

2017
VIRGINIA
PRESS
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Award Winning
Newspaper

Great Falls CONNECTION

Plein Air artist Heike Gramckow paints outdoors at Great Falls Park during the annual Paint Great Falls: Plein Air Competition. The competition drew a record 28 artists from around the region and as far away as West Virginia.



Record Number of Artists Paint Great Falls

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Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Award Six Scholarships

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'History Secret' Presented in Great Falls

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Sold

FX9859062 - \$650,000 - Great Falls
11430 Seneca View Way: 2.4 Acre Lot
Lot located in Great Falls w/ Prior Approval for
5BR Home. Price to Sell Prior Perc Test Had
Been for 5BR Home.



Under Contract

FX9853078 - \$7,000,000 - Great Falls
Utterback Store Rd: Approximately 68 Acres of
Vacant Land w/ 2 Acre Zoning Located in
Great Falls. Breathtaking Views of Tysons Corner,
Bethesda, & the Washington Monument.



For Sale

FX9971472 - \$770,000 - Great Falls
9105 Weant Dr: 5 BR, 3.5 BA
Home on Slightly Over 1/2 Acre Close to
Potomac River & River Bend Park.



Sold

FX9962498 - \$1,269,000 - Vienna
1284 Cobble Pond Way: 5 BR, 6FB, 2HB
Captivating Details Abound in this Updated/Renovated Home.
Master Suite Offers a Sitting Room w/ Fireplace, Spa Bathroom,
& Walk-in Closet. Minutes to Tyson's, Reston, & the Metro.



Under Contract

For Sale - \$335,000 - Reston
12149 Purple Sage Ct: 3 BR, 2.5 BA
End Unit Townhouse with Large Family Room
Addition with Hardwood Floors. Fully Fenced
Backyard with Large Deck Backing to Trees.



For Sale

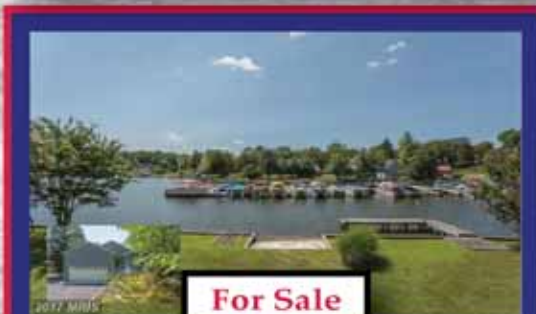
FX10001560 - \$950,000 - Great Falls
748 Kentland Dr: 5 Acre Parcel of Land with Eas Access
to Route 7. Soil Eval Test in 1992 Showed Percolation
for a 3 BR Home. Must See Opportunity for Anyone
Looking to Build a Home in Great Falls.



Under Contract

FX9835654 - \$680,000 - Springfield
17706 Gambrell Rd: 1.22 Acres of Raw Land in a
Fabulous Location. All Preliminary Engineering Done
for 3 Single Family Home Lots. Buyer Will Need to
Finalize the Engineering Process.

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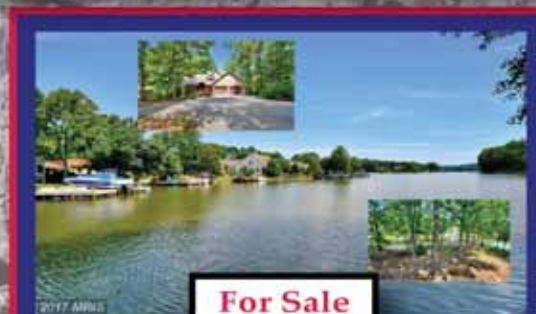
For Sale

OR9932277 - \$625,000 - Lake of the Woods
248 Washington St: 5 BR, 3 BA
Fantastic Water Views Just the Beginning. You'll
Enjoy Sailing, Swimming, or Floating from a Private
Dock. Open Floor Plan Home is Immaculate!



Under Contract

OR9958296 - \$1,250,000 - Lake of the Woods
120 Lee Cir: 5 BR, 4.5 BA
Brand New Unique & Elegant Waterfront Property
Bright & Open Interior Flows to Deck for Lakeside
Entertainment & Private Dock. Oversized Garage.



For Sale

OR10035701 - \$675,000 - Lake of the Woods
542 Harrison Cir: 3 BR, 3.5 BA
Stunning Architecture Boasts 115' of Shoreline that's
Located in a Serene Area of the Lake w/ Gourmet
Kitchen & an Incredible Outdoor Living Space.

Join us on Monday, October 9th at our:
Military Appreciation Monday (MAM)
Event at The Old Brogue in Great Falls.
We will be raising funds for the group:
Operation Second Chance

and

Join us on Wednesday, September 27th at our:
Law Appreciation Wednesday (LAW)
Event at Brx American Bistro in Great Falls.
We will be raising funds for the group:
Police Benevolent Foundation

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Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Award Six Scholarships

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

The Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Club awarded six scholarships to local women attending George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College during its 2017-18 Kickoff Luncheon on Friday, Sept. 15.

In 2016, the GFFN Scholarship Fund, Inc. established two \$25,000 endowments, one at GMU and one at NVCC. For the 2017-18 academic year, a total of \$8,500 was awarded to the six students: \$1,000 for one Bette Carter Dance Award recipient from GMU; \$1,500 each for three general scholarship recipients from GMU; and \$1,500 each for two general scholarship for NVCC students.

The women who make up the club have a long history of helping other women in their community pay for college coursework.

"The GFFN Scholarship Fund was established as a 501c3 in 1982 as a philanthropic mission of the Great Falls Women's Club," Candace Bovee, GFFN Scholarship Fund, Inc. board member, said during the luncheon. "When the Women's Club merged with the Newcomers of Great Falls, the scholarship fund was incorporated into the new organization."

THE BOARD MEMBERS of the scholarship fund are passionate about empowering women through education and develop their own fundraising activities throughout the community to raise the funds.

"Several of our past scholarship recipients have had full-time or part-time jobs, and many of them have had children or family obligations and they would not have been able to pursue their education goals without the GFFN scholarship fund assistance," Bovee said. "We are very proud to be able to help them accomplish this."

A spring fashion show at Bloomingdale's in McLean two years ago raised more than \$27,000 for the scholarship endowments, according to Bovee. More recently, Mookie's BBQ in Great Falls hosted a fundraiser with the scholarship fund on the evening of May 4, where 10 percent of all purchases went to fund the scholarships.

"It raised enough to grant one more scholarship," Bovee said.

Christine Lavin, GFFN Scholarship Fund, Inc. board member, introduced the three recipients who were able to attend the luncheon.

"They are each truly remarkable," Lavin said about all of the recipients. "Their stories and their journeys have really made an impact on me and I know they will make an impact on their communities once they graduate."

