

Successful Ladies Tennis Social

News, Page 8

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PRSRT STD U.S. Postace PAID Easton, MD PERMIT #322 SENATOR FAVOLA IS A STRONG AND EFFECTIVE ADVOCATE FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION, WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, GUN SAFETY AND GREEN COMMUNITIES. SHE WAS AWARDED THE ENERGY FREEDOM AWARD BY THE VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB IN 2018. LEADERS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT WE KNOW AND TRUST ENDORSE HER CANDIDACY.



"Senator Barbara Favola is a dedicated public servant who is committed to fighting for our most vulnerable Virginians. From her time on the Arlington County Board through her two terms in the Virginia Senate, I've seen Barbara lead on the issues that matter most to families in the Commonwealth, like strengthening public education. I am particularly proud of the work she has done to help foster children achieve the education and training they need to succeed. Because I know she will serve with our shared values of fairness and justice in mind, I'm proud to endorse Senator Favola's candidacy for a third term in the Virginia Senate."

- U.S. SENATOR TIM KAINE OF VIRGINIA

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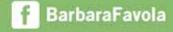
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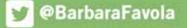
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- BARBARA FAVOLA

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WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

State Representatives to Speak at GFCA Meeting

The annual meeting of the Great Falls Citizens Association will be held on Monday, June 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the Great Falls Library. Del. Kathleen Murphy and State Sen. Barbara Favola will discuss highlights of the 2019 General Assembly session and take questions from residents. Find out what went on in this legislative session that affects Great Falls and insights that are behind the headlines. The public is invited.

At this meeting, GFCA members will vote on the 2019/2020 slate of officers and board members. Please come and cast your vote at the library before the main program; voting will open at 7 p.m. GFCA will also announce the recipient of the GFCA President's Award, given to a resident who has provided consistent, outstanding leadership to our community.

Financial Expert to Speak at Great Falls Senior Center Event

The Great Falls Senior Center has announced Stan Corey, a retired financial fiduciary who regularly provides financial commentary at national conferences, in print and online publications, and on TV, as guest speaker. He is a Certified Financial Planner (CFP), a Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC) and a Certified Private Wealth Advisor (CPWA). His topic will highlight what he calls the "The Five Stages of Retirement."

The June 18 event will be held at the Great Falls United Methodist Church , 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and includes lunch . Make a reservation with Polly Fitzgerald at pollyfitz1@verizon.net or call 703-759-4345. Visit gfseniors.org for additional information.

The Sponsor is Costa Family and Cosmetic Dentistry, providing the latest dental care in a cheerful, bright and friendly environment at 10135 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls.

Great Falls Connection Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
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Photos by Andrea Worker/The Connection

Calvin Follin reads the names of Great Falls residents who served the country before passing, as Sara Hilgartner rings a bell for each in their honor.



Elected officials participated in the remembrance ceremony, as well. From far right, Great Falls Freedom Memorial president Andy Wilson is joined by, from left, State Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31), Dranesville Supervisor John Foust, and Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) to stand with Scouts Tommy Maxon and Melinda Hauda for the Laying of the Wreath at the Memorial.

Accepting Torch 'to Hold it High'

Great Falls pays tribute to the fallen on Memorial Day.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

assing the torch of remembrance was part of Andy Wilson's message on Memorial Day. Wilson, the president of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial, welcomed a crowd to the site, located behind the Great Falls Public Library on Georgetown Pike, for their annual Memorial Day remembrance event.

Opening the ceremony with a brief history of the federal holiday which was established to observe and honor people who have died in service to the country, Wilson also explained the meaning behind the wearing of red paper poppies as part of the remembrance of the fallen.

"It was inspired by a famous poem," said Wilson, about a battlefield, and the fallen upon it, that had seen not only tremendous bloodshed, but that had been physically damaged by one of the earliest uses of mustard gas during warfare.

"But in the midst of it all, these poppies survived, and even in the middle of battle, when there was quiet, birds, larks, could be heard singing."

THE POEM - "In Flanders Fields" - was written at Ypres, Belgium, during World War I by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, following the death of his close friend and former student, Alexis Helmer, by a German shell at that battle. The day after Helmer's death, McCrae wrote the lines describing the red poppies that bloomed all about the battlefield, despite the destruction and the carnage, and the responsibility of the survivors to accept "the torch" of duty and remembrance, for "If ye break faith with us



Andy Wilson, president of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial gave the opening and closing remarks, and guided the ceremony. Wilson also explained the origins and significance of the wearing of the red paper poppies in honor of fallen military, as he wore one himself, and volunteers provided them to the attendees.

who die, We shall not sleep, though poppies grow in Flanders fields."

Well attended by locals, and by elected officials including State Sen. Barbara Favola, Del. Kathleen Murphy, and Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust, the ceremony included an Invocation by Rev. David Lucey, Rector, St. Francis Episcopal Church in Great Falls, the Presentation of the Colors by local Boy Scout Troop 55 – who also led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance – and the singing of the National Anthem and "America the Beautiful" by Retired Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Juanita Williams before keynote speaker Sandy Pidgeon took to the podium.

Pidgeon is a Great Falls resident, the Vice President of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial and a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Navy Seal Teams.

"Honor never grows old," Pidgeon quoted from William Bennett, former Secretary of Education under Ronald Reagan. Continuing with Bennett's words, Pidgeon read "In our time that may mean social disapproval,



Presenting the Colors – members of Scout Troop 55 had the honor to Present the Colors at the Great Falls 2019 Memorial Day Remembrance ceremony. The Scouts led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance, and later performed the ceremonial Laying of the Wreath before Raising the Colors that had been lowered to half mast in honor of those who have fallen in service to the country.

public scorn, hardship, persecution, or as always, even death itself. The question remains: What is worth defending? What is worth dying for? What is worth living for?"

For Pidgeon and the many fallen he paid tribute to, those who survived, and those who continue to serve today, the answer would be the ideals on which America, "the Great Experiment" was founded.

Pidgeon's remarks were a reminder to respect and defend those ideals and to pay less heed to "the voices and ideas of fallible men."

The former Navy Seal used his experiences in a newly-liberated Albania years ago to bring home his point that democracy, as envisioned by the founding fathers, is still the ideal to be defended.

"Freedom is not free," he said. "We must remember that freedom is always one generation from being taken away," and thus the need to remember and "pass the history along."

AFTER THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS, the names of the fallen from Great Falls were read aloud by resident Calvin Follin, as Sara Hilgartner (the widow of the Freedom Memorial's creative force Retired U.S. Marine Corps Col. Pete "High Pockets" Hilgartner) rang a bell after each name was read.

After a moving rendition of "Taps" by Sara Young, it was time for the Boy Scouts to once again perform their duties with the Laying of the Wreath of Remembrance and the Raising of the Colors.

Wilson made closing remarks and Rev. Lucey gave a parting benediction before the attendees were officially dismissed with the reminder to "remember" not just on the one day of the year.

