

and Oakton  
Vienna  
**CONNECTION**

# Bricks to Honor Veterans

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American Legion  
Dyer-Gunnell Post  
180 Commander Phil  
Dunn ordered a brick  
inscribed in memory of his  
father, Edwin J. Mullin, a  
World War II soldier.

OPINION 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 11 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13

PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

## Zoofari, Anyone?

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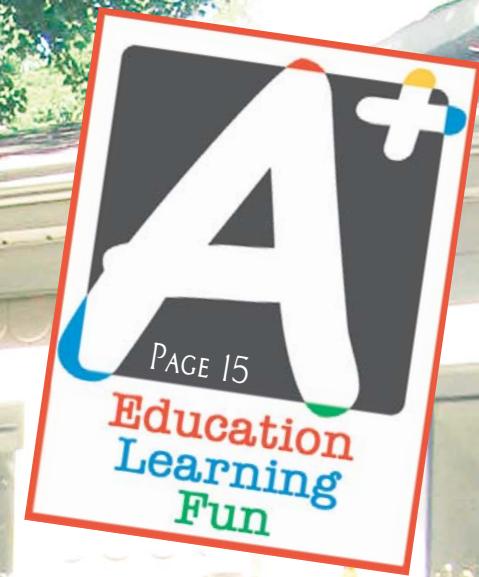
Where War  
And Art Meet

NEWS, PAGE 3



JULY 20-26, 2011

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# NEWS

## Maddie's Blankets

**Madeline Pelgrim's non-profit organization unites community members.**

BY SAMRA KHAWAJA  
THE CONNECTION

**M**adeline Pelgrim is not your typical teenager.

Sure, like many teens, she juggles dance and pageant practice, and she spends some time talking to friends and hanging out.

But the 14-year-old Pelgrim, who attended Rachel Carson Middle School and is going to Oakton High next year, also is doing grown-up things in the form of her own non-profit organization called "Maddie's Blankets" in her home in Oakton.

With help from her mother, Delta Pelgrim, Maddie's Blankets became an official non-profit organization after a lengthy process in 2009. It started off simply enough as a way to help comfort animals in shelters, but the idea for blankets soon expanded to help poor children.

"When I was 10, I was looking for non-profit organizations where I could volunteer," said Pelgrim, whose home is full of large containers jammed with homemade, fleece blankets. "Many of the organizations didn't want me to volunteer because at the time I was too young."

**HER WORK** was recognized as she advanced to the finalist round in the 2011 search for Huggable Heroes founded by the Build-A-Bear Workshop. And although Pelgrim didn't win the \$10,000 grand prize, rejection is a good lesson to learn from, she said.

"She has touched so many people," said family friend Andrea Cohen, who has joined Pelgrim in making blankets. "(Especially) those in the community who truly have no voice."

Not only does Maddie's Blankets help several organizations throughout the country but also it gives children the opportunity to

volunteer and give back to the community.

"This is the type of project that kids can not only get involved with, but they can understand how they make a difference," family friend Rachel Manchester said.

"If they can tie a knot, they can make a blanket," Cohen said.

Maddie's Blankets began in the home of the Pelgrims, where monthly gatherings were held to collectively make blankets.

"It's not a time-consuming event," Delta Pelgrim said. "The blankets can travel."

After the blankets are made to order, the team, consisting of community members and friends, personally drives out to deliver the blankets at the different locations.

As of this year, Maddie's Blankets has donated more than 7,000 blankets with the help of more than 400 individuals.

"What's great about it is that it's not just her making a few hundred



PHOTO BY DELTA PELGRIM

**Madeline Pelgrim has donated over 7,000 blankets since her organization first began in 2007.**

blankets, it's her organizing other teens and preteens to make thousands of blankets," said Harry Shubin, coordinator of the Lost Dogs and Rescue Cat Foundation in Arlington. Senior citizens also have pitched in to make blankets for the group.

Shubin, who has known Pelgrim for about three years, welcomed Maddie's Blankets to the Arlington shelter.

"My first impression was, 'who is this kid, and why is she lugging all these bags?'" Shubin said. "But as soon as I saw what she had, how great the blankets were, I was im-

pressed. And then I was blown away to find out that what she was really doing was organizing other groups to make the blankets."

**THE NON-PROFIT** organization relies on funds from grants and donations. PayPal, set up on Pelgrim's website, [www.maddiesblankets.org](http://www.maddiesblankets.org), allows for instant donations.

Maddie's Blankets is an organization that Pelgrim hopes to keep alive at her school and community.

"It's making the world a better place, one blanket at a time," she said.

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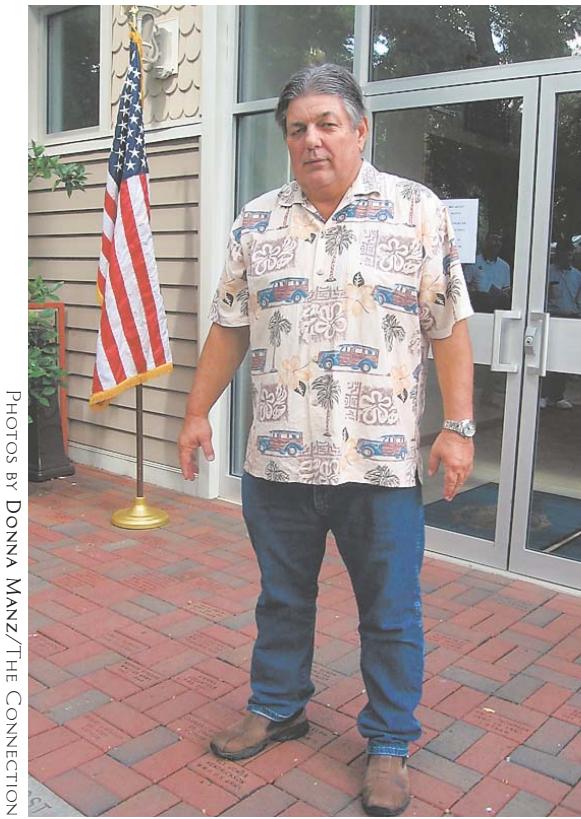
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# NEWS



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**Bob Hatter presents a brick inscribed with Steve Brock's name to his widow, Carol Brock. Brock was a Vietnam veteran. At right is Post 180 Commander Phil Mishoe.**

**Phil Hendrikson's father, Homer, was a veteran of the second world war and the Korean war. Homer was a driver to Gen. George S. Patton.**

## Bricks to Honor Veterans

**American Legion Post 180 holds inscribed brick installation program.**

By DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hat makes the brick entryway to American Legion Hall in Vienna a "Walk of Honor" are the bricks dedicated in honor of loved ones who served in America's armed forces. While most of the inscribed bricks are in memory of a veteran, many of them are named in honor of living veterans. The bricks are ordered through Dyer-Gunnell Post 180 and ceremonially laid in place in a solemn program.

On July 17, at Post 180 in Vienna, six inscribed bricks were set in the pathway. Seventeen guests, family and friends, were present. As each brick was recognized, a family representative was invited to comment on the person honored. Veterans at the program saluted as each brick was laid in its place.

"May those bricks be a reminder of those who served our country," membership chair Bob Hatter said in his invocation.

**THE FIRST INSCRIBED BRICKS** were installed in 2003. Since then, approximately 200 inscribed bricks have replaced blank ones. Some read like an epitaph with name, rank and branch of service. Others are inscribed with a name and remark, such as



**Kathy Craig and Diann Mishoe accept the inscribed brick honoring their father, Edwin J. Mullin, a World War II veteran.**



**Vi Hulbert characterized her husband H. Howard Hulbert as a "good guy." She honored the memory of the World War II veteran with a Walk of Honor brick at the American Legion Hall in Vienna.**

the "angel," a loved Post 180 bartender killed by her husband.

Bricks were bought by widows, sons and daughters.

Carol Brock's husband, Steve, served in Vietnam. After his return to civilian life, Brock was injured in a motorcycle accident, needing blood transfusions in emergency care. The transfusion cost Brock his life.