GMU Student Paige Honbarrier, the 2017 Bette Carter Dance Award recipient, is using the scholarship to help pay for prerequisite coursework needed for her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. After college, she hopes



For the 2017-18 academic year, the GFFN Scholarship Fund, Inc. awarded six scholarships for a total of \$8,500. Board members and scholarship recipients who attended the reception, from left: Wanda Miller, Christine Lavin and Candace Bovee, GFFN Scholarship Fund, Inc. board members; Paige Honbarrier, 2017 Bette Carter Dance Award Scholarship recipient and GMU student; Asma Sultana, 2017 general scholarship recipient and GMU student; Lun Lungsway, 2017 general scholarship recipient and NVCC student; Mary Bramley, assistant director of the NVCC Educational Foundation; and Marie Reilly, GFFN Scholarship Fund, Inc. board member, and Jean McNeal GFFN member.



Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Club Member Judie Keithley helped President Missy Perkins pull the winning ticket for the luncheon's 50-50 raffle. Half of the proceeds collected were to be donated to the Friends of the Riverbend Park while the other half was to be given to the holder of the winning ticket. Sandra Crippen was the winner, but she instructed Perkins to give her winnings to the Friends of the Riverbend Park. A total of \$970 will be donated.



Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Club President Missy Perkins speaks to the membership during the luncheon about joining the club only four years prior to becoming the group's leader and how she looked forward to the year to come.

to dance professionally and teach school children in a public school setting.

While introducing GMU Student Asma Sultana, a 2017 recipient of a general scholarship, the room roared in applause and audible gasps when they found out she was pursuing her degree while also raising three children.

"Miss Sultana is maintaining a 4.0 GPA while also raising three young boys," Lavin said.

Sultana is an instructional assistant with the Head Start program with Fairfax County Public Schools and has a goal of becoming an early childhood education teacher.

NVCC Student Lun Lungsway, a 2017 general scholarship recipient, is a refugee from Myanmar, whose father and brother were killed during a civil war between armed ethnic groups.

"She tells me that during these early years of her life, she saw many people suffering, some from disabilities," Lavin said. "And that is where she was first inspired to help others, a dream that has carried her through today where she is working toward her goal of studying occupational therapy."

ESTABLISHED IN 1983 out of a desire to provide financial assistance for women

pursuing degrees in higher education, the GFFN Scholarship Fund, Inc. is a nonprofit organization run by a seven-member board of directors. Scholarships are awarded to women over the age of 25 who are residents of northern Virginia and attend George Mason University or Northern Virginia Community College. A dance student at GMU is awarded each year in the name of former GFFN Club member Bette Carter.

"To all of our students, we are so happy to be a part of your journeys and wish you the best of luck and success in the academic year ahead," Lavin said. "You are truly an inspiration."

'History Secret' Presented in Great Falls

Pat Wirth discusses the history of the Women's suffragist movement

BY GLEN SJOBLUM
PRESIDENT, GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On Sept. 13, Pat Wirth, the invited speaker at the Great Falls Historical Society at the Grange, told the history of the Women's suffragist movement

About 45 members attended the talk titled "The Best Kept Secret in American History." It was a sad and poignant story of how millions of courageous and determined women led a 72-year, nationwide struggle to win the right for women to vote that culminated in passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution in 1920 when Woodrow Wilson was President.

In 1848 Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott convened the first women's rights convention in Seneca Falls, N.Y. In 1872, Susan B. Anthony was arrested and physically abused when she attempted to vote and was convicted of the crime of "voting." She dedicated her entire life to suffrage, but did not live to see it become a reality.

The National American Woman Suffrage Association was led by Carrie Chapman Catt. She also founded the League of Women Voters. The National Woman's Party was led by Alice Paul, who believed that an Amendment to the Constitution was required. Catt's initial plan was to win suffrage state-by-state. Catt's approach evolved in agreement with Paul.

Paul met with President Wilson in early January 1917 pressing for his support for a Constitutional Amendment; she was rebuffed and told that he could do nothing and that it was a state issue. Immediately Paul began scheduling her members to picket the White House from dawn to dusk Monday through Saturday regardless of the weather. In June he began having these "Silent Sentinels" arrested.

Every woman refused to pay the fine levied against them saying they had not broken the law. As a result, hundreds were convicted and jailed.

SCORES WERE IMPRISONED right here in Fairfax County, at the Occoquan Workhouse in Lorton where they were kept in inhumane conditions, fed rotting food and physically and mentally brutalized. When they went on hunger strikes, they were forced fed.

Lucy Burns, who co-founded the National Woman's Party with Alice Paul, was frequently kept in solitary confinement for months to keep her away from the others lest she cause an uprising.

On Nov. 14, 1917, what is now known as the Night of Terror, Superintendent Whittaker instructed his guards to physically abuse and intimidate a group of 30 women aged 19 to 73 being transferred into his facility to show them "who was in charge." When word of this egregious abuse leaked by Congresswoman Jeannette Rankin, all of the women were released.

Media pressure together with the D.C. Court of Appeals ruling in January that the arrests, convictions and imprisonment of all these women were illegal, forced President Wilson to go to Congress on Jan. 9, 1918 in support of a Constitutional Amendment. This was the turning point.



Pat Wirth, the Executive Director of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association, speaks at the Grange in Great Falls.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Pat Wirth, pictured with Glen Sjoblom and Doug Cobb of the Great Falls Historical Society.

The House immediately approved the amendment on Jan. 10, 1918, but it took until June 4, 1919 when the Senate approved the amendment and sent it to the states for ratification. The ratification process was arduous and involved hundreds of thousands of suffragists pounding the pavement and knocking on doors until passed by a single vote in the Tennessee state legislature, the 36th State.

Although it became the law of the land on Aug. 26, 1920 there were years of controversy and many states took decades to ratify the Amendment. The final eight states to ratify were all southern states beginning with Virginia in 1952 and ending with Mississippi in 1984.

PAT WIRTH is the Executive Director of the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association. She is raising \$2 million needed to build a national memorial to honor and tell the history of those many courageous women who led the fight for their freedom to vote. Their goal is to have the memorial dedicated in August 2020, the centennial anniversary of ratification of the 19th Amendment. The planned memorial has been designed by Robert E. Beach a member of the Fairfax County History Commission, and will be built on land donated by NOVA Parks that is part of the historic prison grounds where suffragists were jailed in 1917. Wirth stated that additional information about the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial and how to make a donation is available at www.suffragistmemorial.org. Wirth can be reached at pwirth@suffragistmemorial.org or 703-201-3171 to answer questions.

This talk was the first of seven speakers on history that are planned for the year. Visit Great Falls Historical Society at gfhs.org, and you can come to hear the other six speakers.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police officers responded to the scene of the crash on Beach Mill Road near the intersection of Springvale Road around 7 p.m. on Saturday night.

