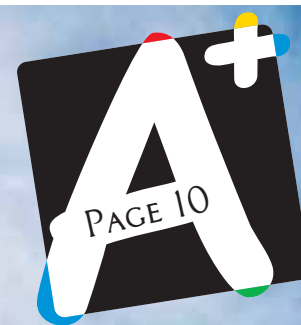




Great Falls CONNECTION



Great Falls Resident Hiking Appalachian Trail

NEWS, PAGE 3

Great Falls resident Spencer Brothers is hiking the thousands of miles long Appalachian Trail in memory of his fallen friend.

Where Time, Talent, and Memories Meet

NEWS, PAGE 4

Record House Sale in Great Falls

NEWS, PAGE 13

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

MAY 17-23, 2017

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

THE GREAT FALLS TEAM

KW KELLERWILLIAMS®



Licensed in
VA/MD/DC



Bob Nelson



Bridget Schmitz
Commercial Agent



Tim Heil



James Dodson

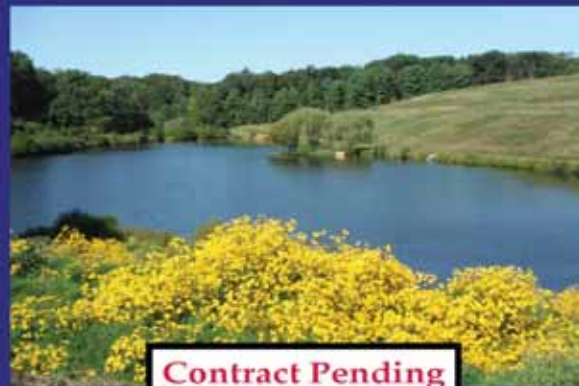
www.GreatFallsTeam.com • (c) 703 999-5812 • (o) 703 636-7300

774A Walker Road Great Falls, VA 22066



Under Contract

FX9859062 - \$695,000 - Great Falls
11430 Seneca View Way: 2.4 Acre Lot
Lot located in Great Falls w/ Prior Approval for
5BR Home. Price to Sell Prior Perc Test Had
Been for 5BR Home.



Contract Pending

FX9853078 - \$9,000,000 - Great Falls
Utterback Store Rd: APPROXIMATELY 68 ACRES OF
VACANT LAND W/ 2 ACRE ZONING LOCATED IN GREAT FALLS,
BREATHTAKING VIEWS OF TYSONS CORNER,
BETHESDA, & THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT



Coming Soon

Coming Soon - \$825,000 - Great Falls
9105 Weant Dr: 5 BR, 3.5 BA
Home on Slightly Over 1/2 Acre Close to
Potomac River & River Bend Park.



For Sale

FX9835654 - \$680,000 - Springfield
7706 Gambrell Rd: 1.22 Acres of Raw Land in a
Fabulous Location. All Preliminary Engineering Done
for 3 Single Family Home Lots. Buyer Will Need to
Finalize the Engineering Process.



Sold

FX7553818 - \$2,000,000 - Great Falls
938 Leigh Mill Rd: 6 BR, 5.5 BA
Beautiful Great Falls Home on Over 4 Acres w/ Newly
Installed Pool. Amenities Incl: Hrdwd Flrs, Flagstone
Patios, Marble & Granite Counters. Carriage House w/
Kitchenette is Perfect for In-Law Suite or Separate Office.



Sold

FC0620280 - \$1,410,000 - Fairfax
3516 Schuerman House Dr: 5 BR, 4.5 BA
Most Spacious/Dramatic House in Picketts. Prime Location
Backing up to 15 Acre Park. Includes a Chef's Kitchen,
Covered Porch, 1200 Sqft Dock & 1000 Sqft Flagstone Patio.



Sold

LO9587027 - \$815,000 - Leesburg
41603 Canongate Dr: 4 BR, 4.5 BA
Colonial on 3+ Acres w/ Pond. Located in the Sherstone
Community. A Gourmet Chef's Kitchen Includes
GE Appliances & everything you could possibly want.



Sold

FX9620068 - \$975,000 - Great Falls
807 Clear Spring Rd: 6 BR, 5 FB, 2 HB
Sprawling Ranch Home on 3+ Acres. Updated Kitchen,
Renovated Baths, Walk-In Cedar Closet, & Much More.
Only Minutes to Tysons Corner, Reston, etc.



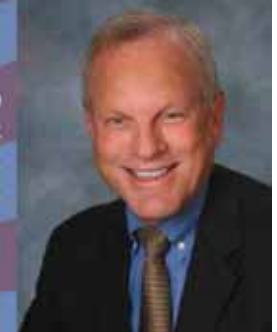
Sold

FX9754139 - \$760,000 - Great Falls
1088 Loran Ct: 3 BR, 2.5 BA
Nicest House in Great Falls for Price. Perfect Entry Level
Home to this Market or for Downsizing. Renovated Kitchen,
Baths, & Incredible Screened-in Porch. Air-Jet Tub in MBA.
Stone Siding & Recently Replaced Roof.

Join us on Monday, June 12th at our:
Military Appreciation Monday (MAM)
Event at The Old Bogue in Great Falls.
We will be raising funds for the group:
The Gary Sinise Foundation
and

Join us on Wednesday, May 31st at our:
Law Appreciation Wednesday (LAW)
Event at Brx American Bistro in Great Falls.
We will be raising funds for the group:
91-1 Racing

Bob Nelson
Realtor, Keller Williams Realty
A Lifetime of Service to Community & Country
Office: (703) 636-7300
Cell: (703) 999-5812
Bob@BobNelsonTeam.com
www.GreatFallsTeam.com



Great Falls Resident Hiking Appalachian Trail

Spencer Brothers is hiking the thousands of miles of historic trail in honor of his fallen best friend.

BY ASHLEY SIMPSON
THE CONNECTION

The Appalachian Mountain Scenic Trail (AT), the longest path in the world exclusively for hikers, stretches 2,190 miles across 14 states in the eastern part of the United States – from Georgia up to Maine. Great Falls resident Spencer Brothers is currently hiking the thousands of miles of this historic trail in honor of his fallen best friend, who lost a long, fatal battle with drugs four years ago. As a recovering addict himself, Brothers is in the midst of a challenge that years ago, he never would have imagined himself taking on.

“I started hiking the trail on March 11, so, I’m about a month and a half into it,” Brothers said. “It’s been going great so far. I knew before I started that it would be hard, but it’s even more physically challenging than I ever thought it would be. Nonetheless, I’m really enjoying it.”

It should take Brothers about five and a half months to hike the entire trail. His first time hiking the AT, he planned his maiden voyage in memory of his late friend, Chris Atwood, who died in 2013. As Brothers ploughs ahead, he’s also raising money for The Chris Atwood Foundation, a local organization founded by the Atwood family to provide resources for substance disorders and to combat the stigma surrounding such dependency.

“The biggest source of inspiration for me to take this on is to honor my friend Chris Atwood who died of a heroin overdose four years ago, in February 2014,” Brothers said. “I’ve done some marathons and other races to honor him and to raise money for the charity that his family founded. This is bigger than that. It took a lot more preparation, and a lot more time obviously, being that I’ll be hiking for more than five months. It’s to honor Chris and to raise \$21,000 or more for this awesome, important foundation that his family created. I set the goal of \$21,000 because Chris lived until the age of 21, so I’m hoping to raise a thousand dollars for every year he was alive.”

Ginny Atwood Lovitt, Executive Director of The Chris Atwood Foundation, said that people like Brothers are the backbone of this organization that her family started.

“Spencer’s bravery and compassion for this cause are unbelievable,” Lovitt said. “Most of the time it just leaves me speechless. The Chris Atwood Foundation is entirely funded by private donors so it’s only through the efforts of people like Spencer



Great Falls resident Spencer Brothers says he is averaging 15 to 20 miles every day.

and our compassionate donors that we are able to do this work. What he is doing is not just helping people that otherwise might die, but it’s in a way keeping my brother’s memory alive and honoring the lives of all those we have lost to overdose.”

The dollars that Brothers accumulates for The Chris Atwood Foundation are nowhere near the most important outcome of the mission, either.

“Spencer is not just raising much needed funds to help people with addiction, he’s showing them just how incredible life can be after addiction,” Atwood said. “He’s showing them that day by day and step by step recovery can help you achieve things you never thought you were capable of. It’s our hope that Spencer’s journey will defeat some of the stigma that people have about addiction and recovery. We want his journey to bring this issue out into the open and show people in our community and beyond that people can be really proud and open about their recovery if they want to and that they can use that to accomplish great things.”

