

# Fourth of July Celebrated in Vienna

NEWS, PAGE 3

Michelle and  
David Weiner of  
Vienna with their  
children Amy and  
Eric before the  
Vienna Independence  
Day fireworks began.

‘Healing Wall’  
Honors  
Hospitalized  
Troops

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Vienna Police  
Highlights

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HomeLifeStyle

PAGE 6





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# **VIENNA POLICE REPORTS**

*The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department from June 30, 2017 – July 6, 2017*

## **INCIDENTS**

**Fraud** – 600 Block Frederick Street, SW – Between Oct. 1, 2015 at 12:01 a.m. and June 30 at 6:30 p.m. A resident appears to have been the victim of fraud through several online scams. This case is being investigated.

**Petit Larceny** – Ace Massage 301 Maple Avenue, West – June 28 7:09 p.m. An employee reported a customer left without paying for their massage.

**Missing juvenile** – 600 Block Hillcrest Drive, SW – June 29 12:20 a.m. A resident reported that her teenage son left the residence at 12:20 a.m. and she was concerned for his welfare. A few hours later the juvenile returned home safely.

**Suspicious Event** – Marco Polo, 245 Maple Ave., West – June 30 12:37 p.m. A citizen advised there is a continuous problem with juveniles entering the abandoned building and breaking windows.

**Suspicious Event** – 100 Block Casmar Street, SE – June 30 6:04 p.m. A resident reported money missing from a room she rents in the basement of the home. There were no signs of forced entry into the home and nothing else appeared to have been missing.

**Suspicious Event** – 200 Block Cedar Lane, SE – July 1 2:50 p.m. A resident advised a man entered his apartment through the front door. When the resident confronted the man he advised he had been given permission and access to the apartment by the resident's mother. The mother denied giving the man permission to be there. The incident appears to have been a misunderstanding between the parties. The man left the apartment without incident and agreed not to return.

**Arrest** – Driving While Intoxicated – Malcolm Road and Lawyers Road, NW – July 1 3:09 a.m. Officers were checking on the report of an occupied vehicle that was stopped at a stop sign and the driver did not appear to be moving. Officers found the vehicle was running and the driver was asleep.

Officers were able to shut off the ignition and awaken the driver. Officers detected the odor of alcohol and other signs of impairment. The driver was given the opportunity to perform field sobriety tests, which he refused. Ofc. Post arrested the 22-year-old man from White Oak Drive in Sterling and transported him to the Vienna Police Station where he was given the opportunity to provide a sample of his breath for analysis. The man was then transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Driving While Intoxicated and held on a \$3,500 unsecured bond.

**Open Door** – 900 Block Hillcrest Drive, SW – July 2 1:06 p.m. Officers responded for the report of an open garage door. Nothing appeared to have been disturbed at the residence and officers were able to secure the door.

**Arrest** – Assault & Battery – 200 Block Cedar Lane, SE – July 2 11:28 p.m. Officers responded to the report of a female screaming for help from inside an apartment. Officers observed a male and female inside the residence arguing. The female advised she and her boyfriend were arguing when he assaulted her. The woman suffered minor injuries during the assault but refused rescue. MPO Borja arrested the 21-year-old man from Cedar Lane, SE, Vienna. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Assault & Battery and released on a \$2,500 unsecured bond.

**Animal Case** – Dog Bite – 300 Block Albrecht Circle, SW – July 2 9:11 p.m. A dog walker advised she was walking two dogs for a client when one of the dogs was bitten by another dog in the neighborhood that was also being walked. The dog suffered a minor injury that was examined by a vet. The two dog walkers exchanged information and it was determined that the animals were current on all of their vaccines.

**Grand Larceny** – Vienna Woods Swim Club, 950 Desale Street, SW – July 3 between 6:30 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. Two residents reported their sons' bicycles were stolen from the parking lot of the swim

SEE POLICE, PAGE 5

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The crowd at Yeonas Park in Vienna waits for the Fourth of July fireworks to begin.

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



The band Fat Chance included musicians Scott Butler, Andy Funt, Howard Rabach, Michael Bronson and Mark Congdon.

