruhe**, 2nd Place, Personality or Portrait Photo, Vienna-Oakton Connection
- ❖ **Ken Moore**, 2nd Place, Health, Science & Environmental Writing, Great Falls Connection
- ❖ **Kemal Kurspahic, Andrea Worker, Donald Sweig, Ken Moore, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong**, 3rd Place, Front Page Design, Reston Connection
- ❖ **Shirley Ruhe**, 3rd Place, Personal Service Writing, Arlington Connection
- ❖ **Steven Mauren, Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong**, 3rd Place, General Makeup, Arlington Connection
- ❖ **Shirley Ruhe**, 3rd Place, General News Photo, Arlington Connection
- ❖ **Eden Brown**, 3rd Place, General News Writing, Arlington Connection
- ❖ **Jeanne Theismann**, 3rd Place, Personal Service Writing, Obituaries, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ **Steve Artley**, 3rd Place, Illustrations, Editorial



PHOTO BY VERNON MILES

**Mary Kimm and Tim Peterson accepted the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service.**

- Cartoon, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ **Vernon Miles**, 3rd Place, Feature Writing Portfolio, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ **Jon Roetman**, 3rd Place, Sports Writing Portfolio, McLean Connection
- ❖ **Jean Card, Laurence Foong, Renee Ruggles**, 3rd Place, Informational Graphics, Guide to the Parks, Mount Vernon Gazette
- ❖ **Tim Peterson**, 3rd Place, General News Writing, Mount Vernon Gazette
- ❖ **Laurence Foong**, 3rd Place, Informational Graphics, Real Estate Map, Great Falls
- ❖ **Mary Kimm**, 3rd Place, Editorial Writing, Great Falls Connection
- ❖ **Ken Moore**, 3rd Place, Education Writing, Great Falls Connection
- ❖ **Ken Moore**, 3rd Place, Feature Writing Portfolio, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection

Great Falls  
**CONNECTION**

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# County Ready to Implement Next Phase of Diversion First

BY SUPERVISOR JOHN C. COOK  
(R-BRADDOCK DISTRICT)

**F**airfax County continues to make substantial progress on a program called "Diversion First." This program provides treatment instead of incarceration for people with mental health issues or developmental disabilities who come into contact with law enforcement for low-level offenses. With Diversion First, an officer can identify a suspect as needing supportive services, and can bring him or her to the Community Services Board (CSB) instead of making an arrest. Instead of making an arrest, officers bringing low-level offenders to the CSB saves the County money, time, and resources. Last year, 375 people were diverted from arrest into treatment- which represents a huge accomplishment. This is not the only opportunity for diversion, however. The County is now pursuing the next phase of the Diversion First program, with a focus on making diversions after this initial contact with law enforcement.



## COMMENTARY

Imagine you or I were arrested for a low-level crime, such as trespassing or disorderly conduct, on a Saturday night. We may be held until Monday or Tuesday. We could then probably post a bond for a few hundred dollars and be released. People with mental illness or developmental disabilities, however, often have troubled employment histories, and do not have that money. They are often detained for months awaiting trial.

During this time, the County is paying approximately \$200 per day to hold them, all while their mental state is deteriorating. By their next hearing date, these individuals have often spent as much or more time in jail awaiting their day in court than if they had been found guilty of the original charges, resulting in a release based on "time served." They leave in a worse condition than when they entered. Eighty percent of the time, they will repeat their criminal behavior.

Diversion First breaks this cycle. It pro-

vides judges with a treatment alternative at the bonding hearing, when the judge can offer "supervised release" instead of bail. Supervised release requires mandatory treatment, with supervision by a trained probation officer. The person gets treatment and can recover. Then they can be released from criminal charges later if treatment is successful.

Studies show this treatment alternative can reduce the reoccurrence of criminal activity to as low as 20 percent. That means a 60 percent reduction in crime (from 80 percent to 20) from this population. Literally hundreds of crimes can be prevented each year. With jail costing around \$200 per day, and treatment only a few thousand dollars per year, over time the County will save significant funds.

This program is a win-win. Treatment improves lives. Crime will be reduced. Taxpayers will save long-term money. We must continue the progress of Diversion First by implementing these new avenues for diversion. This will allow the County to direct resources more efficiently, allow the Police to save time, and help people with disabilities improve their lives.

# Sense of Impending Changes

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM  
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

**N**early two hours of the eight-and-a-half-hour reconvened session of the House of Delegates of the General Assembly were taken up last week by speeches from retiring members and acknowledgement speeches by others about their service and achievement. The length of the tribute time was driven in large part by the fact that eight members, all of whom are Republicans, are retiring. Heading the list is the Speaker of the House followed by a senior member who chairs the important Courts Committee. For some like the Speaker the longevity of service was a key factor. Others cited family and financial concerns. Another one or two may reappear running for another office. Legislative service that is considered part time with a low level of remuneration but takes full time commitment always has some turnover, but the number this year is significant.

Another factor that may have influenced some decisions is the sense of changing political winds in the Commonwealth.



