

Great Falls CONNECTION

Lexie Perez and Taylor Maguire collect items donated for the 2015 Wish List Project at the Perez home in Great Falls. The project helps families in area shelters, alternative housing and children in foster care. See www.wishlistangels.com.

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PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

Great Falls 2015: Year in Review

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Reflect on 2015

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Top McLean/Great Falls
Sports Moments from 2015

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Great Falls 2015: Year in Review

Vision for the Grange, Foust and Murphy re-elected, Exxon cleanup and more.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Great Grange Vision

On March 7, about 75 members of the community celebrated renovations to the 1929 Great Falls Grange Hall building and grounds that made it accessible to all of Great Falls.

"For far too long, it was not accessible to our residents with disabilities and to our senior citizens," said Supervisor John Foust, who helped secure \$350,000 for the \$503,000 project from County carry-over funds in 2013. The Fairfax County Park Authority funded the balance of the project.

"Great Falls has many assets, but one thing it does not have is an official community center," said Foust. "The Grange is our de facto community center."

The Great Falls Grange was the first grange hall built in Virginia and one of five granges built in Fairfax County, said Kathleen Murphy, president of the Great Falls Historical Society.

"It's gone through ups and downs, but through all its history it has always been the center of the community. It can become that again," said Phil Pifer, of the Great Falls Citizens Association.

"Now that the Grange has been brought up to code the question is what are we going to do with it?" said Jorge Adeler. "I hope the effort won't stop here."

A few months later in October, Adeler and representatives from a dozen Great Falls organizations met to rejuvenate a commitment of making the Great Falls Grange the centerpiece of the community, as founding Great Falls farmers envisioned almost a century ago.

After learning that the park authority is willing to give the key to the Grange for the community to use, Adeler held the meeting to see if a consortium of community groups is ready to assume responsibility for managing the building and Old Schoolhouse for community use.

"The potential is extraordinary," he said. The possible activities for community use, for youth, senior citizens, adults, artists, musicians, nonprofits and the entire community are "endless."

During election season, GFCFA during its debate, asked Foust his vision for the property.

"A really impressive group of community organizations got together and signed a letter to me basically asking for more access to these facilities," Foust said. "The proposal was that I would get the Grange made ADA ac-



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

The Grange was built in 1929 to be the social center of Great Falls. Now that it is accessible to all, after long-needed ADA renovations, the community hopes it will become a hub of community activity once again.

cessible and they would come forward with a proposal that community groups would take responsibility for these two buildings."

"And eventually if the community groups come together the way I think they might and the way it was initially proposed, I see something more grand here."

Foust, Murphy, Favola Re-elected

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) was re-elected and sworn in for a third term on Dec. 15, 2015, the first person to serve a third term in the Dranesville district in more than 100 years, according to Tony Castrilli of Fairfax County. Foust defeated first-time candidate Jennifer Chronis (R).

Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) was re-elected in a rematch with Craig Parisot (R). Murphy defeated Parisot by a final count of 10,820 votes to 10,632, less than one per-

cent of voters in the 34th District.

The morning after the election, Parisot sent a legal team to observe a canvas held in Fairfax and Loudoun counties, which are represented by the 34th district, to ensure the election's authenticity.

This election was a rematch of the special election triggered last November 2014 when Barbara Comstock (R) was elected to U.S. Congress.

The 34th District has a history of close elections. In 2013, Murphy lost to Barbara Comstock 50.64 percent to 49.21 percent. Murphy received 14,540 votes to Comstock's 14,962. In 2012, Barack Obama and Mitt Romney literally tied in the district, each receiving 18,688 votes, according to Virginia Public Access Project.

Sen. Barbara Favola was reelected for her second term, defeating challenger George Forakis.

SEE YEAR IN REVIEW. PAGE 4

A YEAR IN REVIEW

Highlights of 2015

Significant Accomplishments

Congresswoman Barbara Comstock (R-10):

"As we finish out 2015, Congress has achieved significant accomplishments that impact our community: Number one, we focused on the



nation's and our community's priorities and passed a bipartisan budget that reversed the defense sequester cuts and restored needed national security and defense funds. We passed a permanent Research and Development tax credit and cut taxes for small businesses, start-ups and families. A five-year transportation funding bill, which included funds directed to reduce traffic congestion as well as requiring more accountability and reliability from Metro, was signed into law. We passed human trafficking legislation to stop this growing crime and to protect women and children, and we established two local task forces to tackle the devastating problems caused by heroin use and addiction. In 2016, I look forward to continuing to expand our 21st-century economy and opportunity for all and restoring our national security and defense."