Despite Brothers taking the first step of his Appalachian Trail hike less than 10 days before the official start of spring, he has encountered snowstorms and several instances of hypothermia-inducing temperatures. Through both the expected and unforeseen hardships, Brothers said that he is confident that his resolve to conquer the trail will continue to overpower any notions of quitting – as long as he keeps his focus on the bigger picture.

“Early on, I was just carrying too much



It should take Spencer Brothers about five and a half months to hike the entire trail.

for the sheer number of miles that I was doing day in and day out,” Brothers said. “The pack that I carry everywhere started out really heavy. I was wondering if I was cut out for this, if I could actually do this. I was seriously considering giving up, but, I had been planning this for too long and I was doing this for The Chris Atwood Foundation and for people other than myself. In the beginning, leaving the comforts of home was hard to adjust to but then it became the new normal. There’s just no way that

I’m going to give up unless I become physically unable to – and that would take something completely out of my control.”

IN ORDER TO STOP BROTHERS, the world would have to present him with something truly catastrophic. He’s already found a way to put one foot in front of the other through physical conditions that many would consider insufferable, including early stages of hypothermia and an injury that has been known to prevent even professional athletes from accomplishing their goals.

“I started out doing some pretty decent mileage,” he said. “Then, within a couple of weeks, I injured myself trying to do more than I was ready for. I strained my IT band, but I took a day of rest and I called my sister who is a physician to get her advice, and I ordered a support wrap. I decreased my mileage for a while to let the band heal. Since I’ve gotten the wrap and I’ve given my leg some time to heal, I now average about 20 miles a day consistently. The longest mile I’ve done is 26 miles, which was just a few days ago.”

Since Brothers struggled with drug dependency early on in his life, he is no stranger to overcoming challenges. In this sense, perhaps this part of his background gives him an edge on the AT.

While many people may find it difficult to be alone, with just the sounds of nature and their thoughts to remind them that they are indeed still alive on Earth, Brothers said he appreciates this component of his extended solo hiking experience.

“I get a lot of time for thinking,” he said. “But, thinking in a wilderness setting allows things to bubble to the surface that I wouldn’t ordinarily think about. There is something really healing about being out in the woods for a long period of time. I’m really growing from this.”

While he spends the majority of his time on the trail alone, he said he does regularly encounter other people.

“I haven’t gone a single day without seeing people yet,” he said. “During the day, since I’m hiking at my own pace, I’ll be alone, but, at the same time, I run into and meet tons of people in spurts, at different points on the trail.”

In fact, during Brothers’ first weekend on the AT, fellow hikers literally helped lighten his load.

“I stayed at a hostel my first weekend on the trail and found people who helped me figure out which gear I could get rid of to lighten my back a little bit,” he said. “My pack started out at 47 pounds, and now it weighs around 35 pounds – or less.”

SEE HIKING, PAGE 11

Where Time, Talent, and Memories Meet

Great Falls Writer's Group releases third anthology.

By CHRISTINA TYLER WENKS

A standing room-only crowd applauded as 38 local authors launched their third collaborative book effort. "And This I Give to You" is a collection of memories by the Great Falls Writer's Group intended to inspire the next generation.

A crowd spilled from the Great Falls Library community room into the hall Saturday evening as book enthusiasts visited with writers and listened.

"As you read these stories, you will think about what you have in your life that is meaningful that you do not want to see disappear," said editor Myrna Stuart.

"When I think what I inherited from my mom, what I cherish the most is my love of music," said Lisa Dorr, who wrote about an old copy of Albert DeVito's 1964 Pocket Dictionary of Chords, which is reminder to push past fears of stage fright or what life brings and persevere.

Dorr is the daughter-in-law of aviation and military historian Bob Dorr to whom



PHOTO BY JAMES DIEDRICH

Great Falls Writer's Group members published in the third anthology, "And This I Give to You," include (front row) Mary Dacoba, Catherine Mathews, founder Kristin Clark Taylor, Myrna Stuart, Merrill Lishan, (middle row) Christina Tyler Wenks, Nancy Hannan, Barbara Ianniello, Bans Gill, Clarence Ashley, Ray Rollins, Sophie Tedesco, Laurie Bell, Jin Soon Moon, Nullie Stockton, Gail Péan, Judith Pulitzer, Coty Dickson, (back row) Shell Dillard, Don Juncal, Philip Ely Church, Eileen Curtis, Paul Sawtell, Michelle Morgan Spady, Esther MacLively-Eacho, Bill Lewers, and Paul Pulitzer.

the GFWG 2016 anthology was dedicated. The late Dorr's words sustain themselves in the writing of his children.

Members consider themselves part of a writing family and this book is dedicated to its matriarchs, Mary Dacoba, 97, and Catherine Mathews, 91, who have been part of the GFWG since its first meeting several

years ago.

"Never in my nine-plus decades did I think I'd publish my own book, but with the Great Falls Writer's Group, I finally had the courage to gather my writings," Dacoba said about her first book, "97 Years." Dacoba is working on a second compilation of essays she says are "about our nation's current

political situation."

After joining GFWG several years ago, Mathews says she grew braver as a writer online. "It was terribly hard to read anything that I'd written or speak up and say anything, but I've gotten over that," said Mathews. "I've seen the world go through so much change. I write about a time that not everyone has lived."

"Hold tightly to positive memories. If they are important to you then not one is too small to share," said Stuart.

Sophie Tedesco, a teen author who spoke to finalists of the GFWG Youth Writing Contest a few weeks ago, also contributed to the anthology. She wrote about her relationship with Olympian and World War II prisoner of war Louis Zamperini and his message of resilience that shapes her personal drive. "His words 'Don't give up and don't give in' resonate with me," said Tedesco. "If you put in the work now, you achieve something great in the end."

"The annual unveiling of GFWG's annual anthology is becoming a creative showcase for the community. We've created a powerful, positive synergy that's kind of spread like wildfire throughout the community," said Kristin Clark Taylor, GFWG founder. "We've learned how to celebrate our literary talent, and we've also learned how to throw a really good party."



Celebrate
Great Falls®

MOVIE NIGHT

On The Green

SATURDAY, MAY 20TH ■ 8:15
VILLAGE CENTRE GREEN
Night at the Museum

In the event of inclement weather, Movie On the Green will be rescheduled. Please see our website for more details.
www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org

Sponsored by our Friends at


OBITUARY

Mark Turner III, Member of Great Falls Dairy Farming Family, Dies at 61

Mark Turner III, grandson of the former Dranesville District supervisor who operated a top-producing dairy farm in Great Falls in the 1940s, died at home in Lovettsville, Va., May 13 after fighting small cell lung cancer for nine months. He was 61.

Mr. Turner, a chief building engineer for Transwestern Commercial Services, was deeply involved with preserving the history of Great Falls and helped preserve his family's farm in 1998 as The Turner Farm, a 53-acre Fairfax County park for the practice of equestrian sports and astronomy. He served multiple terms as president of the Great Falls Historical Society and was a leader of Cub and Boy Scout Troop 55. He loved to fish for stream trout and for striper in the Chesapeake Bay. He owned and rode a Harley Davidson "Screaming Eagle" and often attended the "Rolling Thunder" Memorial Day celebration in Washington, D.C.

His grandfather, Mark Turner Sr., and his father, Mark Turner Jr., were both born in Great Falls farmhouses that were part of the family farmland. His father's dairy farm operated until his herd of prize Holsteins was auctioned off in August, 1969.

He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Joan Shark Turner; daughter, Nicholi (Nikki) Isabella Turner, of Pipersville, Pa.; son Mark Turner IV, of Lovettsville; sisters, Jean Turner of Los Angeles Calif., chair of the physics and astronomy department at UCLA, and



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Mark Turner III, grandson of a former Dranesville District supervisor who operated a top-producing dairy farm in Great Falls in the 1940s, died at home in Lovettsville, Va., on May 13.

Susan Turner Sumpter of Mayo/Edgewater, Md.

The funeral will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 20, at Catoctin Presbyterian Church in Waterford, Va. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to a small cell cancer research organization of choice or to Virginia Cancer Specialists, 8503 Arlington Blvd., Ste. 400, Fairfax VA, 22031.

