

Dog as Lifeline to Vienna Boy

WELLBEING, PAGE 6

Jimmy, an assistance dog, and Jack DeLacy, who
attends Sunrise Valley Elementary in Reston.

Vienna's
Anniversary
Celebrated

NEWS, PAGE 3

Special Screening
Of Honor

NEWS, PAGE 5



March 7th

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Dignitaries and elected officials participate in the 125th birthday celebration commemorating incorporation in 1890.

Incorporation Ordinances 1890

As Read by Town Clerk H.A. Bowman:
1. An ordinance providing for the assessment of real and personal property; 2. For the protection of shade trees [along Maple Avenue]; 3. Prohibiting of driving of animals on sidewalks; 4. Prohibiting the carrying of concealed weapons; 5. Providing for a license tax on dogs; Providing for the giving of a bond by the sergeant and the salary of the clerk; 7. Providing for the manner of construction of sidewalks; 8. Prohibiting the use of dynamite or other explosives; 9 and final. Being an ordinance relating to erroneous taxes.
All members of the 1890 Vienna Town Council voted to accept the ordinances of incorporation.

PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Vienna Celebrates 125 Years

Community turns out for birthday party on Feb. 28.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

The Town of Vienna, in partnership with Historic Vienna, Inc., celebrated the town's 125th incorporation anniversary, calling it a "birthday" ceremony, on closed-down Church Street and the grounds of Freeman House on Saturday, Feb. 28. A time-travel play, written by HVI's Jon Vrana, featured contemporary children learning first-hand about Vienna's founding by principles of 1890.

As chilly and snow-blanketed as it was on Saturday, hundreds of adults and children watched the short play on the Church Street stage and stayed around for farm animals, horse-drawn carriage rides, and roasting marshmallows over open fire pits. After guests sang "Happy Birthday," they retreated to a heated tent for food, cupcakes and hot beverages.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia commended Vienna on its 125th anniversary of incorporation with a proclamation signed by the House of Delegates and the state Senate in late January. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is recognizing Vienna at its first March meeting. The time-travel play, a magical opportunity for today's youngsters to learn about Vienna's history, anchored the birthday program.

CAST MEMBERS of the period-dress play included "students" played by Macy Payton, Mirelle Payton, and Lucy Breedlove. Councilmember Carey Sienicki played the librarian; Mike Davis, landowner and mill owner John Hunter; Jon Vrana, Abram Lydecker; Town Manager Mercury Payton as a Union soldier, and Councilmember Howard Springsteen as a Confederate soldier. Mayor Laurie DiRocco played Major



1890 Vienna mayor Major Orrin Hine, who urged incorporation of Vienna, stopped along Church Street with his wife, Alma Delano Hine.

Orrin E. Hine, who urged incorporation of the village, and Vice-Mayor Edythe Kelleher brought 1890 Town Clerk H.A. Bowman to life. Councilmember Linda Colbert played James Owen Berry and her daughter, Heather, a citizen. Amar Payton, 1890 Councilmember and son of the Town Manager, rounded out the cast.

Hannah Colbert, granddaughter of Vienna's late mayor M. Jane Seeman, sang the National Anthem.

Local elected officials – U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34), Del. Mark Keam (D-35), Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Bulova and Fairfax County Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill) - made brief remarks. Mayor Laurie DiRocco presented the Town Proclamation on behalf of the Vienna Town Council.

Vienna delegate to the General Assembly Mark Keam joked that many of the issues that Vienna addressed in its incorporation ordinances in 1890 – from concealed carry to taxes – are confronted today by the General Assembly.



A horse-and-carriage took birthday guests along Mill Street.

Congressman Connolly referred to Vienna as having a "sense of place, belonging, inclusion, and community."

"Vienna epitomizes that spirit" of being responsible for one another, Connolly said.

Like Connolly, Petersen, too, referred to Vienna's small-town feel and its sense of community spirit. "In order to get to where you're going, you need to know where you're from," said Petersen, alluding to the town's small-town virtues.

Board of Supervisors chair elicited laughter from the stage when she called Vienna the "most-partying place in Fairfax County." There's always an event going on in Vienna, she said. The bigness of the County stops in Vienna with its small-town atmosphere. Hudgins reiterated the theme of Vienna's community spirit. "Vienna serves as a symbol of small-town living," she said.

Abram Lydecker explained to the students composing their Vienna history report that Vienna was one of the few precincts in Virginia to vote against secession from the Union. Many people living in Vienna, Lydecker said, had "a lot of ties" with the

North, having come from states north of Virginia to settle in Vienna area. "... and we love the Union." After the Civil War, many Union soldiers settled in the Vienna area.

