

HALLOWEEN FUN

PAGE 10

The ensemble from "In Living Sound – Back Home" performs at the Vienna Community Center.

Vienna and Oakton CONNECTION



Vienna Theatre Company Presents Radio Play

NEWS, PAGE 16

After Two Liver Transplants, a Marathon

NEWS, PAGE 12

Who Will Help Dreamers and Refugees?

NEWS, PAGE 4

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Vienna Rotary Supports Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna

At a recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Vienna, Michelle Scott, executive director of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna, was presented with a donation from the club. Monies were raised by the Rotary Club of Vienna through their 2016 signature event ViVa! Vienna!. For more information about SCOV's services and programs for seniors (50+), visit www.scov.org or their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/scov.org.

The Rotary Club of Vienna was founded in 1965. Their signature downtown event, ViVa! Vienna!, which the club created decades ago and continues to host and manage annually, not only brings several days of enjoyment for children of all ages during Memorial Day weekend, but also generates significant proceeds, all of which are donated to worthy charitable organizations.

Founded in 1998, the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna is a volunteer-based non-profit organization dedicated to providing opportunities for adults (50+) to seek rewarding lives and to live independently in their homes for as long as possible. The approach employed by SCOV has also allowed for mature adults to volunteer their time and skills providing vital services to the more vulnerable seniors needing assistance. In 2018 SCOV will be celebrating 20 years of service to the community.

Rotary members John Tate and Hugh (Gerry) Hamilton present a donation to Michelle Scott, Executive Director of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SCOV



As the country's population is living longer and oftentimes isolated from family support, "aging in place" becomes a challenge. The concept of "Seniors Helping Seniors" truly defines the spirit and purpose of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Their personal enrichment and volunteer opportunities reach more than 3,000 older adults (50+) in the region.

Each year more than 250 volunteers at SCOV serve as medical drivers, companion drivers, friendly callers and visitors, health and wellness educators, office assistants, fundraisers, and grant writers. Volunteers also run programs such as SCOV's Lunch n' Life, Adventures in Learning, trips and outings, special events, and the caregivers' support group and caregivers treat event.

Brought back by popular demand, SCOV's signature fundraiser will be held on Sunday, Oct. 22, 3 p.m. featuring again the Capitol Steps. Tickets are \$35. Organizers are suggesting tickets be purchased early as this show is expected to sell out. For tickets, visit www.scov.org/fundraiser-tickets or call 703-281-0538. Sponsorships are still available. Visit www.scov.org/Fundraiser-Sponsorship to view the corporate benefits provided with a sponsorship.

To volunteer, donate or learn more about how you can help, visit their website at www.scov.org or contact the office at 703-281-0538, office@scov.org.

New Minister Brings Vision to Local Church's Programs

Reverend Dustin Parsons-Schwarz joined the ministerial staff at Emmaus United Church of Christ (UCC), located at 900 Maple Ave. East, Vienna, in August to lead its educational and mission programs. As its new part-time associate minister, he brings to Emmaus — now in its 51st year — a passion for faith formation and social justice, along with a rich background of experience.

Parsons-Schwarz cares deeply about faith formation in children and adults. For children, this means learning the sacred stories and traditions of the United Church of Christ and Christianity, learning spiritual disciplines such as prayer and song, and having opportunities to experience the divine working in their lives. He says that for older youth and adults faith formation involves three phases of development: learning what theologians have said; developing one's own theology; and putting that theology into practice on a daily basis.

The goal for both adults and children is the same: to foster a strong faith with which to meet life's challenges. Parsons-Schwarz believes that "Christians everywhere are called to be the hands and feet of Christ," and that a foundation grounded in faith is needed for that path. He takes a creative approach to provide meaningful experiences for all.

Equally interested in mission, Parsons-Schwarz feels called to mobilize Emmaus and nearby church communities to address hunger and homelessness, both locally and internationally. A month into his position,



Rev. Dustin Parsons-Schwarz joins the ministerial staff at Emmaus United Church of Christ in Vienna.

he has already helped manage a food packing and delivery event for a local community of immigrant families that has difficulty obtaining fresh food. He also planned a Rise Against Hunger multi-faith event for Oct. 14-15 to deliver 20,000 meals to a community abroad facing starvation — the eighth year Emmaus has participated in the program.

An ordained Disciples of Christ minister, he received his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Religious Studies from Lynchburg College in 2003. Parsons-Schwarz' sense of call was confirmed while working in law enforcement with the Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office. This led him to attend Lexington Theological Seminary in Lexington, Ky.

While in seminary, Parsons-Schwarz grew passionate in his concern for people living on the margins and began working with disadvantaged youth, homelessness and addictions. At that time, he also served as Associate Pastor at First Christian Church in Maysville, Ky.

He moved to the Washington, D.C. metro area to continue his work with the homeless and mentally ill populations there. After his ordination in 2014, Parsons-Schwarz

sought training as a chaplain through the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education first as an Intern Chaplain at Inova Fairfax Hospital's trauma center and then as a Chaplain Resident at St. Elizabeths Hospital in D.C. The two settings, while only separated by 20 miles and the Potomac River, could not have been a more different set of experiences, he notes. A profound sense of being "at the right place at the right time, in the right way" permeated both chaplaincies, however, which Parsons-Schwarz attributes to a strong desire to listen and understand the needs of others. He learned what it means to bring peace in the midst of the storm. "By listening carefully I learn what is important to another person, which builds bridges and strengthens the relationship between us and from there I can be of service."

Parsons-Schwarz intends to connect his chaplaincy experience to the new challenge of ministry in the Northern Virginia suburbs. Asked what his dream for Emmaus is, he

says, "I want Emmaus to become the go-to church of Vienna, known as a place of love, where all feel welcome." To that end he intends to continue the ongoing missions of Emmaus in regards to hunger. He also intends to reach out to the LGBT community specifically, knowing that this population has often experienced condemnation and exclusion by churches and, therefore, is reluctant to walk through their doors. Emmaus UCC covenanted to be an Open and Affirming (ONA) church in June 2007, a designation that means it welcomes "into their full life and ministry persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions" (ucc.org).

Parsons-Schwarz said, "I am both excited and humbled to have been called to the position of Minister of Faith Formation and Mission at Emmaus, a place of radical hospitality."

Emmaus UCC begins its Sunday School programming in mid-September.

FAITH NOTES

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

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.

Shifting Political Battlefield for General Assembly

Solid blue urban areas separated by political beltway from solid red exurbs.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

Northern Virginia has more competitive seats than any other part of the commonwealth, a ring of districts that forms a beltway of sorts separating the inner solid blue in Arlington and Alexandria from the solid red in Loudoun and Prince William. That puts Fairfax County squarely in the driver's seat this November, when Democrats hope to pick up seats in an election that has balanced local issues like schools and roads with the ongoing reaction to President Donald Trump. That battle will be won or lost in suburban Northern Virginia, where the Washington suburbs are sprawling into areas that used to be farmland and orchards.

"We have a transportation beltway around D.C. in Northern Virginia, and we also have a competitive political beltway," said Quentin Kidd at Christopher Newport University. "It's the fault line between old Virginia and new Virginia, and it's the trenches of our current political battlefield."

The region has many incumbent delegates who are running unopposed, all Democrats: Mark Kearn (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).

