

Clarinetist Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant of Oakton (pictured), tuba player Gunnery Sgt. Mark Thiele of Vienna and trumpeter/cornetist Staff Sgt. Robert Singer of Reston performed in the 57th Inauguration of the President of the United States on Monday, Jan. 21, as members of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band.

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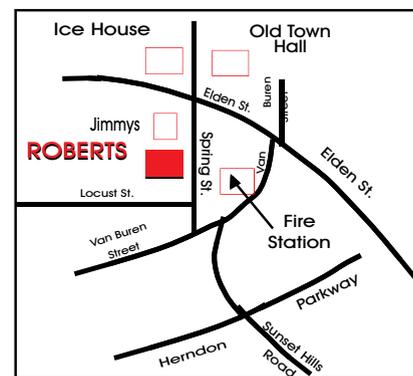
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# Nazi Commonwealth

**Bipartisan team seeks compensation for victims of forced sterilization.**

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

**N**obody knows how many people are survivors of Virginia's forced sterilization program, which targeted people with mental illness, mental retardation or epilepsy. But a bipartisan effort now under consideration in Richmond would hand each and every one of them a \$50,000 check from the people of Virginia. According to one calculation, that could mean as much as \$73 million.

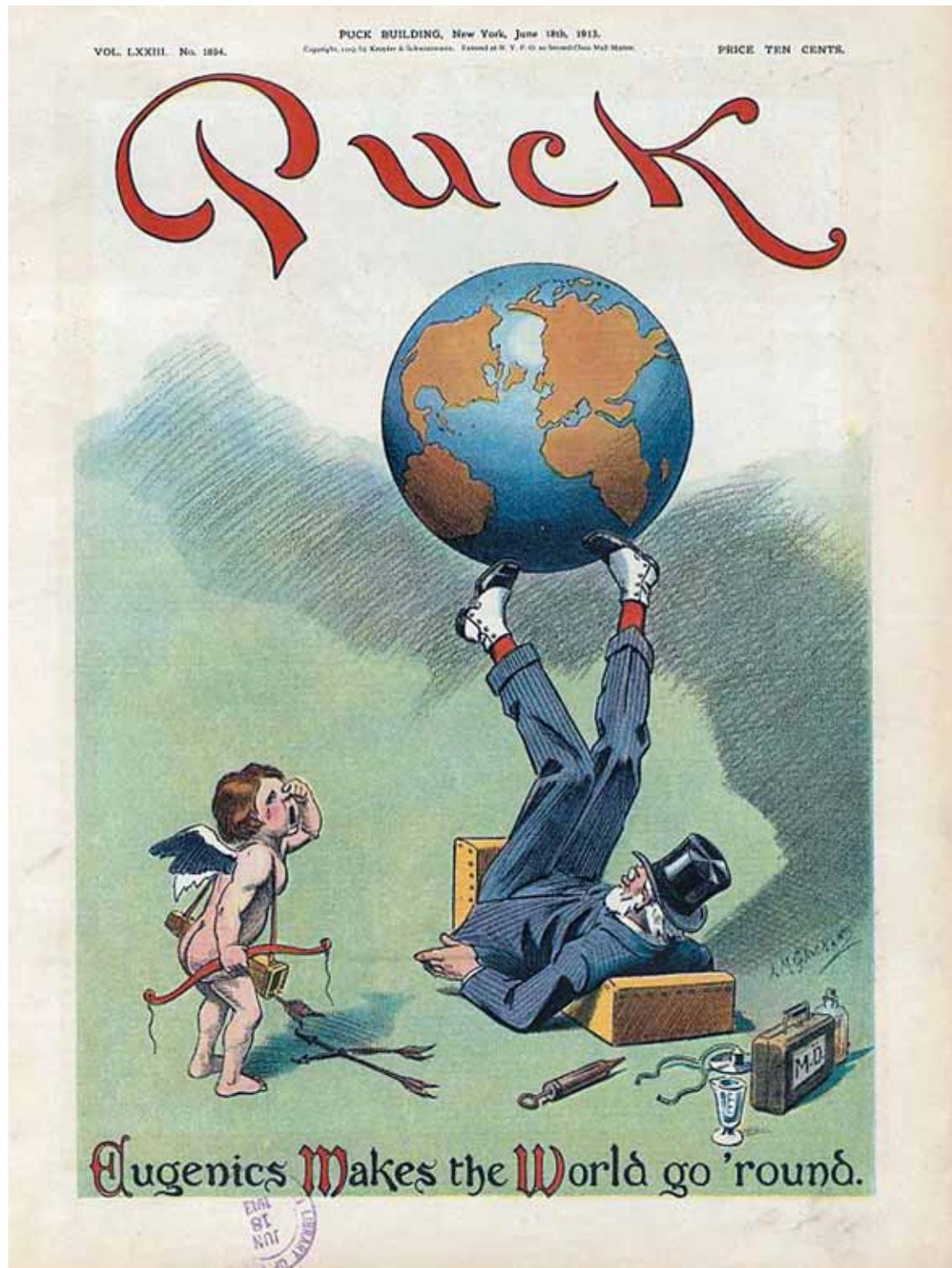
"I would ask that we not run away from this issue," said Arlington Del. Patrick Hope (D-47). "Instead of taking the lead in an area that we are regretful for, let's be a state that takes the lead to right a wrong."

The effort has created an unlikely alliance — Hope has joined forces with conservative Del. Bob Marshall (R-13), who has introduced House Bill 1529. If approved by the General Assembly and signed by the governor, the bill would provide compensation to persons involuntarily sterilized by the commonwealth of Virginia between 1924 and 1979. A research project conducted by the University of Vermont estimated the number of individuals sterilized in Virginia at 7,325.

"Virginia provided the model for the Nazi sterilization program," said Marshall during a recent floor speech about the bill. "We provided the fulcrum for what became the Final Solution because we devalued life so much we thought these people were trash."

**THE HISTORY OF EUGENICS** in Virginia dates back to the early 20th century. Although states such as Indiana and Connecticut were the first states to adopt legislation, Virginia's law was based on a model created by the Eugenics Record Office in New York. After the General Assembly adopted the law in 1924, eugenicist Harry Laughlin worked with other states to adopt similar legislation.

"The worry was that Laughlin and other proponents of eugenics thought the individual state laws getting based on their ideas were going to be easily overturned," said Andrew Light, assistant director of George Mason University Center for Philosophy and Public Policy. "They were potentially un-



**This 1913 cover of Puck Magazine features a well-dressed man balancing the earth with his legs. A cherub weeps over the headline, "Eugenics Makes the World go 'round.'"**

constitutional. And so Virginia was one of the first states to create a law based on the model."

The law applied to interracial couples and those labeled "feeble-minded, insane, idiotic, imbecile or epileptic." And it didn't take long to create a legal challenge. The first documented case of forced sterilization was Carrie Buck, a Charlottesville teenager who became pregnant after being raped. Her family committed her to the Virginia State Colony for

Epileptics and Feeble-minded, where she was sterilized against her will. A legal challenge to that sterilization went to the U.S. Supreme Court, which upheld Virginia's law in a case known as *Buck versus Bell* in 1927.

"We have seen more than once that the public welfare may call upon the best citizens for their lives," Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote in the majority opinion. "The principle that sustains compulsory vaccination is broad

enough to cover cutting the Fallopian tubes."

**THAT DECISION** opened the door to five decades of forced sterilization. Although the theory behind the law was the creation of a better society, that's not how it was used in Virginia. In practice, the law was used to target a variety of shortcomings, including alcohol, syphilis and criminal behavior. The program ended in 1979, when the General Assembly removed the language from the state



**Del. Bob Marshall (R-13)**



**Del. Patrick Hope (D-47)**

code. Even then, the program was alive and well.

"In fact, we sterilized two people in 1979," said Hope. "Virginia was ground zero."

Now, 85 years after the Supreme Court case, Hope and Marshall say it's time to find out who the surviving victims are and learn their stories. During a recent session of the House of Delegates, Marshall read from the 1924 law that described "defective persons" who would become a "menace to society" if allowed to procreate.

"I'm not reading some religious tract or eugenics tract," Marshall told his colleagues. "This is the code of Virginia, decided in this building in this room by our predecessors in the General Assembly."