Two Dead In Great Falls Crash

Benjamin Wenger, 26, of Annandale and Abigail Ryan, 23, of Great Falls died in a crash after their car ran off the road and hit a tree at the 10500 block of Beach Mill Road near the intersection of Springvale Road in Great Falls on Saturday night, Sept. 16, according to the Fairfax County Police Department.

Wenger, who was driving, and Ryan, who was in the passenger seat, were pronounced dead on the scene, according to police. A 15-year-old female who was in the backseat was taken to a local hospital with

life-threatening injuries, according to police.

Detectives from the FCPD Crash Reconstruction Unit are investigating the crash. A preliminary examination discovered the white 2018 INFINITI Q50 was going west on Beach Mill Road when it left the roadway in a northbound direction, according to police. It then crossed back over the road toward the south and struck a tree.

Anyone who witnessed the crash may call 1-866-411-TIPS (8477) to provide information to the police.

WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

White House Ornaments on Sale

Great Falls Friends and Neighbors (GFFN) is selling White House ornaments to benefit Artemis House. The shelter is the only one of its kind in Fairfax County, serving women and children exclusively who are victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

This year's ornament honors President Franklin Delano Roosevelt with a large gold eagle on one side, a replica of the eagle on the podium of his first inaugural address, and the other side is a White House winter scene complete with the President's Scottish terrier dog Fala. All proceeds go

directly to benefit Artemis House. The cost is \$25 per piece, or \$22 each for the purchase of 10 or more.

Ornaments are now available for purchase at:

GREAT DOGS

9859 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls
703-759-3601

STUDIO HAIR

10123 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls
703-757-2330

STUDIO HAIR

12190 Fairfax Towne Center, Fairfax
703-261-6268

BURKE JEWELERS

1478 North Point Village Center, Reston
703-478-2203

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday at noon.

Haven of Northern Virginia provides support, compassion, information and resources to the bereaved and seriously ill. To become a Haven volunteer, please call 703-941-7000 to request an

orientation. Volunteers must complete a 30-hour training and commit to one year of service answering Haven phones (2.5 hours weekly). Next training is scheduled for fall 2017.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill

SEE FAITH, PAGE 10

Celebrate Great Falls Foundation presented a check for \$25,500 to Forestville Elementary, Great Falls Elementary and Colvin Run Elementary

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



Great Falls Donates to Local Schools

On Sept. 7, Celebrate Great Falls Foundation presented a check for \$25,500 to Forestville Elementary, Great Falls Elementary and Colvin Run Elementary. This check, which will be equally divided among the three schools represents the proceeds from the 11th Annual Charity Golf Tournament that took place on May 22, 2017 at Hidden Creek Golf Club and the Online Silent Auction that accompanied it.

Volunteers from all three schools work for months to secure sponsors, golfers, donations and more volunteers. "We have a lot of fun while we work, It is a unique event that pulls together our entire community in support of one shared mission.....more resources for our schools and our children," said Erin Lobato, Director of Celebrate Great Falls Foundation and parent of a Forestville Elementary sixth grader. "The golf committee has raised more than \$150,000 for the schools since it began donating the proceeds of the event to the schools," said Golf Committee Chair, Matt Matay. Three years ago, at the suggestion of new neighbor and volunteer powerhouse Missy Perkins, the committee put the silent auction online and dramatically increased the money raised. Two years ago, another volunteer dynamo, Deanna Keys, led the team to add more than 100 items to the online silent auction which further enhanced this fundraiser.

Tim Burke and his wife, Leigh Burke chaired this event for many years and created a fun-filled day of golf that was broadly supported by the larger Great Falls community. Last year, Matt Matay (father of a Great Falls Elementary sixth grader) took over as Chair after having been a part of the committee for 10 years. Matay is looking to expand the committee and build on the success of this Great Falls tradition next year.

All three principals and representatives from each

PTA were pleased to receive the additional funding. Katie Baird (Forestville PTA President) and Todd Franklin (Forestville Principal) plan to use their portion to supplement the planned playground renovation with a climbing wall and dome. Colvin Run Principal Ken Junge will consult with the Colvin Run PTO, teachers and staff before finalizing plans for their \$8,500 check. Great Falls Principal Sara Harper will do the same with the Great Falls PTA. Hayden Matay, a Great Falls sixth grader, hopes that some of the funds will go towards new computers for the news team.

All three principals and PTA representatives acknowledged that this golf tournament and auction provide a significant portion of their funding every year. Franklin noted, "We are very grateful for the time and effort from the community and the camaraderie built as a part of this effort." Two longtime serving committee members, Barbara Morehouse and Lisa Cuomo look forward to working with friends and neighbors from across the three school communities every year to give something back.

Meredith Broome, a new member of the golf committee and GFES parent of a fourth grader, would like to get the kids involved more next year and hopes to get a putting contest going at each school culminating in a little competition between the three schools on tournament day. Everyone agreed that this would be a fun way to grow the tournament.

The tournament and silent auction require a small army of volunteers. The following neighbors led the charge as part of the 2017 Golf Committee: Matt Matay, Barbara Morehouse, Lisa Cuomo, Erin Lobato, Meredith Broome, Larisa Caicedo, Julie Rothmeijer, Maryellen Moline, Dianne Emery, Monica Buroker. Contact Erin Lobato at erinlobato@celebrategreatfalls.org if you are interested in helping with the 2018 Golf Tournament or Auction.

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OPINION

Voting Every Year, But Always Critical

League of Women Voters provides forums to learn about the candidates.

Every year is Election Year in Virginia, and each year the election matters. This year, all the members of the Virginia House of Delegates are up for reelection, along with statewide races for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General.

So many things are at stake. The deadline to register to vote in the General Election on Nov. 7, or update an existing registration, is Monday, Oct. 16.

Of the 30 incumbents in the Virginia House of Delegates who are running unopposed, 11 are in Northern Virginia: Mark Keam (D-35); Ken Plum (D-36); David Bulova (D-37); Vivian Watts (D-39); Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41); Mark Sickles (D-43); Paul Krizek (D-44); Mark Levine (D-45); Charniele Herring (D-46); Patrick Hope (D-47); and Rip Sullivan (D-48).

Marcus Simon (D-53) faces no Republican challenger, but will face Mike Casey, an Independent.

In Northern Virginia, there is only one open seat, the 42nd, vacated by Dave Albo (R) who says he can't afford to continue dedicate so much time to the legislature at the expense of his law practice. Kathy Tran (D) faces Lolita Mancheno-Smoak (R).

Other contested races: Kathleen Murphy (D-34) faces Cheryl Buford (R). Kaye Kory (D-38) faces Paul Haring (R). Tim Hugo (R-40) faces

Donte Turner (D). Alfonso Lopez (D-49) faces Adam Roosevelt (R). Jim LeMunyon (R-67) faces Karrie Delaney (D). Jennifer Boysko (D-86) faces Linda Schulz (R).

