



Great Falls CONNECTION

Trish Bailey and Juan-Carlos Aceo with their two kids, Olivia and Victoria. The Aceos came from Sterling to purchase the homegrown produce at the Krop's Crops in Great Falls.

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AREA ROUNDUPS

Emergency Preparedness Class to Be Held in McLean

The Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will offer CERT 129, a basic training class, on seven Tuesday evenings in September and October at the McLean Fire Station, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean on Sept. 12, 19, 26 and Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 from 7-10:30 p.m. Students are required to attend all seven class sessions and the final. This training does not require any physical strength or agility. This CERT Basic training follows the FEMA curriculum, and is tailored to address potential local disasters and hazards.

CERT Basic Training Class on emergency preparedness is co-sponsored by the Fairfax Co. Fire and Rescue Dept. and the McLean Citizens Association (MCA).

For more information and to apply, visit <http://bit.ly/2tXrP3L>

Fundraiser to Support SHARE of McLean

A fundraiser for SHARE, Inc. of McLean has been announced by HBC Group's (Keller Williams Realty) Community Charity Champions. Come to dinner on Tuesday, Sept. 12, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Pulcinella Italian Host in McLean to support SHARE. Enjoy dinner and know that approximately 70 percent of the proceeds from food and drink will go to SHARE as long as the diner brings the flyer for the event. Contact HBC Group at 703-734-0192 or visit www.HBCGroupKW.com to receive a flyer.

SHARE, Inc. of McLean is a non-profit, nonsectarian, all-volunteer community relief organization helping people in need in McLean, Great Falls and Pimmit Hills area for more than 45 years. They provide assistance through their food pantry, where people and families in need throughout the community can go for assistance with groceries. SHARE also provides emergency financial assistance, used furniture pick-up and delivery, distributes grocery gift cards at Thanksgiving and the holidays, holiday gifts, and school supplies.

Sponsors of the event are: Karen Briscoe and Lizzy Conroy with the HBC Group of Keller Williams Realty, Marcus Simon with EKKO Title, Kevin Dougherty of Pillar to Post, Kathy and Justin Neal of The Neal Team/SunTrust Mortgage, Jim Harris of BOWA, The McLean Chamber of Commerce, and Moe Jebali with Pulcinella Italian Host.

Thank You!!

The Celebrate Great Falls Foundation
& The Great Falls Community
say THANK YOU for helping light up the sky
at last month's 4th of July celebration!

This wonderful patriotic event at Turner Farm Park would not have been made possible without the following sponsors, all of the businesses & family contributors, civic organizations, vendors, and the many volunteers including Eamon McCrann and Adrienne West, our Co-Chairs of the event

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The Great Falls Boy Scouts, the Fairfax County Parks and Recreation, Fairfax County Police, Fairfax County Sheriffs Department, Fairfax County Fire Marshalls Office, Pyro Engineering, Megawatt DJ's, Reena Nagra - Parade Chairman and Julie Casso - Hometown Celebration Chairman.

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Donations are still being accepted at www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org under Friends of the Fireworks



PHOTOS BY COLIN STOECKER/THE CONNECTION

Students walk in the front doors for the first day of school for the 2017-2018 school year at Langley High School Monday morning.



From left: Thompson Brownlee, 17, senior; Principal Fred Amico; Kate Brownlee, 15, freshman; and Ayda Shakeri, 14; freshman, pose for a picture on the first day of school for the 2017-2018 school year at Langley high school Monday.

Back to Langley High

Students, teachers share the excitement of the new school year.

BY COLIN STOECKER
THE CONNECTION

At 7:30 a.m., seniors all the way down to freshman congregated by the stairs in front of the main office sharing hugs and hellos. Monday, Aug. 28, was the first official day back to school for the Saxons at Langley High School.

"It's another year, same old same old, but this time I am an upperclassman," said Caroline Stock, 16, a junior at Langley High. "You feel like you have more control, that you are more a part of the upper class," she said.

Sam Yi, 16, also a junior said, "I'm just

here not to fail a class!"