## COMMENTARY

Never in my years of service have I gotten as many phone calls, postcards and emails as I have this year. Traditional groups have gotten re-energized, and many new groups have formed. Activism is in the air. For me, it has been reassuring. As a progressive, I feel less like I am speaking into the wind and more like there is a force of people behind me. For years I worked on the redistricting issue almost alone and now thousands of people are contacting their legislators asking that they support redistricting reform. The public has become keenly aware of the adverse impact that gerrymandering has had on the legislature.

The signs of change were evident in the reconvened session last week. While the House of Delegates did not respond favorably to my plea that we approve an amendment by the Governor to expand Medicaid, there was discussion by majority party leaders in the House and Senate that a new group is going to be looking at how medical services can be expanded to the poorest in our state. I continue to be

amazed at the argument that leaving \$40 billion on the table in federal dollars could somehow be considered "fiscally responsible."

The majority party may have felt somewhat humbled by the fact that the legislature upheld 40 vetoes of bills by the Governor extending the record of his administration to 111 with none being over-ridden. Of course, a two-thirds vote is required, but in the House only a couple of deflections by Democrats would have made an override possible. The vetoes by Governor McAuliffe have kept Virginia out of the news with crazy legislation that has passed in other states.

Certainly there is also an eye to November with 77 Democrats lining up to challenge 49 Republican incumbents. As that number is reduced by primaries and conventions, it leaves hotly contested races that could dramatically change who is in charge in the House and/or the attitude of those left in charge. Democrats have challengers to incumbents in the 17 districts held by Republicans that were won by Hillary Clinton. For those who continue to ask what they can do, there is a clear sense emerging that much can be done this year to put Virginia on a more progressive track.

## LETTERS

### Offended by 'Snide Remarks'

To the Editor:

I am offended by the continual snide remarks in his column made by John Lovaas about President Trump. You are supposed to be a community newspaper – not a political rag – unless I am mistaken. I would like you to find one of your publications that made a similar nasty comment about former President Obama. If you can, then I will back off. If you can't, then I rest my case. You are not being fair and balanced.

**Lynn Pacenta**  
Reston, VA

### Who Needs to Apologize?

To the Editor:

On March 22, the Virginia Republican Party made it their business to demand an apology from AG Mark Herring for attending a town hall at a Falls Church Mosque. They are following the campaign strategy of Donald Trump — empowering hate and intolerance in Northern Virginia.

And it seems to be working. Since March 22, three separate hate incidents occurred here in Northern Virginia. A home was ransacked and a Koran was vandalized. In another instance someone spray painted swastikas on a building, and in a park, boulders were defaced with derogatory graffiti and words.

It is not Herring who needs to apologize – it is the Virginia Republican Party who owe us an apology and to change their campaign strategy from fear and loathing to one with positive ideas to improve Virginia and the lives of Virginians.

**Diana Smith**  
Reston

## Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed.

Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail:  
north@connectionnewspapers.com





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## HomeLifeStyle

# Design Center Educates Homeowners with Remodeling Plans

**Open House, April 22, will feature three seminars, industry experts and New showroom.**

BY JOHN BYRD



PHOTO BY SUZY FOSTER

**Remodeler David Foster (left) talks with a homeowner browsing in the recently-opened Design and Selection Center, which is holding an Open House on April 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Open House will feature three seminars, access to representatives from major home improvement product manufacturers, a raffle and chef-prepared hors d'oeuvres.**

There will be several full-sized kitchen and bathroom designs on view, vignettes featuring cabinets, vanities, flooring and lighting, even a full-sized outdoor courtyard which spotlights break-through materials and styles being applied to roofing and siding.

SEE OPEN HOUSE, PAGE 9



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**F**oster Remodeling Solutions will launch its new 3,270-square-foot Home Design and Selection Center in Lorton with an open house on Saturday, April 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The event will include seminars on a variety of topics ranging from kitchen and bath design to "How to Plan a Successful Remodeling," to steps entailed in introducing "Aging-in-Place" modifications into the home. Seminar presenters are recognized experts in their respective specialties. Representatives from top manufacturers will also be on hand to answer questions about specific products, appliances and emerging technologies. Several manufacturers also will be contributing new products as raffle items.

Visitors can arrive as early as 10 a.m. and browse the newly-expanded Design and Selection Center. Chef-prepared hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served throughout the day.

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**Great Falls**  
9912D Georgetown Pike  
Great Falls, VA 22066  
703-281-4868





PHOTOS BY SUZY FOSTER

Three full-size kitchen displays are now on view in the Lorton showroom. The 3,270 square foot Lorton showroom is one of the largest home improvement product expositions in northern Virginia.

## Open House

FROM PAGE 8

“Our goal is to make it easy for attendees to find answers to an array of home improvement questions in a single day,” said David Foster, who has operated Foster Remodeling Solution for over 34 years. “We encourage attendees to come prepared with questions, drawings and photos, and to bring interested friends and neighbors. All of the offerings are free and open to the public.”

### Design and Selection

There are three design consultation rooms that allow homeowners to review in-progress design details of a home improvement on a flat screen television.

“Home improvement is a very dynamic industry,” Foster said. “You have to stay ahead of changing technologies and evolving practices. We’re expanding methods for bringing ideas to homeowners that have already proven successful. ... This Open House will be more of an exposition than we’ve offered in the past; we’re building on what we’ve learned about local homeowner interests.”

