

Oktoberfest Celebrated in Vienna

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Church Street lined with people for
the Oktoberfest 2017 celebration.

Vienna Community Center Renovated, Reopened

NEWS, PAGE 4

Tyson's Pimmit Library Re-opens to the Public

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Adam Croswell, with children, in front of the Vienna Fire Department's classic fire engine.



David Hughes and his wife Rose of Frederick offer some traditional German nuts.

Oktoberfest Celebrated in Vienna

BY ROBERT HEALY
THE CONNECTION

With men clad in lederhosen and women in Dirndl dresses, this year's Vienna Oktoberfest kicked off without a hitch. Bands like the Sextons and the Rockits performed everything from classic polka to classic rock. Warm sunny weather in October was also the perfect setting for the fun family event.

Like the original Oktoberfest held in Germany beer lines and food lines stretched down Church Street. The event brought people from all over Virginia and some from even further. Van Housser of Sicily, Italy tended the grill marinating chicken and beef at the Kitchen House Eatery food truck. More than one stand sold bratwurst and German beers like Fat Tire. David Hughes and his wife Rose came down from Frederick, Md. with their hand-made roasted nuts that were



Ranyell Lee of Reston shows the kids some dance moves.

melted in vanilla and cinnamon.

There were tons of fun for the rest of the family including an entire section of children's activities. On the green stage, Ranyell Lee of Reston counted off beats of eight while teaching children new dance moves with the Adrenaline Dance Studio. Children who really wanted to tire themselves out could run around with a bungee cord attached to themselves. Other events included the Chicken Dance contest, moon bounce and Hula Hooping Heather.

Parents could also enjoy their time in the sun as well with back massages and wine tastings. The classic cars lot was filled with new and old cars alike. The Porsche 356s and Fiats were some of those on display. The Vienna Fire Department even brought down one of their antique fire engines for people to pose in front of. Adam Croswell of Mclean who had his children pretend to drive the engine said it was a great event for his whole family.



Eric Sullivan of Fairfax dressed in lederhosen.



Kids and parents dance to the polka music played by the Sextons Band of Rockville.

Vienna Community Center Renovated After 51 Years

BY COLIN STOECKER
THE CONNECTION

Originally built in 1966, the Vienna Community Center has been serving the community of Vienna for 51 years. The building has been renovated four times and undergone a few additions since. However, as of Wednesday it reopened to the public as a new building with a brand new gym.

Vienna Youth Incorporated, a youth sports program that offers sports programs to children in Vienna, donated \$1 million.

"They are particularly excited about the new gym for their basketball program, and they also use the gym for their volleyball program," said Leslie Herman, Vienna resident and director with Vienna Parks and Recreation.

The \$13 million needed for the renovation came mainly out of the pockets of taxpayers in the Vienna community.

The building has new concrete floors, two gyms which have been renovated with new hardwood flooring, security protected administration offices, and it is accessible to people with disabilities with graded floors and elevators.

There is a teen space located in the basement, called Club Phoenix and two multi-purpose classrooms upstairs.

Many people are excited to use the new community center which re-opened after renovations on Oct. 4. Custodian Terri Tufano was present with her daughter who teaches gymnastics classes in the newly renovated auxiliary gym.

"I love the people, it's like a family and everybody is friendly. It's nice," said Tufano.

The renovations were not without their problems. Mainly, the old structure of the building had to be updated to comply with code for the city of Vienna Public



From left: Leslie Herman, Vienna resident and director with Vienna Parks and Recreation, with Terri Tufano, senior at Centreville High School, and her mother Terri Tufano, custodian, at the newly renovated Vienna Community Center Wednesday, Oct. 4.



Gymnastics class in the auxiliary gym at Vienna Community Center.

Works Department.

"They found some sand in the soil which was bad, so to make the asphalt sit properly they had to replace it so it took longer than expected. Also there were some issues with the old foundation in places," said Herman.

Now that the center is re-opened to the public, Vienna residents can use it for free and non-residents have to pay a \$3 fee.

"The fee is part of the benefits of living here in town," said Herman. "Your taxpayer benefits paid for the building."

Brandy Wyatt, coordinator at the Vienna Community Center was excited to be back in business with the community. "The expansions of our programs and the renovations gave an old building a new look," she said. "We've been smiling since we got in here."



Leslie Herman, Vienna resident and director with Vienna Parks and Recreation, in front of the old clock from the original lobby of the renovated Vienna Community Center.



Debbie Sheckman-Rook, a Vienna resident, at the renovated Vienna Community Center while her daughter takes gymnastics class.



From left: Pramila Thote, Amar Oak, Madhukar Thote, Arjun Oak, and Jaie Oak, a general dentist, at the Vienna Community Center.

PEOPLE



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Vienna residents Jack and Joey Wojciech celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary among 100 family and friends.

Celebrating 50th Anniversary

On Saturday, Sept. 30, longtime Vienna residents Jack and Joey Wojciech celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary among 100 family and friends at the DoubleTree Hotel in Sterling.

Jack and Joey's story is one of faith, family, and community and started in Philadelphia where they both were born and grew up. Jack, an electrical engineering graduate of nearby Villanova University, met Josephine Zupkowska while they were both working at the Frankford Arsenal supporting the Vietnam war effort.

They were married in 1967 and, five children later, moved from the south Jersey shore to Northern Virginia in 1978 when Jack took a position with the Federal Aviation Administration in Washington D.C.; an agency he served for more than 40 years.

Living on Talisman Drive, behind Wolftrap Elementary in Vienna, since 1979, when their sixth was born, Jack and Joey's burgeoning family immersed itself in the northern Virginia community as they both dedicated their lives to Jesus and their family's spiritual, academic, athletic, and relational development.

