

Time To Give

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PHOTO BY DEB COBB / THE CONNECTION

Michelle Dicintio of Vienna and Jim Dunn of Reston drop off 22 food baskets collected by Reston Montessori School at the Reston Interfaith Thanksgiving Food Drive on Thursday, Nov. 17 at Saint John Neumann Church in Reston. Each basket contains roughly \$25 of food and a \$25 gift card for families to purchase perishable items.

Fostering Kindness

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Formula Found To Complete Dulles Rail

NEWS, PAGE 2

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NEWS

Formula Found For Rail

Board of Supervisors to vote on plan Dec. 6.

BY NICHOLAS M. HORROCK
THE CONNECTION

After weeks of negotiation, the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority and federal, state and local "stakeholders" have agreed to a financing plan that would allow the \$6 billion Dulles Rail Project to complete its second phase to Dulles Airport and Ashburn.

But the financing plan is still not a full green light for the troubled project. The agreement stipulates that Loudoun and Fairfax Counties will pay for the \$2.8 billion in reduced Dulles Rail costs. Loudoun County voted last Wednesday to approve the agreement and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is expected to vote on the measure at its Dec. 6 meeting.

IN ORDER TO PAY their share, the two counties will receive some \$250 million in federal loans and another \$150 million from the State of Virginia, but even with the loans, the main source of funding remains the receipts from the Dulles Toll Road, according to several board members.

Mame Reiley said the federal loan should

have been \$1 billion.

Over the next 40 years, the tolls would rise from \$1.25 at the main toll plaza and 75 cents at the ramps to \$9 dollars at the plaza and \$7 dollars at the ramps in 2047. Indeed the first big jump comes in 2013 when the rate will be \$2.75 at the plaza and \$1.75 at ramps and by 2019 a day's commute would be \$8.

But as the tolls rise, many question whether motorists will continue to use the toll road in the volume that MWAA's Wilbur Smith Associates estimated in 2009. According to TOLLROAD news, an electronic trade publication, toll roads can lose riders if rates get too high.

Fred Costello of the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations said in an interview that the rail users and the airlines should pay large bites of this because they are profiting from the rail system to Dulles.

Fairfax Board of Supervisors were told that a key element of shaving \$1.058 billion from the Phase 2 Dulles Rail cost would be to move some \$250 million in construction charges directly to the tax payers of Fairfax County.

In a detailed briefing last summer, federal officials told the Fairfax Board that to save Phase 2 of the Dulles Rail project called for moving the \$136 million cost of a Metro station at Route 28 in Fairfax County and

SEE BOARD, PAGE 7



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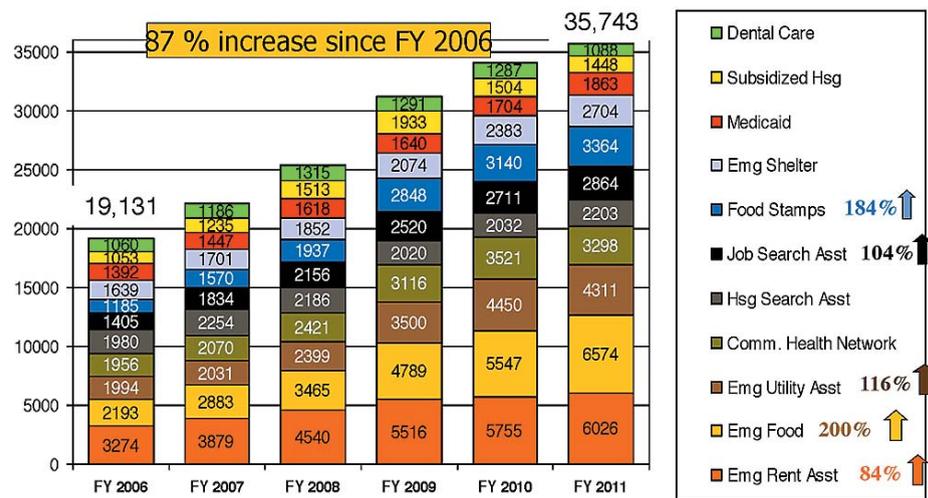
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NEWS

Average daily number of calls to Fairfax County's Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) has steadily increased from an average of 297 calls per day in FY 2007 to 441 per day this year.

"Top 11" CSP Contact Topics (FY06-FY11)



Time to Give

Demand for food, other services increases in Fairfax County.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

On a recent Tuesday night at ECHO's distribution center in West Springfield, the parking lot is jammed, and social workers are busy helping needy families stock up on holiday food, clothing and other necessities.

"Here's an apple pie, mommy. Can we have it?" asks 9-year-old Marjorie, a fourth-grader at Lynbrook Elementary School.

Her mother, Dayance, nods, as she balances Marjorie's baby sister on her hip and sorts through clothing.

"This is a fairly typical Tuesday evening," said Meg Brantley, ECHO's Executive Director. "We are lucky because we have such a generous community. We just got a bumper crop of food from the annual Boy Scout Food Drive, more than 25,000 pounds and the Franconia Police Department donated 3,000 pounds of food, but the need is always there."

Founded in 1969 by nine local churches, ECHO (Ecumenical Communities Helping Others), is an all-volunteer non-profit serving families in the Burke, Springfield and Lorton area. In a store-like setting, ECHO distributes donated emergency food, clothing, and household items, provides transportation and offers a variety of family-counseling and financial-assistance services.

Like many agencies and non-profits in Fairfax County, ECHO has seen a dramatic increase in clients and requests for assistance since the recession hit in 2008.

In 2010, ECHO assisted more than 1,472 households, an increase of nearly 30 percent over FY07.

According to Brantley, the organization also continued its upward trend in food distribution with a record 180,000 pounds of food going out the door to 1,000 households this fiscal year, and a record number requests for financial and housing assistance,



PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Linda McCosky of Springfield fills bags with groceries at ECHO, a charitable organization that provides assistance to those individuals and families in the Burke and Springfield communities experiencing temporary difficulties. She has volunteered with the organization for more than a year. "I do it because it makes me feel good," says McCosky.

such as help paying utility bills.

"We're seeing more of a financial need, people calling for rent and utilities. The foreclosure crisis has trickled down, because it's usually not the owner of the home who needs emergency help, it's the family he's been renting to," said Brantley.

Brantley said the community has come through with donations, and they raised nearly \$30,000 at their bi-annual yard sale, but ECHO's food pantry contains 35 percent less than it did last year.

"We're still giving out about 160 pounds of food per family, but this year it may be a chicken instead of a turkey we're giving for Thanksgiving," Brantley said.

THE STORIES are similar at agencies all across the county.

Social workers say the fallout of the 2008 recession continues to reverberate. People who lost their

SEE AGENCIES, PAGE 4



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

In-need families are invited by CHO to pick up clothing.

Helping Neighbors CHO, civic groups and schools provide clothing and food to cash-strapped residents.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

The needy are not non-existent in the Vienna area. They are likely to fly under the radar of the people living around them. Many of the neediest are the "working poor," immigrants struggling with English who are in menial jobs, and middle-class residents who have lost jobs and suddenly find themselves in hard times.

Service organizations in the Vienna area serve as a safety net for many of these people. With CHO (Committee for Helping Others) with its diverse reach to civic clubs that offer funding, scouts that collect food and schools that have coat drives, the private sector steps up to supplement County and federal services and resources to those struggling to make ends meet.

"We all have a moral obligation to help all people in-need regardless of their color, religion," said Mary Ellen Larkins, publicity chair for the Northeast Vienna Citizens Association (NEVCA).

NEVCA has, for 17 years, collected food and staples to benefit CHO, its annual fall food drive helping to keep CHO's pantry full during the winter months.

