



# McLean CONNECTION

Inside

## PET CONNECTION



McLean residents Celeste Cabbage, 15, and her sister Natalie, 17, student at Langely High School pose with their three dogs, Rudy, Rosie, and Duncan in McLean Central Park Sunday.

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PHOTO BY COLIN STOECKER/THE CONNECTION

# Enjoying Sunday At Central Park

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## NEWS



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova was the host of the Environmental Showcase at the Government Center: "We've come along way since the adoption of the first Environmental Vision, but there's always work to be done."



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION  
U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) was a guest speaker at the event. Connolly was the board chair when the first Environmental Vision for Fairfax County was developed and adopted.

# County Pursuing Environmental Goals

## Bulova hosts County Environmental Showcase.

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

Part exhibition, part symposium, and part networking opportunity — there was something for everyone even vaguely interested in environmental issues at the Environmental Showcase, hosted by Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova on Saturday, July 22 at the county's Government Center.

The Fairfax County Environmental Vision was first adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2004, when U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) was the board's chair. Working with then-Supervisor Bulova and others like Supervisor Penny Gross (Mason District), an environmental advisory committee was established to help develop and direct the region's environmental agenda.

The board recently updated the Vision document, so the event provided the community with some insight into the revisions.

It also acknowledged the achievements of local government departments and non-profit organizations and civic groups, while recommitting to the task of protecting the local environment and developing models of sustainability as the county continues to grow.

There were kudos enough to go around.

Bulova noted Fairfax County reduced its per capita emissions by 10 percent from 2005 to 2012 and reduced greenhouse gas emissions from public buildings by 21 percent from 2006 to 2015 — at the same time that county properties have grown in square footage.

More than 60 percent of the county's Fairfax Connector buses are "mini-hybrids" which utilize engine cooling systems to reduce emissions and save on fuel bills.

**BOTH BULOVA AND CONNOLLY** noted the county's goal to increase tree cover in Fairfax County by 45 percent by 2037 has already been met — and exceeded. In addition, according to the Park Authority, said Connolly, the goal of preserving 10 percent of all land in the county is well within reach. "9.26 percent there," said Connolly. "Only 1,864 acres more to go."

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING

**A Capital One Center and a large format retail space for a Wegmans Food Market were introduced as part of an amendment to the development's originally-approved plans.**



PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

**The view of the Capital One Bank's construction site from the McLean Metrorail station on the Silver Line, which adjoins the Capital One Campus directly to the south.**

## Changes Approved to Capital One Tysons Campus

BY FALLON FORBUSH  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Fairfax County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved new plans for Capital One Bank's redevelopment of its corporate headquarters in the Tysons area of McLean on Tuesday, July 11.

The bank amended its conceptual development plan for the site, which the board previously approved as a mixed-use development in 2014, to make room for a new 125,000-square-foot Capital One Center and a large format retail space for a Wegmans Food Market.

This resulted in several other changes to trickle throughout the development.

Modifications included changes to the development's site layout, density, use and building heights. The project's proffers, which are written conditions that are offered voluntarily by a property owner and accepted by the board in a rezoning application, were also changed.

The proffers, which were originally approved by the board in 2014 were legally binding conditions for the redevelopment of the property and could only have been amended by permission from the board.

"This is something new that we are doing," Supervisor Linda Smyth, who represents the Providence District where the development is located, said during the hearing. "This is a new sort of public-private partnership with public facility use, but within a performing arts venue. So, this is an experiment — let's be frank about it — but it's something that we put a great deal of time, thought and effort into it ... this has been a real discussion about how do we work this together and come up with something that will truly be an asset to the community."

She also said that her constituents at the Gates of McLean told her that they were excited for the new dog park that was included in the new plans.

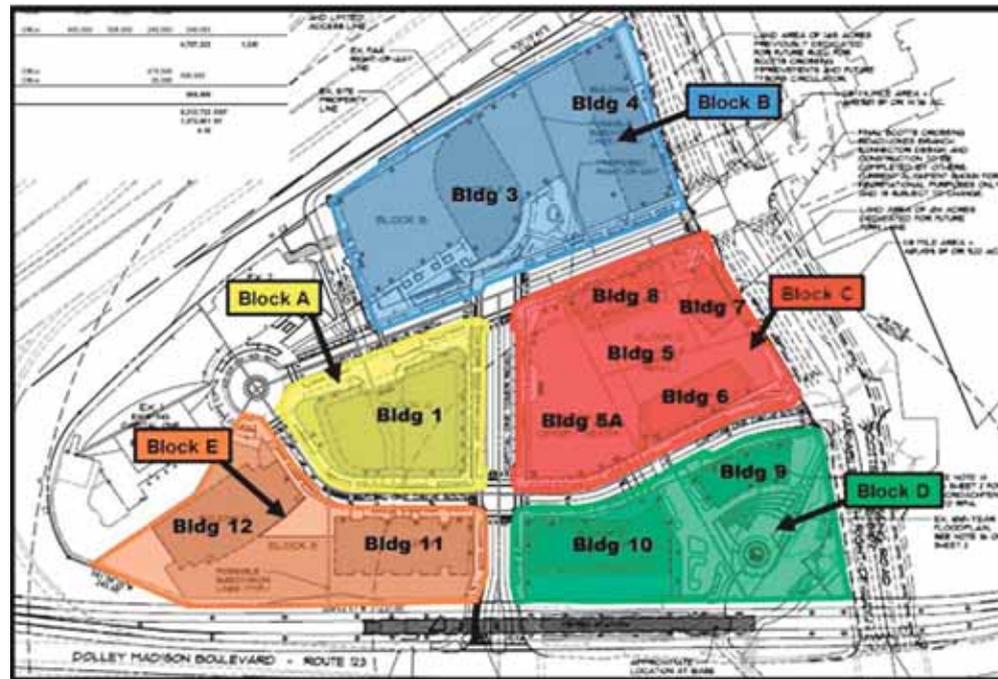


PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

**The view of the Capital One Bank's construction site from the McLean metrorail station on the silver line, which adjoins the Capital One Campus directly to the south.**

Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust and Hunter Mill District Supervisor Catherine Hudgins also spoke in favor of the application prior to the vote.

**THE CHANGES** will add an additional 243,199 square feet to the site, going from a previously-approved 4.9 million square feet to approximately 5.2 million square feet. The floor area ratio (FAR), the ratio of the total floor area of the project's buildings to the size of the parcel of land that they are built on, would also increase from 3.9 to 4.1, according to Stephen Gardner, a staff coordinator with the Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning.

Some community members were not satisfied with the additional density and decrease in open space.

The changes will decrease the area for

publicly-accessible parks and open space from 4.47 acres to 4.27 acres, according to Gardner. These public spaces were originally planned to be at the same level, but are now both at ground level or atop structures.

"As proposed, the application includes a total of 4.27 acres of publicly-accessible parks and open space, 1.8 acres of which is now proposed to be located on top of parking garages," Gardner said during the board's public hearing.

This includes a 1.51-acre Common Green that was originally planned to be located within the interior of Block C on the site. But, the addition of a 10-story, above-grade parking structure in the block left no room for open space to be located on ground level. Instead, it will be relocated to the top of the parking structure.

The largest of the open spaces is a 1.59-acre Metro Park, which will be located in Block D of the site.

"Based on the square footage proposed, this application will generate the need for 0.91 athletic fields," Gardner said during the hearing.

An agreement between Capital One and The Commons, a development located at the south side of Chain Bridge Road and both sides of Anderson Road, would help the bank meet its public proffer requirements by locating one athletic field at The Commons and other public facilities at the bank's corporate campus.

The one offsite field is not enough to meet the requirements of the proffer, according to Gardner. To meet the residual balance, the originally-approved plan included a 100-foot-by-100-foot synthetic, turf athletic field to be located at grade within the interior of Block C.

However, the addition of the event center and food market left no room for the athletic field on the site. Instead, the new plan will build two small athletic fields for play by children under 7 years old (U7 fields) in Block E of the site. The bank will also include a temporary 120-foot-by-180-foot natural grass field in Block D of the site.

"This field will be provided until such time as Block D develops or a permanent field is provided in Block E," Gardner said during the hearing. "The permanent field ... includes two synthetic turf U7 recreation fields or one U9 field for a combined playing area of 90-feet-by-120-feet."

The originally-approved plan also required the bank to provide a community recreation facility, according to Gardner.

"Although the location of the facility has shifted through subsequent modifications, it is now proposed to be located within Block E as either a standalone or an integrated facility," Gardner said. "The proffer

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# Changes Approved for Capitol One Campus

FROM PAGE 3

specified the area of the facility be 30,000-square-feet and amenities to include a gymnasium, exercise rooms, among others.”

But the addition of the Capitol One Center will satisfy the bank's public facility commitments, according to Gardner.

