

# and Oakton Vienna CONNECTION

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## HOME LIFE STYLE

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PHOTO COURTESY OF PATINA POLISHED LIVING  
**Textiles in vibrant colors like these throw pillows, can brighten the day of your Valentine.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE PICKET FENCE  
**A set of Swedish towels can be a game changer for those who are environmentally conscious.**

## Valentine's Day Gifts for the Home

**There's still time to give the gift of style.**

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
 THE CONNECTION

**B**oxes of chocolates and bouquets of flowers are ideas that might come to the minds of those who are still on the hunt for the perfect gift to give on Cupid's Day. Though we celebrate St. Valentine in just two days, home décor aficionados come to the rescue with a few chic gift ideas for the home design enthusiasts in your life.

"Whether you love to cook or you just love to eat take-out, a pop of color on the countertop will bring a smile to your face every time you walk into your kitchen," said Anne Walker of Anne Walker Design. "For a gift that will bring joy for years to come, surprise your significant other with a bright red Kitchen Aid Stand Mixer and a set of red silicone spatulas for Valentine's Day. Such a joy to use and a delight for the eye."

A set of Swedish towels can be a game changer for those who are environmentally conscious and obsessively clean, says Courtney Thomas of the Picket Fence a home décor and gift boutique in Burke, Virginia. "You can use Swedish towels to clean anything you'd clean with a paper towel," she said. "But they're reusable and you can throw them in the dishwasher when they get dirty."

Eco-friendly and made entirely of biodegradable cellulose or a combination of wood pulp and renewable cotton, Swedish towels can be used for household cleaning projects that range from spills on a counter tops to water spots on a mirror.

For a gift that does double design duty, a candle in

a reusable vessel is an option that Thomas suggests. "We have some candles that come in a pottery container and once the candle is gone, you can still use the pottery," she said. "It's like a two-for-one. Pottery is food safe and can go in the oven and dishwasher if you want to make a dip or something in them."

For those who decide to give flowers on Valentine's Day, add a vase for displaying those buds, suggests Walker. "Instead of spending more than \$100 on roses for your sweetheart, spend under \$100 on [an] unbelievably gorgeous cocoon Vase by Danish design house, Holmegaard," she said. "Fill it with a beautiful selection of fresh flowers [and] instead of having the roses for a few days, your beloved will have this gorgeous, stylish vase for a lifetime."

Those who want to give a gift that offers a luxurious night's sleep should consider a silk pillow case, says Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished in Alexandria.

"They're a wonderful gift because they're good for your hair," she said. "And silk stays cool which might be good for those who get hot at night."

There's nothing more classic than a silver picture frame adorning one's side table or book case, suggests Mertins. "When we are designing a living room, we often walk into someone's house and see photos of their loved ones displayed in a hodgepodge of frames like wooden frames and ceramic frames. Giving silver frames allows photos of your family or children to be displayed tastefully in classic silver frames"

Bursts of color in the form of textiles can brighten them home of one's valentine, advises Mertins. "Tablecloths, runners and napkins in silk, velvet and cotton by Ardmore Design make a beautiful table setting," she said. "There are some wonderful, washable throws in all different colors that make great gifts. People love because their pretty and washable."

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**A group of 19 foreign exchange students from Korea visited Madison High School at the end of January.**

## Korean Students Visit Madison High

**A** group of 19 foreign exchange students from Korea visited Madison High School at the end of January. The Korean students were paired with an American student, and host family, with the intention of broadening their understanding of school life and culture in America.

The student visitors spent three school days attending school alongside their peer host. During each school day, the foreign exchange students attended classes with their student host and had the opportunity to participate in academic, social and cultural experiences that are consistent with the American school day. One activity for them was to join the Gourmet Foods class to learn how to make chocolate chip cookies. The Student Government spent a class period with the exchange students to highlight what it means to be part of the student leadership team in the school. During this class period, the SGA also hosted a taste-testing of some stereotypical American food, such as peanut butter and jelly, Oreos and Cheetos. Madison Best Buddies Club hosted a game of balloon volleyball with the exchange students.