# Fourth of July Celebrated in Vienna

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

**Yeonas Park hosts fireworks, music, evening show, and pie-eating contest.**

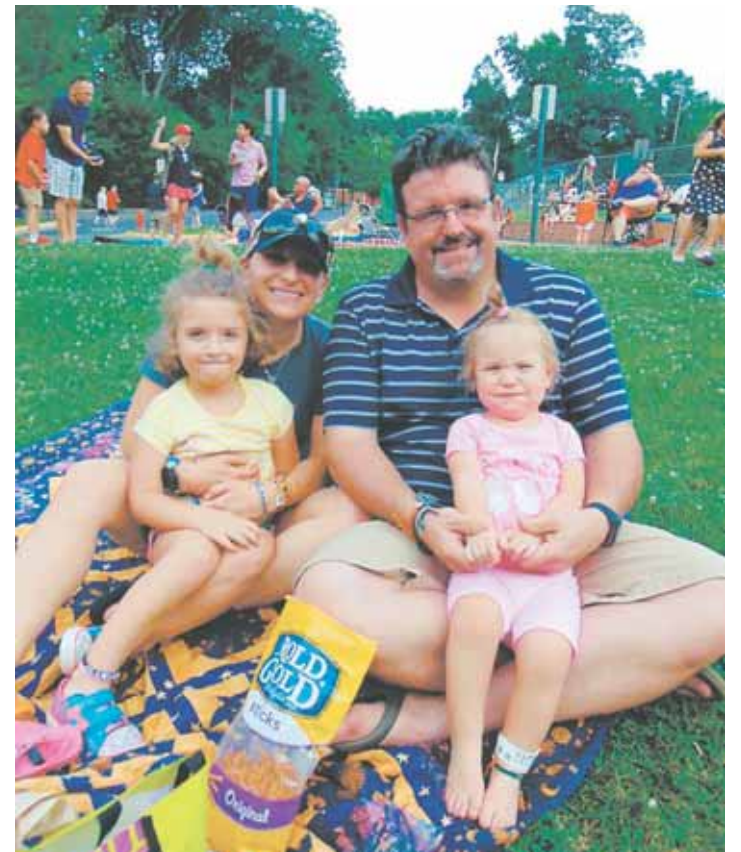
About 4,000 Vienna residents attended the Fourth of July Independence Day celebration at Yeonas Park last week. Sponsored by the Vienna Parks and Recreation, the event featured a fireworks show provided by Navy Federal Credit Union, music by the band Fat Chance, and food and drink concessions sponsored by the Vienna Little League. Visitors spread out their blankets and lawn chairs for picnics and to watch the fireworks, which were shot off from Southside Park.

"It's a small town event; it's what makes Vienna special. We enjoy putting on the events for the residents and visitors. We look forward to an even larger festival next year when the community center opens," said Leslie Herman, Director of Parks and Recreation for the Town of Vienna.

— STEVE HIBBARD



Noelle Vaughan of Vienna with daughters Alexa and Ashlyn before the fireworks began.



C.K. Allen of Oakton with his family: Scott, Campbell and Yearley before the fireworks began.



People line up for the Vienna Little League Concession Stand.



Volunteers at the Vienna Little League Concession Stand.



# OPINION

## Problems for Public Health

**Increasing the number of uninsured is bad for the rest of us, and the economy.**

**T**he proposed plan in the U.S. Senate to give the wealthiest Americans massive tax cuts by cutting health coverage for people who are poor, have disabilities and elders, would also affect the rest of the population, and the economy.

People without health insurance face economic uncertainty. When they do incur medical bills, they often cannot pay them in full. This increases costs to providers and decreases the ability to participate in the economy.

People without health insurance are sicker than people with insurance, but they also often can't afford to stay home from work, often exposing others to preventable illnesses. They are less likely to have flu shots and other routine immunizations that protect all of us, including those with the weakest immune systems and those who cannot be vaccinated.

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine was in Springfield this week talking to people who depend on Medicaid coverage. He and U.S. Sen. Mark Warner have been active in opposing these major cuts to health care.

This bears repeating — here are some other consequences of proposals in the Senate bill:

- ❖ Millions of people lose their health insurance — 22 million fewer would have health insurance by 2026 according to the Congressional Budget Office analysis.

- ❖ In Virginia, more than 14,000 veterans could lose coverage under Medicaid.

- ❖ States could opt out of the law's essential health benefits measure, which requires insurers to cover 10 main benefits, including hospitalization, prescription drugs and other services. That is, companies could sell health insurance that wouldn't actually be health insurance. Would Virginia be a state that opts out? Quite likely.

- ❖ Loss of coverage for pre-existing conditions, including cancer survivors, people who had transplants, people with asthma, arthritis, high cholesterol, hypertension, obesity, mental health issues, ADD, etc.

- ❖ Ending annual and lifetime coverage caps would also impact people who get health insurance from their employers and the private insurance market. For example, a serious accident or an illness that requires repeated surgeries or bone marrow transplants could put any one of us over the coverage cap.

- ❖ Medicaid pays public schools for many services for special education students, but the Senate bill removes schools from eligible Medicaid providers, costing Virginia an estimated \$40 million annually; \$3 million in Fairfax County; \$2 million in the City of Alexandria.

- ❖ \$800 billion plus in cuts to Medicaid puts the funding for most people who are currently in nursing homes at risk. Many of these are people who were middle class and but outlived

their savings and coverage.

- ❖ In Virginia, the proposed changes to Medicaid would cost the state \$1.4 billion over seven years.

- ❖ Medicaid pays for much of the fight against opioid addiction, including treatment. Cuts would be devastating to efforts to counter the wave of overdose deaths and other effects of addiction.

- ❖ Coverage for mental health treatment, including addiction treatment, is threatened both by cuts to Medicaid and by changes in the private insurance market.

- ❖ There will be greater need for Medicaid over time. More seniors will be poor, as fewer people who are retiring have pensions or adequate retirement savings. The demand for nursing home beds will be increasing as the population ages.

Read last week's editorial, "Killing the Poor to Pay Millionaires," here: [www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jun/27/opinion-editorial-killing-poor-pay-millionaires/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jun/27/opinion-editorial-killing-poor-pay-millionaires/)

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS

## Send in Your 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.

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 to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com) or submit online at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets).