**THE BILL** has been referred to the Committee on Appropriations, where it was sent to a subcommittee on Health and Human Services. Supporters say the bipartisan team of Hope and Marshall could provide a powerful force, especially if they leverage the personal stories of survivors as was the case during a press conference earlier this month. Despite the economic cost of handing out compensation, political support for the bill could come from several directions.

"One of the great proponents of the eugenics movement was one Margaret Sanger, who was also the founder of the modern-day Planned Parenthood," said Todd Gilbert (R-15). "So I thank the gentleman from Arlington for his recognition of the horrors that occur when we as a society and a culture begin to devalue human life."

# THE COUNTY LINE



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION



**Stanton (center) with his adoptive parents Mike and Freda Delgado of Fairfax during Fairfax Families4Kids National Mentoring Month Celebration on Saturday, Jan. 26, at the Pinn Center in Fairfax. “This isn’t easy, but you can’t give up. Michael and I always say to Stanton that no matter what, we’re not giving up on you,” Freda said.**

**Fairfax Families4Kids hosted a luncheon for mentors to celebrate National Mentoring Month on Saturday, Jan. 26, at the Pinn Center in Fairfax. (From left) Alexandra LaJoux; Joan Brady, Paris, 16, a foster teen who was recently adopted; Molly Pell; Carmen Jordan, Carissa and Beverly Howard, the director of the program.**

## A Chorus of Praise

**Fairfax County mentors celebrated during National Mentor Month.**

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

Second article in a three part series.

**C**an we get an “amen?” The joyful noise coming from the David R. Pinn Center in Fairfax on Saturday wasn’t a gospel revival, but it was just as inspiring and enlightening.

“C’mon now. I want to hear from everybody. Give me an adjective to describe your mentor... How about amazing?” asked Beverly Howard, the “dynamic” director of Fairfax Families4Kids.

“How about chill!” said Stanton, 14, sporting yellow sunglasses and a baseball cap, making everyone laugh.

“Supportive,” shouted one teen. “Caring and helpful,” shouted another.

The boisterous call-and-response session was part of a special luncheon hosted by Fairfax Families4Kids, a foster-mentoring program run by Fairfax County’s Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, to celebrate National Mentor Month. Created in 2005, the program’s mission is to build bonds between volunteers and foster children, a majority of whom are 14 years old or older.

“Mentors can truly make the difference between struggle and success,” Howard said. “Our mentors are all heroes.” She said research has shown that volunteer mentors can play a powerful role in reducing drug abuse and youth violence as well as boosting academic achievement.

While Howard was more than willing to praise mentors, many of the mentors and youth were just as enthusiastic about her.



**Alexandra LaJoux, of Fairfax, holds up a poster created by one of the youth she mentors. She attended the Fairfax Families4Kids luncheon for mentors to celebrate National Mentoring Month on Saturday, Jan. 26, at the Pinn Center in Fairfax.**

teach a class.

“And let me add that I love the name Paris,” LaJoux said with a mischievous grin, before snapping her fingers and serenading Paris with the Cole Porter classic “I love Paris.”

“*I love Paris in the spring time; I love Paris in the fall; I love Paris in the summer when it sizzles; I love Paris in the winter when it drizzles...*” I sang that song to her the first time I met her,” LaJoux said, laughing. “You can see, we’re just one big family here.”

“Yeah, one big crazy family,” Paris said, smiling. The celebration ended on a high note, as mentors gathered around a chocolate cake with candles.

“Blow out the candles and make a wish,” said Howard. “I wish all of you loving families.”

“Miss Beverly is fun and funny,” said William, a 13-year-old in the program who was recently adopted. “When we’re sad, she brings us up.”

“She uses her soft, inside voice with us,” said a 16-year-old foster youth. “She doesn’t yell. I like that.”

Another foster child spoke movingly about his mentor, “Mr. Keith” Foxx, one of the program’s first mentors. “He’s a great basketball player. He’s smart, and he’s always happy to see me.”

Paris, a 16-year-old singer/songwriter, praised all the mentors by leading the group in singing “We Are The World,” playing her jazz interpretation of the song on a guitar. After several years in the program, Paris was recently adopted.

“Paris is so talented. She’s an avid reader and she writes poetry,” said Alexandra LaJoux, a mentor who lives in Fairfax. LaJoux—known for her exuberant personality, and her penchant for bursting into song—is a music teacher who became involved in the program when she volunteered to

### VIEWPOINTS

## Inspired to Mentor

**T**he Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recently recognized January as National Mentoring Month. “As a nation, we need to ensure that all of our young people are well equipped to lead healthy and productive lives. You can help a young person prepare for a successful future

by volunteering with a local mentoring program,” said General Colin L. Powell, the spokesperson for the national campaign, during an event in Washington, D.C. last week. As part of National Mentoring Month, we asked mentors with Fairfax Families4Kids, a Fairfax County foster-mentoring program

### “What Inspires You to be a Mentor?”



**Alexandra R. Lajoux**

“Joy! After songwriting with creative teens in foster care, I wanted to spend more time with them and to mentor. Paraphrasing a prayer: “Child of God, my mentee dear, to whom God’s love commits me here. Ever this life, I’m at your side. To light, to guard, to love, to guide.”

**Kathy Moore**

“When my younger child left home for college, I realized that I had time, energy, and love to give to teenagers who had no caring adults in their lives. The challenges are great, but seeing the kids become confident, happy and trusting through the mentor relationships is incredibly rewarding.”



**Keith Foxx**

“It’s simple. These kids need mentors like any other children, but they also need an adult figure in their lives that can help guide them like a parent would. I had a desire to help young people, which soon turned into a love for mentoring, friendship and our kids!”

**Molly Pell**

“I can’t pinpoint a specific reason that I became a mentor. I had a little bit of free time and I like teenagers, so I thought I’d give it a shot. Six years later, I’m still here. The kids inspire me to stick with it. They’re like family to me, and I look forward to seeing them as often as I can. I am inspired by their strength, resilience and their open hearts.”



**Yusef Jamaludeen**

“What inspired me to mentor was the overall need for positive non-parental role models for our youth. Mentors are the ‘life coaches for the adolescent.’ In addition, it takes little amounts of effort to be a mentor and it has such a significant impact to the mentees. As a youth with a stable home life, I can’t remember how often I saw my mentor but I will never forget him. Knowing someone cares about you who isn’t related to you or paid to do so makes all the difference in the world sometimes.”

**Chavon Rogers**

“I started mentoring because I wanted to give back to the community by doing something I love, which is working with children. I continue to mentor because I love working with kids and the program. I mentor some amazing and resilient kids who bring much joy to my life.”



—VICTORIA ROSS

Photos of mentors courtesy of Joan Brady of Great Falls. Brady, a professional photographer, volunteers as a mentor, photographer and videographer for Fairfax Families4Kids.

# SCHOOLS

## Preparing for Inauguration

Flint Hill hosted the marching band from Georgia State University on Saturday, Jan. 19, and Sunday, Jan. 20, as they prepared for the inaugural parade. The band has more than 200 performers including a color guard.



PHOTOS BY ZACH KINCAID



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## Extreme, But Brief, Volunteering

More than 150 volunteers needed to survey chronic homeless for three days in February.

The real solution to homelessness is housing.

This week in Northern Virginia, a point-in-time survey will record all of the “literally homeless” individuals and families in the region. Last year, on Jan. 25, 2012, there were 1,534 people who were literally homeless in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community; 697 of them were single individuals and 837 were people in families. A third of the total number of homeless were children. Nearly 60 percent of the adult members of the homeless families were employed.

Later in February, the Fairfax-Falls Church Partnership to End Homelessness will embark on a new, intensive approach to identify the nearly 300 people who are chronically homeless, living on the street or in the woods around the county. This is part of a national effort, 100,000 Homes.

Volunteers will create a registry, including names, photographs and personal stories of all

individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in the area. The information gathered will identify particularly vulnerable people, and help prioritize housing and support resources. The county’s goal is to get half of them in housing within three years.

### EDITORIAL

The effort is not without precedent. Arlington’s registry week was in October 2011, and identified 153 homeless individuals, with more than half at risk of dying on the streets. Since then, more than 30 homeless people identified as vulnerable have been placed in permanent housing. Arlington’s campaign is on target to fulfill the goal of housing 100 people in three years.

The Fairfax effort, 100,000 Homes Fairfax, kicks off on Feb. 23 with Registry Week, a multi-day event where volunteers go out on the streets and gather information to create a name and photographic registry.