FREEMAN HOUSE AND STORE, the Vienna train station, caboose and Little Library were open to the public. Refreshments were served in a heated tent on the lawn of Freeman House. Caffe Amouri donated hot chocolate and coffee.

Throughout 2015, the Town of Vienna and Historic Vienna, Inc. will continue to celebrate Vienna's 125 years as an incorporated town. To learn more about Vienna's 125th birthday events and the town's history, see <http://www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?NID=1178>. Anniversary events are posted there.

Church Street, from Lawyers Road to Mill Street will close to vehicular traffic on the last Sunday of each month from May through October. Outdoor special events and activities are planned. A "Dinner in White" is scheduled for September.

OPINION

Good, Bad and Ugly

The 2015 session of the Virginia General Assembly came to an end last week, and some of the biggest news was about what it did not do.

By far the ugliest debacle rests in the Assembly's ongoing refusal to expand Medicaid to cover as many as 400,000 uninsured people in Virginia, even though it would come at no cost to Virginia (Federal government pays 100 percent for the next two years and 90 percent after that) and would be a massive boost to Virginia's economy. The local and state economy is suffering from the loss of federal spending in other areas, and it's just plain crazy and mean-spirited to deny medical care for people who can't afford it otherwise, and at the same time, turn away an economic stimulus equal to 20,000 or more jobs and a direct infusion of nearly \$2 billion a year.

GOOD: The Assembly nixed a bill which "empowers the Director of the Department of Corrections to make and enter into contracts ... to compound the drugs necessary to carry out execution by lethal injection. ... Information relating to the identity of the persons or entities compounding such drugs, the identities of persons or entities engaged to manufacture or supply the materials used to compound the drug products, and the name of the materials or components used to compound drug products for use in an execution are confidential,

exempt from the Freedom of Information Act, and not subject to discovery or introduction as evidence in a civil proceeding ..."

The House of Delegates nixed executing people with secret potions. Passed in the Senate, blocked in the House of Delegates. Be sure to thank those local legislators who voted against this craven proposal: Senators: Adam

EDITORIAL

Ebbin, Barbara Favola, Janet Howell, Dave Marsden and Chap Petersen. Delegates: David Bulova, Eileen Filler-Corn, Charniele Herring, Patrick Hope, Mark Keam, Kay Kory, Rob Krupicka, Jim LeMunyon, Alfonso Lopez, Ken Plum, Tom Rust, Mark Sickles, Marcus Simon, Scott Surovell and Vivian Watts.

And ask these local legislators who voted to carry out executions with secret drugs and secret methods what they were thinking: Senators George Barker and Dick Saslaw. Delegates: Dave Albo and Tim Hugo.

No good comes from conducting the people's business in secret, all the more true when the business is brutal. Killing people is wrong, two wrongs don't make a right, killing people and keeping the brutal details secret is wrong.

BAD: State Sen. Barbara Favola's bill to extend foster care services and support, including foster care maintenance payments, to qualifying individuals age 18 to 21 years who were formerly in the custody of a local board of social services passed unanimously in Senate, and

A look at recently ended session of the Virginia General Assembly.

died in the House of Delegates. The money spent would have been matched by Federal dollars, and every dollar spent helping former foster children become independent, self-supporting adults saves a bundle in other costs down the line.

UGLY: "Ethics reform" put a \$100 cap on each individual gift from lobbyists to members of the Assembly, with no enforcement mechanism, and no changes in campaign finance. Former Gov. Bob McDonnell and his wife were convicted of corruption for taking more than \$170,000 worth of gifts and favors from Star Scientific and related individuals; this was the catalyst for the so-called reform. It is apparently fine, however, that Star Scientific also gave \$108,000 to McDonnell's campaign. More than 40 other entities gave more, including Dominion (\$383,720), Altria (\$361,556), Smithfield Foods (\$267,738), Walmart (\$121,250), just as examples. (Source: vpap.org). No good comes from having our legislative body awash in this kind of cash. You can visit the Virginia Public Access Project at vpap.org and look up who has been giving how much to the people who represent you. It's fascinating.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fair and Humane

To the Editor,

I completely agree that there should be better management of mental illnesses in jail (Editorial, "Managing Mental Illness in Jails," Connection, February 25-March 3, 2015).

This is a common pattern that many people are unaware of or simply don't care about because of the stigma that comes with those imprisoned.

It is common to assume that because someone is imprisoned, they are undoubtedly "evil." Since substance abuse and mental illnesses are common patterns among prisoners, more awareness should be spread on this issue so that treatment can be improved.