## Heartbreak and Hope **U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly hosts Alzheimer's Town Hall.**

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

**"A**lzheimer's disease will touch every American family at some time or other. There aren't many other conditions you can say that about. Today, Alzheimer's kills more people each year than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined," said U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) to the attendees of the Town Hall meeting at the headquarters of the National Capital Area Alzheimer's Association in McLean on Monday, June 10.

Connolly was one of several speakers on the agenda, that included representatives from the National Alzheimer's Association, the Agency on Aging from Fairfax and Prince William counties, the Virginia Alzheimer's Commission, and

the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.

Cindy Schelhorn, senior director of communication with the Alzheimer's Association, opened the event and Connolly began the session with a personal story about the disease's effect on his own family. "My Irish immigrant grandmother survived the boat journey to America, even being robbed on the ship. She worked hard. She saved. She was able to bring her own mother and her brothers over from Ireland. She wasn't able to fight off Alzheimer's."

Connolly told of his grandmother's strength from years of hard work "and walking to Mass everyday." In some ways, said the congressman, her physical fitness proved to be less than a blessing after the disease struck. "She lived

a long time with Alzheimer's. Watching her fade away before my eyes was one of the most difficult things I had to deal with growing up. The worst is knowing your loved one knows something isn't right, but there is nothing they can do."

**THE CONGRESSMAN** has co-sponsored the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act and the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act, supported the RAISE Family Caregivers Act and is a member of the bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's. But he is concerned. "The President's FY 2018 Budget, and many of the bills currently on the table would wreak havoc, throwing people out of nursing homes

SEE HEARTBREAK AND HOPE. PAGE 10

Vienna & Oakton  
**CONNECTION**

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# VIENNA POLICE REPORTS

FROM PAGE 2

club. The juveniles had left their bikes unsecured just outside of the pool fence while they were swimming.

**Suspicious Event** – Marshall Road Elementary School, 730 Marshall Road, SW – July 4 between 8 and 8:53 p.m. An owner of a vehicle called the Vienna Police Station reporting that his vehicle was missing from the parking lot of Marshall Road Elementary School. Officers responded to the parking lot and located the vehicle, which appeared to have been recently involved in an accident with heavy damage. Attempts were made to contact the owner again however officers were unable to reach him to follow up on the investigation. This case is being investigated.

**Missing Person – Adult** – 500 Block East Creek Court, NE – July 4 10:10 p.m. A citizen reported that he and his wife were attending a party at a friend's home when his wife, who suffers from dementia, wandered off. Within a couple of hours the wife returned to her home safely.

**Burglary** – 300 Block Charles Street, SE – Between July 3 at 11:p.m. and July 4 at 4 p.m. A resident returned home from vacation to find that someone had been in their home while they were away. Nothing appeared to have been taken from the home. This case is being investigated.

**Shoplifting** – CVS, 337 Maple Ave., East – July 5 8:37 a.m. An employee reported a man entered the store, concealed a six pack of beer and left the store without paying for it. **Trespassing** – Maple Avenue Shopping Center, 300 Block Maple Ave., East – July 5 12:36 p.m. A property manager with the shopping center requested officers assist him in trespassing a female from the property. The female

was advised that if she returned to the shopping center or any of the stores in the shopping center she will be arrested for trespassing. The female left without incident.

**Arrest – Narcotics Violation** – Lawyers Road and Upham Place, NW – July 5 11:45 p.m. Ofc. Post observed a driver commit a traffic infraction and initiated a traffic stop. Upon her interaction with the driver she detected an odor of marijuana. A measurable amount of marijuana was located in the vehicle. Ofc. Post issued a summons to the 24-year-old man from Trevino Lane in Falls Church, charging Possession of Marijuana. He was released on his signature.

**CRASHES**  
**Desale Street and Yeonas Drive, SW** – June 30 1:29 p.m. Vehicle-2 was northbound on Desale Street at the stop sign for Yeonas Drive. Vehicle-1 was traveling eastbound on Yeonas at a high rate of speed and attempted to turn right onto Desale Street. Vehicle-1 took the turn too fast and struck Vehicle-2. A passenger in Vehicle-2 was pregnant and was transported to an area hospital for evaluation. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Reckless Driving – Failure to Maintain Control.

**800 Block Maple Avenue, East** – June 30 7:30 p.m. Vehicle-2 was unoccupied and legally parked in the parking lot. Driver-1 was backing up his vehicle and struck Vehicle-2 causing damage to both vehicles.

**300 Block Maple Avenue, West** – July 2 5:04 p.m. Vehicle-2 was stopped for a pedestrian crossing in the crosswalk in the 300 block of Maple Avenue, West. Vehicle-1 struck the rear of Vehicle-2 causing minor damage to both vehicles. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Pay Full Time and Attention.



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- 1-866-703-6293
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\*Registration is limited to two people per RSVP. Photo ID may be requested at event entrance.

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# Home LifeStyle

## Redefining Space

Designer thinks outside the proverbial box.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

A local interior designer believes in thinking outside the box when it comes to making the best use of space in one's home.

"My advice to homeowners is to embrace spaces within their homes as if they were never assigned," said Joe Van Goethem of Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design in McLean. "Depending on location, a space previously designated as a walk-in closet can be purposefully transformed into an intimate guest bedroom, home office, or multipurpose wine cellar and bar."

