

and Oakton
Vienna
CONNECTION

Helping in a
Time of Need

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It Pays
To Be
Pennywise

NEWS, PAGE 5

Past chairman of the ViennaTysons Regional Chamber of Commerce (VTRCC), Rich Irons, turns over the gavel to new chairman, Gina Cocomello of Alternative House.

PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION
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PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

From left, rescue squad officer Rodney Vaughan and hazmat specialist Mark Menton, who works the Alexandria-Lorton corridor, confer about the deployment.

Helping in a Time of Need

Fairfax County Search and Rescue Teams are in Haiti.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Following the 7.0 earthquake in Haiti, Fairfax County's Urban Search and Rescue Team (Virginia Task Force 1) was sent last week to look for and rescue victims.

Under the auspices of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), a 72-member team left Tuesday night, Jan. 12, arriving the next day and it quickly achieved success.

"We had a save Thursday morning [Jan. 14]," said county Fire and Rescue Department spokesman Dan Schmidt. "A U.N. security officer of Estonian descent was detected in a rubble pile and extricated in good condition by members of Virginia Task Force 1. And that's the essence of why firefighters do what they do — they want to save lives. So when they did, it was an incredible, adrenaline-booster for them."

But with the situation there still so dire, said Schmidt, "The USAID asked us to send a second team, and County Executive Anthony Griffin and Fire Chief Ron Mastin approved the request." So a 42-person contingent left Thursday, Jan. 14, arriving early Friday morning.

The team comprises two doctors, structural engineers, paramedics, specialists in search-and-rescue and hazardous materials, plus a search canine and handler. The structural engineers include rigging specialists who help shore up unsafe areas using block and tackle, plus other methods, so firefighters can continue to extricate people.

"The federal government funds all costs associated with training and deployment," said Schmidt. The team will be in Haiti, 10-14 days, while other firefighters fill in for them here. They flew on a chartered aircraft, with their bags of personal items, while a second plane carried their equipment, such as jackhammers, cameras, listening devices, concrete-cutting saws and medical supplies. Water and military MREs (meals, ready-to-eat) also went along.

"This team deployed to Haiti in November 2008 for a school collapse, and many of those same members are returning," said Schmidt. The team's first mission was in December 1988, when it responded to an Armenian earthquake with a small, technical-rescue team. Since then, the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team has been deployed all over the world, including to Kenya, Iran, Taiwan, Turkey, Oklahoma City and the Pentagon after 9/11. It also responded after Hurricanes Katrina and Isabel.

LAST THURSDAY, team members reported to the county's Fire and Rescue Academy throughout the day. Some were accompanied by family members; each brought one red and one yellow bag. Lt. Diron Powell, who works at the Franconia, Kingstowne, Springfield and West Springfield stations, helped them check in.

Each person's bags had to be less than 90 pounds total for the two, and Powell made sure they contained all the necessary gear. Filling the red bags were uniforms, toiletries and personal items. The yellow bags were stuffed with operating gear such as flashlights, batteries, gloves, safety glasses, hearing protectors, rain gear, insect repellent and hand cleaner.

Teresa MacPherson of Catlett is the canine search specialist. She's not a member of the fire department, but has been on the team since 1993. Her partner's a 5-year-old black Labrador named Banks.

"We were in Haiti in '08 for the school collapse," she said. Before Banks begins a search, MacPherson unclips his leash so he's unencumbered. "We don't want any snagging," she said. "He can go places we can't. I say, 'Go find,' and he starts looking for live, human scent in the rubble. He covers a lot of area in a short amount of time. Where he finds the strongest scent, he starts barking; then someone will start searching."

MacPherson was eager to leave and get busy. "We train hard for this," she said. "We want to go and help."

Lt. Rodney Vaughan is a rescue squad officer on the team. Formerly of Centre Ridge, in Centreville, he now lives in Gainesville and has been a team

SEE MISSION, PAGE 17



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

The 2010 VTRCC Board of Directors was installed on Jan. 14 at a luncheon at Fleming's Steakhouse.

Area Businesses' 'Link to Opportunity'

ViennaTysons Chamber installs 2010 Board of Directors.

When the ViennaTysons Regional Chamber of Commerce (VTRCC) installed its 2010 Board of Directors at a luncheon on Jan. 14, it took the opportunity to promote its recent re-branding.

"Link to Opportunity," the Chamber's new tagline, highlights the relationship of member businesses to community and consumers.

"It's all about the link," said Rich Irons, past chairman of the board. From the podium, Irons described his search for a piano for his daughter last year. It was VTRCC colleague Billy Thompson of All Star Movers who went out of his way to find what Irons was looking for. Irons is heading the committee to create VTRCC's first business trade show, planned for June 2010. "The trade show will be a link between all aspects of the community, business to business and business to consumers," Irons said.

The removal of the hyphen that stood between Vienna and Tysons in the previous name reflects the Chamber's united front in member support and promotion. The Chamber is taking a proactive strategy to adapt to changing economic conditions and the planned growth of Tysons Corner. Members look on the inconveniences of construction around Tysons Corner as a temporary challenge, giving rise to greater potential.

"As a team, we'll continue to help the Chamber grow," said Gina Cocomello, who took over the helm from Irons. Cocomello, the first board chairman working for a nonprofit, Alternative House, cited several of VTRCC's

community outreach programs, from supporting nonprofits to participation in Ethics Day at local high schools.

VTRCC co-sponsors the Vienna Halloween Parade and Oktoberfest, the Chamber's biggest event, according to Cocomello.

President Diane Poldy spoke of the Chamber's close working relationship with the Town of Vienna, a relationship VTRCC plans to continue to nurture.

Dan Govan of Govan Builders voiced the link succinctly. "It's only right we give back to the people we live off of, who we depend on to keep us in business. We live here, too."

The luncheon was hosted by Fleming's Steakhouse in Tysons Corner. Pastor Craig Burns of Vienna Assembly of God gave the invocation and Tana Keeffe of Long & Foster Realtors emceed the program. Cory Smith of Tysons Corner Center sits as incoming chair for 2011. Burns, a cancer survivor, recently published "Constant Forward Motion."

THE CHAMBER'S open-to-the-public fund-raiser, Casino Night, comes up on Saturday, Feb. 27. Rebecca Diamond of Rebecca Diamond Marketing, Casino Night chair, reminded membership there were table sponsorships still available for this year's Casino Night. Tysons Corner Center and Karin's Custom Images are the 2010 event sponsors for the 300-guest event held at Westwood Country Club in Vienna.

For information on Casino Night, go to www.vtrcc.org.

— DONNA MANZ

FY 2009 Financial Report Available

The Town of Vienna's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for fiscal year 2008-09 is now available. Copies may be reviewed in the Finance Department at Town Hall or purchased for \$5 each.

The report summarizes the Town's financial position and the results of operations of the various funds and account groups. It also includes the auditor's report for FY 2009, information on internal controls for managing and safeguarding funds, and selected financial and demographic information covering the last 10 fiscal years.

For information, call the Finance Department at 703-255-6320.

Stroke Comeback Center To Host Fund-raiser

The Stroke Comeback Center is planning its first fund-raiser called the "Benefits of Chocolate," on Feb. 5, 7:30-11:30 p.m., at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., in Vienna. The event will include live music, boutique of gifts, chocolate choices, food, open bar, auction and canvases painted by local physicians during the evening, to be auctioned at the end of the evening.

Contact Carol Kelly, development director, Stroke Comeback Center, 145 Park St., S.E., Vienna. 703-255-5221.

Babysitting Class for Teens

Babysitters Training for boys and girls age 12 and older will be offered on Saturday, Jan. 30, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E.

An American Red Cross instructor will teach basic child care, safety, first aid and what to do in emergency situations.

The fee is \$70 for Town of Vienna residents and \$87.50 for out-of-town participants. For more information, call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department at 703-255-6360 or visit www.viennava.gov.

Deadline for Donation Requests

Friday, Feb. 5, is the deadline for non-profit Vienna organizations to apply for donations of Town funds in fiscal year 2010-11. Applications should be addressed to John H. Schoeberlein, Town Manager, Vienna Town Hall, 127 Center St., S., Vienna, VA 22180.

All requests must include the following information:

- ❖ Name of the organization and names and addresses of its principal officers;
- ❖ Purpose of the organization and a description of its programs and activities;
- ❖ Percentage of members or participants who live in town or who own or are employed by town businesses;
- ❖ Organization budget showing all income and expenses for the year in which the donation will be used;
- ❖ Amount of funding requested from the Town;
- ❖ Purpose for which the donation will be used;
- ❖ Synopsis of the fund-raising activities being conducted during the current year;
- ❖ Statement signed by the principal officer that membership or participation is open to all residents and business people in town without regard to race, national origin, religion or sex.

For more information, call the Vienna Administrative Services Office at 703-255-6350.

Personal Safety Class for Women

The Vienna Police Department will offer another session of the women's self-defense class, R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense), Feb. 1, 3, 8 and 10 from 7-10 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E.

The registration fee for all four sessions is \$5 for Town of Vienna residents and \$7.50 for out-of-town participants, plus a \$15 materials fee. For registration information, call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department at 703-255-6360 or visit www.viennava.gov/Town_Departments/police_women.htm.



Del. Mark Keam (D-35) outside of his Richmond office.

PHOTOS BY
VERONICA
GARABELLI/
CAPITAL NEWS
SERVICE

Keam Promotes 'Diversity of Views'

Freshman delegate discusses the General Assembly session.

BY VERONICA GARABELLI
CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

For Del. Mark Keam (D-35), one of two Asian-Americans serving in the Virginia General Assembly, it's not necessarily important to have a legislature that looks diverse, but it's critical to have one with diverse viewpoints.