All three girls and three boys attended Our Lady



Joey and Jack Wojciech

of Good Counsel and later graduated from area high schools Bishop O'Connell and James Madison, going on to study at various universities such as Virginia Tech, George Mason, Geneva College, and the University of Delaware.

Today Jack and Joey are the very proud grandparents to 19 grandchildren and cherish every moment of their retirement years spending time with and loving on their ever-growing family.

Eldest sibling Derek said his parents were "world class investors," not in money, but in time and love towards their marriage, their children, and their community.

Rita's Italian Ice Comes to Vienna

On Sept. 30, the Vicencio family celebrated the grand opening of Rita's Italian Ice of Vienna. Guests who attended the event received discounted sweet treats all day, and the first 50 in line received free Italian Ice for a year. The store kicked off their philanthropic efforts and partnered with the Committee for Helping Others. Pictured, from left: Marco, Kristen, Rico and Benjamin Vicencio celebrating the grand opening.





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Building A New Economy

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

Candidate Terry McAuliffe promised during his campaign for governor that he would work to build a new economy in Virginia. A reduction of federal spending in the state along with the decline of traditional mining and manufacturing jobs had left the Virginia economy sluggish.

If there was any doubt as to what Governor McAuliffe had in mind one only needs to look at his performance in office. His latest performance figures, although these numbers increase daily, are 1,027 new projects, 215,100 jobs created and \$165 billion in capital investments. No other governor has come close to these kinds of numbers. But he clearly is not done yet.

Just last week Governor McAuliffe announced that Facebook will bring more than \$1 billion of new investment to the Commonwealth. Facebook is directly investing \$750 million to establish a 970,000-square-foot data center in the White Oak Technology Park in Henrico County. The project will bring thousands of construction jobs to the region and



COMMENTARY

more than 100 full-time operational jobs. Virginia is already a leader in data centers with a record number in Loudoun County.

An exciting aspect to this new project is that with a new renewable energy tariff designed by Dominion Energy Virginia and Facebook, hundreds of millions of additional dol-

lars will be invested in the construction of multiple solar facilities in the Commonwealth to service Facebook's Henrico data center with 100 percent renewable energy. That feature continues a trend that has been going on in Virginia in the use of solar-generated electricity with new and expanded business projects. In another project, Amazon is behind what had been the state's largest planned solar installation to date, an 80-megawatt system in Accomack County. Early last year another solar project was introduced that spurred Virginia's solar energy market by a partnership among the state, Dominion Virginia Power and Microsoft Corp. to bring a 20-megawatt solar farm to Fauquier County. The 260,000 panels on 125 acres represented more solar energy than was available across all of Virginia two years ago.

Recent evidence demonstrates that the new economy of the Commonwealth is being recognized nationally. Recently Virginia was ranked in Area Development magazine's 2017 "Top States for Doing Business" annual survey for the first time since 2010. Overall, the Commonwealth placed 11th out of 20 states ranked in the prestigious annual site consultants' survey.

The Commonwealth ranked in the "Top 10" in five of 12 subcategories that impact companies' location and facility plans, including: Cooperative & Responsive State Government, fifth; Leading Workforce Development Programs, seventh; Competitive Labor Environment, eighth; Favorable Regulatory Environment, ninth; and Speed of Permitting, ninth. These rankings represent significant advances for Virginia as the state has not placed in any subcategories since 2013. This year also marks the first time Virginia has ever placed in the Cooperative & Responsive State Government, Competitive Labor Environment, and Speed of Permitting categories.

The new economy is proving to be good for jobs with record low unemployment and good for communities that were struggling to recover from the Great Recession. At the same time it is good for the environment with record growth is solar energy production.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Column As an Inspiration

To the Editor:

As a regular reader of Kenneth Lourie's "Cancer Column," I'd like to request the Editor to please consider giving the column a much-deserved face-lift. The Connection needs to shed more light on Lourie's illuminating accounts of dealing with the deadly disease, and overcoming the odds, instead of burying it in the shadow of the Business Directory with an Obituary-like black border! Also, a color profile picture would breathe new life into these weekly gems. I understand, Lourie is an Ad/Sales Representative, but more importantly, he is a Survivor and an inspiration to us all.

Considering the other cancers plaguing our society — fake news, mass shootings, and reality shows that are anything but real to most of us — it is all the more urgent to highlight real-life, first-hand accounts from people like Lourie who are fighting the real fight. If, perhaps, we read such stories of courage and positive determination, it could inspire a sorely-needed dose of consideration, empathy, and kindness in our community, or at the very least, give us a much-needed reality-check.

To Mr. Lourie, thank you for sharing your story every week, and

wishing you continued strength...

Shaila Muralidhar
Great Falls

Neighbors Opposed to Deer Hunting

To the Editor:

I am writing as a concerned community member, and what I thought was a peaceful neighborhood.

Having lived in Beau Ridge off of Beulah and Montague for the past four years, we have had a handful (less than 10) deer walk through our neighborhood. My children have enjoyed the beauty of these animals, and the balance of nature we desired when we moved to the suburbs of Vienna.

Fast forward to this month, a neighbor has decided that he is done with the deer and would like them eliminated. He has his reasons, and they change depending on his audience. He has stated his love for gardening, concern over Lyme disease, and helping Fairfax County with overpopulation.

We, along with other neighbors, have expressed our concerns and unhappiness with his choice to bring this to a neighborhood, a neighborhood in which the homes are close together, a neighborhood

that has children who are emotionally distraught with the thought of being exposed to hunting in the front of their homes. We are disappointed that we are being told that we have to give permission to have deer bodies picked up in our home property or we will be responsible for the removal of the bodies. His choice and actions affect us directly.

I am aware of the right to a homeowner, I understand that Fairfax County allows for deer hunting in preserves, but when do we stop bringing this to neighborhoods? Neighborhoods with children, that move to the suburbs because of the beauty of nature.