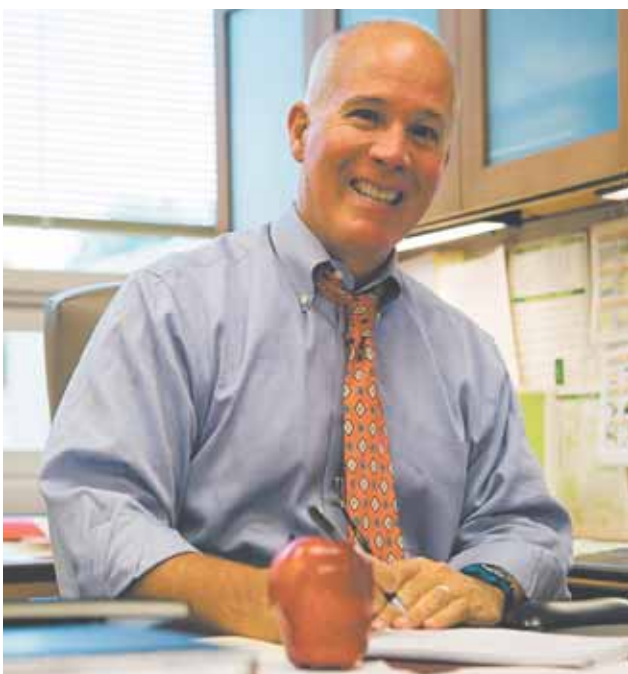
In addition to a throng of excited students, Fred Amico, in his third year as principal at Langley, was also very happy to be back in school. "We are very excited for the beginning of the new school year and for our new buildings," said Amico.

"I am really looking forward to getting the kids back to work and they always bring a good energy," he said.

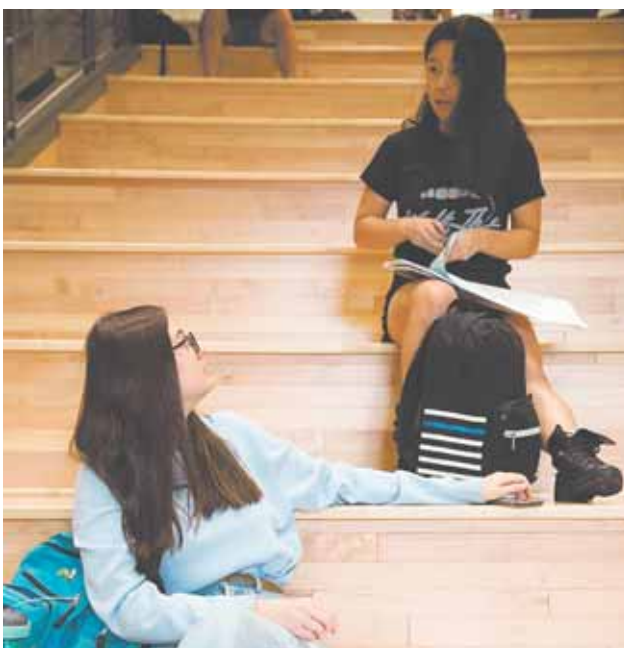
Mary Landis, assistant principal was handing out parking passes to students Monday morning. "I am also the administrator for the high school seniors," she said. "So I am excited to see them get through their last year and get ready for graduation which is June 7 this year!" said Landis.



From left: Reese Bernstein, 14, freshman; Katie Fang, 17, senior; and Jon Bugge, 17, senior; pose for a photograph on the first day of school for the 2017-2018 school year at Langley High School Monday.



Principal of Langley High School Fred Amico, who is going into his third year, poses for a picture at his desk. He said he is excited about the new school year.



Students at Langley High school Caroline Stock, 16, junior, and Sam Yi, 16, junior, are excited to start back on the first day of school for the 2017-2018 school year at Langley High School Monday.



From left: Mary Landis, assistant principal, Mark Rogers, security specialist, and Philip Clark, librarian, hand out parking passes on the first day of school for the 2017-2018 school year at Langley High School Monday.

OPINION

Helping After Harvey

Give locally in Texas; give money not stuff.

The scenes of devastation from Hurricane Harvey in Texas will prompt many generous people to contribute to immediate relief efforts.

First, a reminder to give money, not stuff. The organizations on the ground need money now to address particular needs.

As a local paper, it fair to say that if we had a similar disaster here in Northern Virginia, we would want donated money to go to local organizations that understand local needs, rules, supply chains, etc. Give locally.

EDITORIAL

Houston Food Bank

Displaced families and individuals will need to be fed for a long time.
Donate online www.houstonfoodbank.org
535 Portwall St.
Houston, TX 77029
713-223-3700

Greater Houston Community Foundation

Will coordinate the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund to accept tax deductible flood relief donations for victims that have been affected by the recent floods.

Donate online ghcf.org
5120 Woodway Dr.
Suite 6000
Houston, TX 77056
713-333-2200

The Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County

Tens of thousands of people in and around Houston will be newly homeless as the floods recede.