"You might have 100 people, and every one of them looks different," Keam said. "But if they all think the same, there is no diversity."

A diverse viewpoint is exactly what the freshman Democratic delegate from Vienna hopes he can bring to the General Assembly.

KEAM, who was born in Seoul, Korea, lived in Vietnam and Australia before settling in California with his family as a teenager. To help support his family, he worked odd jobs, from construction to collecting shopping carts from a retail parking lot.

"I want to be able to speak on issues where people say, 'I've never met an immigrant in my life; I don't know what you guys think about it,'" Keam said. "I want to



Del. Mark Keam (D-35), left, takes oath at the General Assembly.

Keam's Legislative Agenda

On his first day on the job, Del. Mark Keam (D-35) introduced several bills that focus on the most immediate needs of the 35th District, which includes the entire Town of Vienna and portions of Oakton, Dunn Loring, Fair Oaks and Tysons areas.

Keam's legislative efforts would provide income tax credits for employers who create "green" jobs in the renewable energy field and for those who allow flexible telework opportunities for employees. Another of Keam's bills would develop a public-private health insurance purchasing program for small businesses that can't afford healthcare coverage for their employees. Keam also filed a bill that would reform utility companies' rate structure so that their customers can save costs while advancing conservation and efficiency goals.

Keam also introduced bills to address two other issues that were important to voters in the recent election: transportation and educa-

tion. "Almost every resident in our district I met told me they were tired of sending more of their tax dollars to Richmond than they receive back," Keam said. "I agree, and I will fight to get our fair share of funds for Fairfax County."

Working closely with Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34), Keam has introduced bills to fund road maintenance in Vienna and to increase state support for local public safety, land use and governance efforts.

Finally, Keam is the chief co-patron of a bipartisan resolution introduced by Del. James LeMunyon (R-67), which would require all recorded committee and floor votes taken in the House of Delegates to be posted online.

Bill numbers, summaries, and texts of Keam's legislative agenda can be found on Keam's constituency Web site [www.DelegateKeam.org] as well as on the Virginia General Assembly Web site [<http://leg1.state.va.us/lis.html>].

Job Creation Tops Keam's Agenda

FROM PAGE 4

Contact Information

be able to say, "Well, let me tell you what they think about it."

One issue Keam knows firsthand is English as a Second Language. He was an ESL student when he moved to the United States.

For the legislative session that began Wednesday, Keam is sponsoring House Bill 1129. It would raise the number of ESL teachers in Virginia's schools from 17 full-time positions to 30 full-time positions for every 1,000 students.

"We're not doing these guys special favors or special treatments," Keam said. "We're trying to get them to become Americans as soon as possible so they can contribute back."

Del. Jim Scott (D-53) is co-sponsoring HB 1129 and serving with Keam on the House Militia, Police and Public Safety Committee. He said he thinks Keam will be an excellent legislator.

"He seems to understand much more quickly than some first-year folks exactly how the process works - that you can only get things done if you understand it and bring other people along with

you," Scott said. "In the House, we (Democrats) are in the minority so nothing gets done without some support from the majority party and he's worked on that pretty well."

Keam is on unpaid leave from Verizon Communications, where he is vice president and counsel. (Keam said he would abstain from voting on any bills that pose a conflict of interest. He has not introduced any legislation regarding telecommunications. The 11 bills he has filed involve such issues as health insurance, job creation, transportation and education.)

IN 2001, Keam was the chief counsel for U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.). Earlier, he served as an attorney for the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Federal Communications Commission.

In November, Keam won 51 percent of the vote in defeating Republican Jim Hyland for the 35th District seat. Keam succeeds Steve Shannon, a Democrat who ran unsuccessfully for state attorney general.

Keam said his first week has been about settling in and figuring out committee assignments. He has been assigned to the House Finance Committee as well as the Militia, Police and Public Safety Committee.

Keam has been keeping in touch with his constituents through Facebook, Twitter and his Web site, markkeam.com.

"I am supposed to be representing everyone's interest publicly, and I also believe in accountability," Keam said. "That means anytime I do anything I want people to be able to say, 'Why did you do that?' And I want to have an answer for that."

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www.cchaiti.org

Partners with CCH in the Haiti relief effort include: MedAssets; Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children; Missionary Flights International; and MTS Services.



"In addition to our prayers, the people of Haiti are in great need of our compassion and assistance."

— Charles Mann, Inova Health System Board Member



"Luciana and I have worked with the Community Coalition for Haiti and we ask you to join us in supporting the humanitarian efforts that are under way."

— Robert & Luciana Duvall



"We all need to take swift action to make sure that relief reaches the people of Haiti as quickly as it can."

— Darrell Green, NFL Hall of Fame

Photo by © Cameron Davidson

SCHOOLS



CONTRIBUTED

Madison High Dance Team Wins at American University

The James Madison High School Dance team competed on Jan. 10 at The American University Dance Invitational. The team was awarded first place for their Jazz performance and second place for their Hip Hop performance. The dance team will next compete at the Universal Dance Association's National Competition in Disney World in February.

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It Pays To Be Pennywise

Vienna thrift store serves many purposes.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

For almost 50 years, Pennywise Thrift Store has served the Vienna community with clothing, household goods and here-and-there treasures. Pennywise is much more than a place to buy recycled merchandise, however. "Regulars" come by to socialize with staff and browse. Antique dealers and collectors occasionally stop in, hoping to find that rare book or doll.

"We have a wide range of customers," said Pennywise chairman Jane Schmiedekamp. "We have regulars who are well-off and who like a bargain. We have many people interested in recycling. They donate and buy to re-use.

"A big part is people who are hurting, who don't have enough money to buy clothes or things for



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Shopper Carol Porter and volunteer Barbara Fitzsimmons chat as Porter buys coffee table books for her beach homes.

their children."

Situated in a vintage house at the corner of Church and Mill streets, the thrift/consignment shop is operated and staffed by volunteers of the Community Ministry of the Church of the Holy Comforter Episcopal Church Women (ECW). Offering used goods to those in-need is a part of their mission, but the mission is

two-fold. The revenue that Pennywise generates funds parish and community charitable programs and services. A Holy Comforter parishioner started the store in 1961 with those objectives in mind.

Carol Porter of Vienna comes in

SEE LOCAL LANDMARK,
PAGE 13

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Happy New Year

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Many Numbers Point to Needs

Challenging times as we commemorate vision of Martin Luther King Jr., inaugurate new governor.

Unemployed, uninsured, homeless, hungry. While on a percentage basis, Northern Virginia is better off than most of the rest of Virginia, in raw numbers, we have more people here who are unemployed, more people here who lack health insurance, more people who spend parts of most months without enough food on the table, more people who are homeless.

Some sobering numbers as we celebrate the day of hope and aspiration that is Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Sobering statistics as we inaugurate a new governor who has many good ideas, but no plans for new revenue. Cuts in the state budget will affect everyone in Virginia, even those who are not needy.

In November, more than 68,000 unemployed people were looking for full time work here in Northern Virginia, according to the Virginia Employment Commission, up from just under 50,000 in November, 2008.

Later this month, officials and advocates will conduct the annual "point in time" census of homeless. Last January, there were 1,730 homeless people in Fairfax County at the "point

in time" count, more than 1,000 of those are members of families, most of the adults with jobs. In the City of Alexandria, there were 360 homeless people. In Arlington, 527 homeless, about 200 of those were people in families.

According to the latest U.S. Census numbers, from 2008, there were about 200,000 people (under 65) in Northern Virginia without health insurance. These are people who can't get preventative care, can't get routine care for minor illnesses.

EDITORIAL

In Arlington County 38,018 or 21.1 percent of the population lacked health insurance. That number jumped to 62 percent of those living below 200 percent of poverty line.

In Fairfax County, 149,642 people or more than 16 percent of the population lacked health insurance. In the City of Alexandria, 22,399 people lack health insurance, or 18.2 percent of the population. In the City of Fairfax, 3,685 people lack health insurance, or 18.8 of the population.

Another measure of need, and a way of identifying concentrations of poverty, is to look at students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals in public schools.

In Alexandria more than 50 percent of students are eligible for free or reduced meals.

In Arlington, more than one-third of students are eligible for free or reduced meals.

More than 37,000 students in Fairfax County Public Schools are eligible for free and reduced meals, that's 22 percent of the student body. And the needy students also tend to be concentrated in particular schools. For example, some schools, like Wolf Trap Elementary, had no students qualifying for free or reduced meals. Then consider Graham Road Elementary, with more than 78 percent of its students qualifying for free and reduced meals, Lynbrook Elementary with more than 76 percent of its students qualifying; Mount Vernon Woods, more than 75 percent; Mount Eagle more than 74 percent. The uneven distribution showed dozens of schools with very high rates of poor students lumped together; dozens with poverty rates in the single digits.

Food for thought. These numbers don't indicate a tiny population of needy people, they indicate a region with ongoing problems of "haves" and "have-nots." Those 15-30 percent of our populations in local jurisdictions who "have not" are about to have quite a bit less as the state and local budget processes move forward.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Down in Richmond

BY SEN. CHAP PETERSEN
D-34



We have a new governor in Richmond as of Saturday, Jan. 16. Congratulations and good luck to Gov. McDonnell (R) and his team.

For those of us in the State Senate, the session began last week. Once we launched, my first act was to file my legislative package that consists of 22 bills listed on the state legislative Web site [leg1.state.va.us].

My first set of bills encourages energy efficiency in state government and private business. These bills also promote clean energy projects to bring jobs and research dollars to Virginia.

❖ **SB 109** ("Green Public Buildings Act") requires all state buildings to be built according to LEED Silver or other approved efficiency standards. My goal is to cut down on utility usage, preserve the environment and save taxpayer money.