It will require the work of more than 150 volunteers countywide. Most will help conduct surveys with homeless individuals on the

streets for three days during registry week. Others will help with data entry and other support roles.

It’s a big commitment but also an opportunity to be a part of real change for some of the area’s most vulnerable people. Volunteer efforts on those days will most certainly lead to saving lives.

Survey volunteers make a four-day commitment, a half-day of training plus working three mornings (4-7 a.m.) in teams of four to interview homeless individuals for the registry. The same team of four must survey the assigned geographical area all three days. Survey volunteers will need to be available: Saturday, Feb. 23, overview and training, noon-4 p.m.; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 25, 26, 27, team survey, 4-7 a.m.

The Registry Week will wrap up with a presentation to the community on March 1.

Other volunteers will help set up for the volunteer training and/or assist at headquarters each survey morning by setting up food, helping with cleanup and answering volunteer questions. You can register online and learn more at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/100khomes/registry-week.htm>.

## Searching for ‘The New Virginia Way’

Need to change the way Virginia supports people with disabilities.

BY RIKKI EPSTEIN AND KYMBERLY DELOATCHE

In light of Virginia’s settlement with the Department of Justice over Virginia’s state institutions for people with disabilities, also known as training centers, it is time for us to enter “The New Virginia Way.” We must focus on building community supports and capacity for those leaving the training centers and for the 7,500 families on waiting lists for state Medicaid waivers.

“The New Virginia Way” means changing the way Virginia supports people with disabilities from an under-funded, complicated system to a comprehensive community support structure. Right now, there are not enough supports available for every individual in the community. In fact, this lack of community options was a large part of the reason the DOJ investigated Virginia and found it violates the civil rights of people with disabilities.

The DOJ settlement and “The New Virginia Way” will ensure community supports are done correctly. The settlement is a legally enforceable agreement that holds Virginia responsible for making

sure every person transitioning to community-based care has the supports they need lined up before they move. If the Independent Reviewer overseeing implementation feels that Virginia is falling short, the case goes back to court. Judge John Gibney, who is overseeing the settlement, has made clear his commitment to protecting the rights of everyone involved and ensuring all requirements are met.

It is worth noting that since the settlement, the General Assembly has funded more waivers than the minimum mandated by the settlement. The governor’s current budget proposal includes rate differentials for individuals who have intense behavioral and nursing needs, and the state is hiring a consultant to redesign the waivers to provide more comprehensive services with adequate reimbursement rates. This demonstrates a step forward.

Increasingly, service providers have dedicated themselves to supporting individuals with significant needs. Some specialize in helping individuals with a history of significant behavioral challenges and others have nurses on staff to support individuals with

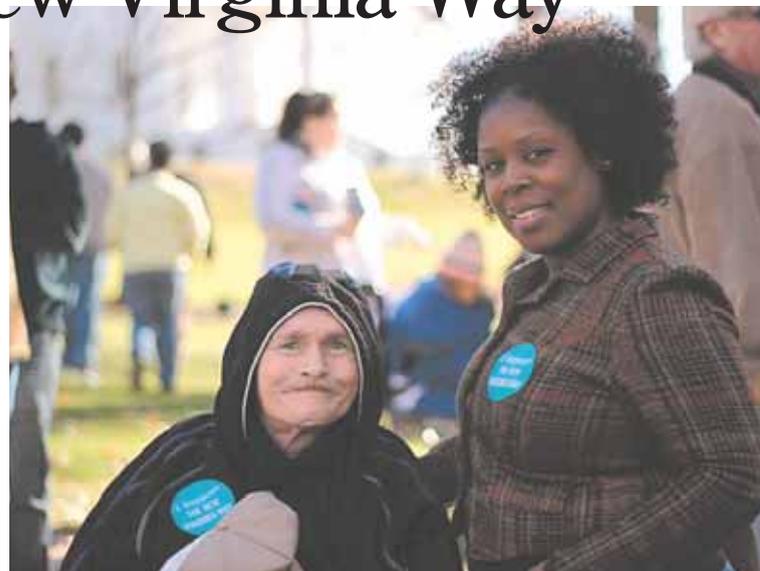


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARC OF VIRGINIA

**An individual with a disability and his caregiver wearing “I Support The New Virginia Way” stickers at the Martin Luther King Day Rally in Richmond.**

complex medical concerns. Several have begun to expand since the settlement to help individuals transition.

The settlement encourages creativity and smaller, customized supports. We need to consider sponsored placements and apartments with 24-hour staffing. These housing models are already working in Virginia and can be established affordably and quickly.

Over a dozen states have no institutions and most have closed at least one. We have great role models for institutional closure, an Independent Reviewer with

decades of experience in making transitions a reality, a settlement that mandates safe and appropriate supports, and thousands of advocates dedicated to making sure we support everyone the right way.

This settlement is a landmark opportunity to ensure Virginia is changed for the better forever. That will happen when we all put our energy towards making “The New Virginia Way” reality.

*Rikki Epstein is executive director at The Arc of Northern Virginia. KyMBERLY DeLoatche is executive director at the Autism Society of Northern Virginia.*

# LETTERS

## Taking Exception on Medicaid Expansion

To the Editor:

Your recent editorial ["Expanding Medicaid Good For Virginia," The Connection, January 23-29, 2013] is noble in its desire to "extend health coverage to more than 400,000 residents who currently have no health insurance."

If public policy making were just that easy. The editorial then goes on to indifferently say, "the Federal government picks up the tab." As if a reminder was needed, that tab is, in fact, picked up by the taxpayer through either more borrowing or more taxes, and not by the ubiquitous "Federal government." (Plus, states lack a further financing tool the federal government has—printing more money.) There is no proverbial "free lunch."

Then, the logic and math of later offering an explanation of how the cost will be financed requires a complete suspension of common sense to accept. The editorial cites "new analysis by the Commonwealth Institute showing that expanding Medicaid to 133 percent of the poverty level would generate state general fund savings and new revenues that would total \$2.08 billion and more than offset the state's share of expansion costs ... plus provide significant numbers of new jobs and economic growth."

If "expanding Medicaid to 133 percent of the poverty level" could conceivably generate that kind of revenue, jobs and economic growth, why stop there? Why not expand it to 150, 175, or even 200 percent of the poverty level? By the editorial's logic, if the 133 percent figure will get Virginia over \$2 billion in revenue, then expanding it to 200 percent should earn the state hundreds of millions more—right? So why in reality doesn't it work that way? Because on the flip side—and unwritten in the editorial—are such factors as increased taxes to foot the bill take money from the taxpayer that could otherwise be spent elsewhere in the economy to generate jobs and economic activity.

One last point. The editorial says that "expanding health care will add tens of thousands of new jobs." No. It is a healthy, vibrant and expanding economy that will add the "tens of thousands of new jobs" as more dollars become available for everyone to make their choice to obtain adequate health coverage.

**Chris J. Krisinger**  
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## WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

Vienna's "glitterati" shows up at the Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce Casino Night and Taste of the Town.



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/ THE CONNECTION



Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center performs at the Barns of Wolf Trap.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WOLF TRAP



Great Falls Columns, watercolor, by Jeff Gorrell, "24 X 30."

### Great Falls State of Mind

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

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Terry Lee Ryan benefit the Dan Dellinger campaign for national commander of the American Legion. \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. 703-938-9535 or [www.Legion180.net](http://www.Legion180.net).  
**Sixth Annual McLean Jewelry Showcase.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m., at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. A juried event featuring handmade jewelry collections and designs by exhibitors region-wide. \$3. 703-790-0123 TTY 711.

**Italian American Reconciliation.** 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A romantic comedy from the author "Moonstruck" and "Doubt" follows Huey Bonfigliano as he takes to the arts after his divorce, but bad poetry isn't enough and he decides to try and win back his ex with the help of friends. \$25; \$15 for students. 703-854-1856 or [www.1ststage.org](http://www.1ststage.org).

**Interfaith Peace Celebration.** 7-9 p.m., at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Rd., Oakton. An interfaith celebration in conjunction with the opening of the 64-day Season for Nonviolence, celebrated internationally Jan. 30-April 4; representatives from 12 spiritual traditions present readings, reflections and music on the theme of peace. [www.unityoffairfax.org/season-nonviolence](http://www.unityoffairfax.org/season-nonviolence).

