

Give a Gift, Share a Gift

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Grace Davidson, called one of Pure Pasty's "best servers" by shop owner Michael Burgess, displays one of the Pure Pasty Company's popular savory pasties. Holiday "sweet" pies will be available in late November.

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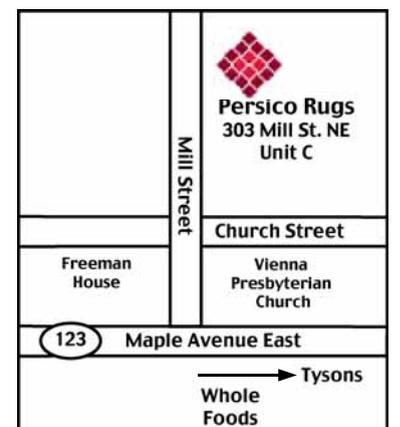
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Reaction to the announcement that President Barack Obama has been re-elected at the Fairfax County Democrats Victory Party on Nov. 6.



Photos by Deb Cobb/The Connection

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) helps a Greenspring resident find election officials at the Greenspring Polling Station to determine whether he can vote in the election.

Area Votes for Obama, Kaine, House Incumbents

President Barack Obama wins second term, Kaine wins Senate seat, Moran, Wolf, Connolly re-elected.

By Victoria Ross
The Connection

Elections, Obama won the county with nearly 60 percent of the vote.

In a bitter and historically expensive battle, President Barack Obama defeated Gov. Mitt Romney, winning a second term Tuesday after grabbing the key swing state of Virginia after midnight.

With the addition of the Commonwealth's 13 electoral votes—as well as those of Colorado, Iowa, New Hampshire and Wisconsin—Obama sailed over the electoral cliff with the critical 270 electoral votes he needed for victory.

More than 200 Democrats gathered at the Tysons Sheraton Tuesday evening—some cautiously optimistic, some nervous—about the Democrats' chances of another four years for Obama in The White House.

Mondana Nicksolat, an Obama volunteer from McLean, said she was so nervous about Obama's chances for victory, "I feel like I'm getting ready to take a final exam. . . . I'm nervous. I'm not sure he will win," Nicksolat said. But as the evening wore on, Nicksolat became more optimistic.

"Obama shouldn't be called a politician," she said. "He is a human being. He has a lot in common with the American people. We are not all rich; we all did not go to elite schools; some of us are immigrants and we're Americans. Obama is with us."

Close to midnight, the Sheraton crowd erupted in cheers, hugs and tears when news networks projected the win for Obama.

"The country and women are safe for four more years," one guest shouted.

According to the Fairfax County Board of

Kaine Wins Senate Seat

It was one of the most competitive and closely-watched Senate races in the nation, but after 17 months of brutal campaigning, former Virginian Governor and DNC Chair Timothy M. Kaine grabbed the seat of retiring U.S. Sen. Jim Webb from former Governor George Allen. Kaine won 51.85 percent of the vote over Allen's 47.97 percent with 100 percent of the state's 2588 precincts reporting, according to the Virginia State Board of Elections.

The 11th District: Connolly

U.S. Rep Gerry Connolly (D-11) knows how close a race can be on election night, beating challenger Keith Fimian in 2010 by a razor-thin margin, but Connolly handily defeated Republican challenger Chris Perkins Tuesday night along with four other candidates: Chris DeCarlo (Independent), Mark Gibson (Independent), Joe Galdo (Green Party) and Peter Marchetti (Independent Green Party). Connolly received 60.05 percent of the vote, or 163,212 votes, compared to Perkins's 36.22 percent of the vote with 98,456 votes.

"Tonight our voters also sent a message about our politics. They want more functional government," Connolly said, standing with his daughter and wife at the

Sheraton. "They don't want more rabid, partisan rhetoric as a substitute for real solutions to real problems."

Connolly said he was honored "to have been reelected, by my widest margin ever, and to have received the thrust of our voters to represent them for the next two years. On their behalf I will fight for the values we share while seeking common ground to move our country forward."

Connolly also displayed his trademark wit when he told the crowd he had another announcement: "CBS News just called it for Tim Kaine. . . . Not so fast, Tea Party!"

The 10th District: Wolf

U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10), the most senior of the 11 members of the House of Representatives from Virginia, won his 17th consecutive term on Tuesday. This year, Wolf faced a challenge on two fronts: Democrat Kristin Cabral and Independent Kevin Chisholm fought hard to take his seat.

Wolf won 58.71 percent of the vote (194,817 votes) compared to Cabral's 38.38 percent of the vote (127,355 votes) with 192 of 195 precincts reporting at 1 a.m.

Wolf sits on the powerful House Appropriations Committee, where he is the chairman on the Commerce-Justice-Science subcommittee. In addition, he is the co-chairman of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, a bipartisan organization made up of more than 200 members of Congress who work together to raise awareness about international human rights issues.

The 8th District: Moran

U.S. Rep. James P. Moran won a 12th term in Congress, easily beating his Republican



State Del. Mark Keam (D-35) tweets election results from the Democrats victory party at the Tysons Sheraton Tuesday night.

opponent J. Patrick Murray with 63.42 percent (174,974 votes) of the vote over Murray's 31.5 percent of the vote (86,910 votes). A senior member of the Appropriations Committee, Moran serves as the ranking member on the Subcommittee on the Interior and Environment and also serves on the Defense and Military Construction Subcommittees. Throughout his two decades of service in the House of Representatives, Moran has championed regional transportation solutions, the environment, women's issues, technology, fair and open trade, and fiscal discipline. He is also well known for his efforts to protect federal employees and military retirees.

World War II Veteran Recalls Wartime Experiences

From making machine guns to joining the WACs, Vienna resident shares memories.

By Donna Manz
The Connection

World War II veteran Carolyn Fix may have slowed down somewhat as she approaches 90 years, but she has not lost her sharp wits and her memory of her wartime experiences. She pulls dates and events out of her head quickly and shares anecdotes amusing or a bit sad.

She still attends WAC meetings in Arlington and Christmas parties in Alexandria hosted by her last employer.

At Vienna's American Legion Post 180, where she holds dual membership in the legion as a war veteran and in the auxiliary, Fix wears her army cap to legion meals and meetings.

She lived a wartime life extraordinary even for her time.

IN 1940, Fix graduated from high school but jobs in her upstate New York hometown were scarce. She took advantage of a government-sponsored education program and

learned machinery. Her first job after high school was in a factory making machine guns for the war effort. She was hired as one of the factory's first four women employees. Simultaneously, she studied X-ray technology at night and when she joined the Women's Army Corp at 20 years old, she joined the medical corps as an X-ray technician.

In those days, Fix said, you had to be, at least, 20 years old to join a women's armed forces service. Enlistees under age 21 needed parental signatures. Just shy of 21, her parents approved her enlistment. Her older brother was already in the army.

"I would say that the whole country was involved in the war effort, which we haven't seen since," said Fix. Everyone did their share, regardless of age or gender. "Children collected scrap metal from tin cans, metal fences, any metal they could find. There were women working in war plants, we had victory gardens and rationing. We bought war bonds. Everyone pitched in."

Fix shipped out on Nov. 5, 1943, almost

70 years ago, put on a troop train to somewhere. "They didn't tell us where we were going," said Fix. "They just said we were going to 'God's country.'" It turned out to be a Northern California army hospital at a base that shipped troops to the Pacific.

"It was a very dangerous place," said Fix. "People knew where they were headed so they didn't care what they did." Evidently, according to Fix's recollections, the soldiers and airmen committed a lot of crime and violence. The women on

base needed protection from the wildness. The airmen, she said, thought they could do anything.

"The female X-ray technicians were resented because they replaced the males who were being shipped overseas," Fix said.

Want to know why there were no nylon stockings on the east coast during the war? Fix has a response to that. "Because the government bought them up to bribe the sheiks in North Africa. That was a mistake because the harems didn't wear nylons."

Adds Fix, "we also needed nylon for parachutes," which, she concedes, was a big rea-

son for nylon scarcity.

When the war ended, other soldiers returned home. The medical corps, which Fix was with as an X-ray technician, stayed until 1948. After military life, Fix went to college at Utica, getting her bachelor's degree in biology. At Syracuse, she went on for her master's degree in geology. While working at the U.S. Geological Survey, Fix took a sabbatical and accepted a Fulbright scholarship, going off to Australia for 10 months in Queensland.

TODAY, FIX LIVES IN VIENNA since moving here in 1978, lucky-enough to live on pensions. In her home lives her best friend, a wire-haired dachshund named Winnie the Pooch, 15-and-a-half years old. He has a ramp to climb up to the bed, Fix says. In her home, she is surrounded by antiques, including a 1907 non-electric vacuum cleaner that no longer works. She even played saxophone with the Vienna Community Band but left when traveling around became too wearisome. Fix has visited 22 countries and recalls her many "wonderful" Med cruises.