❖ **SB 110** (clean energy financing) permits localities to loan money for clean energy projects such as solar or geothermal and

then place a lien against the property benefited. This bill will create jobs in one of the fastest-growing industries in the U.S. today.

❖ **SB 111** (electric rate structures) allows the State Corporation Commission to modify electric rate structures used by private utilities, e.g. by requiring "dynamic rates" or "inclining block rates," for the purpose of conserving energy.

My next set of bills is specifically targeted at the transportation issue in Northern Virginia. In the absence of a statewide transportation plan, these bills attempt to hold constant our funding for road maintenance and local projects.

❖ **SB 114** (Fuel Efficiency Index) adjusts the state gas tax rate every year based upon certain vehicle travel statistics. Essentially, it "indexes" the tax so that it matches up with the actual usage of our roadways.

❖ **SB 115** (Local option) allows counties to add a 1 cent local gas tax to pay for secondary road funding or other specified projects. This option would give localities a reserve fund for transportation when state funding collapses.

State senator files 22 bills as General Assembly begins.

❖ **SB 401** (sales tax retention) permits Fairfax County to retain the sales tax it remits to the Commonwealth for transportation and use it for funding its own road network.

My third set of bills protects churches that are reaching out to the homeless and the helpless in our community during this economic downturn:

❖ **SB 116** (fraud protection) gives churches standing to sue for fraud under the Virginia Consumer Protection Act. I filed it in reaction to the widespread fraud cases involving African-American churches in the D.C. area. This bill gives our attorney general the power to fight these dishonest practices.

❖ **SB 117** (helping the homeless) exempts churches from rigorous restaurant standards for purposes of serving on-site meals to members or invited guests. This legislation protects churches that serve the homeless as part of their religious mission.

My final set of featured bills involves our system of elections of Virginia. It's a great system. It can also be better by increasing the public's awareness of legislator interests while limiting the impact

of "super-size" donors on local and statewide races.

❖ **SB 118** (conflict of interest disclosure) requires that conflict of interest forms filed by General Assembly members shall be posted online. That way every voter knows who employs their lawmaker and what gifts he or she receives. This should be public information.

❖ **SB 119** (contribution limits) forbids "super-size" contributions by limiting individual donations per candidate to \$20,000 per campaign. This limits the influence of one donor over a candidate. It also protects donors by allowing them to "max out" their contributions and not be subject to continuous phone calls from cash-hungry candidates.

We have scheduled a town hall for Saturday, Jan. 23, at 10 a.m. at Legion Post 180 in Vienna with Del. Mark Keam (D-35). This is open to everyone. Please attend if you are interested.

Otherwise, you can reach us in Richmond by phone at 804-698-7534 or by e-mail at kathy@fairfaxsenator.com. Let us know how we can represent you better.

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Vienna & Oakton

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NEWS

Taking the Plunge for Sick Children

Freezin' for a good reason.

DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

On Feb. 6, a group of hardy souls will plunge into the icy waters of Lake Anne. They will be "Freezin' for a Reason," participating in the third annual Virginia Polar Dip to benefit Camp Sunshine, a year-round retreat for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families.

"You're only in the water for about 20 seconds, but it is shocking to your system," said Gail Toth, whose 17-year-old daughter, Jennifer, was a 4-year-old camper at Camp Sunshine in Maine. "You jump in, swim to the ladder as quickly as you can, in and out."

Last year, members of the Prince William Cold Water Dive Team broke up the ice to create a hole

for the plungers.

All four members of the Vienna family, Gail, her husband Bill, Jennifer and 6-1/2-year old Julianna, will take the plunge to help raise funds for Camp Sunshine. To date, more than 25 people have registered for the polar dip, so far, including faculty from Jennifer's school, Flint Hill School in Oakton.

"Being a cancer survivor is who I am and it influences what I do," said Jennifer. "Being able to give other families the opportunity to attend Camp Sunshine means the world to me."

The Toths hope to have 100 people jumping in Lake Anne and to raise \$25,000, enough to send 16 families from the Virginia, Maryland and the Washington, D.C. area to Camp Sunshine this year. For families with a stricken child, Camp Sunshine is fun and respite for the whole family.

THE VIRGINIA PLUNGE in Reston is one of nine polar dips in the country on behalf of Camp Sunshine, most of them along the East Coast. Camp Sunshine on Sebago Lake in Maine is free of charge to all families. The program includes 24-hour onsite medical and psychosocial support.

Every summer since Jennifer was a camper there herself, the Toths have returned to Camp Sunshine as volunteers. For Jennifer it is especially meaningful. She tells the young patients that she was once like them. Jennifer, the young cancer survivor who is considering a career in medicine, thinks that everything happens for a reason. "I want to turn a bad event into something good," she said.

Flint Hill School headmaster John Thomas calls Jennifer "outstanding, talented, kind, compassionate, and a great leader." But

SEE POLAR DIP, PAGE 12



Gail and Bill Toth, making the jump in 2009, organized the Virginia Polar Plunge three years ago to give back to Camp Sunshine. Daughter Jennifer, now 17, was a camper there when she was 4.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE TOTH FAMILY



Flint Hill School headmaster John Thomas honors Jennifer Toth's journey by participating every year in the Virginia Polar Plunge.

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FAMILY FUN BINGO

Saturday, Jan. 23
2:30-4 p.m.

\$15/\$10 McLean District residents
Children 2 and under free
Advance Registration is required
No walk-ins

For parents and children age 3 and older. Vertical, horizontal, diagonal, or picture frame, join us for this family fun-filled afternoon of bingo! There'll be prizes, guessing games, snacks and more!

The McLean Community Center
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CALENDAR

Send announcements to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com

THURSDAY/JAN. 21

Chapter 227, Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna. Challenges of Women Serving in the Modern U.S. Military, with speaker Kayla Williams, former army Arabic linguist of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Iraq War veteran, author of "Love My Rifle More Than You: Young and Female in the U.S. Army." All invited. Free. 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.

Peter Mulvey and Jeffrey Foucault. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. www.jamminjava.com.

Washington Ballet Artistic Director Septime Webre. 7:30 p.m. at Langley School, 1411 Balls Hill Road McLean. Webre will discuss how a strong education in the arts prepares children to excel, and will share strategies for parents to help build 'performing arts intelligence' in their children, encouraging a lifelong appreciation of all performing arts. Free, reservations suggested. 703-356-1920 or www.langleyschool.org.

Reception and Gallery Talk. 7-9 p.m. at Emerson Gallery, McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Synergy: Sculpture by Nicole Fall. 703-790-1953 or www.mpaart.org.

FRIDAY/JAN. 22

English Conversation. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Group for adult non-native English speakers of all levels. Call for details. 703-938-0405.

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Learn and play. Age 5-18. 703-938-0405.

Enter the Haggis and Adam Ezra Group. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. www.jamminjava.com.

American Legion Post 270 Citrus Sale. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at American Legion Post 270, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Honeybells, seedless grapefruit, navel oranges, Murcot tangerines and maple syrup. Proceeds support local community youth, patriotic activities and veteran needs. 703-356-8259.

SATURDAY/JAN. 23

Violinist Augustin Hadelich and the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. 7 p.m. pre-concert lecture free to ticketed patrons. Tickets \$25-\$55, available at 1-888-945-2468 or Tickets.com.

So You Think You Can Dance Fairfax County Final Competition. 4-7 p.m. at Annandale High School in the Gymnasium, 4700 Medford Drive, Annandale. \$3 per person. Sponsored by the Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services' Teen Services Division. 703-324-TEEN (8336), TTY 711.

American Legion Post 270 Citrus Sale. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at American Legion Post 270, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Honeybells, seedless grapefruit, navel oranges, Murcot tangerines and maple syrup. Proceeds support local community youth, patriotic activities and veteran needs. 703-356-8259.

Potomac Gorge Biological Ecosystems Exhibit Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. 12 noon at the Riverbend Park Visitor's Center, 8700

Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Speakers will include American Indian lecturer and teacher Rose Powhatan, local officials, Park Authority representatives and members of the community. The exhibit highlights the creation of floodplains, cliffs and valleys carved by erosion, how Fairfax County was once covered by ocean and volcanic islands, the big-game hunting Paleo Indians, and a totem pole designed and carved by Rose Powhatan. Free. Reservations requested at 703-324-8662.

The McLean Branch of the American Association of University Women Monthly Meeting. 9:30 am at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Speaker, Jeff Offutt, professor of Information and Software Engineering at George Mason University. 703-830-6503 or www.mcleanaauw.org

Charity Rock Concert with Irresponsible. 7 p.m. at the Soudry, 316 Dominion Road, Vienna. Featuring four local bands. All proceeds will be donated to CHO-Committee for Helping Others, to aid needy members of the Vienna/Oakton communities. www.cho-va.com or www.soudry.net.

Family Fun Bingo. 2:30-4 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean.

Plan on Living Happily Ever After. 10 a.m. at The Women's Center, 127 Park St., N.E., Vienna. \$35 non-members, \$25 members. www.thewomenscenter.org or 703-281-2657.

Diane Welland, M.S., R.D.: The Complete Idiot's Guide to Eating Clean. 12 p.m. Barnes & Noble Books, 7851L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. crm2238@bn.com.

SUNDAY/JAN. 24

The Band of the Irish Guards and the Pipes and Drums of the Royal Regiment of Scotland. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The U. S. debut of the Band of the Irish Guards, with marches, sailor ballads and Celtic folk songs. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins 45 minutes prior to the performance on the Center's Grand Tier. \$24-\$48. Youth through grade12 half price when accompanied by an adult. Charge by phone at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Tap Kids. 3 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. 703-790-0123.