**Proposals.** 8 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 127 Center St. S., Vienna. The Neil Simon comedy recalls the Hines family gathered at their retreat in the Poconos in the summer of 1953: romantic entanglements coalesce in one idyllic afternoon in the elegiac memory play. \$11 for students and seniors 65-plus; \$13. 703-255-6399.

**Italian American Reconciliation.** 8 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A romantic comedy from the author "Moonstruck" and "Doubt" follows Huey Bonfigliano as he takes to the arts after his divorce, but bad poetry isn't enough and he decides to try and win back his ex with the help of friends. \$25; \$15 for students. 703-854-1856 or [www.1ststage.org](http://www.1ststage.org).

#### SATURDAY/FEB. 2

**Mardi Gras Fundraising Gala.** 8 a.m.-noon, at the Vienna American Legion, 330 Center St. N, Vienna. A costume contest, heavy hors d'oeuvres, silent auction and music by

### Especially for Children

From libraries and community center to music venue and sports facilities, the Vienna-Oakton area serves children with a diversity of pastimes and interests.

Patrick Henry Library in Vienna and Oakton Library in Oakton offer a selection of preschool-focused presentations, from story-and-song to live animal shows and science programming. Programs at both libraries require registration, which can be done online or by phone. See the "events" link for schedule.



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/ THE CONNECTION

**Patrick Henry Library in Vienna hosts events during the week for preschoolers. Even popular kiddie-rock stars Rocknoceros appeared there in 2012.**

#### PATRICK HENRY LIBRARY

Toddlin' Twos and Rock-a-bye Baby to Pokemon and Wii—703-938-0405, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ph/>

Thursday, 10:30 a.m., The Great Zucchini, and at noon, Oh Susannah!; Friday, 10:30 a.m., Rocknoceros, and at noon, The Grandsons, Jr. Occasionally, Jammin' Java hosts a Saturday show.

Tickets, at \$5 per person plus a \$1 service fee, are available for advance purchase online and at the door on show day. Jammin' Java is at 227 Maple Avenue East.

#### OAKTON LIBRARY

Wednesday, preschool stories and presentations—10304 Lynnhaven Place, fronts Turner Hill Road, across the shopping center, Oakton <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/ok/>

#### JAMMIN' JAVA

Every Thursday and Friday morning, Jammin' Java turns its stage over to the preschool set. From Rocknoceros and their kiddie-rock to magician The Great Zucchini, Jammin' Java features performers that are among the region's most popular. Beginning in January, 2013, Jammin' Java presents a morning show at 10:30 a.m. and a lunch-hour show at noon.  
♦ New weekday schedule is:

#### VIENNA COMMUNITY CENTER

From musical theatre workshops for elementary-school aged children to pre-school music or gymnastics, there's a diversity of classes running through the winter to keep any young child busy. Go to <http://viennava.gov/>. The Vienna Community Center is on Cherry Street, between Park and Center Streets, adjacent to the W & O trail.  
♦ Family Skate Night at Vienna Community Center operates on Friday evenings through March 22, 6:30 to 8 p.m. 120 Cherry Street, S.E. Admission is \$1 per person, and participants must bring their own roller skates or in-line skates and

safety equipment (no scooters). Parents are required to stay with their children and are welcome to participate. No registration required. For more information, call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department at 703-255-6360 or [visitwww.viennava.gov](http://visitwww.viennava.gov).

#### BLUE BOX SPORTS—SOCCER AND BASEBALL SKILLS

Is there a little slugger or "soccer tot" in your house? If so, Blue Box Sports, with a facility at Tysons Corner, has the coaches and venue for children to find their places in sports history.  
Spring registration is open. Soccer tots is for kids 18 months to 6 years old and Lil' Sluggers take children 2 to 5 years old. For pricing, see website or call. The "Tysons Playground" is at 8500 C Tyco Road.  
Registration is online at [BlueBoxSports.com](http://BlueBoxSports.com) or over the phone at 703-953-1667. <http://www.blueboxsports.com/>.

—DONNA MANZ

over musical entertainment duty.

From John Eaton's pop standards on Feb. 16 to the comedy of Second City on March 21, there is a performer for every genre.

The Barns of Wolf Trap is located at 1635 Trap Road, Vienna, in a stand-alone building removed from Filene Center grounds.

Tickets can be bought online or at the Wolf Trap box office. See <http://www.wolftrap.org/Barns.aspx> for schedule and pricing.

♦ **Jammin' Java**—Contemporary music lovers come from throughout Northern Virginia for the live evening shows at Jammin' Java. Artists come from all over the country to play at Jammin' Java. Although there is a café, it is the live bands that draw in the crowds nightly.

For schedule of shows, go to [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com). Jammin' Java is at 227 Maple Avenue East.

## Winter Fun Abounds in Vienna

Area hosts events to chase away the chill.

DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

The Vienna-area hosts a variety of fun indoor events during the cold season. From live theatre to live music, from food and gaming to Washington's most revered political satire, there's a bit of something for every interest.

♦ **Neil Simon's nostalgic play, "Proposals,"** is presented in Vienna on Jan. 25, 26, and Feb. 1, 2, 8, and 9 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 3 and 10, at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of the Vienna Community Center. The play focuses on the dynamics of a multi-generational family and their loves and ex-loves.

Tickets for the Vienna Theatre Company's production of Proposals are on sale at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street SE. Tickets are \$13 general admission and \$11 for students and senior citizens over the age of 65. For more information, call 703-255-6360 or visit [www.viennava.gov/](http://www.viennava.gov/) or [www.viennatheatrecompany.org/](http://www.viennatheatrecompany.org/).

♦ **20th Annual Casino Night and Taste of the Town**—sponsored by the Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce—brightens Vienna on Saturday, Feb. 16, 7 p.m. to midnight at Westwood Country Club, 800 Maple Ave. E, Vienna.

Gaming tables feature blackjack, craps and roulette. Some of the area's most popular restaurants offer little plates for tasting. There's music, a cash bar, raffle and silent auction. Ticket includes food, two drink tickets, \$25,000 in gaming cash and 20 raffle tickets.

Advance-purchase tickets are \$85, and tickets at the door are \$95.

Go to [www.vtrcc.org](http://www.vtrcc.org) to order tickets or for more information or phone 703-281-1333.

♦ **Capitol Steps**, the political satire musical, will be performing at James Madison High School on Sun., March 10, at 4 pm. For tickets, visit <http://www.madisoncapitolsteps2013.brownpapertickets.com/>.

This event supports the drug and alcohol-free All Night Graduation Celebration. For information, contact [madisoncapitolsteps2013@gmail.com](mailto:madisoncapitolsteps2013@gmail.com).

♦ **Live music**—Monday through Saturday, Maplewood Grill, fronting Branch Road, across from Giant Food, offers live music to accompany dinner and drinks. It's not unusual to see couples taking a spin on the dance floor.

A Vienna institution, Maplewood Grill is owned by the same family since it was originally named Le Canard. The food is more nouveau-American than European nowadays but it sparkles under the leadership of owner and executive chef, Paul Kuchler. In a nod to dad Marcel's background, Wiener schnitzel is a menu staple. The Alsatian bacon, prosciutto, roasted onion and Gruyère flatbread is a standout.

Maplewood Grill offers Vienna's only nightly music entertainment. The music begins at 8 and runs until 10:30 p.m.

Monday is Jazz Jam night, starting at 8 p.m. Hosted by drummer Karl Anthony, the "jam" invites any musician with his own instrument to join in.

Lou Neeley performs every Tuesday, 8-10 p.m. A jazz, blues and ballads artist, Neely plays the piano, keyboard and guitar.

Pianist Reinhardt Liebig plays popular, blues, jazz and classical standards on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, starting at 8 p.m.

Terry Lee Ryan, pianist and vocalist, performs on Thursdays, 8-10 p.m. He plays blues, popular standards and New Orleans-style renditions.

Call 703-281-0070 for reservations or reserve a table at [www.maplewoodgrill.com](http://www.maplewoodgrill.com).

♦ **First Sunday Jazz Brunch at Bazin's on Church** in Vienna launched on Jan. 6. The series continues monthly on the first Sunday of each month. Enjoy Bazin's signature brunch dishes to the accompaniment of live jazz. Reservations can be made at [www.bazinsonchurch.com](http://www.bazinsonchurch.com) or 703-255-7212.