"I feel that's it's hard for people in-need to ask for help," Larkins said. "To some, it's an embarrassment."

CHO, in service to the community for 42 years, maintains a food pantry, clothing closet and furniture warehouse, and provides emergency funding to

families who cannot pay their rent or utility bills. During the holidays, CHO collects new toys and bicycles in good condition that are distributed free during its December fair for those in need. Its distribution center is at 133 Park St., NE, open on Mondays, from 9:30 a.m. - noon.

"Donations are holding up but we are seeing an increase in demand for monetary help, for utility bills and rent over the past six months," said Carolyn Mysel of CHO. "We're hoping our donations will continue to keep pace with the need. That's the problem."

CHO receives financial support from its 26-member supporting churches, and from civic organizations, individuals, businesses, and the Town of Vienna. CHO runs the community's Meals on Wheels program.

It holds its annual holiday distribution fair on Dec. 9, from 9 a.m. to noon, at Vienna Presbyterian Church. People who cannot afford clothing and toys for the holidays are invited to pick up clothes, toys and furniture for themselves and family members. Mysel said CHO needs bicycles in good condition, lightly-worn outerwear for people of all ages, new toys for children from newborn to 12

years old, gift cards to discount stores for teens, and food cards from local grocery stores. While clothing can be dropped off at the Park Street location, any other holiday contributions go through Carolyn Mysel. Call Mysel at her CHO number at 703-281-7614, box #1, at any

SEE SUPPORT, PAGE 4

Agencies Report High Demand

FROM PAGE 3

jobs in 2008 or 2009 are draining personal savings, and the clock is ticking on social safety nets such as unemployment and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) benefits, which provide a two-year cushion at best.

"What is particularly alarming is that many of the families calling are unemployed, and have been for a while," said Lisa Whetzel, executive director of Our Daily Bread (ODB), a non-profit serving Fairfax County's working poor for 25 years. More than half of ODB's clients are children.

"The low-wage jobs are decreasing. Some families that request utility assistance have been without electricity for over a month. They exhausted their personal resources and nonprofit resources and literally were living in the dark. Now that the temperature is dropping they are desperate," Whetzel said.

Since July of 2011, ODB has been tracking the number of clients they have to turn away who request financial assistance.

"The number is 60 families a month, and rising. And these are people that are able to work, but just cannot find work," Whetzel said. "The low-wage jobs that were once there for them, are just not there anymore."

At ODB, there is a steady waitlist for food assistance. "Another way that we track the need for food assistance is the number of requests for one-time emergency deliveries we make to families in dire need of food. This number averages 10 per month. Last month we made 21 deliveries. And we are leaning in that direction again this month," she said.

Food for Others, the largest direct distributor of free food in Northern Virginia, reported it delivered a record 2.7 million pounds of food to an average of 125 families a day last year.

"We are always slammed," said Lynne Galanis, Food for Other's finance director.

"This is our busy time of year, and we're seeing a sustained high volume of calls," said executive director Roxanne Rice.

John Horejsi, founder and coordinator of SALT (Social Action Linking Together), said Catholic Charities of Arlington has experienced a 450 percent increase in requests for emergency assistance from families, "With 17 tons of food delivered, Catholic Charities say they are still dangerously low on grocery supplies," Horejsi said.

FACETS, a Fairfax-based non-profit committed to helping vulnerable families struggling with homelessness, has also seen a surge in needs for services.

"At one point during the recession, we saw a 60 percent increase in our services," said Amanda Andere, FACETS executive director. "Since there has been such an increase in the amount of services requested, and the time we need to spend working with our clients to break the cycle of poverty and homelessness, the donations are not keeping up with this increased need."

"The call volume for assistance countywide has gone through the roof," said Patricia Stevens, director of the county's Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP3). "People are living close to the margin, and something like losing that second job, or running out of savings, can tip the balance."

The Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP3) serves as a clearing house and point of contact for public agencies, non-profit organizations, and businesses.

Stevens said Fairfax County's Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) tracks the volume and type of calls



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Patricia Stevens, executive director of Fairfax County's Office of Public Private Partnerships (OP3), unveils its new "12 Days of Giving Calendar."

that come into its hotline.

In 2007, CSP had five "high volume" days with more than 400 calls. In 2010, there was a 60 percent jump in days when social workers were handling more than 400 calls, and one in every five days had more than 500 calls.

AVERAGE DAILY CALL VOLUME has steadily increased from an average of 297 calls per day in FY 2007 to 441 per day this year. Since August 2006, there has been a prolonged increase in the number of requests to CSP, which is one indicator, Stevens said, of economic stress in the community.

And while Fairfax County still ranks as one of the wealthiest in the nation, the number of residents living in poverty (considered to be less than \$60,000 annually for a family of four) increased 33 percent from 2000 to 2009, according to a report released by Fairfax County's Human Services Council this month. Nearly 58,000 county residents currently live in poverty.

According to Fairfax County Public Schools, more than 2,000 Fairfax County Public School students were identified as homeless during the 2010-11 school year, and one in four FCPS students is eligible for free and reduced lunches.

Despite the bleak statistics, there are bright spots.

"We are a caring community, and people are extremely generous this time of year," Rice said. "It's a double-edged sword. People are taken over by the holiday spirit, and we're able to provide for the demand, but the demand for food is there in January and February too."

"Overall, Fairfax County has done better than many parts of the country. We're a vibrant community of diverse people who want to give," Stevens said, "but they are not always aware of how to give so that their donations stay in the community. What I find is that it's a matter of raising awareness, which is something we're all trying to do."

Where To Give

Consider donating to one of these local organizations this holiday season.

In addition to the organizations listed below, Fairfax County maintains an online database of human services organizations that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to anyone with internet access. The Human Services Resource Guide is a database of public, non-profit, and some private for-profit organizations that provide human services to Fairfax County residents. The database includes descriptions of services provided, access criteria, location and contact information among other information. To access the Human Services Resource Guide, click on the following link: fairfaxcounty.gov/rim/default.asp. Visitors to the site are able to search by a service category and/or organization name.

❖ The Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic, 13525 Dulles Technology Drive, Herndon, VA 20171, 571-235-3577. Last year, 139 community volunteers — nurses, nurse practitioners, and physicians — gave more than 1,300 hours of their time to see patients. jsfreeclinic.org.

❖ Alternative House — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-506-9191. www.thealternativehouse.org.

❖ Reston Interfaith, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, www.restoninterfaith.org. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program and the Thanksgiving Food Drive.

❖ SHARE of McLean seeks donations of grocery gift cards. Gift cards can be dropped off at SHARE, c/o McLean Baptist Church, 1367 Chain Bridge Rd. on Wednesdays and Saturdays (except Thanksgiving week) 9:30 a.m. - noon. Checks and gift cards can be sent to: Holiday Celebration, Share, Inc. PO Box 210, McLean, VA 22101. 703-284-2179. www.SHAREofMcLean.org

❖ LINK, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more, needs contributions of food, coats and holiday toys for children, plus volunteers. Email Lisa Lombardozzi at LisaLombo@signaturecos.com. 703-437-1776 www.linkagainsthunger.org

❖ FACETS — Information about supply donations and FACETS holiday gifts drive is available on the website at www.facetscares.org. Additionally, FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. People who are interested in volunteering can contact 703-865-4251 or volunteer@facetscares.org.

❖ Our Daily Bread — ODB has been serving disadvantaged families in Fairfax County for 25 years. For more information on their holiday programs, including how to sponsor a family, go to www.odbfairfax.com.

❖ Food for Others — Food for Others is the largest distributor of free food directly to people in need in Northern Virginia, provides the assistance needed by unemployed and low-income neighbors. The non-profit provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. Located at 2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA 22031, 703-207-9173. www.foodforothers.com

❖ Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO), 703-569-9160. Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield. www.echo-inc.org.

