

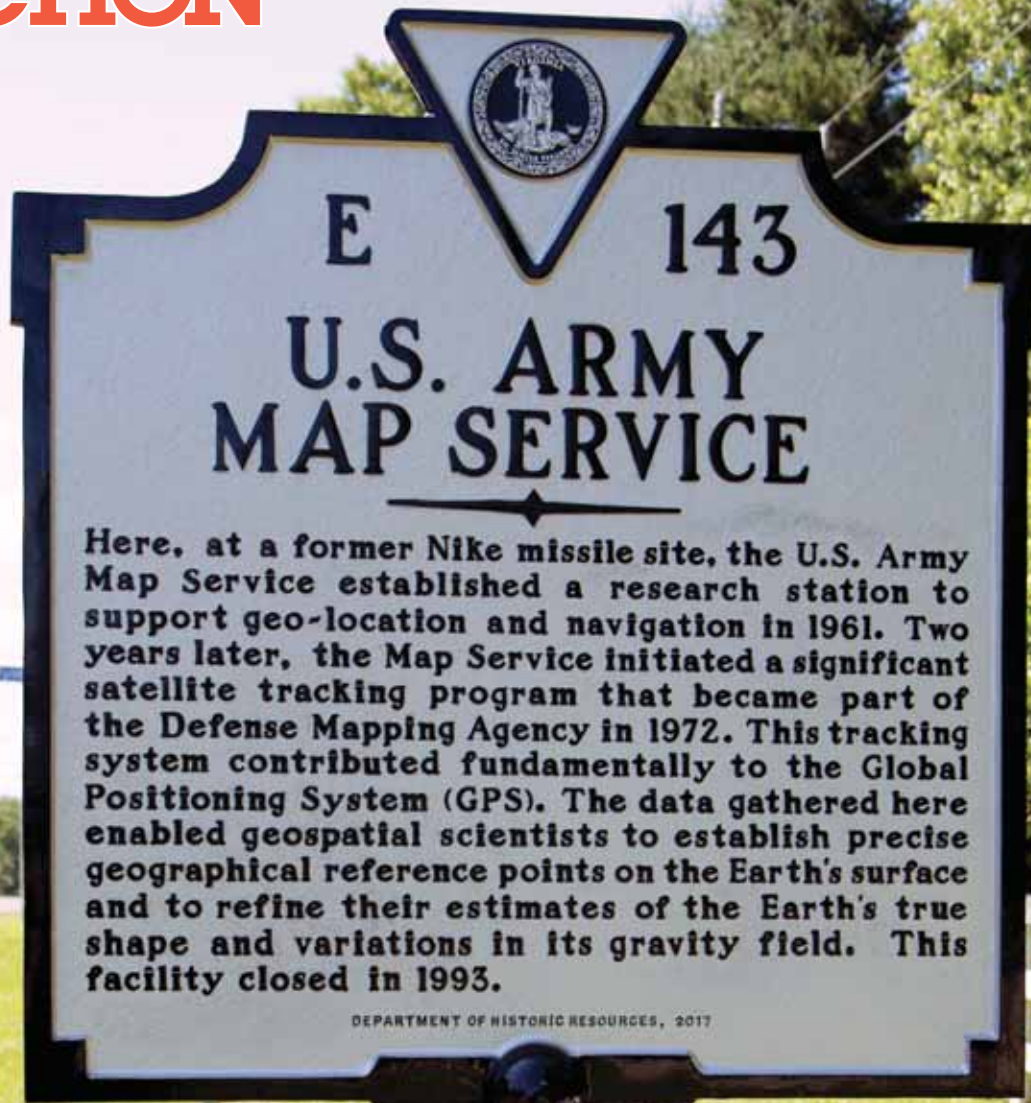


Great Falls CONNECTION

WELLBEING

PAGE 11

The new Virginia Department of Historic Resources historical highway marker was unveiled for the site near the intersection of Wynkoop Drive and Springvale Road.



Mapping the Earth Great Falls' Role Recognized

NEWS, PAGE 3

Turner Farm Park Master
Plan Up for Revision

NEWS, PAGE 8

McLean, Great Falls:
Strong First Half

REAL ESTATE, PAGE 4

Come see for yourself why we are the
area's most awarded dental practice!



COSTA

FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

10135 Colvin Run Road, Suite 230
Great Falls, VA 22066

703-592-8225

costasmiles.com

*Early and late appointments are
available. Call us today!*

Our list of accolades include Ten Time Top Dentist
in Metro Area as well as:



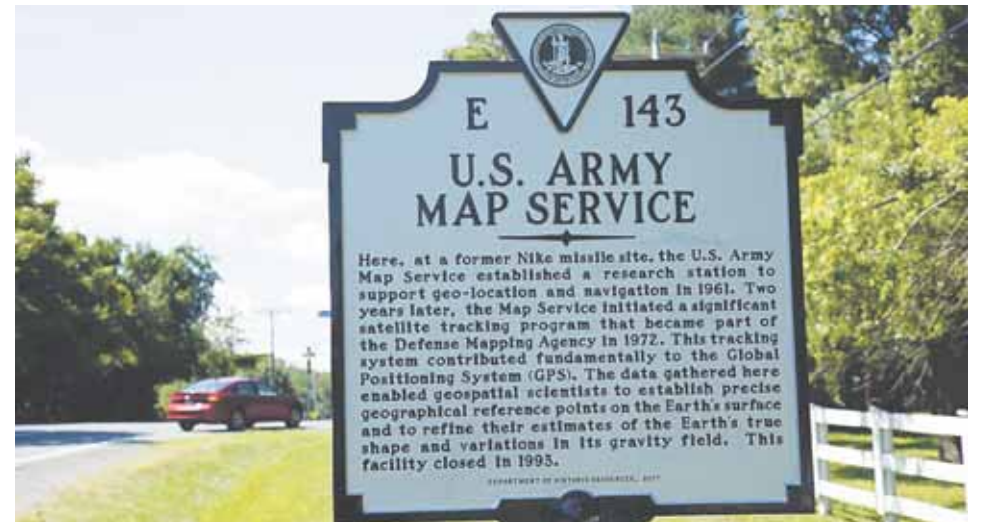
Bring this ad into your next appointment and
receive \$100 off of Zoom! Teeth Whitening

(New patient exam, x-rays and cleaning required.)



PHOTOS BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

Analemma Society Founding President Charles Olin unveils the historical marker for the Observatory Park at Turner Farm Park in Great Falls at a dedication ceremony on Saturday, June 24. From left: Analemma Society Secretary Jacqueline Olin, Analemma Society Founding President Charles Olin, Fairfax County Park Authority Deputy Director Aimee Vosper, Great Falls Citizens Association President Bill Canis, Virginia Department of Historic Resources Board Chairman Clyde Smith, U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10), Jack Fahey, a retired employee of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency; and guests.



The new Virginia Department of Historic Resources historical highway marker was unveiled for the site near the intersection of Wynkoop Drive and Springvale Road: "Here, at a former Nike missile site, the U.S. Army Map Service established a research station to support geo-location and navigation in 1961. Two years later, the Map Service initiated a significant satellite tracking program that became part of the Defense Mapping Agency in 1972. This tracking system contributed fundamentally to the Global Positioning System (GPS). The data gathered here enabled geospatial scientists to establish precise geographical reference points on the Earth's surface and to refine their estimates of the Earth's true shape and variations in its gravity field. This facility closed in 1993."

Mapping the Earth

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

A new historical highway marker was dedicated for the Observatory Park at the Turner Farm Park in Great Falls on Saturday, June 24, for the site's role in establishing technology that many people rely on daily: GPS.