The exchange students also attended a Varsity Girls Basketball game as a way to be able to experience and observe extra-curricular activities that are available to the American Students. During the closing ceremony for the program,



**One activity for visitors was to join the Gourmet Foods class to learn how to make chocolate chip cookies.**



**The student visitors spent three school days attending school alongside their peer host.**

attended by host families and students as well as Mr. Park, from the Korean Embassy and former FCPS School Board member, Mr. Moon, the Korean students conveyed their admiration for the experiences that the Madison community shared with them as well as their appreciation for the difference in the school culture between the American and Korean schools.

## Oakton High Dance Team Wins a Finalist Trophy in Orlando

The Oakton High School dance team brought home a finalist trophy from the annual Universal Dance Association National Dance Team Championship held Jan. 30 through Feb. 1 at ESPN's Wide World of Sports in Orlando, Fla. Under the direction of head coach Karen Rowley and assistant coaches Jennifer Wright and Bethany Johnson and under the leadership of senior captains Riley Downing and Emily Hazlett, the Oakton dancers placed 12th in the varsity high kick event. The three-day competition brought more than

5000 dancers comprising more than 200 teams from across the nation to determine the best of the best.

This was not Oakton's first successful trip to Nationals. During the 19 years of Coach Rowley's tenure, Oakton's dance team has placed in the top 15 in the country fifteen times. Oakton High School's team is the only team among Fairfax County Public Schools or other northern Virginia

high school teams to accomplish this feat.

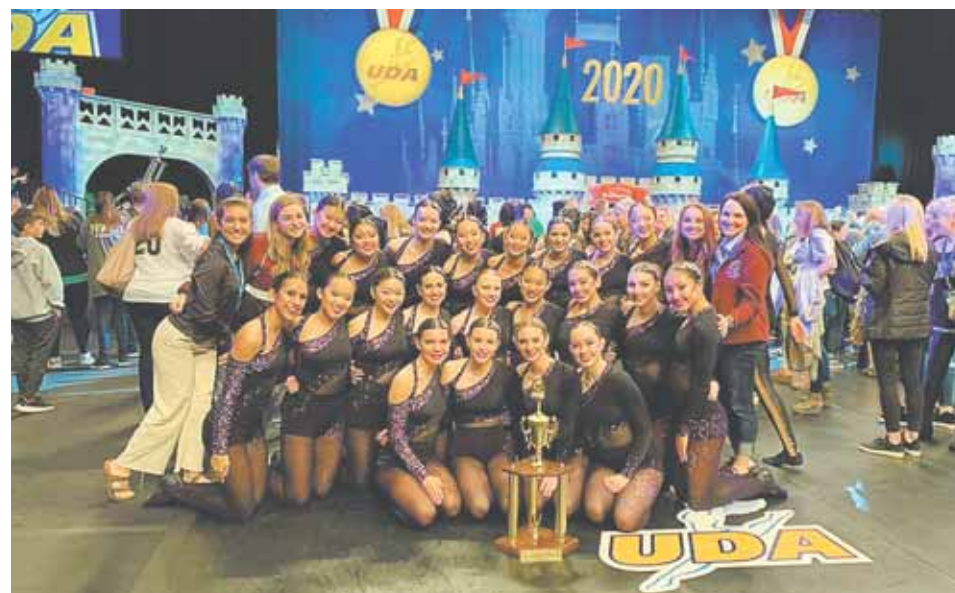


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**The Oakton dancers placed 12th in the varsity high kick event.**



## Marshall High's Marching Band Participates in Pearl Harbor Day Parade

Marshall High's marching band—the Marching Statesmen—participated in the Pearl Harbor Day Memorial Parade in downtown Waikiki, Oahu, Hawaii, in memory of the 78th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor that catapulted America into World War II. Students heard from a survivor of the attack, who is now 100 years old. They visited the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial, where they stood overtop a ship sunk in the attack, and toured and performed at the U.S.S. Missouri, where the Japanese surrendered in 1945. The Marshall student musicians increased their global awareness by visiting the Polynesian Cultural Center to understand the culture of Hawaii and other Pacific islands, hiked up the Diamond Head volcano, and took a bus tour around the island of Oahu.





## Realizing Dreams and Filling Jobs

BY ANNE M. KRESS, PHD AND  
TODD ROWLEY

**T**his session, General Assembly members are considering a proposal that would help close the Commonwealth's skills gap by providing workforce scholarships to individuals without access to the community college education required to gain these skills. This proposal is a win-win-win: assisting students, growing businesses, and developing our communities.