The three one-hour seminars will be held at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. so that interested parties can attend all three without conflict.

❖ Design consultant Sean McLarty, a veteran remodeler with 33 years of professional experience, will provide tips on “Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling” at 11 a.m.;

❖ Dory Clemens, a space planning specialist, will conduct a seminar at 1 p.m. on “Aging-In-Place” applications. The session will focus how to assess which modifications to your home are most appropriate for near-term and foreseeable needs;

❖ At 3 p.m., Chris Arnold, whose 25 years of remodeling experience embraces every facet of the industry, will discuss “How to Plan a Successful Remodel,” including best options for financing a project.

Interested parties can register for the show room opening and for individual semi-



**A full-sized outdoor courtyard illuminated by natural light spotlights some of the durable materials and styles now being applied to roofing and siding.**



**Major vendors and manufacturers participating in the Design Center have increased substantially. Options for cabinet facings, plumbing fixtures, surface materials, tile and flooring are part of the permanent display. Foster designers are regularly exposed to new products and materials.**

nars online at [www.fosterremodeling.com](http://www.fosterremodeling.com), or by calling 703-350-1371.

*John Byrd (byrdmatx@gmail.com) has been writing about home improvement for 30 years.*

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## EASTER FUN

Children aged eight through 10 are unleashed for the egg hunt. Kids were organized into age groups throughout the village green and simultaneously released to search for 8,000 eggs.



PHOTOS BY FALLON FORBUSH/  
THE CONNECTION

### Can't Vote at McLean Day for the 2017-2018 MCC Governing Board?

Vote by Absentee Ballot April 10 – May 17 at either:

**McLean Community Center (MCC)**

**Administration Office:**  
6631 Old Dominion Drive  
McLean, VA 22101  
703-790-0123

**Class Programs/Registration Office:**

6645 Old Dominion Drive  
McLean, VA 22101  
703-744-9348/TTY 711

**Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Closed on Sunday**

**Old Firehouse Teen Center (OFTC)**

1440 Chain Bridge Road  
McLean, VA 22101  
703-448-8336/TTY 711

**Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.**  
**(closed on weekends)**

OR

**Absentee voting affidavits  
and ballots must be returned  
to one of these locations by  
5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17.**

**Requesting Absentee Ballots:**

You can pick up absentee ballot packages and vote at both MCC offices or OFTC. You can also request absentee ballot packages by email at [elections@mcleancenter.org](mailto:elections@mcleancenter.org) or by telephone at 703-744-9348.

**Returning Completed Applications and Ballots:**

You can return your absentee voting affidavits and ballots to the front desk at either MCC location or OFTC. You may also mail them using the pre-addressed envelope enclosed in the absentee ballot package. Mailed affidavits and ballots must be received at administrative office by due date.

**Absent voting ends promptly at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 17.**

Hand delivered absentee voting affidavits and ballots must be received at either MCC location or OFTC by that time.

**If you have questions:**

Please call 703-744-9348 or email [elections@mcleancenter.org](mailto:elections@mcleancenter.org)



**The McLean Community Center**

703-790-0123/TTY: 711

[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)

## Egg Hunt Leaves No Gem Unturned

Candy wasn't the only thing waiting for children to find when they opened the eggs they found on Sunday, April 9; Adeler Jewelers hid gemstones in 800 of the 8,000 eggs

BY FALLON FORBUSH  
THE CONNECTION

It was only a matter of seconds before children ripped through the green and snatched up all the pastel-colored treasures. Sunshine and temperatures in the 70s drew them and their families to the Great Falls Village Centre for the Annual Children's Spring Festival and the spring rite of passage: An egg hunt.

"It took 40 volunteers four hours to fill 8,000 eggs and they'll be gone in less than a minute and a half," says Jorge Adeler, owner of Adeler Jewelers, which sponsored the event.

Chocolate and candy weren't the only things waiting for the kids to find when they opened their bounties on Sunday, April 9.

The Adelers also hid gemstones—like tourmaline, pearl, blue topaz, garnet and opal—in 800 of the eggs, according to Wendy Adeler, Jorge's daughter.

This was the 33<sup>rd</sup> year the spring event was held.

The festival happens on the Sunday before the Easter holiday each year for children aged one



**Grant Witte, 5, of Great Falls descends the Cliff Hanger, an inflatable slide at the Annual Children's Spring Festival sponsored by Adeler Jewelers.**

through 10 and is sponsored by Adeler Jewelers and the Great Falls Optimist Club. All proceeds directly benefit the Great Falls Optimist Club.



**Taylor Doremus, 3, of Great Falls gives the Easter Bunny a high five at the Annual Children's Spring Festival in Great Falls.**



**Lowell Sapp, 1, of Great Falls crawls through an inflatable bounce house at the Annual Children's Spring Festival to benefit the Great Falls Optimist Club.**



## PHOTO GALLERY!

### "Me and My Mom"

To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Mount Vernon Gazette will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

[editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com)

Photo prints will be returned to you if you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope, but please don't send us anything irreplaceable.