SEE HONORING VETERANS, PAGE 7

VIENNA/OAKTON CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC  
703-778-9414 OR VIENNA@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## Where War and Art Meet

**Local resident brings art therapy to former child soldiers, water to a village.**

By DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hen James Madison High School graduate Andrew Briggs founded Freedom in Creation in 2007, he focused on art as therapy for traumatized abducted child soldiers in northern Uganda. It's not enough to save these boys from warfare; they needed to be saved from the horror they endured by finding peace. Through art, Briggs hoped, the former child soldiers could express themselves, express their feelings.

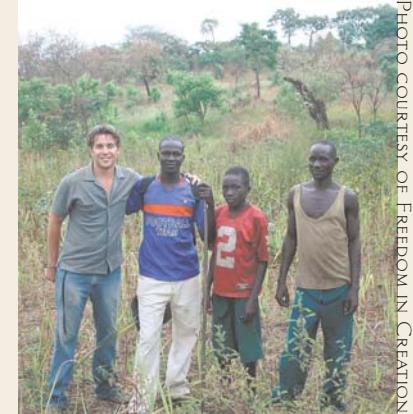
The young boys who found Freedom in Creation did find an outlet to translate their experiences into visual stories. Since FIC's founding, the artwork of former child soldiers has been exhibited locally, across the country, and across the world. Briggs is home in Vienna, temporarily, to continue his mission of building support for his foundation.

"This has great bearing on everyone's lives because we're all connected," said Briggs. "You can look at that connection, economically, technologically, socially. Our tax dollars go into international aid pools that affect this region of the world."

"We have business connections in this part of the world that bind us to a responsibility to help these people."

While living intermittently in Uganda, Briggs recognized that the communities that rescued child soldiers were returned to suffer from inherent problems, such as dirty, contaminated drinking water.

Today, Freedom in Creation has an art center it built in Koroabili, wells that serve 10,000 northern Ugandans with access to clean water and, now, a working farm. The farmland, just last summer, was bush, as Briggs described it.



**Andrew Briggs with 'Tony,' a former child soldier now living on Freedom in Creation's farm who was orphaned when an Ugandan rebel group forced Tony's brother to kill their father. Other villagers not identified.**

Planting began in March of 2011. Now, the farmers are ready to harvest their first crop of beans, vitamin-enriched sweet potatoes, corn, carrots, lettuce, and tomatoes. They planted 135 banana trees and built two huts and a large piggery. FIC is looking for pigs and goats, and the village's art students merge art creation with farming.

While FIC is continuing to focus on art as therapy and art as education, and access to clean water, FIC is transitioning to equipping the community with the tools to sustain themselves by leveraging local resources, Briggs said. "As agrarian people, their resources are in farming and animal husbandry."

"If they are going to sustain their own water projects, which sustain their own livelihood, they need to earn money. Give them the tools to be successful entrepreneurs in their own communities, and, eventually, they'll no longer need to rely on international aid."

**VIENNA-AREA CITIZENS** support Briggs's campaign. The

SEE LESSONS, PAGE 4

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**THE CONNECTION**  
NEWSPAPERS

## NEWS

# Lessons in Proud Life

FROM PAGE 3

Vienna Rotary Club donated \$1,500 for water projects. A Madeira student from Reston led the effort to create a collaborative project with FIC students. A Vienna resident who teaches art therapy at George Washington University, Elisabeth Warson, has joined the Board of Directors of FIC.

"What Andrew does is truly unique because his approach is holistic. It's more than just art," said Warson.

Briggs is looking for corporate or philanthropic support to maintain and expand FIC's presence in Uganda. Communities, civic groups or businesses can sponsor a well for \$5,000, which will serve 1,000 people.

One of the components of the art program is collaborative art projects, created in conjunction with FIC's Uganda art center students and students from the United States and other countries.

On June 30, Freedom in Creation featured a benefit concert and student collaborative art exhibit at Jammin' Java in Vienna to

raise awareness and funds to support FIC programs. Local children were invited to participate in collaborative art projects prior to the concert which featured musical artists Alex Mejias and Marie Miller. The art of former child soldiers was on exhibit.

"Where we use art therapy, which accesses the non-verbal part of the brain, people find relief in expressing some of the images that way," said Warson. "... that could be psychological relief, relief from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Those are the two most primary things art therapy helps."

Briggs has gotten used to showering by dumping a bucket of water over his head. He and his colleagues are not as worried about the insurgency as they were last year. He has forged bonds and relationships with village people, farmers and the former child soldiers he set out to help.

There's Tony, connected with FIC's program from the beginning. He was once a child soldier who now lives on FIC's farming center for sustainability. Tony gave the land that he inherited to FIC for the farm.

"He is an amazing kid," said Briggs. Tony was orphaned when an Ugandan rebel group forced Tony's brother to kill their father. "It's a profound thing. Despite his pain ... and all of the many difficulties, he is generous, compassionate, and a true source of hope."

**EVEN NOW**, Briggs said, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), continues to abduct children. As they are rescued and assimilated back into their communities, many of these youngsters give back to the communities that embrace them. In Koroabili, they pursue art and are learning to farm the land FIC has developed.

As for his work in Uganda, Briggs calls it "hard, perplexing, humbling and exhausting."

"It's also immensely enriching. The Ugandans with whom I live teach me proud life lessons."

*To learn more about Freedom in Creation or to donate, see [www.freedomincreation.org](http://www.freedomincreation.org). Contact Andrew Briggs at [abriggs@freedomincreation.org](mailto:abriggs@freedomincreation.org).*

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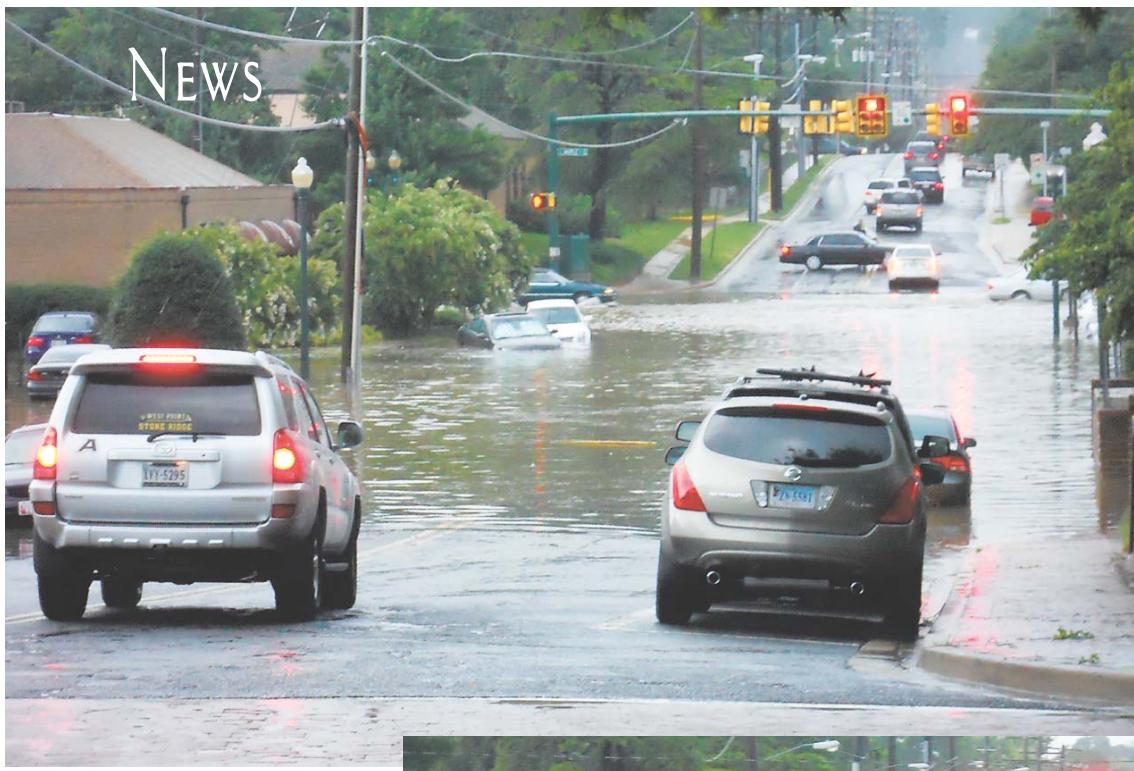
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NEWS

PHOTOS BY STUART MOLL

## Summer Thunderstorm in Vienna

A summer thunderstorm at around 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 13, caused flooding at the corner of Rt. 123 and Center Street in Vienna. These few pictures illustrate the challenges the drivers faced in the downtown area that day.