We are describing Governor Northam's "Get Skilled, Get a Job, Give Back" (G3) budget initiative. G3 is a last-dollar workforce scholarship program designed to create opportunities for low and middle-income families. The support it provides would make-up the difference between what financial aid covers and the actual cost of tuition, fees, and books for targeted programs in high demand fields.

Qualifying students must select a career field in which employers cannot find enough qualified candidates. In Northern Virginia, these include IT, Cybersecurity, and Healthcare. In other words, G3 is an investment in continued and accelerated regional economic growth.

Because of Northern Virginia's historically low unemployment rate, it has become clear that we need to "Grow our Own" workforce through educating more people to fill high-demand and high-value positions. In fact, finding and developing talent has emerged as the top concern of members of the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce. For that reason, the G3 plan has already earned the official endorsement of the Chamber.

Our initial estimate is that approximately 12 percent or 8,400 Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) students could be eligible to participate in G3, and our data show that 60 percent of NOVA students work part-time while pursuing college. They want to and need to work but lack the credentials needed to find full-time employment in high demand fields. Many cobble together multiple part-time jobs, which makes them take much more than two years to complete an associate degree. This workforce-based initiative would make it easier for our students to place a priority on quickly completing their education and finding sustaining wage careers. These graduates can stay in our region, building their families and contributing to their communities.

The Commonwealth wants G3 recipients to understand their responsibility to those who are supporting their education, so in return for this financial support, G3 students will be asked to "give back" to our state by completing two hours of community or public service for each credit hour in which they are enrolled.

Through offering more NOVA students a chance at the American Dream, we do much more than help individual students; we assure a competitive business climate, continued regional growth, and graduates connected to the communities they serve. NOVA is committed to assuring that every student succeeds, every program achieves, and every community prospers. G3 supports this mission, and we encourage you to voice your support for this transformational program.

If you would like to let General Assembly members know you support the Governor's G3 initiative, please let them know. If you are unsure who your delegate and senator might be, you can access [whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov](http://whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov), then enter your address and find out.

*Anne M. Kress, PhD is Northern Virginia Community College's new President. Todd Rowley is Chair of the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.*

## Natasha McKenna and the OneFairfax Imperative

### One white man's journey to the cause of equity.

BY THOMAS G. GOODWIN

**N**atasha McKenna died five years ago today, [Feb. 8, 2015] naked, cold, frightened, shackled, muzzled, and Black, after a rough afternoon at Fairfax County jail. The social and racial inequities that contributed to her death still loom as the OneFairfax policy is extended throughout county government.

I wasn't thinking about racial inequity when I volunteered to help Sheriff Stacey Kinkaid manage what became a long hot summer of investigation, protests, and relentless adverse publicity. I wasn't even necessarily thinking about my civic duty: Here was a rare (unpaid) opportunity to work on a difficult case.

Natasha was a victim of several mental illnesses including depression. She died unexpectedly following a traumatic extraction from jail intended to enable her to get access to care, but that wound up with her being tased four times by a team of deputies. The entire episode was recorded. The Washington Post excoriated the Sheriff five (!) times editorially. I advocated a "let's-release-the-video-and-keep-our-heads-down" PR strategy that found a credible alternative villain in America's broken mental health system. An investigation found no wrongdoing.

But something very wrong obviously did happen, and my inability to grasp it fully in the moment will cause readers of color to shake their heads wearily at my clueless white privilege. I didn't get it: I believed (still do) the deputies involved meant Natasha no harm. I believed (still do) Sheriff Kincaid's human compassion matches her lifelong passion for public safety: The county's DiversionFirst program

she championed has become a national model.

Epiphany for me arrived in the form of the social theory of "intersectionality."

Well-known to people of color, intersectionality explains how categorizations such as race, class, gender, sex and disability create overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination or disadvantage.

Natasha was the personification of Intersectionality: She was Black ... naked, an inmate, indigent, a woman, and her mental condition seriously had deteriorated. Had I been in Natasha's place, would the outcome have been the same?

OneFairfax recognizes that, five years after Natasha's death, we as a community no longer can afford to be unaware about how inequitable life is in Fairfax. Public policy in housing, zoning, transportation, hiring, and in public safety job opportunities has long been infested. Many in our ever-more-diverse community suffer from one or more disadvantages attributable to intersectionality.