Van Goethem followed his own advice when he transformed a walk-in foyer closet in his home into a multipurpose wine cellar, complete with a wine refrigerator, beer cooler, ice maker and cigar humidor. "Why a walk-in closet if it's seldom used, and only to become an open invitation for hidden clutter?" he asked. "Envision new, functional possibilities for every space within your home."

Van Goethem, who not only designed the space, but also completed the construction himself, believes that "playing with scale and attention to every detail are key when considering the transformation of a confined space such as a walk-in closet," he said. "[The] closet had a nondescript narrow solid door, glued-down wood veneer floor, shelving and hanging rods, and one light fixture."

In finishing the project, Van Goethem widened the door framing to accommodate a new French door and added storage space for a concealed television. He also installed an intercom to allow those in the cellar to communicate with those in the kitchen.

"I ripped up the old floor [and replaced it] with Spanish marble tile flooring," he said. "I added a baseboard and crown moulding, and created a grid of moulding on the walls which I painted with Farrow & Ball's Purbeck Stone. I installed Extra

"My advice to homeowners is to embrace spaces within their homes as if they were never assigned."

— Joe Van Goethem of  
Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE VAN GOETHEM

**Interior designer Joe Van Goethem transformed a walk-in closet in his McLean home into a wine cellar.**

Fine Arrowroot Grasscloth hand crafted wallcovering by Phillip Jeffries within the recesses of the grid."

Van Goethem said his goal was to make the design of the new cellar consistent with the aestheticS of the rest of his home. The space includes a large drum light fixture and side lamps. An oversized cabinet holds the stemware and barware. He added a commissioned seascape painting by California artist Jonathan Koch and modern teapots by Washington, D.C. ceramicist Joe Hicks.

"Details are important in design, but they are everything ... when transforming a small space like the repurposing of a walk-in closet," said Van Goethem.



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

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

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

**Chesterbrook United Methodist Church** is at 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Worship service is at 11 a.m. Call 703-356-7100 or visit [www.ChesterbrookUMC.org](http://www.ChesterbrookUMC.org).

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church,** 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, is holding Sunday evening worship service in a less formal atmosphere and more intimate setting to help you get ready for the week ahead. Sundays, 6 p.m. Communion offered. No childcare. Call 703-938-2119 or visit [www.elcvienna.org](http://www.elcvienna.org).

**Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church** holds Centering Prayer Group Fridays, 9:30 a.m. at 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. The hour begins with a 20-minute prayer period, followed by a brief reading related to Centering

Prayer. E-mail Chris Mason at [derce@cox.net](mailto:derce@cox.net) or call the church at 703-759-3509.

**The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Jewish Outreach Institute** offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources. Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. Visit [ShalomDC.org](http://ShalomDC.org).

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax,** 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, offers the Religious Exploration program for all children, from pre-K toddlers through high school seniors, emphasizing exploration of all religious traditions while developing a personal spiritual path. The program offers classes on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings. 703-281-4230.

**Trinity United Methodist Church,** 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Sunday worship services are at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for young adults follows the 10:30 a.m. worship services and for children at 9:30 a.m. Youth Group for grades 7-12 meets Sundays at 5 p.m. A 20-minute service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at noon. 703-356-3312 or [umtrinity.org](http://umtrinity.org).

**Passages DivorceCare.** For those experiencing the pain of separation or divorce, the caring community at Vienna Presbyterian Church offers Passages

SEE FAITH, PAGE 9

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## ONGOING

### Great Falls Farmers Market.

Saturdays, 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](mailto:kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org) for more.

**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.

**Julie Cochran Photography.** Various times through July 29 at the Vienna Arts Gallery, 513 Maple Ave. W. Exhibit called "Lotus-Palooza." Call 703-319-3971 or visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org) for more.

**Sunny Days Art.** Artists exhibition through July 29 at the Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW. Sunny Days exhibition. Call 703-319-3971 or visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org) for more.

**"Summer in the City" Art Show.** Normal business hours through Aug. 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.

**Stories and Sprinklers.** Wednesdays through Aug. 2, 1:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna (behind the Freeman Store). Hear a story. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

**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](http://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](http://www.goldengirls.org).

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

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

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

**Fishing Rod Rentals** 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Rentals available during visitor center hours. Fishing tackle and live bait are available for purchase. Reservations required for group rentals. \$6/rental (2 hour max). Valid driver's license



## 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](http://oldbrogue.com/katies-coffee-house) or call 703-759-2759 for details.

required. Rod/reel combinations are perfect for beginners and children. A Virginia or Maryland freshwater fishing license is required for those 16 years or older. The park does not sell fishing licenses. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/)

**Colvin Run Mill** open 11 - 4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Fairfax 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](http://www.greatfallsart.org) for more.

**Still Life Painting.** Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Still life provides a great tool to hone skills. Recommended for students of all levels. Visit [www.greatfallsart.org](http://www.greatfallsart.org).

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

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

## THURSDAY/JULY 13

**Driftwood in Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15-25. Visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com) for more.

## FRIDAY/JULY 14

**Bat Watching.** 6-7:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. Learn about bats, sit around the campfire and make s'mores. \$8. Call 703-759-9018 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/).

## 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](mailto:publicity@McLeanPlayers.org), call 703-304-3176 or visit [www.McLeanPlayers.org](http://www.McLeanPlayers.org).

