

# and Oakton Vienna **CONNECTION**



# Puppy Nativity Attracts Pet Lovers

News, PAGE 4

From left: Vienna residents Macy Wright, 15, a freshman at Thomas Jefferson High School, her rabbit Todd; her mother Elaine Wright; and her sister Claire, 11, in the sixth grade at Louise Archer Elementary School, holding Albert the pig; and father, Daryl Wright, children's director at Providence Presbyterian Church in Fairfax, pictured at The Church of the Good Shepherd Saturday for the puppy nativity.

## WELLBEING

PAGE 6

Ethics Day Held  
at Marshall High

News, PAGE 7

Police To Add  
Body Cameras

County News, PAGE 3

PHOTOS BY COLIN STOECKER/THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 12 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

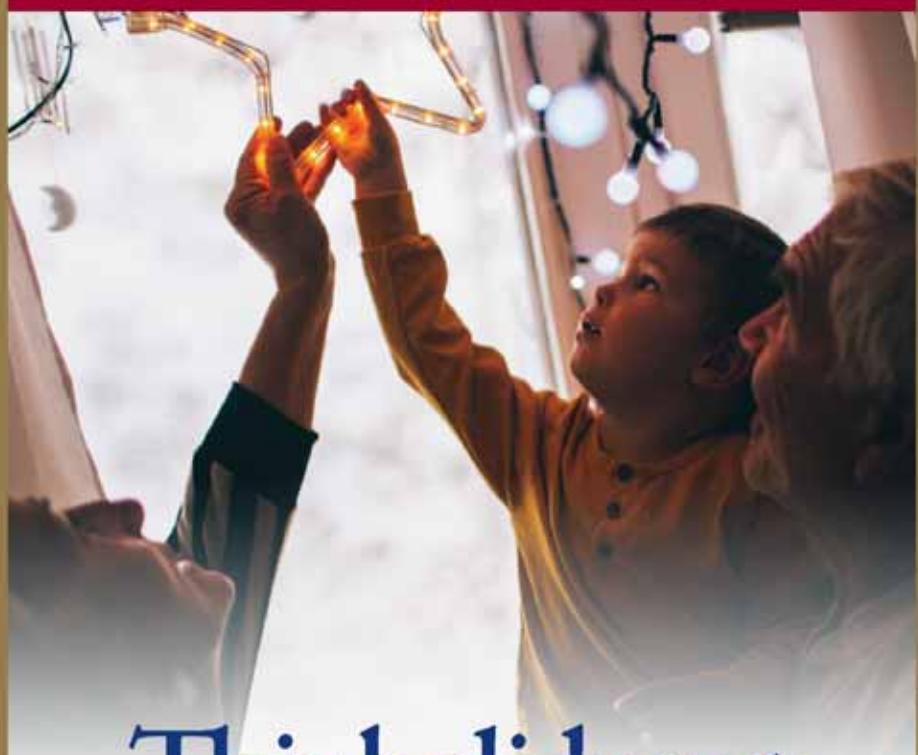
## CALENDAR

PAGE 8

DECEMBER 6-12, 2017

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

Come enjoy a Sunday Brunch...on us



## This holiday at The Kensington, there's always room for one more, or two...

—Couples welcome and encouraged—

Whether a place under our roof, at our table or in our hearts, we have room. We are a family of families whose lives are more full and happy because we have each other. Please join us! Bring us your traditions and memories—we'll honor them. Share your hopes and dreams—we'll help realize them. Tell us how you want to live—we'll put our heads together and make a plan that feels right.

As the holidays unfold, visit The Kensington and soak in the magic of the season. Now, and always, new friendships are waiting to be made. Expert care and service are ready to deliver. Our team is anticipating your arrival. Stop by any time. We can't wait to meet.

**THE KENSINGTON**  
*An Assisted Living Community*  
FALLS CHURCH

703.992.9868 | 700 West Broad Street, Falls Church, VA 22046  
[www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com](http://www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com)



## SWIMMING



PHOTO BY JENNIFER COON, OAKTON HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY SWIM/DIVE MANAGER  
**Freshman Anthony Grimm swims 500 freestyle against Wakefield.**

## Oakton Puts Westfield Into the Dog House

The high school swim season has begun, and the Oakton Swim/Dive team opened the season with two victories over Westfield High School. At Cub Run Recreation Center, the Cougars dominated the pool and came out on top over the Bulldogs. The Oakton boys scored a total of 237 points to Westfield's 77 points; the Cougar ladies scored 195 points to Westfield's 119 points.

With the graduation of 24 seniors (23 swimmers and one diver) last year, Oakton was forced to rebuild their team, but the class of 2021 has a significant amount of talent within Oakton's walls. The Cougars added 18 swimmers and seven divers, a total of 25 new members, to the team in the beginning of November. Despite the number of new faces, the returners welcomed the newcomers, creating a sense of team unity immediately. With their 195-119 point win, the Oakton girls had incredible swims and dives throughout the night.

Senior Sarah DeLoach and sophomore Leaya Ma won first for both of their individual events, 200 IM and 500 freestyle victories for DeLoach and 50 freestyle and 100

backstroke victories for Ma respectively. The girl divers, senior Kyla Straker, sophomore Lily Chireix, freshman Ansley Robertson, and junior Amanda Macomber, swept diving. On the boys' side, the Cougars swept in the 200 freestyle, 200 IM, 100 butterfly, 100 freestyle, 100 breaststroke, and all three relays (200 medley, 200 freestyle, and 400 freestyle), displaying the incredible depth of the team.

Freshman Anthony Grimm placed first in both of his individual events (500 freestyle and 100 backstroke), as did junior Daniel Gynis in the 200 IM and 100 butterfly. Sophomore Joe Wong started the season with a bang with a lifetime best in the 100 breaststroke. The boys' divers, Josh Shipley, Wesley Kron, Pablo Galvez, and John DeFranco, all freshmen, also performed well, despite senior Liam Klopfenstein's and junior Joe Perreault's absences at the meet.

Friday, Dec. 8, the Cougars will be traveling to Spring Hill Recreation Center to take on the Langley Saxons at 6:30 p.m. The following day, Dec. 9, Oakton Swim/Dive will be competing in the Concorde Invitational at 6 p.m. at Oak Marr Recreation Center.

### BULLETIN BOARD

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

### THURSDAY/DEC. 7

**Caregivers Support Group.** 10-11:30 a.m. at UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna Caregivers Support Group is held the first and third Thursdays of every month, year round. Call 703-821-6838 or email [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net) 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](http://www.fcps.edu/news/superintendent-brabrand-schedules-five-community-conversations-fall).

### THURSDAY/DEC. 21

**Caregivers Support Group.** 10-11:30 a.m. at UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna Caregivers Support Group is held the first and third Thursdays of every month, year round. Call 703-821-6838 or email [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net) for more.

SEE BULLETIN BOARD, PAGE 11

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

# Police To Add Body Cameras

In other business, board hires new county executive and updates environmental priorities.

By KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**F**airfax County police officers from the Mount Vernon and Mason district stations will soon wear body cameras in a three-month pilot program designed to determine if all Fairfax County police officers will wear the cameras in the future.

"We see this as a really wonderful opportunity to better connect our officers on the ground and our folks on the street and make sure that everybody has an opportunity to work together and see how that work goes," said Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck.

The Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission recommended in 2015 that officers be equipped with the cameras, and the Board of Supervisors approved the pilot program at its board meeting on Nov. 21. It will take another few months to get the three-to-six month pilot program up and running.

Braddock District Supervisor John Cook, chairman of the board's public safety committee, expressed concerns about upcoming constraints on the public safety budget. "We are going to have some tough decisions in public safety and we need good data," said Cook.

Fairfax County Police Department will partner with American University to initiate an academic study, which could be extended from 90 days to six months.

"Community advocates will be at the table to help us monitor the deployment of the cameras and how the policy is working," said Col. Edwin C. Roessler Jr., Chief of Police.

"The pilot body worn program is designed to provide the department with the opportunity to review police-community member encounters as they occur, as well as provide an additional degree of safety for our officers as they patrol the streets," according to the Fairfax County Police Department.

The cost of the pilot program is \$684,000. Storck asked if all officers from the Mount Vernon station could use the cameras.