Mid-Atlantic Song Contest Awards Gala. 5 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$7 in advance, \$10 at the door. www.jamminjava.com.



Capitol Steps Come to Langley High

The Capitol Steps will be performing at Langley High School on Sunday, Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. Tickets for this annual performance are \$30 and proceeds support the June 17 All Night Graduation Party for the Class of 2010. To order tickets, download the order form from the PTSA Web site: www.langleyptsa.org, or contact Mollie Vardell: molliev@verizon.net or Andrea Sotter: andrea4@cox.net. Tickets will be available for pickup at the "Will-Call" desk on the night of the performance.



The Capitol Steps tackle the hot issues of the day, including the airport security.

Capitol Steps. 7 p.m. at Langley High School, 1454 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. \$30, proceeds support the All Night Graduation Party for the Class of 2010. www.langleyptsa.org.

Viola Concert to Benefit Food for Others. 4:30 p.m. at Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Violists Stephanie Knutsen and Tyler Sieh with pianist Narciso Solero, performing works by Igor Stravinsky, Franz Schubert and Henri Viueuxtemps. Admission is free, donations will be accepted for Food for Others. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.

MONDAY/JAN. 25

Game On Afternoon Edition. 3:30 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Test your prowess at the Wii Mario Kart or Super Smashbros. Age 6-16. 703-938-0405.

Matt Hires, Jason Castro and Caitlin Crosby. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. www.jamminjava.com.

Outlaw Nation and Chase Long Beach. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 27

Furry Foxes. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Learn about foxes through activities; practice yipping like a fox. 703-757-8560.

Wales: Land of Song. 7:30 p.m. at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Visit Wales by film. 703-573-SEAT.

THURSDAY/JAN. 28

Five Local Chefs, Five Local Wines, Five Local Farms, One Local Cause: Loudoun Interfaith Relief. 6:30 p.m. \$150 all inclusive, with sparkling wine and hors d'oeuvres, followed by a five course menu with wine pairings. Each course will be prepared by chefs Mark Marrocco of Magnolias at the Mill, Patrick Dinh of Tuscarora Mill, Aaron McCloud of Vintage 50/51, Chris Carey of The Wine Kitchen and Christopher Edwards of The Restaurant at Patowmack Farm. Live Music by Olivera Music Entertainment. Reserve at 540 822-9017 or info@patowmackfarm.com.

Toddlin' Twos. 10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Stories and songs. Age 2 with adult. 703-938-0405.

Patrick Henry Book Club. 1 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Book discussion. Call for title. Adults. 703-938-0405.

FRIDAY/JAN. 29

Turner to Cézanne: An Evening with Corcoran Director, President and Exhibition Curator Paul Greenhalgh. 7 p.m. at Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. 703-790-1953 or www.mpaart.org.

English Conversation. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Group for adult non-native English speakers of all levels. Call for details. 703-938-0405.

FRIDAY/JAN. 29

Kennedy's Solo CD Release. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$18. www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/FEB. 5

Fairfax Symphony Valentine Pops Gala: Amore! An Evening of Italian Love Songs. At the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. 6:30 p.m. silent auction and cocktail reception, 8 p.m. dinner, 9 p.m. FSO in concert with tenor Robert Pettilo and soprano Jeanine Thames. \$300 per person or \$3,000 per table, available by credit card at 703-563-1990, or by check to Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, 3905 Railroad Ave., Suite 202N, Fairfax, Va. 22030. www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

SATURDAY/JAN. 30

Sing Me Insomnia, The Goodnight Anthem and Struan Shields. 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. www.jamminjava.com.

An Evening with Charlie Hunter. 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. www.jamminjava.com.

Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association. Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows

Road, Falls Church. Line dance beginning at 7:30 p.m., couples specialty dance at 8 p.m., open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. \$10 members, \$12 non-members, \$5 for ages 16-20 with student ID. website: www.snwvda.org or 703-860-4941.

Michelle Singletary, with Power to Prosper: 21 Days to Financial Freedom. 1 p.m. Barnes & Noble Books, 7851L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. crm2238@bn.com.

Ingrid King, author of Buckley's Story: Lessons from a Feline Master Teacher. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Seneca Hill Animal Hospital Resort and Spa, 11415 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-450-6760.

SUNDAY/JAN. 31

Martina McBride and Trace Adkins. 7:30 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets are \$49.75-\$69.75, available at all Ticketmaster locations or Phonecharge at 703-573-SEAT. 703-993-3000 or www.patriotcenter.com.

Learn to Predict the Weather During the Groundhog's Day Out. 2-3:30 p.m. at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road in Herndon. Learn about groundhogs and other ways to forecast the weather. Take a short walk to visit a real groundhog burrow. Appropriate for all ages, with a puppet show, crafts, games and hot chocolate. \$5 per person. Registration required at 703-437-9101. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/fpp.

Pianist Audrey Andrist. 3 p.m. at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Free. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/aldenconcerts.

TUESDAY/FEB. 2

Alternative House: Open Door at the House. 8-9 a.m. at 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna. Alternative House offers counseling, shelter, neighborhood support and after school programs. Learn about issues facing young people and get an overview of the House's history and services. Talk with the Executive Director, a Board member and staff, and take a tour of the teen shelter. Space is limited; contact Gina Cocomello at gina.cocomello@TheAlternativeHouse.org or 703 506-9191 or www.TheAlternativeHouse.org.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 3

Gals in the Gallery. 7-9 p.m. at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. With jewelry artist J.J. Singh. Donations accepted. 703-790-1953 or www.mpaart.org.

FRIDAY/FEB. 5

Fairfax Symphony Valentine Pops Gala: Amore! An Evening of Italian Love Songs. At the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. 6:30 p.m. silent auction and cocktail reception, 8 p.m. dinner, 9 p.m. FSO in concert with tenor Robert Pettilo and soprano Jeanine Thames. \$300 per person or \$3,000 per table, available by credit card at 703-563-1990, or by check to Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, 3905 Railroad Ave., Suite 202N, Fairfax, Va. 22030. www.fairfaxsymphony.org.

Yu Wei Chinese Dance Collection. 8 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. www.mcleancenter.org.

Mark Morris Dance Group. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With the area premieres of 'Visitation' and 'Empire Garden.' A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. \$22-\$44, available at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

McLean Community Center
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Here's What's Happening at MCC

Family Fun Bingo
Saturday, Jan. 23, 2:30-4 p.m.
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Activity No. 4504.310

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Travel and Adventure Film Series
Wales: Land of Song
Wednesday, Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m.
\$10/\$8 district residents

OFTC Teacher Workday Trips
Snow Tubing at Wisp Resort
Friday, Jan. 29
Shadowland Laser Tag
Monday, Feb. 1

Sign your teen up for one of these day trips on FCPS Teacher Workdays.

Alden Theatre Dance Festival
TAP Kids
Sunday, Jan. 24, 3 p.m.
\$20/\$16 district residents

Eight of the nation's most talented young tap dancers take to the stage in this rousing, joyous celebration of American youth culture.

Yu Wei Chinese Dance Collection
Friday, Feb. 5, 8 p.m.
\$28/\$10 district residents

Experience Chinese culture through exhilarating dance and stunning film, all just in time for Chinese New Year!
Stop by the Alden Theatre Box Office, or contact Ticketmaster, 703-573-SEAT.

The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

Polar Dip Benefits Families

FROM PAGE 9

that's only part of the reason he is supporting his student, once again taking the plunge as he has every year since the Toths launched the polar dip.

"Her story is so compelling," Thomas said of Jennifer. "As a parent, I think of how scared Jennifer must have been to be so young and faced with cancer treatment. Camp Sunshine offers a wonderful program to wrap their arms around these children and their families. This is my way to respect and honor her journey."

Kathleen Smith of Oakton is one of Jennifer's best friends and a junior at The Potomac School in McLean. Smith will be taking the Virginia dip for the third year. While Flint Hill and Potomac are big rival schools, they are working together on behalf of Camp Sunshine. Smith is spearheading a Hershey Kiss fund-raiser for Valentine's Day, with the proceeds going to Camp Sunshine. At the Flint Hill/Potomac basketball game on Jan. 15, Jennifer and Kathleen gave a Camp Sunshine



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHLEEN SMITH

The Potomac School junior Kathleen Smith of Oakton takes the plunge in the 2009 Virginia polar dip on behalf of Camp Sunshine. A Prince William Cold Water Dive Team member keeps a watchful eye on jumpers.

pep talk to spectators and collected donations. Several of Kathleen's classmates at Potomac are considering registering for the Virginia Polar Plunge at Kathleen's urging. Kathleen described the reasons she is involved with the polar plunge and fund-raising.

"The money goes to an amazing

cause," she said. "It sends local families to Camp Sunshine. [Taking the dip] raises awareness of Camp Sunshine and the wonderful things that it does."

PARTICIPANTS are welcome to donate any amount, but those contributing \$100 or more receive a

commemorative tee shirt. After the plunge, participants are invited to an apres-dip party at Reston Community Center in Lake Anne Village Center. The Sheraton Reston, Reston Community Center, Lake Anne Village Center, Jasmine Cafe and Reston Association are sponsors. Participants are invited to dress up in costume, and chickens are welcome to dip feet only.

"The dip is fun, crazy and exhilarating," Thomas said. "People have a hoot. When I heard about this, I thought, I need to do this. Raise money for a cause and do something bizarre at the same time."

TO REGISTER for the 2010 Virginia Polar Dip on Feb. 6 at Lake Anne in Reston, go to http://www.freezinforareason.com/event/event.php?event_id=56. Registered participants can create a fund-raising page at that Web site.

The dip takes place at 1 p.m., followed by an apres-dip party at the Reston Community Center in the gallery. Same-day registration is welcomed.

