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# News



Boy Scout Troop 55 salutes the flag at the Great Falls 9/11 Memorial



The audience lights their own candles after the memorial candles are lit at the Great Falls 9/11 Memorial Ceremony.

# Great Falls Honors 9/11 Victims

Candles lit, names read during memorial ceremony.

> By Reena Singh THE CONNECTION

till 13 years later, it is a date no American can forget. The annual Great Falls 9/11 Memorial Ceremony was held on Thursday at the Freedom Memorial to remember the six village citizens who died when a plane hit the Pentagon more than a decade ago.

"Those citizens that were all salt of the earth people who helped make the community what it is today," said Fairfax County Fire Department Chief Richard Bowers, Jr.

Bowers was at the Pentagon after the attack, helping to put out the fire on the roof with the Montgomery County Fire Department.

"It is that moment in time that would be forever encapsulated in our memory," he said in his speech to an audience of about 50 area residents.

In addition, state Delegate Barbara Comstock, Dranesville Supervisor John Foust, U.S. Representative Frank Wolf and state Senator Barbara Favola were in attendance.

The ceremony included a presentation of the colors by the Marine Corps Color Guard, a reading of the names of the citizens who died in the Pentagon and candles lit in their

> **Fairfax County Fire Chief Richard Bow**ers, Jr. speaks at the Great Falls 9/11 **Memorial Ceremony.**

memory in front of the stone Freedom Memorial.

Boy Scout Troop 55 helped to light candles among the audience and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bowers' speech, while honoring those who died in the attack, focused on those who served that day to make sure others could survive. He also recognized the amount of work that government agencies and everyday people do to be ready in case there is another attack.

"We now have a more critical eye for what happens around us," he said. "Since 9/11, public safety has become an even higher part of us."

He warned that they should not let their guard down in order to protect today's youngest generations.

I was heading in." While he and many other firefighters were on the roof fighting the flames, they heard "It is that moment in time that would be

forever encapsulated in

"I can say that all those who served on 9/

After the memorial service, he remem-

"It was really eerie," he said. "I remem-

bered a scene that many were fleeing that

ber everyone else heading out of D.C. while

11, we were with all those who were lost,"

he said. "The great thing is that we are with

them today.'

Chief Richard Bowers, Jr.

a rumor that another hijacked plane was headed for D.C.

"We were basically stuck on the roof with 60 firefighters and no aerial ladder," he said. "It turned out to be a false alarm, thank goodness."

Resident Sandy Pidgeon was at Johns Hopkins University for a meeting with his active duty Seal delivery team.

"One of my neighbors from when I was a kid was in one of the towers," he said. "All our worst fears were realized. We had become complacent. Freedom is never free."

Michael and Sherry Abramson, residents, knew some of those who died in the Pentagon by name. Michael, who had a client in one of the World Trade Center twin towers, almost had his own close call. He spent a significant amount of time in the 61st floor of the second tower that was struck in the weeks before the attack.

"Thank God I wasn't up there that day," he said. "It was unbelievable."

our memory." — Fairfax County Fire Department

Photos by Reena Singh/The Connection



The candles lit after the Great Falls 9/11 Memorial Ceremony.





### News

# Butterfly Window Display at Great Falls Library

Club for use in new exhibit. he Reston store of fashion-forward clothing retailer Anthropologie has donated its window display of more than 10,000 hand cut and hand painted paper Monarch butterflies to the Great Falls Garden Club for use in the club's new exhibit on the wildflower and native grass meadow at the Great Falls Li-

Reston Anthropologie donates

display to Great Falls Garden

"Several years ago we began work on designing and planting a wildflower and native grass meadow in the storm water retention pond in front of the Great Falls Library," said Club President Joan Burkgren. "With financial assistance from numerous local organizations, we have achieved a beautiful and environmentally-beneficial habitat for all kinds of wildlife and pollinators, including Monarch butterflies. In fact, the meadow has been certified as a Monarch Waystation by Monarch Watch as well as a Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation."

To educate people in the community about the benefits of a meadow and to provide information on the specific plants in this one, club members created a resource book and long-term exhibit that will be enhanced by the 10,000 paper butterflies donated by Anthropologie.



Meadow display at the Great Falls Library.

"Every April, the windows of Anthropologie stores become more than a showcase for artful installations - they become a platform for our Earth Day efforts,

SEE MONARCH, PAGE 7

### Great Falls Garden Club

The mission of the club is to improve the quality and character of gardens; to study subjects pertaining to gardening; to exchange experiences and information on gardening problems and to encourage the protection of natural resources, native

plants, wildlife and scenery. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month, September through June, usually at the Great Falls Library, at 1 p.m. Non-members wishing to attend a meeting should either be a guest of a member or contact the Club via email

for information. The club can be reached at gfgardener@gfgardenclub.org or by mail at P.O. Box 1412, Great Falls, Virginia 22066. More information on the club can be found at www.gfgardenclub.org.

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# **OPINION**

# Protecting Those Threatened by Domestic Violence

### September marks 20th Anniversary of Violence Against Women Act.

BY GERRY CONNOLLY U.S. Representative (D-11)

his month marks the 20th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) – landmark legislation in which our nation committed new prevention and response resources so

that our mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends would no longer have to suffer in silence through domestic

Though meaningful progress has been realized, domestic violence continues to be a real and troubling challenge in our communities. Far too many of us have been touched by domestic violence in one way or another. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, an estimated 1.3 million women are victims each year, and one in every four women will experience such violence in their lifetime.