If people who are not imprisoned can receive support and treatment for their addictions and illnesses, then prisoners should receive the same opportunities. It is not fair to deny people access to these resources just because of what they've done in the past. In fact, receiving this treatment could improve their quality of life and possibly keep them from future criminal activities. Despite what they have done in the past, criminals deserve fair and humane treatment just as any other human does. Along with humane

treatment comes effective treatment, involving proper support and resources for those suffering from addictions and mental illnesses. Natasha McKenna obviously did not receive humane or effective treatment, as she was suffering from severe mental treatment and was punished to the point of death for it rather than receiving adequate and proper treatment. Her situation could have easily been avoided if there was better management of mental illnesses in her jail facility. Perhaps she would not have been so combative or aggressive if she had received adequate care. Enclosing people in restrictive jail cells is not an effective response to mental illnesses, as we have learned in the past from asylums and other inappropriate "hospitals" for the mentally ill. I hope that our society will soon realize this so that action will be taken.

Victoria Lamb
Reston

Taking Exception On Start Time

To the Editor,

Recently our schools have un-

dergone major changes in the schedule due to snow, but next year it won't just be snow that modifies our schedule.

Next year the school schedule at FCPS will change for high school and middle school students. The school board has decided to switch the start times without giving the students an option to keep the same start time they had.

The high schoolers get to sleep later at the expense of us middle school students. Although we are the same "teens" who need more sleep, apparently we don't count as much as the high school "teens."

Did anybody think about student's sports practices? Now that West Springfield High School will end later, this nearly shuts out the possibility for there to be crew practice after school because safety rules say students can't be on the water after sunset.

This change was loosely based on studies in other areas. I think the school board could've saved the \$143,000 hiring a consultant to conduct a study about implementing late start times and spent it on improvements to our decaying middle and high schools.

Aidan Donahue
Springfield

Bravery to Act

To the Editor:

I am a resident of Vienna, though away at college, and I saw the article that was posted referring to the young lady from Vienna who helped pass a piece of legislation in the House regarding restaurants training their employees about food allergies ("House Passes Keam's Bill on Food Allergies," Vienna/Oakton Connection, February 25-March 3, 2015). I think that it is extremely important that all food vendors are aware of food allergies; there are many people who are gluten intolerant, allergic to peanut butter, etc. It is no longer an individual problem and the fact that this young lady had the bravery to write to her representative is really inspiring. I think that this bill will be extremely effective in the restaurant business because more people will be willing to eat at places where they can feel safe about the foods that they consume. I really think it is important that she was featured in the paper to inspire others to write to their representatives about what they are facing because rarely are people alone in their problems.

Alex Dibblee
Vienna

Vienna & Oakton
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NEWS



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Members of Girl Scout Troop 3651 greeted an arriving Honor Flight at Dulles International Airport when they were Brownies in 2012. They are organizing a showing on "Honor Flight" on March 16 in Herndon to bring more veterans to Washington.

Screening Honor Flights

**Film screening
March 16 to help
WWII veterans travel
to their monument.**

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

The Honor Flight Network transports aging veterans to visit memorials built in Washington D.C. in their honor. Caroline Healy and 11 of her peers in Girl Scout Troop 3651 based in Great Falls are hosting a screening of "Honor Flight" at AMC Worldgate 9 Theaters in Herndon on March 16 at 5:30 p.m.

"It's a pretty important movie, it's very special," said Caroline, 11, whose great grandfather served in World War II. "It's very important that the veterans who served in World War II will be remembered."

"Honor Flight" follows a midwestern community racing against the clock to fly World War II veterans to Washington, said Karen Joostema, co-leader of the group. Tickets are being sold online in advance only at <https://www.tugg.com/events/11973>

The movie will be followed by a short discussion with veterans.

THE 12 GIRLS in Caroline's Girl Scout Troop, who attend Colvin Run Elementary School in Vienna, first worked with the Honor Flight organization two years ago as Brownies. They greeted an Honor Flight of veterans at Washington Dulles International Airport to see the memorials, according to Joostema, co-leader of the troop.

"We got to shake hands and hug them and sing songs to them. We sang 'America, The Beautiful,' 'You're a Grand Old Flag,' and 'God Bless America.' They seemed very happy," said Kyra Joostema, 11.

"They were telling us what it was like," said Caroline.

"To see the girls interact with the veter-

Honor Flight Screening

Girl Scout Troop 3651 is sponsoring a special screening of the movie "Honor Flight" on March 16 at 5:30 p.m. at AMC Worldgate 9 theaters in Herndon. "Honor Flight" tells the story of a nationwide effort to fly World War II veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit the monuments built in their honor. For many veterans, this opportunity is the trip of a lifetime. This is a one-time showing, and tickets are \$12.50, online in advance only. To buy tickets go to: <https://www.tugg.com/events/11973>.

ans, it's not something to be replicated," said Caroline's mother Amy Healy, co-leader of the troop.