There is much to work on:

- ❖ Our unsustainable school boundaries remain unchanged, heavily weighted in favor of under-capacity wealthier, whiter school districts, poorer districts strain at the seams.

- ❖ A person of color likely will not be hired as a school administrator here.

- ❖ Kids of color lag behind their white peers in academics, even as the schools become increasingly diverse.

- ❖ And, incredibly, in parts of our affluent community there is no reliable source of food.

- ❖ Five years after Natasha's death, and ten years after they started work, dedicated leaders, residents and businesses still seek an elu-

sive solution to the intractable shortage of affordable housing. Decades of discriminatory official government policy take time to reverse.

The research underlying OneFairfax reveals that when equity becomes part of the premise of public policymaking, positive results follow. This finding is all the more potent when we recognize that individuals who once were known collectively as "minorities" soon will be the majority in Fairfax: we need all hands on deck if we want to continue to thrive.

Fortunately, "equity" already is a routine component of county decisionmaking. The pursuit of equity does not require that people of color or underserved residents receive special treatment or quotas that reduce someone else's slice of the pie, only that they have an equal opportunity to pursue their own potential. Here in Fairfax we have lots of pies.

The question of how Natasha McKenna died will always be controversial. But we know why she died. Racial and social inequity, whether it is rooted in virulent racism or clueless white privilege, has long outlived its cruelty, or for that matter its usefulness, to Fairfax.

I will never be "woke," but at least I'm awake. Today I offer my volunteer time to citizens' groups including the OneFairfax Community Roundtable, the Human Services Council and the Council to End Domestic Violence. Many opportunities abound for residents – you, for example — to boost Fairfax County's future as a great place to live, work and play, by rallying around equity and fairness in public policy.

Natasha McKenna left behind a seven-year-old daughter. Let's do this for her.

*The writer is a member of Human Services Council Fairfax County; Member, Steering Committee Council to End Domestic Violence; Chairman of the Board of Directors Shelter House, Inc. and Member OneFairfax Community Roundtable.*

Vienna & Oakton  
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## VIENNA POLICE REPORT

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department from Jan. 31, 2020 – Feb. 6, 2020.

### INCIDENTS

**Arrest – Drunk In Public** — Wendy's 411 Maple Avenue, East Jan. 31, 2:38 p.m. Officers responded for the report of a man sleeping at a table in the restaurant. Upon the officers' interaction with the man, they detected signs of impairment.

Sgt. Kiley arrested the 47-year-old man with no fixed address. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, where he was charged with Drunk In Public.

**Fraud** — 1200 Block Kelley Street, SW Jan. 31, 3:00 p.m. A resident was attempting to set up her Apple watch when she was notified that her account

had been hacked and she would need to purchase an Apple gift card to unlock the account. After providing the access numbers for the card to the caller, the resident realized the call was a scam.

**Juvenile Case** — Beulah Road, NE Feb. 1, 11:35 a.m. MPO Borja assisted a resident with her juvenile son who was acting agitated after suffering an adverse reaction to a new prescription. The juvenile agreed to go with his mother to a medical facility for treatment.

**Suspicious Event** — 500 Block Ware Street, SW Feb. 1, 2 p.m. A resident advised that her home security system showed that a suspicious man approached her front porch. The resident made the report a few hours after the incident occurred. No criminal activity was observed.

**Destruction of Property** — Jammin Java Feb. 1, between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30

p.m. An employee reported that someone vandalized the front patio area with paint.

**Arrest – Domestic Assault** — Niblick Drive, SE Feb. 1, 11:08 p.m. Officers responded to the report of a domestic assault. The residents advised their adult son began assaulting his father. During the assault, the mother ran to her bedroom to call the police. The son busted through the bedroom door, grabbed the phone and threw it, preventing his mother from calling for help. The son then left the home.

A few hours later, officers located the son after he returned to the residence. MPO Smith arrested the 26-year-old man. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center, where he was charged with Domestic Assault, Destruction of Property, and Preventing Another from Summoning Police. A protective order was also served on the man.

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**Announcements**

**SPORTS**

# Cougars Beat Bulldogs, 56-41

Oakton's Winson Aja-Omu scores 27 points.

The Westfield Bulldogs hosted the Oakton Cougars on Feb. 6. The Cougars jumped out to an early double digit lead in the opening quarter, 14-4. Winson Aja-Omu scored 6 points in the quarter for Oakton. Chase Whippon and Samuel Johnson each had a basket for the Bulldogs.