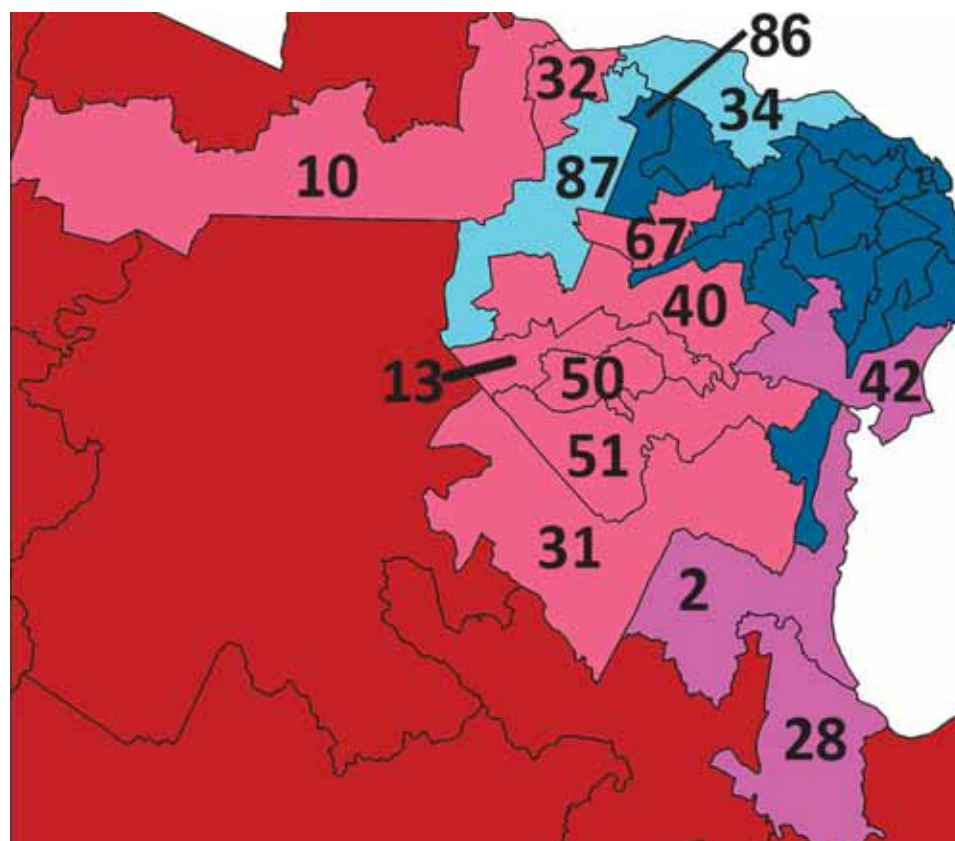
The decision of longtime Del. David Albo (R-42) to step down from public life after more than 20 years in office has created a vacuum that Democrats are eager to fill. Former Labor Department deputy administrator Kathy Tran emerged from a primary back in June, and she's been running hard against Republican Lolita Mancheno-Smoak ever since. Democrats have called attention to Mancheno-Smoak's early support of Donald Trump, whose candidacy she supported back in 2015 shortly after he declared his candidacy by calling Mexican immigrants rapists.

"Sometimes in order to generate change, in order to get new energy to actually feel passionate about a new beginning you need positive disruption," said Mancheno-Smoak in an interview with Connection Newspapers. "I see Trump as a positive disruptor."

Democrats pounced on that remark, issuing a press release in reaction.

"It's no surprise that she would call Donald Trump a positive disruptor as the most recent version of Trumpcare would disrupt access to affordable health care for 32 million people," said Virginia House Caucus spokeswoman Katie Baker in a written statement. "For Kathy Tran, on the other hand, health care is a moral issue."

ASIDE FROM HAVING three of the four open seats on the ballot this year, the region has more Republicans incumbents facing hotly contested races than any other part



MAP COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA CENTER FOR POLITICS

longtime incumbent. But it's about half of what Hugo was able to raise. That's only part of the value of incumbency. Hugo, who calls himself the "pothole delegate" for his support of constituent issues, has spent the last decade building goodwill among voters in the district.

"Folks like Tim Hugo have established a name brand and an identity in their districts, and voters generally have a favorable view toward them," said Mark Rozell, at George Mason University. "Democrats are energized, and they are counting on a big anti-Trump vote. But I think you can count on some split ticket voting, and perhaps many of those voters who are going to vote against the Republican at the top of the ticket will still vote for their local guy in the House of Delegates."

REPUBLICAN INCUMBENTS aren't the only General Assembly members facing challenges, though. Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) is one of two Democratic incumbents facing a challenge the Center for Politics has ranked as competitive. The seat was held for more than 40 years by Republican Vince Callahan, although it has been held by Republicans and Democrats since he retired a decade ago. The Republican in the race is Cheryl Buford, who struggled to answer questions about her own campaign platform in an interview with Connection Newspapers. She says she wants to reduce regulations, for example, but she couldn't name any specific ones she would spike. She also says she wants to tackle the opioid crisis, although she couldn't name any specific proposals on that either.

"While it will be tough for the GOP to win any seats currently held by Democrats in 2017, this is one of the few such seats with a recent track record of competitiveness," says Skelley. "So I don't think we can entirely count out Buford."

One race that is contested but not necessarily competitive is House District 86, where incumbent freshman Democrat Jennifer Boysko is defending the seat against Republican challenger Linda Schulz.

Two years ago, Democrats were able to flip the seat after the retirement of longtime Republican Del. Tom Rust (R-86), a former mayor of Herndon. Since that time, Boysko has become one of the most outspoken critics of the Republican House leadership, even staging a press conference to denounce how bills with little chance of passing the Courts of Justice were being killed without so much as a hearing. Despite the fact that the seat was held by a Republican for decades, though, the Center for Politics did not race this as a competitive race.

"Tom Rust was a moderate Republican who managed to hold that seat even as it became bluer and bluer," says Geoff Skelley at the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "But now Jennifer Boysko controls it, and there's little reason to think she's in danger."

House districts of interest

Category:

- Potentially competitive open seats
- Potentially competitive seats with D inc
- Potentially competitive seats with R inc
- Safe D seats
- Safe R seats

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA CENTER FOR POLITICS



Cheryl Buford (R)



Kathleen Murphy (D)



Jennifer Boysko (D)



Linda Schulz (R)

of the state. The Center for Politics at the University of Virginia identified eight Republicans facing competitive challenges and two Democrats. The incumbent who seems to be facing the strongest challenge is Del. Jim LeMunyon (R-67), who sent out mailers emphasizing his work with Democratic Gov. Terry McAuliffe.

"This is probably the best chance Democrats have of taking out a GOP incumbent," said Geoff Skelley, media relations coordinator at the Center for Politics. "Jim LeMunyon occupies the most Democratic seat held by a Republican in the House of Delegates." He is opposed by Karrie Delaney.

Another Republican incumbent facing a competitive race this year is Del. Tim Hugo (R-40), who serves as the Republican caucus chairman. He's facing Democrat Donte Tanner, who raised more than \$350,000 to take on the popular Republican incumbent. That's a huge chunk of change, especially for a first-time candidate running against a

Who Will Help Dreamers and Refugees?

Individuals, religious groups and other organizations share same goal.

BY SHIRLEY RUHE

The supporters all agree on one thing. As Imam Ali Siddiqui said, “Nobody asked these kids whether they wanted to come to America. They go to school, they work hard, build a career. It will be a loss to send them back.” Figures distributed by The Commonwealth Institute in October 2017 show that if all Virginians who are eligible for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) became citizens, state and local tax contributions by young Virginians would rise from the current \$35 million to \$52.9 million a year.

As President Trump’s executive order released Sept. 5 threatens 800,000 DACA recipients with deportation, communities of supporters rally to their defense.

Individuals and groups converge from all directions to provide sanctuary, educational assistance, moral support, employment counseling and sometimes “in your face” advocacy for immigrant assistance. Each group has a plan and a niche but they are all working for the same goal — passage of the Dream Act, which will offer the opportunity for a long, but legal, path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

Norma Kacen is part of the Northern Virginia Friends of Refugees, an Arlington-based group, which she co-founded with Wendy Chan in the fall of 2016. “I grew up on Federal Hill in Providence, Rhode Island, an ethnic ghetto. It was a closed world with circles of ghettos — Portuguese, Italian, French, German, Polish,” she said, drawing circles with her finger on the table.

Kacen has recently been up on Capitol Hill as a volunteer lobbyist with the American Association of University Women visiting key senators to urge passage of the Dream Act. “All of the comments were ‘we couldn’t afford it,’ but,” she says, pulling out a talking sheet, “ending DACA and kicking recipients out of the labor force would cost the United States \$433.4 billion in GDP and decrease Social Security and Medicare contributions by \$24.6 billion over the next decade.” This is according to the Center for American Progress, a self-described progressive independent nonpartisan policy institute.