The events center will include a 1,500-seat auditorium, 225-seat black box theater and two classrooms, which will be equipped with a main hall, orchestra pit, a fly system, dressing rooms and lighting, sound and rigging systems.

“The Capitol One Center is intended first as a training and conference center and second as an arts and cultural center to be made available to community groups,” Gardner said.

During the hearing, Braddock District Supervisor John Cook asked for clarification on the bank's commitments on athletic fields.

According to the county's field allocation policies, leagues and sports groups can sign up to use the permanent U7 fields on the site from anywhere in the county, not just the Tysons community, according to Andrea Dorlester, manager of park planning at the Fairfax County Park Authority, who was present at the hearing.

“So, open to the public, not just the community there,” she said.

Cook pushed back saying he thought the idea was to provide recreation for nearby community members.

“The idea is that the new fields in Tysons are meant first and foremost to serve new residents within Tysons, but the way the county field allocation policy works, you have to organize into teams and leagues,” Dorlester said.

Since the permanent fields are only meant for children under 7 years old, Cook asked where the nearest field was located so older children living in Tysons could play.

“We do have a number of other proffer commitments from several other applications in Tysons and we already have two athletic fields constructed and open to the public in Tysons and several more coming online,” Dorlester said.

Smyth chimed in to remind Cook that The Commons would have a “full-size, tournament-size athletic field” across Virginia Route 123 will be built.

Still, the McLean Citizens Association has been tracking the development and have voiced their concern for lack of playing fields for the planned uptick the Tysons area will experience as development continues in the area.

The MCA's contention is coming from the corporation bulking on promises it previously made to the community.

The MCA's Board of Directors approved resolutions on June 12 and July 5, stating the association's support of the development was contingent upon the bank providing

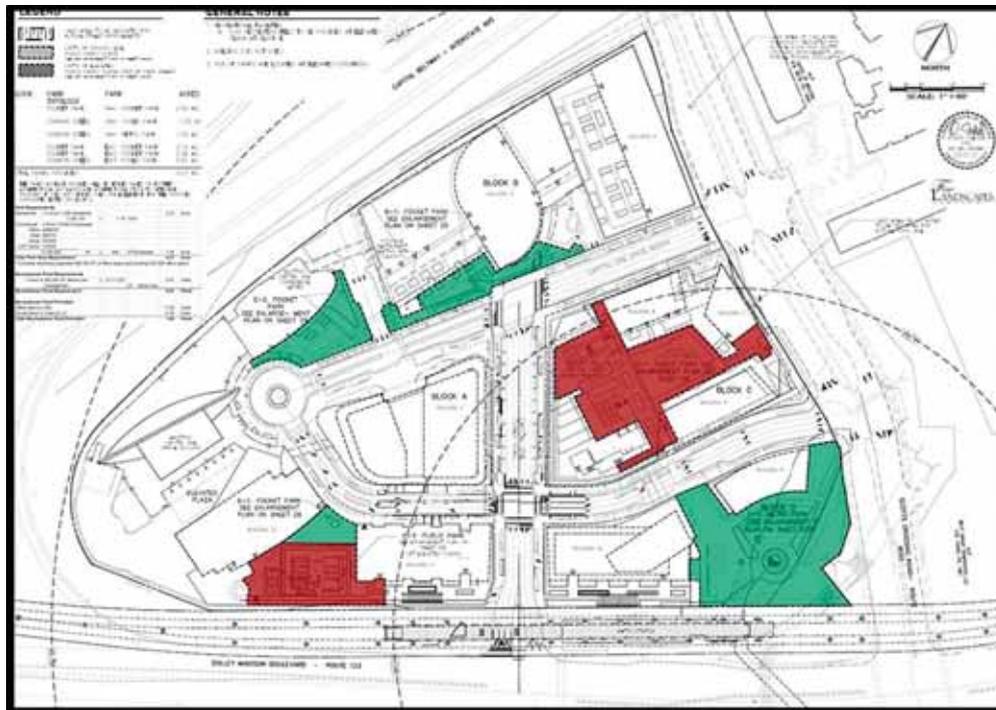


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ZONING  
**A portion, 1.8 acres, of the 4.27 acres of publicly-accessible parks and open space will now be located on top of structures, shown in maroon.**

more public park land and one permanent field on site that is appropriate for adult use.

**THE MCA RESOLUTIONS** also expressed concern about the public ease of access to elevated park areas and stated the bank should invest in wayfinding by providing signage to direct the public to the amenities.

“We do have several concerns about certain aspects of Capital One's proposal,” Rob Jackson, co-chair of the McLean Citizens Association Planning and Zoning Committee, said during public testimony at the hearing.

Among the list of the MCA's other con-

cerns was the amount of time allotted to the public for use of the events center. Jackson urged the supervisors to require Capital One to increase the public availability of the center's theater, black box, auditorium and classrooms and increase the length of the center's lease term.

“If these increases are not implemented, adjust downward the public facility credit and percentage exception from the monetary contributions to Tysons' road funds, also as outlined in our previous resolution of June 12.”

The original proffer for the facility required the space to be dedicated for public use for 50 years with the option for two 15-year renewals, according to Gardner.

However, the amended duration of the agreement between the bank and the county for usage times and operational considerations was reduced to 30 years and one five-year extension, according to Gardner.

Under the 30-year agreement, which the board approved unanimously in a separate motion, the county will have access to the center for 30 days of each year for the main auditorium; 70 days of each year for the black box theater; and 224 days of each year for the two classrooms. The county would have second priority for the center's use, after Capital One reserved its dates for corporate events.

Jackson also voiced the MCA's concern that the two permanent U7 athletic fields are too small and urged that the space be used for one U9 field.

“I mean, mainly adults are going to be on this field and I think you can get some five-on-five on a U9 field,” he said.

He also relayed a broader concern that the MCA has for Tysons as it continues to develop and grow.

“Because of the important role that a community center plays in building a sense of community and enhancing livability within Tysons, we strongly urge the Board of Supervisors as a matter of high priority to bring the Tysons land owners together to work to provide the land and to construct a Tysons community center at an alternate location while land may be available within Tysons for this purpose, Jackson said.

Foust acknowledged the MCA's concern of finding a space for a community center in Tysons prior to the vote.

Linda Sullivan, president and CEO of the Arts Council of Fairfax County, was the only other member of the public to testify at the hearing and her comments were supportive of the bank's proposal, based on the addition of the Capital One Center.

## Experiencing Costa Rican Rainforest

**Charlotte Fitzgerald, a 17-year-old student and Girl Scout at Langley High School, prepared for the rapids in a Costa Rican rainforest. In July, Charlotte spent 10 days on course with Outward Bound Costa Rica learning about Costa Rican culture on homestays with local families and doing adventure activities in the countryside. In addition to whitewater kayaking, she surfed, rode a zipline and painted a schoolhouse as well.**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



PHOTO COURTESY OF RICK NELDON

From left: Rotarians Vance Zavala and Jan Auerbach present a grant check to Elizabeth Page, the center's executive director, on Tuesday, June 20.

## McLean Rotary Funds Preschool Learning Kits

The McLean Rotary Club awarded a \$2,150 grant to the Falls Church-McLean Children's Center on Tuesday, June 20.

The funds were used to purchase special teaching kits to help young children build their English language and social-emotional skills.

"We're very grateful to the McLean Rotary Club for this grant that will provide our preschool teachers the tools they need to

engage young children in activities that will build their fundamental language and social-emotional skills," Executive Director Elizabeth Page told Rotarians.

The center provides an early-childhood education program and acquired additional curriculum kits with the grant from the McLean Rotary Club and a grant from the McLean Community Foundation that was made earlier this year.

### SCHOOL NOTES

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

**Diana F. Zavala** of McLean, Probable career field: Engineering, graduate of Thomas Jefferson HS for Science and Technology, has received College-Sponsored Merit Scholarship from Case Western Reserve University located in Cleveland in University Circle, the educational and cultural center of northeast Ohio, offering programs in small residential colleges, each with its own governing assembly of faculty and students, within a major private university. Case Institute of Technology offers the B.S. degree in Engineering, Science, and Management while Western Reserve College offers the B.A. degree with majors in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

**Soraya Todd**, of McLean, made the spring 2017 dean's list at Lehigh University (Bethlehem, Pa.).

**Tara Lane**, of Mclean, graduated from the University of Vermont (Burlington, Vt.) with a Bachelor of Science degree in environmental studies

**Alexandra Lockhart**, of Mclean, graduated from the University of Vermont (Burlington, Vt.) with a Bachelor of Arts in political science.

McLean students named to the dean's list at Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) include:

**Maya Falicov, Elaine Dooley, Caroline Jackson and Caitlyn Dreux.**

**Brian Kalish**, of McLean, made the dean's list for the spring 2017 semester at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

**Bailey Griffin**, daughter of Kim Griffin of Alexandria and Ken Griffin of McLean, graduated with high honors from Saint Mary's School in Raleigh, N.C. on May 21.