Donate online www.homelesshouston.org
2000 Crawford Street, Suite 700
Houston, TX 77002
713-739-7514
www.homelesshouston.org/take-action/donate/

Houston Humane Society

Donate online at www.houstonhumane.org
[www.houstonhumane.org/\(Give\)/giving/general-donation](http://www.houstonhumane.org/(Give)/giving/general-donation)
14700 Almeda Road
Houston, TX 77053
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San Antonio Humane Society

Is housing pets of people displaced by Harvey who are taking shelter at the AT&T Center or other places in San Antonio.
Donate online at sahumane.org
4804 Fredericksburg Road
San Antonio, TX 78229
210-226-7461 or 210-518-9742.

Austin Pets Alive!

This rescue group partners with local rescues. Austin Pets Alive! has been helping shelters in the direct line of Hurricane Harvey. They've transported more than 330 animals to their shelter and are expecting hundreds more.
Donate online www.austinpetsalive.org/donate/donate-now/ or visit austinpetsalive.org/hurricane-harvey-evacuations/

#CallTextLive — A Hashtag to Remember

BY WENDY GRADISON
CEO, PRS, INC.

It's been a tough year in Northern Virginia as youth and young adult suicides bereaved families, communities and schools. Many adult family members, friends, neighbors and colleagues were lost to suicide as well. In the aftermath, lives were cut short and so much promise left unrealized.

COMMENTARY Suicide, a serious issue locally and nationally that claims the lives of 44,000 people annually, is the 10th leading cause of death nationwide and second leading cause for people aged 15-24.

At PRS, Inc., a nonprofit that runs Northern Virginia's crisis hotline and textline, we are marking September's Suicide Prevention Month by launching the #CallTextLive Campaign. We've teamed up with Connection Newspapers for this third annual campaign to engage the community in discussing suicide and encouraging people to get help by calling or texting a hotline.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

American Values

To the Editor:

The following open letter was addressed to Republican gubernatorial candidate Ed Gillespie.

On Aug. 11 and 12, we saw violence and hate we hoped we would never again witness on American soil. In Charlottesville, Neo-Nazis and white supremacists took to the streets, marched with torches, gave Nazi salutes, shouted that Jews "will not replace them," chanted the Fascist slogan "Blood and Soil," proclaimed white supremacy, and murdered a

woman who was brave enough to stand up to them. Then, instead of clearly rejecting this evil, the President of the United States twice defended those marching with the very Neo-Nazis who unleashed this deadly violence on one of Virginia's greatest cities.

After President Trump's press conferences, we were left shocked and then deeply saddened. Let's be clear. "Very fine people" don't march with people who are holding Nazi flags and chanting anti-Semitic slogans. We were heartened to see, in the wake of Donald Trump's horrifying comments, that leaders in

using #CallTextLive. We have t-shirts available for purchase for PRS Selfie Day. We also encourage the community to join the PRS team (with #CallTextLive t-shirts) for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Fairfax Walk on Sept. 16 and the NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) NOVA and Loudoun Walks, which are both taking place Sept. 23.

For every death, 278 people manage to move past thoughts of suicide and survive. PRS supports this through its CrisisLink program, which handled nearly 34,000 crisis calls and exchanged over 33,000 crisis text messages from the Northern Virginia region last year. Any time of the day or night, the PRS CrisisLink Hotline can be reached at 800-273-TALK [8255] and the textline by texting "CONNECT" to 85511.

Making a call or sending a text to PRS CrisisLink saves lives. Removing the stigma around reaching out, discussing issues that contribute to suicide and encouraging people to get help is key. By participating in #CallTextLive, we can turn up the volume, and make it OK to have a conversation, make a call or send a text.

both parties came together to reject hate and renew our nation's founding principles of equality and inclusiveness. But instead of joining these leaders — including many prominent Republicans — we understand you have refused to speak out against the President's reaction to Charlottesville.

As Jewish members of the Virginia General Assembly, we write you because, as Virginians and Jews, we find your failure to denounce the President's reaction to Nazism deeply dis

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Great Falls CONNECTION

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PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

Making Sandwiches for Martha's Table

On Sunday, Aug. 6, more than three dozen members of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Great Falls, gathered in Gysan Fellowship Hall to make 500 ham and cheese sandwiches to donate to Martha's Table, one of Washington, D.C.'s oldest service organizations.