Although Fix uses a "walker" to ambulate safely in public spaces, she does not at home. "I just hold on," she says. She still follows current affairs and when asked what issues are most important to her nowadays, she does not hesitate.

"The economy and our big debt."



Photo by Donna Manz/The Connection

World War II WAC, Carolyn Fix

VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

**Route 7 Widening
Fairfax County**
Public Information Meeting

Wednesday, November 28, 2012, 6 – 8:30 p.m.
Colvin Run Elementary School
1400 Trap Road, Vienna, VA 22182

Find out about an ongoing study to widen Leesburg Pike (Route 7) from four to six lanes between Reston Avenue and the west end of the bridge over the Dulles Toll Road, to improve capacity, decrease congestion, and improve safety, in conformity with the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan.

Stop by between 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the project. VDOT and Fairfax County staff will be available to answer your questions.

Review project information at www.virginiadot.org, at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax, VA 22030, or email meeting_comments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please call ahead at 703-259-1793, 800-367-7623 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

Give your written comments at the meeting, or submit them by December 8 to Mr. Douglas Miller, Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, or email meeting_comments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "Route 7 Widening – Reston Avenue to Dulles Toll Road" in the subject line.

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS



Photos by Donna Manz/The Connection

Del. Mark Keam [D-35], Brig. Gen. Bob Ranck (Ret), Post 180 Chaplain Bob Hatter, veteran Larry Rentrop, and Post 180 Commander Ron Patterson at American Legion Dyer-Gunnell Post 180 Veterans' Day program.

Vienna Honors Veterans

American Legion Post 180 program salutes those who served country.

Vienna honored Veterans Day at a program hosted by Vienna's own American Legion Dyer-Gunnell Post 180. Recently-retired Brig. General Bob Ranck of Vienna, USAF, offered the keynote address, reminding citizens that there are still thousands of American troops in harm's way.

"This is a day for thanking veterans for keeping our freedoms intact," said Post Commander Ron Patterson.

RANCK RETIRED near the end of October after 34 years in the Air Force, four in the Air Force Academy and 30 in active duty. He served six command tours, two tours in Iraq and flew eight different aircraft. His speech focused on military preparedness. When the armistice was signed on Nov. 11, 1918, ending the war to end all wars, the United States slashed its military strength. It was George Patton's father who bought the last remaining company producing tanks, to keep it in business. Equipment from World War II was ignored, and when America was brought into the Korean War, the aircraft flown by U.S. servicemen had been poorly-maintained.

"The U.S. went into Korea unprepared. We went into World War II unprepared."

Today, Ranck said, we still have troops in harm's way. "If you're not preparing today, you have no readiness for tomorrow," said Ranck. We have to remember the lessons we don't want to repeat,



Brig. Gen. Bob Ranck spoke on military preparedness at Vienna's Veterans Day ceremony.

he said.

POST 180 partnered with the Vienna Woman's Club to fundraise on behalf of Companions for Heroes [C4H], a regionally based nonprofit that pairs PTSD-affected combat veterans and first-responders with shelter-housed animal companions whose role it is to help the veterans cope with their traumas. The Woman's Club, following the Veterans' Day program, sold raffle tickets for gifts donated by community businesses. The top raffle prize was \$100, donated by the Woman's Club.

Janet Leissner, a volunteer with C4H, introduced her canine friend Lucky and spoke of the pairings of vet and animal companion. Companions for Heroes was founded by a young USAF veteran whose own life was saved by the dog he rescued. Believing other veterans would benefit from a dog's companionship and loyalty, David Sharpe founded C4H in 2009.

The animals adopted by these veterans come from shelters or rescue leagues. Many of the animals themselves are on death row, about to be euthanized. Most program attendees bought several

raffle tickets to support the cause.

THE MIA/POW TABLE—empty chair, symbolic pieces—was set up to remember those who never came home. Emile Larsen, president of Auxiliary Unit 180, and Post 180 Chaplain Bob Hatter presented the memorial wreath as Taps played.

—Donna Manz

Church Street Holiday Stroll Set for Nov. 26

The annual Holiday Stroll on Vienna's historic Church Street will be held on Monday, Nov. 26, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Church Street will be closed between Lawyers Road and Mill Street, and visitors are invited to stroll amid the sights and sounds of the holiday season and visit merchants along the way.

The Freeman Store and Museum, 131 Church Street NE, the train 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 Store at 6:20 p.m. and help Mayor Jane Seeman light the holiday tree. Afterwards, Santa will visit with children on the front porch of the Freeman Store.

The Holiday Stroll will feature entertainment by local musical groups, a petting zoo, free hot chocolate, marshmallows for roasting at supervised bonfires and other festivities.

Visitors are encouraged to bring a new toy to donate to the Toys for Tots collection, sponsored by Coldwell Banker.

The Holiday Stroll is sponsored by Historic Vienna, Inc. and the Town of Vienna. All activities are free of charge. For more information, visit www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?nid=985 or call 703-938-5187.

Vienna Youth Soccer Sponsors Food Drive

Vienna Youth Soccer (VYS) is sponsoring its fourth iCAN! Food Drive to benefit Food for Others on Nov. 17 between 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Vienna Giant.

VYS will be at Giant collecting non-perishable food donations to help Food for Others stock up for winter demand. Juniors of George C. Marshall High School, Jack Boettger, Duncan McDonald and Christie McIntyre, are spearheading this iCAN! effort to give VYS players the opportunity to work together and make a difference in the community.

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Opinion

Shop Locally, Give Locally

Small business Saturday isn't enough; don't wait until then, and don't stop after that.

An effort to support locally owned businesses has resulted in the recognition of Small Business Saturday, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This year that is Nov. 24. Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, a day of national zeal for shopping. Presumably the next day shoppers can focus on local shopping.

It sounds like an obligation, and it is. But there is a joy to shopping in local stores at the holidays, to walking along a sidewalk with the streets decked out for the holidays, to being greeted by someone likely to be the owner of the store, to finding gifts that are not mass-produced.

We all benefit when local stores thrive, when local business districts beckon.

Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to thrive. Most small, locally owned businesses invest in community, helping to transform our towns and communities with a sense of place.

Supporting small businesses, locally owned businesses, has to be more than a one-day affair.

The economy continues to improve slowly without inspiring. But still, local families will shop and exchange gifts during the next month, spending tens of millions of dollars in a variety of places.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of your shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambiance avail-

able by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season. Small retail shops are part of defining any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that no chain can.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fundraising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face tough challenges right now. Competition from

big box stores and online sellers makes the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally-owned retailers.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at the mall. Everyone will do some shopping online. But local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores. Spend some time shopping in your own community, and also plan an excursion to a nearby town to check out the local businesses and holiday spirit there.

— Mary Kimm,

mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Poverty and homelessness are sometimes hard to see in Northern Virginia, but there is no shortage of families in need locally, especially at the holidays. Here are some of the local organizations ready to help, and in need of your help. Financial contributions are always preferred.

Where to Give Locally

In no particular order:

- ❖ 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 and more. 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. More than 4,000 adults and children have signed up for help with Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. 703-437-1776 www.linkagainsthunger.org
- ❖ Committee for Helping Others (CHO), Vienna,

- organized in 1969 by a group of concerned churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. 14th Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service is Tuesday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. Vienna 703-281-7614 <http://www.cho-va.com>
- ❖ Fairfax City Area FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), working with the Office of Coordinated Services Planning, Fairfax County Department of Human Services, FISH helps local citizens who are in temporary need of life's basic necessities such as food, clothing, and financial assistance for rent, mortgage payments, utilities, and medical treatments. FISH also provides limited transportation for doctor appointments and food delivery. 703-222-0880 <http://fairfaxfish.org/>
- ❖ Herndon-Reston FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 <http://herndonrestonfish.org>
- ❖ Northern Virginia Family Service, 10455 White Granite Drive Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124 703-385-3267 <http://www.nvfs.org/>

Commentary

Save Tysons' Last Forest

By Barbara Comstock
State Del. (R-34)

In late September, I joined members of the Vienna community in touring Old Courthouse Spring Branch Stream Valley Park in Tysons Corner and met with the members of the Neighborhood Coalition to Save Tysons' Last Forest. Hundreds of Vienna residents oppose the Fairfax County Department of Transportation's proposed "Option 3" of the Dulles Toll Road Ramp Study to build a highway ramp through the valuable stream valley. These neighborhoods have documented their concerns on a comprehensive website and petition (see www.SaveTysonsLastForest.org).

I have signed the petition and in a letter sent by me, Del. Mark Keam, State Senators Janet Howell and Chap Petersen to



Transportation Secretary Connaughton and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. We detailed the problems with the proposal and have asked that this proposal be eliminated from further study.