A marker bestowed by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources already exists for the site's Cold War history, when anti-aircraft missile complexes were established on the grounds between 1954 and 1962. The history behind the new marker started in 1963 when the United States Army Map Service began a satellite tracking program on the site.

The Army Map Service, which was merged into the Defense Mapping Agency in 1972 and is now integrated into the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, was responsible for the publication and distribution of maps for use by U.S. military forces between 1941 and 1968. But what many don't know is that until 1993, the work done at the observatory on the site and the data gathered by the Army Map Service and the Defense Mapping Agency fundamentally contributed to the world's Global Positioning System, or GPS.

"It's fitting that the pioneers behind our Global Positioning System get credit for their work," Fairfax County Park Authority Deputy Director Aimee Vosper said during the ceremony. "While we all know GPS as that voice that guides us to our destination, sometimes with a little recalculating on the way, especially for me, its use extends far beyond our cars and our walking apps."

During the time the project was running, creating maps could take up to two years, according to Jack Fahey, a retired employee of the National Geospatial-Intelligence



Virginia Department of Historic Resources Board Chairman Clyde Smith attended the ceremony to congratulate the park employees and the individuals who applied for the highway historical marker.



Lee Ann Hennig, science director for the Thomas Jefferson High School in Alexandria, spoke at the dedication ceremony about how the observatory at the park creates what she called "teachable moments" for Fairfax County students.

Agency and former employee of its predecessor organizations, the Army Maps Service and Defense Mapping Agency.

"The tracking stations at this site consisted of very, very heavy electronic equipment housed in vans and linked to very

large satellite arrays traveling around the sky," Fahey said during the ceremony. "Those stations required months and months of data collection and 'round the clock staffing by teams of technicians and surveyors."

The Navigation System Time and Ranging (NAVSTAR) Global Positioning Service became fully operational in 1993, but received little attention at the time, according to Fahey.

Perhaps not many knew then that GPS would become an everyday utility for use at the tap of a smartphone app.

"The researchers and technicians and surveyors who were here nearly 45 years ago almost certainly had no idea that their work would lead to driverless cars and navigation systems that call out our directions from our wireless telephones," Fahey said. "They would probably be very impressed today."

Virginia Department of Historic Resources Board Chairman Clyde Smith attended the ceremony to congratulate the work the park and nonprofit Analemma Society put in to apply for the marker.

"People identify something they feel is significant, they go through sort of an arduous process of applying for a marker, they send it down to Richmond and we have a team of people who review the facts and determine if it is significant enough — as this certainly is here — for a marker and we put it together," Smith said during the ceremony. "With enough patience, sometimes within probably a year of the idea being spawned, we end up with a marker."

The Analemma Society has a partnership agreement with the park authority to develop recreational and educational astronomy programs at the roll-top observatory at the park in Great Falls. Getting this

SEE MAPPING THE EARTH, PAGE 9

REAL ESTATE

McLean, Great Falls: Strong First Half

Sellers in the area are experiencing in many cases the “best of times” market conditions.

BY KAREN BRISCOE

The real estate market in McLean and Great Falls remains strong in the first half of 2017 over 2016 in every segment except one.



The number of transactions was up 12 percent over the first half of 2017 for the same time period in 2016. Going back to compare to the 2007 market over one decade ago, the number is up 29 percent. This is good news as the market closes out the spring selling season and we enter into the summertime.

The last peak year in Northern Virginia was 2007. All price segments performed better or remained steady in the first half of the year 2017 compared to that benchmark year of 2007.

Sellers in the area are experiencing in many cases the “best of times” market conditions to date for the year. As we move into the second half of the year, there are strong indications that homes priced well and in good condition will sell for solid prices. There are some market segments that may experience price appreciation, should demand continue to remain strong relative to supply.

Not surprising, the most significant increases in number of transactions took place in the

lower brackets. Homes priced under \$1.25 million for the zip codes 22101, 22102 and 22066 comprised the majority of the gains. The under \$750,000 is predomi-

nantly condos, townhomes, smaller single-family homes or lot/land where the existing home is torn down and a new home is constructed. The lower brackets represent three price ranges: under \$750,000; \$750,000 to \$1 million, and \$1 million to \$1.25 million. Total sales in the combined lower brackets were up by 17 percent year over year for the first half.

The move-up buyer falls into the next three price brackets which includes these price ranges: \$1.25 million to \$2 million; \$2 million to \$3 million and \$3 million plus. The market was essentially flat year over year in this segment from 2017 to 2016, although it improved over 2007 by 15 percent. There are considerably fewer buyers who qualify to purchase homes in the upper bracket price ranges and thus

2017 1st & 2nd Quarters compared to same periods 2016 and 2007

| 2017 1 st & 2 nd Qtr. Sales: 609 | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|---|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Zip Code | >\$3 Mil | \$2-3 Mil | \$1.25-2 Mil | \$1-\$1.25 Mil | \$750k-\$1 Mil | <\$750k |
| 22101 | 10 | 16 | 77 | 49 | 87 | 43 |
| 22102 | 4 | 7 | 16 | 14 | 21 | 146 |
| 22066 | 2 | 6 | 28 | 25 | 49 | 9 |
| Total: | 16 | 29 | 121 | 88 | 157 | 198 |
| Combined Total Upper Brackets: 166 | | | Combined Total Lower Brackets: 443 | | | |

| 2016 1 st & 2 nd Qtr. Sales: 542 | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|---|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Zip Code | >\$3 Mil | \$2-3 Mil | \$1.25-2 Mil | \$1-\$1.25 Mil | \$750k-\$1 Mil | <\$750k |
| 22101 | 9 | 16 | 58 | 48 | 73 | 31 |
| 22102 | 4 | 9 | 25 | 14 | 35 | 104 |
| 22066 | 1 | 10 | 32 | 23 | 34 | 16 |
| Total: | 14 | 35 | 115 | 85 | 142 | 151 |
| Combined Total Upper Brackets: 164 | | | Combined Total Lower Brackets: 378 | | | |

| 2007 1 st & 2 nd Qtr. Sales: 471 | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|---|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Zip Code | >\$3 Mil | \$2-3 Mil | \$1.25-2 Mil | \$1-\$1.25 Mil | \$750k-\$1 Mil | <\$750k |
| 22101 | 3 | 8 | 43 | 30 | 63 | 71 |
| 22102 | 6 | 10 | 20 | 5 | 15 | 92 |
| 22066 | 4 | 7 | 43 | 11 | 24 | 16 |
| Total: | 13 | 25 | 106 | 46 | 102 | 177 |
| Combined Total Upper Brackets: 144 | | | Combined Total Lower Brackets: 327 | | | |

Home sales in McLean/Great Falls area

overall numbers tend to stay fairly consistent or flat.

Karen Briscoe with HBC Group at Keller Williams is an active and experienced

Realtor in the Northern Virginia market place. She works with sellers, buyers, investors and builders in all price ranges. www.HBCGroupKW.com, 703-734-0192, Karen@HBCGroupKW.com.

Rivermont Homes Come to Great Falls

Basheer & Edgemoore has announced the newest addition to its luxury homes portfolio with the unveiling of Rivermont, a community in the heart of Great Falls. Once home to an expansive horse farm, the 52-acre site will preserve most of the mature trees and protected areas to provide a beautiful, natural backdrop. This neighborhood of just 19 homes is located close to hiking and biking trails, shopping, golf and more. Sales are expected to begin in fall 2017 from \$1.8 million.

Rivermont will feature new home designs including spacious gourmet kitchens, 3- and 4-car garages and an array of multi-generational options – such as main level owners’ suites, guest rooms, elevators, and expansive lower level living to enhance entertaining. Keeping with the tradition of Basheer & Edgemoore’s craftsmanship, homes will provide the finest finishes while incorporating the latest



technological advances for today’s lifestyles.