The local Connection newspaper to each of these races has covered or will write about each contested race; you can find the stories on our website.

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) will hold both in-person and televised forums for the public to learn about the candidates who are running for election to the Virginia House of Delegates.

❖ Thursday, Sept. 28 at 7 p.m. at Providence Community Center: 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax. Invited candidates: Mark L. Keam (D), David L. Bulova (D), Eileen Filler-Corn (D), Kathy K.L. Tran (D), Lolita I. Mancheno-Smoak (R), Marcus B. Simon (D), and Mike S. Casey (I).

❖ Thursday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. at Hayfield Secondary School, Lecture Hall: 7630 Telegraph Road, Alexandria. Invited candidates: L. Kaye Kory (D), Paul B. Haring (R), Vivian E. Watts (D), Mark D. Sickles (D), Paul E. Krizek (D), Mark H. Levine (D), Alfonso H. Lopez (D), and Adam Roosevelt (R).

❖ Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Sully Government Center: 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. Invited candidates: Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum (D), David L. Bulova (D), Donte T. Tanner (D), Timothy D. "Tim" Hugo (R), Karrie K. Delaney (D), James M. "Jim" LeMunyon (R), Jennifer R. Boysko (D), and Linda C. Schulz

(R).

The remaining televised forum at Fairfax County Public Access are on Channel 10 or livestreamed on YouTube "Inside Scoop Livestream." The public can submit questions by email to theinsidescooptv@gmail.com or call 571-749-1142 between 7-8:30 p.m. Tune in on:

❖ Monday, Oct. 2 at 8 p.m.: Invited candidates: Kathleen J. Murphy (D), Cheryl A. Buford (R), Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum (D), Donte T. Tanner (D), Timothy D. "Tim" Hugo (R), R.C. "Rip" Sullivan, Jr. (D), Karrie K. Delaney (D), James M. "Jim" LeMunyon (R), Jennifer R. Boysko (D), and Linda C. Schulz (R).

Killing the Poor to Pay Millionaires, Current Attempt

Because the current effort in the Senate to vote on "repeal and replace" for the Affordable Care Act is, if anything, worse than the previous attempts in substance, I hope that you will read my previous editorial from June. <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jun/27/opinion-editorial-killing-poor-pay-millionaires/>

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Taking the Call

BY LIZ BARNES
PRS CRISISLINK VOLUNTEER



Beginning as a volunteer at PRS CrisisLink started for simple, altruistic reasons. I wanted to make a difference and show myself and my family the importance of giving back to others. The experience at Northern Virginia's hotline and textline was something far

more than I imagined it would be.

Training taught me that before you can help, you must listen. You must listen to understand, not listen to solve a problem. This is easier said than done because when someone is suffering, all anyone wants to do is fix it for them.

I learned people have incredible strength which turns into resilience and despite how much I love to give advice, people are already experts in their own lives. I also learned how many people feel lonely even when they are surrounded by others mostly because of the shame and isolation their experiences bring them. Above all,

I learned how important it is to always maintain a community connection through volunteering. If we can give

back, we must; the need is never going away.

Taking calls on the hotline has changed my life and all my experiences at PRS CrisisLink have made me a better human being. The passion I have for helping others has only intensified the more I listen. So many people have said to me "Oh, I could never work on a crisis hotline. It's too scary." Sometimes I would laugh and reply gently about how helping is important.

Now, after five years, I am a little bolder. Yes, it can be anxiety provoking to answer calls in which people are concretely thinking about ending their lives. Yes, having to make life-saving decisions on a phone line is stressful. However, it is an extreme privilege to witness the courage and vulnerability each person must have to



Volunteers at the PRS CrisisLink call center.

reach out when they are in that much pain. Furthermore, I am honored to be the person to listen in the moments where someone is lonely and hurting with no one else to call.

The honor I felt in these moments left me desiring to train other volunteers. I joined CrisisLink's training team. Through this, I have learned what it takes to be successful in this kind of work. Empathy, a desire to learn consistently, distress-tolerance, life-experience and a sincere desire to help others is the make-up of every one of our team members. Our volunteers include lawyers, teachers, stay-at-home parents, veterans, human service workers, architects, nurses, students, clergy,

law enforcement, and more — each offering 3-4 hours a week for an entire year to our life-saving services. Mental illness impacts more than the one person experiencing the crisis. It impacts our families, friends and community at large. This September, PRS is supporting National Suicide Prevention Month through the #CallTextLive Campaign, which has a number of ways to get involved that encourage dialogue about suicide. Talking about suicide will help more people feel comfortable to call or text a hotline. When they do, I stand ready to listen.

To volunteer, contact PRS at 703-531-6351.

Great Falls
CONNECTION

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LETTERS

Supporting Gillespie for Governor

To the Editor:

The first job of our governor is to keep us safe and secure. 2017 Republican gubernatorial nominee Ed Gillespie understands the critical nature of this responsibility and is prepared to act on it.

Over the last couple of months, Gillespie has participated in multiple ride-alongs with local law enforcement and has seen first-hand the criminal activity occurring in our state. He knows that issues related to gangs like MS-13 have gone unaddressed for far too long. I know he will be the leader that steps up and does something about it.

Gillespie recently put forward a plan to combat gangs, reduce crime, and provide support for the brave men and women who selflessly serve their communities to make our Commonwealth safer. Boosting compensation for law enforcement, reinstating Project Exile, securing funding for the Northern Virginia Regional Task force and banning sanctuary cities will be just some of the major priori-

ties of the Gillespie administration.

Gillespie's commitment to keeping us safe extends beyond just the state and local levels, he also is a major supporter of our military. He understands that Virginia will benefit economically from President Trump's initiative to build up our military and wants to make sure that Virginia plays a leading role. Long gone will be the days when President Obama's Sequestration stunted our state's economy. With Gillespie in the governor's office, we will build more ships and submarines in Newport News, dredge our channel and bolster our cyber security presence. Under his leadership, we will become the most veteran-friendly state in the nation.

Gillespie's policies will provide important wins for our safety and our economic future. I'll be proud to cast my vote for him in November, and I hope that you will join me.

Genaro Pedroarias
Great Falls



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SCHOOLS

Churchill Road students Dylan and Blake Davis accept a Hurricane Harvey donation from fellow student Sean Shuai, while Joseph Hoeymans thanks Max Murray for his contribution (background).

PHOTO BY KIM MORAN



Coin Drive Raises \$3,000 for Hurricane Relief

Churchill Road Elementary School sponsored a coin drive to help those impacted by Hurricane Harvey. A special thank you is extended to the many parent volunteers who coordinated the relief effort and ensured that students were stationed in key locations around the school during morning arrival to collect donations.