"When it comes to evaluating the impacts of body worn cameras, we are still, as a field, in the early days," said Brad Bartholomew, professor at American University.

For studies to be effective, "we must ensure that a group of officers receives the camera and another group does not," he said. "The more you can control, the more you can model, the more believable your results may be."

The study analysis is expected to cover statistics and community member feedback to assess the impacts prior to, during and following the pilot program.

"Officers will be expected to activate the



**Bryan Hill, new county executive**



**Stella Koch**



**Col. Edwin C. Roessler Jr., Chief of Police**



**John Cook, Braddock Supervisor**

camera during any law enforcement-public encounter related to a call for service, law enforcement action, subject stop, traffic stop, search or police service," according to the police department.

Police and a variety of civic groups worked together on a proposed pilot body-worn camera policy to address personal privacy rights, transparency and accountability in police-community member contacts. The policy can be modified as needed based on the pilot.

Read the draft policy at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/board-committees/meetings/2017/oct10-public-safety-body-worn-cameras-draft-policy.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/board-committees/meetings/2017/oct10-public-safety-body-worn-cameras-draft-policy.pdf)

## TWO BOARDS, ONE FAIRFAX

The Board of Supervisors and School Board adopted a joint social and racial equity policy called One Fairfax.

The Board of Supervisors joined the School Board by adopting the policy on Tuesday, Nov. 21, one day after the School Board.

"I dare say we've spent thousands of hours on this policy and I think it's reached a point when it is time to approve it," said Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay, adding that he judges this his most important action in the 10 years he has served on the board.

"This goes across all that we do," said Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins.

The policy identifies 17 areas of focus including housing, education, community and economic development, environment and transportation.

"What we are doing here is not guaranteeing that everybody is going to be successful because that really goes to the individual, but what we can do is ensure that this board and Fairfax County ensure ... that everybody in Fairfax County has an opportunity to succeed," said Chairman Sharon Bulova.

"I believe philosophically at our core, we believe in equity and our community reflects that, and our community wants that," said McKay.

"Far too often, I have found that some people in my community aren't at the table,

but they rely on us to be there at the table for them. And they rely on us to make sure their county government represents them as individuals."

Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity had concerns how to measure the efforts or define success.

"From the very beginning of this policy discussion, I've asked several simple questions that I haven't been able to receive an answer for," Herrity said. "I support every one of our residents having equal opportunities to succeed and I believe our county and staff are committed to that as am I. But I can't support a new government bureaucracy for a problem that no one can quantify and for which there are too few definitions or measures of success or impact."

Read the resolution at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2016/one-fairfax-resolution.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2016/one-fairfax-resolution.pdf).

## ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES

While addressing deer management and a lack of predators in Fairfax County, Stella Koch said, "They've changed the ecology in Yellowstone [National Park], but I don't think that it is an option here."

The Environment Quality Advisory Council advocates for a full-time wildlife specialist position in Fairfax County to support the deer management program as well as the Canada Geese Management Program.

"That position has been needed for a long time," said Koch. "We have one person doing a significant amount of yeoman's work."

On Nov. 21, Koch presented the environmental quality annual report, highlighting major priorities for 2018, including the need to conduct a countywide survey on the public's view of the "cultural carrying capacity, how people are thinking about deer in this county."

The advisory council also says the Board of Supervisors needs to update its 2003 Outdoor Lighting Ordinance and needs to implement a lighting work group. "Since 2003 there have been a lot of changes in technology and also an increase in density in this county," said Koch.

"The increasing density of development

in Fairfax County will invariably lead to more instances of 'light trespass,' where lights on one property affect another property," according to the environmental report.

Koch also advocated for increasing the Stormwater Service District rate by one-quarter penny, from a rate of 3 cents per \$100 assessed real estate value to 3.25 cents per \$100.

"As you know, there is an endless backlog of infrastructure that needs replacements," she said. "We're making great progress and it's slow and steady, but we definitely need more funding."

"I use this as a model for how we can track major issues," said Bulova, praising the structure and quality of the EQAC report.

"When you open the annual report, the first thing [you see] is the recommendations. We think that is important, it is what this annual report basically drives us toward," said Koch.

Other priorities include funding of \$263,000 required for the Fairfax County Park Authority's natural resource mapping efforts and additional technology.

The public will have an opportunity to give both EQAC and the Board of Supervisors feedback in a public hearing scheduled for Jan. 10, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway.

To read the report, see [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/eqac/report2017/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/eqac/report2017/).

## THE \$250,000 MAN

Bryan Hill will be Fairfax County's next county executive, effective Jan. 2, 2018.

"Selecting a county executive is the most important hire the Board of Supervisors undertakes," said Penny Gross, vice chairman and Mason District supervisor. "Mr. Hill brings impressive leadership, management, communications and budget experience to Fairfax County."

"I believe this is the fifth county executive for me and the fourth search," said Gross.

Hill, currently the James City County, Va. administrator and clerk to its Board of Supervisors, will replace Fairfax County Executive Edward L. Long, who retired in September.

"While [James City County] is a smaller jurisdiction, many of the issues are the same," said Bulova. "We are very, very excited to welcome Bryan Hill to Team Fairfax."

Hill will earn \$250,000 per year.

Hill has been the James City County administrator since 2014, and previously served seven years as the deputy county administrator with Beaufort County, S.C. Pre

## NEWS



From left: twins Sydney and Sophia Robinson, 7 and a half years old; their mother, Kristina Robinson of Alexandria; Jana Murphy, of Alexandria, the owner of The Pet Spot in Falls Church; her daughter, Fiona, 7; and son Jack, 6, pictured at The Church of the Good Shepherd Saturday for the puppy nativity.



PHOTOS BY COLIN STOECKER/THE CONNECTION

John-Pierre, an 8-year-old Chihuahua, in a nativity photo with sisters (left) Victoria Dela Court, third grader at Our Lady of Good Counsel, left, and Gabriella Dela Court, a first grader at Our Lady of Good Counsel outside of The Church of the Good Shepherd Saturday, Dec. 2.

# Puppy Nativity Attracts Pet Lovers

BY COLIN STOECKER

The Church of the Good Shepherd in Oakton celebrated the holidays early on Saturday, Dec. 2 with a live puppy nativity. The United Methodist Church welcomed church members and Vienna-area residents to bring their dogs and pose for pictures at the nativity scene in front of the church.

Refreshments were provided as families brought their favorite dogs, rabbits, and even a house-trained pig. The idea was Father Eric Song's, the recently inducted reverend of the church that almost closed its doors before his arrival because of a decrease in membership. Now, the church is working to attract more members of the local community.

"The original idea came from a church where I used to work by a walking mall in Winchester. The idea is to bring the community together to celebrate the holidays. And the original Christmas nativity scene had a lot of animals," said Reverend Eric Song of Vienna.

Proceeds which were collected by the Good Shepherd youth group benefited Second Story, a local non-profit that deals with youth homelessness in Fairfax County.

Dogs and humans were both able to dress up in nativity scene themed costumes. One of the hats had sheep ears. Another dog was given a wise man hood with a sparkly band around the top. It was difficult to get the dogs to sit still long enough to participate in the photo opportunity, but some owners were able to manage to hold their dogs' interest long enough to get a family photo.

Tarah Grant of Vienna came to the church Saturday with her two daughters and their pet 8-year-old Chihuahua named John-Pierre, who belongs to her mother. "We think it's such a creative idea. We love dogs and Christmas so combining the two was a great idea. We heard a lot about this event



Fiona Murphy, 7, holds her dog Jazmine-Rose with her mother, Jana Murphy, of Alexandria, and the owner of The Pet Spot in Falls Church at The Church of the Good Shepherd Saturday for the puppy nativity.

**More than 30 people came to the puppy nativity at The Church of the Good Shepherd Saturday. They brought their most cherished pets for a photo opportunity.**



Haley McComber, pictured with her 3-year-old beagle hound mix Olive at the puppy nativity at The Church of the Good Shepherd Saturday.



## Church of the Good Shepherd celebrates with pets.

last year, so I was looking for it," said Grant.

Other families came from Alexandria, like Jana Murphy, owner of two long-haired Chihuahuas, and her two children. "I own a pet business and I think it's great when anybody is able to include animals. The church is going to get a diverse turn-out because of this and I think it's a great way to introduce the church to the community," said Murphy.