BITA MOTESHARREI, MD, FACOG
Obstetrics, Gynecology & Infertility

- Preconceptional Counseling
- Adolescent Gynecology
- Premenstrual Disorders
- High Risk Obstetrics
- Menopause
- Sexual Disorders
- Routine Prenatal Care
- High Risk Pregnancy

• Clinical professor of OBGYN at George Washington University & Virginia Commonwealth University

• Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

• Diplomate of American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology

(703) 356-7700
1515 Chain Bridge Rd. McLean, VA
www.womensglobalhealth.com

Women's Global Health
of Northern Virginia

Home & Auto. Smart & Easy.

Kyle Knight Ins Agcy Inc
Kyle Knight, Agent
11736 Bowman Green Drive
Reston, VA 20190

When you combine your home and auto insurance, good things happens – like saving time and money. Just another way I'm here to help life go right.®

ACROSS FROM RESTON TOWN CTR.
WWW.KYLEKNIGHT.ORG
703-435-2300

CALL ME TODAY.

State Farm

State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL.

Keep Your Money Local

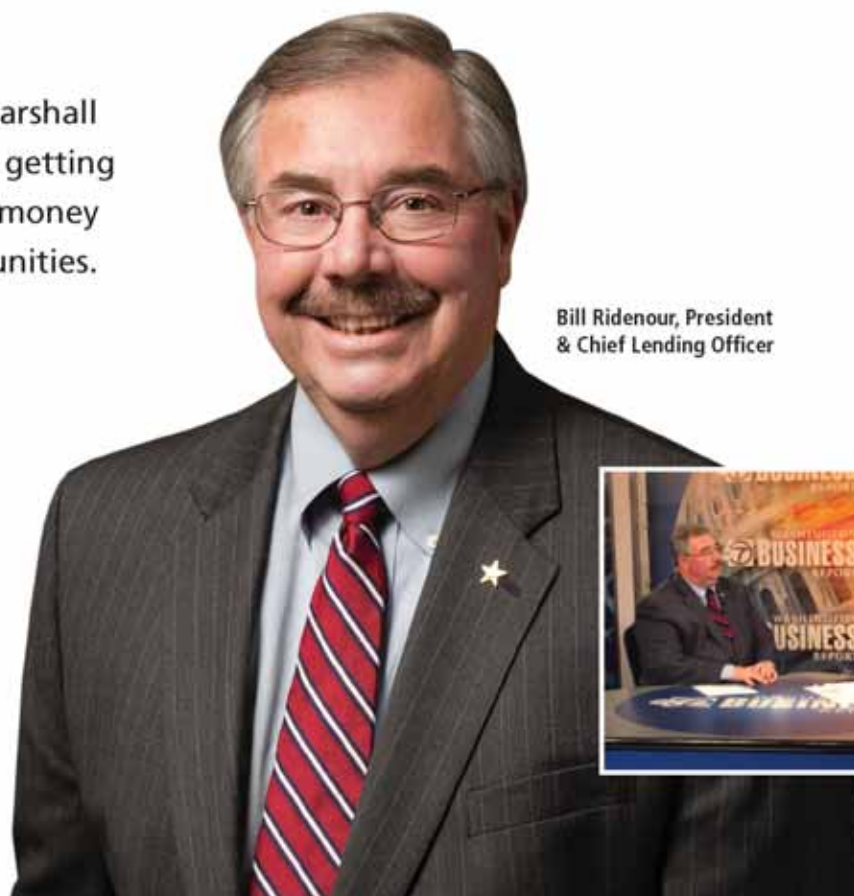
WITH JOHN MARSHALL BANK

Having your company's relationship with John Marshall Bank means easy access to local decision makers, getting local financial support, and lending locally. Your money stays local to support area businesses and communities.

We're your Community Bank. Call us today, and let us help you make the most of your money.

Corporate Office

1943 Isaac Newton Square, Reston, VA 20190
703-584-0840 • JohnMarshallBank.com



Bill Ridenour, President & Chief Lending Officer



On the set of ABC News Channel 7

OPINION

The Ugliness of Prejudice

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



COMMENTARY

Last week without provocation a woman in the check-out line at a local grocery store told another customer — a Muslim woman — “I wish they didn’t let you in the country.” In the exchange that was recorded on a camera phone, the woman to whom the remark was directed explained that she had been born in the United States. Rather than leave it at that, the first woman went on saying, “Obama’s not in office anymore; you don’t have a Muslim in there anymore. He’s gone — he may be in jail in the future.”

I realize that there are more people than I would like to acknowledge that have strong prejudices against others because of their race, religion, ethnicity or other reason. It continues to shock me when I see the ugliness of the expression of such prejudices as the recording of this event provided. As the woman to whom

the remarks were directed pointed out, it’s abnormal to start a conversation like that with someone you do not know. There really is something wrong with people who are so blinded by their prejudices that they feel compelled to lash out at a person who has done them no wrong. The comments reflect a deep-seated hatred that comes out for reasons only a mental health expert could help discover.

What is particularly troubling these days is the blurring of the line between political convictions and prejudice toward individuals. In our deeply divided political landscape, too often political views become opportunities to demonize people who hold different views. Unfortunately talk radio, social media and some cable news shows tend to invite this destructive phenomenon.

In addition to the repulsiveness I feel about the hateful comments, I was also saddened that social media and news accounts described the

scene as a store in Reston, Va. I know from a lot of personal experience the amount of effort that so many people have made over the years to ensure that Reston is an open, welcoming and inclusive community. While I understand why the store did nothing to address the situation, I wish somehow there had been a disclaimer on the video: The woman speaking does not represent the views of the people of Reston.

The situation reminds us that building community is not a one-time occurrence, a workshop, or a feel-good session. Building a community of respect and love is an ongoing process that we work at a little every day. We greet those we meet; we hug each other; we attend each other’s houses of worship; we show respect to others; we speak out against hate and prejudices; we listen to each other. We use appropriate channels to discuss political views, and whether in person or online we stick to the issues and don’t resort to personal attacks.

A display of hateful and ugly prejudice as we have just witnessed must bring us together in mutual support and respect as we want Reston and every other community to display.

FCPS to Propose Increases in Class Sizes

BY MOLLIE REGAN

COMMENTARY

The lead-in for the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Proposed FY 2018 Budget states the following: “The FCPS FY 2018 (2017-18 school year) budget reflects the school system’s priorities. It’s also a communications tool that informs parents, staff members, students, and community members about our values and goals.”

If that is true, then why is FCPS proposing to balance its FY18 budget by increasing class sizes by 0.5 students in all elementary, middle and high schools?

Large class sizes have a negative impact on students’ ability to learn and succeed, and on teachers’ ability to teach. Large classes burn out good teachers and affect teacher decisions about whether to continue working at a school. Every time a good teacher leaves the employ of FCPS, we forfeit our investment in hiring and training that person.

In many recent meetings about teacher compensation, the School Board has expressed concerns about teacher attrition. In FCPS, we lose about 40 percent of our teachers in their first five years of employment, and we lose many more teachers after their fifth year. Class size is cited — both in FCPS and in a national study — as a top factor in teachers’ decisions to leave the school district.

At this critical time when we al-

ready suffer from teacher shortages and large class sizes, FCPS should not be considering additional class size increases as a means to save \$14.7 million. There are alternatives that could better address the FY18 budget gap. Some alternatives actually reduce expenses. Others just change budget assumptions.

For example, the School Board could cut \$15 million of other expenses with the understanding that in July, it would use the “found money” from the year-end FY 2017 budget review to restore those programs. This is exactly what the board did about six years ago, when Jack Dale was the FCPS superintendent.

Alternatively, FCPS could find \$14.7 million by using more realistic assumptions about employee attrition. Every year, FCPS prepares its budget using unrealistically low attrition assumptions, which in turn consistently produce about \$30 million/year of “found money” from higher-than-projected teacher attrition during the budget reviews.

Of course, if FCPS made a sustained commitment to reasonable class sizes, it could arguably avoid increasing the costs associated with that teacher attrition. Imagine the cost savings from retaining our teachers. What additional innovations could be used to reduce the expense of endlessly re-

staffing our classrooms and training a new workforce?

The FCPS Strategic Plan, “Ignite,” affirms its commitment to student success and a caring culture. Seeing “Ignite” in action would mean that our School Board representatives resolve the FCPS financial shortfall without again balancing its budget on the backs of our teachers and students.