As of November 2016, 645,000 DACA recipients nationwide are employed, and they pay taxes. Kacen said, “My challenge to the senators was yes, we pay for their education like anyone else who pays taxes.” But most of the senators were unmoved by the arguments. Kacen says it is

also important to acknowledge a breakdown of DACA by Congressional districts because “some our representatives only listen to their own constituents.”

Northern Virginia Friends of Refugees was established to combat the anti-Muslim rhetoric and to be a welcoming friend to all refugees. “We didn’t want to duplicate the efforts of others so we partner with other organizations,” she said.

RECENTLY THE GROUP held three advocacy workshops for people supportive of refugees. About 50 people attended one of the workshops at Fairfax Presbyterian Church, Mt. Olivet Presbyterian Church in Arlington and a Muslim site in Fairfax. These workshops are non-partisan with the purpose to teach the skills necessary for effective advocacy.

“I was really delighted and it was extremely heartening that millennials attended. Every organization is trying to figure out what they can do to attract the disengaged millennials,” Kacen said.

The second event, which was held in the spring, brought American professionals together with the often highly skilled immigrants to help the immigrants navigate the workplace. “So we connect the immigrants together with American professionals in their own field to allow the professionals to talk.” Many of the refugees were doctors, architects, engineers and entrepreneurs in their countries and now have low-level jobs in America. The purpose of these life skills programs is to increase connections to help the immigrants reach their potential.

The third focus for this year is a large community event planned for the spring. It would be intended to show the resilience of the immigrants by “focusing on the incredible skills in the cultural arts such as music, arts and fashion. It is to show the capacity to overcome, the triumph of the human spirit,” she said.

Are they making progress? Kacen paused, “It’s hard to say. But ... there are so many people engaged.”

Monica Sarmiento is executive director of Virginia Coalition for Immigrant Right (VACIR), a coalition that began in 2013 with eight organizations, now grown to 16. She says their organization is focused on how to have more comprehensive immigrant reform in Virginia. “Many organizations have their niches demographically or ethnically but we tend to be looking at what we’re doing statewide and collaboratively. The most important empha-



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Remembering her youth in Rhode Island, Norma Kacen of Arlington traces circles on the table as she describes neighborhood ghettos of people segregated by ethnicity.



Sumi Yi



Monica Sarmiento



The Rev. Laura Martin

sis is to push different community representatives at the table — African, Korean, Muslim.”

Sarmiento says since VACIR is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization they don’t directly lobby but have encouraged people to call their members of Congress, and the 16 organizations who are part of the coalition often engage in advocacy. For instance the Commonwealth Institute has prepared a fact sheet outlining how DREAMers grow our economy with 61 percent opening a bank account, 64.5 percent buying their first car, 97 percent becoming employed or enrolled in school. It adds that young people with DACA status contribute nearly \$711 million to Virginia’s economy annually including nearly \$35 million in state and local taxes. The conclusion is that ending DACA could reduce Virginia state and local tax revenue by almost \$13 million a year.

Members of VACIR include such groups as Legal Aid Justice Center, SEEC, VOCOLAO, NAKASEC, The Commonwealth Institute and Virginia New Majority. These groups have focused on the constituents of two U.S. representatives in Virginia, Scott Taylor (R-2) and Barbara Comstock (R-10), who they are trying to convince “to do the right thing and support a clean Dream Act.”

Sarmiento says the VACIR board had decided for the first time to endorse a clean Dream Act, the first time they had endorsed

any legislation. “A clean Dream Act would not have such provisions as mandatory verification (death by 1,000 papers), an increase in ICE agents, increased money for deportation, funding for the border wall, inability to sponsor family members, no pathway to citizenship.”

She says there needs to be a much larger conversation to spotlight the injustices happening now with undocumented immigrants who have already lost their DACA status due to President Trump’s executive order or who will lose their Temporary Protective Status (TPS) if it is not renewed. These people could be deported any day. She says 300,000 of these are from Latin America; 200,000 of these are Salvadoran. Sarmiento was raised in Northern Virginia but her parents emigrated from El Salvador fleeing war. “They were fortunate my grandmother lived here and got her legal status through the Reagan amnesty act so my father got legal status.”

Sumi Yi, Virginia community organizer for National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC), a community-based progressive Asian American and Pacific Islander organization, says their mission is to organize Korean and Asian Americans to achieve social, racial, and economic justice. She points out that out of the cur-

SEE WHO WILL HELP, PAGE 9

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left: Priscilla Knight Williams, NOVEC; Piper Phillips Caswell, president and CEO, PHILLIPS Programs; Alex Robbins, Fairfax outreach representative for the Office of U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly; Mike Policicchio, partner, EY; Trudy Bell, program director, PHILLIPS School ~ Annandale; Del. Mark Keam (D-35); Cindy Fithian, community liaison, NOVEC; Debi Alexander, director of development, PHILLIPS Programs.

Celebrating PHILLIPS' 50th Anniversary

The Commonwealth of Virginia is marking the 50th Anniversary of PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families, a local nonprofit helping youth with a variety of challenges and qualities succeed, with a proclamation during a ceremony to be held at the nonprofit's Annandale school. PHILLIPS started in 1967 as a school program serving four students before federal law mandated that every child receive a free and appropriate education. Today PHILLIPS serves 500

youth annually, most of whom have been referred by the local school systems.

Del. Mark Keam (D-35) presented a resolution commemorating PHILLIPS Programs 50th Anniversary offered at the General Assembly; Alex Robbins presented a Resolution commemorating PHILLIPS Programs 50th Anniversary and commending the new Career Partners program in the Congressional Record. Both were presented at a reception on Oct. 11 at the Annandale Campus.

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 THE KINGSBURY CENTER | THE LAB SCHOOL OF WASHINGTON | LANDMARK SCHOOL
 THE LEELANAU SCHOOL | THE MADDUX SCHOOL | MANSEF | MIDDLEBRIDGE SCHOOL
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Arlington County Auction - 11 A.M.

Arlington County Board Room (#307)
 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201

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Parcel 1



Parcel 3

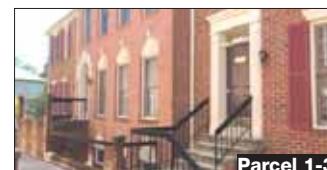
Fairfax County & City Auctions - 3 P.M.

Fairfax City Regional Library
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OPINION

Don't Stay Home

Your vote counts this round;
nation is watching.

Every year is election year in Virginia. Virginia offers multiple examples that prove every vote counts.

This year, each Virginia voter will vote for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General and their member of the House of Delegates. Virginia is one of two Governor's races, and many are watching the Virginia race to as a harbinger of what to expect in 2018.

No matter how you vote, polling shows that the Governor's race could be very close.

EDITORIAL While there are quite a few uncontested races for members of the House of Delegates, several races could also be close, with the outcome likely to depend on turnout.

There is every reason to get out and vote.

Absentee Voting in Person

Voting early if you qualify is a good choice.

There are 19 valid reasons to vote absentee in Virginia, including the possibility that you will be working and commuting to and from home for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day. Check the Virginia Department of Elections list to see if you are eligible: elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/absentee-voting/index.html

There are two ways to vote absentee: in-person and by mail. To vote by mail, you will need to apply for an absentee ballot; if you vote absentee in-person you will fill out the application when you arrive at the in-person absentee location.

See your locality's elections website for more.

Bring Photo ID, There Are Alternatives

Virginia has voter identification requirements; plan to bring photo identification with you to vote, whether absentee or on Election Day.

Any registered voter who does not have one of the required forms of identification can apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad.

Among accepted ID: valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; other government-issued photo identification cards issued by the U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth; valid college or university student photo identification card from an institution of higher education located in Virginia; valid student ID issued by a public school or private school in Virginia displaying a photo; employee identification

General Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 7

On Election Day Polls are open from 6 a.m.-7 p.m.

card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business.