Bazin's on Church is at 111 Church St NW.

♦ **The Barns of Wolf Trap** at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts is not just for summer. During the cooler months when the Filene Center is not presenting shows, the Barns of Wolf Trap take



**McLean Community Center**  
The Center of It All



Here's What's Happening at MCC



**6th Annual McLean Jewelry Showcase**  
Saturday, Feb. 2, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Admission: \$3; save \$1 with this ad

Jazz Masters with John Eaton  
**"Harold Arlen, the Wonderful Wizard of Song"**  
Saturday, Feb. 2, 1 p.m.  
Free admission

a summer of  
**Wonder!**  
Summer Camp Registration Begins  
Monday, Feb. 4, MCC district residents  
Monday, Feb. 11, all others

Crabgrass Puppets  
**"Jack and the Beanstalk"**  
Saturday, Feb. 9, 2 p.m.  
\$15/\$10 MCC district residents

**Smithsonian American Art Museum**  
**"The Civil War and American Art"**  
Tuesday, Feb. 12  
\$40 per person/\$35 MCC district residents

Morning Movies  
**"An American in Paris"**  
Wednesday, Feb. 13, 10 a.m.  
Free admission

**The McLean Community Center**  
[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)  
Home of the Alden Theatre  
[www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org)  
1234 Ingleside Ave.,  
McLean, VA 22101  
703-790-0123, TTY: 711




# ♥ Give your Valentine the Gift of Love! ♥



There are many ways to help Friends of Homeless Animals

**Adopt** one of our lovable cats or dogs.

**Donate** money or supplies for the Shelter.

**Volunteer** your time or services.



## WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 9

seniors; \$15 for youth 18-and-under. [www.mclean-orchestra.org/tickets](http://www.mclean-orchestra.org/tickets).

### SUNDAY/FEB. 3

**Christ Church Vienna Opening.** 10 a.m., at Christ Church Vienna, 2500 James Madison Dr., Vienna. The church is moving to their new location at Madison High School and the public is welcome to join. 703-865-7929 or [www.ChristChurchVienna.com](http://www.ChristChurchVienna.com).

**Italian American Reconciliation.** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A romantic comedy from the author "Moonstruck" and "Doubt" follows Huey Bonfigliano as he takes to the arts after his divorce, but bad poetry isn't enough and he decides to try and win back his ex with the help of friends. \$25; \$15 for students. 703-854-1856 or [www.1ststage.com](http://www.1ststage.com).

**Musical Fairy Tales.** 3 p.m., at 850 Balls Hill Rd., McLean. A free, 45 minute side-by-side concert with the McLean Youth Orchestra and the McLean Orchestra performing Rossini, A Tribute to Walt Disney, Grieg and Stravinsky. [www.mclean-orchestra.org/tickets](http://www.mclean-orchestra.org/tickets).

**Proposals.** 3 p.m., 8 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 127 Center St. S., Vienna. The Neil Simon comedy recalls the Hines family gathered at their retreat in the Poconos in the summer of 1953: romantic entanglements coalesce in one idyllic afternoon in the elegiac memory play. \$11 for students and seniors 65-plus; \$13. 703-255-6399.

**Traditional Irish Musical Concerts.** 4 p.m., 6 p.m., at the Old Brogue Irish Pub, Rte. 193 and Walker Road, Great Falls. Pat Egan, Tabby Finch, Karin Loya, Bob

Mitchell, a.k.a The Sound of Sleat, play at two different seatings. \$17; \$12 for children 12 and under. 703-759-3309 or [www.ionamusic.com/brogue.shtml](http://www.ionamusic.com/brogue.shtml).

**Superbowl Showing and Buffet.** 5-9 p.m., at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, 2001 International Dr., McLean. A big game buffet with football favorites and the option to root for either team in a private room with HD TVs. \$45. 703-442-9110.

### TUESDAY/FEB. 5

**Great Falls Senior Center Event.** 11 a.m.-1 p.m., at Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Executive Chef Jacques Haeringer of L'Auberge Chez Francois will discuss the connection between food and love, then demonstrate how to make his chocolate truffles. 703-759-3721 or [linda.fernald1@verizon.net](mailto:linda.fernald1@verizon.net).

### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 6

**Rob Sewall on Architectural Photography.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Thoreau Middle School, 2505 Cedar Lane, Vienna. Washington photographer Rob Sewall shares his perspective on photographing architecture; Sewall critiques member's photos in preparation for the architectural photography competition later in the month. [www.vps-va.org](http://www.vps-va.org).

### THURSDAY/FEB. 7

**Solas.** 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. America's premiere Irish folk ensemble plays songs narrating the life of band leader Seamus Egan's great-great uncle in his immigrant struggle during the Industrial Revolution. \$22. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### FRIDAY/FEB. 8

**Veal Parmesan Dinner.** 5:30-8 p.m., at the Vienna American Legion, 330 Center St. N, Vienna. Enjoy veal parmesan on spaghetti with salad and garlic bread with the community. \$10. 703-938-9535.

**Italian American Reconciliation.** 8 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A romantic comedy from the author "Moonstruck" and "Doubt" follows Huey Bonfigliano as he takes to the arts after his divorce, but bad poetry isn't enough and he decides to try and win back his ex with the help of friends. \$25; \$15 for students. 703-854-1856 or [www.1ststage.com](http://www.1ststage.com).

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**Proposals.** 8 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 127 Center St. S., Vienna. The Neil Simon comedy recalls the Hines family gathered at their retreat in the Poconos in the summer of 1953: romantic entanglements coalesce in one idyllic afternoon in the elegiac memory play. \$11 for students and seniors 65-plus; \$13. 703-255-6399.

### SATURDAY/FEB. 9

**Italian American Reconciliation.** 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A romantic comedy follows Huey Bonfigliano as he takes to the arts after his divorce, but bad poetry isn't enough and he tries to win back his ex. \$25; \$15 for students. 703-854-1856 or [www.1ststage.com](http://www.1ststage.com).

## Visit These Houses of Worship

To Highlight Your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

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EPISCOPAL  
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**7:45 a.m.** Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
**9:00 a.m.** Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
Sunday school: preschool - grade 2  
Music: grades 3 - 7  
**10:25 a.m.** Sunday School Grades 3 to 12  
Music 4 years to 2nd grade  
**11:15 a.m.** Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
**5:00 p.m.** Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

Nursery care provided at 9:00 a.m. service

The Rev. James Papile, Rector  
The Rev. Jacqueline Thomson  
The Rev. Laura Cochran  
**703-437-6530**  
[www.stannes-reston.org](http://www.stannes-reston.org)  
1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

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www.fbcv.org**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP, 7:45 AM & 11:00 AM  
CHURCH SCHOOL 9:30AM-10:30AM  
MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM**

#### Assembly of God

Vienna Assembly of God ... 703-938-7736  
Cristo Es Mi Refugio...703-675-0144

#### Baha'i

Baha'i Faith for Northern Virginia ...  
703-821-3345

#### Baptist

Global Mission Church ... 703-757-0877  
Peace Baptist Church ... 703-560-8462  
Bethel Primitive Baptist Church  
... 703-757-8134  
Cartersville Baptist Church ... 703-255-7075  
Fellowship Baptist Church ... 703-385-8516  
First Baptist Church ... 703-938-8525  
The Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877  
Vienna Baptist Church ... 703-281-4400  
New Union Baptist Church... 703-281-2556

#### Buddhist

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center... 202-331-2122

#### Church of the Brethren

Oakton Church of the Brethren  
... 703-281-4411

#### Catholic

Our Lady of Good Counsel ... 703-938-2828  
St. Athanasius Catholic Church ... 703-759-4555  
St. Mark's Catholic Church ... 703-281-9100