Basheer & Edgemoore is developing Rivermont as a green community with very little interruption to the woodlands and protected areas that will remain on site. Surrounded by nature, residents will find a centrally located pond with an abundance of open space for outdoor recreation and

interconnected trails that will wind throughout the community. Visit www.BasheerAndEdgemoore.com, or to make an appointment, call 703-608-7965 or email MGreenKarol@BasheerAndEdgemoore.com.

This neighborhood of just 19 homes is located close to hiking and biking trails, shopping, golf and more.

News

GFCFA Members Elect New Officers

The Great Falls Citizens Association membership elected the following officers and directors for its upcoming fiscal year, July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018, at its June membership meeting.

- Re-elected for one-year terms were:
- ❖ Bill Canis, president; and
 - ❖ Phil Pifer, vice president.
- Elected to at-large directors for the GFCFA's Executive Board, for 2-year terms, were:
- ❖ Ruth Carver,
 - ❖ Wayne Foley,
 - ❖ David Kondner,
 - ❖ Torsten Kracht,
 - ❖ Dawn MacPhee,
 - ❖ Gary Pan,
 - ❖ Ed Phillips and

GFCFA President Bill Canis

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GREAT FALLS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

- ❖ Laurie Rowe.
- Continuing to serve out terms from last year's election are:
- ❖ James Trent, treasurer;
 - ❖ Eric Knudsen, past president;
 - ❖ Ralph Apton, director;
 - ❖ Jennifer Chronis, director;
 - ❖ Pam Grosvenor, director;
 - ❖ Matt Haley, director;
 - ❖ Scott Knight, director;
 - ❖ Jackie Taylor, director; and
 - ❖ Sandy Walker.

The GFCFA was unable to find a qualified candidate for the secretary position, which stands vacant.



Enjoy FREE weekend performances and many more special events all summer long!

FREE garage parking, 5 pm until 3:30 am, Monday to Friday
 FREE first hour of garage parking, Monday to Friday
 FREE garage parking every weekend (as always)
 Garage parking session activation is not required after 5 pm or on weekends.
restontowncenter.com/parking

Reston Concerts on the Town 27th Season

Saturdays, June 3 through August 26, 7:30 - 10 pm
 Reston Town Center Pavilion

Family Fun Entertainment Series

Saturdays, June 17 through August 5, 10 - 10:45 am
 Reston Town Square Park

Sunday Art in the Park with Shenandoah Conservatory

Sundays, June 18 through August 13, 7 - 8 pm
 Reston Town Square Park



RESTON TOWN CENTER

restontowncenter.com/events

Reston Town Center continues its commitment for community events and free entertainment all year long.

RESTONTOWNCENTER.COM

Faith Notes

Healing as Part of Service at Christ the King

For those struggling physically or spiritually, on the first Sunday of each month, Christ the King Lutheran Church offers a rite of healing as part of worship; the opportunity to be anointed with oil and prayed over.

During the healing rite, the pastor invites people to come forward to receive healing.

The pastor or another person says a short prayer while two people lay hands on the recipient. Then the pastor or helper anoints them with oil as a sign of God's healing and forgiveness. This is an opportunity for the person receiving healing to feel supported by the individuals who are praying over them. Visit www.gflutheran.org.

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

Exceptional Smiles, Exceptional Service

The American Association of Orthodontics recommends children see an orthodontist at the age of 7.



Please call our office to set up your child's 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

Send in Pet Photos Now

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish the last week of July, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 20.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

EDITORIAL

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a pet? Is your business about pets? Have you helped to train an assistance dog?

Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

Or take this opportunity to memorialize a beloved pet you have lost.

Just a cute photo is fine too. Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we

will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

Email editors@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets. For advertising information, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431.

Timing Is Everything

This week's paper went to press on Monday, July 3, and as a result does not include coverage of Independence Day events from the Fourth of July. Please see next week's paper.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Withholding Funds Hurts WMATA

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to Secretary U.S. Department of Transportation.

Dear Secretary Chao,

As representatives of public transit customers in the Commonwealth of Virginia, we write to express our concerns regarding the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Feb. 10, 2017 decision to withhold federal transit grant money in response to incomplete efforts to establish a new State Safety Oversight Program (SSOP) for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA).

On Feb. 8, 2016, the FTA gave notice that the Metropolitan Safety Commission (MSC), a new SSOP to succeed WMATA's Tri-State Oversight Commission, must be in place and certified by the FTA on or before Feb. 9, 2017. On Feb. 10, 2017, with no new SSOP certified, the FTA announced it would exercise its authority to withhold five percent of federal funds authorized in fiscal year 2017 under the Urbanized Area Apportionments Program (49 U.S.C. 5307). The initial withholding equated to \$8.9 million, and is expected to total \$15 million if the withholding continues to the end of the current fiscal year. This withholding will not just impact funding for WMATA, but for broader infrastructure maintenance throughout Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, D.C.

The decision to withhold these federal funds has created significant uncertainty amongst state and local governments in terms of budget planning and stability. Should the withholding of funds continue throughout the remainder of the fiscal year, the governments and their transit systems will be faced with a number of difficult decisions about the manner in which they allocate their limited

resources. Under a worst-case scenario, they would be forced to make cuts to good repair efforts or reduce service to their respective communities, either of which would be harmful to our constituents. We agree safety must be a top priority, but eliminating funding for infrastructure repair would directly contradict a SSOP's stated goal.

Given the FTA must engage in this process with 29 other transit agencies nationwide by 2019, we appreciate the complexity of the issues that were considered in making the decision to withhold these funds. However, we must emphasize — as many of us have expressed previously either directly to you, your predecessor, or the FTA — that the timing of both the notice and the deadline set by FTA were arbitrary in that there seemed to be little or no consideration of the legislative calendars of the Virginia General Assembly or the General Assembly of Maryland.

The FTA timetable effectively gave Virginia and Maryland less than one full legislative session to negotiate amongst each other and the District, draft the proposal, navigate it through the respective lawmaking bodies, and sign it into law. The unreasonable requirements FTA put forth were not simply for the SSOP to have a legal foundation by the February 2017 deadline, but to have the program fully certified by FTA, which necessitates months of work after passing legislation, including, but not limited to, appointing commissioners, hiring staff, and leasing office space. We are therefore led to believe that FTA either set their requirements without providing fair consideration to the unique institutional challenges that exist

within the jurisdictions, or the FTA set them with a deadline so unrealistic that failure was unavoidable.

Given the concerns we have raised in this letter regarding FTA's shortsighted approach to this matter, and in light of the demonstrated progress which has been made, we respectfully request that your office work with the FTA to explore a compromise in which part of these withheld funds can be released as a show of good faith, as the jurisdictions continue their work to construct a stable SSOP. Lending further justification for this request is the real progress that has been made with respect to organizing the MSC. At the time this is written:

- ❖ Virginia, Maryland, and the District (the jurisdictions) have each enacted legislation to enter into an interstate compact to form the MSC;

- ❖ The jurisdictions have submitted a detailed draft certification plan to FTA for review (though FTA has not yet provided formal feedback on the plan);

- ❖ Joint resolutions have been introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate to grant Congressional approval to the MSC compact;

- ❖ The Senate has passed its ver-

sion of the joint resolution;

- ❖ The House Judiciary Committee, which has sole jurisdiction over the joint resolution, has ordered the House's parallel version of the resolution to be reported favorably to the full House; and

- ❖ We are requesting that the measure be taken up for consideration as soon as possible.