The diversity of pets made the event even more fun as the Wright family brought their two daughters, pet rabbit, and pet pig Albert. "It's my fault, I know this isn't a church event with a petting zoo, but my wife fell in love with the pig's adoption sign and she was hooked," said Daryl Wright, a Vienna resident and children's director at Providence Presbyterian Church in Fairfax.

"We called the town of Vienna and they said we didn't need a license," said Elaine Wright, owner of Albert the pig. "They just told us he might need an identification tag just in case he gets loose in the town, so they know whose he is," she said laughing.

# FAITH

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

**During Advent**, Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, will present a series of three midweek Advent programs. The overarching theme of these evenings is "Peace for Our Time." Each evening's sub-theme will grow from a Reformation-era hymn. Each evening's program begins at 5:45 p.m. with supper followed by discussion, worship and the lighting of the Advent wreath. All are welcome. Visit [www.gflutheran.org](http://www.gflutheran.org) or call 703-759-6068.

❖ Thursday/Dec. 7 – Peace Between Nations, hymn: "Savior of the Nations Come" (ELW 263)  
 ❖ Thursday/Dec. 14 – Peace in politics, hymn: "Now to the Holy Spirit Let us Pray" (ELW 743)  
 ❖ Thursday/Dec. 21 – Peace in ourselves, hymn: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" (ELW 268)

**Living Nativity and Christmas Concert.** Friday, Dec. 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church,

1545 Chain Bridge Road. Featuring the sounds of the season and the excitement of live animals in the creche. Call 703-909-3424 or email [kbwenk@gmail.com](mailto:kbwenk@gmail.com) for more.

**Christmas Services** at St. John's Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Call 703-356-4902 or visit [www.stjohnsmclean.org](http://www.stjohnsmclean.org).

Sunday, Dec. 17  
 ❖ 9 and 11 a.m. – Festival of Lessons and Carols.  
 Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24  
 ❖ 4 p.m. – Family Service of Holy Eucharist with Christmas Music at 3:30 pm  
 ❖ 7 p.m. – Holy Eucharist with Christmas Music at 6:30 pm  
 ❖ 10 p.m. – Holy Eucharist with Christmas Music at 9:30 pm  
 Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25  
 ❖ 10 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

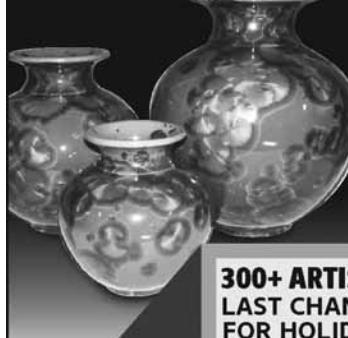
**Blue Christmas Service** – a non-traditional service of remembrance and hope – will be held at Katie's Coffee House 760 Walker Road, Great Falls on Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3:30 p.m. brought to you by Great Falls Area Ministries. For more information call Carol Wright 703-582-1640.



CALENDAR

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

**Let us know about an upcoming event**



**300+ ARTISTS LAST CHANCE FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS!**

- Exciting Demos
- Tasty Treats
- Shopping Fun
- Kids' Entertainment

**DISCOUNT TICKETS**, show info, exhibitor lists, directions and more at: [SugarloafCrafts.com](http://SugarloafCrafts.com)

**HANDMADE HOLIDAYS**

**SUGARLOAF CRAFTS FESTIVAL**  
Est. 1975

**DEC 8, 9, 10, 2017**  
**Dulles Expo Center**  
**CHANTILLY, VA • RT. 28 AT WILLARD RD**  
Admission: \$8 online; \$10 at the door  
Admission good all 3 days  
Children under 12 & parking are FREE  
Fri. & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5

# County News

FROM PAGE 3

viously, he was the vice chancellor for Finance and Operations at the University of South Carolina's Beaufort/Bluffton Campus and was director of finance for the University of Maryland's Office of Information and Technology.

He earned his master's degree in public administration from the University of Southern California and his bachelor's in public administration from Alfred University.

Bulova thanked Kirk Kincannon, who was the acting county executive since Long's retirement in September.

## COUNTY'S FIRST TENANT RESIDENT CURATOR

The county extended its first lease through the Resident Curator program to a Coast Guard officer.

The county's Resident Curator Program is designed to preserve historic properties by offering long-term leases to qualified tenants who will rehabilitate and maintain the historic houses. A curator can be a private citizen, a nonprofit entity, or a for-profit entity, according to county documents.

"It is really a wonderful opportunity and a great pleasure to be the first of what I think will be a number of properties in Fairfax County ..." said Storck, "to bring back to life housing which is old and historic and meaningful to all of us."

The Board of Supervisors approved the lease of the historic Stempson House at 7520 Furnace Road in Lorton to Steven J.

McCullough for eight years and eight months to renovate the historic home.

"This is the first time we are doing this, you are our first tenant," said Bulova said to McCullough.

The Stempson House gets its historic significance from its association with the Occoquan Workhouse and Reformatory and the Women's Suffrage movement of the early 1900s, according to Resident Curator Program documents.

The United States purchased the land in 1910 to construct the prison. "In 1937, amongst the Lorton Reformatory orchard trees, prisoners constructed a residence for a prison officer. It is likely that prisoners constructed the house, under the direction of prison engineers, using bricks manufactured at the prison brick kiln. Ultimately, the residence was converted for use by the prison security office."

The 1,500 square-foot-house is described as a "vernacular style residence with Colonial Revival style elements."

Other applications are pending for the Turner Farm House, 10609 Georgetown Pike, in Great Falls and the Ellmore Farmhouse on West Ox Road in Herndon. The county intends to continue its programs at the Ash Grove in Tysons, Lahey Lost Valley in Vienna, and Hannah P. Clark (Enyedi) House in Lorton.

See [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press/html/ir141-16.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/press/html/ir141-16.htm)

Learn more about the Resident Curator program and other properties at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rcp](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rcp).

## Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee

### TWO POOR TEACHERS Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



**Free Estimates**

**703-214-8384**



Visit our website: [www.twopoorteachers.com](http://www.twopoorteachers.com)

Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



## VINSON HALL RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

### Independent Living at Vinson Hall

Vinson Hall Retirement Community is located in idyllic McLean, VA and offers independent residential living for military officers and government employees of equal rank. Our apartment residences offer all the luxurious comforts of home within a vibrant Life Plan community. Come see what's new!

**www.VinsonHall.org**

**703-536-4344**

**1 and 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS AVAILABLE!**





There's more to life than just financial goals. At Ameriprise Financial, we take the time to understand what's truly important to you. Together, we'll develop a financial plan customized for your life – to help you live more confidently today. And tomorrow.



**Matt Felber**  
Financial Advisor  
**703.766.9300 x10**  
133 Maple Avenue East, Ste 306  
Vienna VA 22180  
matthew.t.felber@ampf.com  
ameripriseadvisors.com/matthew.t.felber



**Marie Isabel Laurion, CFP®, CRPC®**  
Financial Advisor  
**703.766.9300 x13**  
133 Maple Avenue East, Ste 306  
Vienna VA 22180  
marie.i.laurion@ampf.com  
ameripriseadvisors.com/marie.i.laurion

**Ameriprise**  **Be Brilliant.**

Investment advisory products and services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., a registered investment adviser.  
©2015 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved. (10/15)

Let us know about an upcoming event  
[www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar)

## WELLBEING

### Acts of kindness can boost wellbeing.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

As Terrance Puller surveys boxes wrapped in holiday paper and filled with tubes of toothpaste, sticks of deodorant and other self-care toiletries, he says he can feel his heart well up with gratitude. The packages were part of a donation drive to benefit So Others Might Eat (SOME), a local nonprofit organization with a mission to provide services to the poor and homeless. Puller, who is now both a SOME employee and volunteer, reminisces about a period in his life when he was a recipient of such generosity.

Five years ago, Puller says he was alone, homeless and deep in an alcohol and crack cocaine-induced haze. He would later recall that he was so staggeringly intoxicated one holiday season that he would miss an opportunity to say goodbye to his dying mother. What he did receive that year however, was life changing.

"I was able to come into the shelter and get treatment, food and eventually a job," said Puller. "I volunteer my time because ... being here reminds me of my story and makes me grateful. It keeps me uplifted, less depressed and clean and sober."