Karen Joostema said the girls were inspired and wanted to learn more, so they arranged for the troop to view the movie.

When it was time for the girls to decide on a community project this year, they decided to try to help more veterans to get to Washington by setting up their own community viewing.

"We want people to have a chance to see it and understand what happened and to understand that people around us did a good thing," said Caroline.

ABOUT 640 VETERANS who served in World War II die each day, according to Honor Flight Network.

"They are a very service-oriented group of people, especially for their age. They are getting more independent," said Healy of the girls. "It's just neat to be a part of it. The girls are taking more of the lead as they get older."

The girls have made signs, visited nursing homes to tell people about the movie, and have brainstormed other ways to get people to go.

"I just hope we sell the tickets, so Karen and I don't have to buy them all," said Healy.

Caroline has been in her girl scouts troop for four years.

"We are there to support each other. We all do things together, not one of us is left out," said Caroline.

"Our troop has worked so hard, it makes me happy that we accomplished this," she said.

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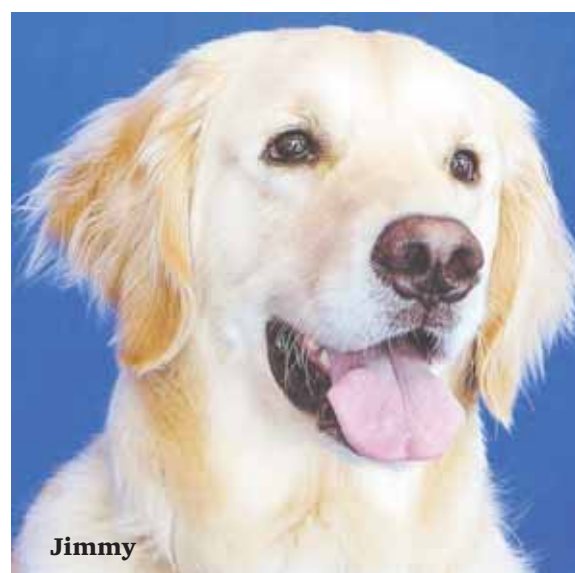
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Jimmy



PHOTOS BY JOAN BRADY PHOTOGRAPHY

Shannon DeLacy at Flint Hill Elementary in Vienna with her 6-year-old twins; Skylar (blue) and Sydney (pink)



Jimmy with Jack, Sydney, Skylar and Riley.

Dog as Lifeline to Vienna Boy

Golden Retriever assistance dog connects Jack to schoolmates, community.

BY JOAN BRADY
THE CONNECTION

Jack DeLacy was not expected to see his second birthday. But by the time he turned 4, it was clear the DeLacys could start planning

for a future they never expected to have. Diagnosed with mitochondrial disease, Jack has a great many challenges. "Mito" primarily affects children and can cause a host of complications including loss of motor control, muscle weakness and pain, seizures, developmental delays and others,

according to the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation.

Allison Kaminsky, Shannon DeLacy's childhood friend, had been volunteering with a non-profit that trains service dogs for children, veterans and young adults. She encouraged the DeLacys to look into

getting Jack a dog that might help to improve his quality of life.

Shannon and her husband had always loved dogs. But they weren't exactly sure how a service dog might benefit their non-verbal son, who, at four, was not yet walking. And the process of getting and

maintaining a service dog would require a significant commitment including ongoing training.

But with Alison's encouragement, they decided to apply and were accepted into the paws4people.org program.

Jack loves golden retriever, Jimmy. Shannon says he is a perfect fit for their family. And as Jack has gotten older, opportunities to interact with children outside of his special education Intellectual Disabilities class have become more limited.

Because of Jimmy though, Shannon says Jack has a kind of super hero status with the kids at Sunrise Valley Elementary in Reston. Other students approach Jack to say hello to Jimmy or to ask about him if he isn't in school. Jack shows his delight by smiling broadly.

Jimmy's impact isn't limited to the DeLacy family. He volunteers with Shannon at her twin's Vienna elementary school, Flint Hill. When Karen Sparacino, the school's reading specialist, first announced that parents could sign their kids up to read to Jimmy, 70 kids were signed up on-the-spot.

Sparacino says that reading to Jimmy is about giving early readers confidence. Jimmy listens without judgment. Jimmy doesn't correct. That takes some of the stress off the young readers. And the kids know Jimmy is listening because he

responds when they read words he understands, like "Treat" and "Drop it."