When will this madness stop?

Betty Hernandez
Vienna

Addressing Climate Change at Capitol Hill

To the Editor:

Amid recent examples of extreme weather events made worse by climate change, we should have a heightened awareness of the impacts of a changing climate on our lives. It should also force us to question just what we will be leaving behind for our children.

We look to our government to

protect our right to clean air and water and for a safe environment. The EPA was instituted to do just that. Protect us.

We also look to our legislators to represent us and our concerns. To hear us and to respond appropriately.

My Congresswoman is Barbara Comstock. She represents me and all her constituents in the 10th district, and she needs to listen to our deep concerns about climate change and the gutting of the EPA, the very agency that is set up to protect our public health.

Many who have tried to get an appointment with the Congresswoman, have not been successful — and she refuses to hold a town meeting in her district. It's high time she represent us, and certainly she cannot do that without meeting with us and hearing us first-hand.

Helene Shore
Vienna

Fresh Voices Kept Off Stage

To the Editor:

In reading the Connection's lengthy story about the gubernatorial debate in McLean ("Rorschach Politics," Connection, Sept.

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

BMW of Fairfax was well represented at the Oktoberfest 2017 car show in Vienna.

Oktoberfest Features Car Show

The Oktoberfest 2017 Car Show expanded to include new car dealers in addition to those located in the Vienna area which brought in Aston Martin and Infinity in addition to BMW and Mercedes-Benz. These were provided by Aston Martin-Washington

DC, Sheehy Infinity of Tysons, BMW of Fairfax, and Mercedes-Benz of Tysons Corner. The Oktoberfest crowd seems to focus on the higher end cars as they milled around to view the interior and style of the vehicle.



Cops & Kids Fun Run Held in Vienna

The Weichert, Realtors' Vienna office participated in the Cops & Kids Fun Run, which took place Sept. 24 at Vienna Elementary School in Vienna. During the free event, registered children took on Town of Vienna police officers in a one-mile run/walk and tug-o-war. Participants also enjoyed a moon bounce, face painting, live music and the dunk-a-cop dunk tank. Police cars, motorcycles and equipment were on display as well.

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SENIOR LIVING



PHOTO BY JULIA MACINNIS PHOTOGRAPHY

Lita Clark (who just turned 84) in the master bedroom of the in-law suite recently added to the home of her daughter Julia MacInnis and son-in-law, Jack. The room was designed to accommodate several heirlooms, including the twin beds under a course of Mi windows that assure privacy, yet allow abundant natural light.

Household Re-Forms

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SENIOR LIVING



ENTRANCE TO SUITE: The thermostatically-controlled mini-split HVAC unit above door enables Lita Clark to regulate temperature in the suite to personal requirements. To give the suite visual unity, designers installed 4-inch engineered oak flooring in the sitting room and bedroom.

PHOTO BY
GREG HADLEY

BY JOHN BYRD

Julia grew up in the Fort Hunt section of Alexandria in a close-knit family. She started dating a neighbor's son, Jack MacInnis, while still in high school and, in time, the two friends married. In the late 1990s Julia's father, Don Clark, died leaving her mother, Lita Clark, alone in the family home. A survivor of the Japanese occupation of the Philippines, Clark (as always) remained upbeat, independent; a loving mother and friend.

Fast forward a few years and Jack and Julia MacInnis own a house not far from Clark with whom they are in daily contact. Then, in 2010 — with two sons growing quickly — the couple purchased a four-bedroom contemporary on a 1.5 acre lot in Fairfax. It's only a half hour drive from Clark, but the timing for a larger house was just right.

In the intervening years, Clark (who turns 84 this month) would visit the MacInnis residence regularly, often staying over one or two nights a week.

At this stage, the three of them began actively planning ways to augment the household by building an in-law suite on some part of the existing property. Eventually, attention focused on a side elevation of the existing house which offered views of surrounding wooded acreage.

THE LOT ITSELF presented challenges. The grade sloped radically on the northeast side where the lower-level (the intended site for the new in-law addition) exited from a pair of sliding glass doors to a small deck. Because of the slope, there were potential

water run-off problems; also, Fairfax County's building code required that any new construction had to allow for a full 25 feet of "set-back" from the rear of the property.

"We knew an addition of this size on this grade was going to require careful engineering," said Craig Durosko, whose firm Sun Design Remodeling found both the design and structural solutions that would make the project feasible. "Still, it's helpful when the homeowners are proactive in the decision-making process at every juncture."

Added Julia MacInnis: "We were looking for a plan that would provide privacy and independence for Mom, yet also fully incorporate her into the household. We've functioned as a family for our entire lives. Mom helped to raise the boys, and she was raised in a multi-generational culture. We saw this change as a way of creating an expanded environment that would work for everyone far into the foreseeable future."

Clark's new suite would be a 580-square-foot annex constructed outside the existing house directly parallel to the lower level. A sliding glass door that accesses the outside would be converted into an interior pocket door that opens into a downstairs recreation room.

The space plan would consist of a 17-foot-by-17-foot master bedroom surrounded by windows on three sides, a master bath with a walk-in shower and heated floors, and a sitting room/kitchenette equipped with a small refrigerator, a sink and a microwave.

The sitting area includes a bis

SEE LOOKING, PAGE 10

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BEFORE

Looking Forward and Staying Put

FROM PAGE 7

tro table for four with a view of the surrounding woodland. The entire household, nonetheless, share meals and kitchen duties together every day. By the same token, Julia and Jack MacInnis and sons (Jackson and Harry) are free to drop-in on Clark just about any time.

"It's a very comfortable, harmonious ar-

rangement," Clark said. "Very much what we hoped for."

That said, engineering the suite's durable footprint was something of a feat.