## SATURDAY/JULY 15

**Model Railroad Exhibit.** 1-5 p.m. at Northern Virginia Model Railroaders, 231 Dominion Road, NE, Vienna. Model train and trolley activities that realistically depict an actual railroad that existed in North Carolina in the 1950s. Visit [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.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 and educational demonstrations such as the blacksmith, spinning, candle-making and splitting rails. Children and Seniors: \$4; Adults: \$8; children

under 3 free; directions and more at [www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org).

## SUNDAY/JULY 16

**American Legion Breakfast.** 8 a.m.-noon at the American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St. N., Vienna. Buffet includes omelets, blueberry, pancakes, sausage, bacon and more. \$9, ages 12 and under, \$3. Call 703-938-6580 for more.

**Da Capo Barbershop Quartet.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Barbershop quartet style music with various music styles. 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](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

## MONDAY/JULY 17

**JD Eicher Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna. Call 877-987-6487 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com) for more.

## FRIDAY/JULY 21

**Chillin' on Church.** 6:30 p.m. at Church St., Vienna. Water games, Harlen Simple band playing rock/funk/blues. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

**Delta Spur 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](http://www.tysonscornercenter.com) or call 703-893-9401 for more.

## SUNDAY/JULY 23

**Mountain Music Concert.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley

Madison Blvd. Slim Harrison and the Barnstormers, American folk musicians, will be joined by The Rockcandy Cloggers. 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](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

**Concerts on the Green.** 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Local Honey is a local band featured. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

**Summer on the Green Concert.** 6:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Featuring Nitehawks Swing Band. Free. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

## MONDAY/JULY 24

**AARP Dinner Group.** 5-8 p.m. at Mylo's Grill, 6238 Old Dominion Drive. AARP has reserved a section of Mylo's Grill for members and their guests to enjoy dinner together with a 15 percent discount on their entire check. Call 877-926-8300 or visit [states.aarp.org/MylosGrill](http://states.aarp.org/MylosGrill) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 26

**Meet the Cooking Author.** 6:30 p.m. at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, 3rd floor, 2001 International Drive, McLean. Lecture by John Shields, author of "Chesapeake Bay Cooking," host of the PBS series Coastal Cooking, and owner of the renowned Gertrude's in Baltimore. \$65. Call 703-442-9110.

## THURSDAY/JULY 27

**Daniel Nahmod in Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. New Thought singer/songwriter performs original music with a poetic and evocative message of peace, love, and compassion. \$20. Call 703-281-1767 or visit [unityoffairfax.org](http://unityoffairfax.org) for more.

## FRIDAY/JULY 28

**Summer on the Green Concert.** 6:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Featuring Wayne Tympanick Quartet. Free. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

**LeAnn Rimes 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](http://www.tysonscornercenter.com) or call 703-893-9401 for more.

## SATURDAY/JULY 29

**Big Splash Party.** 1-3 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Water games and slide. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

## SUNDAY/JULY 30

**Kara and Matty D Concert.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. A couple plays songs from all eras, with vocal harmonies. 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](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

**Concerts on the Green.** 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Jr. Cline and The Recliners are playing classics and rhythm and blues. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 6

**Big Bang Boom Concert.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Children-friendly music. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

**Concerts on the Green.** 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Diamond Alley are playing contemporary and classics. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org) for more.



## NEWS

**Pictured before the harbor cruise in Baltimore include Charlie Balch, event organizer (last row, left) and SCOV staff Shiva Tavarna, Volunteer Coordinator and Jayne Young, SCOV Director of Operations and Events (far right).**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Shepherd's Center Hosts Bus Tour of Baltimore

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) recently hosted a full day outing for senior trip participants as they enjoyed a two-and-a-half-hour bus tour, led by a costumed docent, of the historic areas of Baltimore plus an Inner Harbor cruise. The tour included stories and anecdotes about some of

Baltimore's famous personalities such as Babe Ruth, Edgar Allen Poe, and Wallis Warfield Simpson. The chartered bus also toured Little Italy, Fells Point, Camden Yards, Fort McHenry and the Basilica of the Assumption. After lunch the group hopped aboard for a 45-minute narrated cruise of the Baltimore Harbor.

## SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to north@connectionnewspapers.com by noon on Friday.

**John Richards**, of Vienna, graduated with a Master of Science in environmental science and policy and a Master of Business Administration from Clark University (Worcester, Mass.). Richards is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma honor society.

**Abigail Broussard**, of Oakton, graduated from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) with a Bachelor of Arts in communication and information sciences.

**Ryan Barrett**, of Vienna, graduated from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) with a Bachelor of Science in commerce and business administration.

**Kayla Frederick**, of Vienna,

graduated from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) with a Bachelor of Arts.

**Charlotte Sheridan**, of Vienna, graduated from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) with a Bachelor of Science in environmental engineering.

**Alexander Maleski**, of Vienna, graduated from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) with a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering.

**Carlisle Wishard**, of Vienna, graduated from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) with a Bachelor of Science.

**Taleen Avedisian**, of Oakton, received a BA in psychology from Loyola University Maryland.

**James Cuniff**, of Vienna, received a BBA in business administration from

Loyola University Maryland.