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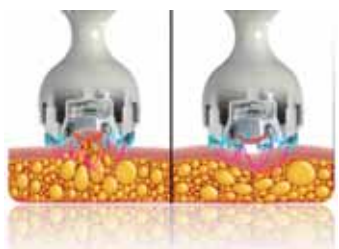
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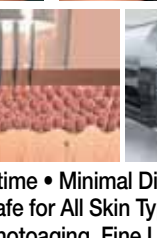
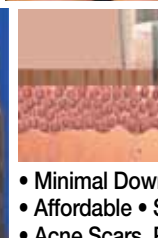
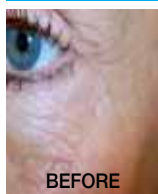
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CONNECTION FAMILIES



The rustic shop is located off of Georgetown Pike and is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., daily.



PHOTOS BY MAGGIE GIORDANO/THE CONNECTION

Owner, Larry Krop, greets customers with a friendly smile.

Great Falls Treasure at Krop's Crops

BY MAGGIE GIORDANO
THE CONNECTION

One of the many benefits of Great Falls is the good amount of small businesses: You can find a number of great products that are sold with a smile. Krop's Crops, located at 11110 Georgetown Pike, is one of those businesses. They are known to sell produce and seasonal plants, but some may not know that they sell antiques as well. They are open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

A number of areas in the shop offer a collection of vintage, antique and shabby chic items that include furniture, artwork, jewelry and more. Multiple vendors display their own unique items within the corners of the building. The French Hen, Wendy's Window and the Tangled Web are just a few of the collections presented.

The antique shop started as a Saturday flea market in spring 2016. After a few flea markets, they decided to start selling items all year long for patrons to visit on more days. The American-classic antiques offer a large variety of items that are available to customers who want one-of-a-kind pieces to add to their home décor.

Krop's Crops started in 1986 as a Christmas tree farm and produce stand by Larry Krop and his late wife, Pauline. Now, the business still sells locally grown produce of tomatoes, red onions, white onions, peaches and more. Locally made jams, marmalades and honey from Maryland and Virginia can be purchased as well.

"I like being here because most of the patrons have been here for 30 years or up to that long. I see a lot of faces that know me by my first name. That's what makes it fun," owner and manager, Larry Krop said.

Krop's Crops will start selling pumpkins at the beginning of October this season and will give patrons the chance to choose from a variety of shapes and sizes in the patch or in the shop. The family fun includes hay-

rides for \$3 per person and campfires for \$10 per person. Children also have the chance to feed the friendly goats located next to the main building. A variety of apples from Winchester and fresh-pressed cider are sold inside the shop as well.

Christmas trees will begin selling Friday, Nov. 24, after Thanksgiving. The choices include trees of Noble, Fraser, Douglas, White Pine and more. Customers can either cut down their own tree or pick one from the pre-cut options. Poinsettias, wreaths, firewood, tree stands and holiday decorations will be sold inside the shop.

To book an event at Krop's Crops, contact Lauri Krop at lkrop@hotmail.com. For more information about Krop's Antique Center, visit www.kropsantiquecenter.com.



Trish Bailey and Juan-Carlos Aceo with their two kids, Olivia and Victoria. Aceo came from Sterling to purchase the homegrown produce.



Items are displayed throughout the shop.



The French Hen displays a variety of large and small items.



The shop décor gives patrons a country feeling alongside locally grown produce.

CONNECTION FAMILIES

Time for School

Making the transition from summer to the classroom.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As children savor the last days of summer, many families are gearing up for the start of a new school year. From first day anxiety to new bedtime routines, local educators offer suggestions for a seamless transition to the classroom.

"I have always loved the rhythms of the school calendar because of the beginnings and endings and the possibilities for reflection and a chance to refresh and renew..." said Amy L. Best, Ph.D., professor and chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, George Mason University. "I think the ritual of back-to-school shopping, whether that means a new binder and notebook, a new backpack, or a pair of new sneakers ... remains important for us because it offers opportunity to think about school anew."

The start of a new school year is an ideal time to help children set reasonable expectations, an important concept for high school students who begin to manage an increasing amount of responsibility and must learn to create a balance in their lives, says Best. "Put things in perspective," she said. "Sometimes the goals [that are] focused on personal growth, like learning how to advocate for yourself with a teacher, or navigating the halls, are as important as identifying academic milestones."

"It's useful to revisit points of struggle and perhaps more importantly, triumphs from the previous year. Reminding a student how they successfully managed a difficult issue is helpful," said Best.

Gone are the days of staying up late and sleeping in the next day. A healthy bedtime routine must be re-established gradually, advises Sean Aiken, head of school, BASIS Independent McLean.

"Consider easing into the early morning routine by adjusting your sleep schedules several days before school starts with progressively earlier wake up times," said Aiken. "Building the routine before the first day of school will help the adjustment on day one."