A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

To find a registration office where you can obtain photo ID, even on the day of an election, visit: vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation/PublicContactLookup.

Provisional Ballot Process for Voters Who Arrive Without Identification

If you arrive at your polling place on Election Day without an acceptable form of photo

On the Ballot

Governor

Ralph S. Northam (D)
Edward W. "Ed" Gillespie (R)
Clifford D. Hyra (L)

Lieutenant Governor

Justin E. Fairfax (D)
Jill H. Vogel (R)

Attorney General

Mark R. Herring (D) incumbent
John D. Adams (R)

House of Delegates

34th District

Kathleen Murphy (D) incumbent
Cheryl Buford (R)

35th District

Mark Keam (D) incumbent, unopposed

36th District

Ken Plum (D) incumbent, unopposed

37th District

David Bulova (D) incumbent, unopposed

38th District

Kay Kory (D) incumbent
Paul Haring (R)

39th District

Vivian Watts (D) incumbent, unopposed

40th District

Donte Tanner (D)
Tim Hugo (R) incumbent

41st District

Eileen Filler-Corn (D) incumbent, unopposed

42nd District

Kathy Tran (D)
Lolita Mancheno-Smoak (R)

43rd District

Mark Sickles (D) incumbent, unopposed

44th District

Paul Krizek (D) incumbent, unopposed

45th District

Mark Levine (D) incumbent, unopposed

53rd District

Marcus Simon (D) incumbent
Mike Casey (I)

67th District

Karrie Delaney (D)
Jim LeMunyon (R) incumbent

86th District

Jennifer Boysko (D) incumbent
Linda Schulz (R)

Fairfax County School Bonds

Voters will vote yes or no on a \$315 million public school bond referendum on the Nov. 7 general election ballot. If approved by voters, the Fairfax County Public Schools' current plans to use this bond money are to plan and/or construct two new elementary schools, one in Fairfax/Oakton area and another in the northwest county area; relocate one modular building; plan additions at three existing high schools to add capacity at Madison, Stuart and West Potomac; plan and/or construct renovations of 10 elementary schools, three middle schools and two high schools. See www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/facilities-planning-future/2017-school-bond-referendum.

Fairfax County Office of Elections

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections
Voter Registration: 703-222-0776, TTY 711
Absentee Fax: 703-324-3725
Email: voting@fairfaxcounty.gov
Election Officer Info: 703-324-4735, TTY 711

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar at least two weeks before event.

SATURDAY/OCT. 28

Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at McLean

District Station, 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Drop off unused or expired medications at a Fairfax County Police district station. Pills or liquids only, no pressurized canisters or needles. Safe disposal of unused or expired medications prevents drug

abuse and misuse, accidental poisoning, and protects the environment. Disposal is free, convenient, confidential, and safe. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/stations/ or www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/

drug_disposal/takeback/index.html.

MONDAY/OCT. 30

AARP Dinner Meeting. 5-8 p.m. at Mylo's Grill, 6238 Old Dominion

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15

Vienna & Oakton
CONNECTION

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NEWS

Putting Faith in Action

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic School students from Vienna preparing trail mix bags and cards for The Lamb Center in Fairfax.



Take Control and Be Your Own Boss
Learn how at the Capital Area Franchise Fair

Monday, November 6, 8:30am-12:30pm
Reston Association Conference Center
12001 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston, VA

The Capital Area Franchise Fair is the annual learning event hosted by FranNet of Virginia with the SBA, SCORE and the Community Business Partnership.

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Tickets cost \$39 (\$49 at the door)
Register at www.capitalfranchiseshow.com
Questions call Heather Rosen at 703-291-0939



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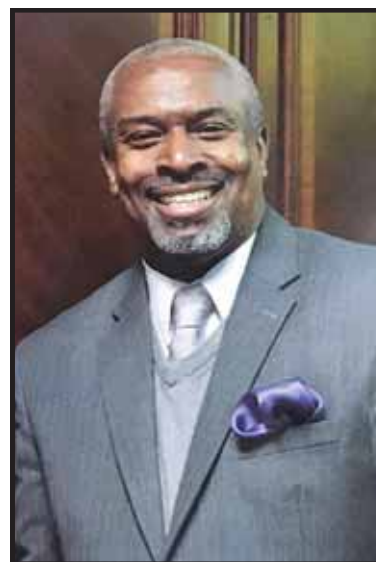
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Facing – and Fighting – the Opioid Crisis

Connolly and Bulova host Opioid Crisis Roundtable.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

The inbox of any member of Congress overflows with information on hundreds, if not thousands, of issues and requests to address the problems that plague their constituencies. So how did the growing opioid crisis and its effects on local communities find its way to the top of the pile for U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11)?

Connolly found himself “so taken aback” when doing a “little data reading.”

“I knew it was bad. I knew it was affecting a lot of people,” but the numbers stunned him.

Connolly and his staff dug deeper. Calls, meetings, research, and even some drive-alongs with law enforcement followed. Then it was time to bring together the experts, the policy-makers, the front-line responders, representatives of those personally affected, and the public at large. Joining forces with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Connolly and Board Chairman Sharon Bulova hosted a roundtable event on Saturday, Oct. 21 at the Fairfax County Government Center, that was aired live, as well as recorded and available for viewing on the County’s Channel 16.

“This ... is an opportunity for our community to come together and bring the opioid epidemic out of the shadows,” said Connolly, “... and by bringing this panel of experts together we hope people will know they aren’t alone in this fight.”

TO START THINGS OFF, both Connolly and Bulova shared some of those numbers that so affected the congressman.

❖ Since 2000, the opioid and heroin epidemic has claimed more than 200,000 lives — more than three times the number killed in the Vietnam War.

❖ According to the National Center for Health Statistics, more than 64,000 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2016 — an increase of more than 20 percent over the previous year.

❖ Deaths from the synthetic opioid fentanyl have increased by 540 percent in just three years.

❖ In the Commonwealth of Virginia, opioid overdose deaths rose by about 40 percent from 2015 to 2016, and synthetic opioid deaths rose from 262 to 692 during that time.

❖ Northern Virginia is not immune from



At the roundtable addressing the Opioid Epidemic. Speakers included U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly, Fairfax County Board Chair Bulova, and members of law enforcement, the medical profession, nonprofits, treatment providers, and state Secretary of Health and Human Services William Hazel.

Nick Yacoub, a recovery coach, addresses the panel, recounting his own struggles with addiction from an early age: “Part of the problem [in combating the opioid crisis] is that addiction is seen as a moral failure.”



the epidemic, with Fairfax County ranking number one in opioid-related deaths during the 2015-2016 period. Prince William County (parts of which are included in Connolly’s district) reported a doubling of their opioid-related deaths during that same year.

Bulova added that between January and September last year, Fairfax County Emergency Medical personnel reported 369 uses of the drug Naloxone, used to treat people suffering from opioid overdose. “That’s more than one per day,” said Bulova. “These are disturbing numbers.” The overdoses were the result of prescription drug usage, heroin, and synthetic opioids like fentanyl. “And as many of you may know,” noted Bulova, “fentanyl is 10 times more potent than heroin.”

Some studies have reported fentanyl as being as much as 50 times more potent than morphine.

THE ASSEMBLED PANEL illustrated the depth and breadth of the crisis. Joining Connolly and Bulova were state Secretary of Health and Human Resources William Hazel; John Cheseck, battalion chief, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department EMS Division; Maj. Amanda Lambert, director of

Dr. Husam Alathari, medical director of INOVA’s CATS program, says that the medical profession and treatment providers need to do their parts in fighting the opioid epidemic: “Addiction needs to be treated like the chronic medical condition that it is.”



Support Services, Prince William-Manassas Regional Adult Detention Center; Ginny Atwood-Lovitt, executive director of the Chris Atwood Foundation; Dr. Husam Alathari, medical director, INOVA CATS program; Jennifer Lofland, field intelligence manager with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency; Lyn Tomlinson, assistant deputy director of the Fairfax Falls Church Community Service Board; and Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu, director, Fairfax County Department of Health.