In the second quarter, Westfield's Noah Kim would score 10 of his team's 16 points. Oakton would add 13 points behind Aja-Omu's 8 points, giving Oakton a 27-20 half-time advantage.

In the third quarter Aja-Omu would score 8 of Oakton's 14 points. Westfield's Kyle Whippon would add 5 points for the quarter, while teammate Will Vetter would add 3 points. With a quarter remaining Oakton's lead was 41-28.

Westfield would score 13 points in the fourth, with Kyle Whippon leading the way with 7 points and finishing with a team high 12 points for the game. Winson Aja-Omu would tally 6 more points in the quarter to finish the game with a team and game high 27 points.

With the 56-41 win Oakton improves to (10-10) (3-4). Westfield falls to (6-14) (1-5).

—WILL PALENSCAR



PHOTO BY WILL PALENSCAR/THE CONNECTION

**Damien Brooks #10 passes the ball to teammate Jacob Halliday #4.**

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**Announcements**



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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/FEB. 13

**Fostering Protective Factors in Children.** 10 a.m. to noon. At Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1, Room 100, Dunn Loring. Every adult can foster protective factors and build resiliency in children and adolescents. Presented by Ryan Dickerson, FCPS School Psychologist and Jenn Spears, FCPS Mental Wellness Specialist. Topics include: What does the Fairfax County Youth Survey data show us? Identifying Protective Factors and Assets (Three to Succeed); Strategies for building protective factors and assets; Understanding resilience and how to increase your child's ability to respond to challenges.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 18

**Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Children and Adolescents.** 10 a.m. to noon. At Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance One, Room 100, Dunn Loring. Join Dr. Lisa M. Cullins, attending physician in the Emotion and Development Branch at the National Institute of Mental Health for this highly informative workshop. She will provide current research on: Diagnostic Criteria; Signs and Symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder as manifested in children and adolescents; Treatment Options, Resources and Collaborations.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 20

**Adventures in Learning.** At Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. 10 - 10:55 a.m. "Let it Go-Dealing With the Emotional Connection to Items" - Terri Blanchette; 11 - 11:55 a.m. "History of Popular Music - South of the Potomac" - Ken Avis "Real Downton Abbey and Surrounding Neighborhood"- John Capps; 1-2 p.m. "Media Bias and Impact of Technology"- Steve Miska; Cost is \$45 per semester. To Register/Questions: Call 703-281-0538. View the schedule of classes and registration form at <http://www.scov.org/ail-open-house>.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 21

**Parenting Your Teen.** 10 a.m. to noon. At Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1, Room 100, Dunn Loring. Learn important strategies to help form a positive relationship with your teen. Topics include: Understanding the development of the teen brain; Recognizing ways to create a positive climate in the home; Identifying constructive discipline approaches; Increasing more productive and effective communication strategies; Presented by Michele Tureaud, FCPS Behavior Intervention Teacher.

## MONDAY/FEB. 24

**Possible Arts Center at Clemyjontri Park.** 7 p.m. The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) and the McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) will host a public open house to discuss the potential for development of an arts and education center at Clemyjontri Park. The meeting will take place in MPA's Emerson Gallery at the McLean Community Center, located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue in McLean.

## THURSDAY/FEB. 27

**Adventures in Learning.** At Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. 10- 10:55 a.m. "The Joy of Planning Ahead" - Rachel McLean; 11 - 11:55 a.m. "Generational Differences for Personality Traits" - Bill Weech; 1-2 p.m. "Journey to the Top of the World"- Colonel Phil Walsh; Cost is \$45 per semester. To Register/Questions: Call 703-281-0538. View the schedule of classes and registration form at <http://www.scov.org/ail-open-house>.

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## All Gowned Up



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

All Gowned UpAnd somewhere to go, or so I thought. I had checked in at the front desk. I was given a number, and almost immediately, it was called. I said good-bye to Team Lourie and was led back to a staging area (beds, curtains, doctors, nurses) where I was told I would see them both before surgery. There I was given a gown, no-slip socks and a hair net to change into, and instructed to place all my clothes (underwear, too) into two plastic bags and then told to pull back the privacy curtain and lie back on the bed.