"In the week before the school year begins, families should revisit the expectations for bedtimes and morning routines and choose an evening and following morning to practice the routines," said Jalene Spain Thomas, Lower School Director St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School in Alexandria. "Children will appreciate knowing that the new routine for this school year includes a slightly later bedtime or more time for independent reading or shared reading with a parent."

For younger students, separation anxiety may become an issue as they move into a parent-free envi-



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The ritual of back-to-school shopping offers an opportunity to think about school anew, says Amy Best of George Mason University.

ronment each day, says Aiken. "In these cases, contact the school and establish a go-to adult for your child to talk to in the event they miss you too much during the day," he said.

Focusing on the positives about a child's school environment can help ease anxiety. "Younger students may want to draw a picture of what they think their new classroom will look like," said Thomas. "Older students may enjoy writing a list of what they hope to accomplish in the school year that the family opens together in January."

Start with an organized workspace and shared family calendar to keep the family organized from day one, advises Aiken. "Folders and binders for home organizational systems are just as important as those your child will bring to school," he said. "Post a large calendar in a common area of the home so early due dates, back to school nights, and extracurricular activities can be seen by everyone in the family."

"Parents, remember to take some time for yourselves in those early days, too," said Aiken. "You've worked hard all summer arranging camps, play dates, and other great activities. Maybe it's time to take a long lunch break together or catch a cheap matinee once you're safely assured that you children are off and running in their new learning adventures."

"Consider easing into the early morning routine by adjusting your sleep schedules several days before school starts with progressively earlier wake up times."

— Sean Aiken, head of school, BASIS Independent McLean

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ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. 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.

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.

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

Colvin Run Mill open 11 - 4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Fairfax County's operational 19th century water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily tours, school programs and special events. Fees: \$7/adult, \$6 students 16+ with ID, \$5 children & seniors. Admission to park is free except for some special events.

Fundamentals of Watercolors. Mondays 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Artist Lorrie Herman will help students get comfortable working with watercolors and understanding this medium. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

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.

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.

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.

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 Pinecrest Golf Course, 6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf.

SEPT. 2-3

24th Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival. Various times at the Holy



Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Featuring authentic Middle Eastern food, music, pastries and dancing. Free. Call 703-734-9566 or visit www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 5

Lecture on Downton Abbey. 12:15 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The McLean Woman's Club presents food and travel writer CiCi Williamson describing the food and its preparation on the 6-year show, along with the history of Highclere Castle, where the filming took place. Free. visit www.mcleanwomensclub.org or call 703-556-0197.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 6

McLean Newcomers and Neighbors. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Community Room, Regency at McLean, 1800 Old Meadow Road, McLean. Visit www.McLeanNewcomers.org.

SEPT. 7-9

Quarterly Book Sale. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Tyson's Library, 7700 and 7704 Leesburg Pike. Large selection of books and media for all ages and interests. Visit tysonslibraryfriends@gmail.com or 703-338-3307.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 8

Dave & Buster's Adventure. 3:30-10 p.m. leaving from The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. 7th- through 9th-graders, teens will have all access to Dave & Buster's private dinner buffet and a \$25 game card with unlimited arcade game play is included in the trip fee. \$55/\$45 MCC district residents. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 9

Virginia Indian Festival. 10 a.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Activities include hands-on activities and live demonstrations such as American Indian storytelling, shooting bow and arrows, throwing spears and making stone tools. Additional activities include building a dugout canoe, and a visit to a marketplace of American Indian crafts, pottery and jewelry. \$8. Call 703-759-9018 or visit online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park.

SEPT. 9-20

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Various times and locations, more than 50 different events taking place at more than 25

Family Bingo Night

B-I-N-G-O is his name-o, on Friday, Sept. 16 from 7-9 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Players can win prizes, play guessing games and enjoy light refreshments. Advance registration is required. Visit www.mcleancenter.org for more.

venues across Northern Virginia. Call 703-403-5360 or visit www.nvso.us.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 10

The Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society. 2:30 p.m. at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St., Falls Church. A discussion and demonstration on preparing and presenting Mums for a flower show. Free. Call 703-560-8776 or visit www.odcsmums.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 13

Riverboat Cruise. 10-11:30 a.m. at Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) 541 Marshall Road SW, Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna hosts day trip to Georgetown Harbor via riverboat cruise from Alexandria to Georgetown for shopping, exploring and lunch. Will return by riverboat to Alexandria, then the bus trip home to Vienna. \$85 includes transportation and riverboat cruise. Call 703-281-0538 or visit www.scov.org.