Annual Memorial Day ceremonies like the one in Great Falls are one way to keep the faith that the fallen on the fields in Flanders pleaded for, so Wilson, the other members of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial, and the area residents continue to gather to accept the "torch...to hold it high."



EVENT TITLE:

Evaluating Your Relapsing MS

WHEN:

June 6th, 2019 at 12:00pm

WHERE:

Wildfire 2001 International Dr Mclean, VA 22102

SPEAKER(S):

Heidi Crayton, M.D., Vienna, VA

Please RSVP so we can reserve your seat. Use event code PEP-12515 Visit RMStreatmentevent.com or call 1.877.895.1136

This special event is for people with relapsing MS and their Care Partners to learn about an infusion treatment option. You'll also hear from an RMS patient.

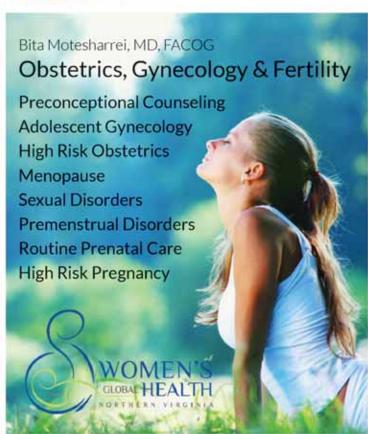
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News



Historic Marker at Colvin Run Mill

As part of its 50th anniversary celebration, the Fairfax County History Commission dedicated a historic marker at Colvin Run Mill pointing out the difficulties farmers and millers faced during the War of 1812. From left: Gregory Wilson, Sally Lyons, Barbara Peters, Dranesville Supervisor John Foust, Carole Herrick, Anne Stuntz, and Lynne-Garvey Hodge.

Kathleen's Art Studio Presents WEEKLY ART CAMPS



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My art studio and in ground pool are located next to my home at 905 Leigh Mill Road in Great Falls. I am a long time resident of Great Falls and this is my 16th year teaching children. Local references upon request. Member of Great Falls Artists Studios.

Please call or email with any questions or concerns or for a Registration Form Cell: 703-606-0297 or

Email: kathleensartstudio@yahoo.com

After School and Saturday Weekly Art Classes are available now. These weekly classes run once weekly until June. Classes are 2½ hours in length and sessions are 9 weeks long.









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OPINION

Help the Class of 2019 Celebrate Graduation Safely

By Supervisor JOHN C. COOK Braddock District

he last month of Senior year in high school is an exciting time for students and their fami-



lies. Our children are moving on to a new stage in life after four years of hard work and intensive studies. When one considers the caliber of our schools, graduation is an even more impressive milestone.

Amidst these great achievements, I urge parents to talk to their teens about the dangers of alcohol and to prohibit teens drinking in their

The Fairfax County Police Department will arrest parents who knowingly host teen parties with alcohol. This may seem harsh to some, but this is a public safety issue. Teens are not yet ready to make good choices about alcohol. When adults serve it to them they send the wrong message and encourage the wrong choices.

It is no secret that teen drinking is wrought with dangerous consequences. Since teens who drink are more likely to binge drink, they are also more likely to make poor choices, such as drunk driving. In fact, the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that every year hundreds of young people get behind the wheel intoxicated and cause deadly accidents: 648 people aged 16-20 were involved in a fatal accident with a BAC higher than .08 in 2017. Furthermore, teen drinking can also lead to sexual assaults and other crimes.

I cannot remember one year without hear-

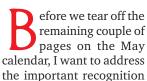
ing of a tragic local teen death caused by drunk driving. It is up to us as parents to do everything we can to encourage smart choices and safe celebration. That starts with clearly setting the boundary with your children that no alcohol will be served at any parties your family is hosting.

This is a community wide problem and will require community support. If you suspect there is underage drinking happening in your neighborhood, you can call the West Springfield Police Station at 703-644-7377 (or your District station).

Graduation season should be a time of merry making, reveling, and kudos for all the hard work our children have done. It should not include jail cells, ambulances, or coffins. Please join me in promoting a safe environment in our community by keeping alcohol out of teen

Mental Health Awareness Month

By Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum STATE DELEGATE (D-36)





of May as Mental Health Awareness Month. While Virginia is credited with having the first mental health hospital, or asylum as they were

COMMENTARY

called in the eighteenth century, the Commonwealth has had difficulty in recent times coming to

grips with the enormity of the need and the provision of funds to respond to those needs. In fact Virginia is ranked 40th in the nation in mental health care according to the results of a national study of the issue. It took a state senator's mentally ill son attacking his father with a knife to shock the state to greater action. That father now chairs the Joint Subcommittee on Mental Health Services in the 21st Century, or the Deeds Commission, that includes Senator Janet Howell as a member and has made critically important recommendaprogress.

A special thanks goes to the The Common-Institute (thecommonwealthinstitute.org) for documenting recent progress and remaining opportunities in behavioral health in a recent edition of <u>The Half Sheet</u>. The Institute which is a nonprofit organization focusing mostly on human service needs used the term "behavioral health" to be more comprehensive than "mental health" to include mental health services and supports such as substance abuse treatment. The Institute recognized accomplishments this past year to include a 21 percent increase in Medicaid reimbursement to encourage more licensed mental health professionals to accept Medicaid thus increasing access to services for people with low income. Additional funding for emergency opioid kits will expand the access to and availability of Naloxone which is used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. The General Assembly also passed and the Governor signed my bill to expand the health care providers authorized to dispense Naloxone to make it more readily available.

Increased funding was provided to increase

tions on which the state has made significant staffing at state mental health facilities that are struggling to keep up with demand. Funding was also approved to replace the aging mental health facility Central State Hospital. In addition, monies have been made available for transportation of persons needing mental health hospitalization from having to be transported by law enforcement.

> The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services indicates that there is a need for 5,000 permanent housing units for those who need supportive housing in the state. This year's funding along with an increase last year will provide 1,300 units of supportive housing. Obviously, there is a severe need to do more in this area with a price tag of about

> Challenges remain to be addressed in providing greater access to programs and services for those who live in rural areas and to those who have experienced the trauma of having been exposed to the immigration and refugee system. A task force is looking at ways to increase the number of mental health professionals in the state.

> Our awareness of mental health needs cannot end with the month of May. More needs to

Health Insurance Tax: An Attack on Seniors?

Regarding The Connection's recent article on health

disparities in Virginia (March 25, 2019, "Report Shows Geographic Disparities in Health in Virginia,") I want to highlight another threat to care in our region: the Health Insurance Tax.

As a senior who depends on Medicare Advantage for affordable health care to help manage debilitating chronic migraines and back pain, I am appalled by the lack of congressional action on the Health Insurance Tax (HIT).

has helped me get my life and my health back, but the HIT is nothing short of an attack on seniors. It would raise annual costs for more than 22 million Medicare Advantage beneficiaries by as much as \$241 per person annually, imposing a huge

burden for those living on fixed incomes. Seniors on Social Security often live on significantly less than the mean income in Appala-

Key legislation before Congress (H.R. 1398 and S. 172) would stop the HIT and protect seniors, but Senators Kaine and Warner and Medicare Advantage coverage Congressman Connolly have re-

fused to sign on as co-sponsors. It seems like Congress

has forgotten we are here.