**Carina Falcon**, of Vienna, made the spring 2017 dean's list at Hofstra University (Hempstead, N.Y.).

**Julia Kim**, of Vienna, made the spring 2017 dean's list at Hofstra University (Hempstead, N.Y.).

**Melissa Thiringer**, of Vienna, achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA during the spring 2017 semester, earning a spot on the provost's list at Hofstra University (Hempstead, N.Y.).

**Dallas-Blake Basha**, of Vienna, made the spring 2017 dean's list at Lehigh University (Bethlehem, Pa.).

**Taylor Wreath**, of Reston, a freshman at Randolph-Macon Academy (R-MA), was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society. Taylor is the daughter of Doug and Heather Wreath of Vienna.

## FAITH NOTES

FROM PAGE 7

**DivorceCare**. This 15-week program offers a path toward healing. Vienna Presbyterian Church is located on the corner of Maple Avenue (Rt. 123) and Park Street in Vienna. Cost to cover materials is \$20, scholarships available. For more information or to register call 703-938-9050, go to [www.viennapres.org](http://www.viennapres.org), or send an email to [Passages@ViennaPres.org](mailto:Passages@ViennaPres.org).

**The S.P.O.T for Youth**, Wednesday's at 7 p.m. A place where youth can come together and pray, ask

questions about the faith and receive mentorship. The spot is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard Street, NW Vienna.

**First Baptist Church of Vienna** located at 450 Orchard St., NW, Vienna. Sunday services are held at 7:45 and 10 a.m. weekly. Wednesday Night with the Family service is held at 6 p.m. followed by corporate singing at 7 p.m. Bible studies take place Tuesday's at noon.

**Wesley United Methodist Church** located at 711 Spring St., SE, Vienna, Virginia 22180, at the corner of

Spring Street and Moore Avenue. 10:30 a.m. fellowship time in the fellowship hall; 11 a.m. traditional family worship in sanctuary. If you are seeking a church home which encourages: caring and supportive fellowship, an active and devoted prayer life and study of scripture, support for local and world missions, an open, responsive awareness to the presence and power of God's Holy Spirit.

**The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA)** offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. [www.jssa.org/growth-learning](http://www.jssa.org/growth-learning).

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# NEWS



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

**The panel at the Alzheimer's Town Hall included U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), and representatives from the National and local Alzheimer's Association, Area Agencies on Aging, the Virginia Alzheimer's Commission, and the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.**

## Heartbreak and Hope

FROM PAGE 4

and adult care centers, and severely limiting care and resources for our vulnerable seniors." A threatened 18 percent cut in the funding for the National Institutes for Health "would gut federally funded research ... it certainly would bring us no closer to a cure," said Connolly. "And right now, there is no cure. There really isn't much in the way of treatment."

"There are about 140,000 Virginians estimated to be suffering from some form of dementia," said panelist Sharon Davis with the Virginia Alzheimer's Commission, and she says the effect of the disease takes a toll on the family as well as the afflicted. "I have spent more than half of my adult life as a caregiver." Davis's husband is now a live-in patient at a memory-care facility, suffering from early-onset Alzheimer's. Her mother lived for 18 years with the disease.

"It's a tragedy. It's a disease that robs them of what should be the best years, time they have earned to relax and enjoy." As Davis pointed out, it's also a disease that can have devastating emotional and financial impacts on families, as many struggle to cope physically and financially to provide usually round-the-clock care.

Stories of heartbreak and challenges continued, but Karen Hannigan with Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging wants to get the word out that there is help and support, for the patient and the families and caregivers.

"We operate based on the 'No Wrong Door Initiative' model," said Hannigan.

That model means that persons who call for help don't encounter a "sorry, wrong department and we can't help" response. "No matter what, we guide you. Our staff are 'field-trained.' We know the system. Let us do the navigating and take away at least that much stress from the situation."

Negotiating the government regulations, the gaps between Medicare and Medicaid, the insurance maze, and trying to find appropriate resources while dealing with the actual disease and its effects on the patient, and possibly on the family as caregivers, can be overwhelming. "Call us, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at 703-324-7948," said Hannigan. "You don't need to know all of the information. We do. Just tell us your story."

The National Alzheimer's Association also offers a helpline. "It's free care consultation. It's nationwide. We work with agencies around the country and can help you get to the right people," said Jane Priest, program manager with the association. "24/7, call us at 1-800-272-3900, or visit the website at

[www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)."

Along with more assistance for patients, caregivers and families, Priest and others on the dais and in the audience want to see more focus on education and training, as well. The National Alzheimer's Association and the regional chapters are dedicating more time and resources on outreach programs. Annandale resident Catherine Bergstrom who attended the event welcomes this initiative.

Bergstrom related the experiences of her husband who had to be hospitalized. "This was a hospital, and they still did not know how to deal with a patient suffering from this disease."

Sharon Davis of the Virginia Alzheimer's Commission added her own stories of her husband's treatment at hospitals and medical facilities that worsened his mental state, instead of improving the situation.

"And what about a patient that can't communicate to the emergency room staff because of their condition?" asked Connolly, or even worse, the Alzheimer's sufferer who doesn't have a caring family member who can help "interpret" during medical transactions or who can advocate on the patient's behalf?