Live after Five. 6-9 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Hors d'oeuvres and local musicians highlight the tour. Visit www.jamminjava.com.

SEPT. 14-16

Fall Book Sale. Various times at Oakton Community Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/friends/ok/ or call 703-281-0300.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 15

Chillin' on Church. 6:30 p.m. at Church St., Vienna. Water games, Chump Change band playing rock. Visit www.viennava.gov or call 703-255-6360.


Family Fun Bingo. 7-9 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Players can win prizes, play guessing games and enjoy light refreshments. Advance registration is required. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 16

McLean Community Fall Garage Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the parking lot, 1420 Beverly Road, McLean. This year's sale features a Kids' Corner area where children will sell their toys, clothes, games and other items. The deadline to register is Wednesday, Sept. 13. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

John Eaton in Concert. 2 p.m. at Vinson Hall Auditorium, 6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Jazz pianist, brilliant historian and local legend John Eaton will perform a concert of Great American Songbook tunes. \$20/\$14 MCC district residents. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

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ARTS

An Artist's Look Into Great Falls Streetscape

Garden Club seeks to recoup funds after fronting streetscape project.

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

The Great Falls Garden Club is raising money to pay for its Streetscape Project, which aims to plant 17 trees along both sides of Walker Road along the Great Falls Village Centre.

American plum, fringe and redbud trees stretch between the commercial district from Georgetown Pike to the Safeway grocery store.

The garden club and the Celebrate Great Falls Foundation have a goal of raising \$20,000 for the project.

"Fourteen of the 17 trees have been planted," said Candace Campbell, a garden club member and past president. "So far, we've raised about \$14,000, I think."

Rossen Landscape in Great Falls planted all of the trees.

"They're watering the trees to make sure they make it through the summer," Campbell said. "Actually, they'll be watering the trees until the ground freezes. That's a very large part of the expense in watering them."

Jill Banks, an oil painter who lives in Fairfax and paints at the Artists' Atelier studio in the Great Falls Village Centre on Walker Road, helped with the effort by donating an original oil painting she valued at \$3,500 titled, "Village Centre Walk."

The oil painting depicts Walker Road as it may look when the 17 newly-planted trees reach maturity. The donated painting is being raffled off by the Celebrate Great Falls Foundation to support the Streetscape Project. Up to 100 raffle tickets at \$50 will be sold and can be purchased by credit card or via PayPal online at www.celebrategreatfalls.org/great-falls-streetscape.

The painting is framed and Banks also offered to paint the raffle winner into the portrait.

"She will paint them into the scene in a way that they want," Campbell said. "Maybe walking their dog or driving a classic car. That makes it a totally unique, individualized painting."



Front row, from left: Candace Campbell, Great Falls Garden Club member and Jeff Rossen of Rossen Landscape. Back row, from left: Frank Piercuccine, Celebrate Great Falls Foundation treasurer; Katie Simmons Hickey, Celebrate Great Falls Foundation vice president; Candice Burt, Great Falls Garden Club member; and Winnie Frost, Great Falls Garden Club member.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CANDACE CAMPBELL



Oil Painter Jill Banks holds her painting, "Village Centre Walk," which depicts Walker Road as it may look when the 17 newly-planted trees reach maturity. The donated painting is being raffled off by the Celebrate Great Falls Foundation to support the Streetscape Project. Up to 100 raffle tickets at \$50 will be sold and can be purchased by credit card or via PayPal online at www.celebrategreatfalls.org/great-falls-streetscape.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Hearing on the
McLean Community Center's
FY 2019 Budget
(July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019)



McLean Community Center Governing Board
Wednesday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m.

Residents who wish to speak at the Public Hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers' list. Copies of the draft budget proposal will be available during the public hearing.

Written comments may be delivered to the Center's temporary Administrative Offices (see address below) marked "Attention: Executive Director," or sent by email to george.sachs@fairfaxcounty.gov. Written comments may be provided after the public hearing up through Monday, Oct. 23.

The date of the Finance Committee Meeting of the Whole, a full board budget work session, is Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 7:30 p.m. at the Center's temporary Administrative Offices (see address below).