Within a few minutes a female nurse, part of a very attentive and conscientious staff, began to attend me. She started an I.V. in my left forearm, wrapped a blood pressure cuff around my right bicep and then stuck half-a-dozen or so EKG contacts over the front me and down my legs to monitor my heart. In addition, the typical other vitals: oxygen, pulse and temperature were taken. At that point, it appeared that I had passed muster. My surgeon stopped by for a brief visit and all was progressing normally. Until that is when the anesthesiologist came by for what I thought was the final step. It was the final step alright. She said that "due to an abundance of caution," she was uncomfortable proceeding with the surgery. She explained that the facility (not a hospital) where I was to undergo the surgery, was not fully equipped to respond to certain potential complications which might occur which involved a breathing tube, a ventilator and the weakness of my lungs, so she sent me packing (unpacking actually). Disappointed, as you might imagine, we all left the facility and waited for further instructions.

By the end of the day, arrangements had been made to reschedule my surgery at a local hospital on Wednesday, a mere two day delay. I could live with that. At home, I resumed my post-shower, pre-surgery, infection-preventing scrub as I had for the previously scheduled surgery. This time surgery was scheduled for 1:30 pm instead of the 10:50 am it had been on Monday. Still, if all went well, I could be released that same day, under someone else's recognition of course, given the late hour, but likely recuperating at home in my own bed. On Wednesday, I arrived at the hospital two hours before surgery as directed and began the now familiar process. Once again I was prepped and ready. This time there were no slip-ups. Around 2:15 I was wheeled into the operating room and introduced to the staff on hand. I was asked my name, date of birth and the reason for surgery that day. Answering correctly, the next step involved an oxygen mask coming down over my nose and mouth and being asked to breathe normally, which I did, and the rest, as they say, is history.

It turned out that the anesthesiologist was right to be cautious. My four-hour outpatient surgery turned into a seven-hour admission-to-the-hospital major surgery with complications. Due to my "Adam's Apple" tumor being embedded into/under my collarbone, a thoracic surgeon was brought into consult about possibly cracking open my chest to get at the remaining cancer. Fortunately, a decision was made not to do so and I was wheeled back to recovery and eventually to my room for the night where at 12:35 am, while lying in my bed, my eyes opened and I saw my wife, Dina and close friend, Rita, who had stayed into the wee hours in an amazing show of support.

The next day, after an uncomfortable night in my hospital bed, I was discharged, four hours after the process began. (As you may or may not know, getting discharged from the hospital is hardly a straight line from your hospital room to your curbside pick up.) I was given instructions, prescriptions and follow-up appointments. My thyroid gland, parathyroid, "Adam's Apple" tumor and a few lymph nodes stayed behind. Can't say that I miss any of them. Still, my body may miss them so I'll likely have some post-op work to do at home. Nevertheless, progress has been made for which I'm grateful.

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



# CALENDAR

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

## ONGOING

### Hogwart's Vacation Bible School

**Registration.** At Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. The camp dates are June 22–26, 2020 for morning or afternoon sessions. Children 5 through 11 years old are invited to participate in this popular and unique summer camp experience which explores the Christian themes and lessons in the Harry Potter stories. Holy Comforter Episcopal Church in Vienna is magically converted into Hogwarts School where children attend “classes” taught by favorite professors including Professors McGonagall, Snape, Hooch, and Binns. Teenage prefects lead age level groups to their activities and all students share a closing snack in the Great Hall. This year's theme will be based on book 2, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. Registration forms will be in the Church Office and online. More information: [http://www.holycomforter.com/Children/Vacation\\_Bible\\_School/](http://www.holycomforter.com/Children/Vacation_Bible_School/)

**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. They play on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna. For more information, visit the web site [www.goldengirls.org](http://www.goldengirls.org)

**Library Display Features Church.** Thru March 1. A display at Dolley Madison Library in McLean is featuring St. John's Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The display illustrates the church's history and close relationship with the community of McLean and presents a newly published book recounting the church's first 150 years. The book, *This Far by Faith, A History of St. John's Episcopal Church, McLean, Virginia 1866–2016*, was co-authored by parishioners Deborah Watson, Sandy Smoot, and Ramona Speicher. Together with designer Lori Wiseman, they created the library display of facts and photos. A diorama depicting early parishioners worshipping together in a private home is enchanting young library-goers. The book is available for purchase through the church office (703-356-4902).