**THE OUTREACH PROGRAMS** of the Alzheimer's Association seek to train the general public, as well as doctors, caregivers, law enforcement personnel and others on how to recognize if someone is suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia, and how to best react and assist.

Currently, there are no "Dementia Friendly Communities" in Virginia. The model, which seeks to raise awareness of the disease and of dementia in general and offer training and tips for real-life encounters is being tested in other jurisdictions nearby. Toni Reinhart, owner of Herndon-based Comfort Keepers that provides in-home senior and elder care services, wants to change that. This month, she is gathering local service and community leaders in her area to make Herndon a "proof of concept" project. "Herndon is so community-focused. Our leaders are very service-oriented. I think it's the best place to get this rolling in Virginia."

Connolly applauded all of these efforts, as he pledged to continue to fight for Alzheimer's funding. "There are 1.1 million people in Fairfax County. Eleven percent are over 65. The fastest growing population is over 80. This is an issue that won't just go away. We need to take action now. Contact your members of Congress — and not just the 'friendlies!' We have a 'moon-shot' for fighting cancer. Well, we need a 'moon-shot' to fight Alzheimer's disease."



# BULLETIN

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

## THROUGH 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](http://www.gflutheran.org) or call 703-759-6068.

## SATURDAY/JULY 15

**Free Health Screening.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Chain Bridge Corner Giant, 1454 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Customers can receive free blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol screenings. Visit [www.giantfood.com](http://www.giantfood.com) for more.

## 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](http://unityoffairfax.org) for more.

## JULY 20-22

**36<sup>th</sup> Annual NFED Family Conference.** 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at The Westin Tyson's Corner, 7801 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. An opportunity for families affected by ectodermal dysplasias to gather information on the syndromes and treatment options; to network with other affected families; and to educate legislators on Capitol Hill about ectodermal dysplasias. Visit [www.nfed.org](http://www.nfed.org) for more.

## THROUGH JULY 28

**Vendor Application Deadline.** Reston Community Center is seeking arts and crafts vendors, food vendors and civic organizations of all cultures for the 17th Annual Reston Multicultural Festival. The festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. Interested groups or individuals should fill out the appropriate Vendor Application Form, available at [www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf).

## THROUGH AUG. 18

**Artist Application Deadline.** Visual artists who wish to participate in the 17th Annual Reston Multicultural Festival art exhibit "Art Mirrors Culture" should visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com). The festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. Interested groups or individuals should fill out the appropriate Vendor Application Form, available at [www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf).

## 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](http://viennava.gov/sweeping). Additionally, signs will be placed on streets marking a window of 7-10 days during which the truck will come through. Contact public works at 703-255-6380.

## 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 (UUCF) - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, VA. For more info contact facilitator, Jack Tarr, 703-821-6838 [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net).

**Haven of Northern Virginia Support Group.** 703-941-7000, [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org) or [havenofnova@verizon.net](mailto:havenofnova@verizon.net).

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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## A Near Catastrophe, Always



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I bring our two cat carriers up from the basement in order for "The Buff Boys" to acclimate in anticipation of their impending visit to the veterinarian, I can't help but think back to the spring of 1976. That's when an appointment to mend my male cat, Tillie, nearly went very wrong.

To this day, the circumstances still haunt me. Tillie had been a surprise birthday gift given to me in September 1975, along with a puppy I named Gus (both named after a W.C. Fields' movie, "Tillie and Gus").

Tillie was an all-black domestic short hair. Gus was a German Shepard/St. Bernard mix. He was beautiful. He had a white-ish beige coat, floppy ears and a curly tail.

Introduced to one another at 6 weeks old, Tillie and Gus were the best of friends/siblings. Though I made sure they spent their evenings inside, during the day, both were outside. (We had a fenced-in yard so Gus was confined. Tillie however, as you might imagine was not. He had the run of the neighborhood.)

Sure enough, one day, Tillie got into a cat fight. His tail had been bitten and was beginning to abscess. I knew I had to take him to the veterinarian. However, I was in college and had very little money to spare. Nor did I have a credit card either. (Those were the days before credit card companies solicited college students.) In a financial bind, I called my parents and asked for money (I did work in the dining hall all through college but lived in a house off campus and had the usual room and board-type expenses).

They sent me \$25. (In my mind, I can still see the check.) In addition to whatever other money I could scrape together, I guess it was enough so I took Tillie to the "vet" for repair. He stayed overnight. The next day, I got the call that he was ready for pick-up. That's when the event occurred that has affected me/my animal-owning life going on – four decades plus.

I went by myself. I had a car; a 1970 Ford Maverick, but no cat carrier. I was, apparently, planning on simply holding Tillie in my arms as I had done the day before. However, the pick-up was not nearly as uneventful as the drop-off.

Once I got outside the building, Tillie began squirming (his tail had been shaved and had stitches where the abscess/bite had been inflicted) and broke free from my grasp. He ran off about 20 yards – or so to the rear of this modest one-story building and stopped just shy of a chain-link fence which separated where we all were to another neighborhood – beyond my reach. My fear: had Tillie climbed over that fence somehow, he likely would have been gone forever.

Slowly I approached Tillie, repeatedly calling his name as quietly and reassuringly as I could, trying not to rattle, startle or scare him in any way; presuming post-surgery, in an unfamiliar place, possibly in pain, it might not take much from his father to cause him to scamper off and disappear.