We appreciate the FTA's important safety work, especially its temporary safety oversight role with respect to WMATA. Without FTA's diligence, more harm may have come to WMATA's customers. But we must find an equitable solution to this matter.

We look forward to partnering with you, Madam Secretary, as well as the FTA to ensure safety remains the top priority in all transit systems and that reforms are made to accomplish a transit agency that provides safe, reliable service to our constituents. We appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this request.

U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock,
U.S. Rep. Bob Goodlatte,
U.S. Rep. Robert J. Wittman,
U.S. Rep. Scott Taylor,
U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine, and
U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner

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: greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Relay for Life

At the Relay for Life on June 17 in Great Falls, cancer survivor Heidi Jenkins, pictured, age 23, rallied the 350 participants with her story of survival, leading to a successful event raising money for the American Cancer Society. Jenkins, a resident of the Mount Vernon area, was executive director for the 2015 and 2016 Relay For Life events at James Madison University in Virginia, where she graduated last year with a degree in communication studies. Her father, a retired Fairfax County firefighter, and mother, a nurse in the community for over 30 years, were both at the relay cheering her on.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

Adopt Donate Volunteer

Volunteers needed for adoption events, fostering, transportation, adoption center caretaking and more.



lostdogandcatrescue.org

Weichert Opportunity



Join us and take your first step!

Maybe you're looking for a new career with unlimited earning potential. Or maybe you've already decided on real estate and just need to find the best place to begin. Either way, our Career Event is for you.

By attending this free session, you'll learn more about the ease of attaining a real estate license and how Weichert Realtors can help jump start your career, including through:

- Our industry-best training
- Our robust in-office support and coaching
- Our Weichert Real Estate Schools.

Please Join us for our FREE Career Event!
Tuesday, July 11th, 2017 from 6-8pm

Contact Stevie Bennett: 575.650.7100 or 703.759.6300,
sbennett@weichertrealtors.net



Weichert Realtors
731-A Walker Road, Great Falls VA 22066



8th Annual

Dog Days Of Summer Open House

Sunday, July 9th from 10am to 5pm

A great to time to see our facility & meet our staff.



- Free Hot Dogs & Soft Drinks
- Free Frosty Paws for the Pups
- Free Swims in the Pool
- Hospital & Resort Tours
- Entire Boutique on Sale



Dog Days Of Summer Open House

www.SenecaHillVet.com

703.450.6760

11415 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, Virginia

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

Turner Farm Park Master Plan Up for Revision

Supporters of the equestrian facilities show up in force to advocate that it remain horse-friendly.

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

The master plan for the Turner Farm Park in Great Falls is being revised. The Fairfax County Park Authority hosted a public meeting on Tuesday, June 27, at the Great Falls Grange to discuss the process.

A park master plan is a document that establishes a long-range vision of a park's uses and features by integrating detailed knowledge of its conditions with the desires of the community, according to the park authority.

One of the primary reasons for revising the park's current master plan is because the property has expanded.

The park authority initially acquired the section of stream valley and open fields along the south and east sides of the park in 1975. The park then expanded in 1999 through the acquisition of federal government property that housed the Nike anti-aircraft missile complexes. This is when the park's original master plan began being drafted to guide the park's development. It was approved in July 2000.

THE PARK THEN GREW again in 2010 when property containing the Turner Farm House and its secondary buildings were acquired. These historical structures are not accounted for in the park's original master plan.

This means the plan does not take into account the county's Resident Curator Program, which was established as an option for public-private partnerships to provide assistance in maintaining historic houses within the county.

"The Turner Farm House is the second property announced in that program," Tim Hackman, the Dranesville District representative to the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, said at the meeting. "There are a whole list of properties ... that will be rolled out over time."

For the program, an organization or individual would live in the farm house and maintain the property. In order for the farmhouse to be included in the program, the program must be included in the property's master plan.

The park has a mix of recreational facilities, including horseback riding and jumping facilities, roll-top observatory and celestial telescope facilities, playground and picnic pavilion. However, some features reflected on the existing master plan have not been constructed.

Since the original plan's adoption seven years ago, the park authority is seeking feed-



This aerial image of the layout of Turner Farm Park shows what currently exists on the site.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

back on whether the resources that have not been built should stay or go:

- Jogging Trail to allow for cardiovascular workouts
- Running Track to measure between 320 and 400 meters
- Croquet Court with a grass area measuring 84 feet by 105 feet to be located within the center of the Running Track

"Just because we're asking, it's not a guarantee or an interest of us to change everything," Gayle Hooper, a spokesperson for the park authority said during the meeting. "We started this because we acquired the new properties up where the farmhouse is that needs to be worked into the plan so that the Resident Curator Program can move forward with its process. But as we do it, it's a great opportunity to come back and check the pulse of the community; find out how well the park is serving everybody."

Supporters of the equestrian facilities showed up in force at the meeting to advocate that it remains a horse-friendly park.

"I think all these uses are wonderful, but they're not necessarily compatible," a horse owner in Great Falls said from the back of the room during the meeting. "I know when I've taken my horse over to Turner Farm and gotten on him, mounted him and started to walk down the trail, I often have little kids running up from a park and it's dangerous for the horse, it's dangerous for me as a rider

and it's dangerous for the kids."

The equestrians in the room were mostly in agreement for the park authority to ditch the running, jogging and croquet court that had not been built and focusing on horses and riding facilities.

"I'd like for you to give priority to the equestrian aspects of Turner Farm," said Beverly Dickerson, an Oakton resident who is president of Fairfax4Horses. "There are so few places where children or adults can go to take riding lessons."

"I really wouldn't put horses on the backburner," Ursula Moore of Fairfax, who is an American Riding Instructors Association certified riding trainer, added. "I think we can all work together ... this is very usable and very shareable piece of property."

Loud applause broke out after therapeutic riding was encouraged to remain at the park.

"We as a board want to express our desire to keep it as an equestrian use primarily and especially to keep a portion of it for the ability of Lift Me Up to use," Bill Carbaugh, president of the board of Lift Me Up!, a therapeutic horseback riding program in Great Falls which uses the park to provide its services to children and adults who have physical, mental and emotional disabilities.

The Lift Me Up! program has been offered at the park since the original master plan

"I'd like for you to give priority to the equestrian aspects of Turner Farm. ... There are so few places where children or adults can go to take riding lessons."

— Beverly Dickerson, Oakton resident, president of Fairfax4Horses

was adopted in 2000.

THE EQUESTRIANS also stood up for the stargazers in the room from the Analemma Society, which has a partnership agreement with the park authority to develop recreational and educational astronomy programs at the roll-top observatory at the park.

"It should remain an equestrian facility, primarily, with the exception of the piece that the Analemma Society, which is a completely separate use," said Karen Washburn, a member of Turner Farm Events, which fundraises to maintain the equestrian uses in the park. "But we don't tread on each other's toes, it works out, very, very well."

The Analemma Society also spoke up during the meeting.

"The observatories are very important to the community," Analemma Society Secretary Jacqueline Olin said. "Many people are enjoying Friday nights when they are open to the public for viewing and for the classes that are being given."

Olin also put in a good word for the equestrians.

"Since 2000, the Analemma Society has been developing observatory activity at the park and the equestrians have been developing theirs — except for a few occasions where we had to learn how to handle our horse dropping, which we've done beautifully," she said. "It's been a great experience."

These county residents made it known that they put their own money into the development of the unique equine and observatory resources that can be found at the park.

"The things that got built on this master plan all had to have a constituency ... a lot of money was raised, a lot of effort," a woman from Reston said from the back of the room.

The public information meeting last week was just the beginning of the master planning process.