**Melanie Kate Monroe**, of McLean, made the dean's list at University of Kentucky for the spring 2017 semester. Monroe is a senior majoring in hospitality management.

**Elizabeth M. Foley**, of Mclean, was awarded faculty honors for the spring 2017 semester at Trinity College (Hartford, Conn.).

**Katherine A. Rohloff**, of Mclean, was awarded faculty honors for the spring 2017 semester at Trinity College (Hartford, Conn.).

**Hoai-Nam Bui**, the child of Viet Bui and Anh Tran of McLean, has been named to the dean's list of Macalester College for academic achievement during the spring semester of the 2016-2017 school year. A graduate of Langley High School, Bui was a senior at Macalester last spring.

**Julia Knepper**, of McLean, made the academic Deans' List at Azusa Pacific University (Azusa, Calif.). Knepper is an applied exercise science major.

**Brenna Posner**, of Mc Lean, received a master of science degree in bioethics from Clarkson University (Potsdam, N.Y.).

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SPECIAL PULLOUT TAB  
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August 23, 2017

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## Creating Space for an In-Law Suite



While in-law suites can be customized to meet your needs, a typical space consists of a private living area within a home with a full bathroom, full or partial kitchen and a door that separates it from the rest of the house. Oftentimes in-law suites even have their own entrance. But what are some options for finding room to incorporate this space into your home?

One possibility is transforming a garage or a porch area into living space. A basement can be another great option as long as it has adequate outside egress. Combining two bedrooms to create a suite could be another opportunity. A third garage bay can be converted into a separate apartment-type living space with its own access. You can also consider replacing or eliminating an underused first-floor living space, such as a formal living room or dining room. Creating a suite in a bonus room over the garage is another popular direction. Working with an experienced designer will allow you to explore which direction would work best for you and your home.



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# OPINION

## Help End Domestic Violence

There were 1,483 calls to the domestic violence hotline in 2016, averaging 124 calls per month.

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

Strong families are held together by love, support, and commitment. They are the very foundation of a strong society. If the core of the family is replaced by violence, then all of society is weakened.

Domestic violence affects one in four Fairfax families and causes nearly 1,600 arrests in Fairfax every year. It is almost guaranteed that anyone reading this knows a victim of domestic violence, even if they are unaware of it. These statistics alone paint a dire picture. However, there is a way you can make a positive difference.

Fairfax County's Domestic Violence Prevention Council, which I chair, rolled out the "Make the Call" campaign earlier this year. Its purpose is to encourage victims and witnesses of domestic violence to call Fairfax County's 24-hour domestic and sexual violence hotline at 703-360-7273. This number is completely safe and confidential. The hotline is staffed by experts always ready to offer information, counsel, and resources to victims and concerned citizens. Callers can receive vital information on where



to find shelter, legal resources, financial aid, and even a safe haven for their animals. Anyone can call to learn about the signs of domestic violence and even confirm possible incidents.

The hotline is proving to be highly effective and even lifesaving. The Fairfax County Office for Women received 1,483 hotline calls with an average of 124 calls per month in 2016. At least 98 percent of those who called for services said the hotline better prepared them to make a safety plan. This call can mean the difference between life and death for those escaping abuse.

Domestic violence is sometimes difficult to identify for bystanders, as well as victims. Abusers will often convince their victims that

they deserve the abuse, which shames victims into hiding the problem instead of speaking out. Many abusers threaten their victims with harsher, deadlier punishments if they look for help. These and other factors make domestic violence more difficult to recognize without the help of a seasoned professional. This is why we need more people to make the call when they have that gut feeling that something is amiss.

For bystanders, it could be a black eye, a passing reference, or even a loud argument overheard next door. You do not have to be sure. If you think domestic violence maybe happening, make the call and let professionals help.

For victims, the hotline is available whenever you need it. If you feel threatened, alone, or unsafe in your own home, please make the call. You do not have to go through this difficult time alone. The staff at the hotline is here for you at any hour of the day and will do everything they can to help secure you and your family's safety.

Again, the number is 703-360-7273. Please, make the call, it could save a life.

Victims and witnesses of domestic violence can call Fairfax County's 24-hour domestic and sexual violence hotline at 703-360-7273.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### 'Catastrophic Events' Can Happen to Anyone

To the Editor:

I am a senior citizen and I have read about the situation with health care or lack of in this country. Your article mentioned many factors that the general public is ignorant of. I personally believe that a country's strength and greatness is reflected in how they treat the least of their people.

We have failed on an epic level as a people. No person wants to be on welfare, Medicaid, public assistance or food stamps. The prevailing ignorant opinion by the vastly uninformed public is that it is an easy ride and that the individuals on welfare want to live off the state.

The truth of the matter is that "catastrophic events" can happen to anyone and it only takes the loss of employment and devastating medical bills to suddenly be forced to be on state assistance. It is a true nightmare. It is a degrading humiliating process and I honestly cannot think of anyone who truly wanted to be on Medicaid or welfare. It puts a person in a negative life-altering position where the

judgment by people is harsh and unsympathetic. People make assumptions that those on assistance are no good lazy bums getting a "free ride."

The truth is that President Johnson and his "great society" brought about the demise of social security. He opened the doors to the looting of the program for non-related financial projects.

I am an independent voter. I am a senior. I used to be an employee of United Airlines. I lost all my benefits and do not have any retirement. I also was a part time teacher. I have no teacher's pension. I have no savings and no retirement to fall back on and am living on S.S.I. of \$735 a month and that is my sole income. It is impossible to live on this. I have no money by the middle of the month.

I injured myself in a freak accident at Dulles airport. I lost my job. it was a devastating loss for me. I could not find any work. I was forced out of desperation to apply for Medicaid. I do not like Medicaid because the types of cli-

ents I have to associate with and choice of doctors is very limited.

Having grown up in a family where my mother was a Democrat and my father a Republican I have

had two viewpoints. My maternal grandfather was with the Burlington Northern Railroad 30-



**"Victor the Vulture is our new office pet. While he's not very cuddly, we enjoy his visits to our office balcony, which he uses to 'scope' out the area. From time to time we get to watch him dive bomb from the fifth floor of the Government Center. Although we are unsure of his success rate. Victor is bigger than most cats and I wouldn't want him near mine!"**

— BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAIRMAN SHARON BULOVA

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McLean  
**CONNECTION**

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

Published by  
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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# County Hosts Environmental Showcase

FROM PAGE 2

Connolly also praised the board for “once again taking a leadership role” and adopting a resolution to sign on to the National Climate Action Agenda to uphold the standards agreed upon by 195 nations at the Paris Climate Summit. “President Trump has withdrawn us from the agreement,” said Connolly. “Congratulations. We’ve joined the ranks of Nicaragua and Syria, the only two other countries who refused to sign ... and Nicaragua only declined because they thought it didn’t go far enough.”

Much of Connolly’s remarks centered on the redevelopment of Tysons Corner.

“Consider the revolutionary provisions developed by the citizens Tysons Task Force. America’s Next Great City is being built in a transit-oriented manner ... ensuring for the first time in Fairfax County that transit, biking and walking will be the safest, most convenient modes of transportation.”

Connolly listed a number of additional achievements that had been made, and pointed out that all had been accomplished in partnership with the business community. He also paid tribute to the “unsung heroes in much of our environmental progress,” referring to the hundreds of individuals and civic groups who have not only advocated in support of environmen-

tal protection, but also put in the hours and added their expertise for the good of the whole community, today and for the future.

A diverse panel of government employees and business leaders made presentations highlighting the partnership that Connolly spoke of. Kambiz Agazi, who Bulova introduced as the “Environmental Orchestra Conductor,” is the county’s environmental coordinator. Agazi mentioned some of the changes in “Vision 2.0” and also informed the audience that a new “environmental inventory” measuring environmental impact and improvements would be soon forthcoming.

Also present from Fairfax County government were James Hart, planning commissioner, and Susan Hafeli, senior utility analyst.

Tom Fleury, executive vice president of Bowman Consulting; Dr. Dann Sklarew, Ph.D. from George Mason University; and Steve Smith, principal with Cooper Carry architects, all spoke of innovations within their various disciplines that were aimed at marrying profitability with efficiency and environmental stewardship.

Smith had the assembly particularly interested in the description of his company’s pilot project, re-designing a test floor in a hotel to align with “wellness building concepts.” “In these rooms, even the shower is

thinking about your health” with a Vitamin C infused water flow, he said.

Before and after the speakers’ presentations and questions for the panel, an estimated crowd of about 200 visited booths set up in the conference center lobby and in the main forum.