Shannon remembers one little girl who arrived to the library with her book in hand. "I don't read very well. Jimmy may not like this book," she said, as she arranged herself on the floor next to him. She began reading slowly and carefully. But by the end of the book she was reading with fluidity and inflection.

And reading to a dog doesn't end with Jimmy. Some of the kids have reported reading to their own dogs at home. At the end of the day, the more kids read, the better, says Sparacino.

Jimmy is a trained assistance dog who definitely works. But he also loves to play with Jack and his three sisters; Riley, Sydney and Skylar.

Joan Brady is a professional photographer; mentor and advocate for current and former foster children; a volunteer with paws4People, Fairfax Families4Kids, and others; and a resident of Great Falls. Reach her at joan@joanbradyphotography.com

More

On Mitochondrial Disease: <http://www.umdf.org>
On paws4people: <http://paws4people.org/>

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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 5

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo. The Alden, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. \$50/\$40 MCC tax district residents. www.mcleancenter.org.

THROUGH WEDNESDAY/MARCH 11

Ice Skating at Tysons Corner Center. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Tysons Corner Outdoor Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, Tysons. Adults, \$10; Child/Senior/Military, \$9; Skate Rental, \$6; Group of 10+, \$12 and includes skates.

FRIDAY/MARCH 6

Antigone Rising. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. The girls will be bringing their trademark sound - a fusion of country, pop, rock and folk. Tickets: \$15-\$18.

Altan. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. One of Ireland's most respected traditional Celtic music acts blends lively strings and ethereal vocals to transport listeners to the heart of the Emerald Isle. Tickets: \$25.

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

Drop-In Chess. 3:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike,



Catch Antigone Rising playing on March 6 at Jammin' Java. The girls will be bringing their trademark sound - a fusion of country, pop, rock and folk.

Great Falls. Drop-in and play Chess. All skill levels and ages welcome.

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

Great Falls Grange Reopening Ceremony. 10 a.m. 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. John Foust, Dranesville District Supervisor, and the Fairfax County Park Authority hold the Re-Opening Ceremony of the Great Falls Grange. The ceremony will be held during the Great Falls Farmers Market.

Pancake Breakfast. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street South, Vienna. 8 a.m. - Noon. All you can eat pancakes, sausage, bacon, juice and coffee. Adults \$8, Seniors 65+ \$7, Children under 12 \$6, Children under 4 free. There will also be tours of the fire equipment available. All proceeds go to the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department to assist in purchasing life saving fire

equipment. Come have a delicious breakfast, spend time with the members of the VVFD and the community. For more information contact: Joanie@vvfd.org.

Salon Simone and Med Spa Cultura. 6-10 p.m. Tysons Corner Mall, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Come by and bring a friend or two for a sip, a bite and mingle at Tyson's Corner Center's newest salon and spa.

SUNDAY/MARCH 8

Keaton Simons. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. Keaton Simons' music has been heard in dozens of feature films and television shows. He has also worked as a writer, musical director, singer, bassist and guitarist with notable acts like Gnarl's Barkley, Black Eyed Peas, Snoop Dogg, and Tre Hardson of The Pharcyde. His guitar playing is highly



The Vienna Arts Society invites the public to discover how Potomac artist Jack Harding creates subtle textural effects with watercolors on distressed rice paper on March 12 at 10:30 a.m. at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna.

sought-after, so much so that friends and peers like Ben Harper and Josh Kelley have asked him to join them on tour and on live TV.

MONDAY/MARCH 9

Tiny Tots. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Join for an exciting storytime featuring stories, rhymes and songs. Ages 13 - 23 months with adult.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 11

Buckwheat Zydeco. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Join a "Swamp-boogie joy ride" (People) as this Grammy-winning zydeco band serves up their vibrant brand of

Creole music. Tickets: \$28. **Great Falls Historical Society March Program.** 6 p.m. Celebration of the Grange, refreshments; local memories of the Great Falls Grange, film.

Toddling Twos and Threes. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean. Join for an early literacy enhanced story time featuring stories, rhymes and songs. Age 2-3 with adult.

THURSDAY/MARCH 12-SUNDAY/MARCH 22

Youth Art Exhibition I. MPA, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Opening reception March 14 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

THURSDAY/MARCH 12

Artist's Demonstration. 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. NW, Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society invites the public to discover how Potomac artist Jack Harding creates subtle textural effects with watercolors on distressed rice paper. Free. 703-319-3971. **Fit2Finish.** 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Meet Dr. Wendy LeBolt, author of "Fit2Finish: Keeping Your Soccer Players in the Game". Help your athletes play their best, prevent injury and have fun. Adults.