The park authority will develop and publish a draft of the revised plan and host a public comment meeting on the draft in the fall, followed by a public comment period. The park authority will then revise the draft as needed and send to the park authority board for approval in the winter of 2018 at the earliest.

Comments about the park and the master plan may be submitted to the park authority by emailing parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov.



PHOTOS BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

“Nearly 25 years ago, the people of this facility formed an important link in the GPS chain that almost all of us became dependent on, not only for commercial navigation such as ships and airplanes, but also finding directions to our favorite coffee shop,” Jack Fahey said of the work conducted at the site. Fahey is a retired employee of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and former employee of its predecessor organizations, the Army Maps Service and Defense Mapping Agency.

Mapping the Earth

FROM PAGE 3

recognition was a significant step in recognizing the park as a resource for astronomy lovers.

“Definitely getting the Army Map Service marker is a milestone,” said Analemma Society Secretary Jacqueline Olin, who helped apply for the highway historical marker. “It’s always been known in Great Falls as a Nike missile site, but the fact that for

30 years it was engaged in this activity for the production of GPS, that was not known in the community. It’s quite a milestone. It’s very significant.”

Summer Classes at the Observatory Park at Turner Farm

- ❖ Meteor Astronomy
- ❖ Moonless Night
- ❖ Intro to Telescopes
- ❖ Exploring the Moon
- ❖ Explore the Solar System



Carl Sagan, an American astronomer and cosmologist once said: “Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known.” During her remarks at the ceremony, Virginia Sen. Barbara Favola, D-31, added to this famous quote by saying, “Perhaps as drivers ponder the sign along the road or perhaps visit this observatory, they too will find something incredible to be known.”



“I look forward to bringing my two-and-half-year-old granddaughter here,” said U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10), whose son-in-law works at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

VINSON HALL RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Independent Living at Vinson Hall

Vinson Hall Retirement Community is located in idyllic McLean, VA and offers independent residential living for military officers and government employees of equal rank. Our apartment residences offer all the luxurious comforts of home within a vibrant Life Plan community. Come see what’s new!

www.VinsonHall.org
703-536-4344

1 and 2
BEDROOM
APARTMENTS
AVAILABLE!

MCLEAN COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Opens Friday, July 14!

Music & Lyrics by William Finn Book by Rachel Sheinkin
Conceived by Rebecca Feldman
Additional material by James Reiss Originally directed on Broadway by James Lapine
Produced by Annie O’Neill Galvin and Diane Sams
Directed by Kevin and Pamela McCormack
Choreographed by Kathleen McCormack
Music Directed by Lori Roddy

July 14-30

Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m.; Sundays at 2:00 p.m.
Performances 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

Audio description will be offered by the Metropolitan Washington Ear on Sunday, July 23, 2017.
The McLean Community Players, Inc. is funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County.
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

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

Great Falls Gets Two Little Free Libraries

Great Falls has joined the Little Free Library movement with two libraries built and installed by Scouts from Great Falls Scout Troop 673 on Saturday, June 24.

The Friends of the Great Falls Library had been discussing the purchase of some of the libraries for the community in the spring of 2016 at the same time that Neal Kelly was looking for an Eagle Project. Neal offered to build two for placement in Great Falls with the Friends paying for raw materials. Friends President Michelle Miller and Neal worked together to find locations particularly accessible to walkers. Neal made a presentation to Mike Kearney of Celebrate Great Falls and the Old Brogue who agreed that one library could be installed near the benches outside the Great Falls Creamery. The other, built and painted to reflect the architecture of the nearby office condominiums, was installed near the picnic table at Leigh Corners. Miller noted that residents and visitors from the nearby Brightview Retirement home often walk along the sidewalk past the small picnic area.

The first Little Free Library was a model of a one room schoolhouse built by Todd Bol of Hudson, Wis. in 2009 in honor of his mother, a teacher who loved to read. Bol filled it with books and put it on a post in his front yard. His friends and neighbors enjoyed it so much, he built several more and gave them away. As of November 2016, there are more than 50,000 little libraries in a variety of shapes and sizes worldwide. Regionally, there is one little library in Cascades, several in Arlington, underwritten by the Friends of the Arlington Public Library and 25 or more in Washington DC.

Troop 673 Scouts Greg Roszyk Jr., Matt



Richard Kelly, Cam and Mitch Williams, Matt Stephens, Neal Kelly and Gabe Collins finish the library for Leigh's Corner.

Stephens, Charlie Clyne, Jackson Sayers, Thor Kurzenhauser, Mitch and Cameron Williams and Gabe Collins worked with Neal painting, assembling and installing the two libraries. The Friends and Scouts appreciated the guidance of Scout Dads Greg

Roszyk Sr., Greg Stephens and Richard Kelly. The particularly appreciated the use of Mr. Roszyk's woodshop.

Anyone may take or return a book at either location. The Friends encourage readers to take books even if they have none to

return and anyone is welcome to donate at any time. The two libraries will be registered and their Charter plaques attached at a grand opening later in the summer.

More information may be found at the website for Littlefreelibrary.org.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Neal Kelly and Michelle Miller at the Little Library near the Great Falls Creamery.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Langley Drama Presents Final Production of the School Year

As the final production of the 2017 school year, Langley High School drama department produced "LIGHTS! CAMERA! SAXONS! SING!," featuring 2017 Cappies winners including Jamie Goodson (Best Actress in a Musical) and Cuinn Casey (Best Male Dancer) in featured vocal and dance solos.



Dickson Displays Paintings at Katie's Coffee House

Coty Dickson will display her oil paintings depicting "Local Scenes We Love" during the month of July during normal business hours at Katie's Coffee House, Great Falls Village Centre, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Visit oldbrogue.com/katies-coffee-house or call 703-759-2759 for details.

Meditation as Medicine

Practice linked to improvements in health.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

In her dimly lit basement in Great Falls, Mary Beth Kogod sounds a meditation bell that echoes through the room. The 12 people sitting on cushions in a circle around her close their eyes and listen to the gentle sounds of her voice.

"If your mind begins to wander, gently guide it back to the sound of my voice," said Kogod, as she leads the group in a mindfulness meditation session.

The practice of meditating to aid with ills running the gamut from stress and anxiety to pain and depression is on the rise. According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), 18 million people practiced some form of meditation in 2015, and the number of Americans who engage in the practice has doubled over the last 15 years.

"We have more smartphones and other electronics that consume us and give us constant access to stressful events we see on the news," said Kate Love, who runs the Open Mind-Open Heart meditation group in Bethesda. "There is the expectation that we need to be available and informed all the time. This expectation wasn't in place 10 years ago."

Love says that while scientific research

to back up these claims is limited, it is growing. For example, a study funded by the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health at NIH shows that mindfulness practices have a positive impact on insomnia.

"There is the expectation that we need to be available and informed all the time. This expectation wasn't in place 10 years ago."

— Kate Love

Meditation usually entails sitting relatively still and quiet, as in Kogod's meditation session, and focusing on one thing, such as a sound, an image or one's own breath.

"I teach clients concentrative meditation where they focus on one thing," she said. "I also teach mindful meditation where people try to cultivate a sense of awareness of what is happening in their body. For example, what thoughts pass through your mind as



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Kate Love of the Open Mind-Open Heart meditation group in Bethesda says that meditation can help reduce stress.

you sit quietly? What sounds do you hear? What emotions do you feel? The work comes when you notice these sensations and then let them go."

A 2011 study by the Association for Psychological Science showed that meditation can be effective in boosting memory and

concentration. Settings for this mind-body practice now range from workplaces to classrooms.

Amber Wilson, a fourth grade teacher, guides her students in mindfulness meditation practices most afternoons during the school year. "A lot of my students have difficult home environments which affects their ability to concentrate in school," she said. "When I stop them between subjects and let them chill out a little bit, it really makes a difference in their performance, even after just five minutes."