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 12

**Preschool Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. At Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Have fun with your child and build early literacy foundations for reading success. Age 3-5 with adult.

**Mystery Book Club.** 1 p.m. At Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Join in the monthly unraveling of a whodunit or thriller. The February selection is *Anatomy of a Murder* by Robert Traver. Adults.

**Qigong Introduction.** 2 p.m. At Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn to practice the Ancient Chinese exercises of Qigong to improve your health and increase your vitality. Adults and Older Adults. No registration necessary, but space is limited to first 20 people. First come, first served.

**Maggie Miles Performs.** 7:30 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., E, Vienna. Meet alt-pop newcomer Maggie Miles, a 20-year-old alternative artist, that is much like her peers Maggie Rogers and Billie Eilish, she exudes authenticity which the modern generation is desperately craving.

## FRIDAY/FEB. 14

**Karate for Kids.** 5 p.m. At Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Join the Karate to gain powerful tools for self-defense, inner-strength and a strong, healthy body. Ages 4 and up.

## SATURDAY/FEB. 15

**Faith & Public Policy Breakfast.** 8:30-10:30 a.m. At Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. This Faith & Public Policy Breakfast will be on the topic of Youth & Criminal Justice Reform. Our speaker is Theo Stamos, former Arlington County Commonwealth's Attorney. The program will begin with a light breakfast; the program will begin at 9 a.m. in the Chapel. You do not need to be a member of Lewinsville to attend; all are welcome. Call the church office during normal

## Nora Jane Struthers Concert

**Nashville-based singer/songwriter Nora Jane Struthers with Sarah Borges and the Broken Singles.**

### FRIDAY/FEB. 21

**Nora Jane Struthers Concert.** 8 p.m. At Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave., E, Vienna. Nashville-based singer/songwriter Nora Jane Struthers is a rootsy artist with a bent toward mixing traditional country and contemporary rock stylings into her passionate Americana sound. Also on stage, Sarah Borges and the Broken Singles. Tickets \$15-\$25. Visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com)

business hours: 703-356-7200. Visit the website: <https://www.lewinsville.org/events/fait-h-public-policy-breakfast/>

**Art, Flowers, Chocolates.** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. At Artists' Atelier & Arts of Great Falls Gallery, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Join Atelier members and guest artist, jeweler JJ Singh in an all-day celebration of the “Reflections of Love: Art of the Heart” exhibit featuring art in diverse mediums and styles. Free. Email: [jill@jillbanks.com](mailto:jill@jillbanks.com). Visit the website: [www.GreatFallsAtelier.com](http://www.GreatFallsAtelier.com).

**Read to the Dog.** 10:30 a.m. At Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Gain reading confidence by reading to one of our therapy dogs. Age 5-11.

**Wilderness Fun.** Noon to 1 p.m. At Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. At Riverbend Park, learn the science and art of building a fire and test your skill with primitive fire bows and modern fire-making techniques. Reward yourself with fire-roasted s'mores. “To Build a Fire” is designed for participants age 4 to adult. The cost is \$8 per person, and children must be accompanied by a registered adult. Later in the day at Riverbend Park, prepare a winter meal with your family around the campfire using colonial and indigenous cooking techniques. Food and drink are provided. The “Klondike Campfire Cookout” is designed for family members age 5 to adult. It runs from 3 to 4:30 p.m., and the cost is \$15 per person. Call 703-759-9018 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend).

**African Folk Tales.** 2 p.m. At Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Join in folk tales and music that celebrate the traditions of Africa. Presented by Bright Star Theatre Company and sponsored by the Friends of Oakton Library. All ages.

**Singer-songwriter Rorie.** 8 p.m. At Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave., E, Vienna. She will debut her full-length album “Valley in the Mirror” released on Jan. 31.