❖ **County and State Costs If**

Study Continues

In a recent memo, the Fairfax County Park Authority describes irreversible impacts on Chesapeake Bay Resource Protection Area (RPA) land and on the Ash Grove Historic Site. It details the anticipated impacts to the parkland and stream valley, affecting the tree stands, wetlands, habitat, floodplain, stormwater management facilities and water quality. If the proposal were to move forward, Parks Director John Dargle, Jr. anticipates the need for a 4(f) review as well as a Section 106 review and other federal and state reviews.

The projected costs to the County, state, and federal governments to move through the approval process will be staggering. Therefore, we should eliminate unnecessary costs incurred in order to study what is nearly universally viewed by the impacted

neighborhoods as an unreasonable and unworkable option.

❖ Additional Legal Costs

Old Courthouse Spring Branch Stream Valley Park's very creation was based upon the County's agreement to protect its natural resources. From 1976 to 1999, six deeds that transferred the land from private to County ownership include legal covenants requiring the County protect the land as "open space . . ." "parkland . . ." "substantially in its natural condition." The County would also have to overcome these protective environmental covenants, potentially making such an option a costly legal battle that the County would ultimately lose after expending unnecessary resources.

❖ Our Shared Vision for Tysons Corner

See Comstock, Page 7

Vienna & Oakton
CONNECTION

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Schools

Vienna Student Wins Sixth Grade Art Contest

Henry James Ross, 11, won Oakton Elementary School's sixth grade Art Contest for his drawing of the school's mascot—the ferocious Panther. Sixth-graders voted for their favorite "Panther Pride" design, to be displayed on T-shirts exclusively for the graduating class of 2013.

Henry Ross of Vienna; his grandparents Jim and Nancy Ross of Burke, and his Oakton Elementary School classmate Ryan O'Donnell, 11; Henry's sister Eleanor, a first-grader at OES, holds the T-shirt with the winning design.



Photo Contributed

Commentary

Comstock

From Page 6

There are 15 neighborhoods in the Neighborhood Coalition to Save Tysons' Last Forest who believe, as I do, that a ramp through the stream valley would be inconsistent with Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan and would also negatively impact our community.

First, the Tysons Corner Amendments to the plan specifically ban "hardscapes" near the stream valley; clearly a highway ramp would violate that prohibition. As noted on pages 74-75 of the plan: "Protection, enhancement and management of natural resources in the existing stream valley parks in Tysons is critical . . . stream valley expansions should not include large hardscape areas (other than trails) and resources management should drive park design." On page 78, it continues, "Stream valley parks such as . . . Old Courthouse Spring Branch provide natural buffers and potential connectivity to and throughout Tysons. . . . These stream valley parks should not only be protected from development and infrastructure impacts, but be restored and enhanced."

Second, keeping this option on the table increases homeowners' feelings of uncertainty which poses a threat to home values and individual economic and emotional well-being. Going forward with Op-

tion 3—or even leaving it as an option on the table—means a significant drop in home values throughout the Old Courthouse area and will therefore decrease the amount of revenue that would otherwise go to Fairfax County in property taxes. In these uncertain economic times and in an area of Virginia that is experiencing substantial economic stress, it would be unwise to make such an irrational fiscal decision that could hurt the real estate market in these neighborhoods.

The County is currently working with VDOT, who is expending resources to evaluate the transportation feasibility of this option. Next steps would include conducting and preparing a multi-million dollar Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). With limited state and County resources, it is a waste of our tax dollars to spend money studying an option that will only continue to have environmental and legal hurdles throughout the County, state, and federal review process—especially one that is inconsistent with the County's plans, policies and vision.

Removing this option and Saving Tysons' Last Forest is simply the only option. It is a reasonable and bipartisan solution that best serves our neighborhoods and quality of life throughout Vienna and Tysons Corner.

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“We didn’t just believe we were going to win this game, we knew we were going to win this game and that was our mindset going in.”

— Oakton football coach
Jason Rowley



Photo by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

Senior quarterback Kyle Downer led the Oakton football team to a playoff victory with three rushing touchdowns against Lake Braddock on Nov. 9.

Oakton Football Advances

No. 7 Cougars knock off No. 2 Lake Braddock.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

The Oakton football team didn’t take long to show it wasn’t a typical underdog. After stopping Lake Braddock on fourth down during the opening possession of Friday’s Division 6 Northern Region quarterfinal, Oakton faced second-and-10 at its own 30.

Quarterback Kyle Downer took the snap, kept the ball on an option play and raced 70 yards into the end zone, giving the Cougars an early lead.

Oakton entered the postseason as the region’s No. 7 seed in the Division 6 playoffs. While the Cougars were an underdog from a seeding standpoint against No. 2 Lake Braddock, Oakton proved plenty problematic for the Patriot District champion Bruins.

DOWNER RUSHED 17 TIMES for 152 yards and three touchdowns and Oakton defeated Lake Braddock, 20-13, on Nov. 9 at Lake Braddock Secondary School. The Cougars led, 14-13, when Downer scored on a three-yard sneak with 2:25 remaining in the fourth quarter, extending the lead to seven. Lake Braddock drove to the Oakton 45-yard line during its ensuing possession, but four straight incomplete passes gave the ball back to the Cougars, who ran out the clock.

With the victory, Oakton advanced to the region semifinals. The Cougars will travel to face No. 3 Centreville at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 16.

Oakton started the year 6-0, but lost its final four regular season games to finish fifth in the six-team, traditionally-tough Concorde District. That didn’t stop the Cougars from beating a Lake Braddock team that went 8-2 during the regular season, including 7-0 in the Patriot District. The Bruins’ two defeats entering Friday’s contest came against Concorde foes Centreville and Westfield.

“It feels great, especially coming off the four-game losing streak,” Downer said. “Not a lot of people believed in us but we believed in ourselves. We knew

that we could do it all along and we came out and we put a pretty good game together.”

Downer’s second touchdown, a six-yard run early in the second quarter, gave Oakton a 14-7 lead it would not relinquish. The senior signal caller completed seven of 16 passes for 94 yards.

THE COUGARS totaled 347 yards of offense, including 253 on the ground. Kelly Brooks-Muse carried 10 times for 60 yards, Mike Wandey rushed nine times for 34 yards and Andy Boone carried four times for seven yards.

“We were just running on them,” Oakton left tackle Chris Durant said. “They couldn’t stop us.”

While the Oakton offense was piling up rushing yards, the defense limited Lake Braddock to 256 yards a season-low 13 points.

Trailing 14-7, the Bruins scored on a 13-yard run by Aaron Hollins with 4:17 remaining in the third quarter. Lake Braddock lined up for the tying extra point, but Oakton jumped offside. With the ball moved closer to the goal line, the Bruins offense came onto the field for a two-point try, but the attempt failed, leaving Oakton with a 14-13 lead. The Bruins wouldn’t score another point.

“We didn’t just believe we were going to win this game, we knew we were going to win this game and that was our mindset going in,” Oakton Head Coach Jason Rowley said. “We felt like we’ve given some things away earlier this year, we turned the ball over a lot earlier this year in bad situations and we didn’t play great defense earlier this year.

“... [Beating the Bruins] was a total team effort. I think you saw our defense out there, they were ball-hawking. They were getting to the ball. That’s the thing you have to do against a great offense like Lake Braddock. They’ve got an outstanding quarterback (Caleb Henderson), one of the best in the nation and our guys were up to the challenge in wanting to take that challenge on.”

Five teams from the Concorde District qualified for the playoffs and four advanced to the region semifinals: No. 1 Westfield, No. 3 Centreville, No. 4 Chantilly and Oakton. The Cougars faced Centreville in the regular season finale on Nov. 2 and lost, 49-28. The two will meet again Friday in the semifinals.



Oakton sophomore Allie Klimkiewicz earned AAA all-state honors as an individual and helped the Cougars to a second-place team finish at the VHSL state meet on Nov. 10 at Great Meadow.



Photos by Craig Sterbutzel

Oakton junior Jack Stoney earned AAA all-state honors with an 11th-place finish at the VHSL state meet on Nov. 10 at Great Meadow.

Oakton Girls’ X-Country Finishes State Runner-Up

Girls’ Klimkiewicz, boys’ Stoney earn individual all-state honors.

By Jon Roetman
The Connection

Allie Klimkiewicz expected the best. As it turned out, the performance of the Oakton sophomore and her teammates at Saturday’s VHSL state cross country meet earned the Cougars a trip to the podium for the first time since 2007.

The Oakton girls’ cross country team finished AAA runner-up on Nov. 10 at Great Meadow. The Cougars and Midlothian each finished with a score of 101, meaning each team’s No. 6 finisher would be used as a tiebreaker. Oakton sophomore Grace Stewart finished four places better than Midlothian’s No. 6 harrier, giving the second-place nod to the Cougars.

Lake Braddock won the state title with a score of 47. The top three teams are honored at the podium.

Klimkiewicz said after the race the Cougars “had no idea” how well they had performed.

“We were just going in expecting the best,” she said, “and we got even better than that.”