Meditation can also help with addiction treatment, says Warren Schelter, Ph.D., a psychologist with a practice in Alexandria. "It can instill a sense of calm and overall wellbeing," he said. "Anxiety and depression often go hand-in hand with addiction, which is why a calming meditation practice might be effective for some people."

Schelter underscores the fact that meditation should not replace traditional medicine. "I would recommend that anyone experiencing symptoms of mental or physical illness see a medical doctor first," she said. "Mediation should work in conjunction with traditional medicine, not in place of it."

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



Free Estimates
703-999-2928

TWO POOR TEACHERS
Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



Select your
products from
our Mobile
Showroom
and Design
Center

Fully Insured &
Class A Licensed
Since 1999



Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

SCHEDULE YOUR FAMILY'S CHECKUP



Laser Dentistry
is our specialty
It's gentle and fast
but not just for kids!

Family Dentistry
under the professional care of a
Prosthodontic Expert

Loza DENTAL
HEALTH & WELLNESS
Great Falls

703-759-3011

We
Welcome
NEW
PATIENTS



Dr. Juan Loza & Dr. Jose Loza

*"We treat you
like family"*

Schedule Your Appointments Today
Take a tour of our high-tech dental office.

Lozadentalgreatfalls.com 737 Walker Road, Suite 6, Great Falls, VA 22066



Helping Animals
Find Their Way
Since 2001

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way.
2. not appreciated or understood.
3. no longer owned or known

Volunteers needed for adoption events, fostering, transportation, adoption center caretaking and more.

Adopt/Donate/Volunteer
www.lostdogandcatrescue.org



King's Kids Preschool Director Heidi Toloczko

Two King's Kids Preschool students in costume confer backstage before they perform in the play, "Lost and Found: Adventures of the Prodigal Kids."

Preschool Celebrates Silver Anniversary

Carol Mosier, the founding director of "Mother's Day Out," described her first class as, "The children, two teachers, a Fisher-Price phonograph, some books and me."

The classes at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Great Falls began 25 years ago, and have since become a thriving preschool at the church.

The King's Kids Preschool, which is currently led by Director Heidi Toloczko, spent the better part of this past school year celebrating its silver anniversary.

"This year, we mounted three big events for our celebration," said Toloczko. "For the first time, during the holidays, we sang at the Celebration of Lights in Great Falls Village Centre. We also performed our original play this year, and hosted past and present King's Kids Preschool families at our picnic."

Pat Budwig, the founder of Starshine Theater, which is also celebrating its 25th anniversary, partnered with KKP on each of its events and wrote and directed the original work it commissioned, "Lost and Found: Adventures of the Prodigal Kids."

The celebration's central event, the 25th anniversary picnic, was Saturday, May 20. Families with current and past preschool students enjoyed hot dogs, watermelon, freeze pops and cake. The event featured a moon bounce, face painting and fun prizes for the families with the oldest, youngest and most students of the preschool.

The preschool also honored one of its teachers, Lynda Hammel,



Pat Budwig, the founder of Starshine Theater who wrote and directed the original work the preschool commissioned, shares her musical talents during the King's Kids Preschool picnic.

who taught at the preschool for more than 20 years, as well as past director Tracey Shenk. The preschool also bade farewell to Katrina Krause, the school's music teacher, who will soon move to North Carolina.

"We are so grateful to the folks who came before us and started and nurtured 'Mother's Day Out,'" said Toloczko.

"This little idea, with its humble beginnings, has become an integral part of our community. I'm blessed with the opportunity to see this vision unfold and grow."

Toloczko added that she is looking forward to Budwig directing the preschool's musical productions next year.



PHOTO BY IRISH EYES PHOTOGRAPHY BY TOBY
COURTESY McLEAN COMMUNITY PLAYERS

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" — Three of the spellers (Sidney Davis, Sierra Hoffman, and William Jeffreys) are given instructions by Rona Lisa Peretti (Sara Watson).

Summertime Theater Fun McLean Community Players presents "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Where & When

Cet ready for a chipper musical with great heart. It's the McLean Community Players (MCP) production of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." The show is about "an eclectic mix of quirky characters. Both the 'kids' participating in the Bee and the adults in charge of running it have eccentricities that come to seem endearing, as well as hilarious," said co-director Kevin McCormack.

The "Bee" is set in a fictional Putnam County middle school, but it could be anywhere. There are awkward adolescents (played by adults) trying to win the contest. As they work their way through the competition they begin to develop a sense of belonging.

What is special about "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is that at each performance, four audience members will be invited to participate as spellers. They get to go up on stage with its nine member cast and be part of the show. On stage these audience spellers will be given actual words to spell and will remain on stage until they misspell a word. All is for good fun. The Tony Award winning musical has a book by Rachel Sheinkin with score by William Finn.

Sarah Watson plays Rona Lisa Peretti. Peretti is the only female "adult" in the show; and hostess of the event. "For Rona, this 'Spelling Bee' is as big as The Oscars or The Olympics. She crosses the days off her calendar until the Bee is finally here. She can't sleep the night before because she's so excited. Rona won the 3rd Annual Putnam Spelling Bee. She

McLean Community Players present "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" at Community Building Ballroom, Vinson Hall, 1735 Kirby Road, McLean. Performances run July 14-30, 2017. Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$23-\$25. Visit www.McLeanPlayers.org, or call Brown Paper Tickets at 1-800-838-3006. Group rates are available. Audio description for the visually-impaired will be offered by the Metropolitan Washington Ear at the matinee performance on Sunday, July 23, 2017. NOTE: Adult situations, this show is most suitable for ages 13 and older. Recruiting for audience volunteers to become part of the production process will begin in the lobby at a sign up table. Prior to the start of the show those selected will be interviewed by the producer, director and the actors involved.

won't let the audience forget it."

Sidney Davis plays Leaf Coneybear; one of the youngest contestants. "He's basically there by default because the actual winners couldn't participate, and that reflects on one of his scenes in the show with his family. He's homeschooled with the rest of his brothers and sisters, so there's a lot of sibling rivalry." Sierra Hoffman plays Logainne Schwartz and Grubenierre. She is the daughter of two dads. She is "put under a lot of pressure to succeed. She's a political activist and the youngest competitor at the bee."

"Putnam" is more than a show about a spelling competition. It delves into friendships, family relationships, the pressure to succeed, sportsmanship, and ultimately, embracing who you are. These are things many of us have faced during our lives," added co-producers Annie O'Neill Galvin and Diane Sams.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELLEN ACCONCIA

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Great Falls Farmers Market. Every Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Music, vendors, fresh produce, fresh prepared food, delightful bakery, spices from around the world, wild-caught fish, grass-fed, free-range meats, organic-fed poultry and eggs. Email kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org for more.

Art at the Library. Various Vienna artists work on display in June at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Reno Number Eleven Steam Locomotive is one of five pictures supplied by the Vienna Arts Center. Visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org for more.

Concerts on the Green, Great Falls Village Centre Green, on Sundays throughout the summer, 6-8 p.m. www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/

The Light of Day Paintings. Through July 15, various times Broadway Gallery, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. Featuring landscape paintings by Michael Godfrey, Christine Lashley, Tricia Ratliff, and Rajendra KC. Call 703-450-8005 for more.

"Summer in the City" Art Show.

Normal business hours through August 15 at Brightview, 10200 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Members of Great Falls Studios will exhibit their work in a show. Call 703-759-2513 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.

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 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/



PHOTO BY TOWN OF VIENNA

Big Splash Party

Cool off on July 29 at the Big Splash Party, 1-3 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Water games and slide. Visit www.viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.