Thank You to Retiring Supervisors

Sharon Bulova, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors:

"This summer, Fairfax County showcased our impressive public safety capabilities during the exciting World Police and Fire Games.



In March, to build on and enhance an already great Police Department, I convened a Police Practices Review Commission. Recommendations from this 30+ member Commission centered on use of force, response to offenders suffering from mental illness, communications, oversight and recruitment. Changes resulting from the

SEE HIGHLIGHTS. PAGE 4

Year in Review

FROM PAGE 3

Deer Density

Deer density is still at least two times greater than it should be in the Great Falls/McLean area, said Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist Dr. Katherine Edwards, citing a number between 15-20 deer per square mile as healthy for deer and the environment. Fairfax County recently used aerial and infrared technology to study deer population in county parks, she said early in 2015, including Scotts Run Nature Preserve, Riverbend and other parks around the county.

The Great Falls Citizens Association recently took the unusual step of surveying its residents about experiences with deer and opinions of what to do about it.

Part of the mission of the Great Falls Citizens Association is to preserve the semi-rural nature of Great Falls. The Committee on Environment Parks and Trails, "observed that the next generation of our forests has in many places disappeared under pressure from deer herds, raising questions about the sustainability of our highly-prized natural environment...The objective was to seek residents' views so that the GFCA could evaluate support for new initiatives to protect local woodlands and streams."

Jerry Peters, a retired ecologist who lives in Great Falls, is spearheading a program in Great Falls to connect licensed, professional archers to homeowners who permit archery on their land.

For the past seven years, Peters has studied the deer grazing the understory of forests, the overabundance of deer in the Great Falls and Northern Virginia area, and the declining deer health because of the inability for the habitat to support the growing population.

A 125-pound deer requires approximately 6.5 pounds of forage per day, or some 2,370 pounds of vegetation per year, according to the Fairfax County Park Authority. Multiply more than a ton of vegetation by as many as 100 deer per square mile, and the resulting decimation of forest understory and suburban landscaping is not surprising.

"This is really deer heaven, and we have made it that way," said Peters.

Brooks Farm

Planners and the landowner kept tweaking, even eliminating three houses from 23 in their cluster development proposal, but Great Falls Citizens Association voted for a resolution to oppose rezoning and cluster development of the 52 acres of Brooks Farm off Springvale Road.

"The GFCA believes the property should be developed as a five-acre subdivision, perhaps in the Residential-Conservation 'RC' Zoning Category," according to the resolution passed in May.

"The common area, including the [Resource Protection Area] and the water dam, and upstream lowland, should remain privately owned, with development conditions, proffers and covenants imposed suf-

ficient to ensure they will be properly maintained and cared for," reads the resolution. "The County should require the best state-of-the-art stormwater management on every lot, plus best management practice water retention in the common areas."

When first proposed, 1,400 Great Falls residents signed a petition to oppose the rezoning of Brooks Farm, which some call the heart of Great Falls.

The meeting was the third in 2015, and Basheer/Edgemoor-Brooks pitched the ideal of continued partnership and dialogue with the goal of reaching consensus before a final plan comes to the Fairfax County Planning Commission.

"Let me be as blunt as I can be," said attorney Gregory A. Riegle, of McGuire Woods who represents Basheer/Edgemoor-Brooks, LLC. "We would not be able to meet the expectation of the landowner with five acre lots. There is an economic value to this that we have to balance."

Exxon Cleanup Continues

The Exxon cleanup in Great Falls continues. Despite ongoing efforts to remove the Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) from the groundwater as a result of the leak from the former Exxon Station at 9901 Georgetown Pike, concentrations of the chemical remain more than 10 times the target level in at least one spot.

Approximately 256 pounds of MTBE have been removed since pumping and treatment began in August 2014, according to the Great Falls Citizens Association.

"We will keep being vigilant until the problem goes away," said Glen Sjoblom, chair of the Great Falls Citizens Association's special committee on groundwater contamination.

The special committee of the Citizens Association reviewed the groundwater monitoring report issued for second quarter 2015 by Fairfax Petroleum and its environmental engineering contractor, Kleinfelder East. The report was received from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

GFCA and Sjoblom predict that pumping will need to continue for another year.