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# OPINION

## From the CEO

### Statement of Peter C. Labovitz, President and Chief Executive Officer, Connection Newspapers, LLC

JULY 19, 2011

**F**or more than 20 years I have been honored to be President and Chief Executive Officer of the Connection Newspapers, which serve the people of Northern Virginia and suburban Maryland. Since The Alexandria Gazette was founded in 1784, our organization's journalism has played an essential role in our communities.

But like all American newspapers, in recent years the Connection Newspapers have faced daunting technological and economic challenges. We have weathered repeated crises that killed or crippled many others in the news media. I am proud that we have kept these vital community voices alive.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, when the country came to a virtual standstill, our revenues temporarily plummeted. And when the severe recession began in 2007, our revenues plunged again, often failing to cover our operating costs.

During these two periods of great financial duress, our organization filed all of our required tax returns but did not pay all of its federal payroll taxes in full. We initially fell behind after 9/11. Most of the payroll taxes in this period were paid, but some balances remained due. For several quarters in 2007-2008, we again fell short.

As President and Chief Executive Officer of Connection Newspapers, I take personal responsibility for this significant failure in oversight and in the organization's management systems. I am deeply sorry this happened.

I am personally making arrangements to pay the most recent shortfalls in full. We have changed our organization's processes to ensure that nothing like this happens again. We have been current on our payroll taxes for more than three years. No employee of Connection Newspapers has suffered any financial loss whatsoever because of this.

On July 19, 2011, I pled guilty to two misdemeanor charges of failure to make timely payments of payroll taxes in the U.S. District Court in Alexandria. To our employees, our readers, our communities and local and federal governments, I apologize. I understand that newspapers are a public trust and I know our entire organization works hard every day to earn that trust. I will do all I can to sustain that trust as we go forward.

It's my privilege and responsibility to serve as steward of these historic and vital newspapers. I hope to continue in this role. I am committed to doing whatever I can to ensure the Connection Newspapers adapt to these very difficult and challenging times and continue serving our communities for years to come.

## Write

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

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1606 King St.  
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By e-mail: vienna@connectionnewspapers.com

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Sunshine in November?

To the Editor:

It would seem there are strange and questionable things taking place here in Fairfax County Schools. So questionable, in fact, that it is time for an outside forensic audit to be conducted. That audit needs to go back three years and forward two years.

In an article in the Evening Star newspaper from March 1971, alarm was raised because the Fairfax County Public School Superintendent took a week to respond to a series of questions by the Fairfax County Executive. That slow response by the Fairfax County School Superintendent may have been the beginning of our school administration misery.

What have we wrought in 30 years of fiscal mismanagement?

I can tell you.

We have a Fairfax County School Superintendent who now runs the schools and the School Board with an iron hand doling out retribution and favors to subdue those who would question and or confront him. Not only are they now slow in responding, they obfuscate and equivocate in their responses. Additionally, today the citizens apparently have no serious path of appeal.

The School Board has been sued unsuccessfully every year since 2007 by the Citizens of Fairfax County. If anyone thinks these

### SCHOOL NOTES

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

**Nathan Loda** of Vienna graduated cum laude with a bachelor's of fine art in painting from Shepherd University, and was inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. The 2007 James Madison High School graduate is the son of Chris and Mary Lee Loda.

**Lucy Bonacquist** of Vienna has received a bachelor of arts degree magna cum laude from Skidmore College of Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

### Binghams to Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

Robert and Joann Bingham of Vienna will be celebrating their Golden Anniversary on July 22, 2011. They will be honored at a brunch on July 23 hosted by their children.

The couple met in Washington, D.C. and was married there July 22, 1961. They have three children: Danny and wife Christine of Vienna, Steven and wife Kathleen of Vienna, and Cindy of Hagerstown, Md. They have seven grandchildren: Justin and Ashleigh, 15; Jonathan and Lucy, 13; Kyle, 12; Hope, 11; and Andy, 8.

Robert Bingham retired as Deputy Fire Chief in December 1990 after 31

suits are initiated and carried out at huge expense lightly, they are grossly mistaken. There are very serious concerns across the whole of Fairfax County about our schools and their management.

We have a schools administration that has lied to the voters and taxpayers in the little town of Clifton, Va. and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors about reasons to close the Clifton award-winning elementary school.

The School Administration reported reasons, in the aggregate, have become the material of legend for their turpitude. There are those who would argue the underlying purpose was to redirect the \$10M, previously allocated to refurbish Clifton Elementary School, to another application. Unbelievably, among the Fairfax County Public School administration's advertised reasons was to save millions of dollars. To that I would say pshaw. We are already approaching or have exceeded \$15M in costs that can be indirectly and directly attributable to the redistribution of the students who formerly attended a community revered Clifton Elementary School.

Maybe November will bring new school board representation and a little sunshine to the process.

**Bruce Bennett**  
Vienna

**Pablo Sacilotto** of Oakton earned a certificate of participation in the U.S. Treasury Department Challenge Exam. The Randolph-Macon Academy senior is the son of Alessandro and Julian Sacilotto.

Several Oakton residents have been awarded degrees from the University of Mary Washington:

◆ **Lauren Paige De Ridder**, bachelor of arts in music.

◆ **Kristen L. Haynor**, bachelor of science in biology.

◆ **Sofia G. Lang**, bachelor of science in biology.



**Robert and Joann Bingham**

years with the Washington, D.C. Fire Department. Joann Bingham is a homemaker.

## THE CONNECTION

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## NEWS

# Honoring Veterans

FROM PAGE 3

Married just short of two years to Carol, Steve Brock died of hepatitis C complications in 2010. Brock was part of Post 180 until his death. In his memory, Carol Brock bought a brick in Steve Brock's name. Although Carol was too overcome to speak of Steve at the bricklaying, a good family friend offered a characterization of Brock.

"Everyone loved Steve," said Ed Shupp. "When you met him, you liked him."

Kathy Craig and Diann Mishoe described their father, in whose name — Edwin J. Mullin — they dedicated a brick, as a "character." Craig and Mishoe placed Mullin's brick in a spot in the corner where "he could watch over everybody." Mishoe is the wife of Post 180 Commander Phil Mishoe.

Phil Mishoe bought a brick in memory of his father for whom the post commander was named.

Phil Hendrikson, a Post 180 member, honored his father Homer, a World War II veteran who was in George Patton's army, driving the general around. Homer Hendrikson lived in Vienna, and

his son said there were newspaper stories written about his father. Homer also served during the Korean War and died in a plane crash at age 50.

Vi Hulbert, widow of H. Howard Hulbert, referred to her husband, a Post 180 member, as a "good guy."

"I did this to honor him," said the Reston resident.

**THE BRICKS** not only honor war veterans and other heroes but the revenue helps to support the civic programs of the American Legion in Vienna.

Inscribed bricks that are laid in the walkway cost \$50 each and, commemorative or "replica" bricks, those given to family, are \$25. Any person is welcome to buy a brick in honor of someone who has served in the armed forces or who has supported American servicemen and women.

For information on brick dedication at Dyer-Gunnell Post 180, Vienna, call the post at 703-938-9535, and leave a message for Dan Dellinger or Phil Dunn. Post 180 accepts orders on a continuing basis.

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**"When you form a bond with an animal, you start caring about the species."**

— Ashley Rood, animal curator, Reston Zoo

PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

A friendly camel, anxious for a greeting and a handout, approaches a Zoofari wagon as it makes its way around the grassland of the Reston Zoo.