Each speaker brought their own perspective to the issue, highlighting the profound negative effects being felt at all layers and levels of society, strengthening the argument that it will take the efforts of all of these elements of the community, along with the public, to wage an effective war on the opioid epidemic.

“We can’t arrest our way out of this,” said Hazel. “This is an addiction epidemic, not an opioid epidemic, and there are really only three outcomes to addiction: live with it, recovery, or death.”

Hazel, and other panel members, spoke of the effects of the crisis, beyond the immediate loss of life and the heartbreaking impact that loss has on family and friends.

Drug addiction also causes or exacerbates

other medical conditions. Drug addiction in pregnant women often leads to the birth of addicted infants, or babies suffering from other medical problems. In addition to the human cost to these innocent lives, Hazel pointed out that neo-natal care for these afflicted newborns can cost about \$70,000 per child.

To highlight that point, Lambert reported that 100 percent of the pregnant women currently incarcerated in Prince William County are in need of methadone to counter addiction.

Often-times, elevated crime rates are found in areas experiencing high addiction levels, and “there’s certainly a negative impact on the workforce and productivity,” said Hazel.

Cheseck spoke of the added dangers now facing first responders when called out to drug-overdose emergencies.

Some of the new drugs can be transferred to the responder through touch, or even through inhalation. New gear and new methods of protecting police and emergency personnel, as well as hospital staff, are now required, and the chief expressed his gratitude for a grant from the state to provide doses of Narcan to help protect those on the frontline, as well as the victims they assist.

The panelists were in agreement that the first step in stopping the epidemic is to end the stigma attached to addiction.

MANY OF THOSE suffering from opioid addiction came to their situation as the result of legally prescribed medications to alleviate pain, often following a surgery or as the result of some accident or injury.

“You have to understand,” said Alathari, “that these drugs can literally re-wire your brain.” Alathari cited studies showing that even limited use of opioids can lead to changes in brain chemistry that makes the drug user willing to “give up food, water and sex — the main life drivers — for the drug.” The doctor said that physicians need to do their part and recognize addiction as a chronic medical condition. “These patients struggle every day. There are FDA-approved medications that can help, but the because of the stigma, the patients are often encouraged to stop taking them.”

Atwood-Lovitt also pointed to the stigma associated with addiction as an obstacle to those engaged in the war against it. Atwood-Lovitt lost her brother Christopher to an opioid overdose. During the years that Christopher and his family struggled with his addiction, Atwood-Lovitt recalled the friends and family members who “turned their backs,” no longer wanting to associate with Christopher because he was “one of those people.” Employment and normal

SEE ROUNDTABLE, PAGE 13

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Dreamers

FROM PAGE 4

rent 800,000 DACA 135,000 are Asian-Americans.

The current efforts focus on DACA with phone banks, vigils and visits to Virginia legislators urging them to support of the Dream Act. “Representatives Barbara Comstock and Scott Taylor are on the fence about whether to co-sponsor the legislation,” said Yi. NAKASEC is planning a day soon when they will join with other organizations and knock on every door they can find. “Come on; we can do this,” she said.

Yi says that Korea is a land of opportunity with a great educational system. “I can go there now and make a lot of money but what keeps us rooted here is liberty and freedom. In Korea,” she said, “You have to think a certain way. Culturally and value-wise, I’m American.”

Yi takes a moment to reflect on their recent 30-day vigil in front of the White House.

She said they slept on benches, talked to people, got signatures and even did the “DACA dance.”

“The Secret Service told us we were the weirdest demonstrators they had ever seen at the White House; we even had a karaoke night. But we raised a lot of money,” Yi said. “Some people were supportive but others were being really mean. We had kids with us and I could see they were so hurt. I don’t know what’s going to happen but we’re stronger together. We have to do something.”

She declares they’re going to get education and driver’s licenses for everyone in Virginia. “This moment is bigger than all of us.”

SIXTY FOUR PLACES of worship joined together after the election with the announcement of upcoming anti-immigration legislation. Imam Ali Saddiqui, who is part of a transitional leadership team for the group, says Sanctuary DMV (D.C., Maryland, Virginia) includes a number of Protestant churches as well as several synagogues, Catholic churches and his Muslim Institute. One of their actions has been organizing rallies in support of DACA and immigrant rights. “I was just there last week at the Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) office in D.C. and at the mayor’s office.” Since there was just a raid where ICE went after 500 undocumented immigrants and 14 were arrested, the group was asking for their release and for the mayor not to cooperate with ICE officials.

In addition, they have been visiting congressional offices in support of the Dream Act and phoning members of Congress. “Actually this is on a party line. Democrats are very supportive and Republicans not.”

He says you hear the argument that immigrants cost the government money and don’t pay taxes. “Let me tell you my own story. I came here from Pakistan on March 23, 1969 originally as an asylee. I looked for a job and started working and paying taxes March 24 and have paid ever since.”

The Rev. Laura Martin, associate pastor for at Rock Spring UCC in Arlington and also a member of DMV Sanctuary, says there are a number of unresolved issues about the concept of offering sanctuary to an immigrant in a church building. “We are trying to come up with a wider definition of sanctuary such as offering solidarity or support for immigrants when they have an order for deportation. So in the spring another member of the congregation and I picked up a woman living in D.C. with her two children in a



PHOTO BY SHIRLEY RUHE

Imam Ali Saddiqui, transitional leader for Sanctuary DMV, demonstrates outside of ICE office in D.C.

small apartment with 13 people. We were there to support her for her deportation hearing. The woman had fled El Salvador, which is the murder capital of the world. We took her to Rosslyn to immigration court. All of us had to go through a metal detector including the children, and they took away the food in her purse.”

Martin says 80 different cases were all given the same 11 a.m. time for consideration. “It wasn’t a grand court — it was an institutional setting with low ceilings, bright light and so crowded that people, even with babies, couldn’t sit down. It was very procedural and you heard the same thing dozens of times. They took cases with attorneys first so we had to wait for a long time.”

Martin says somewhere along the way the woman’s heavy ankle bracelet started beeping because the battery was low. “There was nowhere to recharge it so it just kept beeping until we got to Subway for lunch in the late afternoon and she could plug it in.” When it came her turn the bilingual judge asked if the immigrant needed time to get an attorney and postponed her case until August.

Then they had to go to Vienna for a regular ankle bracelet check-in. “They could track where she was.”

Martin said the Sanctuary DMV group is not involved in case management so she doesn’t know what happened at the August court date. “The courts can’t keep up. They are rescheduling out to the end of 2018.”

An excerpt from a poem sent by Martin to the congregation concludes:

“I have known the grandmothers who
Smile even though they have left
Their country of spices and markets,
Have left their open windows with blue curtains
Have left the tramping of war,
Have left their songs and language,
And believed America when we said,
“This is the land of the free.””

This is the third article in a series focusing on DACA.

DACA by Congressional District

U.S. Rep.	DACA Recipients
Beyer (D-8)	2,000
Comstock (R-10)	1,600
Connelly (D-11)	2,400

DACA Eligible
5,400
3,700
5,300

DATA PROVIDED BY NAKASEC

Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Fairfax County & Prince William County Design Public Hearings

All hearings at 6-8:30 p.m. Brief presentation at 7 p.m.

Monday, November 13, 2017
for project segment from Route 50 to I-495
Oakton High School Cafeteria
2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, VA 22181

Tuesday, November 14, 2017
for project segment from Route 29 to Route 50
Stone Middle School Cafeteria
5500 Sully Park Drive, Centreville, VA 20120

Thursday, November 16, 2017
for project segment from Gainesville to Route 29 in Centreville
Piney Branch Elementary School Cafeteria/Gym
8301 Linton Hall Road, Bristow, VA 20136

Find out about plans to transform 22.5 miles of I-66 from I-495 (the Capital Beltway) to University Boulevard in Gainesville to provide congestion relief and enhanced safety, as well as new travel choices and reliability. The project will include two new express lanes alongside three regular lanes in each direction, new and expanded transit service and park-and-ride lots, and interchange improvements. For exact locations of project segments, see design plans.