FRIDAY/MARCH 13

Weather or Not. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Tuesdays - Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. March 3 - April 4. Members of the Vienna Arts Society bring Mother Nature. Meet the artists, to include National Gallery of Art copyist Dick Neff and featured artist Ginger Sanaie, at a reception Friday, March 13, 7 - 9 p.m. Free and open to the public.

CTK Lenten Fish Fry. 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall, Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Join us for fish, fries, slaw, cornbread, mac and cheese, ice cream sundaes, brownies and more. Games and activities, too. 703-615-8660.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 14, 15, 21 AND 22 "Totally RED!" 3 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. An Alden Production. Meet Red (who is nobody's fool) and the wolf (who tries to be cool). The story is told in classic storybook theatre style and the show will be performed by MCC tax district youth. \$12/\$10 MCC tax district residents. www.mcleancenter.org.



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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

SATURDAY/MARCH 14

Model Railroad Open House. 1-5 p.m. 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends in the Historic Vienna Train Station along the W&OD trail just past the Caboose. The layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. For more information visit www.nvmr.org.

Cars & Coffee. 7-9 a.m. 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Early on Saturday mornings you'll find an amazing gathering of cool cars at Katie's Coffee House. Antique, custom, hotrods, exotic, sports cars, they're all here.

SUNDAY/MARCH 15

Brendan Conway, Violin and Florian Noack, Piano. 4 p.m. Saint Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Amadeus Concerts welcomes Conway and Noack for a recital titled "The Fisherman and his Soul," featuring music by Faure, Schumann, Szymanowski and others. A pre-concert lecture by Music Director A. Scott Wood will begin 45 minutes prior to the start of the concert. A reception will follow the concert. \$30, 17 and under free. Purchase at the door or online at <http://www.amadeusconcerts.com>.

TUESDAY/MARCH 17

Ukulele Phil & the Hula Kids. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Sing and dance with Ukulele Phil & the Hula Kids.

THURSDAY/MARCH 19

Artists Meet for Coffee. 8:30 - 10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Local artists gather to get to discuss art while enjoying some morning coffee.

FRIDAY/MARCH 20

Enter the Haggis. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Experimental roots-rock stalwarts push the boundaries of Celtic music with vigorous performances and inventive albums. Tickets: \$28.

St. Paddy's Day Party. 7-9 p.m. The Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. These popular 5th and 6th grader parties include music, dancing, games, snacks, videos and more. \$35/\$25 MCC tax district residents. Advance registration is required. Call 703-448-8336.

SATURDAY/MARCH 21

New Artist Reception. 1-4 p.m. 212 Dominion Rd NE, Vienna. New Artist Reception for Thomas Xenakis.

TUESDAY/MARCH 24

Annual Children's Printmaking Workshop. 4-5 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society invites children ages 7 - 12 to create prints using fish, vegetables, and more at a workshop. To register, call the Children's Librarian at 703-938-0405.

Berlin Then, Berlin Now. 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Bill Rapper, author of "Tears of Innocence" and "Berlin Breakdown" discusses the attraction Berlin continues to hold 70 years after the fall of the Nazis. Adults.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Trocks-LaTrovatiara.

Tutus, Tights and Testosterone — The Trocks Return to The Alden

Back by popular demand after three seasons, the dynamic and delightful ballet dancers in drag, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo, return to The Alden in McLean. The troupe will perform one night only on Thursday, Mar. 5, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50, \$40 for McLean tax district residents. The Alden is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue, inside the McLean Community Center.

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo is celebrating its 40th anniversary season. It was founded in 1974 by a group of ballet enthusiasts for the purpose of presenting a playful, entertaining view of traditional, classical ballet in parody form

and *en travesty*. "The Trocks," as they are affectionately known, quickly garnered a major critical essay by Arlene Croce in The New Yorker, and combined with reviews in The New York Times and The Village Voice, established the company as an artistic and popular success.

The Trocks' inspired blend of a loving knowledge of dance, their comic approach and the astounding fact that men can, indeed, dance *en pointe* without falling flat on their faces, has been embraced and noted around the world.

Tickets are on sale now. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit: www.aldentheatre.org or call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711.