In the week ahead Reston Association will be reviewing its first major “RASER” – Reston Association State of the Environment Report. The work for the 190-page document was conducted over the last year by Doug Britt and a nine-person volunteer army who donated more than 1,000 hours to the task of unbundling information from a variety of sources and physically viewing, monitoring, testing and observing the natural environment in the area. The Reston booth drew quite a crowd, including Joan Kaspbowicz of Vienna (“just over the Reston line”) who was impressed by the quantity of information being gathered and the work planned to restore and protect those resources.

Patrick Keenan, hotel operations project manager with Maryland-based B. F. Saul Company, Hospitality Group, stopped by to visit with Raea Jean Leinster, self-described “Chief Yuck Officer,” of Yuck Old Paint recycling company. B. F. Saul is a client of Yuck. “Everybody can do their part,” said Keenan.

**THE YOUNGER GENERATION** made its presence felt at the Showcase, as well. Members of ESLI – Eco-Schools Leadership Initiative – were also on hand. Sophia Applegate, a rising senior at Oakton High School, joined Madison High School rising junior Kathryn Hammond and VCU freshman Archana Nakkara of Vienna to talk about the program that helps other youths learn about environmental issues and start their own environmental initiatives. The three met at an ESLI Conference, and their mutual interest in environmental protection has brought them together to help spread the word.

“We love to do the programs especially in the middle schools and even younger. It’s great to get kids started early, knowing how important it is to protect the Earth we live on and the community we live in,” said Applegate.

There was no disagreement among those gathered. The work needed to be done on environmental issues and on combining the goals of growth and sustainability will probably never be done. “Things keep changing. People, technologies, the world around us, and we need to keep looking ahead to be ready,” said Bulova.

The Fairfax County Environmental Vision can be reviewed at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/environment/sustainability/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/environment/sustainability/).

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## PET CONNECTION



**KSR Pet Care's Owner Karen Rosenberg, Lead Trainer Kathryn Anwyll and Assistant Trainer Steve Kowalski teach hour-long dog training classes for up to five dogs at a time on Saturday mornings, excluding holiday weekends, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Tysons Corner Animal Hospital in the Tysons Corner area of Vienna.**



**KSR Pet Care Assistant Trainer Steve Kowalski helps Emery Conroy, 11, of McLean walk her family's black Labrador retriever mixed breed puppy Molly with her new gentle leader harness outside of the Tysons Corner Animal Hospital on Saturday, July 8.**

PHOTOS BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

# Paws-On Training in Tysons

BY FALLON FORBUSH  
THE CONNECTION

**D**ogs are known to be man's best friend, but many prefer to consider these furry companions as something more: True members of their family.

KSR Pet Care in McLean has been administering care for the community's four-legged family members since Nov. 17, 2008, offering at-home walking, training, sitting and taxi services for dogs and the rest of their clients' pets — cats, rodents, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Since it began business, the company has expanded its service area, working with clients in McLean, Tysons Corner, Falls Church, Vienna, North Arlington, Merrifield, Dunn Loring, Fairfax and Oakton.

"We are starting to offer pet sitting services in Springfield, Annandale and Great Falls, too," Karen Rosenberg, the owner of the company, said. "We now have 25 employees."

**ROSENBERG** began working with dogs at the Virginia German Shepherd Rescue, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that rescues, rehabilitates and rehomes German shepherds in the Virginia and Metropolitan Washington, D.C., area.

She and her husband also have several furry family members of their own: Cody, a Chihuahua; Jiffie, a yellow Labrador retriever; Lexie, a sable German shepherd; and Harry, a Russian blue mixed breed cat.

She was excited to announce that her growing company is now offering group training for those who need help acclimating their pooch to family life. Before, her company only offered private lessons.

Rosenberg and her trainers now hold hour-long dog training classes for up to five dogs at a time on Saturday mornings, excluding holiday weekends, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Tyson's Corner Animal Hospital in the Tysons Corner area of Vienna.

It costs \$29 per class, with a minimum requirement to purchase three classes.

Rosenberg knew Dr. John Clifton, the hospital's veterinarian, who agreed to open up the second-floor of the hospital for her company's classes, which may take a different approach than other training options.

"Our philosophy comes from the understanding that nobody is perfect, including our dogs," Rosenberg said. "We sometimes see all the bad things and overlook what is going right. Hearing it from a professional with a tweak here or there and seeing the wood for the trees is sometimes all it takes to feeling good again as family companions. And therefore, it sometimes just takes one professional session to get you and your dogs on track to success again."

"It's not about creating the stereotypical 'perfect' dog, but the perfect dog for you and your family," she added.

On Saturday, July 8, two families showed up for training. The first family brought Molly, their black Labrador retriever mixed breed puppy, while the second family brought Xena, their German shepherd puppy — both brimming over with energy and a healthy appetite for treats.

**THE FIRST HALF** of class that day focused on one command: Stay.

"Stay means that you're going to come back to the dog, the dog should not come to you," Kathryn Anwyll, the company's lead trainer, said during the training. "Using your hand as a signal is also really important because it tells them in two ways," she said while raising her hand up to her chest in a stop hand signal. "If you change your voice," she said in a higher pitch, "they may not



**Emery Conroy, 11, of McLean practices the stay command with her family's black Labrador retriever mixed breed puppy Molly while her brother Stevie Conroy, 9, watches at the Tysons Corner Animal Hospital on Saturday, July 8.**

know what you mean, so it reinforces the command."

Steve Kowalski, the company's assistant trainer, also helped teach the class and fitted Molly with a gentle leader, a head collar that fits securely over the dog's snout. The dog was experiencing some anxiety while walking when the class went outdoors to the sidewalk to work on walking on leash.

"It's all about face control," Anwyll said. "Dogs like to sniff stuff and wander. [Gentle leaders] control the leader, which is the face. With an anxious dog, a lot of it is con-

## Quick Tips

- KSR Pet Care Lead Trainer Kathryn Anwyll says:
- ❖ Find a treat that your dog really enjoys. If they don't want the treat, they're not going to do the work.
  - ❖ Patience, patience, patience: The more frustrated you get, the more frustrated the dog is going to get. Stay calm because if you are yelling or angry, the dog is not going to want to work with you.
  - ❖ If you find the dog struggling to advance, take it back a step. Give a dog a treat for doing a generic sit and the dog will get more excited and want to push forward.
  - ❖ Make sure that you find the tools that work because every dog is different. However, no tool will do all of the work. They just make it easier. You have to actually keep up with the training.
  - ❖ It's not about you versus the dog. It's about you and the dog. You're developing a bond with the dog. You're trying to teach and have the dog work with you, not submit to you.

fidence building. You're constantly reassuring them. A dog just wants to please you and the more reinforcement you give, the more confident they'll be."

Xena, on the other hand, was using a slip lead, which is similar to the traditional flat leash, but instead of a clip, it has a metal ring on one end to form a loop that slips over the dog's head. Pulling on the handle tightens the loop around the dog's neck, making it uncomfortable for the dog to tug and pull.

"Every dog responds differently to different tools," Anwyll said, describing her training style as collaborative.

"It's not about you versus the dog," she said. "It's about you and the dog. You're developing a bond with the dog. You're trying to teach and have the dog work with you, which is kind of a newer approach to training."

She says her style is different from other approaches.

"You see some other trainers who are pushing a dog down and saying, 'Submit, submit, submit,'" she said. "We want them to be happy. We want them to want to work with you. We want them to be less anxious and fearful of you. Down the road, that anxiety is just going to build and build, so making them happy, content, relaxed is the most important part."

Visit [www.ksrpetcare.com](http://www.ksrpetcare.com). Email [info@ksrpetcare.com](mailto:info@ksrpetcare.com) for more on classes.

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

# PET CONNECTION



PHOTOS BY COLIN STOECKER/THE CONNECTION

Celeste Cabbage, 15, McLean resident and her sister Natalie, 17, student at Langley High School pose with their three dogs, Rudy, Rosie, and Duncan in McLean Central Park Sunday.

## Enjoying Sunday At Central Park

Natalie Cabbage, 17, student at Langley High School poses with her dog Duncan, 5 months old. "He's my dog, and is in puppy training. He is going to do emotional support training to be able to help with seizures and detect diabetes," she said. "Therapy animals are important, putting an animal with someone with PTSD for 15 minutes can help them."



Celeste Cabbage, 15, McLean resident, poses with her dogs Rosie, 2-year-old Jack Russel Terrier and Rudy, 2 years old. She was walking them with her sister Natalie in McLean Central Park Sunday. "It's a great park," she said.

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# Beating the Odds

Department of Family Services celebrates 2017 high school graduation.

BY JOAN BRADY

The room at the Waterford in Springfield, buzzes with happy chatter over a low mix of upbeat tunes. Framing the space are posters that celebrate the uniqueness of each graduate.

Fourteen young people were celebrated last Friday at the annual Fairfax County Department of Family Services High School Graduation Celebration.