Supporting The Needy

FROM PAGE 3

time prior to Dec. 9. The community is welcome to bring new unwrapped gifts for children and teens to VPC on the morning of Dec. 9.

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, such as the Rotary Club and the Lions, churches, local businesses and individuals donate cash that CHO uses for emergency responses.

"Even in spite of all the affluence, the blessings we have here, there is still a substantial number of people who have needs," said Vienna Rotarian Keith Bodamer. Rotary donates funding to existing organizations that serve the community — people with unmet needs — directly. "Many of these people are under the radar," said Bodamer.

"We don't have homeless people sleeping on corners around here, but we do have needy people." Not all needs are purely economic, either, Bodamer said. To an older person who needs a ride to the doctor's office or a prepared meal, he or she is a person in need.

NEVCA is collecting canned hams, canned stews, powdered milk, Velveeta cheese, diapers and laundry detergent. "We have an increasing need for food and money, especially over the colder months when people have higher heat bills and need warm clothing," said Mysel. "We really have a supportive community in Vienna."

To learn more about CHO or to contribute, go to http://www.cho-va.com/cho_home.html.

WEEK IN VIENNA

Free Seminar on Youth Sports Injuries

"Youth Sport Injuries and Concussions: What You Need to Know" will be held on Nov. 30, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, SE. Dr. Matthew Levine of INOVA Health Systems will discuss initial on-field evaluation, post injury management and return to play implications, as well as complications resulting from multiple concussions.

The seminar is free and open to all parents and others invested in children's welfare. Register in advance by calling Vienna Parks and Recreation at 703-255-6360 or by visiting www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=82.

Christmas Tree Sale at Vale Church

Christmas tree sale begins Saturday, Nov. 26, at Vale United Methodist Church, 11528 Vale Road, Oakton. Tree sale hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays; and 6 to 9 p.m. weekdays. Fresh-cut trees, including Fraser Fir, Douglas, Canaan and Blue Spruce will be available. Wreaths and pine roping will also be for sale. Enjoy free hot cider and cookies while looking for a tree. Tree delivery to homes or businesses is available for an additional fee. This year all tree sale proceeds will be donated to Stop Hunger Now, an international hunger relief organization (www.stophungernow.org). For more information contact Vale UMC at 703-620-2594 or Vale.Church@verizon.net.

Send Wish Lists to Santa

Children are invited to send their lists to Santa care of his elves at the Vienna Community Center. To guarantee a reply from Santa himself, mail letters by Dec. 1 to Santa, c/o The Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna, VA 22180.

For more information, call Vienna Parks and Recreation at 703-255-6360, or view page 7 of the Winter Parks and Recreation Brochure online at www.viennava.gov

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OPINION

Children's Connection

Call for student artwork and writing; deadline Dec. 5.

During the last week of each year, The Connection devotes its entire issue to the creativity of local students and children. The results are always remarkable. It is a keepsake edition for many families.

The annual Children's Connection is a tradition of well over a decade, and we begin getting inquiries from teachers and parents about submitting artwork and writing almost as soon as summer is over.

We publish artwork, poetry, essays, creative writing, opinion pieces, short stories and photographs.

We ask that all submissions be digital so they can be sent through email or on CD. Identify each piece of writing or art, including the student's full name, age, grade and town of residence, plus the name of the school, name of teacher and town of school location.

Please provide the submissions no later than Thursday, Dec. 8.

Some suggestions:

- ❖ Drawings, paintings, photographs of 2-D and 3-D artwork that have been digitally photographed or scanned as .jpeg files.

- ❖ Short stories, poetry, essays, class-wide prompt writings.

- ❖ Opinion pieces about family, friends, movies, traffic, sports, food, video games, toys, trends, etc.

- ❖ News stories from school newspapers.

We welcome contributions from families, public and private schools, individuals and home schoolers.

Email submissions for the Vienna/Oakton, McLean, Great Falls, Reston and Oak Hill/Herndon Children's Connections to ChildrensNorth@connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for Springfield, Burke, Fairfax, Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connections to ChildrensSouth@Connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for the Potomac Almanac to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for the Arlington Children's Connection to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for the Children's Centre View to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

Email submissions for the Children's Gazette in the Alexandria Gazette Packet or Mount Vernon Gazette to Steven Mauren at smauren@connectionnewspapers.com.

To send CDs of artwork or CDs of typed submissions, mark them clearly by school and/or hometown and mail the CD to Children's Connection, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Kurspahic Takes over as Editor of Four More Papers

Kemal Kurspahic, longtime Connection managing editor, has taken the helm of the Springfield Connection, Burke Connection, Fairfax Connection and Fairfax Station/Lorton/Clifton Connection. He adds these responsibilities to his editing of the Vienna/Oakton Connection, McLean Connection, Great Falls Connection, Reston Connection and Oak Hill/Herndon Connection.

Kurspahic, who has won some of the most prestigious international awards as well as

many awards for local news coverage, focuses on a well-honed local mission with a lean team of reporters, photographers and freelancers, as well as editorial assistant Amna Rehmatulla.

Kurspahic was among the 50 World Press Freedom Heroes named more than a decade ago, honored again in Vienna, Austria in September, 2010.

In December 1988, Kemal Kurspahic was named editor-in-chief of Oslobodjenje, Sarajevo's 70,000 circulation daily newspaper, the first editor of that paper not appointed by the Communist Party. Then after the communists were ousted, Kurspahic maintained editorial independence against a coalition of nationalist parties who wished to control the press.

During the siege of Sarajevo, with snipers' bullets flying, shelling which destroyed the paper's building, no electricity and very little newsprint, Kurspahic guided the paper's multi-ethnic staff in a nuclear bomb shelter, publishing the paper, providing one of the city's only sources of information. Often its pages were filled with lists of the dead.

A U.S. citizen since 2001, Kurspahic is the author of several books, including "As Long as Sarajevo Exists" and "Prime Time Crime." He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard, Senior Fellow at the U.S. Institute for Peace and also worked for the United Nations.

Questions? Comments? Story ideas? You can reach Kurspahic at Kemal@connectionnewspapers.com.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM; ON TWITTER @MARYKIMM

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Paradigm Shift Needed in FCPS

To the Editor:

With a quasi-new School Board and the recruitment of a new superintendent, this system has the opportunity to reinvent itself, not just in rhetoric but in words and action. FCPS has had a great reputation, some of it built on old laurels. This is an opportunity to create a place where children can actually become. A place where homework is not four hours a night of senseless seatwork and where the stress level rivals a combat zone. It isn't good for humans — students, teachers, parents, administrators. The efficacy of homework is debatable, and many educators now say that it is completely without merit. It dominates our family lives and creates an atmosphere of micromanagement. I recently realized that my children would soon be grown and I have spent 12 years "getting through it"

with small periods of happiness between big fights with teachers and administrations.

What if we created a place where people felt welcome? What if we actually created emotional safety? What if homework was given only to the degree that it was meaningful and reasonable? (I still remember the wonderful elementary school teachers who "assigned" an hour of play outside). Studies show that trust and rapport are the most important aspects in seeking to enhance education and outcomes. (tests!) Ask yourselves this: how would you feel about a workplace where you were so closely monitored that you could do nothing right, where social interaction was not only discouraged but punished? Repressive and controlling policies like security cameras and the disgusting discipline policy create a toxic environment. We can learn from the research on community oriented policing that by creating an environment where no one feels

safe and everyone is under suspicion, bad events will happen, and are actually caused by these policies.