Class Size Counts created an online petition asking the School

Board not to increase elementary, middle and high school class sizes by 0.5 students across the board as part of the FY 2018 budget. Please sign the petition at <https://www.change.org/p/fairfax-county-public-schools-join-class-size-counts-to-oppose-the-core-academic-class-sizes-in-fcps> and join in the advocacy.

Mollie Regan is Vienna resident and a Class Size Matters advocate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Great Falls Trail Fantasy

To the Editor:

The letter from Bob Pannier regarding the fantasy of a trail from River Bend Road to the Village Center (“Pike Trail Still Incomplete,” Great Falls Connection, May 3-9, 2017) brought back 34 years of frustration over the booklets and empty promises of Great Falls Citizens Association. I finally gave up sending letters to the Connection and GFCA, or leaving comments on draft plans displayed at the Library. It became obvious, by the ridiculous trail planning, as well as most other projects supported by the GFCA, that the citizens needs were unimportant. The people of Great Falls would like to walk, or bicycle to the Park or the Village Center, but definitely not to Sterling or Reston. Who comes up with these ideas?

The very first, and most obvious phase for a trail should have been between River Bend Park and the

Village Center via Weant Drive, Arnon Chapel Road, and Walker Road. There were many opportunities to produce this trail at minimal cost if it were accomplished when gas line, water main (and hydrants), or communications cable projects, went in. Even power line clearing efforts could have facilitated a trail installation. If contractors were asked to leave a clear path instead of restoring the rough natural terrain after each project, the Trail Blazers could have covered the path with mulch, or crumb rubber on weekends. Even I would volunteer to help if the project was rational.

I am now too old to enjoy a walk to the Park or the Village Green, but I might get a powered wheelchair or maybe a “trail bike” for my birthday.

Gene Phillip
Great Falls

Great Falls
CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Fallon Forbush
Reporter
fforbush@connectionnewspapers.com

Kyle Kincaid
Editorial Assistant
greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Salome Howard-Gaibler
Display Advertising
703-415-5394
salome@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising
703-778-9411
classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
[@MaryKimm](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,
Ali Khaligh
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
[@TheismannMedia](https://twitter.com/TheismannMedia)

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



News

County Named Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community

In early May, the League of American Bicyclists recognized Fairfax County with a Bronze level Bicycle Friendly Community award, noting Fairfax County's commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure and pro-bicycling policies.

According to the Bike League report card, Fairfax County received "very good," ratings for Bicycle Education in Schools, Bike Month and Bike to Work Events and got a high mark in evaluation and planning. The county recently released a new bicycle map, which can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/bike/bikemap/.

Bike to Work Day is Friday, May 19 and 13 pit stops will be located in Fairfax County. Learn more here <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/bike/btwd2017>

G. STEPHEN DULANEY State Farm Insurance

IN GREAT FALLS



AUTO • HOME
LIFE • HEALTH
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Like A Good Neighbor,
State Farm Is There.®

www.gstephendulaney.com



703-759-4155

731-C WALKER RD. • GREAT FALLS, VA

State Farm Insurance Companies
Home Office Bloomington, Illinois

Introducing to Great Falls, its newest therapeutic spa...

Pure Spa
For Your Health

731-D2 Walker Rd.

Great Falls, VA 22066



Mother's Day Specials: \$59/hr.

AROMATHERAPY DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE (normally \$90),
20% OFF ALL OTHER MASSAGES AND SKIN CARE SERVICES
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON IN YOUR LIFE!
Offer Good through May 31, 2017

FOR APPOINTMENTS CALL: **(703) 438-8688**

www.PureSpaGreatFalls.com

You can read any of this week's
15 papers digital editions here:

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs



**Brightview.
Bright Life!**

**Inspiring
Bright Lives
for All Our
Residents**

Independent Living: It's the carefree retirement you've dreamed of! At Brightview, all you have to do is what you want to do.

Assisted Living: Highly trained associates provide the care you need.

Wellspring Village®: Compassionate professionals deliver our highly specialized dementia care program in a state-of-the-art neighborhood.

**BRIGHTVIEW
SENIOR LIVING
GREAT FALLS**

Call Carolyn to schedule your personal visit.
703.454.5448
10200 Colvin Run Road
Great Falls, VA 22066
www.BrightviewGreatFalls.com

**Thomas Pandolfi
in Concert**

Nationally and internationally renowned pianist featuring works by Chopin, Liszt, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and others.

Saturday June 10th, 2017 7:30 p.m.

Dessert reception to follow

Great Falls United Methodist Church
10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls

703-759-3075
Tickets \$40 advance purchase only:
go to www.greatfallsumc.org,
click on Pandolfi Concert,
follow instructions on the donation page.

Fundraiser Event sponsored by the United Methodist Women of GFUMC

VOTE

Vote on McLean Day

**McLean Community Center
Governing Board Elections**
Saturday, May 20, from 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road

Your Vote is Your Voice!


All qualified residents of Small District 1A Dranesville are encouraged to vote for members of the 2017-2018 MCC Governing Board.

- You need not be registered to vote in the general election.
- Proof of residence, such as a driver's license, is required.

Absentee Ballot

Vote now by absentee ballot and avoid the crowds!

You can view the candidate statements on the Center's website. Call the Center or send an email to "elections@mcleancenter.org" to request a ballot package be sent to your home. You may also stop by one of three MCC sites, 6631 Old Dominion Dr. and 6645 Old Dominion Dr. (McLean Square Shopping Center) or the Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd., and pick one up. Completed absentee voting affidavits and ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 17**, to be counted.

 **The McLean Community Center**
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org


ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR ADVENTURE!





2017 CAMPS & TRIPS

CAMP McLEAN
OLD FIREHOUSE SUMMER TRIPS
SUMMER FUN WEEKS:
DANCE
OUTDOOR ADVENTURE
SCIENCE

SPACES ARE FILLING FAST!

REGISTER NOW AT

 **The McLean Community Center**
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Artists Show. Various times through May 31 at the Broadway Gallery, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. "Levels of Abstraction," show featuring the works of Hiromi Ashlin, Genna Gurvich, Sandi Ritchie Miller, and Buck Nelligan. Visit www.broadwaygallery.net or call 703-450-8005 for more.

Artists Show. Various times through May 31 at Katie's Coffee House, Village Center, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Artist Joyce Lee. Call 703-759-2759 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. Call 703-759-9141 or visit www.FreeTaiChi.org 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. Play on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna. Visit 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/

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

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

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

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

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/

Colvin Run Mill open 11 - 4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Fairfax County's operational 19th century water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily



McLean Day On Saturday, May 20, McLean Day, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road. Features live entertainment, carnival rides large and small, activities for children such as pony rides and face-painting, great music, food. Visit www.fairsandfestivals.net for more.



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 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 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 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 for more.

THURSDAY/MAY 18

MPA Spring Art Benefit. The McLean Project for the Arts will host its annual Spring Benefit at the private residence of Pat and Matthew Bullock. Dr. Dorothy Kosinski, director, The Phillips Collection, will serve as the evening's guest of honor. Event chairs for this year's Spring Benefit are Jane A. Imperatore and Neda Yazdani. Visit www.mpaart.org or call 703-790-1953 for details.

Meet the Author. 7:30-9 p.m. at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Meet local author Britt Alan whose political thriller

warns of the threat of unchecked Chinese regional aggression. Books available for sale and signing. Adults. Call 703-938-0405 for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 19

Bike to Work Day 2017. Registration — now open — is free and open to anyone who commutes in the region, from first timers to daily cyclists. All registrants will be entered in a regional bicycle raffle, and the first 16,000 to register and attend will receive a free t-shirt at one of more than 85 pit-stops throughout Northern Virginia. Participants can register online at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org. Email Megan Goodman at mgoodman@mwccog.org, or call 202-962-3209 for more.

Meet the Artist. 10 a.m.-noon at the McLean Art Society, Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. Gavin Glakis, a portrait artist, will be the featured speaker. Call 703 356-0770 for more.

Luxury Accessories Pop Up. 12:30-2:30 p.m. at Jammin' Java Lobby Bar, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Local business Devanki will come offline for a day to host a pop-up sale with scarves, jewelry, and home goods. Email infodevanki@gmail.com or call 410-375-2108.

SATURDAY/MAY 20

LuLaRoe Retailers Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Flame Room of the Fire Department, 400 Center Street, Vienna. Proceeds from the space rentals benefit the fire department in their purchase of life saving equipment to serve the community. Call 703-309-3468 or email Dancers1023@aol.com.