The McLean Community Center
Temporary Administrative Offices
6631 Old Dominion Dr., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711 | www.mcleancenter.org

MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL

Labor Day Weekend

Saturday, Sept. 2, 11:00 am-11:00 pm

Sunday, Sept. 3, 12:00 noon-6:00 pm

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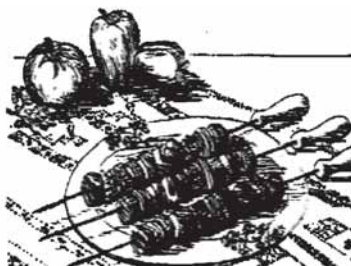
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NEWS

The Arts of Great Falls to Host Paint Great Falls Competition

Paint Great Falls: Plein Air Competition will be held Wednesday, Sept. 6 through Saturday, Sept. 9, sponsored by The Arts of Great Falls.

The community is welcome to come watch art as it's being created "en Plein Air" [outdoors]. See artists around Great Falls creating their original plein-air paintings for prizes during the competition. This is an opportunity to see the art and chat with the artists who make it. Spectators can look online for locations to find artists painting each day in Great Falls and artists can sign up online to participate at www.greatfallsart.org/paint-great-falls

Attend a reception and see the art on display during the Art Walk in the Village Friday, Sept. 8, 6-8 p.m. Start in any art studio at 756, 766 & 776 Walker Road, Great Falls Free and open to the public.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Jill Banks paints "en plein air."

WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

Historical Society to Host 'Best Kept Secret in American History'

The Great Falls Historical Society has begun its new season of programs on topics of interest to lovers of history. This year the first such program is open to the public, as well as members of the Society, according to Glen Sjoblom, President of the Great Falls Historical Society Pat Wirth, Executive Director of the non-profit Turning Point Memorial, will be speaking at the Great Falls Grange at 7 p.m. on Sept. 13. Her topic is titled, "The Best Kept Secret in American History, the Story of the Women's Suffragist Movement" and its relationship to the 19th Amendment to the U S Constitution. Donations are welcome.

Classes on Emergency Preparedness in McLean

The Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) will offer CERT 129, a basic training class, on seven Tuesday evenings in September and October at the McLean Fire Station, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean on Sept. 12, 19, 26 and Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24 from 7-10:30 p.m. Students are required to attend all seven class sessions and the final. This training does not require any physical strength or agility. This CERT Basic training follows the FEMA curriculum, and is tailored to address potential local disasters and hazards.

CERT Basic Training Class on emergency preparedness is co-sponsored by the Fairfax Co. Fire and Rescue Dept. and the McLean Citizens Association (MCA). To apply, visit bit.ly/2tXrP3L.

OBITUARY

Sally Elizabeth Hoffman Huthwaite

Sally Elizabeth Hoffman Huthwaite, 88, of Mount Pleasant, S. C., wife of the late Winton Miles Huthwaite for 49 years, died Tuesday, Aug. 8, 2017. Her Memorial Service will be held Saturday, Aug. 26, 2017 in St. Andrews Historic Church Mount Pleasant, 440 Whilden St., at 1 p.m. Arrangements by J. Henry Stuhr, Inc. Mount Pleasant Chapel.

Sally was born Nov. 11, 1928 in West Caldwell, N. J., daughter of the late Harry Higgins Hoffman and the late Elizabeth Sylvia Young Hoffman. She was a retired Medical Office Manager and a nanny. She volunteered and worked in the electoral process/voting booths, enjoyed gardening, reading, the arts and travel.

She was a former member of Fourth Presbyterian Church of Bethesda, Md.

She is survived by three sons, Daniel Huthwaite (Connie) of Great Falls, David Huthwaite (Naomi) of Leesburg, and Dwight Huthwaite (Bethany) of Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Memorials may be made to the Office of Clinical Research (for Alzheimer's), Medical University of South Carolina, 125 Doughty Street, Suite 170, MSC 195, Charleston, SC 29425, or Alzheimer's Association SC Chapter, 2090 Executive Hall Road, Suite 130, Charleston, SC 29407.

A memorial message may be sent to the family by visiting www.jhenrystuhr.com.

LETTER

FROM PAGE 4

turbing. The events in Charlottesville recall the darkest moments in both the history of this country and the Jewish people. What we saw on Friday and Saturday was an assault on our democratic society and the very values this country was founded upon. Yet the President of the United States, the leader of our country, has not once but twice defended those who would march with the Neo-Nazis and their ilk.

Our country at its best has been a beacon of hope and safety for all peoples. Hundreds of thousands gave their lives so that the forces that destroyed Europe would never set foot on American soil. President Trump's reaction to Charlottesville represented a betrayal of that noble legacy and our core American values.

Donald Trump is the leader of your party. Your refusal to speak out against him is a colossal failure of leadership, a moral abdication, and deeply troubling to Virginia's Jewish community. We urge you to break your silence and immediately denounce Donald Trump's hateful and inadequate response to the Charlottesville attack.