"After the end points are reached, monitoring will continue for another two years to verify no contamination will ever reach private groundwater wells in the vicinity of the commercial center of Great Falls," according to the Great Falls Citizens Association.

Low level of MTBE can make groundwater undrinkable due to its offensive taste and odor, according to U.S. EPA documents.

"It doesn't take a very big leak to cause a very big problem if you have an area that has private wells," said Sjoblom.

The groundwater has been treated by pumping it out for air stripping and by charcoal filtration in a special treatment trailer, and the treated water is released below discharge limits to the storm drain.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015

FROM PAGE 3

work of the Commission will help foster our culture of public trust and ensure the fair and timely resolution of police-involved incidents.

I signed on to Michelle Obama's "Mayor's Challenge" to end Veteran Homelessness by the end of 2015. Thanks to our strong partnership with nonprofits and faith-based organizations, homeless veterans are now quickly identified and connected to support services and housing.

2015 was an election year for local government. Please join me in saying 'Thank you' to retiring supervisors Gerry Hyland and Mike Frey and 'Welcome' to new Supervisors Dan Storck and Kathy Smith."

Dranesville in 2015

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville):

Fiscal Year 2016 Budget:

The Board of Supervisors adopted the Fiscal Year 2016 budget that provided funding for essential services including Education, Public Safety and Human Services, while controlling the tax burden on homeowners. Schools remained the number one priority for the Board of Supervisors, receiving nearly 53 percent of the County's General Fund, which represented 99.8 percent of what the School Board requested.

Spring Hill Recreation Center: A highlight of 2015 was the opening last January of the renovated and expanded Spring Hill Recreation Center in McLean. New features include a two-story fitness center, a gymnasium with basketball and volleyball courts, an elevated running track and family changing rooms.

World Police and Fire Games: Fairfax County was the host to the 2015 World Police and Fire Games from June 26-July 5. Over 9,000 athletes from 68 countries participated in 61 sporting events at 53 venues with the assistance of over 6000 volunteers and staff.

Lewinsville Center: The Board of Supervisors approved an agreement with a major nonprofit developer to redevelop the Lewinsville Senior Center. New space will be constructed for the senior center, adult day care center, two child care centers and 80 independent living apartments. Construction will begin in 2016.



Grange: With funding from the Board of Supervisors and the Park Authority, the historic Grange building in Great Falls was made fully ADA-compliant with the addition of a wheelchair lift, an ADA-compliant unisex bathroom, and improvements to the parking areas and walking routes.

Economic Development: The Board of Supervisors adopted a strategic plan to strengthen the County's economy for the 21st century. The strategy focuses on high-level policy recommendations to help the County to expand and diversify the economy. The economic roadmap was created by the 50-member, board-appointed Economic Advisory Commission, along with county staff.

Ad Hoc Police Practices Commission: The Board of Supervisors created the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, which delivered a final report with 142 policy recommendations for the Fairfax County Police Department, in the areas of communications, recruitment/diversity/vetting, mental health, crisis intervention training, use of force and independent oversight and investigation.

Better Laws on Gun Shop Locations

State Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31):

"I am grateful for the voters' choice to reelect me and honored for the chance to serve the community with my recently elected colleagues, including: Fairfax Supervisor John Foust, Delegate Kathleen Murphy, and Arlington County Board Members Katie Cristol and Christian Dorsey.

The year 2015 highlighted the need for better laws governing the location of gun shops. I joined McLean advocates and other legislators to protest a gun shop opening next to Franklin Sherman Elementary School. In the General Assembly, I fought to protect survivors of domestic violence and advocated for mental health services in our public schools. Although these efforts did not pass, my successful initiatives will: keep campuses safe while protecting the privacy of sexual assault survivors; fund a program that helps students get an Associate Degree while completing high school; and improve the quality of in-home child care. I also helped shape the long overdue ethics bill."



Route 7 Widening

The Virginia Department of Transportation hopes to begin construction on a \$265 million project to widen Route 7 in 2021. VDOT will continue meeting with homeowner associations this fall to give details on the 6.9 mile project that will increase the width of Route 7 from four to six lanes between Reston Avenue and Jarrett Valley Drive.

The project will be split into two phases.