In this political cycle I was encouraged that some candidates for school board actually seem to get it. They ran on changing the horrific outcomes of zero tolerance. They acknowledged that this policy is not only harmful, but lethal. It is unfair, undemocratic and a violation of our children's civil liberties. It can strike your child, regardless of how accomplished, honest, hardworking or "good" they are.

I am hopeful that FCPS will un-hinge itself from some of these repressive tactics when they seek, and hopefully are granted, a waiver from some aspects of NCLB, the most harmful and poorly conceptualized piece of legislation ever launched against children and parents.

We need a system that starts from a simple place: the love of children. Some administrators

love buildings, and some love their jobs. You may say that this is simplistic but it is a critical starting place for change. Our schools must be student-centered, they must be built and designed, philosophically and literally, with students first.

Jan Falk, LCSW
Fairfax Station

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.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410.
By e-mail:
vienna@connectionnewspapers.com

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Board to Vote On Dulles Rail

FROM PAGE 2

\$105 million in parking garages at the Herndon-Monroe and the Route 28 stations to Fairfax County.

The series of cost cuts envisioned by Ray LaHood, the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, would reduce the total cost of Phase 2 from some \$3.5 billion to \$2.767 billion which was more in line with figures proposed when the project got underway.

As part of the deal, Fairfax County is expected to seek public-private partnerships to build the garages and the Metro station, allowing private contractors to share in parking fees and advertising revenue.

IN ADDITION to shifting costs to Fairfax, LaHood's plan would junk the idea of a \$912 million underground airport Metro station near the terminal and build a \$350 million station next to the airport's north garage. It was the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority's proposal to build the underground station that set off nearly a year of political wrangling and warnings that the Metro project might end at Tysons Corner.

Under LaHood's proposal the nearly \$80 million cost of two parking garages in Loudoun would be shifted to Loudoun's tax payers.

LaHood trimmed another \$135 million from the estimate mainly by reducing the yard and shop facilities by \$81 million and using steel rather than concrete at a savings of \$35 million.

But the conundrum for Fairfax Supervisors is how they could raise an additional \$250 million.

LaHood used TIFIA to assist Loudoun and Fairfax Counties in enticing public-private investment and helping to defray the costs associated with the assumption of Phase 2 parking facilities and the Route 28 station.

Meanwhile, Friday the House and Senate both approved legislation that will prohibit members of the MWAA from serving past the end of their term and would allow for all members to be removed for cause.

The bill also provides for membership in MWAA to be increased from 13 to 17 and gives Virginia two new appointments. Maryland and the District of Columbia will each get an additional member.

FAITH NOTES

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

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean, Sunday worship services are at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for adults is at 9:30 a.m. and for children during the

10:30 a.m. worship service. Youth Group for grades 7-12 meets Sundays at 6 p.m. A 20-minute service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at 12 p.m. 703-356-3312 or umtrinity.org.

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. www.jssa.org/growth-learning.

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.

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body & Soul Fitness. Balance is key, energy is renewed and strength is gained. 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org.

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Plus, be a part of the acclaimed annual *Children's Connection*, December 27, deadline December 14

Be a part of our new Wellbeing pages
 the first week of every month.
 Special focus on New Year's Resolutions, first week of the New Year, deadline December 14.

Delight in our HomeLifeStyle sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our A-plus: *Education, Learning, Fun* pages, the third week of every month. Plus be a part of the acclaimed annual ***Children's Connection***, Dec. 27, deadline Dec. 14

Questions? E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com
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NEWS

Vienna 6th-grader Directs Film about Tajik Orphans

Colvin Run student's movie premieres in D.C. theatre.

By AMIEE FREEMAN
THE CONNECTION

Sohrob Fatoorechie, the 11-year-old director and 6th grader at Colvin Run Elementary in Vienna, arrived at the Avalon Theatre in northwest Washington, D.C., Sunday, Oct. 30 via stretch Hummer. He was on hand for the U.S. debut of his 29-minute film, "Eye of the Beholder," about life in Tajik orphanages.

John Griffin, director of the Children of Central Asia Foundation, asked Fatoorechie to travel to Tajikistan last year following a casual comment made by Fatoorechie while Griffin was speaking with Fatoorechie's parents.

"One day John was over at our house discussing his frustrations in

getting publicity for his new foundation. Sohrob was listening to the conversation and said that if John is interested in telling children's stories, the story should be told from a child's point of view," said Sohrob's mother, Banafsheh Fatoorechie.

THIS CASUAL COMMENT led to several months' worth of discussions between the Fatoorechie and Griffin. In the end, Fatoorechie traveled to Dushanbe, Tajikistan last summer to meet and live with orphans in a Tajik orphanage.

According to Griffin, approximately 400 people RSVPed to attend the film screening at the Avalon, which the foundation rented for a few hours Sunday afternoon. The number of people in the audience seemed to surprise and please, but not intimidate, Fatoorechie.

"Only in my wildest dreams did I think of seeing this crowd and speaking in front of so many people," said Fatoorechie prior to the showing of the film.

Fatoorechie and his mother gave



Sixth-grader at Colvin Run Elementary in Vienna, Sohrob Fatoorechie (in white Oxford) poses with friends and classmates in front of the marquee at the Avalon Theater in northwest Washington, D.C. prior to the U.S. debut of his film, "Eye of the Beholder." The 29-minute film is a look at the life of orphans in Tajikistan.

brief introductions to the film. Both Fatoorechie and his mother told of Fatoorechie's early interest in film-making.

"Sohrob has always been interested in making movies. When he was around 5- or 6-years-old he started filming his Lego creations.

Then there was a school project when he was in the 4th grade. He didn't want to do it and had procrastinated. Finally, the day before it was due he made a DVD for the project. The teacher saw and loved it. Other teachers and students saw it; everyone loved it. From that

project he has received a lot of incentive to do more films," said Banafsheh Fatoorechie.

"Film-making is something I want to do for the rest of my life," said Fatoorechie.

Fatoorechie, along with his father, who stayed in Dushanbe for

two weeks, and a support crew, spent four weeks in Dushanbe. During this time Fatoorechie got to know the orphans living in the orphanage. He interviewed them about their life, their memories and their hopes. These interviews are the basis of "Eye of the Beholder," the beholder being another child, Fatoorechie.

THE STORIES Fatoorechie elicited during the interviews were emotional. Some children had only distant or no memories of mothers and fathers; others had distinct memories of abandonment. One child had arrived at the orphanage after the death of a grandmother who was caring for the child in the parent's absence. The majority of children interviewed were boys. He did speak with one girl who sang a very haunting song about her memories of her mother. Fatoorechie said the children were about his age, pre-teens to teenagers.

During a question and answer session following the film, Fatoorechie did say that he felt guilty asking the children such dif-

icult questions and felt that he was "causing them emotional pain." Nonetheless, he felt their stories needed to be told.

"I believe making this film was a life-changing experience for Sohrob," said Banafsheh Fatoorechie. "He told me two profound things about this experience. He said that despite the pain of not having parents, these kids are so filled with joy for life. He also got a great sense of what it means to be grateful."

The Children of Central Asia Foundation was created in 2009 by Griffin, a U.S. Agency for International Development contracting officer working in Central Asia. Griffin, during his time in the Central Asian republics of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, became acquainted with the plight of orphans in these countries. Since the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, vulnerable groups, such as orphans, have received marginal support from the governments of the newly emerged states. The goal of Children of Central Asia Foundation is to provide support to the



Sohrob Fatoorechie with friends and classmates from Colvin Run Elementary in Vienna pose in front of the Avalon Theater.

orphans and help them to transition to adulthood.

"Once these orphans turn 18 they must leave the orphanage. What I want to do is build halfway houses for vocational training, to give them the opportunity to become independent. Working with

these orphans is my passion in life," said Griffin.