## Great Falls Artists Exhibit at ArtSpace in Herndon

Twenty three Great Falls Studios artists and their 35 pieces of art were juried into a warm and welcoming exhibit titled "There's No Place Like Home." The show was judged by Tom and Linda Neel and the winners announced March 19. On exhibit now through April 8 at the ArtSpace Herndon Gallery (open Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.). Visit [www.artspaceherndon.com](http://www.artspaceherndon.com).

The American Horticultural Society's  
**SPRING GARDEN MARKET**  
**APRIL 21 & 22**  
**at RIVER FARM**  
 Alexandria, Virginia

**AHS MEMBERS-ONLY MORNING**  
 Fri., April 21, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

**PUBLIC SALE**  
 Fri., April 21, 12 p.m.-4 p.m.  
 Sat., April 22, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

*Celebrate Earth Day weekend with a visit to River Farm for our annual plant sale and garden marketplace!*

For more information visit  
[www.ahsgardening.org/GardenMarket](http://www.ahsgardening.org/GardenMarket)  
 or call (703) 768-5700.

Parking is \$5 per car (cash only); free for AHS members (with valid member card, receipt, or current issue of *The American Gardener*). A limited number of garden carts will be available for use; we recommend bringing your own. Leashed pets are welcome.

special thanks to **Mount Vernon Gazette**

McLEAN COMMUNITY PLAYERS  
 Opens Friday, April 14!  
**A Midsummer Night's Dream**  
 By William Shakespeare  
 Directed by Rosemary Hartman  
 Produced by Bunny Bonnes and Jean Matich

Prepare to be enchanted by this delightful tale composed of elves, mistaken identities, and wild fantasies!

**April 14-30**  
 Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m.  
 Sundays at 2:00 p.m.; there will be no matinee on Apr. 16

*A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be performed at  
 Vinson Hall Retirement Community  
 Community Building Ballroom  
 1735 Kirby Road, McLean, VA 22101

Tickets: Brown Paper Tickets 1-800-838-3006 OR [www.McLeanPlayers.org](http://www.McLeanPlayers.org)

Audio description for the visually-impaired will be offered by the Metropolitan Washington Ear at the matinee performance on Sunday, Apr. 23, 2017. See the Accessibility page on MCP's website for more details.  
 The McLean Community Players, Inc. is funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County.

CONNECT WITH MCP: [FACEBOOK.COM/MCLEANPLAYERS](https://www.facebook.com/McLeanPlayers)

McLean Community Center Presents

**Spring fest**

**Saturday, April 15**  
**10 a.m. - noon**  
 St. Luke's School  
 7005 Georgetown Pike  
 McLean, VA 22101

Ages 3 - 8  
 \$5 per participant,  
 children 36 months  
 and younger are free.

Take a photo with the bunny!  
 Bring your Easter basket for the egg hunt!  
 Entertainment!  
 Arts & crafts!

Registration is required for all participants.  
 Walk-ins will not be accepted!

Activity Code 4501.317  
 NEW LOCATION! St. Luke's School

For more information and to register, go to:  
[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)



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**9:00 a.m.** Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
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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  
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[www.fbcv.org](http://www.fbcv.org)**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP, 7:45 AM & 10:00 AM  
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MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM**

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**Antioch Christian Church**  
1860 Beulah Road  
Vienna, VA 22182

# CALENDAR

Send announcements to  
[connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/).  
Deadline is Friday at noon for the  
following week's paper. Photos/artwork  
encouraged.

## ONGOING

**Stuff-a-Bus Food Drive.** Through  
April 15, various times at Christ the  
King Lutheran Church, 10550  
Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A food  
drive for non-perishable items to  
support Arlington Food Assistance  
Center. There will be drop off boxes  
for donations of non-perishable food  
throughout the church. Call 703-759-  
6068.

**Ed Behrens' Photographs.** Various  
times through April 30 at Katie's  
Coffee House, Village Centre, 760  
Walker Road, Great Falls. The  
showing will celebrate Ed's ten years  
as a member of Great Falls Studios,  
his very active 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Call  
703-759-0927 for more.

**Free Tai Chi.** Every Saturday, from  
7:55-9 a.m., Introduction and  
Beginners' Practice, meet on the  
outdoor basketball court located  
directly behind the Dolley Madison  
Public Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave.  
in McLean Central Park, McLean.

**The Golden Girls of Northern  
Virginia,** a senior women's softball  
league, is looking for players. Any  
woman over the age of 40 is  
encouraged to join. All skill levels are  
welcome. Play on Wednesday  
evenings and Saturday mornings in  
Vienna. Visit [www.goldengirls.org](http://www.goldengirls.org).

**First Sunday Jazz Brunch** 11-2 p.m.  
Recurring monthly on the 1st Sunday  
at Bazin's on Church 111 Church St  
N.W., Vienna. Enjoy brunch  
accompanied by the soft jazz sounds  
of Virginia Music Adventure. Visit  
[www.fxva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/](http://www.fxva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/)

**The Freeman Store & Museum**  
Wednesday through Sunday noon-4  
p.m. 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. The  
Freeman Store & Museum is  
dedicated to Preserving and  
promoting Vienna's heritage through  
the identification, preservation, and  
interpretation of history significant  
places, events, and persons.  
[Historicviennainc.org](http://Historicviennainc.org)

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

**Bingo Night.** Sundays. 4 p.m. Flame  
Room, Vienna Volunteer Fire  
Department, 400 Center St. S,  
Vienna. \$10. [www.vvfd.org/bingo.html](http://www.vvfd.org/bingo.html).