New this year to the Reston Zoo are ducky paddleboats that rent out for \$5 per boat.

## Zoofari, Anyone?

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

Just because it's called the Reston Zoo does not mean the wildlife park is actually in Reston. What it does mean is that the zoo straddles the Vienna-Reston line at Hunter Mill Road and Baron Cameron Avenue. To muddle its position even further, the Reston Zoo is truly a Washington, D.C. metropolitan destination, drawing guests from Virginia, the District of Columbia and Maryland, and beyond. Families, summer camps, preschools and day care centers patronize the nature center daily, from mid-March through Thanksgiving weekend.

On the Reston Zoo's 30-plus acre grounds are a grassland with exotic animals, indoor protected exhibit houses, outdoor habitats, picnic grounds and gift shop.

"This zoo is a good way for kids to get up close and personal to animals they've never seen before, let alone touch and feed," said animal curator Ashley Rood of Herndon. "It's as close as you can get to being out in the wild while still in the city."

**ON THE VAST GRASSLAND**, seen from Hunter Mill Road and Baron Cameron Avenue, are large-hoofed stock, zebra, camels, llama, bison, antelope, deer, and ostrich, all grassland-type eaters. Which is how it is they coexist peacefully. Nobody in the "savanna" is anyone else's lunch.

An admission ticket entitles guests to all exhibits. Wagon rides, also known as Zoofari rides, through the fields housing the free-range animals are free with paid admission. Pony rides are \$4 per ticket and paddle boats are \$5 per boat.

Zookeepers present animal talks at scheduled times, and unscheduled animal walks may occur at any time. Children are always welcome to meet the animals making their rounds.

"When you form a bond with an animal, you start caring about the species," said Rood. At the Reston Zoo are full-grown deer the size of a Sheltie, and deer more common to the area, goats, sheep, pigs, alligators, reptiles, exotic grassland fauna, guinea pigs, and, the newest addition to the zoo, prairie dogs. Spider monkeys take food using their hands or their tails, a baby spider monkey still clinging to his mother's body. There's a plant-filled walk-through aviary and a mini coin-operated carousel that is popular with the little children. Zookeepers walk around the grounds with their charges throughout the day, answering questions and inviting the children to touch the animals.

**THE PETTING BARN**, home to hand-raised babies and gentle farm animals, always draws a crowd. Occasionally, a goat will take a little nip at a finger. It's not that they are aggressive, it's the goats' way of showing they are expecting a food handout. The gift shop sells cups of animal feed, as well as stuffed animals of all sizes and species, and ice cream. A mobile concession stand sells finger food.

"It's a really nice zoo for the age group we have," said Tara Allen, visiting with a contingent of 4- and 5-year-olds from Minnieland Academy in Haymarket. Minnieland corporate communications suggested the Reston Zoo for field trips.

Last winter, the zoo began major renovations which will run to the "closed" season. The zoo is home to 30 exhibits and growing. The prairie dogs, unique to the area, were welcomed to the zoo on July 13. The exhibit is western-themed. "We love themed exhibits because they help to teach the kids where the animals are from and something about them," said Rood.

The Zoofari wagon ride makes three stops along its route through the grassland. The animals, not shy about begging for food or attention, come up to the wagon. Children have the opportunity to feed the animals

## Reston-Vienna zoo features wild animals, petting barn, activities.

greeting them. The wagon rides are scheduled throughout the day and if one wagon fills up, the zoo brings another one in so there is no waiting.

New this summer are ducky paddleboats which visitors can rent for up to 15 minutes for \$5. The paddleboat holds two adults and a child. Everyone, adults and children alike, must wear life vests.

On weekends, the Reston Zoo hosts special presentations. Saturday is Burmese python day when children can touch the 14-foot fat snake. Sunday is alligator feeding day.

Aidan, Austin and Anna Snow accompanied their mom Denise to the zoo. The military family, stationed in Mississippi, was visiting Denise Snow's sister in Fairfax. Snow commented that the Reston Zoo is great, perfect for a half-day outing. "It's small enough that we can maneuver and not be overwhelmed. I can watch my kids easily here."

**THE ANIMAL KEEPING STAFF** all have bachelor's degrees in a science field. Rood, a Virginia Tech graduate, always wanted to work with animals. She started out as a zookeeper and is now animal curator. Watching the zookeepers walking around, cuddling creatures, you can't help but think the staff is sincere.

Every employee is armed with a radio and codes for safety reasons. Staff is alert to children who try to taunt or abuse free-roaming creatures. Teaching children not to harm animals but to respect them is part of the zoo's mission.

"It's important to ingrain in children that animals are important," Rood said. "When you bond with an animal, you bond with the species."

For park information, schedule and pricing, go to [www.restonzoo.com](http://www.restonzoo.com) or call 703-757-6222. The Reston Zoo is located at 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna, at the corner of Hunter Mill Road and Baron Cameron Avenue.

## ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com)

### WEDNESDAY/JULY 20

**Blame Sally, Cindy Lee Berryhill and Rebecca Pronsky** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Michael McDonald and Boz Scaggs** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Blues, ballads and rock. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. [www.wolfttrap.org](http://www.wolfttrap.org).

### THURSDAY/JULY 21

**Larnell Starkey & the Spiritual Seven** 7 p.m. Nottoway Park, 9601 Courthouse Road, Vienna. African-American Gospel. 703-324-SHOW.

**Main Street Community Band** 8 p.m. Veterans Amphitheater, City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. Light classical pieces, marches and popular tunes. Weather permitting. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and a picnic basket. Free. 703-757-0220 or [www.fairfaxband.org](http://www.fairfaxband.org).

**Book Discussion** 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Ascent of Money: a Financial History of the World by Niall Ferguson. Adults. 703-242-4020.

**African Folktales** 2:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Bright Star Theatre presents African tales that have been passed down for generations. All ages. 703-790-8088.

**Murphy's Kids, Irresponsible and Mr. Dr. MC** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

Sweeney Todd, a barber on a murderous path for revenge in London. With the National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by James Moore, and the Wolf Trap Opera Company. Tickets \$20-\$70. [www.wolfttrap.org](http://www.wolfttrap.org).

**FRIDAY/JULY 22**

**Movies in the Park** 8:45 p.m. Glyndon Park, 300 Glyndon St. N.E., Vienna. Call for film and weather information. Free admission, bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating. 703-255-7842.

**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. \$19 adults, \$17 seniors and students. [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

**English Conversation Group** 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. English conversation group. Adults. 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.

**Local Children's Author Judy Link Cuddehe** 10:30 a.m. Barnes and Noble Bookstore, 12193 Fair Lakes Promenade Drive, Fairfax. Oak Hill author-illustrator Cuddehe will read from her recent book about fireflies, "Flash Light!" 703-966-2175.

**Artist's Reception** 7 p.m. The Artists' Atelier, 1144 Walker Road, Suite G, Great Falls. Meet visiting artists Roberta Beasley and Alicia Sommers and fourteen permanent artists.

**Dance to Benefit Lymphoma Research** 7-11 p.m. American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St. North, Vienna. Dance lessons every half hour by Potomac Swing Dancers. Raffles, cash bar, no experience or partner necessary. Advance tickets \$25 at [facebook.com/remissionriders](http://facebook.com/remissionriders), tickets at the door \$30. [remissionriders@gmail.com](mailto:remissionriders@gmail.com).

**Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street** 8:15 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. A fully staged production of Stephen Sondheim's musical about

'Close Encounter,' digital print by Alexandra Sandlin. 'All About Photography' is the Vienna Arts Society's annual judged photography show, at Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. N.W. in Vienna, through July 23. Entries include work by both professional and amateur artists. Open Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 703-319-3971 or [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

**Saturday/July 23**

**Martinez & Guthrie** 5 p.m. Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

**8th Annual Asian Food and Tennis Festival** 10 a.m.-10 p.m. George Washington University.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT. PAGE 10

Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With 35 multi-cultural food and 150 product vendors. Four showcase villages, Heritage India, Wow Philippines, Image of China and Amazing Thailand. Free admission. [info@asianfestivaldc.com](http://info@asianfestivaldc.com).