VDOT plans its next two-day Public Information and Open House Meeting on Jan. 8 and 9, 2016. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for April 2016 and VDOT hopes for approval of the design from the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board to in the summer of 2016.

Safety concerns regarding access is still a major concern to neighborhoods along Route 7 corridor in Great Falls.

See www.ConnectRoute7.org.

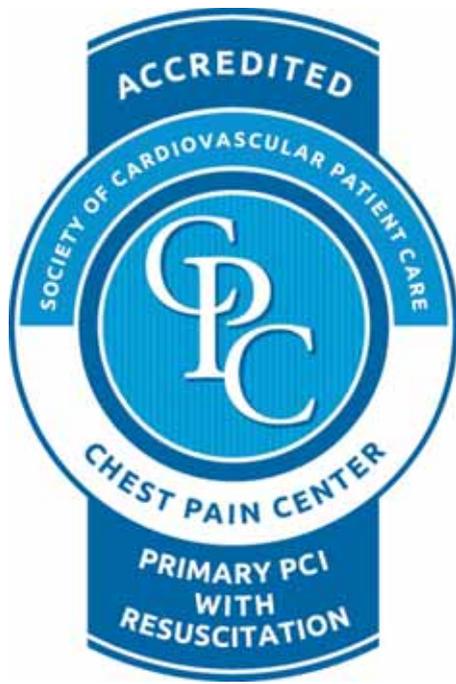
Reston Hospital Center Receives Chest Pain Center Accreditation

HCA Virginia's Reston Hospital Center received full Chest Pain Center Accreditation with Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) with Resuscitation from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (SCPC) on Nov. 11. To become an Accredited Chest Pain Center, the hospital and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) were thoroughly evaluated for the ability to assess, diagnose and treat patients who may be experiencing a heart attack. The team met or exceeded a wide set of criteria and an onsite review by an accreditation specialist.

"Reston Hospital Center is committed to offering the highest standards of safety and quality care for our patients. This accreditation represents our ongoing dedication to expand and improve our clinical practices," said John Deardorff, CEO of Reston Hospital Center.

"This accreditation reflects the dedication and professional excellence of the physicians and staff at Reston Hospital Center," said Dr. David Jacobs, medical director of the emergency department. "It also validates that we have the necessary processes in place to reduce the time from the start of symptoms to diagnosis, and treat patients more quickly during the window of time when the heart muscle can be preserved."

Heart attacks are the leading cause of death in the United States, with 600,000 people dying annually of heart disease. More than five million Americans visit hospitals each year with chest pain. SCPC's goal is to significantly reduce the mortality rate of these patients by teaching the public to recognize and react to the early symptoms of a possible heart attack, reduce the time that it takes



tation review specialists. Hospitals that receive SCPC CPC Accreditation status have achieved a higher level of expertise in dealing with patients who present with symptoms of a heart attack. They emphasize the importance of standardized diagnostic and treatment programs that provide more efficient and effective evaluation as well as more appropriate and rapid treatment of patients with chest pain and other heart attack symptoms. They also serve as a point of entry into the healthcare system to evaluate and treat other medical problems, and they help to promote a healthier lifestyle in an attempt to reduce the risk factors for heart attack.

By achieving SCPC's Chest Pain Center with Primary PCI with Resuscitation Accreditation status, Reston Hospital Center demonstrates expertise in the following areas:

- Integrating the emergency department with the local emergency medical system;
- Assessing, diagnosing, and treating patients quickly;
- Effectively treating patients at low risk for acute coronary syndrome and no assignable cause for their symptoms;
- Continually seeking to improve processes and procedures;
- Ensuring the competence and training of Accredited Chest Pain Center personnel;
- Maintaining organizational structure and commitment;
- Constructing a functional design that promotes optimal patient care;
- Supporting community outreach programs that educate the public to promptly seek medical care if they display symptoms of a possible heart attack.

to receive treatment, and increase the accuracy and effectiveness of treatment.

An Accredited Chest Pain Center's (CPC) evidence-based, protocol-driven and systematic approach to cardiac patient care allows clinicians to reduce time to treatment during the critical early stages of a heart attack. Accredited facilities better monitor patients when it is not initially clear whether or not a patient is having a coronary event. Such monitoring ensures patients are neither sent home too early nor needlessly admitted.