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

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

**Colvin Run Mill** open 11 - 4 p.m.  
daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin  
Run Road, Great Falls. Fairfax  
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## EASTER EVENTS IN THE AREA



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Easter Eggs-Stravaganza at Roer's Zoofari,

**On April 15-16, it's the Easter Eggs-Stravaganza, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at Roer's Zoofari, at the corner of Hunter Mill Road and Baron Cameron Drive in Vienna. Egg hunts, safari tours, and more. Participants in the Easter Egg hunt are asked to bring their own basket. Call 607-757-6222, or visit [www.roerszoofari.com](http://www.roerszoofari.com) for more.**

## FRIDAY/APRIL 14

**Good Friday.** noon-3 p.m. meditations with organ accompaniment; 7:30 p.m. mass at St. John's Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Call 703-356-4902 or visit [www.stjohnsmclean.org](http://www.stjohnsmclean.org) for more.

**Good Friday Services.** Noon-3 p.m. at Dranesville Church of the Brethren 11500 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. The service will be the Seven Last Words of Christ featuring six half hour services with six local clergy. Email Rev. Kelly at [tkelly@stfrancisgreatfalls.org](mailto:tkelly@stfrancisgreatfalls.org) for more.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 15

**Easter Egg Hunt.** 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Bring a basket and hunt for candy and eggs filled with treats, win door prizes and visit the Easter bunny. \$10. Call 703-324-8569 for more.

**Egg Hunt.** 9:30 a.m. at 777 Lynn St., Herndon, behind the Herndon Municipal Building. Story readings, coloring mural, tattoo shack, petting zoo, photo-op with Easter Bunny, instrument "Petting Zoo" brought to you by Bach to Rock. \$9 in advance or \$10 at the event. Visit [herndon-va.gov/](http://herndon-va.gov/) for more.

**Holy Saturday Silent Retreat.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Free. Spend a day in noble silence, meditating and creating a space to be still and listen. Day will be spent alternating between sitting and walking meditation with some periods of stretching. Only a small fraction of meditation practices will be guided. Call 703-281-1767 or register online at [unitysilentretreat.eventbrite.com](http://unitysilentretreat.eventbrite.com).

## SUNDAY/APRIL 16

**Easter Sunrise Service.** 6:30 a.m. at Great Falls Park, 9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Hosted by Great Falls Area Ministries. Contact Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church 703-759-3509 for more.

water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily tours, school programs and special events. Fees: \$7/adult, \$6 students 16+ with ID, \$5 children & seniors. Admission to park is free except for some special events.

**Fundamentals of Watercolors.** Mondays 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Artist Lorrie Herman will help students get comfortable working with watercolors and understanding this medium. Visit [www.greatfallsart.org](http://www.greatfallsart.org) for more.

**Still Life Painting.** Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Still life provides a great tool to hone skills. Recommended for students of

all levels. Visit [www.greatfallsart.org](http://www.greatfallsart.org) for more.

**Evening Painting.** Tuesdays 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Jill Banks focuses on oil painting fundamentals with two sessions each of still life, landscapes, and portrait/clothed figure from a live model. Visit [www.greatfallsart.org](http://www.greatfallsart.org) for more.

**Intro to Jewelry Design.** Tuesdays 9 a.m.-noon at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. JJ Singh teaches a class for anyone interested in exploring the world of metal clay and its design possibilities. Visit [www.greatfallsart.org](http://www.greatfallsart.org) for more.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13



# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 12

## THURSDAY/APRIL 13

**Passover Celebration.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Charles Wesley United Methodist Church, 6817 Dean Drive, McLean. Rabbi Stephanie Bernstein of Temple Rodef Shalom speaks to the meaningfulness of the Passover and the Seder meal. Call 703-356-6336 for more.

## FRIDAY/APRIL 14

**Good Friday.** noon-3 p.m. meditations with organ accompaniment; 7:30 p.m. mass at St. John's Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Call 703-356-4902 or visit [www.stjohnsmclean.org](http://www.stjohnsmclean.org) for more.

## APRIL 14-23

**A Midsummer Night's Dream.** Various times in Vinson Hall's Community Building Ballroom, 1735 Kirby Road. The McLean Community Players' production of William Shakespeare's comedy. \$18-\$20. Visit [www.McLeanPlayers.org](http://www.McLeanPlayers.org) or call 1-800-838-3006 for more information.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 15

**Easter Egg Hunt.** 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Bring a basket and hunt for candy and eggs filled with treats, win door prizes and visit the Easter bunny. \$10. Call 703-324-8569 for more.