Tennis Charity Event. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at McLean Racquet and Health Club, 1472 Chain Bridge Road. Many

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

different events will be going on during the day including a Clinic and Happy Hour with Murphy Jensen, Stroke of the Day for Charity, Pro/AM Round Robin, Junior Tennis Championships and our Exhibition Match featuring Richey Reneberg and Murphy Jensen. All proceeds will go to McLean Community Foundation. Call 703-309-3468 or email Dancers1023@aol.com.

McLean Day. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road. Features live entertainment, carnival rides large and small, activities for children such as pony rides and face-painting, great music, food. Visit www.fairsandfestivals.net for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 21

Breakfast Buffet. 8 a.m.-noon at Vienna American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N. Adults \$9, children 12 and under \$3. For more information call 703-938-6580.

Amadeus Orchestra. 4 p.m. at Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Amadeus Orchestra with Jonathan Carney, violin. \$30. Visit www.amadeusconcerts.com for more.

MONDAY/MAY 22

Charitable Golf Tournament. noon at Hidden Creek Country Club, 1711 Clubhouse Road, Reston. Proceeds benefit Great Falls, Forestville and Colvin Run Elementary schools. Call 703-437-5222 or visit www.greatfallsgolf.org for more.

Dine and Donate. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. at Ledo's Pizza, 141 Park Street, SE, Vienna. Ledo's will donate 20 percent of total sales to the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Call 703-281-0538.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 24

Jammin' Juniors Concert. 12:30 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Free. Farmer Jason is the brainchild of

rock music legend Jason Ringenberg of Jason and the Scorchers. Call 703-790-0123 for more.

SUNDAY/MAY 28

Weekend Brunch and Cookie Class. 9-11 a.m. at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, McLean. Breakfast buffet, cookie decorating class and face painting. \$20. Call 703-442-9110 for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 19

James Madison High School Jazz Ensemble. 7-9 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. The Jazz Ensemble musicians are Junior and Senior students at James Madison High School. Call 877-987-6487 or visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 3

Flea Market. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Rd, Vienna. Vendors needed. Call 703-281-4411, email office@oaktonbrethren.org or visit www.oaktonbrethren.org

Riverbend Park Benefit. 6-9 p.m. at the Riverbend Park Visitors' Center, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Fundraiser for the benefit of Riverbend Park sponsored by the Friends of Riverbend Park. \$50 for adults, \$25 for children, \$125 for families. Register at www.forb.wildapricot.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 4

McLean Symphony. 7 p.m. at the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. International Treasures, with Spotlight on the Organ, including local organist David Lang. Visit <https://web.ovationtix.com> for more.



PHOTO BY MCCONNVILLE STUDIO

Live Music

Griffin House is playing on June 8 at 7:30 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna. \$20 or \$25 door. Call 877-987-6487 or visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

TUESDAY/JUNE 6

Mini - Golf for Chari-TEE. 1 p.m. at Oakmarr Recreation Center, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. \$8. Proceeds to benefit the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Call 703-281-0538 for more.

THURSDAY/JUNE 8

Griffin House Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna. \$20 or \$25 door. Call 877-987-6487 or visit www.jamminjava.com for more.

MONDAY/JUNE 12

Musician Alex Hassan. noon-3 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Hassan will be playing melodies from the era between World War I and World War II. \$10 required by June 6. Call 703-281-0538 for more.



Bob Vickers leading a previous tree walk at Riverbend Park.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Great Falls Tree Walk Scheduled for Saturday, May 20

Bob Vickers, Chairman of the Fairfax County Tree Commission, will lead a tree walk—in conjunction with the Great Falls Citizens Association—on Saturday, May 20 at 10 a.m. at Riverbend Park on Jeffery Road in Great Falls. Residents, including children, interested in learning more

about prominent tree species that line the Potomac River should meet at the park Visitors Center and plan on a walk lasting approximately 1.5 hours. Nesting bald eagles may be visible during the walk. Wear appropriate clothing for the weather and sturdy shoes; the walk will be rescheduled if rain is in the forecast.



McLean Community Center
The Center of It All



Here's What's Happening at MCC

It's the Place to Be!



Saturday, May 20

Festival: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Governing Board Elections: 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Rd.

McLean, VA 22101

Join the fun! Bring the family and enjoy McLean's biggest annual event.

- Free Laser Tag
- Free Bubble Ball
- Free Tennis Clinics
- Free Rock Climbing Wall
- Free Balloon Animals
- Free Petting Zoo



Jammin' Juniors Concert Farmer Jason

Wednesday, May 24, 12:30 p.m.
McLean Central Park Gazebo
1468 Dolley Madison Blvd.
Free admission

MCC Governing Board

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m.

MCC Administrative Offices

6631 Old Dominion Drive, McLean VA 22101

Open to the public.



Closing Notice

Monday, May 29

MCC and the Old Firehouse Teen Center will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.



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



Administrative Offices
6631 Old Dominion Dr.
McLean, VA 22101
703-790-0123, TTY: 711



Safety in the Water

Water Safety Month designed to educate public in advance of summer swimming.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

During the month of May, National Water Safety Month, water safety educators are waging a month-long campaign to educate the public about responsible water practices before the start of summer. The campaign is designed to help prevent drowning and water-related illness and injuries.

"The most important tip from swim experts [is] to have your child in perpetual swim lessons," said Gina Bewersdorf, who owns Goldfish Swim School in Reston. "Situations will always arise in which we or our children are around water, [like] at a friend's pool party, vacation near a lake, or a boating trip, so learning the necessary skills to stay safe is vital. It only takes a second for a child or adult to unsuspectingly fall into a body of water."

Constant adult supervision is the first and best way to prevent accidents in and around water, says Lisa S. Grepps, director, Marketing & Communications, The Association of Pool & Spa Professionals in Alexandria. She also recommends additional safeguards to help prevent children from gaining unsupervised access to a pool or spa or to warn of a child's presence. "But don't get lulled



Learn to swim no matter the age. This is one of the best ways to be safer in and around the water.

PHOTO COURTESY OF
GOLDFISH SWIM SCHOOL

into a false sense of security with barriers and other devices as they are just backups to the primary means of accident prevention which is constant adult supervision," said Grepps.

Keeping a cell phone nearby to make a call to 911 in case of an emergency and avoiding swimming at the first sign of bad weather are two tips that Ann Thompson of Ann's Aquatics in Bethesda offers to her students and their parents. "I tell parents that certain flotation devices are great, but they are in no way a replacement for responsible adult supervision," she said. "And the supervision should be undistracted.

Don't get lost in a conversation or a phone call and divert attention away from your children, not even for a second. If you leave the pool area, no matter how brief the period of time, take the children with you."

In addition to learning to swim, Bewersdorf recommends making sure that children are taught water safety skills as well as how to perform CPR on both adults and children. "We recommend a child enroll in swim lessons as early as possible [and] year round, not just during the warmer months. Persistent swim lessons are proven to be incredibly beneficial in order to keep these life-saving skills sharp" she

said. "We offer classes as young as four months old in which the parents are constantly with their infants. This gets the child used to simply being in and around water and they learn simple safety skills."

When choosing a pool, check for an on-duty lifeguard. In cases where a lifeguard is not available, look for accessible safety equipment such as a rescue ring or pole.

"We want people to have a safe and fun time swimming and that's why [we] issue permits to all public pool facilities and routinely inspect them to ensure they are being operated in a safe and healthy manner, in accordance with Fairfax County Code," said Martin A. Thompson, Environmental Health supervisor for Fairfax County. "It's also important that swimmers take steps to maximize the health benefits of swimming while minimizing the risk of injury or illness to themselves and others."

Thompson advises adhering to other safety guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) which include looking to see if the drain at the bottom of the deep end is visible, staying out of the pool if you have diarrhea, covering any open wounds with waterproof bandages, showering before entering the pool and only using flotation devices that are Coast Guard approved.

THE MUSIC LOFT LLC
Center of Excellence for Music Education

Rock Camp-Learn how to play in a band with like minded musicians in a creative, fast paced, high-energy learning environment. On the final day of camp, record at a professional recording studio in Leesburg! On Aug 17th you will give a live performance on the Herndon town green for Arts Herndon's Third Thursday's event!