"Because of the site's grading, we ended up designing a slab foundation with both stem walls and integral footings," said John Benedetto, the addition's lead designer. "To assure structural integrity, there were two concrete pours: one to form the stem walls

on the new addition's left side; a second to form the slab with integral footings on which the addition is built."

Footings are placed 30-inches below grade; the slab itself is approximately one foot above grade. The goal: assure that the weight of the new structure is adequately supported — soil compaction being a key part of the equation.

FOR ALL THE DEFT engineering, it's the suite's interior that proves memorable. The three primary living areas were designed specifically to profile heirlooms, furnishings and other personal items that Clark brought from the Fort Hunt residence.

"There were two twin beds that had been in the family for years," Julia MacInnis said. "A chest of drawers, an old vanity. Sun Design used these pieces as focal points for shaping the bedroom and sitting room. And it's not just that everything fits well ... but also that the floor plan is well-rationalized. The twin beds, for instance, fit perfectly under high windows that assure privacy, yet allow a lot of natural light. Overall, the en-

tire suite is spacious, and quite comfortable."

On that note, the new addition has been fitted with a mini-split HVAC unit that allows Clark to adjust the suite's temperature to her requirements. Meanwhile, the bathroom has a heated floor with its own thermostat.

The addition's exterior elevations are blended with the existing house. Vinyl siding, fascia and soffits, gutters, and downspouts are all matched. Low-E Argon glass vinyl windows allow for abundant natural light and views while keeping temperatures where the thermostat requires.

In all, a comfortable accommodation ... within a thriving household.

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors tours of recently remodeled homes as well as workshops on home remodeling topics. Headquartered in Burke, the firm has a second office in McLean. For more information, call 703-425-5588 or visit www.SunDesignInc.com.

John Byrd (byrdmatx@gmail.com) has been writing about home improvement for 30 years.

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NEWSPAPERS

We didn't inherit the earth from our parents. We're borrowing it from our children.

—Chief Seattle
(1788-1866)
Suquamish/
Duwamish chief



Grab bars and a comfort-height elongated toilet are among aging-in-place considerations in the master bathroom. Shower walls and flooring are finished in porcelain tiling.



BEFORE: A sliding glass door exiting from a lower-level rec room was identified as a potential link between the existing house and new in-law suite. The exterior egress was converted into an interior pocket door that enters Lita Clark's sitting room.



At 580 square feet, the new suite is seamlessly married to the original house. Lead designer John Benedetto's "massing" of the new construction preserves proportionality and scale. Siding, fascia, soffits, gutters and downspouts are all matched.

PHOTOS BY GREG HADLEY

Another THE CONNECTION Community Partner
NEWSPAPERS

Home LifeStyle



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Todd Martz and Susan Nelson use felt flowers made by women in Nepal to accessorize the family room.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Designer Marika Meyer used fabric from her own collection to make accessories, including this dog bed and bone, for the lady's retreat.

Inside D.C. Design House

In its 10th year, showcase raises money for charity.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

For the 10th anniversary of the D.C. Design House, 23 designers transformed the Potomac, Md. home which includes nine bedrooms, nine full bathrooms, four half bathrooms, a cinema, two-story library, a pool and a pool house. Visitors will have the opportunity to walk through the 27,256 square-foot estate to view the latest in home design trends. Proceeds from the event benefit the Children's National Health System.

It was actress Grace Kelly and the movie "To Catch a Thief" that inspired

Designer Marika Meyer's creation of the lady's retreat. "I thought of her elegance and her scarf blowing in the wind," said Meyer.

A collection of framed Hermes scarves line one of the room's walls.

Much of the room's furniture, including two vintage, velvet chairs and a neutral sofa, surround a Lucite cocktail table, creating a balance between modern and traditional styles.

"When designing the room I thought, 'who would live in that room and what would she be like?'" said Meyer.

Meyer used custom-designed, hand-painted fabric from her own collection for the room's drapes, pillows, stools and other accessories. One of her biggest obstacles was making the large room feel intimate. "I designed it to make it beautiful and func-

tional, she said. "I created different destinations so it doesn't feel so overwhelming."

Among those destinations are a large secretary, a game table and a bar cart.

Dubbed A Study in Blue, the library by designer Kelley Proxmire draws inspiration from the library of New York socialite Brooke Astor. "I knew it was a classic and I had seen a recent picture and I knew it was a classic," said Proxmire. "Her books were probably antique, leather-bound and I knew that I something wanted something neat and tidy like that."

The room's dark wood paneling is brightened with natural lighting and accessorized with blue and white porcelain and painted books in varying shades of blue.

The designer's goal was to create a technology-free zone that allowed for uninhibited conversation. "Families need a place to sit and talk to each other without being on the telephone and watching television," said Proxmire. "I want all my rooms to say, 'Come and sit.' I don't want them to be too standoffish."

Marrying modern and traditional design elements, Alexandria-based design duo Todd Martz and Susan Nelson created a family room

that is both energizing and relaxing, and is meant to be an electronics-free zone. "The scale of the house is formal, but we wanted to create a room that is family friendly," said Martz. "We wanted to incorporate children's art, but display it in a way that's elegant."

The walls are covered with bright yellow wallpaper that provides an energetic backdrop for blue and white porcelain accessories. To accommodate the lives of a mod-

DC Design House

Location: 9004 Congressional Court, Potomac, Md.

Tickets: \$35 at www.dcdesignhouse.com/copy-of-events

Open through Oct. 29: Saturday-Sunday 12-5 p.m.; Closed Mondays; Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 29: DC Design House, last day, 12-5 p.m.

SEE DESIGN HOUSE, PAGE 12



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Inside D.C. Design House

FROM PAGE 11

ern family, the white sofa is covered in Crypton fabric, which is stain-resistant and easy to clean. Other furniture in the room, which includes two faux leather chairs are centered around a handmade, wooden coffee table.