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

McLean Presbyterian Church is holding the worship service at 9:15 a.m. and 11a.m. During these services, the church also offers a variety of adult education classes, as well as children's ministry program and student ministries gatherings. The church also invites the public to informal and more intimate Saturday Night Service, which meets in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. every Saturday. The worship music is provided by Saturday night band and the message is the same as Sunday morning but with opportunity for more interaction with the pastor. Childcare and children's programs are provided for infants through 2nd grade.

McLean Presbyterian Church is located at 1020 Balls Hill Road in McLean. For more information visit www.mcleanpres.org or call church office at 703.821.0800.

Grief Share Group, 7-9 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 7426 Idylwood Road, Falls Church. A 12-week program beginning 7 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 21 to support those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. stpaulsoff@aol.com or 703-573-0295.

Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, will show 'Until The Violence Stops' at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 29. The film is a documentary about how the play The Vagina Monologues grew into an international grassroots movement called V-Day to stop violence against women and girls. Donations accepted to benefit V-Day Oakton 2010. 703-716-0150 or www.uucf.org.

Episcopal Church Women of St. Thomas Episcopal Church Lace & Grace Tea, 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13. With a variety of tea delicacies and sweets, and live music by local instrumentalists, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Hudson Hall, 8991 Brook Road, McLean. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Alternative House in Vienna. \$30 per person. Reserve tickets at 703-442-0330. Group sales welcome. 703-272-7796 or mollieregans@verizon.net.

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. Contact Gary Axelrod, 301-610-8309 or gaxelrod@jssa.org, or www.jssa.org.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body & Soul fitness. Balance is key, energy is renewed, strength is gained, and friendships are formed. Mondays 9:15 a.m. and Fridays 9:45 a.m. Childcare is free for registered students. E-mail bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org for more information.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center offers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or www.meditation-dc.org.

Vienna Assembly of God has a ministry to children on Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m. at the corner of Center N and Ayr Hill Avenue, N.E. Children's Church on Sundays also available. 703-938-7736 or www.ViennaAG.com.

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Local Landmark Mixes Bargains, Fellowship

FROM PAGE 7

often to chat and hunt down treasures. She and her husband own beach condos and, last week, Porter bought coffee table books to leave for their guests. An antique collector, Porter estimates she has been coming into Pennywise for almost 10 years. "It's a treasure hunt," she said of Pennywise, chatting with one of the shop's volunteers. "You never know what you're going to find."

Two levels house well-organized and neatly maintained groupings of clothes for men, women, and children from babies through teens, housewares, books, media, toys, outerwear and jewelry. Dolls, cleaned up and dressed up, go quickly.

A young girl's bicycle, in good condition, was priced at \$6. An almost-new corduroy jumper for a little girl, embellished with embroidery, was \$4.

A shopper who identified herself as Hanna said she comes to Pennywise often. The staff is courteous and very nice and the prices are terrific, she said. "I always find something I had years ago and it



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Original Pennywise volunteers, Martha Clark, Claire Hill, Mary B. Wood and Anna Marie Rector, date back to the store's launch in 1961.

brings back memories."

FOR THE 100-PLUS volunteers who commit themselves to regular schedules at Pennywise, working there is as much a social outlet as it is a humanitarian out-



Helen McGee, Pennywise chairman, puts together a little girl's ensemble for \$8.

reach. They become friends, they support one another, they socialize outside the shop. Some are original volunteers, well into their 80s and 90s.

Helen McGee, with more than 25 years of service behind her, is almost a newbie by Pennywise standards. She said she continues to volunteer at the store because

customers seem to really appreciate the presence of the shop in Vienna and what the staff does. The community gets a lot out of this, McGee said Not just purchases, but as a social outlet for many store visitors.

"There's a selfish reason I volunteer, too," McGee said. "Many of us have worked together for years. We're always there for one another as friends and as support. We help each other out. We do things together for fun."

That camaraderie has kept original staffer Anna Marie Rector coming back. "We meet and talk," she said. Fellow original Mary B. Wood adds treats that regular customers bring in to the fellowship of the Pennywise volunteers.

PENNYWISE THRIFT STORE is an arm of the pastoral care committee of Holy Comforter, which provides help to indigent families. The pastoral care committee works with FACETS, a local homeless support organization, and distributes free books to a Fairfax tutoring group and to prisons. In the spring, Pennywise donates prom dresses to George C. Marshall High

School girls who cannot afford to buy a new dress for their prom.

Sue Davy, pastoral care director, said she handles call from individuals needing immediate help and Fairfax County agencies. Davy can authorize a credit voucher at Pennywise for individuals who need clothing for themselves or their family.

The store pledges more than \$30,000 annually to the church budget and also provides between \$15,000-\$20,000 each year to community charities through ECW. Pennywise workers include men, women and students, all of whom are Church of the Holy Comforter parishioners.

"We're very blessed to have so many giving people in Vienna," Schmierekamp said. "There's a lot of opportunity here to give back to the community and help the church and local charities."

PENNYWISE THRIFT STORE is open for business and for donations Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. It is located at 144 Church St. 703-938-7062.

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AJ Swoboda with his parents, Eileen and Jim, and his plaque and medal for placing fifth in the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Contributing to Clean Energy

Local high schooler improves fuel cell, wins scholarship.

BY WILLIAM SCOTT MARTIN
THE CONNECTION

On Dec. 7, Thomas Jefferson High School junior Andrew Swoboda of Oakton became a fifth place winner for the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology. Andrew (known to his friends as AJ) Swoboda won a \$10,000 scholarship along with partner Ryan Lindeborg for their work on hydrogen fuel cells.

Swoboda and Lindeborg did their research at the University of California, Santa Barbara in the summer of 2009. The research began as simple interest in the subject of fuel cells.

"I've always been the kid that likes figuring out new things," said Swoboda. "The whole idea of clean energy is kind of like a big deal right now, so when I heard about it, it sounded like an interesting thing to do."

In fact, Swoboda's paper entitled "Optimization of Platinum Nanoparticles for Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cells Using Pulse Electrochemical Deposition" makes a significant advancement, halving the platinum required to create fuel cells.

All fuel cells require platinum as a catalyst material, about 0.5 mg of platinum per square centimeter. "The problem with hydrogen fuel cells that are around right now is that when they are plated, a lot of platinum, which is a catalyst metal, is wasted," said Swoboda. "We thought if we could minimize the amount of platinum, we could reduce the cost."

By altering how the platinum is plated using Pulse Electrochemi-



AJ Swoboda giving a presentation during the 2009 Siemens Competition.

cal Deposition, Swoboda and Lindeborg managed to reduce use of platinum from 0.5 mg per centimeter to about 0.2727 per centimeter.

Jonathon Burk, Swoboda and Lindeborg's mentor during the project, said he was impressed. "AJ and Ryan are very bright students who had the desire to learn and experience science unlike students that I have taught in a college level laboratory course. They were like a sponge absorbing all the knowledge about fuel cells out of my head. I had an amazing time working with these guys and in the process I even learned something."

SWOBODA described how he carried out his research. "We made a bunch of different samples using different parameters that we wanted to vary to see which one would be the best," he said. "After we analyzed all the samples, we picked which parameters we wanted to use in making the ac-

tual fuel cell and we made three hydrogen fuel cells we actually tested in the lab to see their performance." He described the final fuel cell as being "better than half of the commercial fuel cell but we used half the amount of platinum."

Despite the potential significance of this discovery, Swoboda warned not to draw too much from it. "It's still a work in progress, it's not anywhere close to being done," he said.

Eileen Swoboda, AJ's mother, said, "We're unbelievably pleased for AJ and that the whole thing was totally unexpected and a fantastic experience."

In addition to his research, AJ Swoboda is in National Honor Society, on the soccer team and in Team America Rocketry Challenge. "It comes down to time management. OK, I'm coming home and I have an hour, can I do any homework so I have an hour to spare when I'm at home?" said AJ Swoboda about how he manages it all.

AJ Swoboda also had a published book, "What Seniors Write at America's Best High School," a collection of 75 college application essays from Thomas Jefferson.

ABOUT HIS FUTURE, AJ Swoboda has ideas, but he isn't set on any particular path. "Right now, I'm really interested in engineering, I've taken some electives at Thomas Jefferson that are geared towards engineering and this hydrogen fuel cell project is related to engineering. I'm not sure where that'll take me but right now that's what I think I'll be doing in the future," he said. "I haven't thought that deeply into my career because that's way out there."

AJ Swoboda said he is thankful to those who made winning the prize possible. "My school has been really supportive of this whole Siemens thing," he said.

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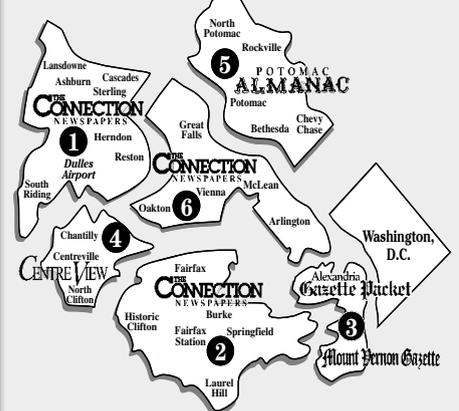
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21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Not Able Without Cable



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

It's only now, the Sunday afternoon following the previous Thursday night, that I'm able to recount the difficulties and demands of the 15-day, eight-hour period beginning 1:34 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 16 and ending at 8:45 p.m., Thursday, New Year's Eve. It had nothing at all to do with my cancer and/or any consequences there to (not really, anyway). It had to do with my Cable. Specifically, not having Cable service, meaning no television and computer for over two weeks.

Let me try to explain as patiently as I am able to do so, now, the events leading up to and the ultimate conclusion to some of the worst two weeks of my life (death, taxes and health-related news notwithstanding).