SCPC's CPC Accreditation process came about as greater numbers of facilities in the United States sought to establish standards and adopt best practices in the quality of care provided to patients experiencing chest pain. SCPC's CPC Accreditation process ensures that hospitals meet or exceed an array of stringent criteria and undergo a comprehensive onsite review by a team of accredi-

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OPINION

Merry Christmas

We wish you hope, peace, love and joy during this holiday season.

The pages of the Connection have been full of holiday spirit for more than a month. Menorah lightings, group and individual efforts to help the needy, stories of giving, secular celebrations, religious celebrations. Shopping locally. Giving locally.

Christmas is about the birth of Jesus Christ. Whether you believe the Christmas story literally or in spirit, you know it is the story of joy, hope and love, the promise of redemption.

It is also about embracing the teachings of Jesus: to love thy neighbor as thyself; to help the needy; to feed and clothe the poor; to care for those who are sick; to treat others as you would have them treat you.

Matthew 7:12 "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Matthew 25:35-40 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we

EDITORIAL
see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

So let us share the verse relating the birth of Jesus from the Bible, Luke 2: 4-19:

"And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.'

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, 'Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.' And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds."

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Editor's Note about the rest of 2015: This is our last regular edition of 2015. Next week, after Christmas, we will publish our annual Children's Connection, devoted entirely to the artwork and writing of local students. Our next regular editions will publish Jan. 6-7, 2016, with deadline for content and advertising of Dec. 30 (late ads accepted).

In the meantime you can reach the editors at editors@connectionnewspapers.com and sales/marketing/advertising at sales@connectionnewspapers.com.

Digital replica editions of the most recent week's papers are available at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/PDFs

Past issues of the Connection back to 2008 are available at http://connectionarchives.com/PDF/Advertising information, Special Section details here www.connectionnewspapers.com/advertising

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The Time to Give

County promotes 11 ways to give back to your community.

BY WENDY LEMIEUX
FAIRFAX COUNTY OFFICE OF
PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS
(OP³)



It's the most wonderful time of the year ... to help others. Fairfax County has made it easy with its "Forget the Fruitcake — Ways to Give Campaign" that promotes 11 ways to give back to your community. Running through the end of the year, you can donate to any of these 11 county nonprofits, foundations and agencies in honor of anyone on your gift list. It makes shopping easy and offers you a nice tax deduction. But best of all, it helps those organizations succeed in bringing goods and services to those who need them most at this time of year.

On any given day more than 67,000 people go hungry in the county and more than 30 percent of the students in Fairfax County

schools are eligible for free and reduced lunch. Despite its affluent status, Fairfax has a population that benefits from programs such as "Ways to Give." There is something for everyone on your list whether they like animals, education, summer fun or community spirit. Gifts that give back include books, a week at camp, medical care, bikes, trees and food for the hungry.

Through a partnership with ad agency Williams Whittle, Fairfax County's Office of Public Private Partnerships has honed the mes-

sage and the graphics which has made a difference in the look and feel of the campaign. Williams Whittle liked the campaign in previous years and offered their professional services and contacts to make the program even better. And it's resulted in numerous pro bono advertisement and engagement from community stakeholders. One beneficiary of the increased exposure was the Fairfax County Restoration Project (FCRP) — whose mission is to restore the tree canopy in Fairfax County. When the first ad was placed in

the Connection in mid-November, FCRP reported a 70 percent increase in visits to their website that offers to plant five native trees in honor of a family member or friend.

This is the fifth year of the "Ways to Give" campaign that so far has resulted in an increase of 50 percent in web traffic. Although donation numbers won't be available until January, participating agencies and nonprofits have reported a surge in traffic to their sites.

To donate and learn more visit www.GiveFairfax.net.



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CONNECTION

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Abigail Constantino
Editorial Assistant
703-778-9410 ext.427
aconstantino@connectionnewspapers.com

Ken Moore
Community Reporter
240-393-2448
kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com

Jon Roetman
Sports Editor ♦ 703-752-4013
jroetman@connectionnewspapers.com
@jonroetman

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
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Salome Howard-Gaibler
Display Advertising
703-778-9421
salome@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising
703-778-9411
classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Deb Cobb, Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Laurence Foong, John Heinly
Production Manager:
Geovani Flores

Special Assistant to the Publisher
Jeanne Theismann
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/DEC. 24