Children's artwork hangs inside the bookcases among blue and white ginger jars. "It makes the book cases a little less serious," said Nelson.

The poolside oasis created by Kim Asner of Country Casual Teak allows visitors to be transported to a

luxury spa. Lush greenery and teak lounge chairs surround the pool. An abundance of seating, a cabana and a pool house make the space ideal for entertaining a crowd or enjoying the space's serenity.

"The area is large so we needed substantial furniture," said Asner. "The cabana looks grand and impressive, but it's also comfortable."

Located at 9004 Congressional Court, Potomac, Md., the home is listed at \$10.28 million by Long and Foster Real Estate. Open through Oct. 29, tickets are \$35. Visit www.dcdesignhouse.com.



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

Inspired by the library of New York socialite Brooke Astor, designer Kelley Proxmire used shades of blue against dark wood in the library of the D.C. Design House.



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

Bright yellow wallpaper energizes the family room by Todd Martz and Susan Nelson.



PHOTO BY ANGIE SECKINGER

An abundance of seating make the pool space by Kim Asner of Country Casual Teak a tranquil oasis

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Event Location:
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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

McLean Farmers Market, Fridays, through Nov. 17, 2017; 8 a.m. to noon, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Master Gardener Plant Clinic on site to answer questions about plants in your landscape

Vienna Saturday Farmers Market, through Oct. 28, 8am-noon, sponsored by the Optimist Club, Across from Vienna Volunteer Fire Department in parking lot of Faith Baptist Church, 201 Center Street South, Vienna

Free Tai Chi. Every Saturday, from 7:55-9 a.m., Introduction and Beginners' Practice, meet on the outdoor basketball court located directly behind the Dolley Madison Public Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. in McLean Central Park, McLean. Call 703-759-9141 or visit www.FreeTaiChi.org for more.

Bingo Night. Sundays. 4 p.m. Flame Room, Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S, Vienna. \$10. www.vvfd.org/bingo.html.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 11

Astronomy Lecture. 7:30-9 p.m. at Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Topics may include planets, open clusters, double stars, stellar color spectrum, globular clusters and galaxies. After class, view the objects that were discussed through the observatory's telescopes, if weather allows. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/turnerfarm/ for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 13

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, Virginia. Visit www.ourmilitarykids.org or call Judy McSpadden at 703-734-6654.

Drumming and Drum Circle Workshop. 7-8:30 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Join The Alden and master artist Kofi Dennis for an introduction to djembe drumming skills and improvisation. \$15/\$10 MCC district residents; \$7 each additional person, \$5 MCC district residents. Visit www.mcleancenter.org for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 14

Watershed Cleanup Day. 9-11:30 p.m. at Scott's Run Nature Preserve, 7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean. An opportunity for individuals, students, families, scouts and other community groups to be part of this year's International Coastal Cleanup. Help clear the earth's arteries by collecting tires, bed springs, bottles, cans and other debris from the local waterways. Visit bit.ly/FCPAwatershedClean or call 703-759-9018 for more.

Oktoberfest Marketplace. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Charles Wesley UMC, The Hunger Church, 6817 Dean Drive, McLean. Benefit for community help agencies. Visit www.thehungerchurch.org for more.

Naming Ceremony. 10 a.m. at Ken Lawrence Park, 8081 Jones Branch Drive in Tysons. Jones Branch Fields and Arbor Row Park will be consolidated to form the new Ken Lawrence Park in Tysons. Call 703-324-8662 or email Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov for more.



Pumpkin Fun

Pumpkin carving lessons, Sunday, Oct. 29 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, 3rd floor, McLean. Executive Chef Edwin Amaya shares his best-kept secrets for carving pumpkins and Emma Choi, student representative to Real Food for Kids, will be the special guest followed by a costume contest. \$20 per child and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to "Real Food for Kids." Call 703-442-9110 for more.

Churchill Fall Festival. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Churchill Road Elementary School, 7100 Churchill Road, McLean. Giant lawn games, board games and races, as well as inflatables and food trucks. \$10, 4 and under free. Email djhutzel@fcps.edu or call 703-288-8400.

OCT. 14-15

Cello Concert. Various times at several locations around town, such as the McLean Project for the Arts' Chain Bridge Gallery, 1446 Chain Bridge Road.; Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave.; and Spring Hill RECenter, 1239 Spring Hill Road. The Alden in McLean presents internationally renowned cellist Matt Haimovitz in a multi-part performance of "A Moveable Feast." Call 703-790-9223 for more.

SUNDAY/OCT. 15

American Legion Breakfast. 1-4 p.m. at Post 180, 330 Center St., N. Vienna. Buffet includes omelets, blueberry pancakes, sausage, bacon and more. Adults \$9, children 12 and under \$3. Call 703-938-6580 for more.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 18

Dining with Dorothy. 12:30 p.m. at Legal Seafoods, Tysons Galleria, 2001 International Drive, McLean. This socializing/dining event is hosted by the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Email dflood1706@gmail.com for more.

Tree Talks. 7-9:30 p.m. at Churchill Road Elementary School Cafeteria, 7100 Churchill Road, McLean. Topic: "Trees in McLean's Changing Landscape—Planting and Protecting." Visit www.mcleancitizens.org for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 20

Drumming and Drum Circle Workshop. 3:30-10 p.m. at The Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Teens can get in the Halloween spirit and spend a Friday night with the Old Firehouse. Only the brave-hearted are invited on this journey. The night will start with a group dinner \$60/\$50 MCC district residents. Visit www.mcleancenter.org for more.

An Evening Service of Song, Scripture and Prayer. Holy Comforter will welcome two visiting choirs from Delaware: Immanuel

Church on the Green, Newcastle, and St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Lewes. Under the direction of Choirmasters T. J. Thomas and Jack Warren Burnam, the combined choirs will present an evening service of song, scripture, and prayer. This liturgy will be followed by a festive reception.