COMMENTARY

COMMENTARY

Just last year, Turning Points, the only domestic violence intervention program in Prince William County, served 6,000 clients. In Fairfax County there were more than 8,000 incidents reported, and we have seen a 40 percent increase in homelessness due to domestic vio-

This is why I was so disappointed when the House Republican majority blocked a bipartisan modernization of VAWA for 18 months before relenting last year. The Senate passed the bill in a strong and bipartisan 78-22 vote, but some House Republicans objected because they

> did not want to extend protections to Native Americans, LGBT Americans, and immigrants. Thankfully, House leadership finally put aside

this obstructionism and ultimately allowed the House to pass the improved VAWA bill, which I and an overwhelming number of Democrats

Thanks to VAWA, we have strengthened and expanded critical protections for all victims of domestic violence and enhanced our nation's criminal justice response. Specifically, VAWA has instituted stricter sentencing guidelines for repeat federal sex crime offenders and provided resources to tribal, local, and state law enforcement communities to address violent crimes against women. In addition, VAWA funds specialized training for 500,000 law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges, and other personnel every year. The National Domestic Violence Hotline, which responds to more than 22,000 urgent calls for help every month, also was created under VAWA.

The updated VAWA is renewing our successful partnerships with local nonprofits and law enforcement agencies. It is improving protections for underserved communities, particularly immigrants and victims of human trafficking. And of particular importance for helping victims through the recovery process, the new bill is expanding housing assistance and providing support regardless of sexual orientation.

Sadly, recent events in the news demonstrate that although we have made great progress, as a community we must remain vigilant in protecting those threatened by domestic violence. Please know that I will continue to push Congress to maintain and expand the investments needed to support these critical programs in our community and continue to be a voice of support to those who might otherwise not speak up for themselves.

# School Board Ready to Tackle Fiscal Challenges

BY TAMARA DERENAK KAUFAX Chairman, Fairfax County School Board

am honored to have the opportunity to serve as the chairman of Fairfax County School Board for the 2014-15 school year. My colleagues on the board and I – working closely with our superintendent, Dr. Karen Garza - have an ambitious agenda for the year ahead. Our top priority remains adequate funding for our schools at both the state and county levels. State support for education remains at unacceptable levels and we will continue to work with our county Board of Supervisors to provide our schools with an adequate level of financial support when the state fails to do its job. As a consensus builder, I will continue to urge the School Board to work in

partnership with the Board of Supervisors to find solutions to our budget dilemma.

We have already taken steps to build a stronger relationship with the Board of Supervisors. This past year, Dr. Garza provided a new level of transparency in the budget process by meeting with the Board of Supervisors and other community leaders, conducting listening tours in each of the magisterial districts, and developing the Citizens Guide to Understanding the Budget, all of which were well received by the supervisors and the community. Our boards have already met jointly in September to outline our fiscal forecasts. In addition, we have established the Joint Budget Development Committee composed of three supervisors and three School Board members. The committee will review budget factors impacting Fiscal Year 2016 and provide guidance to both boards. The committee will deliver a report to both boards

before the County Executive presents his Advertised Budget and before the superintendent presents her Proposed Budget in early 2015. Last year, the county and School Board created the joint Infrastructure Financing Committee to review the facilities needs of both FCPS and the county. The committee report released earlier this year resulted in an additional \$13 million that will be invested each year beginning in FY 2016 for school infrastructure upgrades. I will continue to encourage this kind of collaboration to build trust and realistic expectations for the supervisors, the school board, and the community.

In the next few weeks we plan to make a final decision regarding school start times for the 2015-16 school year. Superintendent Garza

> made her recommendation to the board at a meeting in early September. We will provide the community with sufficient time to comment on

the proposal before we take final action at our Oct. 23 meeting. As you may recall, the School Board adopted a resolution in April 2012 with the stated goal to start high schools after 8 a.m. The board subsequently hired Children's National Medical Center to serve as consultants to develop a plan to achieve that goal. CNMC developed four options. Those options were taken to the community in a series of eight public meetings held in May and June. After analyzing the feedback from parents and the community, CNMC made their recommendation and, based on school board direction, Option 3 is the framework being used to develop a final recommendation for school board consideration. I invite you to learn more at www.fcps.edu.

Other new initiatives include the FCPS Por-

trait of a Graduate, which will serve as a foundation on which to build a long-range strategic plan for FCPS. Once a strategic plan is in place with a direct and clear vision for our schools, our work will be very focused and the outcome will be improved student achievement for every student.

We have had great success with our launch of full day Mondays for our elementary students. The community is very supportive of the change which will increase instructional time for students and dedicated planning time for teachers. Beginning this school year, we also have a new standard school calendar in place that eliminates the need to make up inclement weather days at the end of the school year, if fewer than 13 days are missed.

The Bailey's Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences opened Sept. 2 with a community ribbon-cutting celebration scheduled for Oct. 15. This new school was converted from a five-story office building on Leesburg Pike and will solve the overcrowding problems that have plagued Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences. Under the leadership of one principal, the new campus houses grades 3-5 while the existing campus remains home to preschoolers through second graders.

The start of a new school year is always an exciting time for students, parents and teachers. As chairman, I pledge to maintain and build upon the excellence for which our schools are known. Working with our state elected officials, supervisors, superintendent and other stakeholders, I am confident that we can solve our most pressing problems while continuing to offer a world-class education for our families. Have a safe and productive school year.



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### NEWS

# Monarch Display at Great Falls Library

From Page 4

a means to raise awareness of causes near and dear to our hearts," said display director Erika S. "This year we paid tribute to the Monarch butterfly, whose annual migration – one of nature's greatest spectacles – is at risk of disappearing due to vanishing habitats, extreme weather and increased use of herbicides."

"It is awe-inspiring to think that the butterfly, a species so small and humble, can complete an annual migration of epic proportions. There is so much beauty within these tiny creatures and yet they are so greatly at risk," she continued. "We hope to give them a voice – one that allows people to hear their story, to share it, and to see how simple it can be to help them flourish. We are delighted to donate the Reston display to the Great Falls Garden Club to help draw attention to the plight of the

Monarchs and increase the community's awareness of the value of having a meadow that will help the butterflies complete their long journey."