**Tropical Plants** 10 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Join a walk through the gardens to learn how to grow, propagate and over-winter tropical plants. \$5. Reserve at 703-255-3631.

**Horsemanship Demo, Classes and Fundraiser** 1 p.m. Turner Farm Park, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Lessons for adults and children. Sponsored by The Saddlery. Portion of proceeds to benefit Turner Farm Park.

**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. \$19 adults, \$17 seniors and students. [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

**Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.** 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. Adults. 703-293-6227.

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic** 10 a.m. 1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.

**Plant Clinic** 10 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Masters Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT. PAGE 10

## BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

### WEDNESDAY/JULY 13

**Pauline Shirley Toastmasters Club Meeting** 6:45 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Meets second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. 703-893-5506 or [paulineshirley.freetoasthost.info](mailto:paulineshirley.freetoasthost.info).

**Times** 7 p.m. Edelman Financial Services LLC Headquarters, 4000 Legato Road, 9th Floor, Fairfax. Discover 9 reasons you need to plan, 5 obstacles you'll face, 5 steps that will help put you on the road to financial success, and 4 rules you should follow for managing your investments. \$35 non-members, \$25 members. Register at [www.thewomenscenter.org](http://www.thewomenscenter.org).

### SATURDAY/JULY 23

**Living Fully in Relationships** 10 a.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E., Vienna. A two-part course in how to be more authentic and powerful in our adult significant relationships. The sessions will be highly experiential, including journaling and reflection exercises, small group activities, short lectures to introduce key foundational ideas, skill practice in pairs and discussions. Second session on Saturday, Aug. 6. \$60 non-members, \$50 members. Register at [www.thewomenscenter.org](http://www.thewomenscenter.org).

### SATURDAY/JULY 24

**Avoiding Divorce Court I- How to Negotiate or Mediate a Property Settlement Agreement** 10 a.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St., NE, Vienna. A comparison of mediation and negotiation, strategies and pitfalls to avoid and a general discussion of the issues commonly addressed in an Agreement, from property to support to custody. \$45 non-members, \$35 members; \$85 non-member couples, \$60 member couples. Register at [www.thewomenscenter.org](http://www.thewomenscenter.org)

### MONDAY/JULY 25

**McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia Meeting** 5:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The group is planning an event for Saturday, Oct. 22, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. 703-356-8223.

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FROM PAGE 9

Extension answer gardening questions. Adults. 703-790-8088.

**Local Author Jyoti Sondhi.** 2 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Sondhi discussed her book "Lighting the Lamp Within: Illuminating the Path to Greater Spiritual Awareness." 703-790-8088.

**Emmylou Harris and her Red Dirt Boys.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. [www.wolfrap.org](http://www.wolfrap.org).

**SUNDAY/JULY 24**

**Emma Bailey & SRO.** 6 p.m. Concerts on the Green, Great Falls Village Center, Great Falls. Variety. [www.gfvcca.com/concerts](http://www.gfvcca.com/concerts).

**8th Annual Asian Food and Tennis Festival.** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With 35 multi-cultural food and 150 product vendors. Four showcase villages, Heritage India, Wow Philippines, Image of China and Amazing Thailand. Free admission. [info@asianfestivaldc.com](http://info@asianfestivaldc.com).

**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.** 3 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. \$19 adults, \$17 seniors and students. [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

**Mindy Smith and Tiffany Thompson.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Golden Dragon Acrobats from China.** 3 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Acrobatics, traditional dance, spectacular costumes, ancient and contemporary music and more. Tickets \$15-38. [www.wolfrap.org](http://www.wolfrap.org).

**MONDAY/JULY 25**

**Johnny Reb and Billy Yank.** 2:30 p.m. Woodrow Wilson Library, 6101 Knollwood Dr., Falls Church. Storyteller Gary Lloyd shares true

tales from both sides of the Civil War. Cosponsored by the Erie and John Hopkins Educational and Charitable Trust through the Fairfax Library Foundation. Age 6 and up. Free. 703-820-8774.

**Miranda Cosgrove.** 7 p.m. Filene Center, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. [www.wolfrap.org](http://www.wolfrap.org).

**English Conversation.** 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for adult non-native speakers. 703-242-4020.

**Chris Barrett, Kalliko and The OK Corral.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**TUESDAY/JULY 26**

**One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 2 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Adults. 703-242-4020.

**Tuesday Storytime.** 10:30 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Join us for stories, songs, and activities. Age 1-2 with adult. 703-790-8088.

**Personalized Internet Training.** 2:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. A 45-minute one-on-one Internet training session with a technology volunteer. Call for appointment. Adults. 703-790-8088.

**Amy Lavere "Stranger Me" CD Release.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**WEDNESDAY/JULY 27**

**Jammin' Beach Party.** 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Cody & Bj take you to a musical beach party with surfing, limbo, singing and dancing. 703-757-8560.

**One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 3 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Adults. 703-242-4020.

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# SPORTS

VIENNA/OAKTON CONNECTION SPORTS EDITOR RICH SANDERS  
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## Summertime Football Thrills For Prep School Fans

**Mel Kiper**  
football passing  
tournament comes  
to the area.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

No, it is not yet high school football season in Northern Virginia or around the country. But last week, some of the top high school gridiron players, both locally and across the nation, converged in Chantilly to take part in the Mel Kiper, Jr. 7 on 7 University National Championship Tournament. One of the biggest off-season events anywhere, the non-contact, passing event is meant to upgrade teams' aerial attacks as well as individual fundamentals in a highly competitive setting.

Poplar Tree Park, located off of Stringfellow Road in Chantilly and under the jurisdiction of the Fairfax County Park Authority, was the venue of the 32-team spectacle from Thursday, July 14, through Saturday, July 16. Fast-moving games, played in less than 45 minutes, took place over the three days on the park's two 100-yard turf fields. On one field alone, two games could be played at once with each game utilizing 50 yards of real estate.

Local participating teams from the Northern Region, along with two-time defending Div. 6 region champion Lake Braddock, were Oakton (Concorde District), Lee (Patriot District), and Yorktown (National District).

**THE EVENT'S STAR POWER** came from Mel Kiper, Jr., the well known ESPN college football and NFL pro draft analyst who, along with his wife, was on hand for the entire three days. Kiper kept tabs on all the games but paid special attention to the school where he graduated, Calvert Hall out of Baltimore. The popular, energetic Kiper was immediately recognized by players, coaches, and football fans alike and spent much of his time talking football with folks.

Several months ago, Kiper, who has directed and led his own 7 on 7 University Series for several years, contacted D.C. area pass league organizers, including Oakton High football coach Joe Thompson, to talk about combining forces and creating a national tournament. Last week's showcase at Poplar Tree was the result of those talks.

"Mel Kiper came on board with his group, so we were able to put his name on it," said Thompson, who teamed with friend Jim Boone in recent years to run both Northern Region and metro area passing league tournaments. "He's been instrumental in getting teams here."

Kiper said the arrangements to hold the tournament at Poplar Tree Park were made late but that he was thrilled with the site.

"I can't thank these people enough," he said of the county park officials and Thompson's group. "It's a great atmosphere and everything you want in a football setting. We couldn't be happier with this. We were in the position late in the [organizing] process



**Mel Kiper, Jr. was on hand at Poplar Tree Park last Friday, July 15.**



**Oakton High linebacker C.J. Reimann made the game-clinching interception which helped advance the Cougars to Saturday's final day action.**

waiting for a venue.

"You have two turf fields here, concessions in between the fields and trees in the background," said Kiper. "The atmosphere is great and you have everything you could want. Poplar tree is a special site and they have been accommodating."

**LOCAL TEAMS OAKTON AND LAKE BRADDOCK** both went as far as the tournament quarterfinals before losing. The Cougars reached the quarters by defeating Warwick High (N.Y.), 45-21, on Saturday morning. Their run to a championship then ended with a loss to Calvert Hall, which ultimately reached the title game where it fell to Pulaski (Ark.), 30-26.