OCT. 20-22

Vienna Theatre Company Production. Various times at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE. Upcoming production "In Living Sound - Back Home!," live radio drama directed by Patricia Boswell Kallman. \$14. Visit www.viennatheatrecompany.org for more.

Great Falls Studios Tour. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at various venues in Great Falls. A self-guided driving tour of local artists in their personal studios. This three-day event is family-friendly, free, and offers the opportunity to see art being made in the community. Artists will be available 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, rain or shine. Visit www.greatfallsstudios.com for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 21

Astronomy Campfire. 6-7 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Hear tales about the constellations and make s'mores over the campfire's embers. Ages 4 and up. \$8. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/ for more.

OCT. 21-22

18th Century Autumn Market Fair. 11-4:30 p.m. at the Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Learn to dip candles and watch the blacksmith and rope maker at work. Children's games, puppet theater and live music. Meet staff and volunteers in costume and character. \$8; children and seniors: \$4; children under 3 free. Visit www.1771.org for more.

SUNDAY/OCT. 22

Capitol Steps Comedy Troupe. 3 p.m. at Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna. A singing, dancing, satirical show that focuses on politics, proceeds go to the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. \$35. Visit www.scov.org/fundraiser-tickets or call 703-281-0538.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

27-Oct. 3, 2017), I was amazed that you did not even mention that there is a third candidate on the ballot for Governor: Cliff Hyra, the Libertarian Party candidate. Cliff is a patent/intellectual property attorney who works for a firm here in Reston. He lives in a Richmond suburb with his wife and four children.

Not only did the Connection fail to mention that Mr. Hyra is a third candidate running for Governor who is already qualified to appear on the ballot, you failed to mention that he was in the debate hall that evening. And not only did the Connection fail to mention that Cliff Hyra was in the debate hall, you failed to mention that the Democrat and Republican candidates conspired to keep him off the stage, and out of the debate. The Ds and Rs don't want your readers to even hear a fresh, engaging, alternative choice.

The Democrat and Republican crony capitalists in the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, the sponsor of this farce, acquiesced in this charade. Whoever becomes Governor, I'm sure the Ds and Rs will "take care" of their friends in the Chamber for helping to silence alternative voices.

The Democrat and Republican parties regularly keep alternative political parties out of debates. They've been doing it for decades. Consider just last year's presidential debates: the two old parties kept Green Party candidate Jill

Stein, who was on the ballot in 45 states and D.C., and Libertarian Party candidate Gary Johnson, who was on the ballot in all 50 states and D.C., out of all the debates.

For readers who are sick and tired of the two old political parties and the games they play, and the way the Democrats and Republicans try to keep citizens ignorant, readers can learn for themselves about Cliff Hyra here: cliffhyra.com and here: Facebook.com/CliffHyra/

Steve Resz

Reston

Not Red Or Blue Issue

To the Editor:

Since the start of the gubernatorial election many issues important to the people of Virginia have taken center stage, but one issue deserves more attention from our candidates – Alzheimer's disease.

Alzheimer's is a national crisis that is devastating families in Virginia and straining our economy. According to the Alzheimer's Association, there are 140,000 Virginians over the age of 65 living with Alzheimer's, and 458,000 more providing them with unpaid care. In 2017, the commonwealth will pay \$826 million in Medicaid costs for people living with Alzheimer's. Those numbers are only expected to rise as the population ages.

I have lived in Northern Virginia for most of my life. I first hand experienced the painful toll of this horrible disease — my mother passed away from early onset Alzheimer's in 2003. Despite retirement pensions, private and federal government health coverage, and three children contributing both financially and emotionally, my parents had to declare bankruptcy due to mounting medical bills. It's a disease that impacts the entire family economically, physically and emotionally.

In recent years the federal government has grown its commitment to help families affected by Alzheimer's through increased research funding. Additionally, the Commonwealth published the "Dementia State Plan: Virginia's Response to the Needs of Individuals with Dementia and their Caregivers" in 2011 and issued an update in 2015. The next governor of Virginia will be responsible for continuing its successful implementation.

Still, much work remains. Alzheimer's isn't a red or blue issue — it impacts us all.

Please join me in asking Ralph Northam and Ed Gillespie, and all candidates seeking office in Richmond about their plan to address the Alzheimer's crisis. As a resident of Alexandria and proud citizen of Virginia, I hope that this is taken seriously and action will take place.

**Shannon C. Malone-
deBenedictis**

Alexandria

The Ayr Hill Garden Club to Meet Oct. 23

The Ayr Hill Garden Club (AHGC) will meet on Monday, Oct. 23, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Complimentary refreshments will be provided at 12:45 p.m. followed by the 1 p.m. program. Guests are encouraged to attend.

Guest speaker is author Michael Judd, Ecologia principal designer and founder. The topic is "A Virtual Tour of Local Edible Landscapes."

Join Michael Judd in an exploration into combining form, function and production in the yard. Also learn the abc's of how to make a yard more fruitful. Focus will be on water harvesting for successful growing, outdoor mushroom cultivation, creating herb spirals, starting a food forest, and choosing uncommon fruits.

Judd is the author of "Edible Landscaping with a Permaculture Twist" and a presenter for Mother Earth News, and other venues on edible landscaping, gardening and permaculture. Learn more about his ideas at www.ecologiadesign.com and www.projectbonafide.com.

Fall Legislative Conference to Be Held Nov. 11

Social Action Linking Together (SALT) presents Fall Legislative Conference, "Call to Solidarity with Virginia's Vulnerable Citizens: A Conference on Public Social Policy" on Saturday, Nov. 11, 9-11:30 a.m.