Good For The Jews. 7:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Good For the Jews is a clever, hilarious music duo from New York whose Christmas Eve shows at Jammin Java have become a grand tradition. Join for the duo as they share songs about bar mitzvahs, Passover, Jewish girls, and relatives who live in Boca Raton. \$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

FRIDAY/DEC. 25

It's a Fu@*in SUPER bob Christmas. 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Join for some lively music from the Super bob rock band. \$12-\$15. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

SATURDAY/DEC. 26

Egypt "Annual Reunion Show." 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Join the band with a long history, and have some fun time listening to their music. \$15-\$18. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

MONDAY/DEC. 28

Winter Break Trip - David & Buster's. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Eat, drink and play games! Dave and Buster's is one of the best dining and entertainment attractions around. Lunch and a \$20 game card with unlimited arcade game play are included. Bring money for additional ticket games, if desired. Fees: \$65/\$55 MCC district residents. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-448-8336.

Deanna Bogart Band. 7:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Drawing on a variety of musical sources ranging from boogie-woogie to New Orleans R&B to swing to rock & roll, singer and barrelhouse pianist Deanna Bogart emerged as one of the most eclectic performers in contemporary blues. \$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

MONDAY-WEDNESDAY/DEC. 28-30

SciCamp. 9 a.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Explode, experiment and explore! Guaranteed days of hands-on, interactive science fun! Create slime, volcanoes and even experiments you can take home. Bring snack, lunch and drink. \$180/\$195. Ages 5 to 8. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/calendar.htm>.

Wild Chemistry. 9 a.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Discover hidden mysteries of the soil and stream through chemical analysis of water and sediments. Develop your skills as a junior scientist as you use materials and procedures professionals use in evaluating the health of ecosystems. Using scientific techniques, explore the natural world. Ages 9 to 12. \$180/\$195. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/calendar.htm>.

TUESDAY/DEC. 29

Winter Break Trip - Flight Indoor Trampoline Park + Sakura Hibachi. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. With the opportunity for casual jumping or testing your bouncing dodgeball skills, Flight Trampoline Park has something for everyone. After jumping around, participants will be immersed in a fine Japanese culinary adventure at a Hibachi restaurant. Gaze at skilled hibachi artists as they prepare a succulent meal right before your very eyes! Lunch and admission are included. Appropriate exercise clothing required. Fees: \$55/\$45 MCC district residents. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-448-8336.

Jammin Java Local Scene: Richtown + Cargo & The Heavy Lifters. 7:30 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Come join for some country music as Ryan Shepherd, a country singer, and the recording artist, Richtown, perform for the evening. \$10-\$15. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 30

Funny Photo Night. 5:30-9 p.m. Meadowlark, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. You provide your camera and smiles, and we will provide the props and staff to take your photo.

"Lady Sings the Blues" by Susan Webster, watercolor, can be seen in "The Blues Exhibit" at the Vienna Art Center from Jan. 5-23.