If Congress allows a tax on my healthcare premiums, I won't be able to afford coverage. If costs go up, I'm out of the game. Senior health isn't a game - and the HIT is a multi-billion-dollar tax on health insurance premiums that will go into effect in 2020 unless Congress acts soon.

It's time for congressional action to stop the HIT and protect our

> **Carol Frysinger** Herndon

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

> Letters to the Editor The Connection 1606 King St. Alexandria VA 22314

By email: editors@connectionnewspapers.com

Great Falls

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NEWS DEPARTMENT: greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic

Editor * 703-778-9414 kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Worker

Contributing Writer aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

Jean Card

Production Editor jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:

For advertising information sales@connectionnewspapers.com703-778-9431

Salome Howard-Gaibler

Display Advertising 703-415-5394 salome@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk

National Sales 703-778-9444 debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

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703-778-9431

Editor & Publisher

Mary Kimm mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com @MaryKimm

Executive Vice President

Jerry Vernon 703-549-0004 jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief

Steven Mauren **Managing Editor**

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PEOPLE



Graduating from Drexel College of Medicine

Brendan Mullen, MD, Langley High School class of 2011, son of Michael and Deborah Mullen of Great Falls, graduated from Drexel College of Medicine in Philadelphia, Pa. He will be doing his residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Hahnemann Hospital and Temple University.

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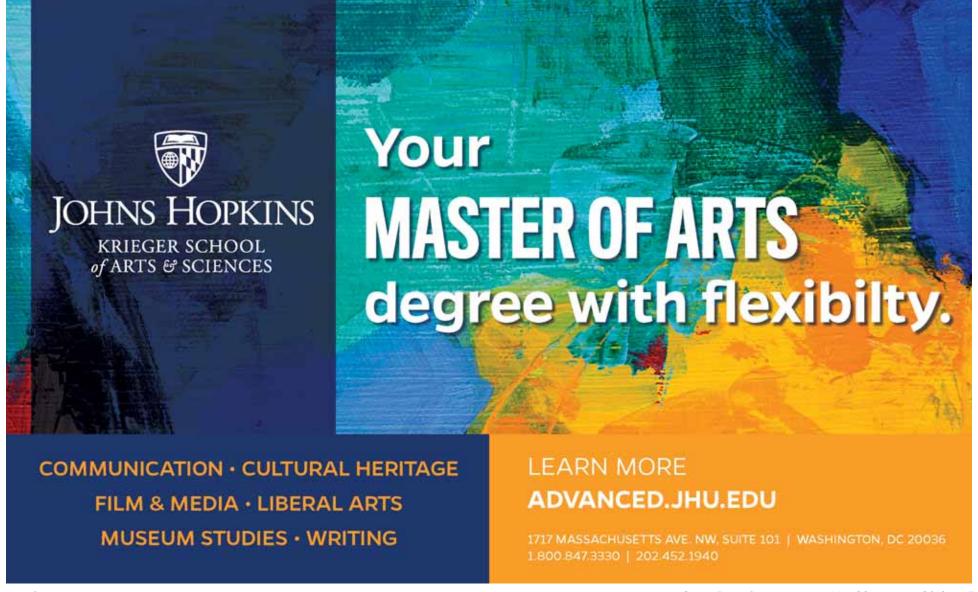




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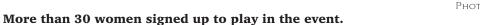
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COMMUNITY





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BY CLAIRE ABBOTT

elebrate Great Falls Foundation (CGFF) came up with the idea to hold a Ladies Tennis Social fundraiser on the same day as the Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Great Falls Friends and Neighbors (GFFN) got word of the plan and decided to sponsor the event. The fundraiser fits GFFN's mission of community involvement and supporting our local elementary schools (Great Falls, Forestville and Colvin Run). The proceeds of the Annual Charity Event will go towards purchasing new computers and programs for the elementary school students. Last year's CGFF highly successful fundraiser event brought in nearly \$40,000 for the schools. This year's success is expected to surpass last vear, and will be determined after the CGFF Golf and Auction events.

The first Ladies Tennis Social on Dailey. More than 30 ladies signed comes to supporting the local tennis format.



Ladies Tennis Social a 'Smashing Success'

May 20 was a smashing success Great Falls Friends and Neighbors sponsors, Celebrate Great Falls Foundation board and sold out well in advance, ac- members, and FCPS representatives, from left: Missy Perkins, Claire Abbott, Erin Lobato, cording to event chair, Kristin Meredith Brooke, Lisa Cuomo, Sheri Economou, Jennifer Eng and Kristin Dailey.

was plenty of laughter and time to enjoyed playing social tennis with socialize with old and new friends, new friends. The social included as the ladies moved from court to two hours of pro-directed play with

up to play in the event. When it court in a friendly and inclusive drills and games, followed by lunch Dailey, Meredith Broome, and Denthropic and Civic Club.

Many thanks to CGFF's Commit-

on an outdoor veranda. The Ten- nis Peery for their continued sup- nifer Eng, as well as Christina tion, go to https:// schools, it was apparent that the Participants included school PTA in is Social and luncheon was spon- port of the event and ingenious. Dumas for gathering the steps celebrategreatfalls.org and https:// ladies were enthusiastic about par- representatives, ladies with current sored by Great Falls Friends and addition of the Ladies Tennis So- needed to kick off this event. ticipating in the novel event. There or past students, and ladies who Neighbors, a Ladies Social, Philancial. GFFN would like to thank Missy Perkins, President of GFFN, and elementary school participants (CGFF) and the Great Falls Friends



From left, Mary Chlopecki and Eleanor DeMoors participated in Great Falls Tennis Social.

To learn more about the Celebrate Great Falls Foundation tee members Erin Lobato, Kristin Lisa Cuomo, Sheri Economou, Jenard Neighbors (GFFN) organiza-

-CLAIRE ABBOTT IS COMMU-NITY LIAISON, GREAT FALLS Friends and Neighbors



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Fundraiser event sponsored by the United Methodist Women of GFUMC

Hall of Mirrors

BY CHRISTINA TYLER WENKS

ne of the nation's most intrepid spies of World War II has a Central Intelligence Agency training facility named for her, yet many don't know her name. Local author Craig Gralley delivers Virginia Hall's perspective in his recently published book, "Hall of Mirrors."

Hall was a special agent who, with her prosthetic leg nicknamed Cuthbert, overcame physical limitations and gender discrimination while posing as a journalist, an elderly woman, and other identities in France. She went to extremes to become invisible, such as filing her teeth down to resemble a woman from the French countryside. A Gestapo wanted poster called her "The Allies' most dangerous spy."

THE JOURNEY of writing Hall's story is its own story.