The Eastern population of the orange and black butterflies migrates thousands of miles from Canada to Mexico. The caterpillars feed exclusively on milkweed, which is declining in many areas because of development. Monarch Way Stations, such as the meadow at Great Falls Library, provide access to milkweed as well as shelter for the butterflies that pass through our area on their migration in the fall.

In addition to the meadow, the Great Falls Garden Club designed, installed and maintains the large perennial garden at the library, as well as the Blue Star Memorial at the Great Falls Village Centre. More information on the meadow can be found on their blog, www.GreatFallsGardenClub.wordpress.com.

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# Education Learning Fun



Noor Naveed hopes to become the first person in her family to graduate from college. After graduating from NOVA, she transferred to George **Mason University.** 



Amy Zuaso became the first person in her family to graduate from college. She says the guaranteed admission agreements at **NOVA allowed her to complete** her associate's degree and transfer to her dream school: James

# A Different Path to a 4-year Degree

NOVA's Guaranteed Admissions Program gives students ing at NOVA first and using the GAA helped me graduate from a fouropportunities to attend their dream schools.

By Marilyn Campbell

States from Pakistan four-year colleges. with her family shortly after the 9/11 attacks. The dents because before these family settled in Northern Virginia agreements, there weren't any and, years later, Naveed graduated perameters as to what it takes from Hayfield Secondary School in to be admitted to universities," Alexandria. She dreams of becom-said Julia Brown, coordinator ing the first person in her family for transfer policy at Northern to graduate from college.

out of junior high and at 32 got her the guaranteed admission GED. I just knew that there wasn't agreement takes all of the guess anyone in my immediate family work out of whether you will who had graduated from college qualify. It is a huge relief. ... Stuand was determined to be the first dents don't want to waste person," said Naveed. "I knew I money or time by taking a class wanted to [go to] George Mason that isn't needed." because I didn't want loans and I knew I could pay for George Ma- lar majors include engineering, son out of pocket."

Naveed used Northern Viringia Community College's Guaranteed Admissions Program to complete earn an associates degree in enher associate of arts degree and is gineering from NOVA then now finishing a bachelor's degree transfer to Virginia Tech's College in criminology, law and society at of Engineering or the University of to complete my associate's degree eral education requirement." George Mason University in Virginia's School of Engineering close to home. The GAA gave me

degrees admission to more than 40 NOVA graduates. four-year colleges and universities. "The [Guaranteed Admission applied for and was awarded. Start- munity College System."

Students do have to meet cer-THE CONNECTION tain academic requirements, such as earning a minimum oor Naveed immigrade point average, in order to grated to the United be accepted into their chosen

"It's very beneficial to the stu-Virginia Community College. "As "My mother was forced to drop long as you have a certain GPA,

NOVA officials say that popunursing, computer science and

For example, a student can through the school's guaranteed admission agreements.

they would transfer," she said. "Al-eral studies degree and then trans-said Amy Zuaso, a first year advis-credit hour differential in tuition most all of my classes transferred." fer to George Mason University. ing specialist at NOVA. "At NOVA, I rates between Mason and NOVA NOVA's admissions agreements George Mason University, Unimet with a JMU transfer represenfor Virginia residents," he said. guarantee current and future versity of Virginia and Virginia Tech tative that informed me about a full "Students will realize a signifi-

**NOVA Community students can** 

colleges and universities

earn admission to more than 40

Agreement] program allowed me

year school and to be the first person in my family to graduate from college.'

Zuaso is now completing an online Master's Degree in counseling at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

THE PROGRAM WAS CRE-**ATED** after the release of a workforce trends report prepared by George Mason University's Center for Regional Analysis showed professional, scientific, technical and health care fields as the key sources of new net job growth in Northern

Virginia from 2010 to 2020. "The GAA is designed to offer students a seamless transfer process," said Darren Troxler, associate dean of admissions and chief transfer officer at George Mason University. "Students who meet all of the requirements for GAA admission are not only guaranteed transfer admission to Mason, but are considered juniors for class standing, registration and finan-

cial aid purposes, and are considered to have completed the Mason Core, our lower-level gen-Troxler savs another advantage

and Applied Science. A student the opportunity to transfer to my to GAA enrollment is the signifi-"Counselors were great at telling who might be unsure of the major dream school, James Madison Unicant cost savings for students and me what classes I should take so he plans to pursue can earn a gen-versity, with ease and with no debt," parents. "There is a \$271.00 per NOVA students who earn associate are the top transfer schools for ride scholarship program, The Cencantly lower debt burden by taktennial Scholars Program, that I ing advantage of the Virginia Com-

# Portrait of a Graduate Discussed

By Reena Singh

he heart of the school system's new strategic plan is closer to being approved.

The Fairfax County School Board discussed the five component Portrait of a Graduate with some asking for a component emphasizing a caring quality - at Monday's work session.

"We haven't truly captured what we're trying to say with 'goal-directed," said Mason District board member Sandy dents might need when they Evans.

board members felt the last self, could identify with the component, "Goal-directed and qualities they need to be good resilient" came across as cut- at school, their job and their life. throat. She said the word "caring" needed to be in the heading of the component because character ethics is a priority.

This is what

**Marty Smith** 

we call the

heart of the

Communicator, Collaborator, Global Citizen, Creative and Critical Thinker in addition to Goal-Directed and Resilient Individual.

strategic plan." "You can be all - FCPS Chief of Staff of these things and be a horrible human being," said Braddock District board board member Ryan McElveen.

member Megan McLaughlin. She said her reason for needstemmed from her social work background.