Mini Camps-Jump start your education on a new instrument or get ahead for the following school year. Classes include, Introduction to violin, viola, cello, Introduction to ukulele, Introduction to guitar, Transition from elementary to middle school strings, Transition from middle school to high school strings

Private Summer Flex Lessons-Choose 4, 6, or 8 days/times that fit YOUR busy schedule for private lessons. Students that continue with lessons over the summer will not need to "re-learn" the same skills and techniques that they would have otherwise lost during their time off. In fact, most students who study during the summer enjoy substantial gains in their playing ability due to more time and less stress from school.

(703) 956-6563

Hiking Appalachian to Honor Friend

FROM PAGE 3

Although this is Brothers' first extended hiking endeavor, it is nowhere near his first exposure to survival in the great outdoors. His first steps toward recovery years ago were actually at a program that he went to as a teenager that first exposed him to trekking through the wilderness.

He said his background with addiction, treatment programs – and thus, the woods – is likely the reason the idea of the AT was so intriguing to him.

"I struggled with drug addiction myself as a teenager, along a myriad of other issues like low self-esteem and anger," Brothers said. "My family sent me to two different treatment programs that did outdoor adventure therapy. While my challenges didn't end with these wilderness programs, the programs help put me on the road to recovery. My experience with them – exposure to the woods, and hiking and camping for long periods of time – planted the seeds for the inspiration to do a really significant hike like the Appalachian Trail."

Still, Brothers said the hiking he did through wilderness programs really cannot even compare to what he's doing now.

"With the wilderness programs I did, we hiked and camped every day, but we averaged more like 6 or 7 miles a day," he said. "Now, overall, I'm averaging 15 to 20 miles every day. It's really difficult to stay motivated to keep up with that progress day in and day out, especially with the physical damage that comes with it."

Now that he's accustomed to the rigor, Brothers said the majority of his every day really is hiking. Other than willing himself to push onward through varying elevations and, oftentimes fickle weather, he spends the remainder of each day preparing basic meals, and then sleeping as much as possible to recharge for the following day. There are designated campsites, hostels and other shelters along the way specifically intended for AT hikers.

He added that he typically resupplies at grocery stores in towns surrounding the AT. He'll either get to the towns by getting off the trail and walking an extra mile or two, taking a shuttle, or he will hitchhike. Recently, he actually accepted a ride into a Southern Virginia town from a woman who happened to be a fellow Great Falls native.

LATER THIS MONTH, Brothers will reach a point close enough to home so that his parents can pick him up and usher him back to their house so that he can enjoy the comforts of home for a few days. Really, though, Brothers has planned this respite from the trail is so that he can submit graduate school applications. And, when he gets back on the trail, his girlfriend will join him for the remainder of the hike, which will make his hike even more meaningful, and even symbolic.

"I'm so excited to have her on this journey with me," he said. "It's actually been



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

As of now, Spencer Brothers has raised about a third of his \$21,000 goal for The Chris Atwood Foundation.

her dream to hike the AT since before I met her, so it's wonderfully serendipitous that our journeys and dreams literally walk alongside each other."

In the meantime, Brothers said he's learning a lot about himself, and about life, as he treks onward on his own.

"I definitely am learning patience on the trail," he said. "I'm also learning to trust myself. I see so many different hikers approaching the trail and pacing themselves in different ways. You have to learn to be confident in following through with a plan that is best for you. Also, if I didn't know it before, I certainly know now that nothing worth doing is easy. Looking back on this experience, when it's all done, I'm going to be glad that it was hard. It'll make future struggles seem more surmountable."

As of now, Brothers has raised about a third of his \$21,000 goal for The Chris Atwood Foundation. A few people have pledged a dollar for every mile he completes, including Chris Atwood's father.

Brothers is hoping for more donations – both big and small – as he puts himself closer to his finish line at Maine's Mount Katahdin. Even though he has limited access to the World Wide Web and all of its convenient means for the mass communication of information on his mission, he's still spreading the word.

"At every shelter, there is a log book for AT hikers to sign and to look at the words of hikers that reached that point before them. I've been writing the fundraising information in there. Hopefully it will resonate with people, and they will pass it on."

TO DONATE to Spencer Brothers and The Chris Atwood Foundation, visit www.crowdrise.com/blazing-the-trail-to-recovery.

To read updates to his journey, visit his blog at www.spencersatblog.wordpress.com.

Pre-Theater
Cocktails at
The Kensington
Thursdays at
6:00pm
Sundays at
4:30pm

Kaleidoscope
A 'Bold New Works' World Premiere Musical

Please join
**The Kensington Falls Church for
enlightening post-show discussions at
select performances of *Kaleidoscope***
*Pre-theater cocktails & hors d'oeuvres at The Kensington
and post-show discussions at Creative Cauldron*

The Kensington Falls Church is a proud sponsor of post-show discussions about *Kaleidoscope*, a heartwarming musical introduced this May by Creative Cauldron. *Kaleidoscope* showcases the life of a legendary Broadway performer who premieres her comeback one-woman show. As her humorous yet poignant performance unfolds, she touches hearts when it becomes clear that she is experiencing the early stages of Alzheimer's.

After each Thursday and Sunday performance, a dementia expert will join the artists to share insights and information that deepen the audience experience. We'd love for you to be part of the conversation.



**Sunday, May 21st
2pm show
Christi Clark**, Director of Education & Support Services, Insight Memory Care Center



**Sunday, May 21st
7pm show
Nancy Scott**, Alzheimer's Advocate



**Thursday, May 25th
8pm show
Diane Vance**, Program & Services Manager, Alzheimer's Association



**Sunday, May 28th
2pm show
Robert 'Bobby' Maxwell**, Genesis Rehab

**RSVP for cocktails to ConciergeFS@KensingtonSL.com
Get show tickets at www.CreativeCauldron.org**



THE KENSINGTON
An Assisted Living Community
FALLS CHURCH

703.992.9868 | 700 West Broad St, Falls Church, VA 22046
www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com





**TELL US
WHAT
YOU
THINK**

SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR HERE

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter

Visit These Houses of Worship

**To Highlight Your
Faith Community, call Karen at
703-778-9422**

Welcoming, Diverse, Progressive

**ST. ANNE'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH • Reston**



7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday School: preschool - grade 2

Music: grades 3 - 7

10:25 a.m. Sunday School Grades 3 to 6

Music 4 years to 2nd grade

11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

Nursery care provided at 9:00 a.m. service

The Rev. John C. N. Hall, Rector

The Rev. Laura Cochran

703-437-6530

www.stannes-reston.org

1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

**450 ORCHARD STREET, NW
VIENNA, VA 22180**

703-938-8525

email: fbcvoffice@fbcv.org

www.fbcv.org

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

LITTLE CHURCH WITH A BIG HEART

**An Independent Congregation
Sunday Worship at 10:30 AM**

Visit our website:

antiochccvienna.org

for youth, child, and other adult services

Antioch Christian Church

1860 Beulah Road

Vienna, VA 22182

COMMUNITY

Celebrating Great Falls History

At the 40th anniversary of Great Falls Historical Society, old and new members shared memories and hopes for the future as they enjoyed a cuisine, served in a classically decorated dining room at L'Auberge Chez Francois. The guest list included members from the distant past, and newly joined members.



Jennifer and Calvin Follin, Jennifer and Peter Falcone, Elizabeth Wiley and her husband Paul Jimenez. Calvin Follin was a past president of the society (2003-2005), Peter Falcone was chair of the Historic Preservation Committee in the late 1990s, and Elizabeth Wiley and Paul Jimenez are new members.



PHOTOS BY TR COOK



Kathleen Murphy describes the 40 years of work by historical society volunteers.



Doug Cobb describes the gifts included in each raffle pot, while Alex Brudno pulls and calls the winning number.

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

**10% down
nothing until the job
is complete for the
past 17 years**

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



**Free Estimates
703-999-2928**



Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



News

“Le Chateau de Lumiere” sold for \$12 million this spring following an extensive international marketing campaign by agent Sepideh Farivar with Keller Williams Realty McLean/ Great Falls.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

House Sale Sets Record for Highest Price in Great Falls History

A new home inspired by the Palace of Versailles has set a record for the highest priced home to sell in Great Falls history. “Le Chateau de Lumiere” built by Mike Mafi of The Building Group sold for \$12 million this spring following an extensive international marketing campaign by agent Sepideh Farivar with Keller Williams Realty McLean/ Great Falls. The 24,000-square-foot home took 18 months to design and build, and was on the market for 12 months including construction time.