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.

FRIDAY/JULY 7

Summer on the Green Concert.

6:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Featuring Richard Walton Group. Free. Visit www.viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.

Danny Gokey Concert. 6:30-8 p.m. at the The Tysons Corner Metro Station Plaza, 1961 Chain Bridge Road. Part of the Tyson's Concert Series. Visit www.tysonscornercenter.com or call 703-893-9401 for more.

SATURDAY/JULY 9

Trio Caliente Concert. 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Set to a wide array of Latin grooves with vocals in Spanish, Portuguese, Catalan and English. Part of The Alden at the McLean Community Center's 2017 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit www.aldentheatre.org.

JULY 10-14

Vacation Bible School. 6-8 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard St., NW. Dinner is served each night, followed by an engaging opening worship rally at 6:30pm. There are classes for the entire family. Free. Call 703-938-8525 or visit fbcv.org for more.

JULY 14-30

Summer Musical. 8-10:30 p.m. or Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. at Vinson Hall Retirement Community, Community Building Ballroom, 1735 Kirby Road, McLean. McLean players present "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." \$23-25. Email publicity@McLeanPlayers.org, call 703-304-3176 or visit www.McLeanPlayers.org.

JULY 15-16

Summer Colonial Market Fair. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Games, children's activities, music, demonstrations such as blacksmith, spinning, candle-making and splitting rails. Children and Seniors: \$4; Adults: \$8; children under 3 free; directions and more information at www.1771.org.



Invest in something real. Learn how to invest in gold and silver the easy and safe way.



Get your free Investor Kit
metalsmint.com
1-855-360-4653

Visit These Houses of Worship

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**

To Highlight Your Faith Community, call Don at 703-778-9420

PET Connection

Publishes: July 26, 2017 • Ads close: July 19, 2017

Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets. Reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention.

The Pet Connection will publish on July 26, 2017, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 19. We welcome short stories about how you got your pet, a noteworthy talent or anecdote about your pet, tales of the bonds between your family and your pet, plus drawings, paintings or other artwork of your pet by children or adults.

Find more information about submissions online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

For advertising information, call 703.778.9431 or Email SALES@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM for more specials, digital advertising options and pricing.

703-778-9431
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

- Alexandria Gazette Packet
- Arlington Connection
- Burke Connection
- Castle View
- Chantilly Connection
- Fairfax Connection
- Fairfax Station/Gloucester/Lorton Connection
- Great Falls Connection
- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Potomac/Arlington
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

Announcements

We pay top \$ for STERLING,
MEN'S WATCHES,
JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,
FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.

Schefer Antiques
703-241-0790
theschefers@cox.net

**Find us on Facebook
and become a fan!**

[www.Facebook.com/
connectionnewspapers](http://www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)

THE CONNECTION

Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community
www.connectionnewspapers.com

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

Announcements

Announcements

**BB&T Bank Ordered
AUCTION**

Sale Site: 620 Chastain Rd, NW,
Kennesaw, GA 30144

**15 Commercial
Properties**

in AL, FL, GA, NC, PA & VA

Many Properties Sell **ABSOLUTE!** No Reserves!

770.425.1141 • johndixon.com

**Tuesday
July 18th
at 6PM**

*Bid Live at
the Auction
& Online!*

JD

**JOHN DIXON
& ASSOCIATES**

AUCTIONS • MARKETING
AL:1481, FL:AB-1488,
GA:2034, NCFL:6397,
PA:6034, VA:2908 000490
10% Buyer's Premium

9+ Bank
Branches &
6+ Commercial
Tracts

Announcements

Announcements

**Lifetime
ROOFING**

by VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

**FACTORY DIRECT
WE FINANCE**

CALL 800-893-1242

WWW.METALROOFOVER.COM

SINGLE WIDES
DOUBLE WIDES
HOUSES

Announcements

Announcements

**100% CASH FOR VINTAGE
BASEBALL CARDS (1900-1972)**

Private collectors in town paying all cash for vintage baseball,
football & basketball card collections from 1900-1972 ONLY. Looking
for complete & partial sets, star cards, higher grade commons and
all tobacco cards.

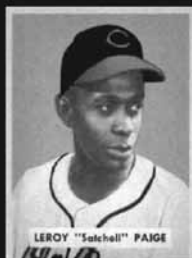
**\$250,000 to spend & WE PAY ALL
CASH and way more than dealers!**

www.baseballcardroadshows.com

Call now to schedule a private appointment.
(Paul or Gary)

**FRIDAY, JULY 14th
ROANOKE**

**SATURDAY, JULY 15th
RICHMOND**



LEROY "Satchel" PAIGE



MIKEY VERNON

804-467-7428

**LIKE US ON
FACEBOOK**

[www.Facebook.com/
connectionnewspapers](http://www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)



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

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

Questions? E-mail:
[goinggreen@connection
newspapers.com](mailto:goinggreen@connectionnewspapers.com)

**THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS**

SPORTS

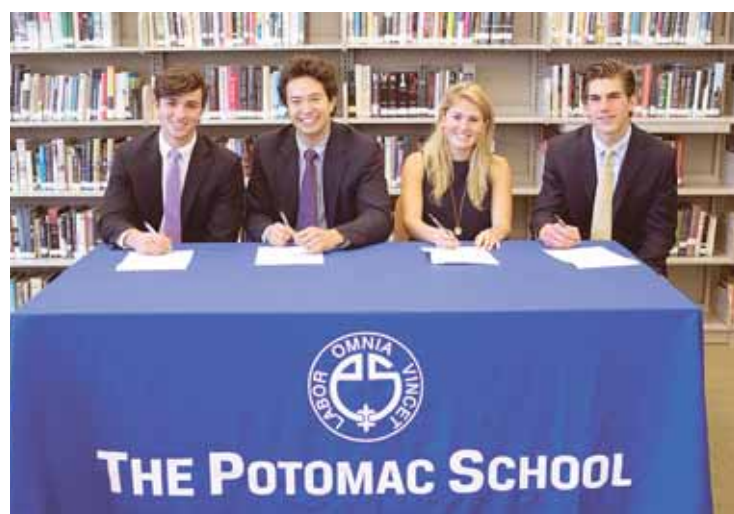


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left: Alex Kitt, Jacob Lazris, Lyla Jones, and Harrison Osborne will all be playing lacrosse in the NESCAC next year.

Four Potomac School Seniors To Play Division III Lacrosse

Four varsity lacrosse players from The Potomac School will play the sport in the New England Small College Athletic Conference, a Division III league. Alex Kitt and Jacob Lazris will play men's lacrosse for Williams College, Harrison Osborne will play men's lacrosse for Amherst College, and Lyla Jones will play women's lacrosse for Colby College.

Lazris is a four-year member of Potomac's boys varsity lacrosse team and was a four-year starter at defense. He also was a member of the school's varsity football team and played club lacrosse for Madlax. "Williams is the perfect combination of great athletics and great academics," Lazris said. "Coach McCormack played a big role in my decision to attend the school. He's very supportive and seems like he will push me to the best of my ability and care about my success both on and off the field." Lazris is considering a major in either history or economics and may minor in Chinese.

Midfielder Kitt, a two-time boys varsity lacrosse captain, finished his senior season earning All-Conference honors and was named to the All-State first team as a face-off midfielder. He secured nearly 75 percent of his face-offs and registered 12 goals and 13 assists. Like Lazris, Kitt also played club lacrosse for Madlax. As a senior, he captained the varsity football team at Potomac. Kitt said, "A strong academic program was my priority during the college search, and Williams has an outstanding academic reputation. I also appreciated the school's small, friendly community." He adds, "Meeting Coach McCormack sealed the deal." Kitt hopes to study economics or math at Williams.