Children of Central Asia Foundation is a registered nonprofit international humanitarian organization. More information about the foundation can be found at www.childrenofcentralasia.org.

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After my mother died, I was taken in by poor relatives at the age of 3. I was moved by the sacrifices they made to care for me. These kinds of life events caused me to think about what I am doing for others. Inspired, I became an activist social worker, devoting time to impoverished people. After speaking at a Catholic Charities conference about homelessness and hunger, eight individuals in the audience decided to join me to take action. I learned that Virginia was charging sales tax on food stamps. Virginia was scraping \$9.5 million of food aid off the top of the federal food stamp program for families at risk of hunger. Outraged, our group went to Virginia to lobby their cause. When nothing happened in Richmond, I contacted Sen. Edward Kennedy, who discovered that 18



John Horejsi

PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

other states were also taxing folks in need of food stamps. Thanks to the combined efforts of our group and sympathetic politicians, the tax was prohibited in all 19 states. Heartened by our success, SALT (Social Action Linking Together) was founded. When word spread of our tax-removal success, SALT membership grew from eight to more than 150. We now stand at more than

1,000. SALT seeks to keep social justice issues front-and-center at the Virginia General Assembly. One legislator told me, 'Whenever we have a hearing, if the issue is for rich people, you can't get in the door. But when we're talking about poor folks, the room is empty.' Encouraged, SALT began diligently tackling new problems. Legislators have said the thing they really respect about SALT is that we're not asking anything for ourselves, but for those most desperate and in the greatest need.'

— JOHN HOREJSI, FOUNDER AND COORDINATOR OF SOCIAL ACTION LINKING TOGETHER (SALT), VIENNA

"I work at Food for Others, the largest direct distributor of free food directly to families in Northern Virginia. I volunteered for two years prior to coming on staff at this incredible organization. I am humbled every day by our clients as well as our volunteers. I share a birthday with one of our favorite clients and there is always a hug and a special chat when she comes in. She is just one of so many special people we serve and that we care so much about.

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Lynne Galanis of Great Falls

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—LYNNE GALANIS, FINANCE MANAGER FOR FOOD FOR OTHERS, GREAT FALLS

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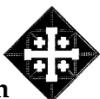
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NEWS

Flint Hill School Singers Share Songs with Top Collegiate, High School Groups

The Major Minors, Flint Hill School's award-winning a cappella group, visited New England over the last weekend in October to hold workshops with some of the top secondary and collegiate a cappella groups in the country. It was the tenth year in a row that this Flint Hill School group has made such a tour.

Their stop at Berklee College of Music in Boston provided an opportunity to trade songs and arrangements with the Pitch Slapped, winners of this year's Varsity Vocals International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA), who also appeared on the 2010 season of NBC's *The Sing Off*. Two members are back on the show this season as part of the group Delilah.

"It is an amazing experience for our students," says Dr. Tim Mitchell, Flint Hill's Director of Fine Arts, "and the Berklee group told us that the workshop was just as inspiring for them." The Major Minors has won a spot on the annual "Best of High School A Cappella" album seven times. Produced by Varsity Vocal, their latest album, "Flip the Script," is available on iTunes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLINT HILL SCHOOL

The Major Minors perform for a Flint Hill School Open House on Nov. 13.

The Flint Hill students also visited Harvard University, where they were hosted by two award-winning groups, "The Harvard Callbacks" and the Harvard-Radcliffe Veritones, and attended a combined Fall Concert in Sanders Theater at the University's Memorial Hall. In Providence, R.I. they exchanged workshops with two more groups, this time at the high school level: The 18 Wheelers from The Wheeler School and The Versitones from Moses Brown School. A reunion of sorts oc-

curred when the group met up with Moses Brown faculty member Allie Jones, who helped found The Versitones and is an ICAA judge. In 2001, Jones was working in the FHS Admission Office when, along with several student leaders, she helped found the Major Minors.

The Major Minors will perform in a Winter Concert in Olson Theater on Flint Hill School's Lower and Middle School campus on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 7:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.



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Here's What's Happening at MCC



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Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

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PHOTO BY
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION

Oakton Football Enjoys Another Winning Season

First year head coach Jason Rowley leads Cougars to 8-3 record.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Oakton High's football season ended with a first round Northern Region Div. 6 playoff loss to visiting Lake Braddock two weeks ago. Nonetheless, for a Cougars' team which competed in one of the toughest districts in the state and was under a new head coach, the season overall was highly successful.

Oakton was under the leadership this season of head coach Jason Rowley, a former Oakton assistant under the program's previous head coach, Joe Thompson.

Thompson, following many successful seasons with Oakton, stepped down this past offseason. Rowley was a natural replacement, having been a part of the program. He knew the Oakton players, their strengths and weaknesses and his hiring made for a smooth transition.

As a result, Oakton football continued its winning ways with an overall record of 8-3. The Cougars began the season with a dominating 55-17 victory over visiting cross-town rival Madison on Sept. 2. Madison, like Oakton, was also under a new head coach in Lenny Schultz, a former Warhawks' assistant coach. Madison, despite its tough opening week loss, would ultimately emerge into a winning team and finish second in the Liberty District and qualify for the Div. 5 playoffs where its season would end with a quarterfinals playoff loss to South County. Madison, under Schultz, finished an impressive 7-4 this season.

Oakton, following its season opener win over Madison, went on to win its next six games for an outstanding 7-0 start. Key wins during that stretch came over South County, 21-7, in week two, and Chantilly, 21-14, in week seven. South County upset Stone Bridge in a Div. 5 semifinals game this past Friday night and will meet undefeated Yorktown this weekend for the Div. 5 title. The Stallions of South County, after an 0-3 start this season, have won nine straight.

Oakton, following its 7-0 start, lost its first game

the following week to visiting Concorde District rival Westfield, 35-10, on Oct. 21. Westfield was also unbeaten going into that game. Currently, the Bulldogs, still undefeated at 12-0, are preparing to face district opponent Centreville for this week's Div. 6 title game.

Following Oakton's loss to Westfield, the Cougars bounced back in strong fashion with a 42-8 win at district rival Robinson on Oct. 28 to improve their record to 8-1. But Oakton's momentum was hurt in a 42-14 home loss to district foe Centreville in the final game of the regular season.

Then, with an 8-2 regular season record, Oakton saw its season end the following week with the playoff loss to Lake Braddock, the two-time defending Div. 6 region champions who ultimately saw its season end with a semifinals round loss at Centreville last Friday.

"I felt like we had a good season overall," said Rowley, the Oakton coach. "It certainly didn't end the way in which we had envisioned so, of course, there is some disappointment with that. However, I think as we get some distance from that and reflect back on the season we, as a program, should be proud of what we accomplished. We ended the regular season with an 8-2 mark. We hosted a first round playoff game, something we haven't done since 2008. We improved our district record from a year ago. When we faced adversity throughout the season, the players were able to confront it head on and overcome it."

ROWLEY SAID one of the biggest factors in his team's winning season was the leadership displayed by the team's seniors, who excelled both on the field and in the classroom at Oakton. The guidance of those 12th graders on the roster only made things easier for Rowley as he got his feet wet as head coach.

"The thing that I am most proud of is our seniors," he said. "They are a great group of young men who are not only good football players, but also good people. As a group, they get excellent grades in school, they are responsible, and they are willing to sacrifice for the betterment of the group. The majority have maintained above a 3.5 [GPA] throughout their time here at Oakton. That is no easy task trying to balance the requirements of their academics as well as their athletics. I look forward to the future to see these seniors excelling in college and beyond. They will be doing great things in the years to come."