"It's one of the most important things we can do, create a young person who cares," she said. Hunter Mill District board

the name sounded "pushy." "It's really all about ambition or dressing themselves. - that's what it comes across as

sounding," she said. Portrait of a Graduate was announced by Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza last October during an education summit. what the final product should of the week. The board is sched-

hundreds of people submit feed- Sept. 18.

### Part of the The Connection new FCPS strategic plan.

FCPS Chief of Staff Marty Smith showed a video about the importance of the five components for a students and what type of student they want graduating from the school system.

"This is what we call the heart of the strategic plan," he said. Smith said that Portrait looks at skills even the youngest stugraduate. In addition, he said She and a handful of other that everyone, including him-

> "It's not changing the 'what," said Garza. "It's changing the

She said she wants to honor the committee's work by keep-**THE FIVE COMPONENTS** for ing most of the wording, but the Portrait of a Graduate that there could be some room to put was created for approval are the word "caring" into the last

> component's heading. Several other

board members felt that changing the wording was not necessary.

"We're at the Queen Elsa moment where we need to just let it go," said at large

Springfield District board member Elizabeth Schultz felt ing the heading's name change that the words "goal-directed" were being misconstrued. While other members felt that it was pressuring students to become world leaders, Schultz said goals are different from person to person depending on their situamember Pat Hynes agreed that tion, whether that means having a 4.9 Grade Point Average

> "Having goals isn't a bad thing," she said. "Being resilient isn't a bad thing."

**BOARD CHAIRMAN** Tamara Derenak Kaufax encouraged Since then, stakeholders have those unhappy with the name to sent in a flurry of comments on submit amendments by the end uled to vote on the proposal at "We've had hundreds and the next School Board meeting

back to the committee," she — The components for Portrait said. "It resonates with a lot of of a Graduate can be found at http://www.boarddocs.com/ Even retired teachers, she vsba/fairfax/Board.nsf/files/ said, have supported the mea- 9NNHVC4A210A/\$file/ POG%20Chart%20FINAL.pdf.



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Great Falls Connection September 17-23, 2014 • 9





# Here's What's Happening at MCC

### **Jammin' Juniors Concerts**

Free admission McLean Central Park 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd

Rolie Polie Guacamole Wednesday, Sept. 17, 12:30 p.m.

Vanessa Trien and the Jumping Monkeys Wednesday, Sept. 24, 12:30 p.m.

Teddy Bear Band Wednesday, Oct. 1, 12:30 p.m.

Old Firehouse Teen Center Friday Field Trips Virginia State Fair Friday, Sept. 26, 3:30-10 p.m.



### Welcome the Change of Season **Harvest Happenings**

Saturday, Sept. 27, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

\$5 per person/Free 36 months and younger General Admission (cash at the gate)

The Alden McLean Kids Series **Grey Seal Puppet's** "The Emperor's New Clothes"

Saturday, Sept. 27, 2 p.m. \$15/\$10 MCC district residents

The Alden **Insider Knowledge Series** Jazz Masters with John Eaton: Jerome Kern

> Saturday, Oct. 4, 1 p.m. \$10/\$5 MCC district residents

The McLean Community Center www.mcleancenter.org Home of the Alden Theatre

www.aldentheatre.org



1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101 703-790-0123, TTY: 711



### Calendar

Send announcements to north@ connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

Great Falls Rotary Club. 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road, Great Falls. Weekly meeting and speaker series. If interested in joining, visit http:// www.rotarygreatfalls.org.

**Artists Meet for Coffee.** 8:30 - 10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists get together for weekly coffee.

**Reading Buddies**. 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Grab a book, grab a buddy! Beginning readers and teens practice reading together.

**Evening Book Group**. 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call branch at 703-757-8560 for book title.

### FRIDAY/SEPT. 19

**Drop-in Chess.** 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Weekly drop-in chess games in the library meeting room. All ages welcome.

Look at the Stars! Open **Observatory.** 7:30-10:30 pm. Turner Farm Park, Springvale Road, Great Falls. Friday night viewings of the sky at the observatory park. Visit http://www.analemma.org for more information.

Playdate Cafe. 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Toys and play space for children, coffee and conversation for grown-ups.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

Tysons BBQ, Bourbon and Beer.

12-6 p.m. Town Square at Tysons II, Tysons Boulevard, Tysons Corner. A taste extravaganza featuring burgers, micro-brews, bourbons and barbeque. Not designed for children. For ticketing and more information,

visit: http://beerandbourbon.com. **Cars & Coffee.** 7-9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Every Saturday come find an assortment of antique, custom exotic, sports cars and more! With

Great Falls Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Great Falls Village, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Bring your recyclable bag and participate in the local movement. Farmers from around the area sell their vegetables, fruits, crepes, drinks and more.

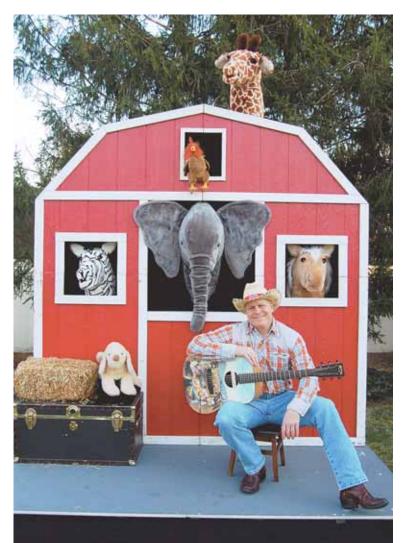
**Ballroom Dance**. 8 p.m. - 9p.m. Foxtrot Lesson. 9 p.m.-11:30 p.m. Colvin Run Dance Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. DJ music with Craig Bukowski playing favorite dance tunes from the 1930s to today. Attire is ballroom casual. Everyone is welcome. \$15. 703-759-2685 or www.colvinrun.org.