A four-year member of Potomac's boys varsity lacrosse team, midfielder Osborne received both All-Conference honors and an All-Met Honorable Mention during his junior year. As a senior, he once again received All-Conference honors, finishing the season with 34 goals and 20 assists. Osborne played for the Virginia Lacrosse Club outside of school and was also a member of Potomac's varsity boys soccer team. He said, "Amherst is a great school, academically and in every way. Their lacrosse team has improved each season since the new coaching staff arrived, and they make the NCAA tournament almost every year. So this is a really exciting opportunity." Osborne is interested in pursuing an economics major.

As a senior, Jones captained Potomac's girls varsity lacrosse team, on which she played for all four years of her Upper School career. This year, she scored 22 goals and made 15 assists. Outside of school, Jones played for the Capital Lacrosse Club, competed for the DC Metro Team 2 at the 2016 Women's National Tournament, and was selected to showcase her skills at the Under Armour All-America Weekend at Towson University last summer. Jones has also been a member of Potomac's varsity indoor track and soccer teams.

In college, she hopes to major in either computer science or economics. Jones said, "Colby's environment reminded me a lot of Potomac; I know I'll receive one-on-one attention and benefit from small class sizes and caring professors there. And I look forward to being a member of the lacrosse team and benefiting from the guidance and support of their great coaching staff."

BULLETIN

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

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Free Sober Rides. Tuesday, July 4, 7 p.m. through Wednesday, July 5, 2 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter the code SOBERJULY4 in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code. Visit www.soberride.com.

THROUGH JULY 31

Backpacks for Students. Various times at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Christ the King's Team Service is collaborating with Reston's aid to families organization Cornerstones and school supplies collection organization Kids R First to help youngsters in the community. Collections will run through July; drop off in the church lobby. Visit www.gflutheran.org or call 703-759-6068.

SUNDAY/JULY 16

Intro to Connection Practice. 4:30 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Learn simple, science-based tools for feeling and expressing peace, responding with empathy and insight, and building resiliency to life's ups and downs. \$20. Call 703-281-1767 or visit unityoffairfax.org for more.

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.

SUPPORT GROUPS

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 (UUFC) - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, VA. For more info contact facilitator, Jack Tarr, 703-821-6838 jtarr5@verizon.net.

Haven of Northern Virginia Support Group. 703-941-7000, www.havenofnova.org or havenofnova@verizon.net.

Virginia Chronic Pain Support Group Meets from 1:30 - 3 p.m. the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Kaplan Center for Integrative Medicine, 6829 Elm St., Suite 300, McLean. Group leader, Jodi Brayton, LCSW. 703-532-4892.

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.

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 or call MG Help Desk at 703-324-8556 for more.

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/caring-volunteering/>. Questions? Email lpadgett@prsinc.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 | Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-912-6886 | |
| GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES lic/fins 703-802-0483 free est. email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price! | | 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 All work Guaranteed | |
| IMPROVEMENTS | IMPROVEMENTS | TILE / MARBLE | TILE / MARBLE |
| 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 | | 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 | |
| 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 | | 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 | |
| Alfredo's Construction Company, Inc.  • Concrete Driveways • Patios • Sidewalks • Stone • Brick Phone: VA: (703) 698-0060 • MD: (301) 316-1603 www.alfredosconstructioncompany.com | |  TELL US WHAT YOU THINK SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR HERE www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter | |
| 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 | | Find us on Facebook and become a fan! www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers  The Connection to Your Community www.connectionnewspapers.com | |

Not An Auto-Matic Fix



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

But a fix nonetheless, of our 17-year-old back-up car, a 2000 model year Honda Accord. On balance, since inheriting it from mother in 2008, it has been an exceptionally reliable and reasonably-priced second car and one which I'm happy to own. I drive it approximately 7,000 miles per year and not over long stretches. In effect, it is our local car. And considering there is no monthly car payment and the insurance/maintenance costs are low, as a non-car guy who only wants to get from point "A" to point "B", I can live with it "Big time," to quote our current President.

Now I'm at a bit of a crossroads, however. (And not that this is a "cancer" column per se, but it is a column affected by yours truly being a cancer "diagnosee.") I am dropping the car off at my local mechanic, Tony, later today because there are some warning signs and idiot lights suggesting I do so. First, the infamous "check engine" light is illuminated. Its yellow which Tony said is not as bad/urgent as if it were red. Nevertheless, to turn it off/fix the underlying problem (since it doesn't appear to be the gas cap) will likely cost hundreds. The preliminary assessment is that the fault is emission related.

The second area of concern is temperature, specifically how poorly my car's air conditioner is cooling and how loud the fan controlling it is when engaged even when one/low is selected. Adding insult to summertime discomfort, the passenger-side window doesn't slide down, either when using its own power-window switch or the master control on the driver's side. To summarize, I have one window (the driver's side) that can go down and extremely limited air conditioning. I wouldn't say it's hot in the car, but I'm sure any normal person would. Having had previous conversations with Tony about these repairs, I know the dollars needed to right these wrongs might not make any sense given the age and mileage on the car and the diagnosis of its owner. Yet here I am trying think long term, not cancer term. What to do?

I don't want to be miserable driving the Honda anymore (and it is me who's driving it). But I only need the air conditioning for another six to eight weeks or so – and not every day, and rarely at night. I do need to open the windows though for eight to 10 months, not so much during the winter and rarely on cold nights, but opportunities do present themselves. Spending the hundreds/possibly thousands of dollars for all repairs now however might make me miserable, too. The question persists then for any of us who own/want to maintain older cars: when are you throwing good money after bad? Ergo: when is enough, enough? (I sound like Carrie Bradshaw from "Sex and the City.")

Would I be better off spending the repair money on a newer car and enjoy whatever warranty protection I could muster and thus minimize future repair bills or not? The only problem with buying that 'newer car: it's likely (heck, there's no 'likely' about it) there will be a monthly car payment which at present I do not have, and in so having one will definitely make me miserable.

Factor in my health status and I can't stop asking myself: do I solve a problem that affects the quality of my life today at the expense of tomorrow (pun intended) or do I plan/repair for tomorrow and suffer the consequences of having done so today?

As a stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer patient originally characterized by my oncologist as "terminal" and given a "13-month to two-year" prognosis to boot back in late Feb., 2009, I've always tried to live my life and make decisions as if I had a future beyond what I was told.

And for the past eight years and four months, I have pretty consistently maintained that approach. Still, the longer I live, the more my underlying medical diagnosis impacts my thinking/judgment. Unfortunately, worlds sometimes collide and reality is up for grabs. And occasionally decisions are made in a "bizarro" kind of way where topsy is turvy and vice versa. Welcome to my whirled.

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

Call Us Today to Help You Buy or Sell Your Home!



524B Springvale Rd., Great Falls \$1,149,000

Striking shingle-style, Nantucket style home with a flagstone entry plaza, colorful gardens, a whimsical archway and covered portico. Sun-drenched living and entertaining rooms. Very well appointed.



Great Falls \$1,495,000
Park-like setting. Spacious interior



Great Falls \$1,999,000
Perfect multi-generation compound



Great Falls \$1,399,000
Exceptionally built, Quality craftsman



Great Falls \$1,049,900
Exceptional living and Great Falls walkability



Reston \$1,100,000
Open kitchen & family room. Flat backyard!



Great Falls \$895,000
Convenient location - minutes to center of town



Great Falls \$2,399,000
Flawless home with bonus wing



Great Falls \$1,199,000
Stone terrace with stacked stone fireplace



Great Falls \$2,699,000
12,000 sq. ft and Gourmet Viking kitchen



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