**Holy Saturday Silent Retreat.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Free. Spend a day in noble silence, meditating and creating a space to be still and listen. Day will be spent alternating between sitting and walking meditation with some periods of stretching. Only a small fraction of meditation practices will be guided. Call 703-281-1767 or register online at [unitysilentretreat.eventbrite.com](http://unitysilentretreat.eventbrite.com).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/APRIL 15-16

**Easter Eggs-Stravaganza.** 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at Roer's Zoofari, at the corner of Hunter Mill Road and Baron Cameron Drive in Vienna. Egg hunts, safari tours, and more. Participants in the Easter Egg hunt are asked to bring their own basket. Call 607-757-6222, or visit [www.roerszoofari.com](http://www.roerszoofari.com) for more.

## SUNDAY/APRIL 16

**Easter Sunrise Service.** 6:30 a.m. at Great Falls Park, 9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Hosted by Great Falls Area Ministries. Contact Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church 703-759-3509 for more.

**Easter Breakfast Buffet.** 8 a.m.-noon



**Ed Behrens photos will be on exhibit in April at Katie's Coffee Shop, Village Centre, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls during the month of April.**

at American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N. Vienna. \$9, children 12 and under \$3. Call 703-938-6580 for more.

happy as possible by making his surroundings happier. Lewinsville Senior Center 1515 Great Falls St., McLean. Call 703-442-9075 for more.

## MONDAY/APRIL 17

**Landscape as Habitat.** 1:30-3 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Join Laura Beaty and Donna Murphy of the Virginia Native Plant Society for a presentation on why conversion of lawn into wildlife habitat, using locally native plants, is an increasingly popular movement. Adults. Free. Call 703-938-0405 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/APRIL 19

**Happiness 101.** 1 p.m. in the Main Room Lewinsville Senior Center 1515 Great Falls St., McLean. Speaker is Paul Singh, an international, award-winning speaker. He is a student of happiness and his mission is to be as

## SATURDAY/APRIL 22

**Family Fishing Rodeo.** 9 a.m. at Wildwood Park, 700 block of Follin Lane SE. The creek will be stocked with hundreds of trout, bring a fishing rod, bucket, plastic bag, and ice. \$3. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) for more.

## SUNDAY/APRIL 23

**Amadeus Orchestra.** 4 p.m. at Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. A pre-concert lecture by Music Director A. Scott Wood will begin at 3:15 p.m., 45 minutes prior to the start of the concert. \$30, students 17 and under and active military are admitted free of charge.



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## Here's What's Happening at MCC

### Spring fest

Saturday, April 15, 10 a.m.-noon  
\$5 per person; children 36 months and younger are free. Registration is required for all participants. Walk-ins will not be accepted.  
**New Location! St. Luke's School**  
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### The Old Firehouse School Break Trips

#### AMC Double Feature

Friday, April 14, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
\$55/\$45 MCC district residents

#### Rockin' Jump & Movie

Monday, April 17, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
\$55/\$45 MCC district residents

### Special Events

#### Spring Community Garage Sale



Saturday, April 22  
9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
1420 Beverly Road  
Space Fee: \$45.  
Admission: Free

#### McLean Traveler Day Trip Fredericksburg Garden Day

Tuesday, April 25  
7:45 a.m.-6 p.m.  
\$149 per person  
\$144 MCC district residents



#### Old Firehouse Friday Night Trips

##### Bowlmor Lanes

Friday, April 28, 3:30-10 p.m.  
\$55/\$45 MCC district residents



#### The McLean Community Center

[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)

#### Home of the Alden Theatre

[www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org)

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-William Van Horne

## 21 Announcements

### ABC LICENSE

Oakton Wine Shop, LLC trading as Oakton Wine Shop, 2952A Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, VA, 22124. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a restaurant on off premise license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Bryan Gauthier, 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.

## 21 Announcements

### ABC LICENSE

Cheesetique LLC trading as Cheesetique, 4056 Campbell Ave., Arlington, VA 22206. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Melissa Pankow, Store Director. 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.

## 21 Announcements

### ABC LICENSE

HBC Market Common Corp. trading as Heritage Brewing Co. Market Common Brewpub & Roastery, 2900 Wilson Blvd, Ste 104, Arlington, VA 22201. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises and Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Sean Arroyo, CEO. 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.

## 21 Announcements

### ABC LICENSE

THE GROOMING LOUNGE OF VIRGINIA LLC trading as GROOMING LOUNGE OF VIRGINIA LLC, 2001 INTERNATIONAL DR STE 3706, MCLEAN, FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, 22102-4605. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a DAY SPA license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. MICHAEL GILMAN, 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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## Exercising A Demon



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Last night, between 9:30 p.m. and 10:15 p.m., I traveled back in time — without leaving my bedroom and without the use of a Time Machine. I went back approximately 41 years to the fall of '73, to my sophomore year in college at The University of Maryland. A group of us decided to go see one of the most talked about movies of the year: "The Exorcist." Talked about because it was filmed locally here in Georgetown and because it was said to be scary as h---.