On Wednesday, Dec. 16, a contractor for Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission began digging up my neighborhood street to solve a much-needed browning-of-our-tap-water problem. Days before the initial dig, I noticed spray paint markings on the street and on my driveway indicating Miss Utility had been contacted. (Little did I know that certain colors were missing; had I known that, the subsequent pain and suffering that we endured could have been avoided. But alas, poor Yurik, I know very little of what I'm talking.) Within an hour of the beginning of the dig, sure enough, the unmarked ground did not direct the construction crew away from my cable and phone lines and as a direct result, I received one (two, actually) of the most unkindest cuts.

I will spare you the details of the many phone calls made by yours truly to rectify the problem because that's not really the point of this column, and besides, I can't do the story justice in print as I can in voice. The point of this column is to discuss how one survives when they lose something that is most crucial to their day-to-day existence and lose it not because of anything they said or did, but lose it (and then not have it repaired or responded to in a reasonable time) due to the negligence of others. Collateral damage is how I found myself characterizing my circumstances.

If truth be admitted to, I barely survived. Every day that the problem persisted, I fell deeper into an emotional hole. Every day that the much-needed connections to the outside world remained disconnected, I fell even deeper into that abyss. Every day that progress was supposed to be made to repair the lines (and then ultimately wasn't) took an ICC-type toll on my psyche. Every day that I couldn't resume my routine: work, play, business, banking, hobbies, areas of interest, areas of need, etc., via the television and computer and thus fill my day accordingly was yet another day spent not in paradise (we did borrow DVDs from a neighbor, one of which included the first two seasons of Magnum PI; he was in paradise, literally and figuratively) but one spent in a blackening hole, cratering more and more every day.

When the third (fourth? fifth? I've lost track) cable technician/team knocked on my door on Dec. 31st at 8:15 and asked if I had a picture, I thought I had died and ended up back on my couch watching television. It wasn't until 30 minutes later that my service was 100 percent restored, finally; you can't imagine the emotional release I experienced when that service returned to normal. It's still taken me a few days to regain my composure, resume my routine and get myself back on track, however.

In retrospect, I don't know how I managed, really. Given that I'm a homebody, not a reader and connected to the outside world electronically (like most people), being cut off as I was, without any warning was almost too much; in fact, it may have been one of the hardest things I've ever had to do. I may be reconnected now, but I feel like I've lost two weeks of my life, two weeks that I really didn't have to lose.

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

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Two Area Sculptors Exhibit at Tysons II Office Centre

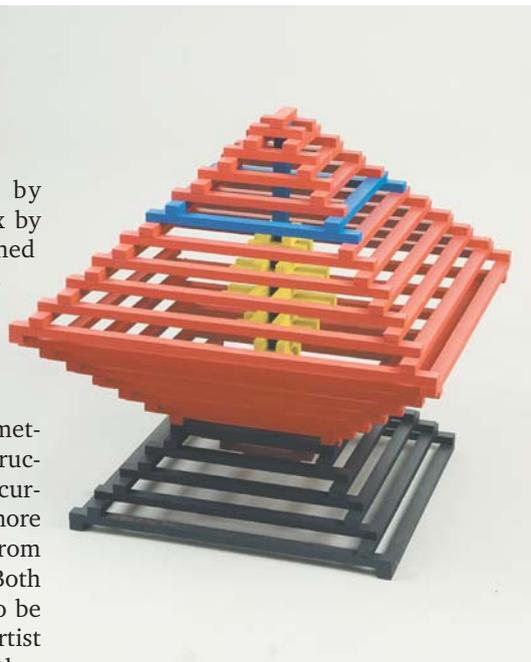
An exhibition of six sculptures by Jonathan Fisher of Great Falls and six by Shirley Koller of Washington has opened at The Corporate Office Centre at Tysons II, through April 10, illustrating the importance of a major corporation in supporting the arts by making its lobbies available for display.

Fisher's work, in the tradition of geometric abstraction, is a series of wood constructions that emphasizes textures and recurring shapes. Koller's are painted metal, more random and spontaneous, assembled from strips of polished aluminum and steel. Both are highly colorful and were chosen to be displayed together, the wood of one artist working off the reflective metal of the other as counterpoints.

The exhibit is in the lobbies of two buildings on either side of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in McLean. Both are owned by the Lerner Corporation, the largest private real estate developer in the greater Washington, D.C. area. One building is at 1650 Tysons Blvd. The other is at 1750 Tysons Blvd.

Lerner has been making the public spaces of its building available to artists for more than 30 years and has displayed the work of both established and emerging artists. "The lobbies of major buildings like Lerner's are outstanding venues that offer sculptors such as Fisher and Koller an opportunity to display their artworks in contexts that show them to best advantage," said Richard Suib, an art-management consultant and curator for the exhibition for the Lerner Corporation.

Fisher is relatively new on the art scene, having spent most of his professional life as a magazine editor. Six years ago, he began producing wood reliefs, sculptures, games and other wood constructions in a small barn behind his house. Most are abstract pieces with a simple color palette that,



'Light in the Pyramid,' a wood construction by Jonathan Fisher. It is made of painted pine strips screwed together.

he says, is deliberately limited to emphasize patterns. Some of his pieces, including one in the exhibit, are seven feet high. Last year he was awarded a Strauss Fellowship from the Arts Council of Fairfax County "to support and encourage Fairfax County's finest creative artists."

Koller is more of a fixture in the Washington, D.C. art world, having created colorful reliefs and sculptures for years.

The Lerner building lobbies are open Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visitors can park free for one hour at parking garages behind either building. They can easily walk in front of the Ritz-Carlton from one venue to the other. There are five sculptures in each lobby and one each on the second floor of each building.

Fisher and Suib are both Great Falls residents and members of Great Falls Studios, a network of 88 artists who live or work in Great Falls.

Mission: 'Saving Some Lives'

FROM PAGE 3

member since 1998. He responded to numerous hurricanes, including Katrina, plus Taiwan in 1999 and Iran in 2003. In Haiti, eight to 10 people will be assigned to him.

"When Technical Search locates victims, through listening devices, dogs or hearing them yell out, we'll confirm how deeply they're embedded," said Vaughan. "For example, they could have been on the first floor of a six-story building that collapsed, so we coordinate the rescue effort."

THE FAIRFAX RESCUERS will probably work in 24-hour shifts, to start, with down time, here and there. Normally, half the team would work days, and the other half, nights. But, said Vaughan, "Due to the amount of work, it's round the clock now."

Vaughan said they'd all "done this enough" so that they can quickly assess whatever situation they encounter and proceed accordingly. Hardest, he said, was wanting to get there as fast as they could, but understanding that it takes six to 14 hours to assemble all the gear, get the plane ready and the equipment on board.

"It's a huge undertaking and we'd like it done in 30 minutes," he said. "Then, once we're on the ground, the physical work and sleep deprivation will eventually take a toll on us. But when we're working, we don't let it bother us."

Vaughan will miss his two daughters and wife Erica, though. But, said Erica Vaughan, "I'm so proud of what he's doing. He's been training to do this and I hope he'll save some lives." She said she never gets used to his deployments and worries about him while he's gone. But, she added, "I know he's in the Big Man's hands and [the fire department] does a good job of keeping us updated."

Technician Kevin Dabney of Vienna has been on the team more than 10 years. A rescue specialist, he helps with team organization and works under the Task Force leaders, Fire Chiefs Jim Strickland and Robert Zoldos.

"I'll command others to do search and rescue, and we'll help in any way we can," said Dabney. "We're 100-percent self-sufficient and don't need anything from the local government."

After receiving a geographical location to search, the Command and General Staff Team that Dabney's on determines which people should go where and sees that they're properly equipped. It also handles safety, logistics, medical, planning and operations matters.

"We ask, 'Is there medical transport? Where do we send survivors?'" said Dabney. "What about security issues — are there roadblocks?" So behind the scenes, there's a whole lot of work."

When they hear of possible survivors needing rescue, first a small reconnaissance team assesses whether it's a workable location. Then, if safe, six to 30 people — including technical rescue, hearing devices and structural engineers — would respond. The size of the



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Canine search specialist Teresa MacPherson and her dog Banks.

response depends on the size of the site and the suspected number of victims needing rescue.

SINCE THE FIREFIGHTERS communicate by radio, Lt. Wes Rogers' specialty is also crucial. Rogers, of Oak Hill, works in communications in the Massey Building in Fairfax and also on the USAR team.

"I set up repeaters, enabling the radios to talk further than line of sight," he said. "Depending on the terrain, we could have a 4-mile range. I'll also set up satellite communications to talk to our Operations Center at the Fire and Rescue Academy and will establish communications with our USAR team already in Haiti."

Typically, team managers receive radio updates about the victims, plus the status of the search teams, where they are, if they're all right and if they need anything.

Last Thursday, Rogers could hardly wait to get there already and start helping. "Everybody here has that attitude," he said. "I'm proud of the team. Everybody works together, and we all want to save some lives."

Squad officer Richard McKinney of Fair Oaks is captain of the Frying Pan Station. He's a 30-year member of the fire department and has been on Task Force 1 since its inception.

"We'll search buildings, going in void spaces and looking for trapped people," he said. "USAID will tell us which buildings and areas to check." What makes it so dangerous, said McKinney, is the unknown. "You really don't know what you're getting yourself into," he said. "Once an earthquake's destroyed a building, it's unstable."

But he's glad to do what he can and he likes the camaraderie among the people on the team. "Most of them I've known, my whole career, so they're just like a second family," he said. He's been with them to Oklahoma City, Taiwan and the Pentagon after 9/11.

Toughest, said McKinney, is "the death and seeing people at their worst." But he finds satisfaction in "the chance of finding someone alive — or even finding deceased people so their families can have closure."