Gralley was senior speech writer for three CIA directors. The firsttime novelist had an overt career

A WWII spy gets deserved attention; A book about a covert operative is the first for overt Craig Gralley.



Author Craig Gralley

that spanned 32 years, but he chose to tell the story of a covert operator from Baltimore.

"One of my strengths is understanding the culture of espionage," he said. "That gave me a sixth sense when reading the documents Virginia Hall wrote, the cables describing what she was doing, and how others described what they were doing.'

Hall lost her leg due to a hunting accident and she seized a second chance at life. "Her injury reawakened her resilience," said Gralley. Hall did not wear her heart on her sleeve. Living a false, manufactured life as a covert

MERICA'S GREATEST SPY OF WORLD WAR I **CRAIG GRALLEY**

agent seeped into her own person-

When Hall came back to the United States, she still didn't speak to relatives about her work. She declined to receive the Distinguished Service Cross from President Harry Truman in public and opted for a private ceremony with Gen. William Donovan, the head of the Office of Strategic Services

"The only way I can tell the story

from my experience with the CIA and understanding my trade craft is talking to a psychiatrist who specialized in trauma to uncover layers of her personality," said Gralley, who wrote from Hall's point of view.

Insight into intelligence gathering wasn't enough to tell Hall's complicated story. Gralley's research required traveling outside CIA's McLean headquarters. In the Pyrenees in France the author found the trail Hall used to escape to Spain carrying only a backpack and dragging her prosthetic leg through snow. The trip helped the writer see the spy's determination and resolve.

Two recent books that include Hall are also gaining media traction. Gralley assisted actress-producer Sarah Megan Thomas for her role as Hall in "Liberté: A Call to Spy," a book-turned-movie about three women who helped bring down Nazi Germany. Paramount Pictures acquired rights to Sonia Purnell's "A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II," and Hollywood press reports actress Daisy Ridley is playing Hall.

Gralley worked on "Hall of Mirrors" for several years, but the timing of other publications and movie publicity is helping him market his assessment of Hall's story.

Dedicated to her clandestine nature and oath of secrecy, Hall would be appalled by the attention, Gralley said. Hall said many of her friends were killed for talking too much.

GRALLEY credits the Great Falls Writers Group for providing an outlet for people in Northern Virginia with varied writing interests to launch as writers and understand the writer's life. The organization empowered him "to breathe life into the agency that hadn't been breathed in before. It was gratifying to be immersed in that."

Many stories within the agency and OSS have not been told. "I am attracted to those quiet stories about quiet heroes that deserve more attention," said Gralley.

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Let the Jury Decide

By Andrea Worker The Connection

ommonwealth's Attorney Raymond (Ray) F. Morrogh is the chief law enforcement of ficer for Fairfax County, serving a population of more than a million residents in the County, the City of Fairfax, and the Towns of Herndon and Vienna. He left private practice in 1983 to join the Fairfax County criminal justice system as a prosecutor, then became an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney, then Chief Deputy before being elected to the top slot in 2007. He was re-elected to another four-year term in 2011, and again in 2015, when he ran unopposed.

This year, Morrogh is facing a challenger in Steve Descano – one who is determined

prosstant to unseat him and vocal in his criticism of Chief an incumbent and an office that he says p slot "lacks transparency and accountability" and that has become distanced from the people when that they serve.

The two men have squared off on several

The two men have squared off on several occasions to make their cases before the "jury" of Fairfax County voters.

The Connection invited both to respond to an identical questionnaire.

Note: Morrogh did not respond despite repeated requests, so information has been summarized from his campaign's website.

Name: Steve Descano

Age: 38

Education: Bachelor of Science, United States Military Academy, West Point, NY 1998 - 2002; Juris Doctor, Temple University – Beasley School of Law (Philadelphia, PA) 2006 - 2010

Family: Ryanne, wife of 16 years, daughter Charlotte, 7 years old

Native of: Philadelphia, Pa. Moved to Fairfax County: 2010

Professional Experience:

- ❖ COO/General Counsel, Paragon Autism Services, 2016 - present
- ❖ Federal Prosecutor (Trial Attorney), US Dept. of Justice, 2010 - 2016
- Aviation Officer, US Army, 2002 2004Civic/Community involvement:
- ♦ Member, Fairfax County Democratic Committee, 2015 present
- ♦ Member, Fairfax County Police Civilian Review Panel, 2017 2018
- ♦ Board of Directors member, NARAL Pro-Choice Virginia, 2016 - 2018
- Member, Fairfax County NAACP Criminal Justice Committee, 2016 2018

Why are you running?

"I am running for Commonwealth's Attorney to create a modern criminal justice system so that no one, no matter how powerful, is above the law. I'll work to ensure that systemic discrimination based on race, wealth, status, and zip code is in the past. I'll take a holistic approach to justice that builds up our communities. Reforming our system means that we will break the cycle of decreased opportunity, increased poverty, and increased crime that is the story of far too many of our neighbors."

Top 3 issues in your district and what solutions do you propose?

"Transparency and accountability

– Currently there is no publicly available data or measures for holding the elected Commonwealth's Attorney accountable during times of crisis. I will invite one of a number of outside organizations that will, for no cost to the taxpayer, generate demographic, socioeconomic and geographic data to compare outcomes of cases. This will help identify sources of systemic discrimination. To improve accountability, I will hold regular in-person and electronic town halls É to inform constituents about the state of policies and progress towards goals set by the data collected.

Cash Bail – Currently in Fairfax County, 45.9 percent who are eligible for pretrial release have cash bail as a stipulation. These are people deemed not dangerous to themselves or others, but must sit in jail because



Steve Descano

they cannot pay— a system that unfairly penalizes poor people simply for being poor and increases recidivism.

Treatment, not incarceration -

People who are addicted to drugs are ill and need our helpÉwe need to help them overcome their addition and come out the other side without the type of criminal record that limits their opportunities in the future. To do this, I will overhaul our diversion programs which currently only address the first part of the equation.

I have written a 20-page plan for reform called "Progressive Justice" that goes further into depth about specific policies and procedures I will implement while in office. (The Plan is available on the candidate's website at www.stevedescano.com)"

Key ways you differ from your opponent? "There are many differences, but I will offer two here.

First, I am committed to ending a twotiered system of justice that disproportionately affects people based on race, wealth, and zip code. My opponent signed on in 2016 to the Republican lawsuit to stop then-Governor Terry McAuliffe from restoring voting rights of nearly 200,000 people who had finished their sentences. He has since altered his rationale, but at the time he noted that he did not want 'those people' on his juries.