Mounting research validates Puller's assertion. "Giving of our talents and time is an important way to improve our well-being," said Carolyn Lorente, professor of psychology at Northern Virginia Community College. "What many of my colleagues are looking into is the connection between volunteerism and sense of self. It turns out that when we give to others, it not only helps those we are assisting but also boosts our sense of agency, gives us a sense of purpose and belonging and informs our sense of identity."

During the holidays, which are often emotionally charged, a focus on helping others can lead to feelings of gratitude and happiness, says psychologist Jerome Short, Ph.D. In fact, he points to a 2010 study published in the journal Clinical Psychology Review, which shows a link between benevolence and contentment.

"Kind acts increase personal happiness because we naturally

empathize with others and take pride in our ability to make others smile and feel good," he said.

Even for those who haven't experienced levels of need such as Puller's, acts of altruism can have a positive effect on one's mood. An example is Jennifer Carter, a senior at Marymount University in Arlington, who spent last weekend in the center of a crowded auditorium on the university's campus frantically tying strips of fleece cloth. Along with nearly 300 other volunteers, she was making blankets for newborn babies for an organization called HOPE, a non-denominational crisis pregnancy center in Fairfax County.

"When these new mothers leave the hospitals it's usually with a thin cotton blanket," she said. "A lot of times, the things that they're missing are warm blankets for the babies. It feels good to be able to give these mothers something that many people take for granted. It makes you realize how fortunate you are."

Short points to a 2016 study from the University of California at Riverside which shows that volunteerism can lead to gratitude and happiness. "Grateful people pay more attention to the cost, effort, and value of helping acts than the average person does," he said. "They are better at coping with life stress because they trust others to help them and then reach out and accept help."

Christabel Sampson experienced this metamorphosis first hand when she relocated to the Washington, D.C. area and was unable to find a job. She had mounting bills, but no income. Her financial outlook spiraled further downward and she became homeless. She moved into a shelter run by Interfaith Works, a nonprofit organization in Montgomery County Maryland that works to meet the needs of the poor. Through the organization's job training program, she was able to gain skills training, clothing and shelter. As a result of the services she received, Sampson says she found a job. Now she volunteers her time to helping others at Interfaith Works and has even become a member of the organization's board of directors.

"The experience of being homeless and now helping other women definitely made me stronger," said Sampson. "Sometimes even a spoken word can be said to help someone to a better place. I have empathy because I have been there."

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

## Fair Ridge OB/GYN is pleased to announce the addition of two new providers!



Dr. Laura Pickford received her bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland and attended medical school at the University of Virginia. She has practiced in Northern Virginia since 1999, and is the Perinatal Safety Officer at Inova Fair Oaks Hospital. Dr. Pickford is Board Certified and a Fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology.



Cynthia Stone, MSN-FNP, received her Master's degree as a family Nurse Practitioner from George Mason University in collaboration with George Washington University in 2004. After spending 2 years working in a family practice, she chose to focus on women's health and has been working in OB/GYN since 2006.



**Fair Ridge OB/GYN Associates**  
3620 Joseph Siewick Drive, Suite 400, Fairfax, VA 22033



**Office: (703) 264-7801**  
[www.fairridgeobgyn.com](http://www.fairridgeobgyn.com)

# NEWS



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**Matt Brennan leads a discussion during the Bad Samaritan part of the Marshall High Ethics Day.**

## Vienna Rotary, Marshall High Hold Annual Ethics Day

Last week, the Rotary Club of Vienna participated in Ethics Day for the 19<sup>th</sup> consecutive year with George C. Marshall High School held at Westin Hotel in Tysons Corner. The event was sponsored by the Vienna Rotary Club and the Vienna Optimist Club.

The entire 500 student senior class of Marshall High School was in attendance, participating in four modules to cover different ethical topics: a Mock Trial, the Bad Samaritan, CyberEthics and Designer Babies. Along with the assistance of volunteer moderators and table leaders, the students were led through various real-life scenarios, had an open dialogue and asked to reach decisions on topics that made students think critically about responsibility, accountability and morals.

Matt Brennan, the Bad Samaritan moderator explained the importance of Ethics Day, saying, "This is a great program that should be at every high school. I stay involved every year because it gets kids to think about morals and responsibility in a way that would otherwise not have expo-

sure to."

Stephen Schatz, table leader and Marshall High School class of 2014, who participated in Ethics Day during his senior year of high school said, "The event opens your eyes because you already know the situation. Now it makes me reassess the situation. I ended up asking myself more questions than I did the first time."

Schatz later went on to say, "My favorite part about this experience was learning about the other kids and realizing our own unconscious bias."

Shellie Abel, another table leader for the event, explains why she volunteers annually for Ethics Day: "It makes me quite optimistic about the future of this country at the end of each Ethics Day. I realize that our kids are smart, involved and engaged in today's world."

The Rotary Club of Vienna has been the primary financial and staffing entity for Marshall High School's Ethics Day from its inception through today. Details about the club can be found at [www.viennarotary.org](http://www.viennarotary.org)

### WEEK IN VIENNA

## RSVP Northern Virginia to Host Holiday Lunch and Learn

RSVP Northern Virginia will hold a free Lunch and Learn program on community service and the health benefits of volunteering for prospective and current RSVP volunteers at noon, Monday, Dec. 11, at the Providence Community Center. The event is free and open to the public. Lunch will be provided.

RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program) is the region's largest volunteer network for people 55 and older and provides individualized support to seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria.

Lorie Spears, CTRS, a recreation therapist with the InovaCares for Seniors PACE Program, will speak on the health benefits of volunteering and staying active.

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. RSVP also offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers including providing rides, support and meals to older neighbors, assisting local veterans in need and helping prepare communities for disasters.

The Providence Community Center is located at 3001 Vaden Drive near the Vienna Metro.

"We will also discuss how service supports our local nonprofits, influences our community and benefits our health," says Nadia Hoonan, RSVP Northern Virginia program manager. RSVP Lunch and Learns typically last about 90 minutes.

To sign up for Dec. 11 event, email volunteer specialist Carly Hubicki at [chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org) or call the RSVP hotline at 703-403-5360.

**FOSTER Remodeling Solutions, Inc. DESIGN-BUILD**

**CALL FOSTER TODAY**  
703.672.2249

Make all your product selections in our newly remodeled design and selection showroom. Call to set up a personalized walk-thru. 703.672.2249 or online at [FosterRemodeling.com](http://FosterRemodeling.com)

- DESIGN-BUILD
- KITCHEN REMODELING
- BATHROOM REMODELING
- WHOLE HOMES
- ADDITIONS
- and much more!

Foster Remodeling Solutions  
7211-H Telegraph Square Drive • Lorton, VA 22079  
703.672.2249 • [FosterRemodeling.com](http://FosterRemodeling.com)



## PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN EDUCATIONAL EVENT.

Hear from an MS expert and learn about an oral treatment option for relapsing MS.

**Date and Time:**  
12/14/2017 at 6:30 PM

**Speaker:**  
**James Simsarian, MD**  
**Megan Adamson, NP**  
Fairfax, VA

**Location:**  
Maggiano's Little Italy  
2001 International Drive  
McLean, VA 22102

Event Code: TR447922 (1437488)

### PLEASE RSVP\*:

- [RelapsingMultipleSclerosisEvents.com](http://RelapsingMultipleSclerosisEvents.com)
- 1-866-703-6293
- [MSRSVP@ahmdirect.com](mailto:MSRSVP@ahmdirect.com)

\*Registration is limited to two people per RSVP.  
Photo ID may be requested at event entrance.

**Complimentary parking or valet available.**  
**A light meal or snack may be provided.**

Copyright ©2015  
GZUS.MS.15.05.1423(2)

## Visit These Houses of Worship

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

450 ORCHARD STREET, NW  
VIENNA, VA 22180  
703-938-8525  
email: [fbcvoffice@fbcv.org](mailto:fbcvoffice@fbcv.org)  
[www.fbcv.org](http://www.fbcv.org)

SUNDAY WORSHIP, 7:45 AM & 10:00 AM  
CHRISTIAN LEARNING ACADEMY (SUN.) 9:00AM-9:45AM  
MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM

To Highlight Your Faith Community, call Don at 703-778-9420



### Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Concession Payment Projects

#### Public Hearing

Thursday, Jan. 4, 2018  
Open house at 6 p.m.; hearing begins at 6:30 p.m.