'The Shape or Color,' a metal sculpture by Shirley Koller. It is made of assembled strips of polished and painted aluminum with a base of polished steel.

SPORTS

Red Hot Oakton Finally Gets Cooled Off

Cougars, following a 12-0 start to the, lose at home to Robinson.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

This year's Oakton High girls' basketball team, with returning starting players Caroline Coyer and Zora Stephenson back from last year's Northern Region championship and state AAA runner-up team, has been every bit as good as anyone could have expected for a program that lost its other three starters to graduation.

Oakton, 30-1 last year, won its first 12 games this season. Finally, on Friday night, Jan. 15, the Cougars fell into the loss column, 46-42, in a Concorde District home setback to Robinson. It was Oakton's first regular season loss since falling to district opponent Westfield two seasons ago.

On Tuesday, Jan. 12, Oakton defeated Chantilly, 49-41, in a district road win. In both the Chantilly and Robinson games, Oakton's shooting touch was off. Prior to those games, the Cougars had been averaging in the high 60s range per game.

"The last two games we haven't shot the ball well," said Oakton coach Fred Priester. "We hit a bad spell shooting wise. We've stayed consistent on defense."

A year ago, Oakton had one of the area's top frontcourt players in gritty, 5-foot-8 inch Erin McGartland, who was the heart and soul of a dominating Oakton squad that could hurt you offensively both with inside and outside scoring. Another player who could mix it up inside was Brianna Johnson. Both former Oakton players earned All-Region Tournament honors last year.

This season, Oakton's scoring has come mostly from its seasoned perimeter players — Stephenson, a shooting guard who is

averaging 16 points per game; and twin sisters Caroline (point guard) and Katherine Coyer (off guard), who are averaging 15 and 10 points, respectively.

Stephenson, one of the state's best three-point shooters last year as a sophomore, is continuing to shoot well from long range this season with 41 treys to her credit (just over three made a game). Caroline Coyer, meanwhile, has converted 24 three-point shots. As a team, the Cougars have made 85, about 6.5 three point baskets a game.

Oakton is a physically small team but the Cougars make up for their lack of size with all-out hustle on both ends of the court.

"Even though we're small, we get to a lot of loose balls and we hit the boards," said Priester.

OAKTON, in the loss to the Rams, led 11-4 after one quarter but scored just six second quarter points and found itself in a 17-17 tie at the break. Robinson, who got a game-high 20 points from Samantha Partonen, led 32-30 after three quarters. The Rams outscored Oakton by two points in the final quarter and came away with the hard-fought win. With about 30 seconds left, a three-point attempt by



Caroline Coyer (5) and Oakton will play at district front runner Westfield this Friday night.

Davis (10) and Stephenson (7).

"Hey, I'm disappointed we lost but I didn't holler at them," said Priester. "Robinson hit some shots and we didn't shoot that well. I told them we just have to play better, that's all. We'll go back and practice. It's basketball, its sports."

Playing Oakton is the biggest game of the season for many teams because of the Cougars' vast success last year and prior.

"Every game we play is tough because we have a target on our back," said the coach. "We have to know teams are going to play their best games against us."

Katherine Coyer, the 5-10 off guard, is one of the district's top defensive players. She also hits the backboards hard and comes up with numerous offensive rebounds. An 83 percent free throw shooter Coyer has converted 10 three-point shots from the field this season. Katherine, an unselfish player, often looks to pass the ball first and shoot only if the opportunity is there.

"She's real good on defense," said Priester. "We want to get her to shoot [more] and to be offensive minded."

Oakton, in action this week, was scheduled to meet visiting district opponent Centreville on Tuesday, Jan. 19. This Friday night the Cougars will play at district foe Westfield. The Bulldogs are 12-2 overall and 4-0 in the district.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Caroline Coyer, with Oakton trailing by three, rimmed out.

Oakton's top scorers in the loss were Coyer (15 points), junior guard Danielle

ing district opponent Centreville on Tuesday, Jan. 19. This Friday night the Cougars will play at district foe Westfield. The Bulldogs are 12-2 overall and 4-0 in the district.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The Marshall High indoor track and field teams have competed in several meets over the course of the winter. The Statesmen, earlier this season, took part in the Friends of Indoor Track Invitational. There, Marshall's Brittany Johnson was a region qualifier in the long jump and 55-dash events. Johnson also was a district qualifier in those two events as well as in the high jump and 300. Other district qualifiers for the Statesmen were Meara Goss (shot put), Courtney Herbolsheimer (1,600) and Christian Gravatt (high jump). Strong outings at the Friends meet came from Madeleine Lewsen, Hallie McIntyre, Alexandra Sandlin, and Steven Savage.

Marshall also participated in the PR Holiday Invitational. Highlights included a first place finish in the high jump by Brittany

Johnson and strong outings across the board from Goss, Herbolsheimer, Sandlin, John Tortella and Savage.

Marshall, in another big meet this winter season, went up against local rivals McLean and Langley. Individual event winners for the Statesmen were Gravatt (high jump, 500), Goss (shot put), Jocelyn Golden (300), Herbolsheimer (1,000) and Tortella (shot put). Other good outings for Marshall came from Saweel Ahmed, Claudia Castaneda, Milton Cruz, Andrew Dickson, Jennifer Felter, Maha Hassan, Ritika Jain, Katrina McLeod, Victoria Nickson, Helene Nygard, Samuel Pak, Jonathan Pierre and Werking James.

The Marshall High swim and dive teams had numerous

highlights in a meet versus South Lakes on Jan. 8. Those highlights included sophomore Cyrus Hashemi breaking a school record in winning the 100-fly race and earning state qualifying times in that event along with the 100-free; Hashemi winning the 50-free race with a region qualifying time; sophomore Andrew Nyce winning the 200-IM with a regional qualifying time; and sophomore Katherine Van Winkle finishing first in girls' dive with a regional qualifying performance.

Other first place outings for the Statesmen came from: Zach Stahl (boys' dive); Emily Costello (girls' 100-fly); George Hirka (boys' 100-free); and Daniel Bui (boys' 100-breaststroke). First place relay team finishers for Marshall were: boys' 200-free team (Hashemi, Logan Hirka, Nyce, George Hirka);

boys' 400-free team (Logan Hirka, George Hirka, Hashemi, Nyce); and girls' 200-free (Leah Noordhuizen, Paige Veoni, Brandy Allen, Bianca Cailin).

Marshall's Sydney Shelton (girls' dive), Noordhuizen (girls' 500-free) and George Hirka (boys' 100-back) were each second place finishers. Marshall second place relay finishes came from the boys' 200-IM team (Gavin Campbell, Daniel Bui, Kyle Barrand and Zach Stahl) and the boys' 200-IM (Miriam Kreykes, Veoni, Costello, Kendall Freck).

The Thomas Jefferson High swim and dive team continued its undefeated season with a win over South Lakes. Double winners for the Colonials included Anna Lan (McLean), Matt Callahan (Vienna), and Stephen Seliskar (McLean). Seliskar and Callahan

were part of the medley relay team that swam at a regional cut time. The 200-free relay team that made the region cut included Sam Speers (McLean), Seliskar and Callahan. The boys, led by Callahan, swept in the 100-free races. Jefferson diver Kristen Skowronski (Oak Hill) was first for the girls, and Zachary Ho (Reston) and Will Stalcup (Ashburn) were part of a group that swept in boys' diving.

Kyle Petrillo, a seventh grader from Herndon, participated in the 2010 second annual Football University Youth All-American Bowl, which took place Jan. 10 in San Antonio.

The bowl game honors the top seventh and eighth graders in the nation, bringing them together to play in an all-star format on a national stage.