#### Charismatic

Christian Assembly ... 703-698-9777

#### Church of Christ

Berea Church of Christ ... 703-893-7040

#### Disciples of Christ

Antioch Christian Church ... 703-938-6753

#### Episcopal

Church of the Holy Comforter ... 703-938-6521

Church of the Holy Cross ... 703-698-6991

St. Francis Episcopal ... 703-759-2082

#### Jehovah's Witness

Jehovah's Witnesses ... 703-759-1579

#### Lutheran

Emmanuel Lutheran Church...703-938-2119

Christ The King Lutheran Church...703-759-6068

St. Athanasius Lutheran Church... 703-455-4003

#### Methodist

Andrew Chapel United Methodist ... 703-759-3509

Church of the Good Shepherd ... 703-281-3987

The Vine Methodist Church ... 703-573-5336

Ephiphany United Methodist ... 703-938-3494

Great Falls United Methodist... 703-759-3705

Oakton United Methodist ... 703-938-1233

Vale United Methodist ... 703-620-2594

Smith Chapel United Methodist ... 571-434-9680

Wesley United Methodist ... 703-938-8700

#### Non-Denominational

Celebration Center for Spiritual Living  
... 703-560-2030

Christian Assembly Church ... 703-698-9777

#### Presbyterian

Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church ...  
703-560-6336

Korean Central Presbyterian ... 703-698-5577

Vienna Presbyterian ... 703-938-9050

#### Quaker

Langley Hills Friends...703-442-8394

#### Seventh-Day Adventist

Northern Virginia Christian Fellowship ...  
703-242-9001

Vienna Seventh Day Adventists ...  
703-938-8383

#### Unitarian Universalist

Congregation of Fairfax ... 703-281-4230

#### United Church of Christ

Emmanuel United Church of Christ ...  
703-938-1555

#### Unity

Unity of Fairfax ... 703-281-1767

**6<sup>th</sup> Annual  
McLean  
Jewelry  
SHOWCASE**

Just in time for  
Valentine's Day! **JURIED HANDCRAFTED JEWELRY**

**SATURDAY, FEB. 2, 11 A.M.-5 P.M.**

- ♥ HANDCRAFTED JEWELRY COLLECTIONS AND DESIGNS!
- ♥ EXHIBITORS FROM AROUND THE REGION!

Admission: \$3  
Food service provided by La Madeleine.

**The McLean Community Center**  
1234 Ingleside Avenue  
McLean VA 22101  
703-790-0123/TTY: 711  
[www.mcleancenter.org/special-events](http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events)

## WEEK IN VIENNA

### Marshall High Teams in National Finals

Three Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) teams have been named national finalists in the open division competition of the CyberPatriot V competition, the premiere high school cyber defense competition designed to inspire high school students to pursue careers in cyber security or other STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) disciplines. The teams are from Chantilly Academy and Marshall Academy, two of the six high school academies in FCPS.

Two Marshall Academy teams qualified for the national finals. Team one members are C.J. Gardner, Alex Handley, captain Kevin Houk, Jack Lynch, Ramon Martinez-Diaz, and Peter Morrissey. Team two members are Pear Ansorrypour, Charlie Franks, Jessie Galanxhi, Peter Marr, Alex Ryan, and captain Jacob Walters. Marshall Academy's Cyber Security Club is sponsored by Computer Systems A+ instructor Jason Simeon and career experience specialist Shelli Carpenter and

mentored by Ryan Walters, president and CEO of TerraWi.

A total of 12 teams were named finalists in the open division.

### Volunteers Needed for Relay For Life in Vienna

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life® is seeking volunteers in Vienna—walkers, cancer survivors, caregivers, community leaders, anyone wanting to make a difference—to organize and recruit fundraising teams, garner community support, coordinate logistics, seek refreshments and prizes, plan entertainment and lend a hand to ensure the success of the 2013 event.

The first volunteer meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 6:30 p.m. at Whole Foods Vienna, 143 Maple Avenue East, Vienna.

The meeting will kick off the planning process for the Vienna's Relay For Life event, which supports the American Cancer Society's mission of saving lives by helping people stay well, by helping people get well, by finding



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

### Addressing Gun Violence in Oakton

Over 50 people from throughout Northern Virginia attended the initial meeting of the Community Committee on Gun Violence on Thursday evening, Jan. 18, in Oakton. The community is organizing to support common sense reform and support President Obama's proposals.

cures and by fighting back against the disease.

If you would like to join the Relay For Life in Vienna as a volunteer or team participant, call the American Cancer Society at 703-937-1919 or visit [www.RelayForLife.org/ViennaVA](http://www.RelayForLife.org/ViennaVA).

### Babe Ruth Baseball Registration Begins

The first of three walk-in registration sessions for Greater Vienna Ruth Baseball for the Spring 2013 season will be held Thursday, Jan.

31, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. Two other sessions will be held in February. All first-time players must register in person. Returning players may use an online form, available at [GVBRL.org](http://GVBRL.org).

Remember Romance and remember it always.

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With the flexibility to tackle a to-do list that's two hours or two days, it's easy to understand why fred is the first name in home improvement. Scheduling one of our industry certified craftsmen to come to your home and get the work done is simply a call or email away. For all of your home improvement and maintenance needs - relax, and make the fred team your go-to team.

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Douglas Moore  
 fred professional  
 46 years in home improvements

relax

# SPORTS

**The Oakton High team and coaches hold up the district banner with pride after winning the Concorde District at a meet on Saturday, Jan. 26.**



PHOTOS BY  
KATIE PIERCE

## Oakton Swim and Dive Wins District Titles

**O**akton High School's Varsity Swim and Dive teams won both the boys' and girls' Concorde District Swim & Dive Championship Saturday night, Jan. 26, at Cub Run RECenter. The girls won with 532 points over Robinson in second place with 323 points. The boys won with 464 points over Robinson (460) in second place.

Oakton's divers set the stage for an incredible night. Bennett Fagan placed third for the boys. Julia Powell and Hana Burkly placed fifth and sixth overall respectively.

John Shebat, Michael Pettinichi, Philip Hu, and Gregory DeRosa placed first in the 200yd Medley Relay with a state qualifying time. In the 200yd Freestyle, Nathan Pawlowicz placed fourth with a regional qualifying time, and Michael Ambrose placed fifth. Denny Nguyen placed first in the 200yd Individual Medley with a state qualifying time, and Michael Pettinichi took fifth place for Oakton. In the 50yd freestyle, John Shebat placed second with a state qualifying time, and Gregory DeRosa placed sixth. In the 100yd Butterfly, Philip Hu finished first and Denny Nguyen placed third, both with state qualifying times. Nathan Pawlowicz placed first in the 500yd Freestyle with a state qualifying time, and Gray Liddell finished fourth with a regional qualifying time. In the 200yd Freestyle Relay, Gregory DeRosa, Denny Nguyen, Michael Ambrose, and John Shebat finished second with a state qualifying time. Philip Hu and John Shebat took first and third place respectively in the 100yd backstroke with state qualifying times. Michael Pettinichi placed third in the 100yd Breaststroke with a state qualifying time. Denny Nguyen, Michael Ambrose, Nathan Pawlowicz, and Philip Hu placed third in the 400yd Freestyle Relay with a state qualifying time.

Janet Hu, Melissa Shebat, Julia Capobianco, and Gillian Crews took first for Oakton in the 200yd

Medley Relay with a state qualifying time. Megan Byrnes placed first in the 200yd Freestyle with a state qualifying time, and Kendall Lawhorn followed in second place with a regional qualifying time. In the 200yd Individual Medley, Janet Hu took first place with a state qualifying time. Laura Branton placed second in the 50yd Freestyle. Also in the 50yd Freestyle, Gillian Crews placed fourth, and Elise Bourdelais placed seventh both with regional qualifying times. Laura Branton and Julia Capobianco placed first and second in the 100yd Butterfly with state qualifying times. Gillian Crews placed fourth in the 100yd Butterfly with a regional qualifying time. Janet Hu placed first in the 100yd Freestyle with a state qualifying time. Kendall Lawhorn took second for Oakton in the 500yd Freestyle with a regional qualifying time. Dylan Staniszewski, Madelynn Norton, and Mary Arcott placed third, fourth and fifth, respectively, in the 500yd Freestyle. In the 200yd Freestyle Relay, Gillian Crews, Elise Bourdelais, Megan Byrnes, and Laura Branton finished first with a state qualifying time. Megan Byrnes placed first in the 100yd Backstroke with a state qualifying time, and Julia Capobianco placed fourth with a regional qualifying time. Melissa Shebat and Ashley Nero placed fourth and sixth in the 100yd Breaststroke. Laura Branton, Kendall Lawhorn, Megan Byrnes, and Janet Hu placed first in the 400yd Freestyle Relay with a state qualifying time.