Stop by between 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view the design plans submitted by I-66 Express Mobility Partners, VDOT’s selected partner for the project, and learn more about the proposed improvements. Attend the formal presentation at 7 p.m., followed by a public comment period. VDOT and I-66 Express Mobility Partners staff will be available to answer your questions during the open house.

Review project information, including design plans, project schedule, and environmental, right of way and civil rights information, at www.Transform66.org, at the hearings, or at VDOT’s Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 beginning October 13, 2017. Please call 800-FOR-ROAD (800-367-7623) or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure the availability of appropriate personnel to answer your questions.

Give your oral or written comments at the hearings. You may also email comments to Transform66@VDOT.Virginia.gov. or mail them to Susan Shaw, P.E., Megaprojects Director, at the VDOT Northern Virginia District Office address above. Please reference “Transform 66 Outside the Beltway” in the subject line. Comments must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT by November 29, 2017 to be included in the public hearing record.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Great Falls Farmers Market.

Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Music, vendors, fresh produce, fresh prepared food, delightful bakery, spices from around the world, wild-caught fish, grass-fed, free-range meats, organic-fed poultry and eggs. Email kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org.

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

THROUGH NOV. 18

Broadway Exhibit.

Various times at Broadway Galleries, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. Local photographer, Silvia Gonzalez Roman with a variety of work. Visit www.broadwaygallery.net.

WEDNESDAY/OCT. 25

71st Annual Halloween Parade. 7 p.m. on Maple Avenue, Vienna. Join friends and neighbors, ghouls and goblins for one of Vienna's traditions: the 71st annual Halloween Parade, hosted by the Vienna Business Association. Pre-registration is

required for businesses and organizations who wish to march in the parade. No registration needed for children who want to wear costumes and walk in the parade; children must be accompanied by their mummy or another adult. Visit

bit.ly/2huu6LO.

THURSDAY/OCT. 26

Grand Reopening. 10 a.m. at H&M at Tyson's Corner, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Store is reopening

after being remodeled. Visit www.hm.com.

Annual Trick or Treat Party. 5-7 p.m. at the Mosaic District, 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax. Pet costume contest and "Hotel Transylvania" screening at 6:30 in Strawberry Park. Visit mosaicdistrict.com/.

OCT. 27-28

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.

The Recital on Stage. 7:30 at 1st Stage Theatre, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. Premiere of The Recital with live piano performed by MusicLink, Saturday's ticket includes access to the Post-Performance. \$30-50. Call 703-854-1856.

SATURDAY/OCT. 28

Arlington Free Clinic Annual Benefit Gala. 6 p.m.-midnight at Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner Tysons Galleria, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Cocktail reception and silent auction, which includes giveaways, art and photography, sports items, and much more. \$300. Visit www.gala.arlingtonfreeclinic.org.

Ellis Paul in Concert. 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Ellis Paul with Sophie B. Hawkins in celebration of 25 years of touring. Visit www.jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/OCT. 29

Pumpkin Carving Lessons. 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. \$20.00 per child and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to "Real Food for Kids." Call 703-442-9110.

Spookappella Halloween Jam. 2 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Cover band rocking R&B, Hip-Hop, Funk, and soul hits of the last five decades. \$10 in advance,

Halloween Parade

The parade route for the 71st Annual Halloween Parade, Wednesday, Oct. 25, 7 p.m. on Maple Ave., Vienna. Join friends and neighbors, ghouls and goblins for one of Vienna's traditions: the 71st annual Halloween Parade, hosted by the Vienna Business Association. Pre-registration is required for businesses and organizations who wish to march in the parade. No registration needed for children who want to wear costumes and walk in the parade; children must be accompanied by their mummy or another adult.

\$15 at the door. Visit www.jamminjava.com.

New Dominion Chorale. 4 p.m. at St. Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The program, "Songs Celestial," will be conducted by Thomas Beveridge, artistic director, and will feature organist Paul Skevington, baritone James Shaffran and countertenor Chris Dudley. \$35 for adults, \$30 for senior citizens, and \$15 for students and children. Group tickets are available for groups of 10 or more at \$25 per ticket. All tickets are for general admission. Visit www.newdominion.org or call 202-244-7191.

FRIDAY/NOV. 3

Scott Miller Concert. 2 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Rock singer/songwriter highlights his first full album in four years, "Ladies Auxiliary." Visit www.jamminjava.com.

NOV. 6-JAN. 7

Textures Exhibit. Various times at the Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 8

Great Falls Historian. 7 p.m. at the Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Joan Wehner will speak about the purchase, restoration and transfer of the Schoolhouse to the Fairfax County Park Authority. \$5. Visit gfhs.org.

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/.

THURSDAY/NOV. 9

Meet the Artists. 7-9 p.m. at the McLean Project for the Arts, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. "Nature as Prototype" exhibition by Yoko K, Adam Nelson and Gretthe Whittrick. "Nature as Prototype" runs through Dec. 23. Visit mpaart.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 11

Fall Bazaar. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, 400 Center St., South. The Vienna www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



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ENTERTAINMENT



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THURSDAY/OCT. 26

Annual Trick or Treat Party. 5-7 p.m. at the Mosaic District, 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax. Pet costume contest and "Hotel Transylvania" screening at 6:30 in Strawberry Park. Visit mosaicdistrict.com.

Trick or Treat Party

Spooktacular annual trick or treat party on Thursday, Oct. 26, 5-7 p.m. at the Mosaic District, 2910 District Avenue, Fairfax. Pet costume contest and "Hotel Transylvania" screening at 6:30 in Strawberry Park. Visit mosaicdistrict.com.

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Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary is sponsoring this event with crafts, bake sale, holiday items. Email dancers1023@aol.com or call 703-309-3468.

NOV. 16-18

Christmas Craft Show. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday 10

a.m.-4 p.m. at the Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Oakton Church of the Brethren's 24th Annual Christmas Craft Show is a three-day event featuring a wide variety of handmade creations and craft supplies for purchase, plus a soup and sandwich lunch and bake sale. Visit

www.oaktonbrethren.org.

NOV. 17-19

Big Sale, Small Works. Various times at the Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW. A variety of art available. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

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Steve Nugent and his wife Diane of Vienna.



Steve Nugent with daughter Bailey pictured three months before his liver transplant.

After Two Liver Transplants, a Marathon

Steve Nugent, 53, of Vienna runs in Marine Corps Marathon.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

Steve Nugent, 53, of Vienna's Murrum Pines community has undergone two liver transplants due to his chronic condition called PSC or primary sclerosing cholangitis. The PSC disease is a disorder of the liver in which the bile ducts inside and outside the liver become inflamed, thickened, narrowed, and finally obstructed. It's the same disease that killed Walter Payton of the Chicago Bears football team.

On Sunday, Oct. 22, some 14 months after his second liver transplant, Nugent was one of 30,000 runners in the 42nd annual Marine Corps Marathon in Arlington. He finished the race with a time of 6 hours, 16 minutes, as 35 of his friends and family cheered him on. His goal was to raise \$26,000 in the event. "I've been waiting to do this since the moment I woke up on that operating table. I've dreamed of this event," he said. Up until he was age 38, Nugent had lived a pretty healthy life. He was then diagnosed with PSC and in 2007, he received his first liver transplant from his younger sister Nancy in an 11-hour surgery; taking about 60 percent of her liver, which will regenerate itself.

After the transplant, Nugent lived a fairly normal life for a few more years. "I did very well and I lived as normal a life that a transplant patient can live for eight years. I took a lot of medicines. I was able to do most things," he said.

But when he turned 49, the PSC returned. "And when it returned, it was very aggressive," he said. "I went downhill very quickly and found myself two years later literally with days at the most left to live."

tionwide on an organ waiting list, where he was wait-listed at three hospitals. His MELD Score was at the highest level of 40 (gravely ill); MELD is a numerical scale used to rate adult liver transplant candidates. On June 5, 2016, he got a call to drive down to UVA for an available organ, but once he got on the operating table, they did tests and discovered it was not viable because the liver was no good.