## FEB. 15-16

**Coffee Readings.** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. At the Turkish Coffee Lady in Tysons Corner Center, Ground Floor, McLean. The promotion is inspired by the Turkish tradition of reading your fortune in the coffee grounds found at the bottom of the cup after enjoying a delicious brew: Turkish coffee dregs known as “telve” allows fortune readers to see your future in the most scrumptious way. As a part of the Valentine's Day campaign, visitors who shop on February 14<sup>th</sup> can enter a raffle for



PHOTO BY TERESA CASTRACANE

**Jaysen Wright in ‘The Royale’ by Marco Ramirez, Directed by Paige Hernandez at 1st Stage in Tysons from Jan. 30-Feb. 23, 2020.**

## ONGOING

”**The Royal.**” Now thru Feb. 23. At 1st Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. “The Royale” by Marco Ramirez, Directed by Paige Hernandez. Jay “The Sport” Jackson dreams of being the undisputed heavyweight champion of the world, but in the racially segregated world of boxing in 1905, the odds are stacked against him. When a crooked boxing promoter hatches a plan for “the fight of the century,” “The Sport” might land a place in the ring with the reigning white heavyweight champion. Show times are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$42 general admission, \$39 seniors (65+), \$15 students and military. Purchase online at [www.1ststage.org](http://www.1ststage.org) or 703-854-1856.

complimentary fortune reading sessions, coffee workshops and other surprise gift items. A BOGO special will also warm the hearts of gourmet coffee lovers on Valentine's Day. Space is limited. Private sessions can be booked on [turkishcoffeelady.com](http://turkishcoffeelady.com). Guests who make their bookings online will receive a 10-minute reading, authentic Turkish coffee and gourmet baklava. For questions and reservations, email at [hello@turkishcoffeelady.com](mailto:hello@turkishcoffeelady.com) or call (202) 670-4360.

## SUNDAY/FEB. 16

**Breakfast Buffet.** 8 a.m. to noon. At Vienna

American Legion Post 180, 330 Center Street, N, Vienna. Breakfast buffet for adults \$10, children 12 and under \$4.

Get omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy and more. Call 703-938-6580.

**Cooperstown String Quartet.** 4 p.m. At Saint Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Uniting faculty from the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore and East Carolina University, this quartet has played on several continents and at the most prestigious venues in the world. Their illuminating and penetrating understanding of Beethoven bring you from his early tribute to Haydn (op. 18 no. 1) to his fully-formed, almost radical later style (op. 130). Students 17 and under and active military are admitted free of charge. A pre-concert lecture by Music Director A. Scott Wood will begin at 3:15 pm, 45 minutes prior to the start of the concert. A reception will follow the concert, at which attendees may meet and chat with the performers and fellow music lovers. Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased at the door, online at <http://www.amadeusconcerts.com> or via telephone at 703-759-5334.

**KAPO Concert.** 5 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. At the Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Featuring KAPO: the music of Karen Ashbrook and Paul Oorts. The Old Brogue Irish Pub of Great Falls, and Barnaby Productions, Inc. present the 31st season of family friendly, Winter Traditional Celtic Concerts. Featuring internationally recognized Celtic musicians, the concerts are performed in a listening room by the fireside. Tickets must be purchased in advance at [oldbrogue.com](http://oldbrogue.com): \$20 general admission/\$15 children under 12.

## TUESDAY/FEB. 18

**Toddler Tales.** 10:30 a.m. At Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Have fun with your child and build early literacy foundations for reading success. Age 18 months-3 years with adults.

**History Comes Alive.** 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. At River Bend, 375 Walker Road, Great Falls. Great Falls Senior Center (GFSC) is welcoming back Mary Ann Jung's interactive shows. This award-winning actress and Smithsonian scholar has been recreating history's most fascinating women for more than 35 years with a style like no other. Jung researches and writes her own scripts and performs in authentic costumes, accents and attitudes for her character's eras. This year, learn the story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who was an abolitionist, human rights activist and one of the first leaders of the woman's rights movement. Reservations are required; email Polly Fitzgerald at [pollyfitz1@verizon.net](mailto:pollyfitz1@verizon.net) or call 703-759-4345. Membership dues ( \$25 per person) and applications for 2020 will be available at the Hospitality Table or visit [gfseniors.org](http://gfseniors.org) and pay online.

**Job Club.** 4 p.m. At Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Have questions about finding or excelling in a job? Receive one-on-one help from a specialist. Presented by Service Source. Age 16-Adult.

## WEDNESDAY/FEB. 19

**Preschool Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. At Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Have fun with your child and build early literacy foundations for reading success. Age 3-5 with adult.

**Volunteer for the Environment.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. At Providence Community Center, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax. Join in working to combat climate change and global warming. Activities include campaigning on massive data centers and fighting oil and gas pipelines in Virginia. Come be part of the solutions. Free. Email [sbonney001@aol.com](mailto:sbonney001@aol.com).