Oakton Shines at State Meet

Cougars finish third on boys' side while girls take fourth place.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The Oakton High boys' and girls' teams, on a gorgeous fall, sunny day, put together outstanding showings at the recent Virginia State AAA cross country championships, held Nov. 12 at the Great Meadows race site in The Plains.

The Oakton High girls finished fourth place overall. Midlothian High of the Central Region was the girls' team champion. The top finishing teams from the Northern Region, along with Oakton, were third place West Potomac, seventh place West Springfield, and 10th place Jefferson High.

Oakton's top girls' finisher was Allie Klimkiewicz, who finished fifth place overall to earn a top 15 medal. Also for the Cougars, Hailey Dougherty finished in 10th place. Other Oakton runners who were part of the fourth place team finish were: junior Briana Stewart (16th overall), junior Kristi Carrigan (56th overall), freshman Maryn McCarty (59th overall), senior Morgan Bayer (70th), and senior Megan Cahill (89th overall).

Other Northern Region runners to finish in the top 20 included first place finisher Sophie Chase (17:33) of Lake Braddock Secondary; seventh place Macey Schweikert of Robinson; eighth place Caroline Alcorta of West Springfield; 12th place Hannah Christen of Lake Braddock; 13th place Bailey Kolonich of Lee; 17th place Isabel Amend of Washington-Lee; 18th place Rebecca Vinter of Centreville; and 19th place Sarah Jane Underwood of West Potomac.

THE OAKTON BOYS earned third place at states. The boys' team champion was Stafford High. The top Northern Region team finishers, along with the Cougars, were fifth place Chantilly and sixth place Tho-



PHOTO BY
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/
THE CONNECTION

Girls' cross country Runners Caroline Alcorta (left) of West Springfield and Hailey Dougherty of Oakton compete at the Northern Region championships at Burke Lake Park. Dougherty, during the recent postseason, helped the Cougars finish second overall in the team standings at regionals and fourth overall at states.

mas Jefferson. Robinson High finished 13th.

In the boys' state AAA state championship race, Annandale's Ahmed Bile (15:16) finished first ahead of Chantilly's Sean McGorty (15:21). Other top 20 finishers from the Northern Region were: sixth place Nick Tuck of Lake Braddock; eighth place Logan Miller of Chantilly; 12th place Paul Gates of W.T. Woodson; 13th place Patrick Spahn of Robinson; and 19th place Louis Colson of Edison.

While Oakton did not have any runners finish among the top 15, the Cougars had enough solid individual outings to earn their third place team finish. Oakton's regional team was made up of: senior Gregory Petruncio (16th overall), senior Michael McNamee (19th overall), senior Christopher Jewell (28th overall), senior Pratik Singh (32nd overall), sophomore David Atkinson (33rd), senior Patrick Eberhart (63rd overall), and senior Michael Raiti (96th overall).

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21 Announcements

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as
 4600 South Four Mile Run, #1242, Arlington, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Linda Faye Johnson, also known of record as Linda Faye North and Linda F. Johnson, dated May 31, 2006, and recorded June 5, 2006, in Deed Book 3987 at page 2577 among the Land Records of Arlington County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Court House for Arlington County, at 1425 N. Courthouse Road, Arlington, Virginia, on

Monday, November 7, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Unit 1242, The Carlton, a Condominium
 RPC No. 28034987

Commonly known as 4600 South Four Mile Run, #1242, Arlington, Virginia 22204.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$15,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 6.50 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY
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21 Announcements

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as
 6616 Melrose Drive, McLean, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Ana Maria V. Clarke and Paul F. Clarke, Jr., dated October 18, 2010, and recorded November 20, 2010, in Deed Book 21361 at page 78 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Friday, October 7, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lots 38, 39 and 40, Section B, Water Heights Subdivision, as per plat thereof recorded in Deed Book T-9 at page 247, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 6616 Melrose Drive, McLean, Virginia 22101.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$100,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 4.0 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

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In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

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DAVID N. PRENSKY
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FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
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21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

AT&T intends to file an application to install cellular telecommunications antennas and equipment at 1988 Kirby Road, McLean, Virginia 22101. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Brilyn Park-Candidate C" will consist of the construction of a new 100-foot tall church bell tower within a proposed 37-foot by 34-foot telecommunications compound. Antennas are proposed to be pipe-mounted behind stealth material at a height of 97 feet RAD center within the tower. An eight-foot tall decorative brick wall is proposed to screen the compound from the Kirby Road and Westmoreland Street intersection to the south-east. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carolyn Mitchell, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com.

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In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY
 Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
 David N. Prenskey
 Chasen & Chasen
 5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. #500
 Washington, D.C. 20015
 (202) 244-4000

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Let's Talk Turkey

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths. One-hundred, sixty-thousand people, approximately, succumb to its ravages every year. More people die from lung cancer than from breast, prostate and colon cancer COMBINED. Eighty-five percent of those diagnosed with lung cancer die within five years. Fifteen-percent of lung cancer patients are non-smokers (yours truly). Men and women are diagnosed in equal numbers. Smoking rates among young people have not been affected by these facts, unfortunately. The message – or its delivery, is not getting through to this population, for some reason. (This information provided by Dr. Wallace Akerley, Professor of Medical Oncology, University of Utah School of Medicine, Huntsman Cancer Institute in Salt Lake City; recently he and I participated, along with a second stage IV lung cancer survivor, in a Satellite Media Tour (several media interviews from one location) sponsored by Genentech/Astellas as part of Lung Cancer Awareness month: November 2011.

When asked, Dr. Akerley explained the cruel irony as to why lung cancer has not garnered the kind of publicity that breast, prostate and colon cancer – and their survivors have; his answer was succinct: “Death.” There are simply not enough survivors to advocate for it. To advocate, you sort of have to be alive, and there’s not exactly an abundance of lung cancer survivors able to do so. As strength is so often found in numbers, so too is weakness often found when those same numbers are shrinking. Lung cancer’s deadliness is its own worst enemy, if you know what I mean, to provide the necessary elements to raise awareness – and money, to fight and ultimately defeat this insidious disease.

However, in the last decade or so research has yielded insights into how cancer cells grow. Genetic mutations in cancer cells have also been discovered which have led to targeted therapies – such as Tarceva and Avastin as an example, that can attack the tumor itself – directly, or that alternatively, can attack the blood vessels feeding the tumor, thereby cutting off its blood supply. When targeting the tumors in this manner, there’s less damage (make that side-effects) to the patient and greater damage/effect on the cancer/tumor. John, the other stage IV lung cancer patient and I are living proof. Nevertheless, lung cancer patients – like myself, still face a rather unenviable future with few guarantees. Every day brings hope however, that more research, clinical studies, gene therapy, whatever else, will yield new and different strategies to help cancer patients/survivors, survive.

As for preventing lung cancer in the first place, Dr. Akerley answered that it is possible: “Stop smoking. Eighty-five percent of those diagnosed with lung cancer are smokers. The second leading cause of lung cancer is exposure to Radon Gas, so have your homes checked.” There’s also a confirmed link between exposure to asbestos and lung cancer.

Enough cancer talk. It’s Thanksgiving and I’m hungry, and thankful as well for all I’ve been given. I am alive and reasonably well, having survived stage IV lung cancer for nearly three years; after originally receiving a “13-month-to-two-year prognosis” by my oncologist. Now would someone please pass the gravy? Thanks.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

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

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 23

Hit The Lights, The Dangerous Summer, The Story So Far and Divided By Friday. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 25

29th Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Art and Craft Showcase. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. More than eighty local artisans of the Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild. Admission \$3. www.nvhg.org.

Along Those Lines, One City Mile and Since Antarctica. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

The Grandsons General Admission Dance. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Roots-rock quartet. \$16. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 26

Artist's Reception. 2-4 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. “Let it Flow” is an exhibit of abstract acrylic paintings by Mary Ellen Moguee. 703-785-5784 or www.maryellenmoguee.com.