Some of the students got a head start on the coin drive over the long Labor Day weekend. First grader Alexis Nied and kindergartener Alexandra Closs held a bake sale to benefit the victims of Hurricane Harvey in Houston and affected areas, and sold chocolate-chip cookies in front of McLean Hardware store. The girls and their parents appreciated McLean Hardware's support of their bake sale. Another group of Churchill Road students, including sixth graders Audrey Herlands and Peter Thoreson, and second graders Emily Foley and Audrey Thoreson provided water in exchange for donations to aid Hurricane Harvey victims.

Thanks to the generosity of the Churchill Road community and the entrepreneurial spirit of some of the students, more than \$3,000 was raised on behalf of the Red Cross.



PHOTO BY CECELIA CLOSS

Churchill Road students Alexandra Closs and Alexis Nied held a successful bake sale to benefit the victims of Hurricane Harvey.



PHOTO BY KATHRYN THORESON

Churchill Road students Audrey Herlands, Emily Foley, Audrey and Peter Thoreson held a water drive to raise money for Hurricane Harvey victims.

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New Year, New Teacher

How to identify effective teachers.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As a new school year got underway this month, Sebla Tobin, a family therapist in Rockville, Md., noticed an uptick in the number of her patients who are parents, expressing concern about the teachers their children had been assigned.

“So many parents are leery of new teachers or teachers who are young,” she said. “I encourage them to give the teacher a chance before passing judgment and marching into the principal’s office to ask for a different teacher. Just because a teacher graduated from college last spring doesn’t mean that they won’t be effective. And a teacher who’s been in the classroom for 20 years may be jaded and grumpy.”

Teacher effectiveness is a concern among parents as the school year gets underway, says Tobin, and she points to research which shows how teachers can affect student achievement. A 2011 study from Harvard and Columbia universities showed a link between effective teachers and students who were more likely to attend college, have lower teenage pregnancy rates and other positive outcomes. So what qualities constitute an effective teacher?

Effective teachers are knowledgeable of the subjects they are teaching, says Pamela Garner, Ph.D. professor of Childhood Studies at George Mason University. “Effective teachers are able to transfer that knowledge to students who have different comprehension levels,” she said.

Creating a classroom environment that is safe for student learning is also important, adds Garner. “Overall, effective teachers work hard to create a positive classroom climate which is characterized by providing opportunities for student input in decision making and support for individual differences,” she said.

Setting high expectations for all students, but realizing that students have a variety of abilities, is an important factor, believes Jessica Lewis, Ed.D., professor of education at Marymount University. “For some students getting a C is like a medal of honor and that’s OK,” said Lewis. “Students want to do well and be pushed, but pushed with support. Knowing that a teacher understands the student and their abilities sends a positive message that the teacher is on their side when it comes to learning.”

A teacher who is able to demonstrate genuine concern for students is necessary to create an effective learning environment, adds Lewis. “Parents often say ‘I want a teacher who knows their content,’ but I al-



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

A positive classroom helps welcome students back to school is an important factor in student learning, says Pamela Garner, Ph.D. of George Mason University.

ways go back to ‘does the teacher care?’ If a teacher doesn’t care, then they’re not going to be effective. An effective teacher motivates students to want to learn.”

An ability to form a strong relationship with students is another characteristic that Lewis believes is important. “The more rapidly the teachers can get to know the individual students and things they enjoy like their hobbies, the sports they like, the sooner that teacher can see that students are real little people behind those names,” she said. “As a teacher you have to put the heart first and policy second. What factors are going on at home that

can throw the student for a loop. If you have a caring adult to say, ‘Hey do you want to talk about it?’ that can make a big difference.”

An effective teacher accepts students for and where they are, adds Lewis. “Students can learn more from a teacher when the teacher shows that they care,” she said.

“An effective teacher motivates students to want to learn.”

— Jessica Lewis, Ed.D.,
Marymount University

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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. The draft budget proposal is available on the Center's website. Copies will be available at 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 McLean Community Center
Temporary Administrative Offices
6631 Old Dominion Dr., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711 | www.mcleancenter.org

NEWS

Great Falls Library Announces Adult Summer Reading Winner

"Are you pulling my leg?" That's what Mike Pahner of Great Falls had to say when he was told that he was the lucky winner of the library's second annual Adult Summer Reading Adventure (ASRA) grand prize gift basket. Over 10 weeks this summer local residents turned in 70 ASRA reading logs and Pahner was randomly chosen as the winner. The gift basket, provided by the Friends of the Great Falls Library, contains more than \$200 worth of items including a Kindle Paperwhite, a Barnes & Noble gift card, Starbucks gift card, and reading themed mug and tea. He plans to share the prizes with his wife.

Each completed reading log lists five books that were read by the participant this summer. Pahner is an avid reader who comes to the library nearly every other day and reads more than 200 books per year. His winning reading log lists "Gunmetal Gray" by Mark Greaney and "Sea Power: The History and Geopolitics of the World's Oceans" by James Stavridis among others. Books read by participants ranged from classics to new bestsellers, fiction and nonfiction, mysteries and thrillers, biogra-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Winner Mike Pahner, right, with James Cullen, Assistant Branch Manager.

phy, young adult fiction, romance and everything in between. Later this fall look for a display at the library containing books read and highly rated by Great Falls residents.

In 2016 the Great Falls Library had 57 returned reading logs and have built on that number this year.

Super H 5K Run, Walk and Wheel To Benefit Those with Disabilities

MedStar National Rehabilitation Network (MedStar NRN) will host the 14th annual Super H 5K Run, Walk & Wheel on Sunday, Sept. 24 for runners, walkers and adaptive athletes. The event begins and ends at the Sport & Health Club in Tysons Corner (8250 Greensboro Drive, McLean). Registration begins at 7 a.m., and the race begins at 8 a.m. The post-race party begins at 9 a.m., with free food and refreshments.

All proceeds from the race support MedStar NRN's adaptive sports programs. These programs enable athletes with disabilities to compete in various sports such as wheelchair basketball, wheelchair tennis, sled hockey, quad rugby, sit volleyball, hand cycling, rowing and more.

Funds raised from the Super H race have recently helped the MedStar NRN wheelchair basketball team place in the top tier in the national

wheelchair basketball tournament and is helping some of our paralympic athletes attempt to make it onto the U.S. Paralympic team.

"It is a thrill to see the adaptive athletes take off on their hand cycles, wheelchairs and some with just crutches doing the same event able-bodied athletes do...just a little differently," said Harry Freedman, founder of the Super H 5K.

The race registration fee of \$35 after Sept. 1 supports the Adaptive Sports Program with MedStar NRN for children and adults with physical disabilities to pursue healthy, active lifestyles through recreational and competitive sports. On-site registration on race day is \$40. Online registration closes on Friday, Sept. 22.