Ten days later, the Nugents were blessed with a second chance. After driving around from Sterling to Vienna, and a missed phone call from his brother, they were told by his coordinator Cindy Williams from UVA Hospital that she had an organ and he needed to come to UVA immediately.

"I was so sick at that point that I wasn't really grasping what was going on. You have to say the word 'yes' (that you'll accept the organ), but I was confused," he said. After talking with his doctor, Dr. Kirti Shetty of Georgetown who encouraged him to go through with it, he said "yes" then drove in rush hour traffic to UVA for the transplant.

He added, "My surgeon told me, I don't know how you are alive because your liver is basically gone, and he gave me two days at the most [to live]."

According to wife Diane, 50, the next morning after a five-hour surgery, "He was transplanted and within hours, you could see his color changing. ...You could already see him getting lighter, and getting back to being pasty white [from having been jaundice yellow-green]; it was unbelievable that it was happening right in front of you."

He added that the transformation was instantaneous. "I went from grayish to greenish to looking better within hours. When they put in a new liver, the whites of your eyes become white again."

At one point he was on 30-35 medicines a day and the jaundice and blood poisoning caused extreme itching, mental confusion, and fatigue. He also contracted the shingles. "I would see snakes and lizards crawling over me; I got virtually no sleep," he said.

After feeling low-energy and after taking 20 pills a day to ward off the bouts of or-



Steve Nugent with his brother Patrick a few days before he received the phone call from UVA Hospital for the liver transplant.

gan rejection, in March 2017, he started to feel back to normal. So he decided to start training for the Marine Corps Marathon, first by walking around his block and then increasing his workouts.

"Once I felt normal, it took me 22 minutes to walk around the block. That's a quarter mile. That's terrible," he said.

So he went to Potomac River Running Store, bought a pair of running shoes, and hooked up with running coach Caroline Merena of Arctic Coaching. "I started with one lap around the block, then two laps around the block, and then a mile in 26 minutes. That became my regimen," he said. "Then I gradually picked up the mileage and was trying to get three miles every time I went out at a pace of 15 minutes."

He added, "As I got closer to getting better, I'd run 14-16 miles, then a five-mile run, then a 5K on the weekend to get speed; we were doing all that between 13-14 minute miles. I was eating healthier; everything we did was to prepare ourselves for a 26-mile race."

He said he saw all his doctors who were on board with the marathon idea; they gave him the OK – that it wasn't dangerous.

"They were pleasantly surprised that I had a goal. The activity was good for my body," he said.

The farthest distance he'd run in preparation of the marathon was 18 miles, which took him four hours. In his early 20s, he said he ran about seven marathons when he was healthier.

TODAY, he feels like he's in the best shape of his life. "I'm 53 years old and been through two transplants, but my mind feels like I've got this with no problem. I will tell you my mind is so happy to be alive, that running this marathon is nothing but fun – what we're trying to do is show people that if you're waiting for an organ transplant, it gives you hope."

He added, "It's really crystal clear for me. I've been given a second chance, really twice, once by my little sister who is doing well and then by this latest one at UVA. It's really simple to show people that organ donation works," he said.

So to give back to the community, Nugent created the Team Steve Foundation in 2017 where the funds raised will go to support UVA Hospital. The Team Steve Foundation hopes "to increase organ donation awareness, honor organ donors and provide comfort, care and support to the families who gave him the 'Gift of Life.'" He said there's a button on the website to sign people up to be organ donors. The other goal is to gather funds for the Transplant Patient Assistance Fund at UVA Hospital. For further information, visit TheTeamSteve.com.

Nugent said in a year and four months, he went from an operating table to running 26 miles in a marathon, "And I'm going to smile the whole way. That's a good story to say that organ donation works. That's what it's all about."

Nugent has seven brothers and sisters, and works in his family business, John Nugent & Sons Heating and Air Conditioning of McLean. He is married to wife Diane, his caretaker; the couple has three children: Bailey, 24; Stephen, 21; and Madison, 18. He grew up in McLean, graduating from McLean High School in 1983.

Roundtable Addresses Opioid Crisis

FROM PAGE 8

social outlets were suddenly beyond reach “when he needed them the most.” “Denial is deadly,” said Atwood-Lovitt. Stigma reduction, education and prevention is essential. The Chris Atwood Foundation is now engaged in advocating for opioid addiction education and treatment, and provides training in the use of Narcan, as well as helping to make the overdose revival medication more readily available.

Although in his opening remarks Connolly declared that the day’s proceedings would avoid putting politics on the table, there were a few occasions when the congressman felt compelled to address the need for “political will” as part of the solution.

“Expanding Medicaid in Virginia would bring an additional \$100 million to aid in the fight against opioid addiction. Another \$200 million would be available for mental health treatment and initiatives. We need all of the resources we can get to fight this.”

CONNOLLY also announced his introduction of the “Opioid Immediate Suspension Order Act (H.R. 4073).” The legislation is designed to restore the DEA’s authority to suspend a pharmaceutical distributor’s license if the Attorney General finds their actions to be causing an imminent danger to the public health and safety. H.R. 4073 is Connolly’s response to the potentially crippling effect of the Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act of 2016 on the DEA’s ability to stop over-distribution.

Connolly doesn’t think this is the time to make it harder for the Drug Enforcement Agency “to do their

job,” citing an example in a small West Virginia town, with a population of 2,924, where one distributor was able to provide one pharmacy with 258,000 hydrocodone pills in one month, not to mention the fact that “more than 300 million opioid prescriptions were written in the U.S. last year – enough for every man, woman, and child to have their own bottle of powerful painkillers.

Members of the audience were given an opportunity to make comments and ask questions. Many of those who spoke, used their time to recount personal stories of family members or of their own struggles, like Nick Yacoub, who began his addiction at the age of 10 and who is now a recovery coach.

“Recovery is possible,” said Yacoub, who described himself as a successful product of the Fairfax Falls Church CSB treatment programs, “especially if we stop viewing addiction as a moral failure.”

The roundtable concluded with messages of hope and support, and promises by the speakers to continue the fight and to continue working with each other to end the epidemic. Bulova urged members of the public to share the information and to direct others to the video of the event, and to the county’s website for information and resources. The Board of Supervisors has also recently established an Opioid Crisis Task Force that will be charged with developing plans to fight the epidemic.

“The prescription opioid and heroin epidemics are driven by biological, psychological, and social problems that require multi-dimensional solutions,” said Connolly. “We must never forget the human cost of these epidemics. We must win.”



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LONGINES





Polo Classic a Huge Success

Vienna resident Ben Gibbs took part in the rider demonstration at the Northern Virginia Therapeutic Riding Program (NVTRP) “Ride to Thrive Polo Classic,” at Chetwood Park in The Plains in mid September. The Polo Classic is the program’s largest fundraiser of the year was a huge success and raised over \$144,000, besting last year’s total by more than \$10,000.



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News



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Flowers for Happiness

Twinbrook Floral Design in Tysons Corner took part in the "Petal It Forward," program on Oct. 11, in an attempt to spread smiles. According to the Society of American Florists survey, 80 percent reported that flowers make them feel happy.

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**THE CONNECTION
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BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 6

Drive, McLean. Join AARP Virginia and the McLean Community: A Village for All Ages for Dinner at Mylo's Grill in McLean, 15 percent discount on entire check. Call 1-877-926-8300 or visit aarp.cvent.com.

MONDAY/NOV. 13

Community Meeting. 6-8:30 p.m. at the Oakton High School Cafeteria, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna. Design Public Hearings on the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project regarding plans for the 22.5 mile corridor from I-495 to University Boulevard in Gainesville. Visit transform66.org 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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403- 5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

Master Gardener Training. The Fairfax County Master Gardener Association offers plant clinics, home turf training or speakers for homeowner's meetings. Fees vary. Visit fairfaxgardening.org or call MG Help Desk at 703-324-8556 for more.

Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean continues to have an urgent need for new volunteers to help area senior citizens get to and from their medical and therapy appointments. To find out more about the Shepherd's Center and how you can volunteer to provide transportation and other services, call the Center at 703-506-2199 or e-mail the Center at info@scmafc.org. The Center's website is www.scmafc.org.