Walk for Mental Health! 9:30 a.m. Tysons Corner Center, Join "NAMIWalks Northern Virginia' National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI) Northern Virginia provides local education/support programs at no cost to individuals living with a mental health condition and family members. More information at www.NAMI-NorthernVirginia.org.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

Super H 5k Run, Walk and Wheel. 7 a.m. Sport & Health Club, 8250 Greensboro Drive, McLean. Proceeds from the race will support MedStar NRH's adaptive sports programs, which enable adaptive to participate in paralympic sports. \$35. 202-887-

1781 or www.medstarhealth.org/ SuperH5K. Gring Grain at Colvin Run Mill. 12-



Jim Kidsinger, a children's entertainer who sings and plays guitar while his farm animal friends roam and interact with the audience will be at the McLean Community Center's Annual Harvest Happening Festival on Sept. 27 at 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean.

3 p.m. Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come watch the miller grind grain; cornmeal, grits, whole wheat for sale in General Store. 703-759-2771

### **MONDAY, SEPT. 22**

Read to the Dog. 4:30-5:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Beginning readers can practice reading to a furry friend. Call to sign-up. 703.-757-8560.

Music and Movin with Miss Susan. 10:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. It's time to make some musical fun with Miss Susan and her pots and pans. Simply add kids, lots of kitchen instruments, and a dash of sweet and savory kitchen music for some fun.

Kids Book Club. 5:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Ages 8 and up. The Book of Three by Lloyd Alexander.

### TUESDAY, SEPT. 23

Colvin Run Tuesday Dance for

**Everyone.** 6:30-10 p.m. Colvin Run Community Gall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in weekely dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to Generl with Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, EdCottrell@MACP.org.

Great Falls Writer's Group. 7-9 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Author Pamela Palmer discusses her newest book, "Wulfe Untamed," with the GFWG while the audience engages in intellectual stimulation and interesting dialogue. Come for a light potluck dinner at 7. Free admissions. Call 703-757-8560 for more info.

Baby Artsplay Classes. 4:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton.

### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

Pokemon League, 4:30-6 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Come play in Pokemon with friends, or meet new ones. For ages 5-15.

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 25

Great Falls Rotary Club. 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road, Great Falls. Weekly meeting and speaker series. If interested in joining, visit http:// www.rotarygreatfalls.org.

Artists Meet for Coffee. 8:30 a.m.-10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse. Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists get together for weekly coffee.

**Reading Buddies.** 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Grab a book, grab a buddy! Beginning readers and teens practice reading together.

### FRIDAY/SEPT. 26

**Drop-in Chess.** 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Weekly drop-in chess games in the library meeting room. All ages welcome.

### Look at the Stars! Open

**Observatory.** 7:30-10:30 pm. Turner Farm Park, Springvale Road, Great Falls. Friday night viewings of the sky at the observatory park. Visit http://www.analemma.org for more information.

Playdate Cafe. 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Toys and play space for children, coffee and conversation for grown-ups.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

**Welcome the Change of Season** Harvest Happenings. 11 a.m.-2

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

## CALENDAR

### From Page 10

p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. \$5. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123

Cars & Coffee. 7-9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Every Saturday come find an assortment of antique, custom, exotic, sports cars and more! With coffee!

Great Falls Farmers Market. 9 a.m.1 p.m. Great Falls Village, 778
Walker Road, Great Falls. Bring your recyclable bag and participate in the local movement. Farmers from around the area sell their vegetables, fruits groups drinks and more

fruits, crepes, drinks and more. **Turner Farm's Back to Schooling Show.** 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Turner Farms, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. A chance to show off your skills as an equestrian. Open to all ages. Admissions: \$10 for participants and \$15 per class. Visit http://www.turnerfarmevents.com.

Dance for Everyone. 6:30-11:30 p.m. Colvin Run Community hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to General with Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Hosted by Ed Cottrell. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, EdCottrell@MACP.org.

Evening of Art Fundraiser. 7-10 p.m. The Home of Richard & Mary Kelly on the Potomac, Great Falls. Enjoy food & drinks while viewing the vast collection of original paintings & drawings from the Golden Age of American Illustrators 1890-1925. All are welcome, but space is limited. Register at http://www.greatfallsart.org/evening-of-

McLean Community Center's Annual Harvest Happening

Festival. 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. General admission is \$5 at the door; admission is free for children up to 36 months old. Piglets, chickens, goats and guinea pigs are just a few of the many farm animals young children ages 3-8 will be able to see and/or touch.

### TUESDAY, SEPT. 30

Colvin Run Tuesday Dance for

Everyone. 6:30-10 p.m. Colvin Run Community Gall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in weekely dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to General with Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, EdCottrell@MACP.org.

Preschool Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Join us for stories, songs, and activities. Ages 3-5 with adult.

**Learn to Draw Cartoons.** 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Lean to draw cartoons with artist Bud Little.

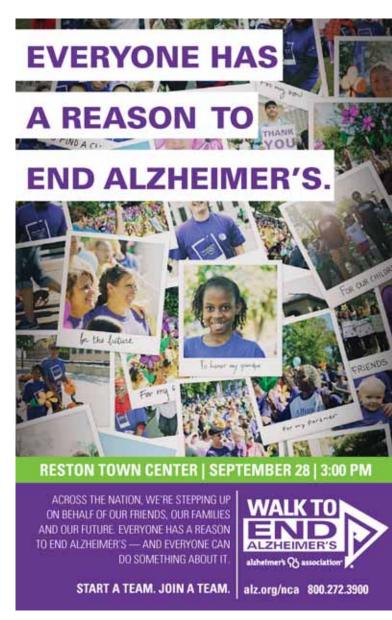
### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 1

McLean Newcomers Club Coffee.