29th Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Art and Craft Showcase. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. More than eighty local artisans of the Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild. Admission \$3. www.nvhg.org.

Photo with Santa. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Falls Church Presbyterian Church, 225 E Broad St., Falls Church.

David Wazeter and Struan Shields. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

A Civil War Thanksgiving. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Cherry Hill Farmhouse, 312 Park Ave., Falls Church. Watch reenactors recreate an 1863 Thanksgiving. Watch them serve the holiday meal, eavesdrop on war time conversation and join them in parlor games. Free admission. 703-248-5171.

John Eaton: Indiana on Our Minds. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Music of Cole Porter and Hoagy Carmichael. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

Christmas Bazaar. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 270, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Holiday decorations, candles, gift items, jewelry, art work, paintings and more. Proceeds benefit veterans, children and youth, and neighbors in need. 703-893-4588.

Nutcracker 11. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Madeira School, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Presented by the Haddad Youth Ballet of Great Falls, with professional guest artists from The Richmond Ballet plus 3 local Russian dancers. 703-759-3366.

SUNDAY/NOV. 27

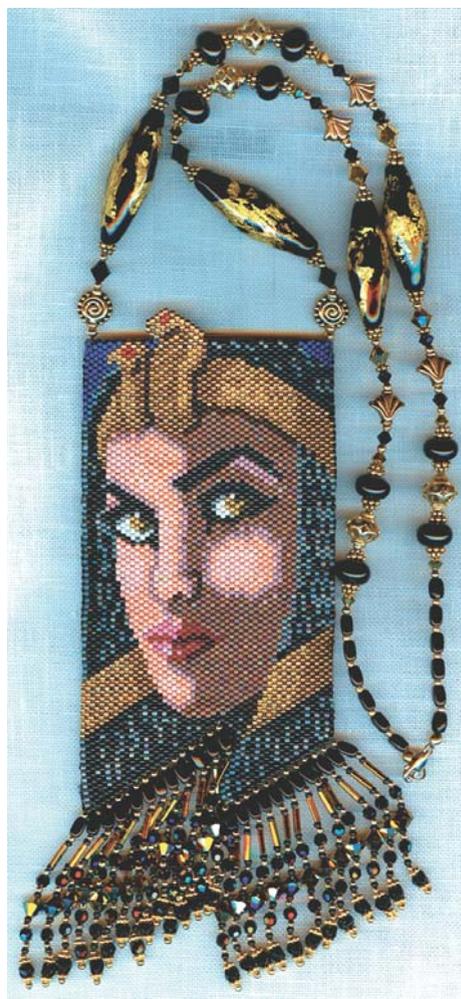
29th Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Art and Craft Showcase. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. More than eighty local artisans of the Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild. Admission \$3. www.nvhg.org.

TheRuinCity, AudioStrobeLight, Accidents (CD Release), Big Paper Airplanes, Farah & The Boy and Daniel Wrigley. 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Lilt. 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Tina Eck on wooden flute and whistle and Keith Carr on 10 string bouzouki and tenor banjo. \$15. www.oldbrogue.com.

Harpist Angelina Savoia and Violinist Marina Aikawa. 3 p.m. Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Sonata for solo harp by Hindemith, plus works by Bach, Mozart, Faure, Francais, Saint-Saens and Monti. Free. 703-620-9535.

Nutcracker 11. 4 p.m. Madeira School, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Presented by the Haddad Youth Ballet of Great Falls, with professional guest artists from The Richmond Ballet plus 3 local Russian dancers. 703-759-



“Cleopatra’s Necklace” by Vienna artist Lori Staples. The 29th Annual Thanksgiving Weekend Art and Craft Showcase will be at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E. in Vienna from Nov. 25-27. The show will be open Nov. 25-26 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Nov. 27, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is \$3. www.nvhg.org.

3366.

MONDAY/NOV. 28

Annual Church Street Stroll. 6-9 p.m. Church St., between Lawyers Road and Mill St., Vienna. The Freeman House general store, the railroad station, red caboose, Knights of Columbus (former First Baptist Church) and Vienna Presbyterian “little chapel” will be open to visitors. Santa Claus will arrive at the Freeman House at 6:30 p.m. and help Mayor Jane Seeman light the holiday tree at 6:45 p.m. Afterwards, Santa will visit with children on the front porch of the Freeman House. Entertainment by local musical groups, a petting zoo, marshmallows for roasting at supervised “bonfires” and more. Visitors are encouraged to bring a toy to donate to the Toys for Tots collection. Sponsored by Historic Vienna, Inc., and the Town of Vienna. All activities free. 703-938-5187.

Model Railroad HO Scale Open House and Display at the Vienna Holiday Stroll. 6-9 p.m. Historic Vienna Depot of the W & OD Railroad, 231 Dominion Road N.E., Vienna. Free, donations accepted. www.nvmr.org or 703-938-5157.

Space Program, Today's Tomorrow, Minor Kings EP Release and Wrestle With Jimmy. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

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

Tales to Tails. 4:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Read aloud to Beamer, a trained therapy dog. Age 6-12. Register at 703-293-6227.

Rock-A-Bye Baby. 10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Rhymes, stories and songs. Birth-11 months with adult. 703-938-0405.

Game On Afternoon Edition. 3:30 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Test your prowess at our Wii Mario Kart or Wii

Super Smashbros. Brawl Tournament. Age 6-16. 703-938-0405.

TUESDAY/NOV. 29

Shoot The Cricket, Kill Lincoln and East Ghost. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

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

English Conversation Group. 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-293-6227.

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.

Practice Your English. 6:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-790-8088.

Book Talk for Book Lovers. 7 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Cold Sassy Tree by Olive Ann Burns. Adults. 703-790-8088.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 30

Pieta Brown and Peyon Tochterman. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Small Wonders. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Short stories. Age 13-23 months with adult. 703-242-4020.

Gourds and Gobblers. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Wild turkeys still live in Northern Virginia. Through activities find out about this shy bird and other plants and animals that are part of Thanksgiving traditions. 703-356-0770.

Steve Solomon's My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish & I'm Home for the Holidays! 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Hilarious recount of a chaotic family reunion. \$32. www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/DEC. 1

Sam Roberts Band and Zeus. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Dan Hicks & The Hot Licks. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Holiday in Hicksville incorporates Western swing, traditional folk, bluegrass, cowboy tunes, Gypsy jazz and bossa nova. www.wolftrap.org.

Steve Solomon's My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish & I'm Home for the Holidays! 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Hilarious recount of a chaotic family reunion. \$32. www.wolftrap.org.

Artist Talk and Reception. 7-9 p.m. McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. “Imaginary Botanicals” with Elizabeth Whiteley. Exhibit will remain open through Jan. 7. 202-364-4581.

Opening Reception and Gallery Talk. 7-9 p.m. McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Roberto Bocci: Streams, Consciousness and Spaces in Between, Imaginary Botanicals by Elizabeth Whiteley and the McLean Art Society Juried Exhibition. Free. www.mpaart.org or 703-790-1953.

The Long Christmas Dinner and Holiday Musical Theater Scenes. 7:30 p.m. McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. Thornton Wilder's The Long Christmas Dinner and performances by the MHS Choral and MHS Dance group. \$10-\$20, available at Brownpapertickets.com, event 210144.

FRIDAY/DEC. 2

John Doe (from X) Full Band CD Release and Robert Ellis. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Steve Solomon's My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish & I'm Home for the Holidays! 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Hilarious recount of a chaotic family reunion. \$32. www.wolftrap.org.