PET FRIENDLY EVENTS

SATURDAY/MARCH 7

Fun Dog Show. 11 a.m. Market Square, 301 King Street, Alexandria. Register your dogs to win the contests ranging from Best Tail Wag to Best Irish Costume. The show starts at 11:15 a.m., and afterwards all dogs are welcome to walk in the annual Old Town Alexandria St. Patrick's Day Parade. Register and learn more at http://www.ballyshanners.org/parade/ParadeInfo_dogshow.htm.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 27-29

Super Pet Expo & Doggie Kissing Contest. Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly. The Super Pet Expo is the largest, most amazing event for animal lovers in the DC Metro. Learn, shop and be entertained with hundreds of vendors and fun activities. Buy tickets at <http://www.superpetexpo.com/tickets> and use code NOVADOG to save \$3. Before the expo on Saturday morning, join hundreds of other dogs and the people who love them to attempt to set a doggie-kissing record.



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Here's What's Happening at MCC



Onstage @ The Alden
Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

Thursday, Mar. 5, 7:30 p.m.
\$50/\$40 MCC district residents

Old Firehouse Teen Center
Double Feature at AMC Tysons

Friday, Mar. 13, 3:30-10 p.m.
\$35/\$25 MCC district residents

An Alden Production
"Totally RED!"

March 14, 15, 21 and 22, 3 p.m.
\$12/\$10 MCC district residents

OFTC Teacher Work Day Trip
Bazooka Ball Sports

Monday, Mar. 16
\$35/\$25 MCC district residents

Midday Thrillers
"The Manchurian Candidate" (1962)

Wednesday, Mar. 18, 1 p.m.
Free. Reservations are not required.

5th and 6th Grader Party
St. Paddy's Day Party

Friday, Mar. 20, 7-9 p.m.
\$35/\$25 MCC district residents

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



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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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Any person who wishes to support or
oppose the application, but does not wish to
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Box 27412, Richmond, VA 23269-0001. The
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contact DMV Motor Carrier Services Operating
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Sole-Searching



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

There's no denying the emotional fact that the CT Scan results I received and wrote about last week were a bit of a disappointment. Not a shock, mind you, because once yours truly was characterized as "terminal," back in late February 2009, all subsequent bets came off the table, almost literally; and expectations, such as they were explained to Team Lourie, likewise nearly ended up on the floor, figuratively speaking, meaning they were pretty low at that point. And ever since, my life has been about managing expectations and reacting to scan results and lab work and trying to live forward. This recurring assessment has dominated my life over these past six years.

So receiving results last week was, in and of itself, nothing new. Heck, I've received bad results before; I've even been hospitalized because of them. Obviously, I was not hospitalized this time. Nor will there be any changes to my treatment protocol, although we are advancing by one month my next CT Scan, as a precaution/prudent course of reaction to the mass which seems to be forming in my left lung. At this juncture however, premature as it may or may not be, nothing really has changed. Life goes on.

Nevertheless, I can't help thinking that change has indeed occurred. Unfortunately, the process by which one finds out about such change: scans, sort of happens in arrears. That's not to say that now is definitely too late, but neither is it too early. It's more that this kind of timeline makes for worrisome days and sleepless nights. All of which, if you believe the anecdotal evidence, are counter-productive to surviving cancer. It serves no purpose, other than as an entirely reasonable and predictable response to an incredibly difficult set of circumstances, to focus on such a negative. Moreover, attempting to control something likely beyond one's control similarly stretches one's emotional strings. Finding a balance between what is and what isn't quite yet, or what might become of what hasn't been confirmed, is a constant struggle.

Do I care and/or worry now and beat the rush, or do I do neither, and care/worry later? If this growth isn't quite something, do I presume its nothing? Or do I presume it's something even though it may still be nothing? Do I go around in circles or do I attempt to live long and prosper and damn any torpedoes that interfere with my life?

Such is life as a "terminal" cancer patient (mine anyway); upside down and all around, and never the twain shall meet, "except on the twack," as my father always joked. And though I am regularly supported - and encouraged, by friends, family and many of you returning readers, this surviving-cancer business is most often a solitary endeavor. Living with my own thoughts, internally, this cancer-afflicted life, regardless of what I hear, see or read externally, is my responsibility and somehow I must navigate the landscape; a landscape I knew very little about previously and one fraught with danger, both mentally and physically.

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

SPORTS



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Maddie Royle, seen earlier this season, and the Oakton girls' basketball team won their first two games of the 6A North region tournament.

Oakton Girls Beat LB, Battlefield

The Oakton girls' basketball team advanced to the 6A North region tournament final four with victories over Lake Braddock (64-35, Feb. 27) and Battlefield (67-56, Feb. 28).

The victories improved the Cougars' record to 25-1 and extended their win streak to 24.

Oakton's region semifinal match-up with West Springfield was scheduled for Tuesday at Robinson, after The Connection's deadline. The winner earns a trip to the region final and a berth in the state tournament.