VDOT Northern Virginia District Office  
4975 Alliance Drive  
Fairfax, VA 22030

If cancelled for inclement weather, the alternate date will be **Friday, Jan. 5, 2018**.

The Commonwealth Transportation Board invites you to comment on projects to be funded by a concession fee to the Commonwealth as part of the financial agreement with Express Mobility Partners for the I-66 Express Lanes Outside the Beltway project. At a future meeting, the CTB will vote to amend these projects in the Commonwealth's Six-Year Improvement Program.

Information related to the following projects will be available:

- Rt. 234/Balls Ford Road interchange and relocation in Prince William
- Virginia Railway Express Manassas Line upgrade - Phase I
- Balls Ford Road widening from Groveton Road to Route 234 Business (Sudley Road) in Prince William
- I-66 median widening at Route 29 for WMATA in Fairfax
- Commuter parking garage at Fairfax Corner
- George Synder Trail in Fairfax City
- Widen Jermantown Road bridge to four lanes over I-66 in Fairfax
- Western bus maintenance facility in Prince William
- East Falls Church Metro Bus bay expansion in Arlington
- Monument Drive bridge pedestrian improvements in Fairfax
- Rt. 50/Waples Mill Road intersection improvements in Fairfax
- Construct Poplar Tree Road bridge to four lanes over Route 28 in Fairfax
- Lee Highway pedestrian improvements in Fairfax
- Nutley Street SW multi-use trail to Metro in Vienna

If you cannot attend the hearing, email comments to [meetingcomments@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:meetingcomments@vdot.virginia.gov) and reference "I-66 Concession Projects" in the subject line, or mail them to Maria Sinner at VDOT's District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 through **Jan. 8, 2018**.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT's Civil Rights Division at 703-259-1775 or TTY/TDD 711.

## ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

#### ONGOING

**Vienna-Wide Food Drive.** Through Dec. 31, bring food contributions to Vienna Town Hall - 127 Center St. S; Vienna Arts Society-115 Pleasant St. NW; Bikes@Vienna-128-A Church St. NW; Caffe Amouri-107 Church St., NE; Evolution Fitness- 216 Dominion Road, NE; Rexall Drug Store-150 Maple Ave. W; Drs. Covel, Stack and Henon- 120 Beulah Road, NE; Patrick Henry Library (co-sponsored by Supervisor Cathy Hudgins) and the Vienna Community Center. Girl Scout Troop 2684 will be helping NEVCA by picking up the food. Sponsored by Committee for Helping Others. Call 703-281-7614.

**Textures Exhibit.** Through Jan. 7, various times at the Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW. Call 703-319-3971 or visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

#### 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](mailto: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

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

#### The Freeman Store & Museum

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

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

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

**Gentle Yoga.** Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.



## Live Music

**On Friday, Feb. 3, its Lera Lynn in Concert 7 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.leralynn.com](http://www.leralynn.com) for more.**

#### THURSDAY/DEC. 7

**The MarketPlace Fair.** 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Will feature over a dozen vendors, a silent auction of goods and services, gifts, jewelry, baked delicacies, drinks and a lunch café. Parking and admission are free. Call 703-556-0197 or visit [www.mcleanwomansclub.org](http://www.mcleanwomansclub.org).

**51st annual Holiday Homes Tour and Fair.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Tour four large, decorated homes in the McLean neighborhoods of Franklin Park, central McLean, Spring Hill Farm and Woodlea Mill, all with ample street parking. Cost: \$25 before Dec. 7 at Mesmeralda's of McLean, Karin's Florist in Vienna and Great Dogs of Great Falls or \$30 on Dec. 7 at the tour houses and at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Call 703-556-0197 or visit [www.mcleanwomansclub.org](http://www.mcleanwomansclub.org).

**Ice Skating Social at Tysons.** 7 p.m. at Tysons Corner, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. McLean Racquet and Health Club is sponsoring, all ages and levels welcome. Visit [www.mcleanrhcclub.com](http://www.mcleanrhcclub.com) or email [mrhcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:mrhcinfo@gmail.com).

#### STARTING DEC. 8

**Watercolor Workshops with Joe Phillips.** 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Vienna Arts Society, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Class each Friday until Jan. 1. Call 703-319-3971 or visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

#### FRIDAY/DEC. 8

**Gift Collection.** 9:30 a.m.-noon at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. NE, Vienna. Collecting new, unwrapped gifts and gift cards for children and teens. The North East Vienna Citizens Association is sponsoring the event with help from Girl Scout Troop 2684. Visit [nevca.wordpress.com](http://nevca.wordpress.com).

**Cooking Demonstration and Luncheon.** 11 a.m. at L'Auberge Chez François, 332 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Chef Jacques will demonstrate how to cook French dishes. Call 703-759-3800.

**Old Firehouse Family Movie Night.** 7-9 p.m.-noon at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road. \$3. Gather the whole family and bring blankets, pillows and camp chairs for an indoor, picnic-style family movie night. Participants will enjoy unlimited free popcorn with the movie, which will be shown on a large projection screen. Call 703-790-

## Letters From Santa

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. And the Postal Service can help prove it when Santa replies to a child's letter to Santa — complete with the North Pole Postmark. Letters from Santa must be received by the Anchorage, AK, Postmaster no later than Dec. 15. Santa's helpers in Anchorage, AK, will take care of the rest. Visit [about.usps.com/holidaynews/letters-from-santa.htm](http://about.usps.com/holidaynews/letters-from-santa.htm) for more.

Here are the steps for any child to get a letter back from Santa:

1. Have the child write a letter to Santa and place it in an envelope addressed to: Santa Claus, North Pole.
2. Later, when alone, open the envelope and write a personalized response.
3. Insert the response letter into an envelope and address it to the child.
4. Add the return address: SANTA, NORTH POLE, to the envelope.
5. Affix a First-Class Mail stamp to the envelope.
6. Place the complete envelope into a larger envelope — preferably a Priority Mail Flat Rate envelope — with appropriate postage and address it to:  
North Pole Postmark  
Postmaster  
4141 Postmark Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99530-9998

# ENTERTAINMENT

0123 or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

## SATURDAY/DEC. 9

### Gift Wrapping Service and

**Christmas Bazaar.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Women, 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. Shop for hand-crafted holiday gifts, gorgeous fine art jewelry, nature photography, watercolors, homemade sweet treats. Gift wrapping is free. Visit [www.andrewchapelumc.org](http://www.andrewchapelumc.org).

**Holiday Open House.** 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place. Friends of the Oakton Library are sponsoring a holiday open house with a holiday-themed book sale. Call 703-242-4020.

## SUNDAY, DEC. 10

**Live Music.** 11 a.m. at L'Auberge Chez Francois, 332 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Guitarist Alexander Barnett plays a variety of acoustic music. Call 703-759-3800.

**Blue Christmas Service.** 3:30 p.m. at Katie's Coffee House 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. A non-traditional service of remembrance and hope, brought to you by Great Falls Area Ministries. Call Carol Wright 703-582-1640.

**McLean Youth Orchestra.** 4 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Community Building of Vinson Hall, 1735 Kirby Road, McLean. Visit [www.tysons-mcleanorchestra.org](http://www.tysons-mcleanorchestra.org) or call 703-893-8646.

**Christmas Concert.** 4 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., NE, Vienna. A Cathedral Brass Christmas, music from Monteverdi to Gordon Goodwin. Call 703-438-0718.

**Christmas Youth Concert.** 4 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The youth choir leads with Christmas hymns, followed by reception. Call 703-356-4902 or visit [stjohnsmclean.org](http://stjohnsmclean.org).

## MONDAY/DEC. 11

**Santa's Ride for Children.** Donate new and unwrapped toys, games, books and gifts to be distributed to children at Fairfax Hospital, Georgetown Lombardi Cancer Center. Email Ruth.Rohr@viennava.gov or call 703-255-6324.

## TUESDAY/DEC. 12

**Meteor Classes.** 7:30 p.m. at Turner Farm is located at 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. This class will cover what meteors are, their origins and the best time to view them. An optional outdoor visual observing session will be held after class, weather permitting. Bring a lawn chair and a warm cover or sleeping bag. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/turnerfarm/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/turnerfarm/).