11 a.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. The McLean Newcomers Club has geared up for a new season, as members of the executive board gathered to plan for the year to come. Founded in 1969 to create new friendships, they welcome both new and long-time residents.

www.McleanNewcomers.com or call 203-770-6995.

Photography Class Part 2. 10 a.m. – Noon. Tysons Corner Microsoft Store, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Learn techniques to crop pictures, remove "red eye", adjust focus, and more. Free. Call the Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna (SCOV) office to register for classes or for additional information, 703-281-0538.



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# SPORTS

# Oakton Football Beats T.C., Improves to 3-0

### Cougars force six Titan turnovers.

BY JON ROETMAN THE CONNECTION

eading by 10 points in the fourth quarter, the Oakton Cougars had a chance to put away T.C. Williams on Saturday afternoon, but lost a fumble deep in Titans territory.

Two plays later, Oakton senior linebacker David Allely got the ball right back, recovering a fumble at the T.C. 16-yard line. This time, the Cougars wouldn't let the Titans off the hook.

Junior quarterback Sal Tutone connected with junior receiver Jarrett Bacon for gameclinching 16-yard touchdown with 7:09 remaining and the Oakton football team defeated T.C. Williams 24-7 on Sept. 13 in Alexandria.

Oakton scored three offensive touchdowns and a field goal during a rainy day at T.C. Williams High School, but the Cougars' defense was the primary reason they remained undefeated. Oakton (3-0) forced six Titan turnovers, including a fumble recovery on the game's opening possession. The Cougars recovered three T.C. Williams fumbles and intercepted Titans quarterback Darius Holland three times.

"I think our defense played great, especially toward the end, just causing the turn-



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFET/THE CONNECTION

Oakton running back Patrick Francisco carries the ball against T.C. Williams on Sept. 13.

overs," Allely said. "... The defensive line stopped the run pretty much the whole game."

Oakton limited T.C. Williams (1-1) to 81 yards on the ground, while Holland completed just 5 of 17 passes for 119 yards.

'We felt confident if we were able to stop the run game, they wouldn't be able to consistently move the ball against us in the air,

either," Oakton head coach Jason Rowley said. "We put them in some bad positions because we were able to take away half of their offense in terms of stopping the run."

Allely, a three-year starter who transitioned from defensive lineman to linebacker as a senior, finished with an interception and two fumble recoveries.

"He's a scholarship kid," Rowley said. on Friday, Sept. 19.

"He's really good."

While Allely, listed at 6 feet 1, 208 pounds, was a force on defense, the Oakton offense was led by an athlete of considerably smaller stature.

Sophomore running back Patrick Francisco, listed at 5 feet 3, 132 pounds, carried the ball 26 times for 80 yards and a touchdown. Francisco scored on a 2-yard run during the Cougars' opening drive.

"My confidence in him is due to the work he put in in the offseason," Rowley said. "He worked super hard this offseason with weights. I know he looks very diminutive. He's very small, but nobody ever hits him square."

Oakton led 10-7 at halftime after kicker Nick Delgado booted a 30-yard field goal late in the second quarter. The Cougars extended their lead to 17-7 in the third quarter, when Bacon threw a 51-yard touchdown pass to junior Derrick Beale on a trick play.

Tutone completed 7 of 16 passes for 62 yards and a score.

Last season, Oakton opened with a 38-2 home loss to T.C. Williams. The Cougars won their next four games, but finished the season 5-5 and missed the playoffs.

This year, Oakton is off to a 3-0 start, including wins over Woodson and Madison.

"I think we're feeling pretty good," Allely said. "It's early in the season. We haven't started district play, so we've got a lot of work to do."

Oakton will host Annandale at 7:30 p.m.

# Marshall Field Hockey Loses in Strokes to Mount Vernon

### Statesmen fall despite 14-6 advantage in penalty corners.

By Jon Roetman The Connection

he Marshall field hockey team held a 9-4 advantage in penalty corners during regulation of Monday's contest against Mount Vernon. In the closing seconds of the second half, junior Victoria Novak smacked the ball just outside the left post, but none of her Statesmen teammates were there

to put the ball in the cage. In overtime, the Statesmen held a 5-2 advantage in corners, but failed to score.

Marshall had opportunities to capture a victory on Sept. 15, but the Statesmen failed to find the back of the cage. Instead, Marshall went to strokes with Conference 13 foe Mount Vernon, and Majors goalkeeper McKenzie Moore came up clutch.

shootout, helping the Majors to a 0-0 (3-



Photo by Louise Krafft/The Connection

Moore made three saves during the Marshall's Chelsea Taylor (5) defends Mount Vernon's Amber Sable during Monday's game at Mount Vernon High School.

2) victory over the Statesmen at Mount Vernon High School.

Marshall held a 2-1 advantage after three rounds of strokes. However, Moore saved the Statesmen's final two attempts, while Mount Vernon capitalized on its final two and walked away a winner.

"You just have to stay calm," Moore said. "Strokes are not designed for keepers to really save, and if you do save it, it's like you're a hero. [You can't] put a lot of pressure on yourself."

Marshall senior captain Lauren Kaup and Novak each converted a stroke during the shootout. Junior goalkeeper Emma Frasier made one save.

Marshall head coach Christina Carroll said the Statesmen lacked a sense of ur-

"The way we played, it was disappointing because we weren't really going to goal, we were letting things come back out," she said. "Our second effort wasn't there. ... Sometimes the girls don't realize you can end it here, or you can play for 25 more minutes."

The loss dropped Marshall's record to 7-3. The Statesmen will host McLean at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 17.