Oakton qualified for Saturday's final day action as a result of a dramatic 36-34 Friday afternoon win over Linganore High (Frederick, Md.). Oakton linebacker C.J. Reimann, a rising senior, clinched the victory with an interception late in the game just after the Cougars had taken the lead for good on a touchdown pass thrown by lefty quarterback Tuck Masker.

On the clinching interception, Oakton's Chris Larkin, a safety, deflected the thrown ball, which was then caught by Reimann, who made a long return before ultimately making a lateral of the ball to teammate and cornerback Andy Boone, who picked up a few more yards.

"Chris came up on the play and deflected the ball," said Reimann, a First Team All-Region linebacker last fall for an Oakton team which competed at the Div. 6 playoffs. "I was in the right spot at the right time."

Reimann said it was neat that Oakton, from its own back yard, was vying in a tournament against some of the top high school teams in the country.

"We talked about that," he said, with a laugh. "We're 15 minutes down the road from Oakton and we're playing these teams like Arkansas, Florida, and New York. We've meshed together pretty good as a team and played together."

Oakton, at the passing tournament, was under the coaching of siblings Sean Packey and Purcell Packey. School season head coaches were allowed to be on hand but not allowed to coach their squads. So Thompson, the Oakton head coach during the school year, simply took in the action. He had to like what he saw.

"This has definitely been a lot of fun," said Masker, the Oakton QB.

### SPORTS ROUNDUPS

## Oakton High Golfer Wins State Amateur

**A**manda Steinhagen, a Longwood University sophomore from Oak Hill, won her second straight Virginia Women's Amateur Championship on July 15 at Alexandria's Belle Haven Country Club.

"It's a huge thrill to win two in a row," said Steinhagen, 19.

She won the title by beating another teenager in the final, Ju Hee Bae, 16, from Chantilly. Steinhagen closed out the match on the 14th hole, winning 5 and 4. Bae is a rising sophomore at Chantilly High School and was the runner-up in the 2010 Virginia interscholastic girls championship.

Two rounds of stroke play cut the field to 32 on July 12, and the players shifted to match play. After fairly easy wins in the first two rounds, Steinhagen had two tight matches, with the first in the quarterfinals when she beat Amanda Hollandsworth from Floyd, Va., 1-up. In the semifinals, she needed an extra hole to beat her long-time rival Lauren Greenleaf, also from Oakton.

"Beating Lauren was a big confidence booster for me," Steinhagen said after the finals.

Steinhagen remarked that the past year of college golf helped her game mature, especially the mental side and handling nerves. That experience helped her in the finals.

"It was one of those days when I had to keep myself calm and collected," said Steinhagen.

She led the Longwood women's golf team with the lowest stroke average and won the award for school's freshman female athlete of the year.

"She amazes us," said her father Bob after the final round.

He and his wife Bev beamed as their daughter accepted the championship trophy.

Nancy Duncan, who represented the Virginia State Golf Association at the tournament, said that half of the tournament field was under 21 years of age. The youngest player in the match play portion was 13-year-old Shannon Brooks from Vienna, who lost in the quarterfinals to Bae.

— MICHAEL K. BOHN

**The Vienna Babe Ruth 15-U All-Stars baseball team** captured a district title last week with a 15-3 win over



PHOTO BY MICHAEL K. BOHN

**Amanda Steinhagen, a resident of the Oak Hill section of Oakton, won the 2011 Virginia Women's Amateur at Belle Haven Country Club on July 15.**

Arlington. As a result, the locals have qualified for the state tournament.

In the finals win over Arlington, pitcher Tommy Doyle allowed only one hit and struck out five over three innings of work. John Somers, Ryan Power, and Riley Cummins also pitched. Power, over two shutout innings, did not allow a base hit. Cummins, in one shutout inning, also held Arlington hitless.

At the plate for Vienna, Brian Boehm was 3-for-3 with a triple and Somers knocked a home run.

The Vienna team began play in the 13-team district tournament at Yorktown High School in Arlington with a 12-1 victory against the McLean/Great Falls Team. On the mound, Nick Brady allowed only four hits and struck out five to earn the win.

Offensively in the win over McLean/Great Falls, Kalib Ashcraft had three hits and stole five bases and Riley Cummins had two hits with two RBIs. Vienna also had hits from Bruce Briglia (triple), Chris Kim (2 RBIs), John Somers (RBI) and Andrew Di Francisco (RBI).

The following players make up the Vienna team roster: Eric Alvarez, Kalib Ashcraft, Brian Boehm, Nicholas Brady, Bruce Briglia, Riley Cummins, Daniel Delgado, Andrew Di Francisco, Alec Dolton, Tommy Doyle, Patrick Eason, CJ Graves, Christopher Kim, Ryan Power, and John Somers.

# OPEN HOUSES

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7631 Shreve Rd.....\$725,000..Sun 1-4 .....Eve Shapiro.....Keller Williams..703-517-7511

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12007 Meadowville Ct.....\$754,900..Sun 1-4..Irene Schiffman.....Weichert..703-593-7848  
12526 Ridgegate Dr.....\$699,000..Sun 1-4.....Liam Doherty...Fairfax Realty, Inc..703-975-7366  
1334 Grant St.....\$524,999..Sun 1-4....Ariana Gillette.....RS1..703-655-8415  
13405 Alfred Mill Ct.....\$574,899..Sun 1-4...Donny Samson..Samson Properties..703-864-4894

## McLean

1409 Cola Dr .....\$825,000..Sun 2-4.....JD Callander.....Weichert..703-606-7901

## Oak Hill

12116 Bennett Rd.....\$1,250,000..Sun 1-4.....Lex Lianos.....Weichert..703-340-7470

## Oakton

3347 Lloyd Hill Court.....\$1,190,000..Sun 1-4.....Lee Jones..Samson Properties..703 675-0523  
11305 Walnut Creek Ct.....\$1,325,000..Sun 1-4.....Ashley White.....TTR Sothebys..703-431-1705  
12114 Wayland St.....\$614,900..Sun 1-4.....Lisa Moffett.....Coldwell Banker..703-517-6708  
3179 Summit Sq. #2-A1.....\$225,000..Sun 1-4....Kari Steinberg.....Long & Foster..703-343-5242

## Reston

1220 Wild Hawthorn Way ..No price yet..Sun 1-4...Donny Samson..Samson Properties..703-864-4894  
12153 Purple Sage Ct.....\$308,000..Sun 1-4..Isabelle Brugere.....Weichert..703-244-8788

## Vienna

2701 Bellforest Ct #402.....\$409,000.Sun 1-4 .....Ron Fowler.....Weichert ..703-598-0511  
2701 Bellforest Ct. #409 .....\$330,000.Sun 1-4 .....Ron Fowler.....Weichert..703-598-0511  
201 East St., NE.....\$875,000..Sun 1-4...Karen Chipman.....Weichert..703-255-1585  
717 Hillcrest Dr SW.....\$1,075,000..Sun 1-4....Casey Samson..Samson Properties..703-508-2535

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All listings are due by Monday at 3 P.M.

## HOME SALES

In June 2011, 131 homes sold between \$3,200,000-\$217,000

in the Vienna and Oakton area.

This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$3,200,000-\$600,000 range.