We are living through a moral reckoning, a time when all citizens of our great commonwealth and nation are called to defend the most fundamental values of our democracy. We ask you to immediately stand up, loudly and clearly, against those who would condone violence and hatred.

As Americans, Jews, and Virginians, we urge you to join us and immediately condemn the President's dog-whistle defense of Nazism.

Senate Democratic Leader **Dick Saslaw**, Sen. **Adam Ebbin**, Del. **Eileen Filler-Corn**, Del. **Marcus Simon**, and Del. **Mark Levine**

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

THURSDAY/AUG. 31

LGBTQ Students Information. 7-8 p.m. at Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 100, Dunn Loring. Program called "Resources for Supporting LGBTQ Students and their Families." Visit FCPS.edu for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 2

Open House. 10 a.m.-noon at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. The Vienna branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold a free, informational open house. AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Membership dues discount. Refreshments. Visit www.aauw.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 7

Shepherd's Center Caregivers Support Group. 10-11:30 a.m. at UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. This support group is designed for caregivers of adult family members. For more info contact Jack Tarr, 703-821-6838, jtarr5@verizon.net.

Adventures In Learning. 10 a.m.-noon at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Open House to see what's on the Shepherd's Center's fall semester of Adventures in Learning. Call 703-281-0538 or visit www.scov.org.

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Bathroom Humor



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I write this column in all sincerity, but what are you asking me for? A rhetorical question if there ever was one. To what I refer is the question I was asked earlier this morning by one of the home-improvement tradesman working on my upstairs bathroom. Having made significant progress on the bathroom in the five weeks or so since I published "And So It Begins," a column detailing the few facts I retained about the demolition/renovation and the anxiety I felt about it, today's task was waterproofing the shower enclosure/bathroom floor in preparation for the tile, if I understand correctly. Now, as further context, I know very little about home improvement (car repairs, computer technology, lawn and garden; shall I go on?). Moreover, I know very little Spanish. Combine the two, as happened this morning, and you are asking (literally) for trouble.

The waterproofing man arrived at 8:45 a.m. The day before, his boss/presumably the owner, had stopped by for a walk-through and to drop off materials for the job. I thought I would see him again, I was wrong. The only person on the job is the person whose English is better than my Spanish and the only Spanish I know, I know from a cartoon character, "Speedy Gonzales, the fastest mouse in all of Mexico," I grew up watching on Saturday-morning television. After directing him to the upstairs bathroom, within a few minutes, the man walked downstairs and asked/motioned for me to follow him back upstairs, I figured there was likely a question that needed answering so immediately I got off the couch to assist.

Once we were both inside the bathroom, he started pointing to the walls (front, back and sides), ceiling, niche and planned-for bench within the enclosure, to ask for - so far as I could understand, what needed to be waterproofed (I'll spare you any details about the process since I'm unlikely to do so accurately). Now, other than asking the project manager Simple-Simon-type questions about what is going on, what has gone on (literally and figuratively) and what is planned to be going on, I am out of any kind of loop. The workmen come in. I point them upstairs. Then I go into my office and mind my own business. I rarely check their progress. Generally speaking, I only look to see what's been done after they've left. I am not in anybody's way and I don't serve as any kind of resource other than answering the most basic questions: "Is that the basement door?" "Do you mind if we shut off the water?" "Is there a hardware store nearby?" As such, I am the least-bit helpful.

The man working today is new to me/the project. He's not been here before. But I did open the door to let him in and I did direct him to the upstairs bathroom. For all he knows/has experienced so far, I seem to be somewhat helpful. Ergo, after a bit, rather than calling his boss, he came back downstairs to solicit my help. Limited though I knew it would be, I was happy to try. As the conversation began, it became clear to me that not only did I not know what he was talking about (job wise), I couldn't even understand what it was that he was saying. I was lost in translation and lost in intention. As I attempted to answer/explain/guess what he was asking while we were both pointing/gesturing/talking, I quickly realized that this was a language match not made in heaven. Nevertheless, we eventually came to some sort of an understanding of the task at hand and back downstairs I went.

Sitting on the couch, I began to feel uncomfortable about the instructions I think I had just given/agreed to. As a result, I considered calling my project manager at home on a Saturday morning to get some clarity/confirmation about what I think had just transpired upstairs. Not at all bothered by my weekend intrusion, and after listening to a condensed version of this column, Stefan assured me that what seemed to be happening here was supposed to be happening.

And here I thought outliving my lung cancer prognosis by six-plus years was a miracle.

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



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