Packet pick up will take place on race day, Sun. Sept. 24 at registration at Sport & Health.

For more information and to register online, go to: MedStarNRH.org/SuperH5K.

FAITH NOTES

FROM PAGE 4

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

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

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

The S.P.O.T for Youth, Wednesday's at 7 p.m. A place where youth can come together and pray, ask questions about the faith and receive mentorship. The spot is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard Street, NW Vienna.

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

For those struggling physically or spiritually, on the first Sunday of each month, **Christ the King Lutheran Church** offers a rite of healing as part of worship; the opportunity to be anointed with oil and prayed over. During the healing rite, the pastor or another person says a short prayer while two people lay hands on the recipient. Then the pastor or helper anoints them with oil as a sign of God's healing and forgiveness. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call 703-759-6068 or visit www.gflutheran.org.

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.

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.

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.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 22

Kings Dominion Trip. 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Kings Dominion has roller coasters to musical dance shows and carnival games. Admission to the theme park is included in the fee. \$80/\$70 MCC district residents. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

Wildfire Scotch Dinner. 6:30-9 p.m. at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, 3rd floor, McLean. Executive Chefs Moreno Espinoza and Edwin Amaya prepare a custom four-course menu each paired with a handcrafted single malt scotch from Dalmore, located in the heart of the Scottish Highlands. \$125. Call 703-442-9110.

"The Princess Bride" Movie. 7 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Admission and popcorn are free. Prop bags are \$5 each. Visit www.aldentheatre.org.

Fairfax Genealogical Society

Monthly Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire Station, 2148 Gallows Road, Vienna. "Discovering Your Immigrant's Origins" presented by Rich Venezia. Visit www.fxgs.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 23

Fun Fall Bazaar and Market. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Great Falls UMC Annual sale Shops, bake sale, books, silent auction, children's activities, Appraisal Roadshow, and BBQ dinner. Call Lois 703-759-2843.



Road Rally

Friday, Oct. 13 is the first day of the British Car Tour for Military Kids. 9:30 a.m. A 750-mile maiden American tour through the hills and autumn foliage of Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia. Called the DC Area America's Reliability Run, it's a fundraiser for Our Military Kids, a nonprofit in McLean. Visit www.ourmilitarykids.org or call Judy McSpadden at 703-734-6654.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 24

Run, Walk and Wheel. 7 a.m. at the Sport & Health Club in Tysons Corner, 8250 Greensboro Drive, McLean. MedStar National Rehabilitation Network will host the 14th annual race. Call 571-218-7594.

50th Anniversary Commemoration and Luncheon.

10:15 a.m. at The Church of the Good Shepherd (United Methodist), 2351 Hunter Mill Road. Visit www.GoodShepherdVA.com or call 703-281-3987.

Teddy Bear 5K and 1K. 2-6 p.m. at Pimmit Hills Park, 7230 Idylwood Road. All proceeds from this event go to Falls Church-McLean Children's Center. Visit potomac.enmotive.com/events.

Amadeus Orchestra. 4 p.m. at Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Soloist Emil Chudnovsky makes his Amadeus debut in Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. Visit www.amadeusconcerts.com.

MONDAY/SEPT. 25

Charity Golf Tournament. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Westfield's Golf Club, 13940 Balmoral Greens Ave., Clifton. Annual Family PASS golf to benefit the working homeless Families of Fairfax County. Visit www.familypassfairfax.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 29

Meet the Artist. 10 a.m.-noon in rooms 1 and 2 at the Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. A presentation by local artist Gwen Bragg, an artist member of the Virginia Watercolor Society and the National Watercolor Society, and past president of the Potomac Valley Watercolorist. Call 703 356-2998.

Dance Party. 7-10 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Teens can enjoy catered food and drinks while immersing themselves in music played by a DJ, for 7th-12th graders. \$5. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 30

Books, Movies, CD Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Free. Call 703-938-0405.

Harvest Happenings. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Luke's School, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Live entertainment, a petting zoo, crafts and games. All activities are free, except for the cost of purchasing pumpkins for crafts activities and food concessions. Visit

www.mcleancenter.org.

SUNDAY/OCT. 1

Books, Movies, CD Sale. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Free. Sunday only, fill shopping bag for \$5. Call 703-938-0405.

FRIDAY/OCT. 6

2017 Community Leadership Award Presentation. 6:30 p.m. at McLean Hilton Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive. Honoring Mark and Brenda Moore. Visit www.leadershipfairfax.org/.

OCT. 6-8

Annual Used Book Sale. Friday 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday noon-4 p.m. at the Spring Hill Recreation Center, 1239 Spring Hill Road, McLean. Hosted by the McLean Area Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) featuring the auction of a signed Washington National Max Scherzer shirt and cap. Visit www.aauw.org/.

OCT. 6-9

Glass Art Exhibit. Various times at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant Street, NW. "Catching Eyes with Watercolor and Glass" with Carole Choucair Oueijan.

SATURDAY/OCT. 7

Stuff the Truck Food Drive. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Safeway, 9881 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Benefit for Committee for Helping Others (CHO) and Artemis House to provide emergency food aid to those in need in Vienna, Oakton, Dunn Loring and Merrifield. Artemis House is Fairfax County's only 24-hour emergency shelter for victims of domestic and sexual violence, stalking and human trafficking. Sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the Great Falls Baha'is as part of the regional Day to Serve initiative. Visit www.daytoserve.org/.

Vienna Oktoberfest. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. along Church St., Vienna. Live entertainment on three stages, beer, food, games, German Auto Show. Visit www.viennaoktoberfest.org/.

Fall Fest. 3-7 p.m. at Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Featuring local food, music, wine tasting, children's activities, and a fabulous silent auction. Call 703-450-0321 or visit www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org/.



McLean
Community
Center
The Center of It All



Here's What's Happening at MCC

The Old Firehouse Teacher Workday Trip Thunderbolt Go Karting

Friday, Sept. 22, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

\$75/\$65 MCC district residents

1440 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean, Va. 22101



Presented by The Alden

The Princess Bride Quote-Along Movie

Friday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m.

Admission and popcorn are free.

Prop bags are \$5 each.

The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd.,
McLean, Va. 22101

The Old Firehouse After 7 Dance Party

Friday, Sept. 29, 7-10 p.m.

Admission: \$5

1440 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean, Va. 22101



Harvest Happenings

Saturday, Sept. 30, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

New Location! St. Luke's School

7005 Georgetown Pike

McLean Va. 22101

Free Admission

Take a Day Away!

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania - Eisenhower Farm

Tuesday, Oct. 3

7:15 a.m.-7 p.m.

\$145/\$140 MCC district residents



Join in McLean's Fun Run!

McLean 5K

Saturday, Oct. 7, 8 a.m.