Klimkiewicz was Oakton’s top finisher, earning all-state honors for the second straight year with a ninth-place time of 18:27. Klimkiewicz said she ran out of energy toward the end of the race, much like her freshman season when she placed fifth with a time of 18:32.

The top 15 individuals receive all-state recognition.

“[Klimkiewicz] went out there pretty courageously,” Oakton Head Coach Alisa Byers said. “I was watching from the

middle of the field and in the first 800 meters she just shot out there. She did her best to hold on and that straight away [at the end of the course] is really long. I think it got the best of her toward the end, but the way that she went out there, you could tell she was going for it.”

Oakton junior Hailey Dougherty (19:14) placed 29th, senior Kristi Carrigan (19:25) was 34th, sophomore Kara Kendall (19:25) was 35th and sophomore Maryn McCarty (19:42) placed 51st.

“[Reaching the podium] was our goal from the start, like after last year [when] we finished fourth and we just missed it,” Byers said. “But even last year we were happy because the goal was to get to the state meet. We’re moving right along and having our successes.”

The Oakton boys’ team finished eighth with a score of 206. Chantilly won the state title with a score of 57, followed by Midlothian (72) and Battlefield (128).

Oakton junior Jack Stoney earned all-state with an 11th-place time of 15:53.

“Jack performed like Jack always does,” Byers said. “He puts himself in there and he has an incredibly high tolerance for pain. Even if he does look like he’s dying, he’s going to put himself up to that next level.”

Junior David Atkinson (62nd, 16:36), senior Oliver Lopez-Gomez (70th, 16:42), junior Isamu Hosakawa (73rd, 16:45) and senior Christopher Sprague (78th, 16:51) also finished in Oakton’s top five.

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. 14

Silent Stocking Stuffers. 7:30 p.m., at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Composer Ben Model and silent film historian and preservationist Bruce Lawton select silent cinema apropos for the upcoming season. Among the picks are *The Courtship of Miles Sandwich* (a travesty on how Thanksgiving began) and *Good Cheer*, on getting into the spirit during a snowstorm. \$10; \$6, McLean residents. www.mcleancenter.org.

The Vienna Photographic Society's Photography Competition. 7:30-9:30 p.m., at Thoreau Middle School, 2505 Cedar Lane, Vienna. Any VPS member, even those who join the night of the competition, may compete. The theme for the competition is "Animal Portraits," and all prints and digital images must fit into that category. The competition will be judged by Don Johnson. 703-451-7298 or www.vps-va.org.

Karla Bonoff and Steve Forbert. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk-rock music veterans return with classics and new songs. www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/NOV. 15

Oakton Church of the Brethren's 19th Annual Christmas Craft Show. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. The craft

show features a wide variety of handmade items and craft supplies for purchase, plus a soup and sandwich lunch and bake sale. Free admission. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.

Lend Me a Tenor. 7:30 p.m., at James Madison High School, 2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna. When the 1930s world famous tenor Tito Morelli shows up late for his one-night-only appearance at the Cleveland Grand Opera and passes out cold from an inadvertent shot of double-tranquilizers, the manager persuades his assistant to take the star's place. \$8 in advance; \$10 at the door. 703-319-2300 or www.madisondrama.com.

Karla Bonoff and Steve Forbert. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk-rock music veterans return with classics and new songs. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/NOV. 16

McLean Art Society Meeting. 10 a.m.-Noon. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. Watercolorist David Daniels will be the featured artist at this meeting with his impressionistic and nature inspired pictures. Guests are welcome. 703 790-0123.

Oakton Church of the Brethren's 19th Annual Christmas Craft Show. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. The craft show features a wide variety of handmade items and craft supplies for purchase, plus a soup and sandwich lunch and bake sale. Free admission. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.

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Howard Levy. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. The multiple GRAMMY Award-winner, a master of the diatonic harmonica and a pianist and composer, returns to the Barns after 25 years. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 17

Oakton Church of the Brethren's 19th Annual Christmas Craft Show. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. The craft show features a wide variety of handmade items and craft supplies for purchase, plus a soup and sandwich lunch and bake sale. Free admission. For more information, call 703-281-4411 or see www.oaktonbrethren.org.

Shopping Shindig. 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at Body Elements, 8230 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 100, Vienna. Shop for gifts from local women-owned shops while you sip wine. www.body-elements.com.

Lend Me a Tenor. 2:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., at James Madison High School, 2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna. When the 1930s world famous tenor Tito Morelli shows up late for his one-night-only appearance at the Cleveland Grand Opera and passes out cold from an inadvertent shot of double-tranquilizers, the manager

See Entertainment, Page 10

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Fair City Mall



Entertainment

From Page 9

persuades his assistant to take the star's place. \$8 in advance; \$10 at the door. 703-319-2300 or www.madisondrama.com.

Thanksgiving Season Labyrinth Walk. 4-7 p.m., at Charles Wesley United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 6817 Dean Drive, McLean. It's easy to navigate and impossible to get lost in the labyrinth; find a safe, calm space to reflect, contemplate, look for guidance, or walk in remembrance, grief, thanksgiving, for balance or even adventure. www.charleswesleyumc.org.

Winter Walk of Lights. 4:30-5:30 p.m., at MeadowLark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority presents a well-lit walk. info@mailva.evite.com.

BLUE County Experience. 8 p.m., at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. An eclectic mix of rock, hip hop, soul, blues and funk for an emotional, intense show. www.jamminjava.com.

Cinema Vivant™ and Jazz Night. 8 p.m., at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The Hot Club of San Francisco recreates French Gypsy jazz with a concurrent screening of two short films, one on a toy story and the second a combination of animation and live action. www.mcleancenter.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 18

Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great. 2 p.m., at the Alden, 1235 Ingleside Ave., McLean. A play for children about being a child—how to deal with bossy older sisters, being afraid of everything? Ask Sheila. Based on the Judy Blue book; ages 7-plus. \$15; \$10, MCC residents. www.aldentheatre.org.

Fall Concerts of Traditional Celtic Music. 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. The Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. VA and Barnaby Productions, Inc. present the 10th season of family friendly, fall traditional Celtic concerts; IONA, the East Coast's premier pan-Celtic band, performs the music and dance of ALL the Celtic nations and their transplants in the Americas. Tickets for all 5 concerts, \$65; \$15 each for individual concerts. All

ages. Reservations must be made in advance at the Old Brogue. 703-759-3309.

FRIDAY/NOV. 23

Annual Gingerbread House. Opening at 2 p.m., daily hours from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at the Ritz-Carlton Tysons Corner, 1700 Tysons Blvd., McLean. A life-sized Gingerbread House with culinary artwork large enough to walk under, a place to shop for pastries and holiday treats, and on opening day, holiday confections, hot spiced cider, roasted chestnuts and hot cocoa; open through Christmas Eve. www.ritzcarlton.com/tysons.

Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild Holiday Market. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street S.E., Vienna. Eighty-plus juried artisans offer original, handmade arts and crafts, decorative paintings, fused, etched, painted and stained glass, ceramics and pottery, hand-painted silk, woodworking, hand-weaving, photography, paintings and drawings, clothing and functional textiles and more. www.nvhg.org.

Altar Boyz. 8 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A cheeky, pop-rock musical comedy about a boy band of singing dancing heartthrobs from Ohio on the last night of their national tour. \$30; \$15, students. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststage.com.

The Grandsons. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. DC-based rock 'n' rollers play their annual post-Thanksgiving concert. \$18. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 24

Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild Holiday Market. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street S.E., Vienna. Eighty-plus juried artisans offer original, handmade arts and crafts, decorative paintings, fused, etched, painted and stained glass, ceramics and pottery, hand-painted silk, woodworking, hand-weaving, photography, paintings and drawings, clothing and functional textiles and more. www.nvhg.org.

Altar Boyz. 2 p.m., 8 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524



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Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A cheeky, pop-rock musical comedy about a boy band of singing dancing heartthrobs from Ohio on the last night of their national tour. \$30; \$15, students. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststagetysons.org.

Messiah Sing-Along. 7 p.m., at the Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., N.E., Vienna. The church orchestra combines with youth choirs from Lewinsville, Falls Church and Vienna Presbyterian Churches in a community-wide sing-along. www.viennanapres.org.

John Eaton. 7:30 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. The jazz pianist, vocalist and musicologist reinterprets American composers' classics; this particular night, Eaton plays the music of George Gershwin and Harold Arlen. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 25

Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild Holiday Market. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street S.E., Vienna. Eighty-plus juried artisans offer original, handmade arts and crafts, decorative paintings, fused, etched, painted and stained glass, ceramics and pottery, hand-painted silk, woodworking, hand-weaving, photography, paintings and drawings, clothing and functional textiles and more. www.nvhg.org.