# Meet Great Falls Artist Heidi Mraz

very October for the past 10 years, Great Falls Studios has invited the public to wander the back roads of Great Falls in search of the innovative, the lovely, the bizarre, the useful, the whimsical and the unusual creations on display in the studios of local working artists.

This year the Tour will be three days — Friday Oct. 17, Saturday, Oct. 18, and Sunday, Oct. 19 — from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. There will be 50 artists in 26 venues throughout Great Falls.

One of the artists is Heidi Mraz (Studio # 10). Mraz is a contemporary fine artist best known for her intricate collages of high-end collectible automo-

biles. Her artwork is remarkably polished and refined considering her medium — torn bits from car magazines, press clipping and more. Her clever treatment of the materials leads viewers through a playful ride that is skillfully engineered to fool the eye into seeing a photorealistic illustration of a car from a distance, but take a step closer and the collage shifts to a deeper narrative blended within the overarching image.

In 2011, inspired by her passion of classic cars and Katie's Cars & Coffee - a Mecca for car enthusiasts that turns out a bevy of classic and rare cars weekly - Mraz began her "Must Love Cars" collage series that included the iconic race cars from the late 1950s thru the early 1970s. Today Mraz is concentrating on commissions that are built from a palette of torn test notes, historical data, schematics, magazines, photos and more. The finished artwork is a virtual scrapbook of the storied history of the automobile portrayed.

"The trickiest part is designing an image that's fine tuned enough to look like a photo from a distance," Mraz said. "When in actuality, it's a bed of organized chaos and abstract colors." It is that clever unconventional interplay of elements that make Mraz's work unique.

Nowadays Mraz's passion for painting all things automotive is fueled by an endless source of inspiration that is just around the bend from her working studio and gallery. Most Saturday mornings, she can be found at Katie's Cars & Coffee where she has just begun another series of automotive art using coffee to paint cars.

Mraz is one of the 50 artists who look forward to sharing their creative ideas and energy with the public. The tour is a free self-guided driving tour of the back roads of Great Falls to visit artists in their own creative spaces—from a rustic farmhouse to a contemporary home, from a one-art-



Photo courtesy of Heidi Mraz

Heidi Mraz in her home studio (# 10) with a few of her finished classic auto collages.

ist studio to a studio with several artists working.

The tour is sponsored again this year by Sun Design Remodeling, an award winning home remodeling company. Sun Design will have a recently remodeled open house on the tour, with its creative staff on hand to discuss new projects

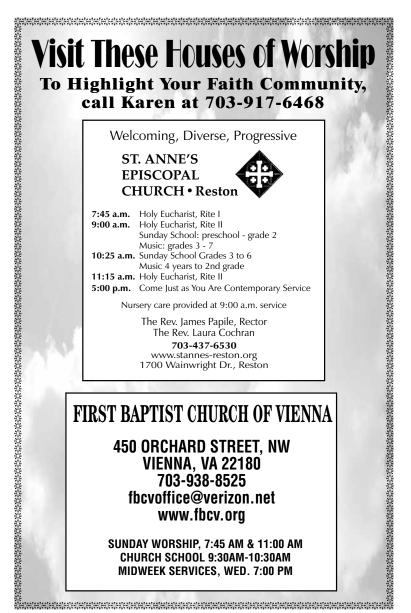
visitors may have in mind. Both organizations benefit from this association, building on the creative energies of their artists and designers to provide an important service to the community.

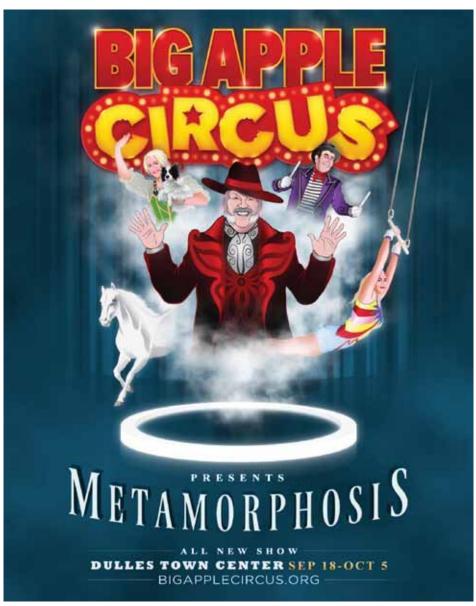
The Tour Headquarters will be at the Great Falls Library, where there will be an example of the work of each artist on the tour. Visitors may sign in to win Art Bucks valued at \$50 toward the purchase of art during the tour. The book, Studio Tour: the Creative Spaces of Great Falls Artists, which features 16 Great Falls artists at work in their studio spaces accompanied by text describing their art and their creative process will be available for purchase during tour days at the library and at many of the artist venues.

The tour is family-friendly and its primary purpose is educational—it's a great opportunity to see artists at work in their own creative habitats, enjoy the fall landscape, and perhaps get some ideas for adding art to the home or office, or get started on a creative remodeling project. The Old Brogue Irish Pub will be open for lunch and dinner for visitors.

Go to the Great Falls Studios website at www.GreatFallsStudios.com to plan a visit. The site has a new section with images and descriptions of work by all the artists on the tour. After Sept. 15, download a map and brochure, or just pick up a brochure at the Great Falls Community Library, or at any stop along the tour.

Visit the Sun Design website at www.SunDesignInc.com for inspiring images and more information about their award winning style.





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Please Check Kenneth B. Column

Next Week!

21 Announcements 21 Announcements 101 Computers

101 Computers

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202 Domestic Auto

**202 Domestic Auto** 

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ZONE 6 AD DEADLINE:

Monday Noon

21 Announcements

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

Antique Car Show,

Face painting,

balloons,

money machine

and much more!