Presentations include:

- ❖ Sister Simone Campbell, "21st Century Poverty: Truth, Soundbites & Needed Federal Action"
- ❖ Dorothy McAuliffe, First Lady of Virginia, subject to confirmation (invited), "Child Hunger in Virginia Schools"
- ❖ Del. Ken Plum, "Advocacy is moving to the state and local levels, Are you moving with it?"
- ❖ Gay Gardner, Interfaith Action for Human Rights (IAHR), "Making Solitary Confinement Truly a Last Resort?"

Hosted by Virginia International University (VIU), 4401 Village Drive, Fairfax, VIU Conference Room (VD-02)

Contact John Horejsi at jhorejsi@cox.net or visit www.s-a-l-t.org.

BULLETIN

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

SUNDAY/OCT. 15

Home Seller Seminar. 1-4 p.m. at Lyons McGuire, 774-A Walker Rd. Great Falls Topic: "Are You An Overwhelmed Owner? Become A Savvy Seller." Visit seminar.com/ for more.

MONDAY/OCT. 16

Identity Fraud Lecture. 7:30 p.m. at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, 1301 Trap Road (at Route 7), Vienna. Theme: Protect Yourself from Fraud and Identity Theft. Call 703-759-3509 for more.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 18

McLean Newcomers Luncheon. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Mylo's Grill, 6238 Old Dominion Drive. Nancy Harvey Steorts, a former Chairman of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, will discuss "How Safe is Your Home?". \$30. Visit www.McLeanNewcomers.org or email McLeanNewcomers@yahoo.com.

Tree Lecture. 7-9:30 p.m. at Churchill Road Elementary School Cafeteria, 7100 Churchill Road, McLean. Introduction by Supervisor John Foust. Hear from county staff about infill development and tree protection rules, from the McLean Trees Foundation on how to plant to best kinds of trees for your yard, and from local developers in the area. Exhibits. Visit www.McLeanCitizens.org for more.

FRIDAY/OCT. 20

Retailer Job Fair. 1-8 p.m. at Tysons Corner Center-Fashion Court, 1961 Chain Bridge Road. Tysons Corner Center will be hosting a multi-retailer job fair showcasing over 30 retailers and restaurants. Come meet the brands, engage with potential coworkers, and come ready for on-the-spot interviews. Email becca.willcox@macerich.com or call 703-770-1123 for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 21

Incarceration Lecture. 4-6 p.m. at Emmaus United Church of Christ, 900 Maple Ave E., Vienna. Dr. Vesla M. Weaver, Bloomberg, Associate Professor of Political Science and Sociology at Johns Hopkins University, will discuss how low-income Black and Latino communities experience policing and incarceration. Call 703-938-1555 for more.

MONDAY/DEC. 11

FCPS Community Conversations. 6:30-8 p.m. at Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church, Cafeteria (Region 2). Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Superintendent Scott S. Brabrand will host Community Conversations to hear what students, parents, employees, and members of the community are thinking about and what issues are important to them. Brabrand welcomes citizens to attend and take part in any of the upcoming sessions that are convenient for them. Citizens needing a translator can make a request for services online. Visit www.fcps.edu/news/superintendent-brabrand-schedules-five-community-conversations-fall.

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.

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

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

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What To "Ware?"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Recently I received a very generous offer in the mail: a \$10 gift certificate from my local hardware store acknowledging my upcoming/now passed birthday. From what I could read, there was no minimum purchase, no exclusions and no small-type print, just a reasonable expiration date: Oct. 31, approximately six weeks out from the day I received this unexpected gift. More than enough time, one would imagine.

The only problem: what am I going to get at the hardware store, other than the employees' pity about how little I know about so much? Most of the time when I'm in a hardware store (typically I'm not browsing, unlike the cookie aisle at the supermarket), I'm attempting to solve a problem I have at home for which I have very little experience and extremely poor instincts at rectifying. Not only do I rarely know what I'm talking about, I don't even know the proper questions to ask to enable/assist the employee in figuring what the heck my problem actually is – other than me, that is.

I'm very much out of my element in a hardware store. A fish out of water doesn't begin to describe my situation. Tevye, from "Fiddler on the Roof" in speaking to his daughter, Chava, about marrying outside the faith came close: "a bird may love a fish, but where would they build a home together?" Build a home? I have enough difficulty maintaining one that's already built.

When I'm asked, or when I offer it, usually I say: "I know two things: sports and chocolate." I guess I could also add being a cancer patient/survivor, but I don't want to redirect a perfectly innocent conversation into a totally different direction: me and my druthers. Although, my situation has been publicly consumed in the Connection Newspapers going on eight and half years; in person, I try to not let it be the first or even second thing that comes out of my mouth. And I never initiate, though I'm happy to respond if asked. Generally speaking, I'd rather it not be about me and my cancer. As my mother used to say "It's enough already."

But none of this comes up in a hardware store. In fact, the only thing that comes up is my Adam's Apple as I sheepishly swallow and admit how incapable I am as a homeowner/do-it-yourselfer and how much help I need to do almost anything. At least the parking is free so it's not a total loss.

As you might imagine, this situation doesn't exactly lead to an easy conversation or a satisfying outcome. Quite the contrary. I know one thing for sure however, if left to my own devices, either I will cause additional and costly damage in my crude attempt to self-repair, or I will hurt myself in the process. And waste money as well, as the end of the day will likely find me and the problem no closer to a resolution than we were at the beginning of the day.

As William Shakespeare might have written: it will be much ado about nothing as nothing much will have been done. In these recurring circumstances, all I can hope for is a safe landing, so to speak, one in which, as pilots often joke: I can walk away uninjured.

Given that I'm a tool twit and have failed miserably at homeowner 101, what then could I possibly buy at the hardware store with my gift certificate? I just got an idea: lightbulbs. I couldn't possibly screw that up, could I? I mean, they're supposed to be screwed up – into the socket, right? What could be more natural for me?