For the young people in this room, children who were removed from their biological families due to a range of abuse and neglect and moved between foster and group homes, the challenges that stood between them and a diploma were significant.

Graduation rates for children raised in foster care are 49.6 percent less than the national average and the statistics on college graduates are even lower. Having a high school diploma significantly increases the range of job opportunities and earning potential.

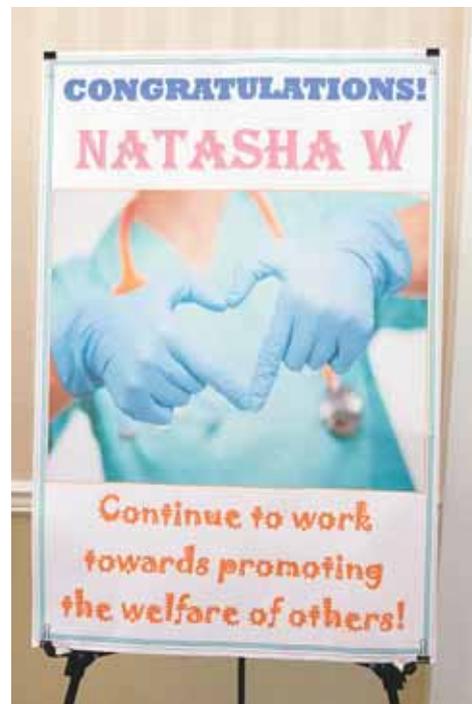
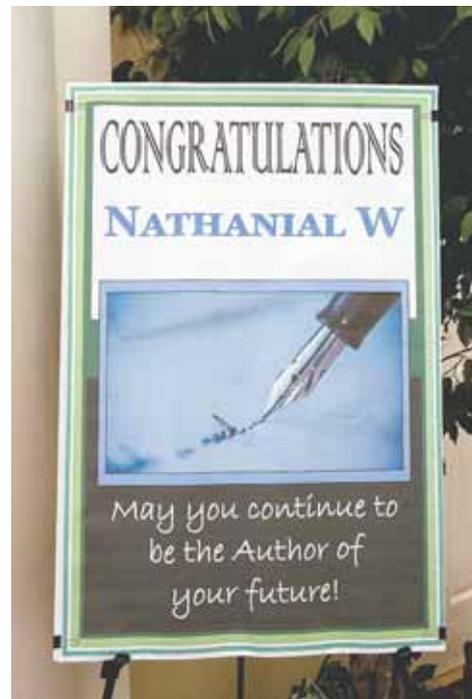
"Instead of giving up, you continued to move forward. In spite of all you have been through, you achieved this milestone. Because of your hard work and the support of people both in-and outside of this room, we are able to be here to celebrate you." The room cheered at the words of Chauncey Strong, foster care and adoption supervisor.

The event, planned by Natalie Sposato, Fairfax County Department of Family Services, life skills coordinator, is intended to keep this milestone from going unnoticed. "A high school diploma can never be taken away. It's something that should be acknowledged and celebrated," said Sposato. Together with the support of the Department of Family Services staff and members of the community, the event included a buffet, giveaways, certificates and speeches. And, at every opportunity, the proceedings were paused to give all of the graduates one more big cheer.

**TWO SPEAKERS**, young adults whose childhoods mirrored those of the new grads, encouraged that this is just the beginning. Cordelia Cranshaw, a foster children advocate, motivational speaker, licensed graduate social worker and foster care alum, told the recent graduates that education had been the key to her own success. She encouraged the new grads to be their own advocates and reminded social work professionals to listen to their charges and to remember that the life they are trying to influence, is not their own.

Dionte Fitts, assistant manager at Jersey Mike's in Leesburg and foster care alumni, encouraged the new grads to dig down to discover what makes them happy so that they can find their own destiny. To succeed, he advised, they must believe in themselves and not give up. He told them to remember that being in foster care isn't their fault.

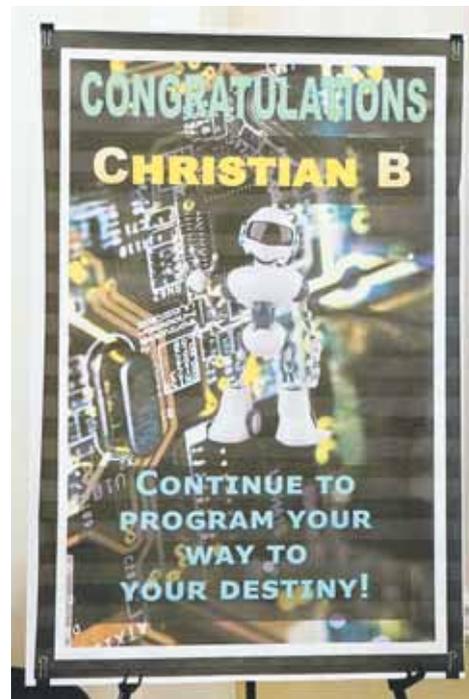
Nine graduates were celebrated in person, each toasted by a member of their so-



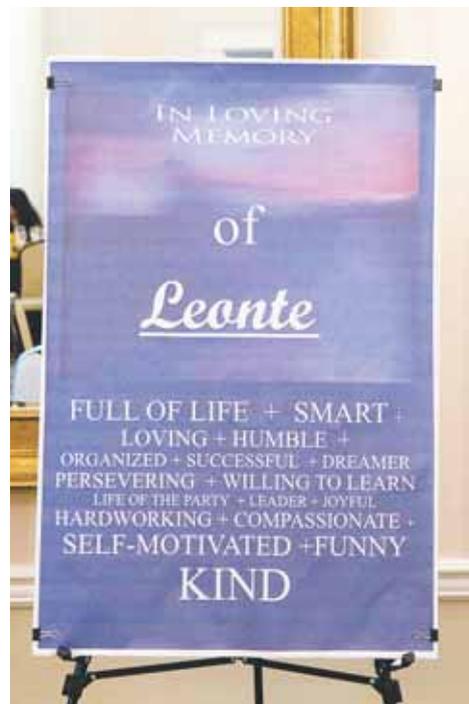
**Wells + Associates has been working with the county for 15 years and, for the past four, they have designed and printed the posters celebrating each graduate at the annual graduation.**

cial work team and given an opportunity to say a few words. There was clapping, cheering and even some tears. Adults expressed pride in their young charges' accomplishments and the young adults, both shyly and exuberantly, showed their own pride in themselves and appreciation for the support they had received from the support group represented in the room.

Nathaniel (Nate) Walters of Alexandria, tossed aside the microphone, his self-confidence and sense of humor carrying across the room. Walters told the crowd, which included his mom, that when his father died and his mother couldn't meet his needs, he ended up in foster care. Older now, he has spent time in "independent living" and has learned the hard way what happens when you don't manage your money carefully. He advised the crowd that they should avoid what he called the "rice diet" that has, at



COURTESY PHOTOS



times, had to be his staple.

He talked about hanging out at a local teen center, where he noticed that none of the other youths ever helped the woman who manned the front desk. When she needed help, he began to help her. And when she learned of his graduation from high school, she had a card for him, in it was \$20 and a note wishing him good luck. She made sure he understood that she doesn't give money away lightly, even to family members. Walters really needed that money. Without it, he would not have been able to get to work. "She loved me," Walters said, "She helped me." He says he is thankful for his trials, because they have made him who he is today.

Christian Basubi, now a college student at George Washington University, shared that foster care was "the most wonderful thing that had ever happened [to him]."

## 2017 GRADUATION SPONSORS

The following sponsors made donations toward food, decorations and gifts for the graduates: Bernie L. Bates Foundation, Inc.; Central Park Funland; Chantilly Costco; Laser Quest; Potomac Nationals; Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter; Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; Starbucks from VPS; Uptown Alley/Manassas; Washington Nationals; Walmart-Fair Lakes; and Wells + Associates.

When he was initially placed in care, he was new to this country and learning English as a second language. Everyone he met in his ESL classes was an adult, not a peer.

He expressed his appreciation for all of the support he has received while in care and particularly to have been part of Fairfax Families4kids, a county mentoring program, which provided him with a supportive community of youths and mentors with whom he could spend time on those lonely weekends. "It wasn't easy," said Basubi. "It's still not easy. But I'm doing it little by little. I know I will get somewhere."

"How we engage with our youth is so important. If the interaction is good, they will remember it. If the interaction is bad, they will remember it. ... Today, to hear so many of our graduates publicly acknowledge their social workers and other social work professionals made me proud," said Strong.

Wells + Associates has been working with the county for 15 years and for the past four, they have designed and printed the posters celebrating each graduate at the annual graduation. Wells considers its partnership with the county to be part of its corporate responsibility. "We recognize that it takes a village and as a member of the community, we believe it's our job to be part of that village," said Melissa (Missy) Jackson.