Thanksgiving Food Drive at Wildfire. 11 a.m.-8 p.m., at Wildfire Tysons Galleria, 1714 International Drive, McLean. Proceeds from Wildfire sales on Thanksgiving Day go to Food for Others, the largest distributor of free food directly to people in need in Northern Virginia; the restaurant will also donate all unopened cans and boxes of non-perishables brought in on Sunday. www.wildfirerestaurant.com/mclean.

Altar Boyz. 2 p.m., 7 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A cheeky, pop-rock musical comedy about a boy band of singing dancing heartthrobs from Ohio on the last night of their national tour. \$30; \$15, students. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststagetysons.org.

Breakfast Buffet. 8 a.m.-noon, at the Vienna American Legion, 330 Center St., Vienna. Omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon and more. \$8, adults; \$3, children. 703-938-1379.

Fall Concerts of Traditional Celtic Music. 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. The Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls, VA and Barnaby Productions, Inc. present the 10th season of family friendly, fall traditional Celtic concerts; Bruce Molsky, American Celt extraordinaire, ties the Celtic influences that inform our own traditions into a fascinating concert. Tickets for all 5 concerts, \$65; \$15 each for individual concerts. All ages. Reservations must be made in advance at the Old Brogue. 703-759-3309.

MONDAY/NOV. 26

Annual Church Street Holiday Stroll. 6-9 p.m., on Vienna's Historic Church Street. Santa arrives at 6:15 in his fire truck to help the mayor light the tree, followed by musical performances and strolling singers on the street. Historic churches including the Freeman House, Vienna Presbyterian's Old Chapel, the Knights of Columbus, the Caboose and the Train Station will be open along with a petting zoo, supervised bonfires with marshmallows to roast, shopping and a Toys for Tots collection. 703-938-5187 or www.historicviennainc.org.

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Every year between Christmas and New Year's, The Vienna/Oakton Connection turns its pages over to the contributions of local students. We are seeking artwork, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories and reflections. We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled.

E-mail to: ChildrensNorth@connectionnewspapers.com, or mail (.jpg and text files on disc only) by Dec. 5, to 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Please be sure to include the student's name, age, grade, school and town of residence along with each submission. For information, call 703-778-9410.

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"Silent Stocking Stuffers"
Wednesday, Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m.
\$10/\$6 MCC district residents

Hot Club of San Francisco
"Cinema Vivant"
Saturday, Nov. 17, 8 p.m.
\$25/\$18 MCC district residents

ArtsPower's production of
"Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great"
Sunday, Nov. 18, 2 p.m.
\$15/\$10 MCC district residents



Sunday Soiree Dance
Sunday, Nov. 18, 3-5 p.m.
Admission: \$5 at the door

30th Annual McLean Holiday Crafts Show
Fri.-Sun., Nov. 30 - Dec. 2
Admission: \$2 adults, Take \$1 off w/ad

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703-790-0123, TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

Gift Guide

Give a Gift, Share a Gift

For one-of-a-kind, shop Vienna.

By Donna Manz
The Connection

The season of sharing and gift-giving is upon us. The malls and chain stores scream “sale” and mass-produced merchandise, made in other countries, flies off the shelves. This year, why not seek out the unique, the one-of-a-kind gifts sold in places that offer personalized, welcoming service, the kind of place where the owners and staff are truly happy to see you.

Why not shop locally? Vienna boasts many a business owned by Vienna residents, managed by Vienna folks and staffed by them.

Only along the historic Church Street corridor will you find Vienna-logo pottery made in the U.S., Virginia-produced preserves and chutneys, hand-held turnovers to make a British expat homesick, and coffee beans roasted fresh daily in the coffee house. While we're on the subject of food—and, really, isn't everyone on the subject of food?—where else but Great Harvest can you buy freshly-baked breads prepared from flour stone-ground daily?

Talk of the ultimate hostess gift... a presentation of epicurian coffee beans, apple-scrapple bread, rich and hearty pasties, topped off by a Vienna-logo coffee mug.

Here's the most special aspect of shopping the Church Street business district. Most of the shop and restaurant owners are not only Vienna business owners but Vienna-area residents, as well, with as much at stake in maintaining Vienna's warm and welcoming character as their shoppers.

These local businessmen and women actively support their community, with fundraisers, in-kind donations and presence of human resources. You cannot beat that for community investment.

More than their engagement with the community, local shop owners come to recognize their regular customers who become part of the business's public family. Local owners are empowered to accommodate their customers, to customize service, because there is no big corporation or chain to create rules or policy. When you own the business, you create the model in your own philosophy. And that is where Vienna's small, locally owned businesses shine... embracing customers as neighbors, because, well, you are.

By the way, Small Business Saturday, on Nov. 24, celebrates locally owned businesses. Support them; they support Vienna.

Need some ideas? Direction? Here goes the first of the Vienna Connection's holiday gift guide. The nicest thing about these ideas is that you can buy many of these items for yourself, and your family and friends will still benefit.

THE ARTFUL GIFT SHOP truly is a little gem tucked away in the commercial white house at Lawyers Road and Church Street.

The shop features arts, crafts, original artwork and handknit woolens, and handcrafted animal clocks.

Owner Peggy James, in partnership with her brother David, is the Artful Gift Shop. When Peggy is not in the shop, she's scouting arts and craft shows, doing fundraising for Homeless Animals Rescue Team [HART] or supporting the local business service organization [VBA]. David staffs the shop when Peggy is fulfilling other obligations. The two of them know their customers, even those who may have visited



Photos by Donna Manz/The Connection

The Artful Gift Shop owner Peggy James shows off a handknit wool hat and scarf made at the shop. David James buys natural wool yarns and dyes and knits them himself. The store takes custom orders.

the shop a year ago. Peggy remembers what people bought, what their interests are.

Here's the unbeatable edge from most accessory shops. The knit hats and scarves are handcrafted on-site by David James himself. David buys pure unfinished wool yarns and dyes the wool in his kitchen, creating vibrant colors and shadings. While tending to the shop, David knits the yarns to hats and scarves. David's handknit wool hats start at \$24; his opera-length wool scarves at \$36. A set, both hat and scarf, sells for \$48. Acrylic hats and scarves start at \$18. If there's a color you would like, ask David to make it up for you. Peggy and David take custom orders.

Dan Kessler art pieces are sold at two places only: Eastern Market in D.C. and The Artful Gift Shop. Shoppers come into the store especially for Kessler works; the stylized dog designs and dinosaur designs are Kessler top-sellers.

Among the store's best-sellers are the handcrafted animal clocks selling for \$42 each. Peggy James donates 50 percent of the sales proceeds of the clocks to Homeless Animals Rescue Team. Any breed can be designed.

The Artful Gift Shop is at 145B Church Street. Call 703-242-1220 for hours and special requests.

FREEMAN STORE is Vienna's oldest store. Built before the Civil War for Abram Lydecker, the building housed a general store on the lower level and living accommodations on the upper floor. During the Civil War, it was used by Union forces. The interior recalls days of old with its wide-planked flooring and pot-belly stove.

At the Freeman Store you can buy holiday cards depicting local landmarks. The cards, designed by local artists and photographers, sell for \$8.50 for a package of ten. The 2012 card, a snowy Freeman House, was designed by Laura Chirillo of Vienna.

Freeman Store's merchandise, arranged like Grandma's cupboard, also nods to the past, a non-digital, non-techie one. Graves' Mountain preserves, a Virginia-sourced and produced line, features fruit and sugar, no corn syrup or gooey liquid. A large jar

See Vienna, Page 13



The Freeman Store sells Tussie-mussie wreaths crafted by the Ayr Hill Garden Club, among its collection of Virginia-made products, Vienna-logo pottery and old-time toys and games.



The Great Harvest Bread Company manager Rene Altamirano slices up samples of specialty breads, from apple-scrapple to onion-dill rye and chocolate babka for customers.



Caffe Amouri roasts its own coffee beans almost daily. The coffeehouse sells coffee and teas by the cup or the bagful. Look for the shop's specialty gift baskets coming up around Thanksgiving.

Gift Guide



The Freeman Store sells lead-free Vienna-logo pottery made in Pennsylvania, as well as a selection of Graves' Mountain preserves.

Vienna Offers One-of-a-Kind Gifts

From Page 12

sells for \$6, the mini for \$2. The apple chutney is outstanding if you like apple or chutney.

Every year since 1997, Freeman Store has sold a handmade Rachael Peden ornament rendering a Vienna landmark on wood. This year's ornament recreates the antique fire truck owned by the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Each ornament sells for \$19.50.

The store's most iconic sales stock are the blue-and-grey Vienna-logo mugs, steins and serving and storage pieces. For anyone with warm recollections of their lives in Vienna, nothing is more memorable, something to pass on to the next generation.

Westerwald Pottery Pennsylvania uses 12 separate hands-on processes for each piece. The products are all wheel-thrown, brush-decorated and kiln-fired at 2,300 degrees. The glazes are lead-free, microwaveable and dishwasher-safe. The Westerwalk pottery starts at \$17.50.