For the complete list, visit [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision
2555 VALE RIDGE CT	5	7	2	OAKTON	\$3,200,000	Detached	1.74	BLACKSTONE AT VALE RIDGE
2253 HUNTER MILL RD	6	6	2	VIENNA	\$1,665,000	Detached	2.31	HUNTER VALLEY ESTATES
2751 MARSHALL LAKE DR	5	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,610,000	Detached	0.89	TIMBER LAKE
2081 HUNTERS CREST WAY	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,600,000	Detached	2.18	HUNTERS CREST
115 KINGSLEY RD	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,520,780	Detached	0.63	CREEK CROSSING VILLA
1803 PILLOW DR	6	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,485,000	Detached	0.83	FULL CRY FARM
2791 MARSHALL LAKE DR	5	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,385,000	Detached	0.87	TIMBER LAKE
10600 HANNAH FARM RD	5	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,375,000	Detached	0.88	HANNAH HILLS
2805 MADISON MEADOWS LN	4	3	2	OAKTON	\$1,240,000	Detached	0.83	MADISON MEADOWS
3002 WESTHURST LN	5	5	1	OAKTON	\$1,230,000	Detached	0.90	WINDSONG
9979 HIDDEN OAKS CT	6	5	1	VIENNA	\$1,212,500	Detached	0.44	HIDDEN OAK ESTATES
9705 MEADOWMERE DR	4	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,200,000	Detached	1.18	MEADOWMERE
421 CYNTHIA LN NE	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,194,870	Detached	0.33	LONGWOOD
3687 WAPLES CREST CT	5	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,160,000	Detached	0.96	WAPLES CREST
12017 WANDABURY RD	4	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,150,000	Detached	0.59	DARTMOOR WOODS
801 PARK ST SE	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,150,000	Detached	0.25	WHEATLEY PROPERTIES
1290 THOMPSON RUN CT	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,128,000	Detached	0.60	MIDDLETON TWO
2704 SILKWOOD CT	5	4	1	OAKTON	\$1,105,000	Detached	0.84	SILKWOOD
906 PLUM ST SW	5	3	1	VIENNA	\$1,075,000	Detached	0.30	VIENNA WOODS
102 WESTMANOR CT SE	6	4	2	VIENNA	\$1,050,000	Detached	0.42	VIENNA
1313 CHAMBERLAIN WOODS WAY	4	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,049,000	Detached	0.83	LITTLE RUN FARM
1706 BROADFIELD LN	4	4	1	VIENNA	\$1,034,900	Detached	0.58	HUNTER MILL ESTATES
8430 IDYLWOOD RD	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$999,000	Detached	0.62	WILLIAMS HILL
2904 OAKTON RIDGE CIR	4	3	1	OAKTON	\$975,000	Detached	0.64	OAKTON MILL ESTATES
2613 POWDERMILL LN	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$975,000	Detached	0.60	OAKTON GROVE
1923 TYSONS TRACE DR	5	5	1	VIENNA	\$975,000	Detached	0.11	TYSONS TRACE
1609 CHATHAMS FORD PL	4	4	1	VIENNA	\$959,900	Detached	0.83	CHATHAMS FORD ESTATES
3251 ROMAN MILL CT	5	4	0	OAKTON	\$954,500	Detached	0.59	WAPLES MILL ESTATES
301 AINSTREE CT	4	4	1	VIENNA	\$950,000	Detached	0.29	AINSTREE
11736 SADDLE CRESCENT CIR	4	3	1	OAKTON	\$920,000	Detached	1.02	FAIRWINDS
1707 RALEIGH HILL RD	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$917,000	Detached	0.58	HUNTER MILL ESTATES
11100 HOLLYBROOK CT	6	4	1	OAKTON	\$898,000	Detached	6.01	HOLLYBROOK
8905 HIGDON DR	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$894,000	Detached	0.83	ANKER GLEN
208 CERET CT	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$880,000	Detached	0.28	WILSON ESTATES
10306 GREENWOOD PL	5	4	1	OAKTON	\$850,000	Detached	0.30	OAKCREST FARMS
1429 LAUREL HILL RD	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$849,000	Detached	0.34	WOLF TRAP WOODS
1819 ABBEY OAK DR	5	4	0	VIENNA	\$810,000	Detached	0.50	CLARKS CROSSING
9032 EDGE PARK RD	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$810,000	Detached	0.50	WOLF TRAP WOODS
10190 HILLINGTON CT	4	3	0	VIENNA	\$810,000	Detached	0.65	HUNTER MILL FOREST
1733 ABBEY OAK DR	4	2	2	VIENNA	\$800,000	Detached	0.48	CLARKS CROSSING
11108 LOCHINVER LN	5	3	1	OAKTON	\$799,000	Detached	0.50	CINNAMON RIDGE
2713 OAK VALLEY DR	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$794,000	Detached	0.47	RANEYVALE
10014 LOCHALSH LN	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$790,000	Detached	0.11	EDGEMOORE
10003 LEAMOORE LN	5	4	1	VIENNA	\$790,000	Detached	0.12	EDGEMOORE
10506 DUNN MEADOW RD	5	3	1	VIENNA	\$790,000	Detached	0.66	ESTATES AT GREAT FALLS
9921 STEEPLE RUN	5	2	2	VIENNA	\$789,500	Detached	0.47	GLENCAINON
10012 LOCHALSH LN	4	4	1	VIENNA	\$788,000	Detached	0.11	EDGEMOORE
11158 TATTERSALL TRL	4	2	1	OAKTON	\$765,000	Detached	0.77	TATTERSALL
2332 AUGUSTUS CT	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$765,000	Detached	0.46	WEDDERBURN STATION
1817 BATTEN HOLLOW RD	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$755,000	Detached	0.54	CLARKS CROSSING
7979 VIGNE CT	4	3	2	VIENNA	\$740,000	Townhouse	0.03	RESERVE AT TYSONS CORNER
101 CUNNINGHAM PARK CT	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$739,000	Detached	0.33	CUNNINGHAM PARK COURT
2232 LOCH LOMOND DR	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$737,500	Detached	0.37	LAWYERS NORTH
1713 LARKMEADE DR	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$730,000	Detached	0.34	TYSONS WEST
11464 BRONZEDALE DR	4	2	2	OAKTON	\$726,000	Detached	0.62	WAPLES MILL ESTATES
1310 STONE MEADOW WAY	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$725,000	Detached	0.47	A COUNTRY PLACE
11317 VALE RD	4	3	0	OAKTON	\$720,000	Detached	1.36	VALE
1807 CLOVERMEADOW DR	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$715,000	Detached	0.57	SUNNYBROOK
1809 BATTEEN HOLLOW RD	3	2	1	VIENNA	\$714,942	Detached	0.67	CLARKS CROSSING
10117B TAMARACK DR	5	3	1	VIENNA	\$705,000	Detached	0.48	TAMARACK
2403 BABCOCK RD	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$700,000	Detached	0.34	LAKEVALE ESTATES
8524 WEST OAK PL	3	2	1	VIENNA	\$700,000	Detached	0.23	WESTWOOD OAKS
9500 LIBERTY TREE LN	4	2	1	VIENNA	\$699,900	Detached	0.31	HAWTHORNE ESTATES
119 FOLLIN LN	3	3	1	VIENNA	\$690,000	Townhouse	0.11	VIENNA VILLAGE
1927 BATON DR	4	3	1	VIENNA	\$686,000	Detached	0.35	

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**Zone 5:** The Potomac Almanac

**Zone 6:** The Arlington Connection

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The McLean Connection

The Great Falls Connection



## Need To Tell

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Then there are those people who definitely should know about your (mine actually) health status – and whom you want to tell, and tell in an extremely timely and considerate manner. People whose friendship you value, whose counsel you seek, whose understanding and support you need, and whose care and concern you cherish. People in your inner circle who are happy to surround you with open arms and warm embraces – literally and figuratively. These are typically the first people on the list to be told anything, especially things pertaining to your health, given the terminal nature of the original diagnosis (I wouldn't tell them if I had a hang nail, but I might tell them if I had a bloody nose; an occasional side effect of the chemotherapy drug, Avastin, with which I am still infused monthly).

But neglecting to tell them, as innocently and as inadvertently as it may sometimes be, causes its own unique set of problems/anxieties. Since these individuals know most of the details of my original prognosis, they're particularly sensitive to not hearing from me regularly, not receiving prompt callbacks and not being kept in the loop. Not so much daily, but frequently enough so that the status of your life is not left to any kind of chance and/or random update/encounter. They want to know, and have a right to know – given the depth and history of their respective relationship with you, so my being casual about what tests I'm having, what results I'm waiting for, what appointments I'm scheduling, etc., may suit my laissez-faire-type approach, but might not suit their respective – and worried – personalities.