Volunteers Needed. PRS is looking for empathetic and caring volunteers to make phone calls to older adults who may be feeling socially isolated. The commitment is one 3-hour shift per week for one year. Located in Arlington. Ages 21 & up. Intensive training provided. Learn more and apply: <https://prsinc.org/caring-volunteering/>. Questions? Email lpadgett@prsinc.org.

The Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltcumbudsman/.

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Weakened Wherewithal



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Say that three times quickly. Heck, say it one-time slowly. And then welcome to my whirled: the world of cancer treatment and survival. A 'whirled' in which, eight years and nearly eight months post diagnosis, I continue to live, breathe and write.

Occasionally it happens, as it is happening now, that some of the most excruciating demands of being a cancer patient, occur simultaneously – or a reasonable facsimile there of. For me that means 24-hour urine collection, pre-chemotherapy lab work, chemotherapy infusion, CT Scan and then the appointment with my oncologist to discuss all the results; occurring over 13 days – with intermittent days off for good behavior.

Typically; meaning every minute, every hour, every day, every week, etc., maybe not every second, I am thinking about cancer; though I wouldn't say I'm preoccupied (others might). And of course, it's certainly understandable and reasonable to do so when every day over a fortnight, you are waiting – as we say in the sales world – "for the other shoe to drop."

Having endured this cycle over the last eight and a half years with varying regularity, I can honestly say that whatever symptoms have manifested themselves – or not – have never provided any consistent assurance that my life/life expectancy had not changed for the worse. It's not until the appointment with my oncologist occurs – or sooner if he emails me the scan results, that I learn the facts of my case.

All of that being said, as my friend Frank has often said to me: "You're in pretty good shape for the shape you're in." Don't I know it.

However, yes there's always a 'however' in the cancer-patient-surviving-against-all-odds 'whirled,' there are no guarantees. In fact, there are only two guarantees: death and taxes. The former is way too close for comfort and the latter, I'm already taxed to the hilt, emotionally. Somehow, I have to get through because "the alternative is gloomy" to quote Dr. Mobley, the doctor in Miles City who treated Augustus McCray in the epic miniseries, "Lonesome Dove." And so I try not to be gloomy.

However, there's that word again, circumstances/schedules randomly bring down the weight – and wait of my 'whirled.' These 13 days can never pass quickly enough. But that presumes a good result, which one would want to know as soon as possible. But what of a bad result, leading to an exponential increase in anxiety – and fear, ultimately leading to a treatment unknown. That I might not want to know so soon. Not that not knowing serves any point or helps coordinate the next treatment plan, I'm more afraid of hearing something I haven't heard much of since February 2009. To quote my late mother quoting somebody: "No one gets out of this life alive."

That of course is the point of this column, and the effect of having all this cancer stuff happen at the same time. I can take it, generally; as my late father used to say: "KB, I have confidence in you. You have broad shoulders." Nevertheless, I worry about the figurative straw breaking my emotional back. Cancer can do that. It did it to my mother-in-law, Peggy, where over a few days the situation went from bad to worse to finally, the worst.

Somehow, I have to compartmentalize all this negative energy and focus on the positive. And that positive turns out to be an early email from my oncologist basically saying that my lung cancer remains stable. Now we can go to my appointment on Monday "unencumbered," to once gain quote my late father. The pressure is semi off. Talk about relief.

Now maybe I can relax and try not to think about my next infusion, my next scan and my next appointment with the oncologist. There's no harm in trying, right?

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



John Totten, Jocelyn Steiner and Kathy Young star in "In Living Sound – Back Home" at the Vienna Community Center.



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

The ensemble cast of "In Living Sound – Back Home" includes Stuart Fischer, Terry Mason, Jay T. Stein, Jocelyn Steiner, John Totten and Kathy Young.

Vienna Theatre Company Presents Radio Play

"In Living Sound – Back Home" is first show in newly renovated Vienna Community Center.

BY STEVE HIBBARD
THE CONNECTION

In its first show of the 2017-2018 season in the newly renovated Vienna Community Center, the Vienna Theatre Company is presenting the live radio drama, "In Living Sound – Back Home," this coming weekend, Oct. 27-28, at 8 p.m.

Directed by Patricia Kallman, the ensemble of six actors is performing four scripts from the Golden Age of Radio during the 1930s and 1940s – one humor, one crime, one sweet tale from the Depression and one horror. The ensemble cast includes: Stuart Fischer, Terry Mason, Jay T. Stein, Jocelyn Steiner, John Totten and Kathy Young.

The first show, "Popeye – Visiting the Zoo," which is replete with live sound effects by Sherry Kaiser and Roy Kallman, was an episode that aired in the 1930s. In this play, Popeye, Olive Oyl, Wimpy and Matey, the newsboy, visit the zoo in search of adventure.

Kallman said she paid particular attention to the voices to get them down just right. "They are so distinctive for Popeye and they were so popular. So I thought that would be the interesting vocal part for this," said Kallman, 70, of the Greenbriar community who co-founded the Alliance Theater in Centreville with Elaine Wilson in 2000.

HER CHALLENGE was to make the sound effects interesting, she said. "We debated animal sounds. We tried a lot of different things. We tried all kinds of things for the hyena. It would be fun if there were actual animal noises but we did the best we could with them. There weren't any in the original radio play; we thought we would add something to it."

The second play, "Boston Blackie – Blackie and the Fur Trade," which aired in 1945, was created by Jack Boyle, a newspaper reporter and reformed opium addict while serving a term in San Quentin for robbery.

Blackie started out as a jewel thief and safe-cracker, but then became a detective. The radio series spawned 14 films for Columbia Pictures. In this play, Janet and Harry are fur thieves, and are apparently getting assistance from Boston Blackie. But the hare-brained Inspector Faraday is in hot pursuit and we learn that crime doesn't pay.

Kallman said she was trying to recreate a film noir kind of feel to it – "the mystery and the grit," she said. "I was really amazed when I started researching it; I didn't know there were 14 Boston Blackie movies," she said.

The third play, "The Fleischmann's Yeast Hour – The Church Mouse" first aired on Dec. 19, 1935. Also known as the Rudy Vallee Show, it was a musical variety show on NBC from 1929 through 1936, and into 1939 when it was renamed The Royal Gelatin Hour. In its prime, it was second only to "Amos 'n Andy" for popularity and showcased many stars of the future. In this play, a meek but scrappy unemployed secretary lobbies for a job in a bank in a creative and unconventional way. Kallman said she was trying for something a bit lighter. "It was three times made into a movie and it was on Broadway as a play first," she said. "I guess it ends up being a love story. I forgot that people were desperately hungry in the middle of the depression. People were trying to get by, so it's amusing to hear her talk about dividing up a sardine."

The final play, "Lights Out – Knock at the Door," first aired on CBS in 1942. This tale begets the supernatural, when an overly protective mother is done away with by her new daughter-in-law. Arch Oboler took over Wyllis Cooper's series in 1936 when it had 600 fan clubs. Rod Serling counted the duo as his inspiration for "Twilight Zone," which was to TV what "Lights Out" was to radio.

"We all said Halloween is coming and we ought to end up with something scary," said Kallman. "We read a number of scripts and thought somebody coming back from the dead was interesting."

The Vienna Theater Company is present-

16 ♦ VIENNA/OAKTON CONNECTION ♦ OCTOBER 25-31, 2017



Stuart Fischer stars in "In Living Sound – Back Home" at the Vienna Community Center.



Stuart Fischer, Kathy Young, and Jocelyn Steiner star in "In Living Sound – Back Home" at the Vienna Community Center.



"In Living Sound – Back Home" includes the actors Stuart Fischer, Kathy Young, Jocelyn Steiner, Jay Stein, and Terry Mason at the Vienna Community Center.

ing the live radio drama, "In Living Sound – Back Home," Oct. 27-28 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$14. The venue is located at The Vienna

Community Center, 120 Cherry St., SE, Vienna, VA. Visit the website at <http://www.viennatheatrecompany.org>.

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