But... there's more. The children's toys are the kind kids played with for hundreds of years, the classics. There's tiddly-winks, Dominos, jacks, old-time bicycle bells, and even pick-up sticks [\$3.50 for the pick-up sticks]. There are Christmas puzzles for the family, too. Shopkeeper Alla Fiore calls them toys "you don't see in stores any more." Fiore said that since 'Once Upon a Time' closed, people have been coming into Freeman Store to buy toys. The miniature treasure boxes hold a secret "treasure" within.

For a unique holiday wreath, look to the tussie-mussie wreaths crafted by members of the Ayr Hill Garden Club. They sell for \$25 to \$35, and look old-fashioned.



The "Classic" gift box from the Great Harvest Bread Company.

Santa visits Freeman Store on Sunday, Dec. 2, and Saturday, Dec. 8, 1-3 p.m.

Freeman Store and Museum is at 131 Church St. NE, open Wednesday through Sunday afternoons. See historicviennainc.org or call 703-938-5187 for holiday hours.

CAFFE AMOURI is more than a place to buy a cup of coffee or tea. It's a place to buy a cup of coffee from beans roasted on-site. Michael Amouri himself, owner of the community coffee house, comes in at 6 a.m. to roast the green beans that come in from coffee-growing countries around the world. Caffe Amouri's coffee has dedicated fans, regulars who will experiment with different beans or teas.

"Freshness counts in coffee," said Amouri. "We always get the current crop of beans, top-notch beans. We roast them almost-daily for freshness."

The baristas at Caffe Amouri are no casual coffee pourers. Amouri trains his staff to understand the processes and the characteristics of the beans they roast and sell. The roasting process is customized for a bean's profile, testing each

roasted batch to develop the optimal flavor profile. Each batch takes 15 to 20 minutes to roast.

Training pays off for Caffe Amouri. Customers appreciate the familiarity staff has for the products and the cheery customer service. Friday free espresso samplings have become popular with customers, too.

"I come here often," said Judy "W" of Vienna. "The level of customer service and quality of product is the best. They pay particular attention to educating their customers," Judy said. "These people here are really excited about their products. You don't get that everywhere."

Caffe Amouri sells gift certificates, as well as shop-packaged coffees and teas. Troops in Afghanistan recently flew a flag over their base in recognition of Caffe Amouri's coffee donation to them.

Toward the end of November, Amouri and his staff will be creating specialty baskets of coffees and teas, and "lots of unique things," for holiday gift-giving. Bags of coffee beans to-go start at \$11 a pound.

If you need a pick-me-up during the hectic holiday season, stop by Caffe Amouri for a peppermint cappuccino.

"Everyone who walks in here should walk out feeling a little bit better," said Amouri.

Caffe Amouri is at 107 Church Street NE, across the street from the new but not-yet open chocolates shop. Phone (703) 938-1623.

GREAT HARVEST BREAD COMPANY is like no other bakery in the Vienna area.

There are certainly many places in Vienna where you can buy fresh See Gifts, Page 14

Holiday Gift Ideas

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Gift Guide



The animal clocks sold at The Artful Gift Shop are among the store's most popular sellers. Owner Peggy James contributes 50 percent of the sales proceeds of the animal clocks to Homeless Animals Rescue Team.

Shopping for Gifts in Vienna

From Page 13

bread, but no place where you can buy fresh bread made with freshly-milled stone-ground wheat other than at the Great Harvest Bread Company. A fixture in Vienna for many years, Great Harvest offers a selection of breads that has gained itself legions of devoted fans. Great Harvest mills its own flour daily using a stone mill in its Herndon facility, and uses pure ingredients in their recipes. What party would not want to set out a tray of natural, hearty breads, sweet and savory?

"It has the best bread around," said customer Steve Piekarec of Vienna. "You say you'll have a little piece, and then, you eat the whole loaf."

If you're going to eat the whole loaf, you'd better be careful because there is a myriad of bread products to choose from. Great Harvest is currently featuring seasonal favorites pumpkin loaf and the onion-dill rye loaf. Apple-scrapple is the store's top seller.

Regular customers, such as Piekarec and Carol Kelly, say manager Rene Altamirano is knowledgeable and welcoming at all times. He doesn't just slice bread samples, he describes the ingredients, as well.

"Our breads are very healthy, no preservatives or additives," says Altamirano. "They have soft crusts, and they taste delicious."

Kelly calls the giant cookies "amazing." A stone mill, says Altamirano, grinds at a lower temperature than does metal, retaining nutrients.

Apple-scrapple, what a young boy described as "apple-pie bread," sells for \$7.10. Tea loaves, such as pumpkin, go for \$7.50 to \$8. The onion-dill rye, that just begs for corned beef or pastrami, is \$6.

A unique but welcome gift for foodies is Great Harvest's own pancake mix and granola, a comfort-food addition to a basket. Like the breads, the flour for the pancake mix is stone-ground. The ingredients are simple and pronounceable: whole wheat flour, rolled oats, nonfat dry milk, brown sugar, baking powder and salt. A 32-ounce bag sells for \$4.95.

Coming up soon on Great Harvest's bread menu are Virginia rolls, made only during the fall holiday season and at Easter-time. They sell for \$6 a dozen and customers are

already asking for them.

The Great Harvest Bread Company is at 132 Church St. NW. Phone is (703) 938-0921.

THE PURE PASTY COMPANY: You don't have to be Cornish—or even British—to love the authentic Cornish pasties that Brit ex-pat Mike Burgess, along with Nicola Willis-Jones and the crew, make fresh daily. The crust is meltingly-rich, the fillings flavorful and saucy. For the holidays, Pure Pasty is pulling out its culinary roots with traditional and not-so-traditional pasties. As a party contribution or spontaneous meal, pasties shine. They can be frozen, too. Who doesn't love a gift of food?

Pure Pasty features a variety of holiday pies that are made into dessert pasties. From Nov. 8 on through end of November, the shop will offer pecan pasties—smaller than the meat ones—which is, basically, pecan pie enclosed in a thin layer of folded-over crust. The pumpkin [pie] pasties debut on Nov. 13. Both the pecan and the pumpkin pasties are made through Thanksgiving.

December brings one of England's traditional holiday favorites, homemade mince-meat pie pasty.

A pasty is a turnover starring a rich, but-tery crust. Fillings are savory, as in the traditional beef and potatoes, or sweet. There are pasty shops all over London.

The restaurant's Thanksgiving pasty hits their menu on Nov. 14. Willis-Jones describes the specialty pasty as "literally thanksgiving dinner in a pasty," turkey, green beans, cranberries, sweet potatoes, potatoes, gravy and herb. It's delicious, Willis-Jones said. Pure Pasty is planning on a "decadent" pasty for Christmas, said Willis-Jones.

Willis-Jones suggests that if shoppers want to order for the holidays, they should place orders well in-advance. Pasties freeze well and can be reheated.

Sweet pasties sell for \$2.99 to \$3.50 for sweet pasties, and savories sell for \$5.99 and \$6.99.

The Pure Pasty Company is at 128-C Church St. NW, between Bikes@Vienna and Sweet City Desserts. Call 703-255-7147 for more information.

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21 Announcements **21 Announcements** **21 Announcements**

Fairfax Water
NOTICE OF WATER RATE Public Hearing

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 13, 2012, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

The proposed changes, to be effective April 1, 2013, include the following:

1. An increase in the Availability Charge from \$3,700 to \$3,850†.
2. An increase in the Local Facilities Charge from \$9,000 to \$9,500.
3. An increase in the Service Connection Charge from \$1,000 to \$1,050†.
4. An increase in the Account Charge from \$33 to \$35.
5. An increase in the Quarterly Billing Service Charge from \$8.35 to \$9.20†.
6. An increase in the base Commodity Charge from \$2.16 to \$2.29 per 1,000 gallons of water.
7. An increase in the Peak Use Charge from \$3.20 to \$3.45 per 1,000 gallons of water.
8. An increase in the Turn Off / Turn On Charge from \$46 to \$50.
9. An increase in the Fees for Use of Fairfax Water Fire Hydrants to include the increase in the Commodity Charge and Peak Use Charge.
10. An increase in the Installation of Sewer Use Meter Charge from \$41 to \$44.
11. An increase in the Returned Payment Charge from \$16 to \$17.

A copy of the proposed changes can be viewed on our Web site at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/rates/index.htm>. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed changes should call Ms. Eva Cattin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties also may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

*Charges reflect fees associated with a standard 5/8" residential meter. Changes in charges for larger residential and commercial meters are reflected in the Proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees, and Charges.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
BKN9, LLC, trading as Zaika, 2800 Clarendon Blvd, suite 900, Arlington, VA 22201. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer and Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Bhupinder K. Nanda President
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

ABC License
MWB DEVELOPMENT 1, LLC trading as World of Beer, 901 N. Gleve Road, #105, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1853. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer On & Off Premises & Keg License to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Evan Matz, Managing Member.
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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Fairfax Water
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2013 BUDGET

Fairfax County Water Authority (Fairfax Water) is proposing a \$143.4 million budget for calendar year 2013'.