Schooner Fare. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. With a basis in traditional maritime tunes, the group's repertoire includes folk, pop and more. www.wolftrap.org.

Fostering Kindness

Vienna orthodontist takes in rescued dogs.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

In the practice of Vienna orthodontist Ashkan Ghaffari is the standard dental equipment, Halloween decorations to rival a haunted house and, in his private office, a dog. Not a typical pet dog, mind you, but a foster dog, the 16th that has come through Dr. Ghaffari's home life and office. Petey, a human-nuzzling American bulldog who wants to be friends with everyone, went home with Ghaffari on Oct. 15. He curled up, crated when alone, in a non-treatment area that Ghaffari uses as personal space. Petey is happy to have a human touch, and to meet the big dog is to immediately fall in-love with him. In just a few days, Ghaffari grew close to Petey, and, on Oct. 24, Petey went to live in his permanent home in Nokesville.

Ghaffari began fostering dogs, through Pet Connect, last fall, six months after the death of his lifelong canine companion, Freddy. Thirteen months ago, Ghaffari received an e-mail from Pet Connect, a no-kill shelter, in Maryland. PetConnect takes in dogs and cats about to be euthanized in shelters in southern states. When Ghaffari saw photos of the dogs and cats that had been planned for euthanasia in their home shelters, it hit a soft spot in Ghaffari's heart. "I felt I could somehow squeeze, into my life, caring for those dogs. I just didn't want more dogs dying."

Ghaffari said he was never much of a dog person growing up. That is, until he was about 13 years old and his mother brought home a toy poodle, nicknamed Freddy. "He was my little buddy. When I got my license, he went along for a ride. Anywhere life took me, he was always there." When Freddy became hopelessly ill with kidney failure, Ghaffari brought his buddy to his orthodontic practice on Church Street, settling the dog

into a private non-treatment area at his offices. As Freddy deteriorated and developed seizures, Ghaffari made the difficult decision to put him down. Losing Freddy inspired Ghaffari to save other dogs.

"He lived 16 long years loved," Ghaffari said. "He was a family member. It's awful that there's millions of dogs and cats that don't have the opportunity to have a loving home." There wasn't anything Ghaffari could do to preserve the life of his own pet but he realized he could honor Freddy by saving the lives of other dogs.

"I want to save others. So many healthy animals are put down who never get the chance to be loved."

— Vienna orthodontist
Dr. Ashkan Ghaffari

Ghaffari notes that six to eight million animals are taken into shelters every year, and half of them are euthanized because there aren't enough people willing to adopt these pets whose only crime is that nobody wanted them.

"Part of me fosters because it's for the little guy I couldn't save," he said. "I want to save others. So many healthy animals are put down who never get the chance to be loved."

Some of Ghaffari's foster-success stories are Vienna-made.

MICHAEL AMOURI, who owns Caffe Amouri across the street from Ghaffari's orthodontics practice, lost his family dog in fall of 2009. Ghaffari, a "regular" at Amouri's coffeehouse, chatted with Amouri one day in spring of 2011 about Ghaffari's work in animal rescue. Amouri commented to Ghaffari that it might be about time for Amouri to adopt a dog.

"That was like waving a red flag in front of a bull," Amouri said. "After that, he started the parade of dogs past my shop. Most of them were little teacup dogs. I had always had big dogs and that's what I was looking for." Eventually, Ghaffari paraded by Caffe Amouri a big 60-pound mutt, Othello, one who looked like Petey from the Little Rascals, Amouri said.

To be sure that he and Othello "Odie" would be a good fit together, Amouri brought Odie home for a few days that turned into two weeks. One day, Amouri was lying on the couch and the heavyweight dog took a flying leap on to Amouri's chest. "I thought, this dog has spunk," said Amouri. By the end of two weeks, Odie became the "biggest goofball and the happiest dog" Amouri had ever met.

"Odie may not be the sharpest tool in the shed, but he's the happiest, a good guy.

"I saw so many shelter dogs that need a home," said Amouri. "I should do this, I thought."

A Vienna doctor, Jack Timmes, and his wife Kitty, adopted one of Ghaffari's foster dogs, Max, that Kitty saw with Ghaffari as they all waited in the reception room of Vienna Animal Hospital.

Most of the permanent pet parents stay in contact with Ghaffari, sending him updates of the pets Ghaffari fostered.

WHILE GHAFFARI BONDS with his fosters, he admits that it is seeing the dogs get a loving permanent home that makes it worthwhile for him. "For the adopters, they get a loyal, loving lifetime companion. After your kids go out on their own, your dog stays. He's still there for you."

Before Ghaffari takes a dog or dogs in as fosters, the animals are vetted to meet with his requirements. Since they are brought into Ghaffari's office, they must be child-friendly and non-aggressive.



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Petey spent just over a week with Vienna orthodontist Ashkan Ghaffari before he was adopted into a permanent home. In photo is Petey, Dr. Ghaffari, orthodontal assistant Pam Herbert and Petey's new pet parent, Carey.

He has fostered a few siblings who were adopted out together.

"One of the benefits of having dogs here is that they get socialized so quickly," said Ghaffari.

Petey, although still young, has already been shuffled around. He was picked up as a stray, adopted and then owner-surrendered because the owner couldn't care for him. Ghaffari brought Petey and a pomeranian home with him. The "pom" is being fostered by a friend of Ghaffari who is likely to adopt him.

He's never had a foster dog for more than three weeks and they have all since found their forever homes. "They're not disposable," said Ghaffari. "When you take in a dog, it's forever."

Ghaffari has strong local ties. He moved to McLean from Iran with his family when he was 6 months old. From McLean, the family moved to Reston, Chantilly and back to Reston. A graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Ghaffari went on to Duke University, where

he earned an engineering degree, and then to the Medical College of Virginia, getting his dental degree from there.

Ghaffari coaches a U10 girls house league for Vienna Youth Soccer, as well as the U10 girls all-stars team. He's currently in his third season. "I truly enjoy seeing my girls progress in their skills and love of the game," said Ghaffari.

His mom works at Salon o Tony in Vienna, and his office is in a central location, the corner of Church and Center streets.

Patient Karen Becht of Vienna called Ghaffari a "smile-maker," professionally and personally. "The way he's combining this animal rescue with his career is a wonderful thing," Becht said. "I'm grateful he's in our community."

To see photos of Dr. Ghaffari's foster dogs, go to <http://www.facebook.com/#!/GhaffariOrtho>. To learn more about Dr. Ghaffari's orthodontic practice, see www.Viennabraces.com

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

MONDAY/NOV. 28

Ayr Hill Garden Club. 10:45 a.m. Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Justine Harris, President of Fairfax Ferns Garden Club, demonstrates how to make flower designs with holiday colors. The Arbor House Trunk Show will sell flower

arranging and gardening items. The public is invited. Reserve at plhweiss@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY/NOV. 29

Vienna Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce Holiday Mixer. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, Tysons Corner. Take a break for a festive holiday mixer evening. \$15-\$20. Register at www.vtrcc.org.

Resources to Help Sick and Elderly Family

Members. 7 p.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St., N.E., Vienna. Tools to make the best health care decisions. When hospice and palliative care is necessary, advanced directives, living wills and more. \$25-\$35. www.thewomenscenter.org.

Be Clutter Free. 7 p.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St., N.E., Vienna. A licensed, insured professional organizer with suggestions for downsizing and organizing. \$25-\$35. www.thewomenscenter.org.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 30

Youth Sport Injuries and Concussions: What You Need to Know. 7 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna. Dr. Matthew Levine of INOVA Health Systems will discuss initial on-field evaluation, post injury management and return to play implications, as well as complications resulting from multiple concussions. Free. Register at 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=82.