Swimmers and divers with regional qualifying times/scores will advance to the AAA Northern Region Championship Meet at Oak Marr RECenter starting Tuesday, Jan. 29, with boys' diving at 5:30pm, followed by girls' diving on Wednesday, Jan. 30, at 5:30pm. Swim preliminaries will take place for boys on Thursday, Jan. 31, at 5:30pm, and for girls on Friday, Feb. 1. Swim finals will be held Saturday night at 5:30pm at Oak Marr RECenter in Oakton.

**The Oakton High boys and girls celebrate together their second consecutive Concorde District Championship wins on Saturday, Jan. 26.**



### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Oakton Girls' Basketball Beats Herndon

The Oakton girls' basketball team remained undefeated in the Concorde District with an 88-45 victory against Herndon on Jan. 28.

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, Elizabeth Manner led Oakton with 23 points. Angela Sickels scored 15 points, Alex Marquis finished with 13, Kelsey McWilliams had 10 and Lindsey Abed added nine.

Alexis Brown led Herndon with 12 points. Brianna Moses scored 10 points and Sabrina Tolbert finished with nine.

Oakton improved to 16-2 overall, including six to zero in the Concorde District, and improved its winning streak to six games.

The Cougars hosted Chantilly on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. Oakton will travel to face Robinson at 5:45 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 1.

Herndon fell to 4-13 overall and one to five in the district. The Hornets hosted Centreville on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. Herndon will host Chantilly at 6 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 1.

#### Flint Hill Boys' Basketball Edges Sidwell Friends

The Flint Hill boys' basketball team beat Sidwell Friends 47-46 on Jan. 27, giving the Huskies five consecutive victories after a 3-11 start.

Jerrod Reed knocked down a pair of free throws with 7.6 seconds remaining to help Flint Hill pull out the victory. Cole Herdman had 12 points, including 10 in the second half, and seven rebounds for the Huskies. Britton Anderson finished with 11 points and four steals, and Sam Worman had 10 points and four rebounds.

Flint Hill hosted Maret on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Huskies will travel to face St. Andrew's at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 31.

#### South Lakes Girls' Basketball Gets Win No. 15

The South Lakes girls' basketball team defeated Langley 51-43 on Jan. 22, improving its record to 15-2 overall and 8-1 in the Liberty District.

The Seahawks' Jan. 25 contest against Thomas Jefferson was rescheduled for Feb. 2 due to inclement weather.

Against Langley, South Lakes junior center Abigail Rendle had 15 points, nine rebounds, eight blocks, five steals and two assists. Sophomore forward Princess Aghayere contributed 10 points and four rebounds.

#### Herndon Swimming

Herndon's Conor Cudahy and Ryan Murphy qualified for the state swim meet and several Hornets qualified for regionals at the Concorde District swim meet.

Cudahy finished second with a state-qualifying time in the 500 free, and third with a region-qualifying time in the 200 free.

Murphy qualified for states with his third-place finish in the 100 back, and qualified for regionals by finishing fourth in the 100 free.

Shannon Kelley (third in dive), Kara Joyce (fourth in dive), Eric Johns (sixth in dive), Karly Ginieczki (fifth in 200 free, seventh 100 back), Jonathan Nguyen (seventh in 200 free) and Elizabeth McNulty (fifth in 100 breast) advanced to regionals.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Helen Roberts, seen earlier this season, and the Oakton girls' basketball team improved six to zero in the Concorde District by beating Herndon on Jan. 28.**

# Redefining Service

**Vienna mayor's first goal: To make politician a nice word.**

BY ARMAN AZAD  
FRESHMAN/FLINT HILL SCHOOL



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOWN OF VIENNA

**Vienna Mayor M. Jane Seeman**

**“I just like the kids to know that I answer the phone and I answer emails. I am a regular person and you will see me around town.”**

— Vienna Mayor M. Jane Seeman

**P**olitician. Noun: a person who is professionally involved in politics, or a person who acts in a manipulative and devious way, typically to gain advancement within an organization, as defined by Oxford. Mayor Jane Seeman, from the

Town of Vienna, is not a politician, at least not in the current form of the word. She doesn't seek to be a politician either, but instead wants to redefine the word and the meaning behind it. She wants to make government accessible to her citizens, and wants to give power back to the people who should be making decisions for her community: not the politicians. Sitting not behind a desk, but in a comfortable, inviting chair, the mayor said, “My first goal when I got elected was to make politician a nice word, not a dirty word. I am not a politician. We do not run on parties here in Vienna. We run as ourselves.” She added, “My overriding goal is to make the government communication more accessible to the person—to bring the public more in tune with what we are doing here.”

Seeman's government experience began in 1996, when she was appointed to Town Council after her husband's passing, but her contributions to Vienna go back to when she was simply a citizen of the town. She has volunteered for 3,000 hours at the Patrick Henry Library, was the chairman of the Community Enhancement Commission, is a member of Historic Vienna, and participates in the Rotary Club of Vienna. In 1997, she received the Vienna Toastmasters Community and Leadership Award, and in 1999 she was named Citizen of the Year by the Vienna Times and Vienna Chamber of Commerce, in addition to receiving the Rotary “Service Above Self award.”

Although Seeman's husband was a councilman, she never expected to one day run for mayor.

“My husband had died in '96 so they appointed me to council to fill out his term. I had gone to some of his meetings before, so I knew what it was all about. I liked it and it seemed like a good fit for me. In '99 the mayor got very ill and died. Before he died, however, he came to me and said ‘I think you should run for mayor.’”

**SEEMAN RECOGNIZED** that running for mayor, let alone winning, would be a huge responsibility. At first, she didn't quite know what to do, but after long deliberation, she decided that serving her town was how she wanted to spend the rest of her life.

“It was like a huge rock came down on me, I mean, I could barely breathe. I went for some long walks, talked to my pastor, and finally told myself ‘If you really want to see the town go, then you should step forward. If you don't, then you step back and let someone else to it, and they may not do it right.’ It was very, very scary.”

As proven by six re-elections to the office, citizens of Vienna do believe that Seeman is “doing it right” as mayor.

One reason Seeman receives this praise is because of her active involvement with her community and the hard work she puts into being a mayor every day. A typical day, for her, can be hectic and extremely busy.

“I come to the office in the morning, so from nine to 12 I'm always here. Then I go home and usually spend afternoons at home or running errands. There are also usually meetings at night. Last night I went to the government center for the board of supervisors meeting. They were voting on something about Tysons [Corner] and I am very involved in that, so I got there at 4:30 and their meeting was at eight. If there is a scout group that wants to meet with me, I come out in the afternoon and meet with them because I love meeting with kids.”

Mayor Seeman, or simply Jane, is not always performing mayoral duties, however. Many residents view government officials, such as councilmen, governors, senators, and mayors as unreachable and obsessed with what they do. That isn't (always) the case, however. The stereotype that people in these offices have no personal lives is simply false. The mayor does go home and she does participate in activities unrelated to her job. She always has work to do, but also finds time to squeeze in some alone time to relax.

“A lot of times there are things I have to do for council [on the weekends]. There is homework to do because we get our packet for the Monday meeting on Friday afternoon, so I have to prepare for the meeting. There are also ribbon cuttings and other functions to go to, and occasionally the Vienna band or another group may want me to come to their concert. There's always something to do, so you're never really off. Somebody may say, ‘Oh I want to talk to you about that pothole’ and I say ‘Okay, I'm here, that's what I do.’ When I go home I like to read and garden: kind of solitary things. There are a lot of family things that happen on the weekend too, such as basketball games the kids are in, for example.”

**TALKING TO CHILDREN** is her favorite part of Vienna. “I think in this area especially, people think of the mayor or the governor or the president as someone who is in this unattainable office whom they can't relate to. I just like the kids to know that I answer the phone and I answer emails. I am a regular person and you will see me around town. I don't have a driver or security or anything, so I like to bring the government down to their [the children's] level.”

For someone who has devoted her life to making the Town of Vienna the best it can possibly be, one has to wonder, why would she run for mayor seven times in this small town for a yearly salary of just \$6,000?

“I just love Vienna,” she says.

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## A Simple Question

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I don't quite know how to start this column so I'll begin with its ending: "I'm fine." I am asked as much, if not more, than the next person how I am doing. It's a standard courtesy offered up every day between many unsuspecting askers and most often provides answers an opportunity to nonchalantly move the conversation along without too many fits and starts. For a cancer patient like myself, however, whose status, situation and story is likely known in advance (generally speaking) of most casual meetings that occur, the question/greeting, though well-intended, doesn't exactly fall on deaf ears, and certainly does not conjure nonchalance; at least not in my head, and that's where this problem really starts.