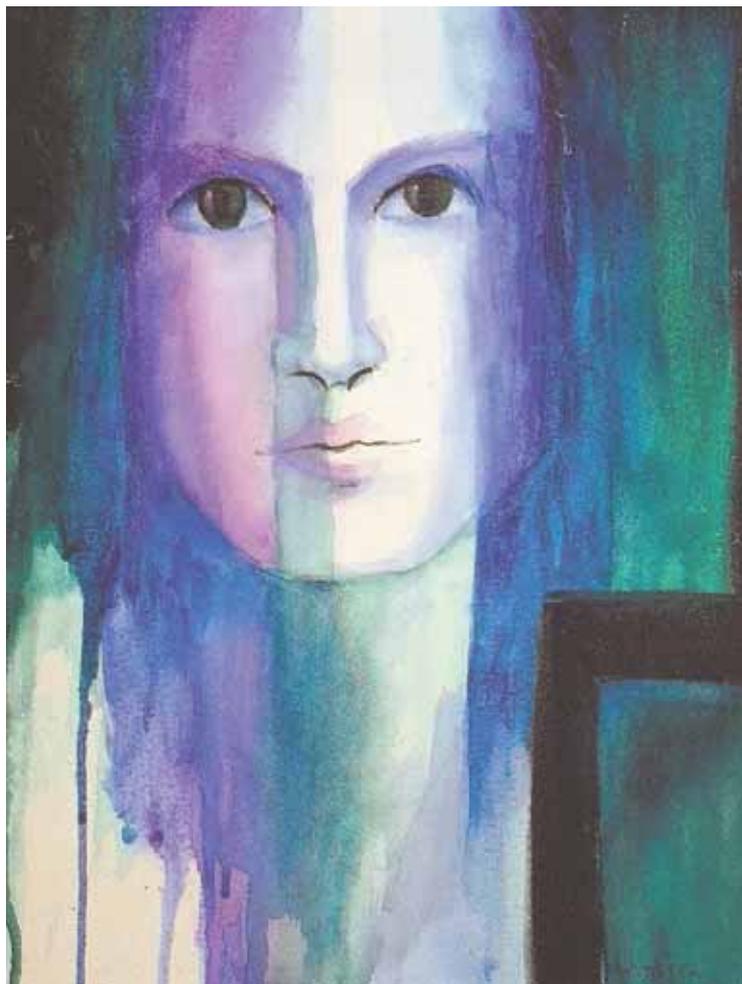


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Ongoing

Weekly Storytime. Wednesday and Saturday. 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.

"The Blues" Exhibition. Jan. 5-23. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Exhibition of VAS members paintings with the theme, "The Blues." Free. 703-319-3971. www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Meadowlark Gardens' Winter Walk of Lights. Nov. 14-Jan. 4. A half-a-million colorful LED lights span the lakeside and gardens of Meadowlark Botanical Gardens off Beulah Road in nostalgic and fairytale scenes of the holiday season. <http://winterwalkoflights.com/>.

Bingo Night! 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street South, Vienna. The Vienna Volunteer Fire Department hosts smoke-free bingo every Sunday night in the Flame Room and activities include 33 games for a \$100 prize each and one \$1,000 jackpot game.

<http://winterwalkoflights.com>. 703-255-3631.

Winter Break Trip - Autobahn Indoor Go Kart. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Experience a thrill like no other while driving an electric pro-style Italian go kart on two completely different Grand Prix-style racing tracks. Lunch and races are included in the fee. All participants must have an additional waiver signed by a parent or guardian. Fees: \$75/\$65 MCC district residents. <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>. 703-448-8336.

Back to the 90s. 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Enjoy the evening as the three bands - RATM 2, Hostile Apostle and Enjoy! - bring music from the 90's. \$15-\$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/JAN. 1-2

Rock This Holiday. 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Enjoy the evening with the variety of bands and individual singers collaborate and perform together for rock music and more. \$60-\$65. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

Admission: minimum \$10. 703-255-6300.

53rd Annual James A. Bland Contest.

Through Monday, Feb. 15. Vienna Lions Club invites elementary and high school vocalist and instrumentalists to present a song or piece for cash prizes. For information and application, contact Susan Stiles at sandcs89@yahoo.com or 703-938-1142.

Trail and Ales with Caboose Brewing and Grass Roots Fitness.

Mondays through Jan. 31. Caboose Brewing Company, 520 Mill Street, NE Vienna. Come Run with us every Monday night. \$1 Off All Pints! All paces welcome. We will run between 3-5 miles with options to go shorter or longer. You can walk or run. Dog and stroller friendly. Contact Joann Meginley at joannandfrancine@grassrootsfitness.org.

Tai Chi Beginners' Practice. Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. St. Luke's Catholic School Gymnasium, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Weekly Tai Chi practice. Group has met for over 20 years. Free. FreeTaiChi.org. 703-759-9141.

SUNDAY/JAN. 3

The Fred Eaglesmith Traveling Steam Show.

7 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. As a veteran of the music industry, Fred Eaglesmith performs lively rock'n roll music. \$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

MONDAY-THURSDAY/JAN. 4-7

The Band Battle - Prelims. 7 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. Come join for some rock music and featured artists. \$10-\$15. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

FRIDAY/JAN. 8

The Tone Rangers. 8 p.m. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave E, Vienna. In a few choreographed minutes, the Tone Rangers propel through 900 years of Western music—from Gregorian chant to classic rock to TV theme songs—in a fresh approach to contemporary a cappella music and comedy. Come listen to their beautiful voice as they were voted as the Best A Cappella Group for four consecutive years. \$16-\$20. <https://jamminjava.com/>. 703-255-1566.

FAITH NOTES

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

St. John's Episcopal Church services on Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24, will be:

- ❖ 4 p.m. - Family Service of Holy Eucharist with Christmas Music at 3:30 p.m.
- ❖ 7 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with Christmas Music at 6:30 p.m.
- ❖ 10 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with Christmas Music at 9:30 p.m.