Virginia Diner, Inc

408 County Drive (RT. 460)

Wakefield, VA 23888

757-899-3106

21 Announcements

Rummage & Bake Sale. Sat 9/20 8-2. Clo, furn, bks, toys, HH. St. Paul's Lutheran

8:30 - 3:00 1014 Harriman Street, Great Falls - No checks Rain date: Sunday, Sept. 21st

ABC LICENSE

ABC LICENSE
C2 LLC trading as Highline
R&R, 2010 Crystal Drive,
Suite A and A-1, Arlington, VA
22202-3799. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On; Mixed Beverage (seating capacity 151 seats or more) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Geoffrey O. Dawson, member NOTE: Objections to the issu ance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later that 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required

newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

28 Yard Sales

Church, 7426 Idylwood Rd. Falls Church, 703-573-0295

28 Yard Sales

Estate/Multi-family Yard Sale Saturday, Sept. 20th.

21 Announcements

Less than a mile south of Lynchburg Regional Airport 14373 Wards Rd (US-29), Lynchburg, VA

21 Announcements

Zoned B-GC, 330 $\pm$  feet frontage on US-29 in Campbell County. Water & sewer Current annual rental income of \$24,000. Previous preliminary layout for hotel location & VDOT review on file. 2008 appraisal valued the property at \$850,000.

21 Announcements

6± Acre Comm. Development Tract

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements



### **ABC LICENSE** La Tasca Inc trading as La

Tasca, 2900 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201-3851. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DE-PARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Mixed Beverage Caterer Limited license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Javier Candon, President NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later that 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

### **OBITUARY**



### **Brendan Bernard Francis McKay, 30**

Brendan Bernard Francis McKay, 30, passed away became one of only a small number of Americans to have Monday, September 8, 2014, in Rome, Italy, following a

An AmeriCorps volunteer, artist, multi-instrumentalist, snowboarder, world traveler, counselor, historian, Ph. D. candidate, and Seanchaí in the Irish storytelling tradition, Brendan was born June 30, 1984 in Summit, New Jersey, the second of Bernard and Mary McKay's four children. He grew up in Alexandria and McLean, Virginia, where he graduated from McLean High School in 2002.

Brendan began undergraduate studies at Virginia Commonwealth University, later attended Western Connecticut State University and John Cabot University in Rome, and in 2012 graduated magna cum laude from Rhode Island College with a Bachelor's in History. Most recently, Brendan completed his Master's degree in International Relations at St. John's University in Rome, Italy in June 2014.

Throughout his teens and early twenties, Brendan struggled with addiction issues. With the support of loved ones, he participated in therapeutic and rehabilitation programs in Utah, New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, and Kansas. In 2008, Brendan emerged from this period secure in his recovery, and with a renewed passion for education, adventure, and experience which would come to define the rest of his life.

From 2008-2010, Brendan served with AmeriCorps as a volunteer with Big Brothers, Big Sisters in Worland, Wyoming. Within a matter of months he was promoted to Vice President of Development, going on to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars on behalf of at-risk youth, before leaving to accept a position as an AmeriCorps Program Manager in Rhode Island. Before leaving Wyoming he was urged by locals in Worland to stay and run for mayor. He was flattered and seriously considered

Brendan is remembered fondly by his loved ones in the U.S. and around the world for his legendary sense of humor, a classic Irish storyteller vividly sharing his many adventures. He ran with the bulls in Pamplona, Spain. He rode a hot air balloon through the Atlas Mountains of Morocco. He skied across the Swiss-French border in the Alps, not entirely on purpose, Completing an Asian journey that included Malaysia, Cambodia and Nepal, he returned to Rome over the Himalayas and Mt. Everest. He crisscrossed the United States by car, camped in the badlands of North Dakota, and lived on a mountain in Southern California. During academic travel to North Korea he seen the demilitarized zone from the north side.

Brendan was also intellectually brilliant. He was an enthusiastic reader, with particular interest in philosophy, history, physics, and comparative religion. His collection of unusual tattoos included the Fibonacci sequence on his arm. His creativity and humor led to unique inventions; on one occasion, Brendan created what he called a "Scrabbanjelo," a playable banjo which he constructed from the wooden box of a Scrabble set - a game at which he was renowned as unbeatable.

At the time of his passing, he was looking forward to his doctoral work at King's College in London. His studies were to focus on the little-told story of the town of Fiumi on the Italy-Croatia border, which formed its own independent state in World War I in defiance of the warring countries around it.

Brendan's 6' 6" physical presence was the outer manifestation of an unusually humble, sensitive, self-deprecating person, whose generosity, kindness, and compassion for friends and family alike will never be forgotten. His beloved dog, Anastasia, is the physical embodiment of that kindness. Brendan had encountered a group of drug dealers about to shoot a young puppy for which they had no use. He persuaded them to let him adopt her in exchange for what little money he had in his pocket, a meager five dollars. For more than a decade, Anastasia has been a cherished member of the McKay family, displaying a level of emotional intelligence that is extraordinary to find in an animal.

Brendan was not immune to accidents, and indeed had scars going back to toddlerhood. But he always stood up. brushed himself off, and went at life again, charging boldly at every experience the world could offer. His enthusiasm for adventure inspired all who knew him.

Brendan is survived by his parents. Bernard and Mary, his two brothers, Patrick and Conor, his sister, Rosemary, sister-in-law Nora, and his beloved, Camilla Valeriano. He will be sorely missed.

A memorial service and Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Our Lady of Mercy Chapel at Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island, on Saturday September 20, 2014, at 9:00A M, A reception will follow at Ochre Court on the University campus. All are welcome. The family suggests, as an alternative to flowers, that contributions could be made to the Brendan McKay Memorial Scholarship Fund, Salve Regina University, Ochre Point, Newport, Rhode Island 02840 USA.



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