## SATURDAY/DEC. 16

**Breakfast With Santa.** 8 a.m.-noon at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S., Vienna. Pancakes, sausage, bacon, juice and coffee. Visit [www.vvfd.org](http://www.vvfd.org).

**Night In Bethlehem Performance.** 5-7 p.m. at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. Nativity scene with live animals. Visit [andrewchapelumc.org](http://andrewchapelumc.org).

## SUNDAY/DEC. 17

**Breakfast Buffet.** 8 a.m.-noon, at Vienna American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N. Adults \$9, children 12 and under \$3. Get omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, sausage, hash browns and more. Call 703-938-6580.

**Christmas Caroling Sing-Along.** 3-5

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

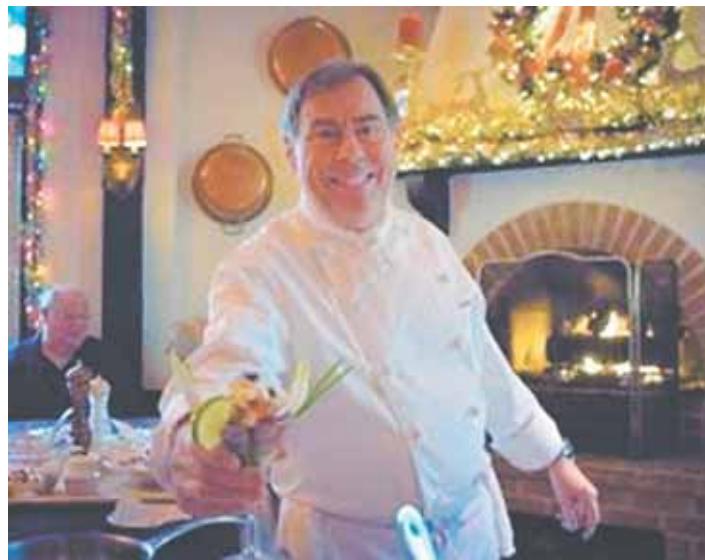


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Chef Jacques will demonstrate how to cook French dishes during the Holiday in Paris Cooking Demonstration and Luncheon on Friday, Dec. 8, at 11 a.m.**

## Special Holiday Events at L'Auberge Chez Francois

Holiday season is in full swing at L'Auberge Chez Francois in Great Falls: Traditionally one of the best decorated businesses in the area, the restaurant hosts a series of special holiday events. Last Sunday, Dec. 3, they kicked off the season with second annual Sing Along and Dinner with local favorite, Difficult Run String Band performing holiday classics.

The upcoming holiday events at L'Auberge Chez Francois include:

❖ Holiday in Paris Cooking Demonstration and Luncheon on Friday, Dec. 8, at 11 a.m. Chef Jacques will demonstrate how to cook French dishes. This festive event will feature the cuisine and wines from France.

❖ Holiday Wine Festival and

Luncheon, Saturday, Dec. 9: Come between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. for a walk-around tasting of international wines followed by a luncheon from a four-course menu paired with another glass of wine.

❖ Sounds of the Season Brunch with guitarist Alexander Barnett, Sunday, Dec. 10, 11 a.m.

❖ Gonet-Medeville Premier Cru Champagne and Bordeaux Wine Dinner, Thursday, Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m.

❖ Champagne Celebration Cooking Demonstration and Luncheon, Saturday, Dec. 16, 11 a.m.

To learn more about L'Auberge Chez Francois email [chezlauberge@aol.com](mailto:chezlauberge@aol.com), call 703-759-3800, or visit [www.laubergechezfrancois.com](http://www.laubergechezfrancois.com)

p.m. at Historic Pleasant Grove, 8641 Lewisville Road, McLean. Songs followed by cookies and hot cider, at this historic site. Visit [www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org](http://www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org).

**Christmas Concert.** 4 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. NE, Vienna. Glorious Sounds of Christmas, a Christmas celebration for the whole family led by the Vienna Presbyterian Sanctuary Choir, the Cathedral Brass, organ, piano, and noted soloists. Call 703-438-0718.

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 20

**Timeline Arcade and Ice Cream.** 8 a.m.-6 p.m.-noon at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Play old-school video games and then eat ice cream. \$55/45 for McLean Community Center district residents. Call 703-790-0123 or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

## THURSDAY/DEC. 21

**Bowling and Movie.** 8 a.m.-6 p.m.-

noon at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. \$65/55 for McLean residents. Call 703-790-0123 or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 27

**Dave and Buster's arcade.** 8 a.m.-6 p.m.-noon at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Lunch and a \$25 game card with unlimited arcade game play are included. \$70/60 for McLean residents. Call 703-790-0123 or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

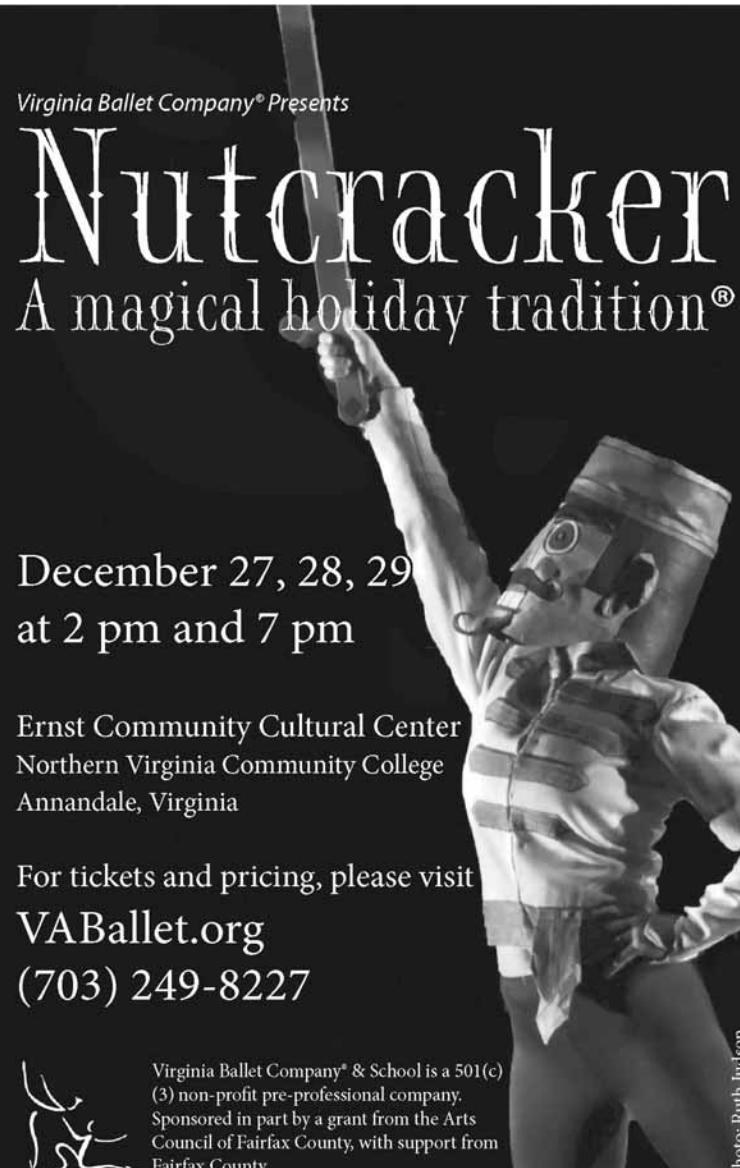
## THURSDAY/DEC. 28

**Tubing/Ice Skating Trip.** 8 a.m.-6 p.m.-noon at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Chill out racing down hills on the tubes or gliding on skates. During the day, there is a pizza party. Admission for tubing or ice skating and lunch are included in the fee. \$55/45 for McLean residents. Call 703-790-0123 or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

Virginia Ballet Company® Presents

# Nutcracker

A magical holiday tradition®



December 27, 28, 29  
at 2 pm and 7 pm

Ernst Community Cultural Center  
Northern Virginia Community College  
Annandale, Virginia

For tickets and pricing, please visit  
[VABallet.org](http://VABallet.org)  
(703) 249-8227

 Virginia Ballet Company® & School is a 501(c)  
(3) non-profit pre-professional company.  
Sponsored in part by a grant from the Arts  
Council of Fairfax County, with support from  
Fairfax County



Help make more than 2,000 kids smile this holiday season through Northern Virginia Family Service's GIFTING FOR FAMILIES holiday gift drive.