One last question though: when I place the bulb into the socket, do I screw them to the right or to the left?

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



PHOTOS BY COLIN STOECKER/THE CONNECTION

An inside view of the newly renovated Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library before it opens to the public Oct. 14.



From left: Bonnie Bockert, children's library manager; Alicia Korker, assistant branch manager; and Daniela Dixon, a branch manager at the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library. The library opens to the public Oct. 14 after renovations.

Tysons Pimmit Library Re-opens to the Public

BY COLIN STOECKER
THE CONNECTION

The Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library underwent significant renovation over the last year and a half. It has been closed to the public, but is re-opening its doors Oct. 14 officially, ready to serve the greater Tysons Corner community.

From the outside it is still the same old building, but inside, it has been completely re-done from its former 1980s architecture. Bright spaces fill every corner of the rounded building. New computers are being set up at fresh tables, and the books are returning to the shelves with the help of circulation aides.

Linda Prante, assistant circulation manager has been putting books on shelves for 25 years and is accompanied by Raul Alleyne, who is a circulation aide rookie.

"I always loved this branch and when I get here I feel that I'm home," said Prante. "It's bright and fresh."

The library's \$5.61 million renovation under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Guidelines or LEED's, certifies the building's green features. It received a silver rating for using recycled building materials, led lighting, sensor operated water faucets, and efficient ventilation just to name a few.

Daniela Dixon, an Arlington resident and the branch manager came from the Great Falls Library where she was previously for 18 years. As a member of the Tysons Chamber of Commerce, Dixon is excited about the possibilities of having a regional library with a modern look in Tysons Corner which is a booming business and development center.

"There's lots of possibilities and lots of businesses in our backyard," she said.

She toyed with the idea of having community meetings at the library or having library staff present in large apartment building lobbies to spread the word of the library's reopening.

"It's to tell people right down the road, we could be drawing from a broader area,"



Nancy Gravatt (Left), communications for Fairfax Public Libraries, speaks to Daniela Dixon, branch manager for the Tysons Pimmit Regional Library Wednesday, Oct. 4.

Dixon said.

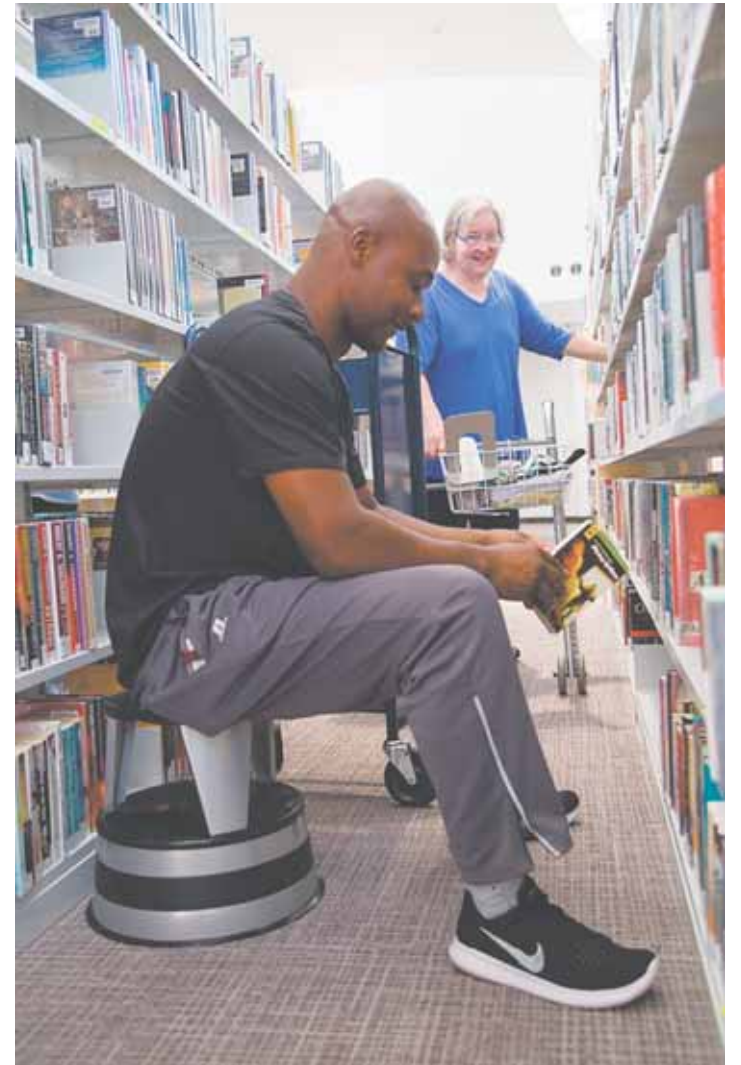
The remodel has added a quiet study room with cubicles, board rooms for community use, and meeting spaces for the community to take part in the library and hold events. There are plenty of public computers, but more people are bringing their own computers for use on the library's WIFI according to Dixon.

"People who study for a test, to certify

them for a change of career, sometimes can't study at home, so they come here," Dixon said.

Bonnie Bockert, children's library manager, is also excited about the redesign and expanded space for the children's center.

"We are really excited for more space, and the kids and families and for people to come and read books," said Bockert. The library



Raul Alleyne, 40, circulation aide rookie, and Linda Prante, assistant circulation manager return books to shelves before the re-opening of the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library Wednesday, Oct. 4.

also offers a Spanish children's book reading time for non-English speakers.

Several groups donated money for the remodel. The Friends of the Tysons Pimmit Regional Library donated \$50,000; \$20,000 will go toward a garden that will create a more welcoming entrance to the library.

The library is one of 22 regional and community libraries in the Fairfax County Public Library system.