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10411 WICKENS RD	8	8	1		VIENNA	\$1,950,000	Detached	2.40		HUNTERS VALLEY
10221 WENDOVER DR	5	5	2		VIENNA	\$1,675,000	Detached	1.88		WENDOVER
9520 FRANCIS YOUNG LN	4	3	1		VIENNA	\$1,405,910	Detached	0.25		FRANCIS YOUNG ESTATES
1629 BEULAH RD	4	2	6		VIENNA	\$1,365,000	Detached	4.50		VIENNA
11110 SWEETWOOD LN	5	3	2		OAKTON	\$1,237,500	Detached	1.76		CAVALIERS
1303 MEADOW GLEN	4	4	1		VIENNA	\$1,035,000	Detached	0.48		CARPERS FARM
921 PARK ST SE	5	4	1		VIENNA	\$1,015,000	Detached	0.23		VIENNA WOODS
2189 AMBER MEADOWS DR	4	3	1		VIENNA	\$1,002,000	Detached	0.19		VIENNA ESTATES
10313 LYNNHAVEN PL	4	3	1		OAKTON	\$897,000	Detached	0.13		OAKTON VILLAGE
909 POTTERTON CIR SW	4	4	1		VIENNA	\$891,000	Detached	0.35		VIENNA WOODS
1965 YEARLING CT	4	3	1		VIENNA	\$875,000	Detached	0.20		ASHGROVE PLANTATION
347 ORCHARD ST NW	6	4	1		VIENNA	\$870,000	Detached	0.35		WINDOVER HEIGHTS
10502 HUNTING CREST LN	5	4	1		VIENNA	\$865,000	Detached	2.19		RICHLAND HUNT
305 EAST ST	5	3	1		VIENNA	\$850,000	Detached	0.27		WESTWOOD PARK
2063 MADRILLON RD	4	2	1		VIENNA	\$845,000	Detached	0.15		MADRILLON ESTATES
8507 ASHGROVE PLANTN CIR	5	4	1		VIENNA	\$825,000	Detached	0.22		ASHGROVE PLANTATION
8047 RESERVE WAY #50	2	2	0		VIENNA	\$801,958	Townhouse	0.03		RESERVE AT TYSONS CORNER
3433 VALEWOOD DR	4	3	1		OAKTON	\$790,000	Detached	0.49		VALEWOOD MANOR
3304 SADDLESTONE CT	4	2	2		OAKTON	\$774,500	Detached	0.83		MILL RUN CROSSING
2834 HILL RD	5	4	1		VIENNA	\$766,000	Detached	1.13		OAKCREST
8037 RESERVE WAY	4	3	1		VIENNA	\$760,000	Townhouse	0.03		RESERVE AT TYSONS CORNER
9927 TARTAN CT	4	2	2		VIENNA	\$745,000	Detached	0.50		GLENCANNON
1421 FILENE CT	4	2	1		VIENNA	\$744,000	Detached	0.42		SHOUSE VILLAGE
2232 CARMICHAEL DR	5	3	1		VIENNA	\$720,000	Detached	0.51		TANGLEWOOD
9508 SPINET CT	5	2	1		VIENNA	\$710,000	Detached	0.43		SHOUSE VILLAGE
8955 MILLER LN	4	2	2		VIENNA	\$710,000	Detached	0.26		WEXFORD EAST
1697 ABBEY OAK DR	4	3	1		VIENNA	\$705,000	Detached	0.46		SUN VALLEY
9504 LAGERSFIELD CIR	4	4	1		VIENNA	\$685,000	Townhouse	0.05		COUNTRY CREEK
1605 LOZANO DR	5	3	1		VIENNA	\$685,000	Detached	0.54		SUN VALLEY
2107 SHERIFF CT	4	2	1		VIENNA	\$670,000	Detached	0.28		BARRISTERS PLACE
8044 RESERVE WAY #53	3	2	1		VIENNA	\$643,069	Townhouse	0.03		RESERVE AT TYSONS CORNER
10400 ADEL RD	4	3	1		OAKTON	\$640,000	Detached	0.46		OAKLEIGH WOODS
3112 CASTLETON CT	3	3	1		OAKTON	\$625,000	Detached	0.11		OAK MARR COURTS
10168 CASTLEWOOD LN	3	3	1		OAKTON	\$620,000	Townhouse	0.05		ENGLISH OAKS
131 SHEPHERDSON LN NE	3	2	2		VIENNA	\$611,000	Townhouse	0.08		REGENCY RIDGE
141 ROLAND CT SW	3	3	1		VIENNA	\$600,000	Townhouse	0.06		TOWNES OF VIENNA
9908 MONTCLAIR CT	4	3	0		VIENNA	\$600,000	Detached	0.52		TOWN AND COUNTRY GARDENS
2919 BREE HILL RD	3	3	1		OAKTON	\$582,000	Detached	0.62		STUARTS MILL WOODS
1892 BEULAH RD	4	3	1		VIENNA	\$570,000	Detached	0.50		MARTIN
9022 DELLWOOD DR	5	3	0		VIENNA	\$554,900	Detached	0.34		TOWN AND COUNTRY ESTATES
2041 PIERIS CT	3	2	2		VIENNA	\$552,000	Townhouse	0.04		HAHN PROPERTY
8884 ASHGROVE HOUSE LN	3	3	1		VIENNA	\$550,000	Townhouse	0.02		TYSONS VILLAGE
10319 MOUNTINGTON CT	4	2	2		VIENNA	\$549,900	Detached	0.54		TAMARACK
2016 MADRILLON SPRINGS CT	3	2	1		VIENNA	\$541,500	Townhouse	0.04		MADRILLON SPRINGS
2633 SKIDMORE CIR	4	3	1		VIENNA	\$525,000	Detached	0.24		DUNN LORING WOODS
8045 MERRY OAKS CT	3	2	1		VIENNA	\$520,000	Townhouse	0.04		MERRY OAKS
413 COURSE ST NE	4	2	1		VIENNA	\$485,000	Detached	0.32		WESTBRIAR CC ESTATES
1813 PRELUDE DR	4	3	0		VIENNA	\$485,000	Detached	0.31		TIBURON
2862 SUTTON OAKS LN	4	3	1		VIENNA	\$481,500	Townhouse	0.04		COUNTRY CREEK
10228 BALTUSROL CT	3	2	2		OAKTON	\$479,000	Townhouse	0.05		TREEBROOKE
508 BEULAH RD NE	4	2	0		VIENNA	\$455,000	Detached	0.32		BROADLEAF TERRACE
305 TAPAWINGO RD SW	4	3	0		VIENNA	\$435,000	Detached	0.39		VIENNA WOODS
309 PLUM ST SW	3	2	0		VIENNA	\$425,000	Detached	0.29		WEST VIENNA WOODS
703 HUNTER CT SW	3	2	1		VIENNA	\$420,000	Townhouse	0.07		TOWNES OF MOOREFIELD
2940 WATERFORD CT	3	3	1		VIENNA	\$415,000	Townhouse	0.05		WATERFORD
115 TAPAWINGO RD	4	2	0		VIENNA	\$405,000	Detached	0.35		VIENNA WOODS
8612 ACORN CIR	3	1	1		VIENNA	\$402,000	Detached	0.50		OAK FOREST
8223 GOLDSTREAM CT	3	2	2		VIENNA	\$400,000	Townhouse	0.04		CEDARS OF TYSONS
10319 EMERALD ROCK DR	3	2	2		OAKTON	\$393,500	Townhouse	0.04		ARROWOOD
2960 BORGE ST	3	2	2		OAKTON	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.06		CHERRYWOOD SQUARE
8334 WESLEYAN ST	5	3	0		VIENNA	\$370,000	Detached	0.24		DUNN LORING WOODS
2651 PARK TOWER DR#04/106	2	2	1		VIENNA	\$369,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			WESTBRIAR PLAZA
2720 BELLFOREST CT #305	2	2	0		VIENNA	\$366,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			WESTBRIAR
3004 SUGAR LN	4	3	1		VIENNA	\$365,000	Townhouse	0.05		CYRANDALL VALLEY NORTH
1516 NORTHERN NECK DR#101	2	2	0		VIENNA	\$365,000	Townhouse			WESTWOOD VILLAGE
206 SCOTT CIR SW	2	1	0		VIENNA	\$351,500	Detached	0.25		VIENNA WOODS
3018 SUGAR LN	4	2	2		VIENNA	\$342,000	Townhouse	0.05		CYRANDALL VALLEY NORTH
10309 GRANITE CREEK LN	3	2	2		OAKTON	\$330,000	Townhouse	0.03		FLINT HILL MANOR TOWNHSE
2965 CASHEL LN	3	3	1		VIENNA	\$325,000	Townhouse	0.03		WATERFORD
9946 CAPPERTON DR	3	1	1		OAKTON	\$295,000	Townhouse	0.03		BLAKELEE
10248 APPALACHIAN CIR#1-D8	2	2	0		OAKTON	\$290,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors			FOUR WINDS AT OAKTON
10059 OAKTON TERRACE RD#59	2	2	0		OAKTON	\$262,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			THE OAKTON
3179 SUMMIT SQUARE DR#2-B8	2	2	0		OAKTON	\$240,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			FOUR WINDS AT OAKTON
2765 CENTERBORO DR #347	1	1	0		VIENNA	\$220,000	Garden 1-4 Floors			MARQUIS AT VIENNA STATN
214 LOCUST ST #117	2	1	0		VIENNA	\$199,900	Garden 1-4 Floors			PARK TERRACE

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SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Chad Rummel, yearbook advisor at Oakton High School has been named as one of four Special Recognition Advisers in the national Yearbook Adviser of the Year competition by the national Journalism Education Association. Rummel and the other honorees will be officially honored during JEA's spring convention in Portland, Ore. In April. Rummel was previously named a Rising Star by the JEA in 2007, the same year he was named the Oakton High School Teacher of the Year. The yearbook he advises, The Paragon, has received a Pacemaker Award from the National Scholastic Press Association, and the DVD that accompanies the book has been a Pacemaker finalist.

Lucas Rooney, a 2009 Marshall High School graduate, is the first freshman ever invited to join BASIS, a group of Virginia Tech students who run a \$4million-plus fixed-income securities fund on behalf of the Virginia Tech foundation.

Emily Ritonia, a sophomore majoring in marketing management in the Pamplin College of Business, **Vince Mirabella**, a sophomore majoring in psychology in the College of Science, and **Nasser Mikdadi**, a sophomore majoring in finance, accounting and information systems in the Pamplin College of Business, were chosen to be resident advisors at Virginia Tech for the 2009-10 academic year. All three are Vienna residents.

Marek Zareba of Vienna, a graduate student pursuing a master's degree in industrial and systems engineering in the College of College of Engineering, was chosen as a graduate hall director at Virginia Tech.

Anthony Song of Oakton has been named to the summer 2009 dean's list at Berklee College of Music of Boston, Mass.

Eric Noll of Vienna has been awarded a deans' scholarship by Gettysburg College of Gettysburg, Pa.

Caitlin Klimavicz of Vienna has been named to Millikin University's chapter of Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society. Klimavicz is a senior majoring in music performance, instrumental.

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VIENNA

1644 Montmorency Dr	\$815,000	Sun 1-4	Otilia Moursi	Weichert	703-691-0555
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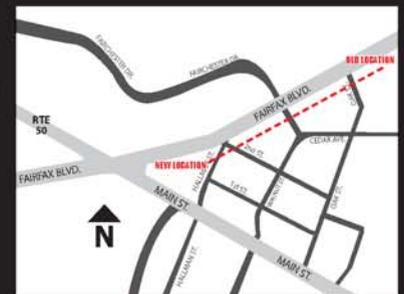
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