I believe we saw the movie at the old KB Cinema located on Wisconsin Ave., NW, adjacent to Rodmans. I could be wrong but there's no one to ask, so you'll just have to take my word for it. I remember little else about the evening, other than my return back to my dorm room, #103, at Cumberland Hall in College Park. Though I had a roommate, he had gone home for the weekend so I was all alone. And that is what I remember most, closing the door, shutting off the lights, sitting on my bed and staring into the darkness and seeing Linda Blair's face (from the movie) and being extremely uncomfortable being by myself so soon after having seen the movie. I had a difficult night. I don't remember if I had any nightmares however, but, it was a miserable experience trying to fall asleep. I have not seen "The Exorcist" a second time, in its entirety or in any pieces until last night, despite it being a movie readily available on cable, especially around Halloween.

I would say I saw the last 45 minutes. I saw Linda Blair tied up in her bed. I saw Linda Blair turn her head completely around. I saw projectile vomiting from her mouth. I saw her fiery, yellow eyes and her face all torn up with scars and scabs. I saw her bed shake. I saw her bed levitate. I heard the demon inside her growl, screech, curse and speak backwards and verbally attack all the priests held sacred. I heard the bells chiming in the movie score. I saw plenty but not enough to justify the fear that engulfed me all those many years ago. Having watched the movie again (and having slept peacefully through the evening), it almost feels as if I've survived a rite of passage somehow, faced off against my past and come out reasonably healthy — all things not considered.

Nevertheless, I have no interest in seeing "scary" movies. I guess I don't see the point or rather the point pales in comparison to the fact that I've been diagnosed with cancer: now that's scary. Moreover, having lived over 40 years since having seen "The Exorcist," a few other scary things have happened in life which places a movie in context; it's only celluloid (sort of), it's not real. So I've learned a few things and probably unlearned a lot more. I wouldn't say watching the movie tonight was an epiphany-type moment when the light came on and I realized what I had been missing or perhaps realized what I've been getting. Granted, it's only a movie, and one that's over 40 years old, but it's a movie/experience/ affect that had stuck with me for a long time, and now I'm free of its tentacles.

It reminds of another movie I saw as a young boy, when I was under 10 years old, it scared the h--- out of me and did give me nightmares: "Invaders From Mars," released in 1953. The Martians landed in a field just within view from a little boy's bedroom window in his family's farmhouse. I remember his wide eyes at seeing the light off in the distance. I remember the music. I remember the Martians having a device that made the ground disappear and then reform. I remember the Martian leader's head being carried around in a goldfish-type bowl of something. I don't remember the plot. I just remember being frightened. It wasn't until "The Exorcist" 15 or so years later that I had been similarly scared. And it wasn't until 35 years after seeing "The Exorcist" when I was once again so scared that I had trouble sleeping, and had nightmares, and experienced everything else associated with fear that your life may actually be coming to an end: my non-small cell lung cancer diagnosis in late February 2009. Having survived more than a few years now past my original "13 month to two-year" prognosis, maybe I am ready to go see another scary movie? After all, I could probably use the diversion.

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

# BULLETIN

To have community events listed in the Connection, visit [connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline for submissions is noon on Friday.

## THROUGH SUMMER

**Vienna Street-sweeping Program.** The Town of Vienna begab its annual street-sweeping program beginning March 20. The Town is divided into eight sections for purposes of the sweeping program. During the first pass through Town, the Public Works Department asks that residents not park on the street. Find the "sweeping" sections at [viennava.gov/sweeping](http://viennava.gov/sweeping). Additionally, signs will be placed on streets marking a window of 7-10 days during which the truck will come through. Contact public works at 703-255-6380.

## APRIL 9-16

**Holy Week and Easter Worship.** St. John's Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Call 703-356-4902 or visit [www.stjohnsmclean.org](http://www.stjohnsmclean.org).

❖ **April 12:** 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist

❖ **Maundy Thursday, April 13:** 7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

❖ **Good Friday, April 14 – Meditations and Music** – noon-3 p.m. – Meditations by the Rector on The Seven Last Words of Christ and music on the Seven Last Words of Christ sung by the St. John's Choir with organ accompaniment. All are welcome for any part of the service.

❖ **Good Friday, April 14 – Liturgy and Music:** 7:30 pm – *Dies Irae* from *Requiem* by Charles Villiers Stanford sung by the St. John's Choir and the Choir of St. Francis Church, Great Falls with organ and string quartet

❖ **Easter Vigil, April 15:** 8 p.m. First Eucharist of Easter

❖ **Easter Day, April 16:** 7:30, 9:00, 11:15 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist – Music with brass and timpani at each morning service.

**Holy Week.** Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Call 703-356-3312 or visit [umtrinity.org](http://umtrinity.org)

❖ **April 13: Maundy Thursday** — 7:30 p.m. — This service observes Jesus at the Last Supper.

❖ **April 14: Good Friday** — 7:30 p.m. — Jesus is taken to Pontius Pilate for a trial; the sentence is passed and Jesus is crucified with the common criminals.

❖ **April 16: Easter Sunday** — Sunrise Service 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Easter morning worship is filled with Hallelujahs and rejoicing as we celebrate our risen Lord.

## THURSDAY/APRIL 13

**Maundy Thursday.** 6 p.m. Agape Meal, 7 p.m. Holy Eucharist at Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. Call 703-938-6521 for more.