McLean Square Shopping Center

6627 Old Dominion Dr., McLean, Va. 22101

Registration: \$35/\$40 day of race



The McLean Community Center

www.mcleancenter.org

Home of the Alden Theatre

www.aldentheatre.org



Administrative Offices
6631 Old Dominion Dr.
McLean, VA 22101

703-790-0123, TTY: 711





Competition Winners are, front row – from left: Rachel Garcia Palmer, Ann Schaefer, Amelia Cheuk, and Darcie Pike; back row – Lorrie Herman, Margaret Power, Lori Goll, and Tim Clayton.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Plein Air artist Heike Gramckow paints outdoors at Great Falls Park during the annual Paint Great Falls: Plein Air Competition.

Record Number of Artists Paint Great Falls

Paint Great Falls: Plein Air Competition drew a record 28 artists from around the region and as far away as West Virginia. The third annual event, sponsored by The Arts of Great Falls, challenged artists to paint Great Falls scenes in “plein air” (outdoors). Favorite painting spots over the three-day competition were Great Falls Park, Turner Farm, the Ash Garden, and Riverbend Park. The community could join in by visiting artists’ painting locations from an online list.

Competitors turned in finished works for the Art Walk in the Village on Friday evening, and then submitted up to two pieces Saturday afternoon for judging. From the 48 paintings submitted, Competition Judge Nicholaus Aman, of Clifton, announced the winners at the Awards & Collectors Reception Saturday night.

Aman named first place \$500 to Lori Goll (Enchanted Path), second place \$250 to Tim

Clayton (Turner Farm at Morning), and third place \$100 to Margaret Power (Turner Farm). The People’s Choice \$150 – voted on by all attending the reception – went to Rachel Garcia Palmer (Tranquility). Honorable mention was given to Amelia Cheuk, Lorrie Herman, Darcie Pike, and Ann Schaefer. Celebrate Great Falls Foundation provided the prize money for the third year.

“We are thrilled to have so many participants come from all over. This year’s weather made for a perfect few days of plein air painting for the artists,” said Julie Casso, executive director of The Arts of Great Falls Foundation. The entries will be on exhibit through September in The Arts of Great Falls Gallery. View



Lori Goll and awards reception guests hear comments about Goll’s 1st place painting from competition judge Nicholaus Aman.

the show Saturday mornings from 10 a.m.-noon, now through Sept. 30. All art is available for purchase.



Paint Great Falls participant Marjorie Sharer finds a secluded garden spot to paint.

The Alden in McLean Presents Cellist Matt Haimovitz

The Alden in McLean presents internationally renowned cellist Matt Haimovitz in a multi-part performance of “A Moveable Feast” on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 14 and 15, at various locations around McLean.

On Saturday, Oct. 14, McLean residents should be on the lookout for Haimovitz as he will be offering small tastes of the “Feast” at various locations around town, such as the McLean Project for the Arts’ MPA@ChainBridge Gallery (1446 Chain Bridge Road), Dolley Madison Library (1244 Oak Ridge Ave.) and even Spring Hill RECenter (1239 Spring Hill Road).

The full concert, on Sunday, Oct. 15, will take place at The Old Firehouse Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road. Tickets are \$20, \$14 for Dranesville tax district residents. The Israeli-born soloist will perform Bach’s moving and spiritual “Suites for Unaccompanied Cello” in a program

offering a brilliant musical variation on the concept of “A Moveable Feast.” He pairs each of Bach’s beloved works with newly commissioned suites by Philip Glass, Du Yun, Vijay Iyer and others. This concert will feature six suites and their accompanying partner works.

Renowned as a musical pioneer, cellist Matt Haimovitz has inspired classical music lovers and countless new listeners by bringing his artistry to concert halls and clubs, outdoor festivals and intimate coffee houses — any place where passionate music can be heard. He brings a fresh ear to familiar repertoire, champions new music and initiates groundbreaking collaborations. Through his visionary approach, Haimovitz is re-defining what it means to be an artist for the 21st century. Besides his relentless touring schedule, he mentors an award-winning studio of young cellists at McGill University’s Schulich School of Mu-

Matt Haimovitz will perform in McLean on Oct. 15-15.

PHOTO BY
STEPHANIE MCKINNON



sic in Montreal.

Haimovitz studied at the Collegiate School in New York and at the Juilliard School, in the final class of Leonard Rose, after which he continued his cello studies with Ronald Leonard and Yo-Yo Ma. In 1996, he received a B.A., magna cum laude with highest honors, from Harvard University.

Haimovitz plays a Venetian cello, made in 1710 by Matteo Goffriller. For more information on Haimovitz, go to www.matthaimovitz.com.

Tickets are on sale now. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit ow.ly/mBi530eEcH2 or call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711.

SPORTS

Senior Olympics Rolls Along

Green Acres Senior Center hosts bocce competition.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE
THE CONNECTION

Despite forecasts of post-Hurricane showers, things rolled along in bright sun at the Northern Virginia Senior Olympics bocce competition on Thursday, Sept. 14. Nineteen competitors in five age groups from 50-99 are signed up at Green Acres Senior Center in Fairfax. Competitors and onlookers sat at picnic tables munching donuts and drinking water to cool down as they waited for the competition to begin.

Ninety-two-old Henry Coletto from Oakton, the oldest competitor, has no one in his age group for competition so he was paired with Sonny Caputo from Springfield in the 80-89 age group. Caputo says this is his first Senior Olympics although he is playing in the regular bocce league. Coletto's regular league partner, Nicholas Garito of Fairfax, is also competing. "Henry and I had a tough year. We came from last place to third place," Garito said, adding he got the bocce program started 10 years ago and convinced the Lions Club to build the court five years ago.



Crowd cheers bocce competitors — and munches donuts.

Coletto says he lived in Massachusetts for 82 years and then four of his children who live around here "kidnapped me and brought me here." He had driven to the competition from Oakton. He said, "My children don't believe I should drive too much anymore."

Robena Reid of Lorton and Lynn Thomp-

son of Fairfax started out with the women's 55-59 competition. Reid says she is kind of a novice, and Thompson says this is her first tournament, and she has practiced twice. Pink balls, blue balls, back and forth.

Charlie Perla, bocce ref, said, "Here we go measuring again. Blue is closer and touching. No, no, no it's red." He adds, "Get



Henry Coletto, Oakton, the oldest bocce competitor, waiting for his game.

out the dollar bill." The test of touching is whether you can get a dollar bill between the balls. "I can't believe it: did they both get gold?" He measures again and the final result is Reid wins by one inch.

Herb Levitan of Arlington plays one of the later competitions. He says he is registered in 27 events this year but may not be able to do a couple of them on Saturday since he is also organizing a table tennis match at the same time.



Henry Coletto of Oakton throws out his first ball. Lynn Thompson of Fairfax.



Nicholas Garito of Fairfax.