All of which doesn't bother me in the least. It matters to me. In fact, it empowers me. However, sometimes it humors me less than others. Sometimes, I don't want to update anybody about anything. Sometimes, I want to mind my own business – literally, and not involve anybody in any of it. Though I respect and appreciate everybody's concern, sometimes I want to make as little as possible about what I'm going through in an attempt to prevent the cancer from consuming my life and freaking me out. And not talking about it, not assessing it in multiple conversations – soon after receiving results, via phone calls, texts, e-mails is almost therapeutic: the less said about it, the better (although I realize one likely has very little to do with the other.) It is my effort, amateurish though it may be, to employ a variety of mind games to manage my emotions and control the spread of my cancer.

It's a real-life version of George Costanza's advice to Jerry Seinfeld on how to beat a Lie Detector test: "It's not a lie, if you believe it." I guess I too am sort of pretending – with conviction, though. If I don't act like my health situation is serious, maybe it won't be serious. And regularly, constantly, communicating with my closest friends and family members – as if something is really wrong with me, might have a harmful effect on me, and since I've already been diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer, I'm hoping that what I don't tell you – as quickly as you want – and deserve – to hear it, won't hurt me.

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



# College Can Wait

Some local high school graduates put off going to college for a year to pursue other opportunities.

By JULIA O'DONOUGHE  
THE CONNECTION

**W**hile most of her friends worried about whether they would get along with their freshman year college roommates last summer, Emily Hunt thought about living with a Mexican host family and attending high school classes conducted entirely in Spanish.

After graduating from McLean High School in 2010, Hunt deferred her acceptance to James Madison University for a year so she could live abroad through an exchange program sponsored by Rotary International.

"I didn't really feel ready to jump right into college life. I wanted to take some time to see more of the world and decide what I wanted to study," said Hunt, whose exchange was sponsored by the Rotary Club of McLean.

Over 10 months, she lived with three host families while she attended an extra year of high school in Aguascalientes, Mexico. She returned from Mexico in June and plans to enroll at James Madison as a freshman this fall.

Hunt said there were many tangible benefits to taking time off between high school and college, typically referred to as a gap year.

For example, she speaks fluent Spanish now and spent time with students from many different cultures. Her classmates not only included other Mexicans but also students on Rotary scholarships from Japan and other parts of the world.

"I became so much more mature over the last year. I was away from my parents for an entire year and I had to handle situations all on my own. Now I feel very confident," said Hunt.

Many students who study abroad through Rotary International go during high school but Hunt worried that credits from a foreign high school wouldn't transfer. She wanted to be able to graduate on time from McLean with the rest of her friends, so she decided to go abroad after high school and start college a year late.

"I figured whatever year I started college, I was going to be able to make friends," she said.

**YET PARENTS**, other students and faculty can be skeptical of the benefits of taking a gap year.

Bruce Pujanauski said he was a little skeptical of his son taking a year off between

high school and college. Kevin Pujanauski won a scholarship with the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange to study abroad at a high school in Germany after he graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in 2007.

"We weren't really familiar with these programs. His older siblings had graduated from high school and gone directly to college. It just wasn't something we were familiar with," said Bruce Pujanauski, who lives in Oak Hill.

But Bruce Pujanauski said he couldn't think of a better experience for his son, who came back speaking and writing German fluently. Now a student at the University of Virginia, Kevin returned to Germany between his freshman and sophomore years of college to intern in Berlin.

"The whole experience was just fantastic for him. He got everything out of it," said Bruce Pujanauski.

Some of Kevin Pujanauski's peers were also a little confused about his plans to go to Germany.

"My friends were like 'What? Huh? You're still going to be in high school?'...It was strange for most students. At TJ, life is all about getting ahead," he said.

Yet Kevin Pujanauski grew a lot as a person during his year in Germany, where he was the only American in his high school. It allowed him to experience the freedom and responsibilities that come with living on your own before he entered college. The teenager, who had never been outside the United States before, also got to visit 10 or 11 other countries.

The trip was not only good for Kevin Pujanauski's personal growth but his professional and academic development. Kevin Pujanauski still sees the benefits of that growth when he goes on job interviews.

"I think in terms of my maturity, the benefit was two or three fold. I worked out a lot of issues that most people have to deal with when they are freshman in college," he said.

**THE COST OF** gap year can also be a deterrent for some families. Some gap year programs, particularly those that are structured and involve international travel, can cost as much as a year of college itself.

Camille Morrow of Alexandria said her parents told her she will have to attend a public university or college after they help pay for her gap year excursions. She plans to attend Virginia Commonwealth University in the fall of 2012.

Morrow, who graduated from T.C. Williams High School in June, is enrolling with National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) program this fall and may be traveling to West Africa in the spring. The costs for NOLS program alone is a little under \$12,000.

"I will need to spend a lot of my free time working but I need to pay them back for some of this," said Morrow, whose parents were very supportive of her taking time off before going to college.



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOUGHE/THE CONNECTION

**McLean High School graduate Emily Hunt deferred her admission to James Madison University so she could spend a gap year going to school in Mexico.**

## Gap Year Resources

Is your child considering taking a year off between high school and college? Here are some helpful websites and books with information on gap years.

- ❖ <http://www.usagapyearfairs.org> - Look for upcoming local gap year fairs during the 2011-2012 school year at this website.
- ❖ <http://www.gapyear.com> - General information on gap years and gap year programs
- ❖ "The Gap Year Advantage: Helping Your Child Benefit From Time Off Before Or During College," by Karl Haigler and Rae Nelson. This book has general tips on the gap year process.
- ❖ "The Complete Guide To The Gap Year: The Best Things To Do Between High School and College," by Kristin White. This book is another "tell all" on taking a gap year.

"I've been in school for so long. I felt like it would be nice to take a break," said Morrow, who will backpack, canoe and camp in the Southwest United States. "I think I will come back more attuned to myself."

**NOT ALL** gap year plans require that a family shell out an immense amount of money for tuition.

For example, Hunt and Pujanauski are both receiving full scholarships to study abroad, which assuaged their parents' concerns about the cost of taking a gap year. Volunteer programs like Americorps — where students can assist flood, hurricane and tornado victims for example — also cover room and board for their participants.

"I think the fact that I received a full scholarship helped. I think [the gap year] would have been a much tougher sell if I had been asking my parents to pay for it," said Kevin Pujanauski.

Some young adults also choose to work during their gap year.

Liam Malakoff is working on getting various Red Cross and wilderness first responder certifications so he is better qualified to get a job in Colorado outdoors community. A recent graduate of T.C. Williams, Malakoff would like to be a whitewater rafting, canoeing or camping guide in the western United States during his time off.

"The one rule I set for myself is that I have to do something. There is no point in taking a year off and not doing anything with it," he said.

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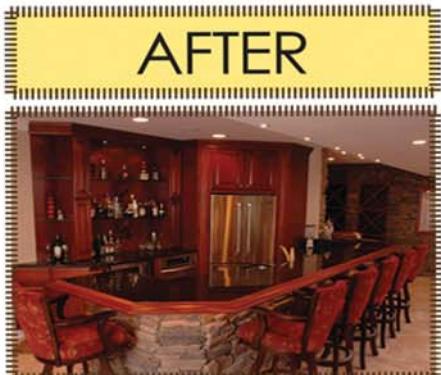
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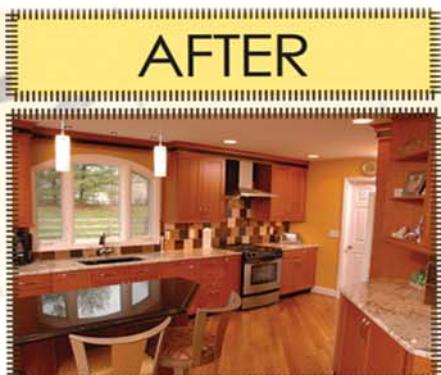


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