Listing agent Farivar said, “We knew it required

a special marketing strategy, so we utilized social media and numerous internet sites both domestically and internationally focusing on high wealth consumers. The buyer is an international personal-ity who has remained anonymous.”

Le Chateau de Lumiere received home of the year, Best Interior Design and Best Architecture at the Great American Living Awards in 2016.

Designed by architect James McDonald and interior design by Mandy Mafi, the home combines French old world craftsmanship, hi-tech conveniences and state of the art technology.

Inside or out...



...Tech Painting's got you covered!



Serving:
VA
DC
MD
OBX

703-684-7702
www.techpainting.com



garai
ORTHODONTIC
SPECIALISTS
BracesVIP.com



Dr. Allen S. Garai

- Specialist in Orthodontics
- Diplomate, American Board of Orthodontics (Board Certified)
- VIP Invisalign Provider
- Attending Faculty – Orthodontic Department Children's/Washington Hospital
- Over 15 years of teaching orthodontics and private practice

“BEST ORTHODONTIST”
Washingtonian Magazine
Families Magazine
“TOP ORTHODONTISTS”
Northern Virginia Magazine
Virginia Living
Health & Beauty Magazine

Thinking invisalign *teen*: the choice is clear

- **Orthodontic Specialist** NO additional charge for braces to resolve challenging problems or non-compliance cases
- **Board Certified Orthodontist**
- **Experience** (invisalign over 15 years)
- **Attending Faculty** (teaching invisalign at Washington Hospital Center Department of Orthodontics)
- **Voted “Top/Best”** orthodontist in Northern Virginia
- **Affordable**—full in-house financing with 0% interest and affordable monthly payments



Please call our office to set up your **Complimentary Consultation**

Vienna
427 Maple Ave, West
Vienna, VA 22180
703-281-4868



703.281.4868
BracesVIP@gmail.com
www.BracesVIP.com

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

CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Computers

HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

JENNIFER SMITH
Serving the Area Since 1995



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

571-265-2038

Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

Yard Sale

Historic Waterford Community Yard Sale!

Saturday May 20th

8am-2pm

(Rain Date: Sunday May 21st)

Antique & Vintage Clocks, Mirrors, Furniture: Desk, Queen & Full-size Bed Frames, Hanging Wall Cupboard, Cedar Hope Chest, Early Blanket Chest; Doughbox, Tables, Chairs; Bicycles, Wooden door w screen, storm door; Landscape & Portrait Paintings; Decorative items; Kayak; Pewter Chandelier; Textiles; Clothing; Books; DVDs.; CDs; Vintage Dishware and Tools; Old Dolls; Early Glassware; Hurricane & Other Lamps; Child's Booster Seat; Travel/Steam Irons; Kitchenware; Collectibles; Auto Parts; Push Lawn Mower; Cement Lawn Ornaments; lots more!

Look 4 Balloons!

More information at

www.waterfordconnection.com/yardsale

Announcements

We pay top \$ for STERLING,

MEN'S WATCHES,
JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,
FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.

Schefer Antiques

703-241-0790

theschefers@cox.net

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

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

Questions? E-mail: goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

Announcements

LIFETIME METAL ROOFING

**Storm Proof
Metal Roofing**

Will your roof
withstand another
storm season?

Call us today for a
free roof inspection!

WE FINANCE!

CALL 800-893-1242

WWW.METALROOFOVER.COM

SINGLE WIDES
DOUBLE WIDES
HOUSES

by VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

Announcements

WET BASEMENT??? CRACKED WALLS???

We Fix: Basements, Crawlspace,
Cracked/Settling Foundations, Bowing Walls

800-772-0704

seal-tite

FREE ESTIMATES

Serving you since 1972

Call Now! 10% Limited Time Coupon

Some Restrictions Apply

Announcements

OBITUARY

Jerene Thomas, 96, of Great Falls, Dies

Jerene Elizabeth Thomas of Great Falls, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, and consummate volunteer, died on May 11, 2017 of natural causes.

Her life included more than seven decades of volunteer work. For 55 years, until she was 92, she volunteered with AFS (formerly the American Field Service) to manage its program for the entire state of Virginia. Working with other devoted volunteers, she oversaw placement in Virginia households of thousands of foreign students (often as many as 40-50 in a given year) who attended a year of high school in America. She also selected American students to go abroad and matched them with host families overseas.

A high point of her volunteer work was being selected as the winner of the Galatti Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service, the most prestigious commendation an AFS volunteer can receive. This award honors AFS volunteers "whose commitment and dedication have demonstrated the spirit of grassroots community action and advanced the mission of AFS, a worldwide organization that has been leading international high school student exchange for almost 60 years."

Upon learning that she was the recipient of the Galatti award, Mrs. Thomas said, "This award has special significance because I had the pleasure of working with Stephen Galatti in the early days of AFS." (Galatti was the founder of AFS who built and transformed AFS from a volunteer ambulance service that served during both World Wars into a global network of partner organizations that today provide intercultural experiences to thousands of students yearly in the name of peace.)

As a result of her work with AFS, she has left a lasting legacy of love between the U.S. and other countries. She is beloved by former AFS students across many age groups, worldwide, and until the end of her life she maintained regular contact via email with many of them. Upon learning of her ill health in February 2017, two of them journeyed from France and Belgium to spend a week with her.

She tirelessly, lovingly, and enthusiastically supported and cultivated her children's interests, from sports to history, opera, reading, sewing, and scuba diving. She was managing director and costume designer of one daughter's dance school for several years; was president of the Langley High School VA PTSA for several years and was awarded a lifetime membership; was a Brownie leader, Girl Scout troop leader, camp director for several summers, trainer, and member of local and international Girl Scout



committees for the Girl Scouts of the National Capitol Area; was President of the Great Falls Women's Club; and was active in the American Red Cross and the Great Falls Grange.

Mrs. Thomas was born Jerene Elizabeth Snuffer on April 5, 1921 in Amity, Mo. and spent her early years in St. Joseph, Mo. After meeting her future husband in 1939 at what is now Missouri Western State University, she married him in 1942. After his service overseas in WWII in what is now the

U.S. Air Force, they lived in Chicago where she received a BA in psychology from Roosevelt University. They moved to Arlington, Va. in 1955 and she lived in the Washington, D.C. area from then until her death.

She is survived by: five children (Sherry Kapfer Watkins; Theresa D'Alessandro; Ann Russell/partner Mansour Peyghaleh; Bruce Thomas; and Julie Canavan/husband Bill); 14 grandchildren (Craig Kapfer/wife Rebekah; Tommy D'Alessandro; Kelly Mozingo/husband Spencer; Becky Ponder/husband Taylor; Clay Thomas/wife Erin; Alisha Thomas; Miguel Zambrano; Nicole Wood/husband Levi; Sister Christine Marie, Stephanie Rose Canavan, Andrew Thomas Canavan, Megan Sarah Canavan; and Razi and Ramin Peyghaleh); six great-grandchildren (Rylynn, Macie, Loretta, and Charleigh Mozingo; Alana Thomas; and James Wood); foreign exchange AFS "daughters," Martine Guillain and Capcuine Bone (France), Birgitta Jansson-Koponen (Finland), Kathy de Giorgi (Belgium) and Josine Vermeer (The Netherlands), among the hundreds whose lives she touched through AFS and her sister-in-law Helen Snuffer and numerous nieces, nephews, and others.

She was predeceased in 2000 by her beloved husband Clayton James Thomas and in 2016 by her cherished brother, Warren Douglas Snuffer.

Family and friends may visit at Murphy's Funeral Home, 1102 W. Broad St., Falls Church on Thursday, May 25 from 2-4 and 6-8 p.m. A memorial service will be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, on May 27 at 11:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her name can be made to AFS-Virginia, c/o Mary Ann Kral, 11568 Lake Newport Rd., Reston VA 20194; the MWSU Foundation (for Jerene E. Thomas Memorial Scholarship Fund), c/o Missouri Western State University, 4525 Downs Drive, St. Joseph MO 64507; or Loudoun County Special Olympics, 20145 Ashbrook Place #78, Ashburn VA 20147. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a date to be announced.

Field of Honor at Marshall High

George C. Marshall High School's Class of 2019 will celebrate the Memorial Day holiday by creating a Field of Honor on May 26-29. This field of American flags will be displayed in front of Marshall High School along Route 7.

Marshall High students are inviting the community to support the Field of Honor and their class by sponsoring flags to honor the men and women who have died while serving in the U.S. military or to recognize the service of a veteran or an active duty service member. For each flag sold, a donation will be made to a local veteran's organization and the students can send an e-card

to the family or the honoree to let them know they have been honored with a photo of the Field of Honor.