On Thursday, December 13, 2012, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed 2013 Budget in its offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax. The public hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m.
A copy of the proposed budget can be viewed on our Web site at <http://www.fairfaxwater.org/>. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed budget should call Ms. Eva Cattin at 703-289-6017.

Revenues are expected to be \$143.4 million in 2013. Water sales are expected to provide \$124.6 million. Approximately \$18.8 million is expected from connection charges, investment income and other sources.

The major areas of operation and maintenance expense are:

Category	-- \$1,000s --	
	2012	2013
Personal Services & Employee Benefits	\$46,473	\$48,367
Power and Utilities	11,345	11,686
Chemicals	6,694	7,968
Fuel	916	960
Postage	547	460
Insurance	1,300	1,107
Supplies and Materials	3,976	4,233
Contractual Services	8,749	8,657
Professional Services	1,656	1,902
Other	2,005	2,285
Sub-Total	83,661	87,625
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(9,559)	(9,613)
Total	74,102	78,012

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:

Debt Payment	\$39,374,000
Improvement Fund	\$11,000,000
General Fund	\$14,068,000

¹ Fairfax Water's Board will continue to monitor economic factors and review revenues and expenditures at mid-year to determine if additional action is needed.

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A.O. "K," Emotionally



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Well, I did, along with 2,000 or so other like-minded individuals, walk the Walk on November 4th: Five Ks, although not exactly the route mapped out by the literature provided by the LUNgevity Foundation. (If truth be told, our group, "Team Kenny's Column" veered off course prematurely by a "K" or so to attend to some prearranged business, unfortunately). Nevertheless, we started the Walk behind the Washington Monument, then alongside the Reflecting Pool up toward the Lincoln Memorial, stopped at the steps for a "photo op," then returned on the other side of the Reflecting Pool back down to 7th Street, then across the Mall - with the U.S. Capitol in our sights, finally turning back along the sidewalk bordering the Mall and returning to the Start/Finish.

Twenty-two registrants from our "team" paid their money and made their presence felt. Spirits were high even though the temperature was low, in the 40s. Still, the sun was mostly shining, the breeze was light, and the turnout was record-setting, as was the money raised: over \$261,000 as of November 10, 2012 (the site, www.LUNgevity.org will remain active/open through December 31st for donations), and the greater good was most definitely served.

As a "survivor," I was given a green t-shirt with "Survivor" printed on the front; the other participants received blue t-shirts without being so identified. In addition, we all received LIVESTRONG-type wrist bracelets with "www.lungevity.org" and "Cure Lung Cancer" printed on them. I wore my bracelet proudly that day, (as everyone did) and even kept it on my wrist when I went to bed that night. However, I had trouble sleeping and attributed it to the bracelet reminding my brain that I have cancer. Feeling a physical reminder like that touched me - subconsciously. And though I may wear my emotions on my sleeve, as you regular readers know, having such a constant reminder of my cancer diagnosis dangling on my wrist didn't seem to help me fall asleep. I know I have cancer. I don't need to be convinced. Nor do I need to be reminded all the time. Forgetting helps too.

And if I did forget about having cancer, it would qualify as a mental health moment. Being diagnosed with cancer is bad enough, especially the kind (non-small cell lung cancer, or NSCLC) that I have, which is, at present, incurable/terminal ("Treatable," my oncologist said, "but not curable;") words I never imagined hearing at age 54 and a half. Forgetting about my diagnosis, as often as possible and living life - as normally as possible, has been a part of my process diagnosis-to-date. Though sometimes it seems irresponsible to do so, and almost inappropriate even, concentrating and focusing on it/the disease/my compromised life expectancy shall we say, 24-7 seems counter-productive. It's sort of a bastardized version of: "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em." Somehow, I have to live my life like I have a life, not like I have a cancer. I'm not giving up, and I'm not giving in. I'm just making the best of bad situation. And as bad as it is, I don't need to make it any worse. If it sounds counter-intuitive, it probably is. But that's life in the cancer lane. One conundrum after another.

Participating in Breathe Deep DC/ LUNgevity Foundation's 5K made that life better. And "better" is all I can ask for. Thanks to all who organized, volunteered, participated and donated their time, energy and money. See you all next year.

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

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Getting Organized for Thanksgiving

Local experts offer a survival guide.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

Jill Mahon is hosting her family for Thanksgiving next week, which is, of course, the kick-off of the holiday season. But for Mahon, the holidays herald an organizational nightmare.

"The thought of getting my house cleaned and in order for eight additional people made me feel like crawling into bed with a bag of M&Ms," Mahon, an Arlington resident, said in jest. "I got up to start planning dinner and five [minutes] later I crawled back into bed with my M&Ms."

The holidays don't have to be so logistically challenging, however. Area organization experts say, "let the planning begin" and offer suggestions for Thanksgiving and beyond.

"When it comes to the holidays, I always suggest that you start early and plan ahead," said Susan Unger, of ClutterSOS in Vienna.

Sally Reinholdt, of Closets 911, in Alexandria, says to begin by getting out a pencil and paper. "Make a list of all the things that need to be done and a date when the list needs to be completed. Write one or two things that can be accomplished each day on your calendar. Breaking down the to-do list will make it a lot less overwhelming."

SPECIAL TOUCHES, say experts, can help make out-of-town guests feel welcome. "Put together a welcome basket with extra toothbrushes and toiletries just in case your guests forgot any of their personal items," said Reinholdt. "If you know what their interests are or if they want to sightsee, spend a few minutes on the computer and print out some relevant information."

Experts say planning ahead for meals is important, particularly when one has visitors. "If you are going to have house guests, plan the other meals," said Unger. "Maybe you could make things ahead of time and put them in the freezer like a lasagna or chili. Buy a bagged salad, so it's less work. Always keep it simple."

"Try and find out what [your guests] like to eat so you can have it available," Reinholdt added. "This way, they can help themselves to snacks and other foods [and] will feel more comfortable in your home."

Jody Al-Saigh, of Picture Perfect Organizing, in Alexandria, said "creating a great holiday is like putting on a play. There are scripts, props and scenery, and you're the director."

One take-charge tool that she recommends is a filing system. "Create a holiday binder or accordion file with categories like cards, crafts, décor, food, gifts, parties, menus, lists, songs, traditions and budget."

If necessary, ask for help as the deadlines near. "If you are cooking a big meal, cook and freeze as much as you can ahead of time," said Reinholdt. "Pick



Photo by Marilyn Campbell/The Connection

"Creating a great holiday is like putting on a play. There are scripts, props and scenery, and you're the director."

— Jody Al-Saigh,
Picture Perfect Organizing

Jody Al-Saigh recommends a filing system for holiday organization. "Create a holiday binder or accordion file with categories like cards, crafts, décor, food, gifts, parties, menus, lists, songs, traditions and budget," she said.

out your serving pieces and set the table a day ahead of time. Have home decorating and home

de-decorating parties with a few family members and friends. The whole process will go a lot more quickly and be a lot more fun."

Unger said, "When grocery shopping for the holidays, if you can, pick up everything early, maybe the non-perishables with your regular weekly shopping and save the perishables for the week of. I tend to go to the grocery store very early in the morning the week of Thanksgiv-

ing because the stores get really busy later on and you end up waiting."

WHEN IT COMES to cleaning, Eileen LaGreca of Sensational Spaces in Fairfax, suggests bringing in the pros. "Hire a house cleaning service to do a thorough cleaning before the holidays. Whether you're hosting a get-together or spending time at home with the family, it's one less thing to worry about."

LaGreca also suggests clearing out the old to make room for the new. "Donate older toys and clothes now," she said. "This declutters your house for the holidays, and opens space for the gifts sure to come."

Finally, allow for error. "Strike the word 'perfect' from your goals," said LaGreca. "Perfect holidays exist only in our memories. Instead, keep it simple and remember to laugh."