As I casually walked toward him, amazingly, Tillie sort of stood still, enough for me to scoop him up. Which I did and then carefully walked back to my car and drove us both home without any further ado – except for the rest of my taking-cats-to-the-"vet" life. And yes, that means now.

And though I'm not stupid enough to transport cats without cat carriers anymore, I am only at ease once we're back home and have let the cats out of their boxes and released them into the house (all our cats are indoor cats). Throughout this process, I must check the latches on their carriers a half-a-dozen times; in the house, in the car, in the parking lot outside the "vet's" office, in the waiting room, in the examining room and then again afterwards; back in the waiting room while I pay, in the car on the way home and finally in the driveway as I prepare to carry the carriers/cats across the yard and into the house. Once inside with the cats/carriers in hand, finally I can relax. Home at last.

Forty-one years ago; it seems like yesterday, or maybe tomorrow if the "vet" can see us. And that's what worries me. Been there and unfortunately, have done that.

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



## NEWS

**In-treatment, troops are introduced to the art therapy project supported by the Vienna Arts Society during morning social time. Participation is open-ended.**



PHOTOS BY  
DONNA MANZ/  
THE CONNECTION

# The Vienna Arts Society's "Healing Wall" Honors Hospitalized Troops

**Soldiers in treatment for PTSD at Fort Belvoir paint expressive puzzle pieces with guidance from VAS artist volunteers.**

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

**F**our years ago, the Vienna Arts Society began an annual therapeutic art relationship with soldiers suffering from PTSD in crisis treatment at Fort Belvoir army hospital. Three volunteers, out of a cadre of 12 to 15 rotating artists

dedicate their time, expertise, and compassion to make semi-monthly visits to the hospital where they share the means of expression that painting releases.

"Some of our troops go to awful places, and come back in an awful place," said Vienna Arts Society president Dore' Skidmore, speaking to the guests celebrating the new July exhibition of the

"healing wall." More than 25 supporters from the arts society and Fort Belvoir hospital came to the exhibit opening reception on Sunday, July 9.

The "healing wall" is made of puzzle pieces, each one painted by a Fort Belvoir PTSD patient. The pieces, like all puzzle pieces do, fit together, making the puzzle whole. No one is prodded to join



**The Vienna Arts Society hosted a reception on July 9 to celebrate the opening of its July exhibit, the "Healing Wall." Among those in attendance were Jaana Kilkki, art therapist at Fort Belvoir; Terry Svat, artist volunteer; Grace Rooney, artist volunteer; Jennifer Pratt, recreation therapist, Fort Belvoir; Susan Scanlon, Vienna Arts Society artist and publicity chair; Dore' Skidmore, Vienna Arts Society president.**

the painting group; the artist volunteers are there to guide as needed. While most soldiers opt to contribute their finished artwork to the puzzle, occasionally, some elect to keep the piece.

The Vienna Arts Society artist volunteers bring the supplies the in-treatment troops need. Vienna's American Legion Post 180 funded the high-quality paints the soldiers use.

Artist volunteers are ready in a recreation setting during the morning social time and everything is organized for the troops and each participant has an opportunity to "practice" making a design on a card.

During the two-hour open paint-

ing session, participants may paint one or more puzzle pieces. VAS director Lu Cousins initiated the program when she came to the arts center. The program runs winter and spring every year and public funding support for the "healing wall" is welcomed.

"We're all in this together," said Skidmore.

The Healing Wall exhibit, at the Vienna Art Center 115 Pleasant St. NW, runs through Aug. 5. The gallery/studio is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday; call for hours, 703-319-3971.

To learn more about events and programs sponsored by the Vienna Arts Society, visit [www.viennaartsociety.org](http://www.viennaartsociety.org).

## Vienna Student Wins 'Best in Show' in Statewide Youth Art Contest

Hanlin Zhang, the 10-year-old daughter of Jing and Catherine Zhang of Vienna, has earned "Best in Show" honors in Cooperative Living magazine's 2017 Youth Art Contest.

The rising fifth grader at Vienna's Flint Hill Elementary School used colored pencils to create her winning entry of a Dalmatian puppy. For the 15th annual contest, open to kindergarten through fifth-grade students in Virginia and part of Tennessee, young artists were asked to illustrate something about "animals." More than 425 students entered the competition. Nine of the 19 winners, including, Zhang, live in Northern Virginia.

"We received drawings of everything from butterflies to elephants," said Bill Sherrod, Cooperative Living's editor. "All the judges were impressed with the tremendous imagination and talent shown in the students' art."

"My art teacher asked me to look through a folder of images and pick something that would inspire my art," Zhang said. "I chose the Dalmatian because I thought it was cute."

Zhang's "Best in Show" work earned her a \$100 prize.



COURTESY PHOTO

**Cooperative Living features a photo of Zhang and her drawing on the July magazine cover.**

## POETRY CORNER

### Doe and Fawn

A slant of sun  
Gilds four slender legs  
Stepping, stately  
Into the shadows  
Of the woods.  
Wait.....  
A bundle of  
Spotted recklessness  
Skips onto the lawn,  
Springing, bounding,  
Then barreling back  
Where she went.

— Meredith Luhrs, Vienna