**FOR SOME**, the graduation was another sad reminder of a young life violently cut short earlier this month. Mentors, social work staff and members of his family, including his twin brother, gathered to celebrate Leonte, who aged out of foster care several years ago. Leonte was determined to earn his high school diploma and graduated last February at 23-years-old. He was slated to be one of the speakers at the day's event.

Leonte is described as having been a kind, loving and compassionate young man. As a little boy, his smile lit up the room and his dance moves were legendary. His death serves as a stark reminder that the challenges for children who grow up in foster care don't end when they age out into young adulthood.

If interested in making a difference in the life of a child in foster care and after they age out, consider becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) or becoming a mentor with Fairfax Families4Kids.

*Joan Brady is a professional photographer; award-winning columnist; co-owner of Spirited Media, Inc., mentor and advocate for current and former foster children; a volunteer with paws4people and others; and a resident of Great Falls. Reach her at joan@joanbradyphotography.com.*

**Domenico Cornacchia, the chef driving the menus at the restaurant and pizzeria, described his cooking style as a mixture of traditional bases with “a lot of creativity, but also a lot of respect for ingredients as well.”**

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DOMENICO CORNACCHIA



# Chef Returns After Restaurant Renovation

BY FALLON FORBUSH  
THE CONNECTION

**C**hef Domenico Cornacchia and his Assaggi Osteria Italian restaurant in McLean will once again dish out small plates after seven months out of the kitchen. When it reopens on Tuesday, Aug. 1, he will be serving a side of something different: Pizza.

Cornacchia opened the fine dining restaurant in the McLean Square shopping center on Old Dominion Drive in November 2009. It has been temporarily closed for renovations since January.

Cornacchia, who was born and grew up in the Marche region of eastern Italy, built his eatery on the concept of serving a variety of Italian-inspired cuisine that could be ordered in smaller portions. In Italian, “assaggi” means tastings, he said.

But with the support of investors from McLean Investors, LLC, he added another concept: A full-fledged pizzeria that will offer a more casual experience for his diners called the Assaggi Neapolitan Pizzeria.

“We kept the fine dining and we carved in a Neapolitan pizzeria,” Cornacchia said. “Same location,

same roof, same address, same everything, but it’s going to have its own entrance, its own menu, its own wine list. It’s two concepts under one roof, if you will.”

The renovation was done by Piazza Construction, Charles Piazza’s construction and remodeling service company based out of Montgomery Village, Md.

**WITH THE RENOVATION**, the restaurant retained its original square footage indoors, but the entirety was gutted and its décor, flooring and paint were changed. The traditional atmosphere and amber-painted walls of the dining room were replaced with a more modern feel with purple accent walls painted in eggplant. The restaurant’s bar was also expanded, along with the replacement of its bathrooms and kitchen equipment.

“Everything from A to Z, basically,” Cornacchia said. “It’s a brand-new place, but the concept to the core stays the same.”

To make room for the full-service pizzeria, the space was divided.

“I would say 80 percent stays to the restaurant and 20 percent is dedicated to the pizzeria with one kitchen serving both,” Cornacchia said.

An expanded patio with a per-

manent canopy in the front of the restaurant will seat guests of the fine dining restaurant, while a new patio off to the side will be reserved for the pizzeria.

A distinction worth noting is the restaurant’s brand-new stone oven that will be used to bake the pizzas in the pizzeria.

“It was built in the United States, but all the material—including the sand and stones and everything—comes from southern Italy near Naples,” Cornacchia said.

The pizzeria will not neglect libations or special plates. Like the restaurant, which carries up to 600 wine labels from around Europe, the pizzeria will also keep the aged grapes pouring and then some.

“It has its own wine list and expanded beer list,” Cornacchia said. “It’s also going to have a nice selection of small plates, which will change on a daily basis according to what we find on the market and season ingredients, of course.”

Though the pizzeria will be low-key when compared to its other half, the chef promises he took the same amount of care to ensure the menu lives up to his reputation.

**AFTER CULINARY SCHOOL** in Italy, Cornacchia worked throughout Europe — Switzerland, France, Belgium and Luxembourg

## Exploring Exotic Thai Food

**Review: Esaan Thai Restaurant in McLean.**

BY ALEXANDRA GREELEY  
THE CONNECTION

**A**s most locals know, Thai food restaurants have mushroomed in the metro area, with likely hundreds offering dishes from this Asian country. Now something rather new in the Thai food world has happened: Welcome a newcomer to the McLean restaurant scene, but this eatery, Esaan Thai Restaurant, means indulging in some exotic — and unfamiliar to most Westerners — Thai food.

Featuring dishes from Northeast Thailand, the kitchen has composed a short but interesting menu, starting with classic Esaan sunny-side up eggs and fried chicken wings with Thai herbs and ending with Crying Tiger, a spicy beef dish found in many Thai restaurants, and fried rock fish with Thai herbs. What patrons will not find are such mainstream Thai dishes as pad Thai, the beloved rice noodle stir-fry, roast duck curry, and Drunken Noodles — none of these are standard fare in the northeastern-most part of Thailand.

So where to start? Try the fresh vegetable roll, six pieces to an order. This consists of finely sliced vegetables wrapped in a leaf, then overwrapped in a rice paper wrapper. The dish comes with two different dipping sauces: one hot/spicy and the other sweet.

Another special dish is the son tum, or green papaya salad, a dish that may show up in area Thai restaurants. It is unique in that it consists of shredded green papaya tossed with dried shrimp, toasted peanuts, and long green beans and dressed with lime juice, fish sauce, and

palm sugar. It’s often served spicy-hot, but the staff at Esaan will tame it down, if you prefer something milder. The salad is a Thai classic — unusual, refreshing, and worth eating every day.

A must for any meal here is the classic — and wildly popular in Thailand and in many local Thai restaurants — Crying Tiger, known in Thai as sya rong hai. Translated, this means “tiger crying,” and several theories about the origin of this dish’s name suggest that often the beef (it is a steak dish) was so tough tigers cried when trying to chew the meat. Another version suggests that the accompanying dipping sauce is so hot that it makes even tigers cry. Note: Esaan’s kitchen offers two different sauces, one spicy and one sweet.

Esaan’s version comes from the kitchen as slices of grilled beef on a serving platter. As an accompaniment, brown sticky rice in a woven basket. For folks unfamiliar with sticky rice, it is long grain, opaque, and clumps together easily to serve as an eating tool—it is commonly used by villagers as their version of a spoon. And this type of rice, like its opaque-white long-grain cousin, is steamed rather than boiled.

Finally, patrons should check out another Northeastern Thai classic, the grilled chicken. Here, it comes as a quartered whole chicken — enough for two — plus sticky rice and dipping sauces. The flavors are authentic and delicious, confirming that the chef knows what he is doing.

Note: Esaan recently opened in the corner location of the former Social Restaurant & Oyster Bar...remember the motorcycle out front? It also notes that it is Pasa Thai’s sister restaurant. Pasa Thai is located on the same stretch of stores, just a few doorways down.

*Esaan Thai Restaurant, 1307 Old Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Phone: 703-288-9671. Hours: lunch and dinner daily.*

— before immigrating to the United States in 2005, where he quickly made a name for himself as corporate executive chef and partner of Café Milano in the Georgetown neighborhood of Washington, D.C. He was also involved with Café Milano’s two sister restaurants, Sette Bello in the Clarendon neighborhood of Ar-

lington and Sette Osteria in the Dupont Circle neighborhood of D.C.

In order to refer to their pizza as Neapolitan, the pizzeria’s ingredients have to be Italian.

The tomatoes will come from Naples and the cheese will not rely

SEE CHEF, PAGE 13

# 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

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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).