Second, I have been a leader on criminal justice system reform as a member of the Fairfax County NAACP's Criminal Justice and Legal Redress Committees, and as a member of the county Police Civilian Review Panel. On the other hand, my opponent, in 2014, as the Executive Director of the conservative National District Attorneys Association testified against the Obama Administration's plan to reduce mandatory minimum sentences and curtail the War on Drugs."

www.stevedescano.com



Ray Morrogh

Name: Ray Morrogh

Age: 61

Education: Juris Doctor, George Mason University School of Law, 1982; Bachelor of Science, George Mason University, 1979 West Springfield High School, 1975

Family: Married

Native of:

Moved to the District: Resident of Fairfax County since 1974

Prior and current professional, political and civic experiences, community involvement:

Professional Experience:

- ❖ Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney, 2007 present
- ❖ Fairfax County Assistant/Chief Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney, 1988 - 2007
- Prosecutor, Fairfax County, 1983 1988
 Civic/Community involvement:
- ❖ Chairman, Fairfax County Alcohol Safety Action Program
- ❖ Board of Directors Fairfax County Bar Association and Bar Foundation
 - ❖ Member Fairfax Criminal Justice Ad-

visory Board

Incumbent Morrogh and Challenger

County Commonwealth Attorney.

Descano make their cases to be Fairfax

- ❖ Faculty Virginia State Bar's Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Course
- ❖ Adjunct Professor George Mason University
- ♦ Board of Directors & President Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attor-
- ❖ 2018 & 2004 Robert F. Horan Award Virginia Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys
- ❖ 2004 Director's Award U. S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, for the prosecution of sniper Lee Boyd Malvo.

According to his campaign website, Morrogh lists continuing improvement to diversion programs for drug offense individuals, Veterans Treatment in the Fairfax County court system to help veterans get treatment for substance abuse or mental illness rather than be incarcerated, continuing support for the Diversion First Program, support of Supervised Release Programs for pre-trial defendants who are not deemed dangerous, protection of seniors from abuse and crime, and continuation of SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax County that provides a safe community for child victims of sexual and physical abuse. www.raymorrogh.com

Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney

Candidate Forum. Monday/June 3, 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard St., NW, Vienna. Co-sponsored by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, the ACLU of Virginia, and the Fairfax County NAACP. Free and open to the public. RSVP at tinyurl.com/fairfaxcandidates.

Bulletin Board

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

THURSDAY/MAY 30

Interfaith Ramadan Dinner. 7:30 p.m. (registration); 8 p.m. (program starts) at Fairfax County Government Center – Cafeteria, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Join for an Interfaith Ramadan Dinner hosted by Fairfax County Chairwoman Sharon Bulova. Call to prayer and dinner are at 8:30 p.m. Register at bit.lv/fxcounty2019.

Forum for Democratic Candidates for Chairman of the Board of

Supervisors. 7:30-9 p.m. at Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce will host a forum for the Democratic candidates. Peggy Fox, of CBS News affiliate WUSA9, will serve as moderator. Each candidate will have the opportunity to make a three-minute opening statement and a two-minute closing

statement. Questions will come from the Chamber's Legislative Committee and from among those submitted by attendees. Visit www.mcleanchamber.org for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 1

Vienna Quarterly Recycling Day. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Northside Property Yard. In addition to the usual auto waste products and electronics accepted at the Town's Quarterly Recycling Day, metal will be accepted at the Town's next recycling event. Metal products, such as steel, copper, and aluminum, may be brought to the Northside Property Yard. No TVs or computer monitors of any kind will be accepted. E-mail christine.horner@viennava.gov or call 703-255-8630.

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 15

Calendar

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: "Taking Territory." Through June 1, gallery hours at MPA@ChainBridge, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Taking Territory: New Works by Susan Goldman, Barbara Kerne, Eve Stockton and Patricia Underwood, features pieces that mine many of the techniques employed by artists working in printmaking today. An opening reception is set for April 11, 7-9 p.m. Visit mpaart.org for more.

The Member of the Wedding. Extended through June 16 at 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons. Adapted from the beloved novel of the same name, this evocative, poetic coming of age drama explores the pains of youth and the meaning of family. The Member of the Wedding will run Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.; Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 2 p.m. The run time is approximately 2 hours with one 15-minute intermission. Captions and audio description will be offered for select performances. \$15-\$39. Visit www.1ststage.org or call 703-854-1856 for tickets.

Oak Marr Farmers' Market. 8 a.m.-noon at Oak Marr RECenter, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. Every Wednesday through Nov. 13, rain or shine. Vendors include produce, meats, eggs, cheeses, pies, cured and smoked meats, popsicles, sorbet, bread, croissants, falafel sandwiches, humus, and pesto. Call 703-281-6501 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ farmersmarkets/oak-marr for more.

McLean Farmers Market Opens. Fridays, through Nov. 15, 8 a.m.-noon at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Sixteen local farmers and producers will sell fresh produce and fruits; meats; breads and pastries; jams; dairy products and eggs; herbs; flowers, coffee, and more. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mclean.

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 for more.

THURSDAY/MAY 30

Mah Jongg Lessons. 2-5 p.m. at Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland St., Falls Church. Mah Jongg classes. \$85, includes needed Mah Jongg Card. Call Renee Andrews, 703-532-2217, for more.

FRIDAY/MAY 31

Film Screening: Plastic Paradise. 6:30 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF) Chapel in the Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Join the Climate Action Group of (UUCF) and Faith Alliance For Climate Solutions (FACS) for Plastic Paradise — every single piece of plastic that has ever been created since the 19th century is still somewhere on our planet. Visit www.unityoffairfax.org for more.

Family Movie Night. 7-9 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Gather the whole family and bring your blankets, pillows and camp chairs for our indoor, picnic-style family movie night. Participants will enjoy unlimited free popcorn, watch the movie on our huge projection screen and have a chance to win a door prize. \$3 per person; pre-registration recommended. Call 703-448-8336 or visit www.mcleancenter.org.

FRIDAY/MAY 31-SUNDAY/JUNE 2

Tysons Library Book Sale. Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4 p.m. at Tysons Pimmit Regional Library, 7585 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Tysons Library Friends hosts their Quarterly Book Sale with a large selection of books and media for all ages and interests. Sunday: half price or \$10 per bag sale. Email tysonslibraryfriends@gmail.com or call 703-790-4031 or 703-338-3307 for more.

SATURDAY/JUNE 1

Dead Run Stream Restoration Ribbon Cutting. Noon near the tennis courts behind



Piano Concert

Thomas Pandolfi ,nationally and internationally renowned piano virtuoso, performs in a fundraiser concert sponsored by the Great Falls UMC United Methodist Women. Meet and greet reception to follow. Sunday, June 2, 2-3:30 p.m. at Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike ,Great Falls. \$40 Purchase tickets at www.greatfallsumc.org.

the McLean Community Center at 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. The Dead Run stream restoration project includes approximately 3,200 linear feet of stream within McLean Central Park and the Dead Run Stream Valley Park between Old Dominion and Churchill Roads. Invasive and nonnative plants were removed, and native plants were installed to enhance stream bank stability and improve water quality and wildlife habitat within the floodplain adjacent to the stream. Open to the public.