Of course, I want people interested in my health. Of course, I want people to be courteous and respectful to me. Of course, I want people to engage me and treat me like the non-terminal patient I'm not. I aspire to be normal so I want to be treated normally, and normally, being treated as such wouldn't bother me. And it doesn't bother me, really. What it does do however, is jump-start/remind my brain of my less-than-ideal health circumstances: stage IV non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). Hardly the cross I wanted to bear beginning at age 54 and a half – after a life of not smoking, with no immediate-family history of cancer.

And given the fact that I semi pay attention to my surroundings and take notice of what I see and hear, when asked a question of health-related substance – sincerely, I am loathe to answer the question "monosyllabically." If I do control my responses and don't burden the questioner with a brief but humorous accounting of my most recent cancer-related anecdote, in my head I will have already gone there and done that: meaning, just because I don't say anything, don't presume for a second that my brain hasn't already considered how in fact I am doing and reviewed all the gory details. So whether anybody intended it – and I'm not sure anybody did, when I'm asked this most innocent of questions, my reaction is anything but. My reaction is a non-verbal, instantaneous re-living of the past four years, beginning with my visit to the Emergency Room on January 1, 2009. And as much as I think about my circumstances – on my own, what few breaks I allow myself are invariably cut short when someone, anyone has the good nature to inquire how I'm doing.

Still, being ignored is no good. Being treated with kid gloves is no good. Being cautious is no good. Being super-sensitive is no good. Being over-reactive is no good. Being pitied is no good. Being alone is no good. Moreover, being diagnosed with a terminal form of cancer is absolutely no good. As much as I want to live long and prosper and consider all the hope the future has to offer, cancer controls from within, often subconsciously. That's what I hate the most; the changes it causes in your head: your reactions, your assessments, your sense of proportion, your sense of self, etc. It's all different. I can live with it, but it does cause me to sometimes make mountains out of molehills and molehills out of mountains; with very little consideration of the mole.

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

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Suite 460  
Vienna, Virginia 22182

In accordance with the Virginia Administrative Code (9 VA 20-160-120), notice is provided by the VRP Participant for the approximately 4.75-acre property referenced above under the Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program (the "VRP"). A site characterization was performed on the property due to historical releases of petroleum and chlorinated solvents. Contaminants were identified in the soil and groundwater within the property boundaries. The main contaminant of concern at the site is volatile organic compounds and mercury. The releases are due to historical site use as a dry cleaner and auto dealership and service facility. Levels of volatile organic compounds are decreasing, and are expected to continue decreasing, due to natural attenuation in the groundwater. The onsite impacted soils are currently being excavated for off-site disposal and the buildings have been demolished. A risk assessment evaluating the potential risks to human health and the environment was completed in accordance with Virginia Department of Environmental Quality regulations and guidance. The risk assessment found that the future use of the property for residential purposes would be protective of human health and the environment provided that the property is restricted to prohibit the use of groundwater beneath the property (other than for environmental monitoring and testing).

Written comments will be accepted on this matter until February 28, 2013. All comments should be provided in writing to Mr. Olav Kollevoll, Penrose Group, 8330 Boone Boulevard, Suite 460, Vienna, Virginia 22182. Additional information may be requested by contacting Mr. Kollevoll at 703-847-5270.

### 21 Announcements

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**Tuba player Gunnery Sgt. Mark Thiele of Vienna**

## The 'President's Own' of Vienna, Reston Play in 57th Inauguration

**T**uba player Gunnery Sgt. Mark Thiele of Vienna, clarinetist Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant of Oakton and trumpeter/cornetist Staff Sgt. Robert Singer of Reston performed in the 57th Inauguration of the President of the United States on Monday, Jan. 21, as members of "The President's Own" United States Marine Band. This marks the Marine Band's 54th consecutive inaugural appearance.

The Marine Band provides music for the Inauguration swearing-in ceremony at the U.S. Capitol, leads the second division of the parade down Pennsylvania Avenue, and performs at various inaugural balls throughout Washington, D.C. The President's Own is the only musical unit to participate in all three.

Gunnery Sgt. Thiele, the son of Richard and Gretchen Thiele of Vienna, currently resides in Vienna, with his wife Julia and children Emma, Joel, Evelyn and Andrew.

Staff Sgt. Grant, the son of Larry Grant of Oakton and Judith Grant of Portland, Ore., currently resides in Northern Virginia with his wife and son.

Staff Sgt. Singer, the son of Karen and Marvin Singer of Reston, currently resides in Silver Spring, Md., with his wife Hilde, and their children Zachary and Anneka.



**Clarinetist Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant of Oakton**

The Marine Band is America's oldest continuously active professional musical organization. Founded in 1798, the band has performed for every U.S. president since John Adams. Known as "The President's Own" since the days of Thomas Jefferson, the Marine Band's primary mission is to provide music for the president of the United States and the commandant of the Marine Corps.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Advanced Hearing Technologies, Inc. associate Sherrie Courson accepting a care package at a local hearing lab.**

## Local Business Supports Operation Gratitude

**Vienna, Springfield business owner promotes another opportunity for a random act of kindness.**

**I**t all started with a "tweet" from NBC News Correspondent Ann Curry last month suggesting a creative way to honor the 26 lives that were lost at a Newtown, Conn. elementary school.

Why can't we all try to perform at least 26 random acts of kindness this next year?

Fairfax County business owner Robert Hutchcraft became inspired to open all 15 of his company's hearing labs to serve as official drop off sites for "Operation Gratitude" care packages and donations for the men and women serving in the U.S. military. "These men and women are on duty around the clock to defend us. They are many thousands of miles away from their hometowns," Hutchcraft said. "For our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines being deployed on foreign soil means you are in harm's way. Something as small as an extra pack of chewing gum can really help make the world a better place."

Hutchcraft is the president and founder of Advanced Hearing Technologies, Inc. located at 380 Maple Avenue, Vienna and 8136 Old Keene Mill Rd. in Springfield. Anyone who wishes to drop of one

of the "wish list" items or make financial donations can walk in during business hours at any Advanced Hearing Technologies location and a company associate will ensure that the contributions are processed for delivery to Operation Gratitude's Headquarters in Van Nuys, Calif. In addition to care packages, Operation Gratitude also encourages people to do something as simple as write a letter or drop off "wish list" items.

"We reach over 2 million people every month through our advertising strategies," Hutchcraft said. "Now we can also help Operation Gratitude in its' noble mission by dedicating some of our prime advertising space and office services to the effort." Many thousands of people will be able to see how easily they can perform a random act of kindness.

For more information or directions to your nearest Advanced Hearing Technologies location, call 888-333-5744 or visit the company's website

advancedhearingtechnologies.com. At the bottom of the homepage to the website there is a "Operation Gratitude" clickable banner with links to donation forms and "wish list" items for the collection drive.

## Vienna Shopping Center Helps Kilmer Help Community

**V**ienna resident Kim Engman won The Vienna Shopping Center 2012 Holiday Shopping Spree contest, earning herself a \$500 shopping spree and designated Kilmer Middle School as the recipient of the \$1,000 school donation. Karen Cobb, representing the merchants of The Vienna Shopping Center, presented a check for \$1,000 to Kilmer Middle School Principal Douglas Tyson on Wednesday, Jan. 23.

Upon learning of the donation, Kilmer's administrative team decided to challenge the school's students to match

it, which they exceeded in less than three days. Setting an example of giving back to the community, Kilmer plans to donate \$2,200 to a local food bank and to Alternative House, an organization providing critical services to at-risk youth in our area.

In thanking The Vienna Shopping Center merchants, Principal Tyson noted that at Kilmer MS, "Our task goes far beyond teaching our students history, the fine arts, mathematics, etc. Indeed if we are really to impact our local communities . . . it is incumbent upon us to implant seeds of generosity, of thinking of others before self, and of caring for those who have less."



**Karen Cobb, representing The Vienna Shopping Center merchants, and Kilmer MS Principal Douglas Tyson. The students pictured are representatives of Kilmer's National Junior Honor Society, Student Council Association, and the Kilmer Cares Club.**