**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.

**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).

**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).

**"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.

**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).

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

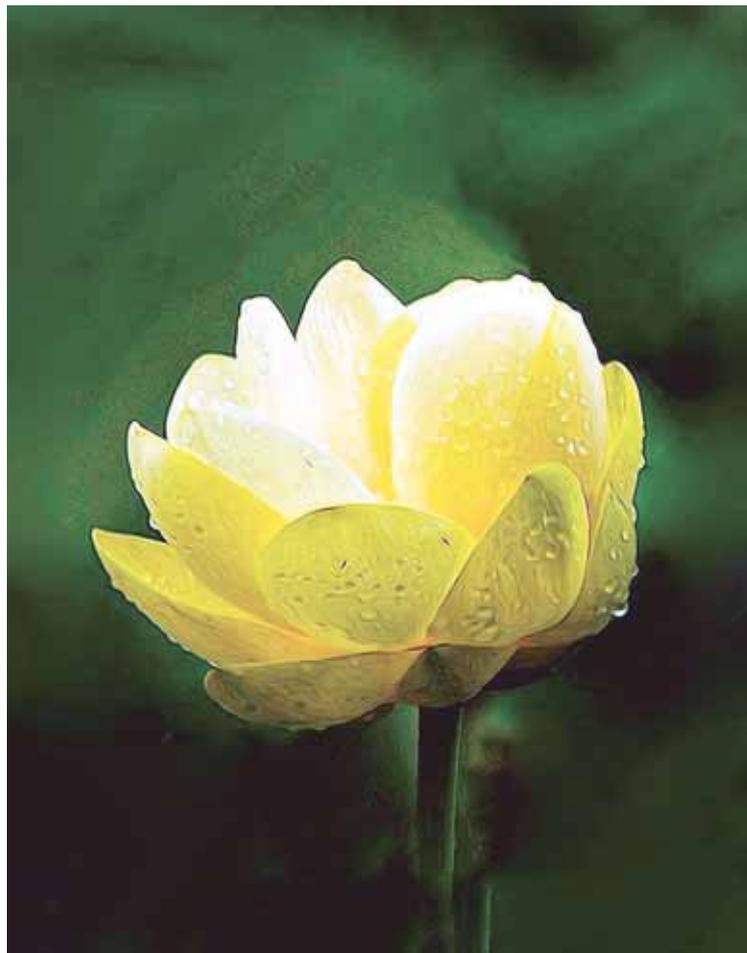
**The Freeman Store & Museum** Wednesday through Sunday noon-4 p.m. 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. The Freeman Store & Museum is dedicated to Preserving and promoting Vienna's heritage through the identification, preservation, and interpretation of history significant places, events, and persons. [Historicviennainc.org](http://Historicviennainc.org)

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

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

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

**Fishing Rod Rentals** 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Rentals available during visitor center hours. Fishing tackle and live bait are



## Art Exhibit

**Sunny Days 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.**

available for purchase. Reservations required for group rentals. \$6/rental (2 hour max). Valid driver's license required. Rod/reel combinations are perfect for beginners and children. A Virginia or Maryland freshwater fishing license is required for those 16 years or older. The park does not sell fishing licenses. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/)

**Colvin Run Mill** open 11 - 4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Fairfax 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).

**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).

**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).

## AUGUST

**Fairfax Family Golf Month.** At Oak Marr Golf Complex is located at 3136 Jermantown Road, Oakton. In August, parents pay for their 9-hole round of golf and accompanying children and teens (ages 8-17) will receive a round at no charge. This is also good at Jefferson District Golf Course is located at 7900 Lee Highway, Falls Church, and Pincrest Golf Course, 6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf).



## Summer Sunday

**Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park featuring Kara and Matty D, Sunday, July 30, at 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).**

## DEADLINE JULY 31

### Human Condition Photo

**Competition.** At the Vienna Arts Society, 1350 Beverly Road, #316. "The Human Condition" judge Laura Goyer, awards reception is Saturday, Aug. 19, 5:30 p.m. \$5 per piece for VAS members, \$7 per piece for Non-members. Visit [www.viennaartsociety.org/](http://www.viennaartsociety.org/).

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 26

**Meet the Cooking Author.** 6:30 p.m. at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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).

## FRIDAY/JULY 28

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

**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.

## 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).

## WEDNESDAY/AUG. 2

**Skyward Story Concert.** 6 p.m. at Jammin Java, 27 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Baltimore-based pop rock trio. Visit [jamminjava.com/](http://jamminjava.com/) or call 877-987-6487.

### Understanding Political

**Polarization.** 7-9 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A "Meetup," where people from diverse backgrounds will try to better understand their own and others' values and beliefs across the usual political boundaries. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/) or email [billrfj09@gmail.com](mailto:billrfj09@gmail.com).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 6

**Big Bang Boom Concert.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Children-friendly music. 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. Diamond Alley are playing contemporary and classics. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

## WEDNESDAY/AUG. 9

### Understanding Political

**Polarization.** 7-9 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A "Meetup," where people from diverse backgrounds will try to better understand their own and others' values and beliefs across the usual political boundaries. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/) or email [billrfj09@gmail.com](mailto:billrfj09@gmail.com).

## SATURDAY/AUG. 12

**Dan Navarro Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20-25. Call 877-987-6487 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 13

**Concerts on the Green.** 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Tom Principato in concert. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

**Aztec Two-Step Concert.** 6 p.m. at Jammin Java, 27 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Folk-rock duo celebrates the release of their new album "Naked." \$25 Visit [jamminjava.com/](http://jamminjava.com/) or call 877-987-6487.

## TUESDAY/AUG. 15

**"Dining with Dorothy."** 12:30 p.m. at the Westwood Country Club, 800 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Dining with Dorothy events are Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna events held periodically throughout the year as opportunities for mature adults to meet and socialize with new people along with old friends. Call 703-281-0538.

**Surviving Your Split Lecture.** 7:30-9 p.m. at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Martha Bodyfelt how to reduce breaking-up stress, avoid the most common mistakes, and gain clarity on what to expect. Call 703-938-0405.

## WEDNESDAY/AUG. 16

### Understanding Political

**Polarization.** 7-9 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A "Meetup," where people from diverse backgrounds will try to better understand their own and others' values and beliefs across the usual political boundaries. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/) or email [billrfj09@gmail.com](mailto:billrfj09@gmail.com).

# FOOD

## Chef Returns After Renovation

FROM PAGE 11

on shredded mozzarella made from cow's milk like most pizza chains. Instead, the pizzeria will avoid using cheeses that are uncharacteristic of a fine Italian eatery and will use buffalo mozzarella, or mozzarella di bufala, as its staple. This is a cheese made from the milk of an Italian breed of water buffalo: The Mediterranea Italiana buffalo.

The pizzeria will use slow-rising dough that takes 24 to 48 hours to rise, which he says is the secret to the crust, which will be "airy, very, very light and thin."

"It's a very long process, but it's the best," he said.

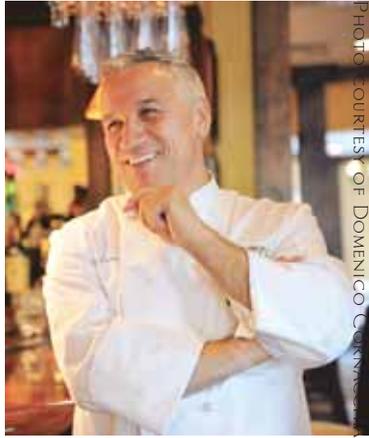
Though Italian ingredients are important, the chef doesn't let it get in the way of his imagination, describing his cooking style as a mixture of traditional bases with "a lot of creativity, but also a lot of respect for ingredients as well."

This means the chef changes his menu every season to adjust to readily-available and fresh ingredients.

"The menu is fresh and lighter during the spring and summer and a little more earthy during winter and so on," he said.

Seasonal adjustments are also where the chef has fun.

"Keep it changing," he said. "Keep creating. Keep



**Chef Domenico Cornacchia**

dishing out new techniques, new dishes and new ingredients."

Cornacchia and his investors hope his more informal fare will attract a new generation of fast-casual eaters.

"The restaurant industry is pretty much like the fashion industry," he said. "The places kind of get tired from the fact that there is so much competition coming."

**THE DEVELOPMENT** of Tysons Corner and the District nearby makes for fierce competition.

"The restaurant industry is going crazy, in a positive way," he

said. "You have to be up to date in order to compete, otherwise, you'll be left behind. The clientele also keeps changing."

The changes will also be fun for its loyal patrons.

"It's a completely redone place," he said. "If you were here in 2016 and walked in here in 2017, you'll feel like you're in a completely different restaurant."

So far, he and investors are encouraged that the risk of closing and changing up the establishment will be worth the reward.

"People are stopping in every day to find out when is the reopening," Kenneth Gazzola, one of the restaurant's investors, said. "It is a very exciting time."

"We've had dozens of people stop by," Gazzola added. "That's the best encouragement we could have."

**Saint Ann Catholic Church**

<p><b>SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE:</b></p> <p>Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM          Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 AM          1:30 PM Spanish Liturgy</p>	<p><b>DAILY EUCHARIST:</b></p> <p>Weekdays          Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM          Saturday, 8:30 AM</p>
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 Directed by Kevin and Pamela McCormack  
 Choreographed by Kathleen McCormack  
 Music Directed by Lori Roddy

**July 28-30**

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](http://www.McLeanPlayers.org)

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](http://www.MTIShows.com)

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## Employment

Margery Wedderburn Interiors is seeking a PT Administrative Assistant to join busy team in Great Falls, VA office. Candidate to have team mentality, attn to detail & can-do attitude. 25 hrs/wk (9:30-2:30). Send resume to: melanie@margerywedderburninteriors.com

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## Announcements

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## NEWS

**Navy Veteran Natalie Wallace of Manassas put her newly learned networking and interview skills she acquired at the Hiring Our Heroes employment workshop to work. Wallace introduced herself to Nela Peterson of Progressive Insurance. Afterward, Wallace said, "I learned online applications might not be as productive as face to face. Networking is key."**



PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

## Military Hiring Fair Held in Herndon

Career event created to help job seekers find meaningful employment opportunities.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION



**The Military Hiring Fair featured 50 top-tier participating employers and service organizations ready to hire. The event attracted more than 235 transitioning service members, veterans, and military spouses.**

**H**iring Our Heroes — The United States Chamber of Commerce Foundation and The American Legion Department of Virginia State Convention conducted a Military Hiring Event on Thursday, July 13 at the Hilton Washington Dulles Airport Hotel in Herndon. Fifty top-tier local and national employers and service organizations participated in the daylong event. Jobs opportunities were available to transitioning service members, veterans, and military spouses.