SUNDAY/JUNE 2

Piano Concert. 2-3:30 p.m. at Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Thomas Pandolfi ,nationally and internationally renowned piano virtuoso, performs in a fundraiser concert sponsored by the Great Falls UMC United Methodist Women. Meet and greet reception to follow. \$40 Purchase tickets at www.greatfallsumc.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 7

Summer on the Green: Vienna Idol. 6:30 p.m. on Vienna's Town Green. The Summer on the Green concert series returns to Vienna's Town Green Friday nights through Aug. 23. Bring chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages are permitted. Consider leaving pets at home. In the event of rain, check the weather line at 703-255-7842. Learn more at www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 7-9

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. Northern Virginia's largest community-wide event, the 38 th annual Celebrate Fairfax! Festival, is set to take place on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000

airfax County Government Center, 12000
Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The
Celebrate Fairfax! Festival features 25 acres of
concerts, family programs, exhibits, carnival
rides and nightly fireworks. Among the festival's
highlights are more than 120 performances on
seven stages, including Better Than Ezra and
Smash Mouth. Call 703-324-3247 or visit
www.celebratefairfax.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 8

Tinner Hill Music Festival. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. in Cherry Hill Park in the City of Falls Church. The 26th Annual Tinner Hill Music Festival will have Northern Virginia rocking with music and fun festivities. Festival-goers will be treated to an array of "villages" throughout the park, including the Artist Village showcasing painters, photographers and jewelers selling their works. Family fun is assured in the Kids' Village, with water play, an musical petting zoo, face painting, puppy petting party, and more. Find tickets and information at www.tinnerhill.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 9

Live Music: Matt Andersen. 7 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Canadian Soul Bluesman Matt Andersen has released a new album called Halfway Home by Morning and has embarked on a solo acoustic international tour. He will also appear as an opening act for the Steve Miller Band/Marty Stuart tour this Summer. Erin Costelo will open at Jammin' Java. \$15. Call 703-255-1566 or visit www.jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/JUNE 11

McLean Historical Society. 7:30-9 p.m. at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The McLean Historical Society program will feature noted historian Mary Lipsey who will discuss "Honoring Those Who Died While Serving During the Civil War." Everyone is welcome. Contact Carole Herrick at 703-356-8223.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 12

Movie Series: New Disney Classics. 12:30 p.m. at The Alden Community Hall, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The Alden is kicking off a new film series with "new Disney Classics" – those that were loved during the 1990s. The films will be shown at 12:30 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of the month through June. Free admission. Visit mcleancenter.org/performing-arts for more.

FRIDAY/JUNE 14

Dining with Dorothy. 12:30 p.m. at Olive Garden, 8133 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. – A program of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Join with friends or make new ones. Newcomers are always welcome. To reserve a space contact event chair, Dorothy Flood at dflood1706@gmail.com.

Summer on the Green: Nowhere Man

Summer on the Green: Nowhere Man (acoustic Beatles tribute band). 6:30 p.m. on Vienna's Town Green. The Summer on the Green concert series returns to Vienna's Town Green Friday nights through Aug. 23. Bring chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages are permitted. Consider leaving pets at home. In the event of rain, check the weather line at 703-255-7842. Learn more at www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997.

SATURDAY/JUNE 15

Spring Fair. 10 am.-2 p.m. at Pleasant Grove, 8641 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Pleasant Grove is holding its community fair, featuring "attic treasures" quality yard sale and antiques, a homemade bake sale, lunch, an artisan-made quilt raffle, and a Tom Sawyer clean-up day. All proceeds are donated to Pleasant Grove. Stop by Friday to drop off donated "attic treasures." For information, visit www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org.

SUNDAY/JUNE 16

Summer Concerts: Alphabet Rockers. 5 p.m. in the gazebo of McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The Alden at the McLean Community Center is again sponsoring free summer concerts in the gazebo of McLean Central Park featuring a mix of musical genres Get moving to music that moves you. Call 703-790-0123 or visit www.aldentheatre.org.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 19

Live Music: Lily Neill & Clive Carroll. 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Harpist Lily Neill and guitarist Clive Carroll make their debut concert as a duo at Jammin Java. \$20-\$25. Visit www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 21

White Elephant Bingo & Ice Cream Social.

1:30-3:30 p.m. at Vienna Community Center, 129 Cherry St SE, Vienna. Adults 50+ meet up for an afternoon of White Elephant Bingo and an Ice Cream Social. Enjoy a traditional bingo game in a friendly atmosphere and win white elephant prizes. Bingo cards are \$2 for 2. Pay at door. Please bring a white elephant item in good condition to donate to the prize table. Call the Shepherd's Center at 703-281-0538 to register or with questions.

Summer on the Green: Chillin' on Church:
The Deja Gruv Band (R&B, funk, and soul). 6:30 p.m. on Vienna's Town Green. The Summer on the Green concert series returns to Vienna's Town Green Friday nights through Aug. 23. Bring chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages are permitted. Consider leaving pets at home. In the event of rain, check the weather line at 703-255-7842. Learn more at www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997.

SUNDAY/JUNE 23

Summer Concerts: Jazzy Ash and the Leaping Lizards. 5 p.m. in the gazebo of McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The Alden at the McLean Community Center is again sponsoring free summer concerts in the gazebo of McLean Central Park featuring a mix of musical genres Get moving to music that moves you. Call 703-790-0123 or visit www.aldentheatre.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 28

Summer on the Green: Sarah Bennet Swanner (country and blues covers). 6:30 p.m. on Vienna's Town Green. The Summer on the Green concert series returns to Vienna's Town Green Friday nights through Aug. 23. Bring chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages are permitted. Consider leaving pets at home. In the event of rain, check the weather line at 703-255-7842. Learn more at www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997.

SUNDAY/JUNE 30

Summer Concerts: Sonia de Los Santos. 5 p.m. in the gazebo of McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The Alden at the McLean Community Center is again sponsoring free summer concerts in the gazebo of McLean Central Park featuring a mix of musical genres Get moving to music that moves you. Call 703-790-0123 or visit www.aldentheatre.org.

FRIDAY/JULY 5

Summer on the Green: U.S. Navy Band:
Commodores (big band jazz). 6:30 p.m. on
Vienna's Town Green. The Summer on the
Green concert series returns to Vienna's Town
Green Friday nights through Aug. 23. Bring
chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages
are permitted. Consider leaving pets at home. In
the event of rain, check the weather line at 703255-7842. Learn more at www.viennava.gov/
DocumentCenter/View/3997.

FRIDAY/JULY 12

Summer on the Green: Fat Chance (rock).

6:30 p.m. on Vienna's Town Green. The Summer on the Green concert series returns to Vienna's Town Green Friday nights through Aug. 23. Bring chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages are permitted. Consider leaving pets at home. In the event of rain, check the weather line at 703-255-7842. Learn more at www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997.