## FRIDAY/APRIL 14

**Good Friday Services.** Noon-3 p.m. at Oakton United Methodist Church, 2951 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton. The service will be the Seven Last Words of Christ featuring six half hour services with six local clergy. Visit [oaktonumc.org/](http://oaktonumc.org/) or call 703-938-1234 for more.

**Good Friday.** 12:10 p.m. The Way of the Cross, 7 p.m. The Liturgy of Good Friday at Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. Call 703-938-6521 for more.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 15

**Holy Saturday.** 8 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter at Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. Call 703-938-6521 for more.

## SUNDAY/APRIL 16

**Easter Sunrise Service.** 6:30 a.m. at Great Falls Park, 9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Presented by Great Falls Area Ministries. Contact Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church 703-759-3509 for more information.

**Easter Sunday.** 7:30, 9 and 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt at Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. Call 703-938-6521 for more.

## MONDAY/APRIL 17

**Informative Presentations.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. Topic is "Understanding Small Kitchen Appliances." Call 703-759-3509 for more.

## TUESDAY/APRIL 25

**Autism Awareness Month.** 7-8:30 p.m. at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. Glen Finland's memoir, "Next Stop," is a moving account of a family caring for a child with special needs. Finland will share her own hard-won lessons as well as strategies and insights she has learned about the individual dynamics of families who have children with special needs. Register online at [bit.ly/2nLCy9s](http://bit.ly/2nLCy9s) or call 703-204-3941.

## THURSDAY/APRIL 27

**Autism Awareness Month.** 10 a.m.-noon at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other cognitive disabilities may not recognize danger, react well in an emergency or be able to seek help. Attend this workshop to learn safety risks for individuals with special needs, proactive steps to reduce the risk of potential dangers, information on the new Yellow Dot Program and more. Register online at [bit.ly/2ogNf84](http://bit.ly/2ogNf84) or call 703-204-3941.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church,** 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean continues to have an urgent need for new volunteers to help area senior citizens get to and from their medical and therapy appointments. To find out more about the Shepherd's Center and how you can volunteer to provide transportation and other services, call the Center at 703-506-2199 or e-mail the Center at [info@scmafc.org](mailto:info@scmafc.org). The Center's website is [www.scmafc.org](http://www.scmafc.org)

## ONGOING

**Master Gardener Training.** The Fairfax County Master Gardener Association offers plant clinics, home turf training or speakers for homeowner's meetings. Fees vary. Visit [fairfaxgardening.org](http://fairfaxgardening.org) or call Dora Lockwood at 401-864-4778 for more.

**The Golden Girls of Northern Virginia,** a senior women's softball league, is looking for players. Any woman over the age of 40 is encouraged to join. All skill levels are welcome. The games are on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna. For more information, visit [www.goldengirls.org](http://www.goldengirls.org)

**Passages DivorceCare** If you are experiencing the pain of separation or divorce, the caring community at Vienna Presbyterian Church invites you to attend Passages DivorceCare. This program offers a path toward healing. The next 15-week DivorceCare series will be held Tuesdays from 6:45 to 9 p.m. beginning on Feb. 21. Vienna Presbyterian Church is located on the corner of Maple Avenue (Rt. 123) and Park Street in Vienna. Cost to cover materials is \$20, scholarships available. For more information or to register call 703-938-9050, go to [www.viennapres.org](http://www.viennapres.org), or send an email to [Passages@ViennaPres.org](mailto:Passages@ViennaPres.org).

**Are You A Caregiver? Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna Caregivers' Support Group** takes place first & third Thursday of each month. February 2nd and 16th, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Join us at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF) - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, VA. For more info contact facilitator, Jack Tarr, 703-821-6838 [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net).

**Volunteers Needed.** PRS is looking for empathetic and caring volunteers to make phone calls to older adults who may be feeling socially isolated. The commitment is one 3-hour shift per week for one year. Located in Arlington. Ages 21 & up. Intensive training provided. Learn more and apply: <https://prsinc.org/carerer-volunteering/>. Questions? Email [lpadgett@prsinc.org](mailto:lpadgett@prsinc.org).

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





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# GRAND RE-OPENING OPEN HOUSE

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**Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017  
10:00am to 5:00pm**



Cabinet Selection Area



Tile and Flooring Selection Room



Outdoor Selection Area

## Seminars

We will be providing 3 free educational seminars throughout the day. Our Design Consultants will give you tips and guidelines about remodeling.



**11:00am**

Sean will be providing you with information and tips for Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling.



**1:00pm**

Plan for every stage of life, Dory will discuss Aging-In-Place Remodeling.



**3:00pm**

Are you thinking about remodeling but don't know where to start? Do you need lending options? Come to Chris's seminar on How To Plan a Successful remodel.

Please join Foster Remodeling Solutions at our Open House for our newly remodeled and expanded Design and Selection center.

We now feature custom vignettes. You'll see full kitchens and bathrooms on display as well as an inspiring outdoor area featuring a patio with a deck, windows, and roofing. We also have plenty of the latest materials and products for your home.

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- Win Raffle Prizes
- Attend a Remodeling Seminar
- Q&A with our Design Consultants
- Browse through thousands of products for your home