Dave Wallace, Media and Communications Chair, Dyer-Gunnell Post 180, The American Legion Department of Virginia said, "This hiring event is the first of its kind for the American Legion Department of Virginia. It's giving back to our veterans. It is an opportunity to show their skills sets to all these employers; a chance to prove how they will be an asset to the companies."

**LEAVING THE MILITARY** can be daunting for many, and seeking employment a new venture. Before the hiring fair began, Hiring Our Heroes, U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation offered attendees a unique employment workshop, one that concisely covered a variety of topics.

Cara Cooke, USAF Senior Manager, Hiring Our Heroes taught the seminar. Cooke focused the discussion on how best to create three essential personal branding tools: an effective resume, the 20-second elevator pitch, and a digital identity. Cooke acknowledged those in the military have grown accustomed to military jargon, but their resume must translate military experience into civilian language. Using tools on-hand, Cooke said job seekers could create a resume in 20 minutes, print it, and have it ready to distribute to potential employers upstairs.

Next, Cooke described how to build a personal brand statement, the brief 20-second elevator pitch. "State who you are, what your background is, and what you want. Ask what they can offer you, and stop. Stop. Let them talk," Cooke instructed. She reminded attendees that when they are talking to prospective employers: "Give eye contact and don't look at the ground. Talk to everybody. Contact is so important." Cooke added: "Today is your day. They see your value and want to hire you."

The third tool Cooke stressed was the importance

of a professional digital identity. She discussed how to develop and grow a network using LinkedIn. "Each employer here has a LinkedIn account. They can reach back to you." Cooke recommended the job seekers take one of each prospective employer's business cards. She told them to write a note about their meeting, a reminder to themselves what they spoke about with the recruiter, on the back of each one's business card. "Then send a follow-up email to the people you met today," Cooke said. "Remind them who you are and ask them to review your resume." Cooke urged attendees, "Be persistent. Do not end your job search after the fair. Use the tools Hiring Our Heroes provides."

Bobbi Diviney is a Marine Veteran from Leesburg. After leaving the workshop, she prepared to enter the hiring fair. Asked what she had learned and what type of job she was looking for, Diviney said, "I didn't know about the Hiring Our Heroes job page [portal]. I'm currently a graduate student in Crime Analysis. This is my first Hiring Our Heroes Job Fair."

Marcus Bottelcher is District Manager for Fastenal, a Fortune 1000 company. He stood ready to greet prospective employees. Asked if he was hiring that day, Bottelcher said, "Ten to fifteen percent of the people we hire are veterans or National Guard. Their skill set fits our mindset. I'm out to hire today. Take cards. Any good candidates, I'll send appointments. Fairs like this help the Veterans. When their names show up in the system, they stand out because I've already met them."

According to Dave Wallace, Media and Communications Chair, Dyer-Gynnell Post 180, The American Legion, 235 job seekers had registered for the job fair by early afternoon with 50 participating employers and service organizations present.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** about Hiring Our Heroes, a program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation to help veterans, transitioning service members and military spouses find meaningful employment opportunities, visit [www.uschamberfoundation.org](http://www.uschamberfoundation.org).

# 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 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 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.

## TUESDAY/AUG. 1

**Speaker At McLean Rotary Lunch.** Noon in the Fellowship Hall of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Sharon Bulova, the current chair of the Fairfax County, Virginia Board of Supervisors, will be speaking. Email [mcleanrotary.va@gmail.com](mailto:mcleanrotary.va@gmail.com) for more.

## AUG. 2-30

**Fit for Life Classes.** 11 a.m.-noon at the Bruen Chapel United Methodist Church, 3035 Cedar Lane, Fairfax. Fairfax Fit for Life Classes are sponsored by the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna to improve strength, balance and mobility for older adults. Call 703-281-0538 or email [eileentarr1@verizon.net](mailto:eileentarr1@verizon.net).

## THURSDAY/AUG. 3

**Support Group for Caregivers.** 10-11:30 a.m. at the UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. This support group is designed for caregivers of adult family members. Contact facilitator Jack Tarr at 703-821-6838 or [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net).

## THURSDAY/AUG. 17

**Support Group for Caregivers.** 10-11:30 a.m. at the UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. This support group is designed for caregivers of adult family members. Contact facilitator Jack Tarr at 703-821-6838 or [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net).

## LETTER

FROM PAGE 6

plus years and was vice president at one time of the railroad union so my mother was very workers rights oriented and my father's family were bankers. My paternal grandfather was vice president of National Boulevard Bank in Chicago. So I get an interesting perspective.

It does not make sense to me that they are going after this failsafe program for the most disadvantaged of our country. This is a safety net. There are so many other programs that need to be examined. But I cannot understand this assault on the human condition of our citizens. There are black ops programs that get unlimited funding. The waste is in these special interest programs. No one is investigating the \$100 toothpicks. Somehow the health and welfare programs are the target for cutting when in actuality government waste in these other pet projects should be addressed. We have projects that have no accountability.

**Valerie Benson**  
Burke

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. <b>-Werner Heisenberg</b>			

## Taking Care Of Business



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The cats. The car. The dentist. The pancreatic enzymes. It was a week that typically isn't. As often as my credit card was swiped these past few days, I'm amazed its magnetic strip is still magnetized. To quote my deceased mother, Celia: "It's enough already."

Oh well, what's done is done, though it definitely needed doing. And aside from the fact that I didn't have the actual money, fortunately I had the available credit, which I was grateful to have had. I mean, how long can you put off necessary evils/expenditures before they rear their ugly consequences? And though money doesn't grow on trees (linen actually), credit seems to, and so the to-do list now has some cross-outs/"has-dones" finally.

Now the anxiety about neglecting the "to-dos" is replaced by the worry about the cost/need-to-pay the "having-dones." Nevertheless, the cats have had their vaccinations shot current.

The car now has a passenger window that goes down - and back up, a check-engine light that no longer illuminates, a blower that will now provide heat in the winter and a defogger when needed, and as it turns out a bit of unexpected air conditioning.

The dentist has referred me to an oral surgeon (since the teeth were both "unrestorable"/not root canal candidates) who will extract two teeth from my mouth and hundreds more from my bank account/probably credit card - again, but no doubt get me back on a course of dental correction.

The pancreatic enzymes, the most expensive bottle of pills I buy (I consume upwards of 55 pills per day) is an expense I incur every three months and does something to help my immune system keep the lung cancer in-check, a priority if there ever was one.

Paying to keep on playing (so to speak), by maintaining this kind of normalcy enhances the feeling that life is indeed still being played. And not that my attitude/philosophy in such responsibilities is totally affected by yours truly having been diagnosed with a "terminal" form of cancer: non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV, to be specific, but as the old punchline says: "It doesn't hurt." And avoiding hurt is definitely part of the fighting-cancer strategy; along with avoiding stress, eating healthy, exercising and boosting one's immune system.

I guess what I'm realizing that I have two lives, sort of, the usual and customary life: work, play, day-to-day stuff and the cancer life: lab work, chemotherapy, scans, oncologist, pills, lifestyle changes, etc. On some days, they are parallel. On other days, they intersect. And though they may be separate, they are inter-related. What benefits one is likely to positively affect the other.

Additionally, a negative in one life will likewise have an adverse consequence in the other. However, the requirements to maintain their respective lives is different. Yet balance/co-existence must be maintained in order for one to remain "together."

Two separate halves will not make for a responsible whole, but rather lead to an emotional one. And if there's one attribute that a cancer patient/survivor must have, it is emotional wherewithal. Failure to do so in one's cancer life will likely spill over into the non-cancer life (and vice-versa) and cause a kind of an adult version of failure to thrive.

Cancer might win the battle in the end but you can't let it win the battle in the interim. Fulfilling your every-day responsibilities helps give that life the kind of accomplishment that aids and abets in your fight against your cancer life. Moreover, handling your cancer life gives you the confidence and optimism to live your non-cancer life.

Granted, the two lives might not exactly be the best of friends, but they must be partners of a sort. The sort that is independent, appreciative, respectful and considerate.

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