Live Music: Lily Neill & Clive Carroll

Harpist Lily Neill and guitarist Clive Carroll make their debut concert as a duo at Jammin Java. Between them, harpist Lily Neill and guitarist Clive Carroll have performed around the world, from North America to the Far East and everywhere in between. Primarily known as soloists, their musical union extends from their love of a vast array of musical stylesfrom eat-your-heart-out blues, to fiery dances from Eastern Europe, beguiling Irish airs, jaunty Ragtime numbers, and Elizabethan lute classics. To their duo they bring all the intensity of their solo performances and more, conjuring a genre-bending orchestra from two modest plucked-string instruments. Wednesday, June 19, 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20-\$25. Visit www.jamminjava.com.



SATURDAY/JULY 13

Model Railroaders Open House. 1-5 p.m. at the Vienna Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE. Northern Virginia Model Railroaders hold an open house at the Vienna Depot each month and on Vienna celebration days. Free admission. Call 703-938-5157 or visit www.nymr.org.

ONGOING

Camp Grow Registration Open. Camp Grow at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, in Vienna, invites children to explore nature through hands-on activities, gardening, discovery walks, crafts, music, storytelling, and animal programs. Camp Grow is designed to engage, challenge, educate and encourage a sense of community. Camp Grow values and encourages inclusion of all campers in every activity. Visit www.novaparks.com/things-to-do/camps/

The Golden Girls of Northern Virginia, a senior women's softball league, is looking for players. Any woman over the age of 40 is encouraged to join. All skill levels are welcome. Games are on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna, April-October. Other activities during the year. Visit www.goldengirls.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 for more.

Oakton Farmers Market. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Year-round weekly farmers market in Oakton. Local produce, meats/eggs, dairy, baked goods, and more. Admission is free. Visit community-foodworks.org.

Free Tai Chi. Saturdays through March 30, from 7:55-9 a.m., Introduction and Beginners' Practice, meet in the Langley Hall at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. All are welcome. Call 703-759-9141 or visit www.FreeTaiChi.org for more.

Trivia Night. Tuesdays, 7 p.m. at Lost Dog Cafe - McLean, 1690 Anderson Road, McLean. Trivia featuring multiple winners and fun door prizes. Free to play. Visit www.facebook.com/ EarthTriviaDc/ for more

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

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

Gentle Yoga. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Emmaus
United Church of Christ, 900 E Maple Ave. E.,
Vienna. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. Unitarian
Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709
Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Gentle Kundalini
Yoga, one free introductory session, senior
discounts. Increase flexibility, improve breathing
and health, reduce stress. \$15 per session.
www.edimprovement.org. 571-213-3192.
Colvin Run Mill open 11-4 p.m. daily, closed

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



'Taking Territory'

Taking Territory: New Works by Susan Goldman, Barbara Kerne, Eve Stockton and Patricia Underwood, features pieces that mine many of the techniques employed by artists working in printmaking today. The exhibit runs through June 1, gallery hours at MPA@ChainBridge, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Visit mpaart.org for more.

Squaring Circle A by Susan Goldman.



Gymnasium by Trevor Young

Strictly Painting to Open in McLean

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) will open Strictly Painting 12 with a free Opening Exhibition Reception on Saturday, June 8, 2019 from 5-7 p.m. at MPA@ChainBridge, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean.

Now in its twelfth iteration, Strictly Painting is one of the region's most important painting exhibitions, celebrating the depth and breadth of painters working throughout the mid-Atlantic.

"We are delighted to once again honor

and showcase the astounding wealth of talented painters working in the mid-Atlantic region today," said MPA Exhibitions Director Nancy Sausser.

Adah Rose Bitterbaum, owner and director of the Adah Rose Gallery in Kensington, Md., served as juror for Strictly Painting 12.

Strictly Painting 12 runs June 8 through July 13, 2019 at MPA@ChainBridge. Visit www.mpaart.org for a complete list of artists featured in Strictly Painting 12.





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Announcements

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sted Connection to Local Communities

Announcements



Announcements

Announcements

Spectacular Seaside Lots \$29,900 - \$79,900

Build the home of your dreams! 1 to 2 acre lots in an exclusive development on the seaside (high and dry on the mainland) on Virginia's Eastern Shore, 42 miles south of Ocean City. Adjoins NASA and faces Chincoteague and Assateague Island National Seashore, world famous for it's fabulous beaches and wild ponies.

The property features a private entrance, paved roads, underground utilities, dock and community pool. Great climate, low taxes, boating, fishing, restaurants and wide sandy beaches just miles away. Both waterview and waterfront lots available priced at \$29,900 to \$79,900. Financing available with discounts for cash and multiple lot purchases.

Tel (757) 824-6289 see our website: oldemillpointe.com



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ONNECTION

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News



Board members Bo Davis, Carol Ashworth, Jean Ku, Anupam Kumar (LCNV Board President), Gene Durman (Rotary), Paul Byrne, Jan Auerbach (Rotary), John Thomas (in back) and Michael Gavin.

McLean Rotary Provides Funding for Literacy Council of Northern Virginia

ber Jan Auerbach attended the Literacy Council of class which is conducted onsite in cooperation with Northern Virginia Board Meeting on May 20 to present Doubletree Hilton of Tysons to improve the English of a check for \$1250 which coupled with another check the hotel's banquet and housekeeping employees.

McLean Rotary President Gene Durman and mem- for \$1250 earlier in the year was a grant to support a

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Assistance League of Northern Virginia: Fundraising to Support Low-Income Children

Assistance League® of Northern Virginia, an allvolunteer nonprofit organization, held its annual Spring Fundraiser on April 26 at the Country Club of Fairfax to raise funds for its programs that serve the needs of low-income children in 11 Title I elementary schools in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. During the pre-luncheon reception, the 145 guests in attendance had an opportunity to bid on an array of silent auction items donated by local businesses.

Kathryn Jackson, president of the Northern Virginia chapter of Assistance League, emceed the event and described the positive impact the organization's ongoing programs, including Weekend Food for Kids, New Clothing for Kids, Literacy for Kids and Hugs Pillows, have in the community. Attendees were treated to a slide show that provided a visual portrayal of the nonprofit's programs and activities.

During the current school year, Weekend Food for Kids will deliver 18,000 bags of nonperishable food items to students at risk of hunger to take home on weekends when school meals are not available. The New Clothing for Kids initiative provides essential clothing items, and personal grooming products to improve the well-being of students, and layettes to help new mothers in need. Literacy for Kids delivers individualized tutoring to first graders and supplies books to support summer school reading programs, in addition to providing books to allow individual students to build their home libraries. Hugs Pillows distributes hand-made pillows to comfort children undergoing treatment at a local clinic.

Key sponsors of the charity luncheon were recognized for their support: Quadrant, Inc., Panda Stonewall, Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation, Marines Plumbing, and Spine Care of Manassas Chiropractic Center. Several partners that have pro-

assistance league Northern Virginia

Kathryn Jackson, president of the Northern Virginia chapter of Assistance League, emceed the event.

vided support for the organization's food program, including Dominion Energy, Allstate, Intelsat and Sandy Spring Bank, also received praise. A special thank-you was extended to principals and other representatives from the schools served.