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SPORTS

In Competitive Mode at Senior Olympics

Skills Competition

Senior Olympics' Football and Frisbee Throw and Softball Hit and Throw events were held at Wakefield District Park in Annandale on Wednesday, Sept. 13.

**Leonard Kalkwarf
from Springfield
throws a Frisbee in
the 85-89 age group.
He won a gold medal
with a throw of 53' 6".**



Field Events

The Senior Olympics' Field Events were held at Falls Church High School on Sunday, Sept. 17.

**Thomas Sullivan
from Oakton
prepares to throw
the shot in the
70-74 age group.**



PHOTOS BY
TOM MANNING
THE CONNECTION

**Lisa Ninomiya
from Vienna
throws the mini
javelin in the 55-
59 age group.**



Swimming

Senior Olympics Swimming was held at the Claude Moore Recreation Center in Sterling on Friday, Sept. 15

**Betsy Boswell from
Vienna competes in the
100 yard breaststroke.
She won a gold medal in
the 60-65 age group with
a time of 1:51.31.**



BULLETIN

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

IN-PERSON, TV DEBATES

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) will hold four in-person forums and three televised forums for the public and the press to learn about the candidates who are running for election to the Virginia House of Delegates. The League invited all certified candidates campaigning for office in their respective districts. At the in-person forums, question-and-answer sessions will be followed by an opportunity for informal conversations with individual candidates. The public and press are encouraged to attend. For more information about the candidates' priorities and positions, visit www.vote411.org.

In-person forums:

♦ **Thursday, Sept. 28** at 7 p.m. at Providence Community Center: 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax. The televised forums at Fairfax County Public Access are on Channel 10 or livestreamed on YouTube "Inside Scoop Livestream." The public can submit questions by email to theinsidescoopvtv@gmail.com or call 571-749-1142 between 7-8:30 p.m. Tune in on: **Monday, Sept. 11** at 8 p.m.; **Monday, Sept. 18** at 8 p.m.; and **Monday, Oct. 2** at 8 p.m.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 21

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 facilitator, Jack Tarr, 703-821-6838, jtarr5@verizon.net.

Chapter Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna. Chapter 227, Vietnam Veterans of America Inc., invites all veterans, friends, and the general public to attend the next chapter meeting. Channapha Khamvongsa, founder and Executive Director of Legacies of War, will discuss its mission. She is a native of Laos and earned degrees from George Mason University and Georgetown University. Admission is free. Call Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or visit www.vva227.org.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 26

ESL Learners and Volunteers. St. Mark's English as a Second Language (ESL) Ministry is seeking new students and volunteers to participate in their upcoming fall term. Come help 150+ adult learners master the English language, prepare for American citizenship, learn to converse fluently in English, improve their writing skills, and integrate into the local community. All classes take place at St. Mark Christian Formation Center, 9972 Vale Road, Vienna. Call Monica at 703-980-9380, email stmarkesl@gmail.com, or visit stmarkesl.org.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 27

Public Hearing on FY 2019 Budget. 7:30 p.m. at MCC Administrative Offices, 6631 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. The McLean Community Center Governing Board invites Dranesville tax district residents to attend a public hearing on MCC's FY 2019 Budget. Residents who would like to speak at the public hearing should call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to have their names added to the speakers' list. The hearing will be immediately followed by the regular monthly board meeting for September. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 30

Garden Club Yard Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in the parking lot, 10610 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The Great Falls Garden Club is hosting a multi-family yard sale. Visit www.gfgardenclub.org.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Are You A Caregiver? Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna Caregivers' Support Group takes place first & third Thursday of each month. February 2nd and 16th, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Join us at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF) - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, VA. For more info contact facilitator, Jack Tarr, 703-821-6838 jtarr5@verizon.net.

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Talking the Walk



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Our long, local, overnight nightmare is almost over. By the date this column publishes: Sept. 20, 2017, I will, for the first time in nearly nine weeks, not had to have snaked down in the dark, our "turny-twisty" and narrow 150-year-old staircase to walk from the upstairs master bedroom to the downstairs and only usable commode. Though the renovation of this upstairs bathroom is not entirely complete nor ready for primetime (it is mostly usable as the water is now running and flushing), the demolition/renovation process apparently must go on/adhere to a schedule so, on Tuesday, Sept. 19 the downstairs bathroom, with all its fully functioning amenities will come under the sledge hammer – among other tools, and provide no further use until on or about Oct. 24.

This heretofore ("Good Will Hunting") logistical challenge has not presented too many difficulties for my wife, Dina. But given that I'm a male of a certain age, quite the opposite has been true for me. Once or twice and occasionally even more per overnight depending upon how late and how much I've had to eat or drink before bedtime, I'll need to visit the bathroom to attend to some very personal business. To be clear, the 'challenge' to which I refer is getting to the bathroom, not starting and/or finishing what I intended once I get there.

Moreover, when the task at hand has been completed, of course I need to retrace my steps – usually in the dark, and walk back upstairs. Though not nearly as difficult as walking downstairs; nevertheless, at the time I am going down and back up, in the middle of the night, my vision might not so readily acclimate and my balance is, let's just say: inconsistent, especially when trying to avoid the miscellaneous bathroom-remodeling boxes staged in the living room on the very route I must travel.

Needless to say, having this nightly nonsense come to an end is most definitely a column worth writing. Not necessarily to self-indulge anymore than usual but more so to amuse you regular readers and possibly even prepare you for your own in-home renovation. And considering that this renovation is our first – and we have minimal experience with these matters, I thought it useful to write it forward and perhaps share a less-than-obvious impact of taking the one-and-only-on-the-same-floor bathroom out of service. Sinks, mirrors and shower/tub issues notwithstanding, all of which can be withstood and endured with the reorientation to the downstairs bathroom, the commode issue, considering its unpredictability, naturally trumps all other real or imagined difficulties.

Though the upstairs bathroom is incomplete and lacking multiple finishing elements, its transformation so far is incredible – to our eyes. I'll spare you any details because that really would be self-indulgent and not at all the point of this column. But the two months or so it will have taken for the upstairs bathroom to become operational again and the nightly effect it's had on me appears to have been worth the wait.

As concerns the downstairs bathroom, we are now ready, willing and able to integrate its destruction into our routine. Given that it is more of a powder room than a master-type bathroom – though it will include a shower-only enclosure, no longer will it be my twice-nightly destination. In addition, I am looking forward to its transformation because the interim process will not prevent me from going anywhere I regularly go nor inconveniencing my wife, Dina, when she readies for work in the morning.

Monitoring its progress will be more of a curiosity than a calamity, since, in my mind, there will be no sense of urgency about the pace of this project as there had been with the upstairs bathroom because my bathroom access will not be affected in the least. And in the most, I am extraordinarily grateful – and relieved.

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



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