The region championship game is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday, March 6 at Robinson Secondary School.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

NoVa Ice Dogs Win Championship

The top-seed NoVa Ice Dogs U12-A girls' ice hockey team defeated the Montgomery (MD) Blue Devils, 4-3, to win the Chesapeake Bay Hockey League U12 girls' championship on Feb. 22 in Frederick, Md. The Ice Dogs, coached by Mike Donovan of Falls Church, are composed of 19 11-year-olds from around Northern Virginia. The roster includes: Katherine Donovan, Sarah Ettinger, Kaia Jefferson, Jillian Kendrick, and Bryana Nace of Falls Church City; Kelly DeMatties and Mira Majure of Falls Church Fairfax County; Alexandra Friedman and Ana Evans of Alexandria; Rachel Clarke and Emily Rotter of Arlington; Gwenyth Holloway and Braylee Weets of Springfield; Lexi Lewis of Nokesville; Elizabeth Mueller of Fairfax Station; Caley Duchak of Vienna; Mia Boris and Macie McGraw of Washington, D.C.; and Sara ten Broecke of Columbia, Md. Tryouts for next year's girls teams will be held April 30-May 7 in Alexandria. Please contact Peter Townsend at peterwtownsend@comcast.net for more information.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Langley junior Paige Galiani tries to split a pair of West Springfield defenders during the 6A North region quarterfinals on Feb. 28.

Langley Girls' Basketball Team Wins 21 Games, Reaches Region Quarterfinals

The Langley girls' basketball team exceeded expectations during the 2014-15 season, winning 21 games, including a regional tournament contest against Osbourn Park.

But that hardly dulled the pain of Saturday night's season-ending loss to

West Springfield.

The Saxons came out on the short end of a physical contest, losing to the Spartans, 47-37, in the 6A North region quarterfinals on Feb. 28 at West Springfield High School.

Herndon Boys' Basketball Reaches Region Quarters

The Herndon boys' basketball team suffered a season-ending loss to Battlefield in the 6A North region quarterfinals, 75-52, on Feb. 28.

One day earlier, the Hornets beat Lake Braddock, 72-69, in the opening round.

Herndon finished the season with a 16-10 record, placing runner-up in the Conference 5 tournament.

South Lakes Girls, Boys Lose in Region Tournament

The South Lakes girls' and boys' basketball teams lost in the opening round of their respective 6A North region tournaments.

The girls' team lost to Battlefield, 52-42, on Feb. 27 at Battlefield High School. The Seahawks ended their season with a 17-7 record.

The boys' team lost to Osbourn, 59-52, on Feb. 27 at Osbourn High School. South Lakes finished 16-9.

Madison Girls Qualify for Semifinals

The Madison girls' basketball team defeated Osbourn, 72-50, on Feb. 27 and Westfield, 58-36, on Feb. 28 to reach the 6A North region semifinals.

The Warhawks' semifinal contest against Chantilly was scheduled for Tuesday, after

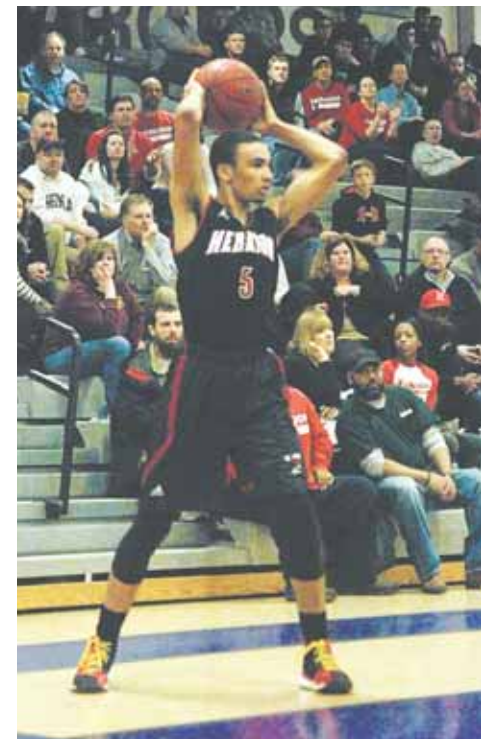


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Michael Griffin, seen earlier this season, and the Herndon boys' basketball team reached the region quarterfinals before losing to Battlefield.

The Connection's deadline.

The winner would earn a trip to the region championship game and a state tournament berth.

The region championship game is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday, March 6 at Robinson Secondary School.

Madison entered Tuesday's game with a 22-5 record, including a 32-28 win over Langley in the Conference 6 championship game on Feb. 24.