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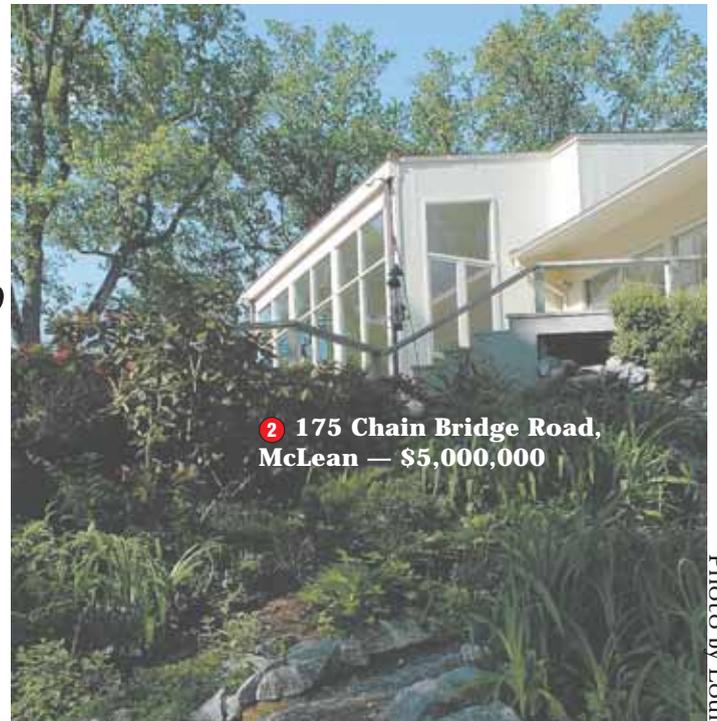
Local REAL ESTATE

September, 2012 Top Sales in Great Falls, McLean, Reston, Herndon, Oak Hill, Oakton and Vienna

8 7846 Westmont Lane, McLean — \$2,350,000



Photos by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection



2 175 Chain Bridge Road, McLean — \$5,000,000

Photo by Louise Krafft/The Connection

12 11041 Heathland Drive, Oakton — \$1,300,000

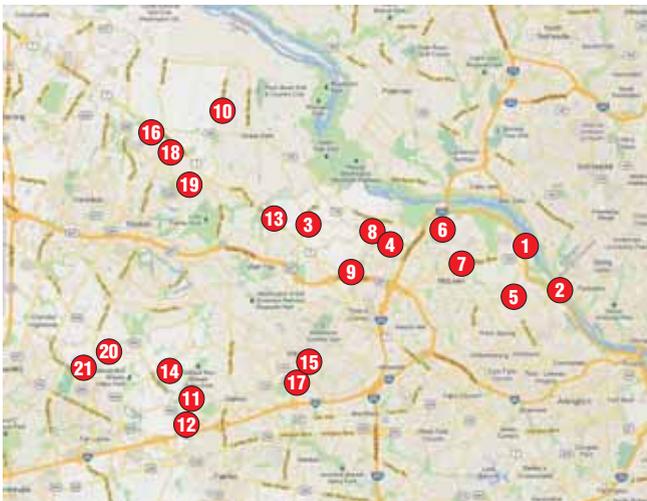


13 1290 Difficult Run Court, Vienna — \$1,285,000



16 11630 Cedar Chase Road, Herndon — \$1,229,000

18 11305 Stones Throw Drive, Reston — \$1,150,000



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Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
1003 CREST LN	4	5	1		MCLEAN	\$7,000,000	Detached	2.31	22101	RANDELL CORTES W PROP	09/13/12
175 CHAIN BRIDGE RD	4	3	1		MCLEAN	\$5,000,000	Detached	2.30	22101	ARLINGWOOD	09/21/12
1112 DARA LN	4	4	1		GREAT FALLS	\$3,696,597	Detached	1.88	22066	MARQUETTE	09/27/12
932 DOMINION RESERVE DR	4	5	2		MCLEAN	\$2,625,000	Detached	0.96	22102	THE RESERVE	09/27/12
6019 WOODLEY RD	6	6	1		MCLEAN	\$2,575,000	Detached	0.63	22101	SIMPSON AND MAYS	09/28/12
6901 BENJAMIN ST	7	7	3		MCLEAN	\$2,500,000	Detached	0.97	22101	LANGLEY FOREST	09/24/12
1222 STUART ROBESON DR	6	8	1		MCLEAN	\$2,425,000	Detached	0.27	22101	MERRYHILL	09/18/12
7846 WESTMONT LN	5	5	2		MCLEAN	\$2,350,000	Detached	0.99	22102	THE RESERVE	09/28/12
1361 HARDISON LN	7	6	1		MCLEAN	\$2,250,000	Duplex	0.80	22102	BELMEADE	09/07/12
10496 PATRICIAN WOODS CT	4	4	1		GREAT FALLS	\$1,778,000	Detached	1.01	22066	FINGER LAKE ESTATES	09/24/12
3186 WHEATLAND FARMS DR	5	4	2		OAKTON	\$1,300,000	Detached	1.23	22124	WHEATLAND FARMS	09/19/12
11041 HEATHLAND DR	5	4	2		OAKTON	\$1,300,000	Detached	0.95	22124	OAKTON CROSSING	09/17/12
1290 DIFFICULT RUN CT	4	4	1		VIENNA	\$1,285,000	Detached	0.46	22182	MIDDLETON TWO	09/27/12
11227 SORREL RIDGE LN	6	6	0		OAKTON	\$1,250,000	Detached	2.00	22124	FOX LAKE	09/14/12
606 COTTAGE ST SW	5	6	3		VIENNA	\$1,250,000	Detached	0.23	22180	WEST VIENNA WOODS	09/19/12
11630 CEDAR CHASE RD	5	4	1		HERNDON	\$1,229,000	Detached	0.50	20170	CEDAR CHASE	09/11/12
513 RIDGE RD	6	5	1		VIENNA	\$1,215,000	Detached	0.25	22180	VIENNA WOODS	09/14/12
11305 STONES THROW DR	5	4	1		RESTON	\$1,150,000	Detached	0.58	20194	ESTATES AT WYNDHAM HILLS	09/18/12
1388 CAMERON HEATH DR	6	5	1		RESTON	\$1,145,000	Detached	0.24	20194	HUNTERS END	09/26/12
12314 WESTWOOD HILLS DR	5	6	2		OAK HILL	\$1,080,000	Detached	0.87	20171	RESERVE AT OAKTON	09/28/12
12854 PARAPET WAY	5	4	2		HERNDON	\$1,050,000	Detached	0.88	20171	CAMBERLEY EAST	09/07/12

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Thanksgiving Centerpiece Ideas: Flowers Not Required

Floral design pros share secrets to creating swoon-worthy centerpieces.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

While the turkey is often the star of a Thanksgiving dinner table, a nonedible focal point can play a leading role in creating an elegant dinner table aesthetic. From lush floral arrangements to designs without blooms, three local floral design pros offer ideas for spectacular centerpieces that can be replicated easily at home.

"We usually suggest low containers for the Thanksgiving dinner table," said Jenny Park, a floral designer with Reston Floral Design in Reston. "I use things that represent harvesting, like pumpkins or artificial fruit like grapes and apples."

Floral designer Alison de Wit, of Distinctive Floral Designs in Great Falls, suggests going horizontal: "Create a runner of sorts at the midpoint of a long table with blooms and autumn harvest elements. These can be placed in a lush carpeted type form to create a meandering avenue of décor or grouped along the length of the table. The effect is one of abundance and is particularly aesthetically pleasing when paired with groupings of candles of different heights [such as] pillar candles, votive candles or floating candles."

Old Town Alexandria-based designer Rebecca A. Henry often includes elements of nature. "Incorporate leaves — either dried or fresh," said Henry. Henry owns Petal's Edge Floral Design with her business partner, Arlington resident Gerry Rogers. "Fresh leaves don't hold up very well, so preserved leaves are actually a better choice with gourds and mini-pumpkins. They add a touch of nonfloral, and Thanksgiving arrangements tend to veer toward nonfloral."

DESIGNERS SAY GLASS, basket or pumpkin containers are ideal for Thanksgiving. "If you want to do something contemporary, but still stay within that feeling of fall, use a glass container but fill it with something like cranberries or coffee beans to give it the color of fall," said Henry. "Fill a square glass vase with cranber-

ries and top it with an arrangement that has a lot of oranges and yellows and reds and rust colors and some dried elements. You can fill a vase with just about anything."

De Wit adds that berries are always a welcome addition to fall arrangements, suggesting pepper berries, snowberries and hypericum berries, along with pods such as scabiosa and poppy. "Greens can diverge from the traditional to a mélange of hues from soft mint to deep leaf green. Lambs ear, seeded eucalyptus, variegated ruscus, pittisporum and papyrus all provide a lovely aesthetic within a composition. Likewise, feathers are a beautiful component of mixed medium pieces."

Make use of the woody elements that are in abundance now. "Popular things to incorporate into

fall centerpieces are dried pods like lotus pods or cattails, dried wheat, dried pomegranates, dried fruits or anything that reminds you of harvest time," said Henry. "Most of these dried items can be picked up at a craft store."

Use sentimental or personal pieces to create an elegant presentation. "Rather than having a singular arrangement ... create a tableaux with floral or organic pieces to form a pleasing central theme," said de Wit. "This would include a grouping of smaller vases — and these can be special pieces from personal collections or all glass, ceramic or antique pieces. This offers an interesting variant on a single arrangement."

Marika Meyer, of Meyer Interiors, in Washington, said, "Look for flowers that are in the autumn palette but might be out of season. I recently saw a beautiful arrangement of French tulips in oranges and reds, but used on a tablescape with gourds, it was a fresh take on a flower arrangement."



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