Flags sponsorship costs one flag for \$5 or five flags for \$20.

The Class of 2019 will plant the flags on May 26 and remove them on May 30.

Deadline to purchase flags is May 24. Visit Pay4SchoolStuff.com (select Field of Honor) or complete an order form and mail ATTN: Field of Honor with a check payable to Marshall HS. Address: Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043.

BULLETIN

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Contact Volunteer Solutions at 703-324-5406, VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm.

* **The Lewinsville Senior Center** in McLean needs instructors for the following classes: Art, Self-Defense, Chair Exercise, Indoor Gardening, Basic Spanish, Basic French, Ballroom Dance and Basic Guitar.

THROUGH SUMMER

Vienna Street-sweeping Program. The Town of Vienna began 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. 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.

THURSDAY/MAY 18

Membership Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S. The North East Vienna Citizens Association (NEVCA) will hold a general membership meeting, and Dr. Gerald Gordon, president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, will speak about issues related to Tysons and future plans. Visit NEVCA.org for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 19

Great Decisions Discussion Group. 9-11 a.m. at the Vienna Seventh-day Adventist Church, 344 Courthouse Road SW. Designed by the Foreign Policy Association to bring people together in study groups to discuss, debate and learn about important global challenges of our time. Call 703-281-0538 or visit www.scov.org for more.

SATURDAY/MAY 20

Scream Free Saturday. 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. Screamfree Parenting gives you the tools to stay cool during life's challenging moments. Lunch will be provided. Free Screamfree Parenting book to the first 25 registrants. Learn strategies to become the cool, calm and connected parent your child really needs. Call 703-204-3941 for more.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 24

MCC Governing Board Monthly Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at MCC Administrative Offices, 6631 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. All meetings of the Governing Board are open to the public. Tax district residents (Dranesville District-1A) who wish to speak during the "Citizen Comment" portion of the meeting are asked to call the center at 703-790-0123.

THURSDAYS/MAY 25-JUNE 29

Chronic Disease Self-Management. 9-11:30 a.m. at Kaiser Permanente - Tysons Corner, 8008 Westpark Drive, McLean. Fairfax County is offering a free Chronic Disease Self-Management program. Register online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/chronic-disease.htm or call 703-324-5489, TTY 711.

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. The Center's website is www.scmafc.org

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS, CALL KAREN AT 703-778-9422

ELECTRICAL	ELECTRICAL	LANDSCAPING	<p>Good is not good, where better is expected.</p> <p>-Thomas Fuller</p>
K & D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc.... Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com		A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465	
GUTTER	GUTTER	LANDSCAPING	LANDSCAPING
GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est. email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!		Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-912-6886 J.E.S. Services Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured • Planting & Landscaping Design • Drainage & Water Problems • Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New • Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid • Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose • Retaining walls of all types <i>All work Guaranteed</i>	
IMPROVEMENTS	IMPROVEMENTS	LANDSCAPING	LANDSCAPING
Power Washing Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a hoa violation? We do houses, decks, fences, side walks, etc. Deck and fence repair, deck staining and sealing. Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates email: jnave@comcast.net 703-987-5096		GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION Walkways, Patios, Driveways, Flagstone, Concrete FREE ESTIMATES Licensed, Insured, Bonded 703-250-6231	
A&S Landscaping • All Concrete work • Retaining Walls • Patios • Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions • French Drains • Sump Pumps • Driveway Asphalt Sealing 703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia		TILE / MARBLE	TILE / MARBLE
 RN. CONTRACTORS, INC. Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting We Accept All Major Credit Cards Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic Phone: 703-887-3827 E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com www.rncontractors.com		BATHROOM REMODELING by Brennan Bath and Tile Partial or Full. Kit. Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp. www.brennan-tile.com 703-250-2872 Licensed • Bonded • Insured	
Alfredo's Construction Company, Inc.  • Concrete Driveways • Patios • Sidewalks • Stone • Brick Phone: VA: (703) 698-0060 • MD: (301) 316-1603 www.alfredosconstructioncompany.com		TILE / MARBLE	TILE / MARBLE
An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg		Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Summer Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience - Free estimates 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service	
Find us on Facebook and become a fan! www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers  Newspapers & Online The Connection to Your Community www.connectionnewspapers.com			

New To Some, Old News To Others



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

For those of you unfamiliar with my column: in Burke, Springfield, Fairfax, Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton, Mount Vernon and Alexandria, welcome aboard the Kenny train. I have been writing a weekly column for Connection Newspapers since December 1997 appearing primarily in our "Tuesday papers," as we call them: Vienna/Oakton, McLean, Great Falls, Reston, Oak Hill/Herndon, Arlington, Chantilly, Centre View and Potomac. The question has persisted among friends and family: Ken he continue to, as my older brother Richard jokes, "churn out this dribble?" Apparently so, if the last 19 and half years are any indication.

Back in the day when I first had to characterize my column for various local yearly Press Association editorial contests (of which I have won nearly a dozen awards), I would write "Everything in general about nothing in particular." A great friend of mine, Edward Faine, himself an accomplished author — of children's and jazz books, and a small press publisher as well, has described my columns as "Thoughtful humor and insightful commentary." Perhaps between these two quotes you'll get a sense of what you're likely to get from my weekly wondering.

And so it continued until June 2009. That's when I published my first column about a diagnostic process which had been ongoing since New Years Day which ultimately lead to a lung cancer diagnosis delivered to "Team Lourie" on Feb. 27, 2009 (you bet you remember the date). That column, entitled "Dying to Find Out, Sort Of," chronicled the process, excruciating as it was/is that one often endures attempting to determine the cause of a medical problem; in my case, a pain in my left-side rib cage which a day or so later, migrated to my right-side and eventually took my breath away — almost literally, especially when inhaling and/or bending over. This difficulty forced me off the couch and into my car for a drive over to the Emergency Room. Once the diagnosis was confirmed, I wrote another column entitled "Dying to Tell You, Sort Of" which detailed the findings of the nearly eight weeks the process took to specify my diagnosis: stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). Out of the blue, I had become "terminal," as my oncologist described me, and given a "13 month to two-year" prognosis to boot. Surreal, which is a common description offered by many in similar situations, is how one feels after receiving news of this kind, and only begins to tell the tale of the change and evolution in the individual's life living forward into treatment and subsequently beyond into the great unknown.

This 'great unknown' is mostly what I have written about and published ever since; "cancer columns" (original I know) is what I call them. Occasionally, I will write a non-cancer column, one a month or so, depending on my experiences. These columns will address non-cancer issues of the day, ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous. Most recently topics have included the movie "The Exorcist," "Exercising a Demon," paying for things with a credit card: "Credit the Card," reacting to advertising for grass seed and riding mowers: "And So It Begins," and buying in bulk: "Bulky Boy," but never/well, almost never do I write about my wife, Dina; I have been warned.

Though the recurring theme of these columns is cancer, the content is rarely morbid or dare I say, self-indulgent, believe it or not. I try to make fun a very "unfun" set of circumstances. I'm still writing about life; now however, it's life in the cancer lane, a road unlike any I had ever traveled before. Nevertheless, I've gotten through eight years and nearly three months of it relatively incident free, save for a week in the hospital three and a half years ago. And yes, I am still undergoing treatment.

I hope you readers will be semi amused at the slings and arrows of outrageous misfortune upon which my columns are based. Please know: the significance of their content is not that it is me writing them, it is that cancer is being written about.

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



www.GreatFallsGreatHomes.com

JAN & DAN DIANNE

#1 Realtor and Home Sales in Great Falls



Great Falls \$1,149,000



Great Falls \$2,299,000



Great Falls \$1,350,000



Vienna \$1,280,000



Great Falls \$1,699,000



Great Falls \$1,058,000



Great Falls \$1,350,000



Great Falls \$1,399,000



Great Falls \$1,495,000



Great Falls \$2,399,000



Great Falls \$1,249,000



Great Falls \$1,049,999



Great Falls \$1,088,000



Great Falls \$2,699,000



Great Falls \$1,999,500



Susan Canis
Associate Realtor



Sally Marvin
Associate Realtor

Jan & Dan Laytham
Dianne Van Volkenburg
Office: 703-757-3222

9841 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066 • 703-759-9190

LONG & FOSTER®
REAL ESTATE

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