Dropoff: Dec. 11 & 12 • 13868 Metrotech Dr., Chantilly  
[nvfs.org/gifts4kids](http://nvfs.org/gifts4kids)



**THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS**  
**Alexandria Gazette Packet**  
**Mount Vernon Gazette**  
**Potomac CENTREVIEW ALMANAC**

You can read any of this week's 15 papers digital editions here:  
[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs)

# CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

## Announcements

**We pay top \$ for STERLING,**  
MEN'S WATCHES,  
JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,  
FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.

**Schefer Antiques**  
703-241-0790  
theschifers@cox.net

**Find us on Facebook and become a fan!**  
[www.Facebook.com/  
connectionnewspapers](http://www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)

**THE CONNECTION**  
Newspapers & Online  
[www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com)

## Computers

### HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

JENNIFER SMITH  
Serving the Area Since 1995



- Speed Up Slow Computers
  - Virus Removal
  - Computer Setup
  - Help with Windows 8
- 571-265-2038**  
[Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com](mailto:Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com)

## Announcements

## Announcements

### Lifetime METAL ROOFING

by VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

40 YEAR WARRANTY ON THE FINISH - ENERGY EFFICIENT  
SUPERIOR DURABILITY - SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT  
**FACTORY DIRECT - WE FINANCE - CALL NOW!**

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

1-800-893-1242

## Announcements

## Announcements

# JOIN OUR TEAM!



Chesterfield County Public Schools  
Innovative. Engaging. Relevant.

## Chesterfield County Public School

### Now Hiring

### Food Service Associates

Contracted Pay Rate \$10.00-\$15.40  
(determined by experience)  
\*Substitute Pay Rate \$9.00

- Training is provided, no experience necessary.
- Work from September to mid-June with summers off.
- All student holidays off to spend with your family!
- Permanent part-time positions available.
- Advancement opportunities available with benefits.

Apply via the CCPS website at  
<http://mychesterfieldschools.com>.  
Complete job description and application procedures  
are available on the website. **EOE/M/F/D**

# COMMUNITY

## Great Falls Church Youth Serve D.C. Homeless

Ten high-schoolers and three adult chaperones representing the youth group of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Great Falls, provided and distributed warm beverages, chili, water, blankets and more during a Salvation Army Grate Patrol ride-along in the District on Nov. 18. This marked the group's 10th year of participation in Grate Patrol.

Steve Wilson, a Christ the King senior high leader, said that the personal outreach Grate Patrol emphasizes is the essence of service.

"It's a great experience for suburban kids to step out of their comfort zone and see the homeless face-to-face — but to also see they're real people who are appreciative, responsive and grateful," said Wilson.

Kevin Magley, Christ the King's high school youth leader, remembers an interaction during a previous Grate Patrol, when a homeless man called the volunteers together and prayed over the group so they might help others that night.

"He didn't want any food or any blankets. He really just wanted somebody to talk to," said Magley. "That stuck out to me. He probably did need help, but he was focused on others."

Salvation Army van drivers follow the same route every night, with four to seven predetermined stops at locations like Union Station. One van driver, Nick Douglas, said he applied for his job simply because he needed employment. He has driven the van for 14 years.

"Now, it's no job," he said. Every night, he told us, he completes his route with an overwhelming sense of gratitude for all of his blessings.

"We come here when there's snow on the ground, and people are here, waiting for food," Douglas said. "If you're not grateful for what you've got, something's really wrong."

Serving the hungry and homeless is a lesson in



**Serving the hungry and homeless is a lesson in perspective for Christ the King Lutheran Church in Great Falls high schoolers.**

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



**This marked the group's 10th year of participation in Grate Patrol.**

perspective for this group of high schoolers who may not otherwise witness the less fortunate side of D.C. As recipients walk away with chili and blankets, the young volunteers walk away with renewed thankfulness and an increased desire to serve.

## Announcements

## Announcements

### Earn more with Quality! ★★★ 30 YEARS OF SERVICE ★★★

**Looking for CDL A or B drivers to deliver new trucks all over the US and Canada.  
Experience preferred. Must have DOT physical and be willing to keep logs. No DUIs in last 10 years, clean MVR.**

**Quality**  
Drive-Away INC.

Apply Online at  
[www.qualitydriveaway.com](http://www.qualitydriveaway.com)  
or call 574-642-2023



# BULLETIN

FROM PAGE 2

TUESDAY/JAN. 9

**English as a Second Language Classes.** 7-8 p.m. at St. Mark Christian Formation Center, 9972 Vale Road, Vienna. Come help 150+ adult learners master the English language, prepare for American citizenship, learn to converse fluently in English, improve their writing skills, and integrate into the local community. Call 703-980-9380, email stmarksels@gmail.com, or visit www.stmarksels.org.

THURSDAY/JAN. 11

**English as a Second Language Classes.** 7-8 p.m. at St. Mark Christian Formation Center, 9972 Vale Road, Vienna. Come help 150+ adult learners master the English language, prepare for American citizenship, learn to converse fluently in English, improve their writing skills, and integrate into the local community. Call 703-980-9380, email stmarksels@gmail.com, or visit www.stmarksels.org.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

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

**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.

**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@scmaf.org. The Center's website is www.scmaf.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.

**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://prsin.org/carerings-volunteering/>. Questions? Email lpadgett@prsin.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/lcombdmsm/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/lcombdmsm/).

Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs.** For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults) and click on Volunteer Solutions.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

To Advertise Your Business, Call Karen at 703-778-9422

## ELECTRICAL

### K&D ELECTRIC

COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE

Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting

Licensed/Bonded/Insured

Ceiling Fans

Office 703-335-0654

Phone/CATV

Mobile 703-499-0522

Computer Network Cabling

Service Upgrades

Hot Tubs, etc...

lektrkman28@gmail.com

## GUTTER

### GUTTER CLEANING

Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned  
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

### PINNACLE SERVICES

lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est.  
email: jamie@lawnsandgutters.com  
web: lawnsandgutters.com  
Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!

## IMPROVEMENTS

### Power Washing

Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a hot violation? We do houses, decks, fences, side walks, etc. Deck and fence repair, deck staining and sealing.

Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates

email: jnave@comcast.net

**703-987-5096**

### A&S Landscaping

- All Concrete work
- Retaining Walls • Patios
- Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions
- French Drains • Sump Pumps
- Driveway Asphalt Sealing

**703-863-7465**

LICENSED

Serving All of N. Virginia

## TILE / MARBLE

### RN. CONTRACTORS, INC.

Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting

We Accept All Major Credit Cards

Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic

Phone: 703-887-3827

E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com

[www.rncontractors.com](http://www.rncontractors.com)

## TILE / MARBLE

### BATHROOM REMODELING

by Brennan Bath and Tile

Partial or Full Kit. Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp.

[www.brennan-tile.com](http://www.brennan-tile.com)

**703-250-2872**

Licensed • Bonded • Insured

## LANDSCAPING

### A&S CONSTRUCTION

SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up

Leaf Removal

Hauling.

**703-863-7465**

## LANDSCAPING

## LANDSCAPING

### Patios & Drainage

Your neighborhood company since 1987

**703-912-6886**

### J.E.S. Services

Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured

- Planting & Landscaping Design
- Drainage & Water Problems
- Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New
- Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid
- Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose
- Retaining walls of all types

All work Guaranteed

## LANDSCAPING

## LANDSCAPING

### GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION

Walkways, Patios, Driveways,

Flagstone, Concrete

FREE ESTIMATES

Licensed, Insured, Bonded

**703-250-6231**

## TILE / MARBLE

## TILE / MARBLE

### Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

Summer Cleanup...

Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience – Free estimates

**703-868-5358**

### 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

## TILE / MARBLE

## TILE / MARBLE

### Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION

to any or all of our 15 papers

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

## LANDSCAPING

## LANDSCAPING

### Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

Summer Cleanup...

Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience – Free estimates

**703-868-5358**

### 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

## TILE / MARBLE

## TILE / MARBLE

### Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION

to any or all of our 15 papers

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

## LANDSCAPING

## LANDSCAPING

### Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

Summer Cleanup...

Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience – Free estimates

**703-868-5358**

### 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

## TILE / MARBLE

## TILE / MARBLE

### Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION

to any or all of our 15 papers

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

## LANDSCAPING

## LANDSCAPING

### Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

Summer Cleanup...

Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience – Free estimates

**703-868-5358**

### 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service

## TILE / MARBLE

## TILE / MARBLE

### Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION

to any or all of our 15 papers

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

## LANDSCAPING

## LANDSCAPING

### Quality Tree Service & Landscaping

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

# OPINION

# Give Locally in Fairfax County

## Holidays are for giving; many choices to help.

The holidays are about giving, and giving thanks. The holidays are about children and family. The holidays are about sharing, about joy. The holidays are about being thankful and about faith and appreciation. The holidays are about alleviating suffering for others.

**EDITORIAL** Northern Virginia is among the wealthiest areas in the country. Many if not most of us go through our daily and seasonal routines without encoun-

### GIVE LOCALLY

♦ **Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, [www.cornerstonesva.org](http://www.cornerstonesva.org). Nonprofit providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality childcare, and other human services. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Gifts for Kids and annual Coat Drive. Gifts will be collected at Cornerstones main office, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, VA 20190 on Thursday, Dec. 7 and Friday, Dec. 8, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 9, 9 a.m. – noon. Contact Nata King, Donations and Drives Coordinator, at 571-323-9569.

♦ **Share of McLean** operates a food pantry; provides assistance to families to avoid eviction, keep utilities on and meet other needs in a crisis. Share of McLean will provide holiday assistance to more than 250 needy families (630-plus people) this year. Help neighbors in need by donating money, fulfilling a wish or donating Walmart, Target, Giant, or Safeway gift cards. Share's Furniture Program is in major need of drivers and helpers. Visit the Furniture Program page. The Food Pantry is in major need of supplies; visit the Food Pantry page and check Facebook to see how to help the Food Pantry. Visit [www.shareofmclean.org](http://www.shareofmclean.org) for more info about Share.

♦ **Herndon-Reston FISH** (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105, [herndonrestonfish.org](http://herndonrestonfish.org). Herndon-Reston FISH has assisted local residents in short-term crises by since 1969. FISH provides Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help by responding to emergency requests for rent, transportation, utilities, medical prescriptions and other needs. FISH operates The Bargain Loft, a thrift store, which needs donations of good quality saleable items, accepting and selling art, furniture, jewelry, household linens, dishes, pots and pans, books, women's designer clothing (clean and on hangers), puzzles, games, collectibles, small electronics and more. If you have store questions, call 703-437-0600. Herndon-Reston FISH also provides Holiday Food & Gift Baskets during the November and December season.

♦ **LINK**, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more. Every year the goal is to provide each family with a week's worth of non-perishable food in November and again in December. When funds allow, grocery gift cards are also included. In November, clients also receive a voucher for coats and warm clothing. In December, children 16 and under receive gifts. [holiday@linkagainsthunger.org](mailto:holiday@linkagainsthunger.org). 703-437-1776 [www.linkagainsthunger.org](http://www.linkagainsthunger.org).

♦ **Committee for Helping Others** (CHO), Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. Last year 450 children had a special Christmas through the annual Christmas Store. 703-281-7614, [www.cho-va.com](http://www.cho-va.com)

♦ **Northern Virginia Family Service**, 571-748-2500, [www.nvfs.org](http://www.nvfs.org). Employment and job training, healthcare, housing, mental health, foster care and Healthy Families. 10455 White Granite, Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124.

♦ **Second Story** — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182. 703-506-9191, [second-story.org](http://second-story.org). Second Story

tering evidence of the needy families among us.

In Fairfax County, more than 52,000 (28 percent) of FCPS students are poor enough to receive free or subsidized meals.

The median family income in Fairfax County rose to \$129,800. But among families with children, 6 percent have income below the poverty level. That's \$20,420 for a family of three. That's about \$1,700 a month. Median rent in Fairfax County is \$1,747, meaning the cost for half the rentals is more than that.

These are children living in families who may be on the brink of homelessness, families who must choose between medical bills, car repair, heat and food. Some of these are children who

may not be sure that they will have a meal between the meals they get in school.

School holidays can bring uncertainty and hunger — a far cry from the celebrations, gifts and plenty that we associate with the holidays.

Hundreds of homeless students attend the public schools, and their needs are greater.

Many nonprofits in the county need your help to provide a holiday meal for Thanksgiving or Christmas, to provide children with gifts.

There are literally hundreds, probably thousands, of ways to give locally this season. Here are a few ideas.

— MARY KIMM  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

(formerly Alternative House) provides shelter and services for homeless, runaway or abused teenagers, unaccompanied youth, and young mothers and their children. Requests for food and clothing are up more than 50 percent.

♦ **Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna** providing services, personal enrichment, volunteer opportunities for adults 50 and over. Currently serving 3,000+ mature adults in the region. 703-281-0538, [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org).

♦ **Touching Heart** in Herndon is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children to have giving hearts. [www.touchingheart.com](http://www.touchingheart.com), 703-901-7355.

♦ **Western Fairfax Christian Ministries** — food pantry at 13981 Metrotech Drive in Chantilly. For more information or to sponsor a family, call 703-988-9656, ext. 105. To mail gift cards or send donations by check, add a note saying "food basket program" and send them to: WFCM, P.O. Box 220802, Chantilly, VA 20153.

♦ **HomeAid** builds and renovates facilities that house the homeless, and partners with many local organizations to do so. 3684 Centerview Drive, Suite 110B, Chantilly, VA 20151. [www.homeaidnova.org](http://www.homeaidnova.org).

♦ **FACETS** helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area, a partner in efforts to end homelessness in Fairfax County. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. 703-865-4251, [volunteer@facetscares.org](mailto:volunteer@facetscares.org) or [www.facetscares.org](http://www.facetscares.org). 10640 Page Ave., Suite 300, Fairfax, VA 222030.

♦ **Britepaths** will have 3,000 individuals and families in need of holiday assistance this fall. Sponsor a family or donate to provide a family with a Thanksgiving meal, December holiday meal and/or gifts for their children. [britepaths.org](http://britepaths.org).

♦ **Fairfax City Area FISH** (For Immediate Sympathetic Help) helps local people who are in temporary need of life's basic necessities such as food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, mortgage payments, utilities, and medical treatments. FISH also provides limited transportation for doctor appointments and food delivery. 703-222-0880, [fairfaxfish.org](http://fairfaxfish.org).

♦ **Lamb Center**, day center for homeless, Fairfax. 703-691-3178, [thelambcenter.org](http://thelambcenter.org).

♦ **Food for Others** provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. Located at 2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA 22031, 703-207-9173, [info@foodforothers.org](mailto:info@foodforothers.org) or [www.foodforothers.org](http://www.foodforothers.org). Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

♦ **Ecumenical Community Helping Others** (ECHO). 703-569-9160, [www.foodforothers.org](http://www.foodforothers.org). Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. Provides food and financial assistance to those in short-term emergencies, and provides clothing and household goods to low-income families.

♦ **Assistance League of Northern Virginia** is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that feeds, clothes and educates children in need. Assistance League's philanthropic programs touch the lives of thousands of children at 11 Title I schools in Northern Virginia, serving children most in need at selected schools in Fairfax and Prince William counties and the City of Alexandria. To learn more

## Vienna & Oakton CONNECTION

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

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

Published by  
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to  
your email box. Go to  
[connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

NEWS DEPARTMENT:  
[vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com)

Kemal Kurspanic  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

Donna Manz  
Contributing Writer  
[dmanz@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dmanz@connectionnewspapers.com)

Andrea Worker  
Reporter  
[aworker@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:aworker@connectionnewspapers.com)

Mike Salmon  
Editorial Assistant  
[vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com)

ADVERTISING:  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

Don Park  
Display Advertising  
703-778-9420  
[donpark@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:donpark@connectionnewspapers.com)

Debbie Funk  
National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

David Griffin  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

Editor & Publisher  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

Editor in Chief  
Steven Mauren  
Managing Editor  
Kemal Kurspanic  
Art/Design:  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,  
Ali Khaligh  
Production Manager:  
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher  
Jeanne Theismann  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)