For the ninth year, Auctioneer Daniel Sanders, with Four Sales Ltd., donated his services to help raise funds during the live auction and special appeal segment of the program. Two luxury South African Photo Safari packages were just some of the items available for bid this year.

Christopher Baity, a veteran Marine Corps dog trainer and Founder and Executive Director of Semper K9 Assistance Dogs, delivered the keynote address.

For further information, visit: www.alnv.org.

BULLETIN

From Page 11

Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group. 2-4 p.m. at Mason District Governmental Center 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. The Peripheral Neuropathy Support Group for greater Washington meets the first Saturday of the month. All are welcome. RSVP for available seating. Call 301-263-0616 or visit www.dcpnsupport.org for more.

SUNDAY/JUNE 2

EarthCare Sunday. 10-11 a.m. at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Earlier this year, Lewinsville Presbyterian was certified as an Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). On Sunday, June 2, the 10 a.m. worship service will focus on the theme of stewardship of the earth. Free. Call 703-356-7200 or visit www.lewinsville.org/events/earth-care-sunday/.

Solar Array - Home Display. 2-3:30 p.m. A McLean resident is opening his family's solar array to the public to view his solar panels at his home. The homeowner and solar experts from Mountain View Solar, the local solar business which installed his solar array, will be on hand to show his solar power system as well as answer any questions attendees may have. Appetizers and refreshments will be provided. Free and open to the public. RSVP at bit.ly/ mcleanvasolaropenhouse or 304-886-3389.

Jefferson Obama Dinner. VIP reception, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; silent auction, 6-7:15 p.m.; dinner, 7-9 p.m. at Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Confirmed speakers include former Gov. Terry McAuliffe; U.S. Rep. Don Beyer; and U.S. Rep. Jennifer Wexton. Fairfax Democrats will be presenting their award winners and honoring elected officials who are retiring. Visit rfaxdemocrats.org/2019/02/19/2019-jeffersonobama-dinner.

MONDAY/JUNE 3

Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney

Candidate Forum. 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard St., NW, Vienna. Meet the Fairfax, Va., Democratic candidates for Commonwealth's Attorney and find out where they stand on key criminal justice issues. This is an opportunity to ask the candidates what they will do to reduce mass incarceration, reduce racial disparities, and de-criminalize poverty. The event is co-sponsored by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, the ACLU of Virginia, and the Fairfax County NAACP. Free and open to the public. RSVP at tinyurl.com/ fairfaxcandidates

SATURDAY/JUNE 4

Park Authority Summer Jobs. 5-8 p.m. at Oakton Elementary School, 3000 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton. This year the Fairfax County Park Authority's Rec-PAC summer camp program will operate at 45 elementary school locations around Fairfax County on weekdays from July 1-Aug.8, 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m. Applicants are required to bring an original Social Security Card and a DMV photo ID. Only those who are 18 years of age and older will be considered. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec-pac/jobs

or email Recpac@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Climate Change in Virginia. 6:30-7:30 p.m. at
Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place,
Oakton. Dr. Jim Kinter from GMU will describe research about where, when, and by how much climate will change in Virginia in the future. No registration required. Free. Email michelle.biwer@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-242-4020 for more.

Annual Meeting. 7 p.m. The Safe Community Coalition of McLean will review the past year, discuss plans for next year, and welcome new members to the Board, Email info@mcleanscc.org.

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 5

Community Meeting. 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Spring Hill Elementary School, 8201 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The first preferred alternative was chosen from alternatives discussed at the May 2018 public meeting. The second preferred native has been developed after fu review and considering community feedback. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the community of the study background and status, and to seek feedback on the two preferred alternatives. Visit www.fairfaxcountv.gov/ transportation/study/spring-hill-lewinsville-



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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

All's well that ends well.

The Weak

The fortnight or so from you-know-where has finally ended and I am here to write that my warranty has been extended for another two months. The CT scan showed no tumor growth or movement. The "promise" of immunotherapy so far is keeping its 'promise' – keeping the tumors stable.

Throughout my extremely fortunate cancer experience, I have felt reasonably well and manifested few symptoms/side effects; at least the kind of symptoms/side effects: shortness of breath, coughing, expectorating blood, mind-numbing neuropathy and headaches, among others, about which my oncologist regularly inquires.

Generally speaking then, my health status has always been about the tale of the tape - to invoke a boxing reference – meaning the diagnostic scans: brain MRI. CT scan of the neck/lower abdomen. PET scan and the initial X-Ray which started the whole adventure, to determine my fitness for duty,

It is not until my oncologist shares/summarizes the radiologist's findings - and occasionally shows us the actual computer images themselves, that vours truly/Team Lourie knows where we stand.

And, where we stand typically is where we are sitting, in a cramped exam room, face to face with the man who holds my life in the palm of his hand - or more specifically, in the words that he chooses and the gesture/body language he exhibits. It's not exactly "Bath Fitter," but "the reveal" is imminent.

It never gets easy, but it does get easier to endure this kind of potentially life-altering/life-ending moment. Though the familiarity of it hasn't dulled the pain, it has enabled us to balance the pros and cons, up and downs and all-arounds, as we anticipate the words we are about to hear.

During most of these post-scan visits, we've exhaled in relief, but we have had our share of disappointment.

On one occasion, back in late July 2013, I was hospitalized for a week when my lungs accumulated 4.5 liters of fluid, among more significant internal problems (lung collapsing).

Externally, I was unable to speak more than a few words before needing to regroup. As a matter of humorous fact, when my long-time oncology nurse, Ron, saw me that infusion day, he thought I "was a goner," since my oxygen level was so low.

Within a few hours, I was a 'goner' in an ambulance to Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Md. where I was eventually admitted. Two days later, a thoracic surgeon operated, and a day or two after that, my lung amazingly reinflated.

As a result, in my head and in my gut, (though I'm no Jethro Gibbs from NCIS), when I show up for my infusions and for my post-scan appointments, there's always a part of me that thinks I might not be spending that evening in my own

When you're a cancer patient/survivor, and this kind of whisking off not to Buffalo but instead to the local hospital affiliated with your HMO has happened once, it's only a matter of time (it's impossible not to believe it's inevitable when you've been staged a IV) before it will happen again. I'm not being negative, I'm just saying.

As we sit and wait at home for my oncologist to email us the scan results, or whether we sit and wait in the on-site exam room, I wouldn't say our respective lives pass before us, but I will certainly admit to the total unpleasantness of it.

That being said, we're the lucky ones. There are nearly 160,000 lung cancer patients who succumb to this terrible disease every year who aren't nearly

So when I hear the words "stable" from my oncologist, I am humbled as much as I am relieved, that I have lived to fight another eight weeks until my next scan is scheduled and my next fortnight is fought.

And that's how I live my life: in increments. Increments which I'm grateful to have. It may not be ideal, but it's a living, and it sure beats a dying.

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



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