There will be a Holy Eucharist service on Christmas Day at 10 a.m.

The church is located at 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-356-4902. www.stjohnsmclean.org.

Celebrate Advent and Christmas at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Weekly worship is Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays at noon. Holiday events include:

Thursday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve, 5 p.m. family service; 8 p.m., Candlelight and Communion; 11 a.m., Candlelight and Communion. www.imtrinity.org.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, is holding Sunday evening worship service in a less formal atmosphere and more intimate setting to help you get ready for the week ahead. Sundays, 6 p.m. Communion offered. No childcare. 703-938-2119 or www.elcvienna.org.

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers musical, educational, outreach and fellowship ministries in addition to worship services, including a 7:45 a.m. worship service without music; 9 a.m. worship service, children's chapel and children's choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday school and adult forum; and 11 a.m. worship service with adult choir. 703-759-2082.

The Antioch Christian Church offers a time of Prayer and Healing on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for anyone wanting encouragement and healing through prayers. People are available to pray with you or for you. Antioch Christian Church is located at 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna. www.antiochdoc.org

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

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org.

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body & Soul Fitness. Gain balance, energy and strength at 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean, holds a third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. which allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Vienna Christian Healing Rooms are open, every Saturday, 1-5 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779 or www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com.

Chesterbrook United Methodist Church is at 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Worship service is at 11 a.m. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. for adults and children. 703-356-7100 or www.ChesterbrookUMC.org.

SPORTS



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

The Langley boys' soccer team won the 2015 6A state championship.

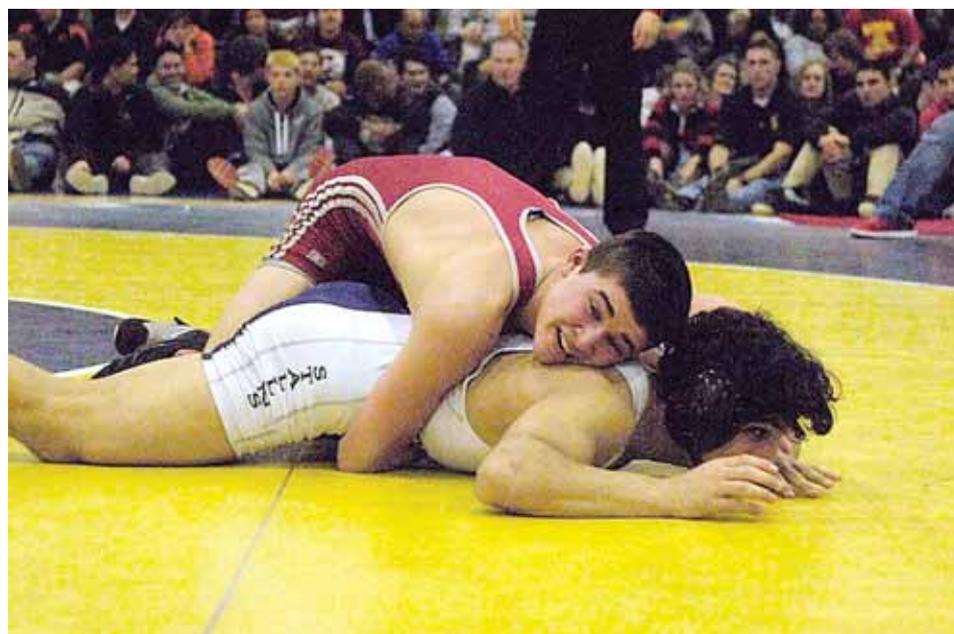


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

McLean's Conor Grammes, then a junior, won the 152-pound 6A state wrestling title in 2015.

Top McLean/Great Falls Sports Moments from 2015

Langley, McLean win multiple championships.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

The year 2015 included championship glory for multiple McLean/Great Falls high school sports teams, and one team just missed taking home a state title.

Langley High School had two teams win state championships and others fall just short. McLean captured a team state title, as well, and produced an individual championship on the wrestling mat.

The following is a look at some of the top moments in McLean/Great Falls high school sports from the year 2015.

Langley Boys' Soccer Wins It All

The Langley boys' soccer team completed a dominant 2015 season by winning the program's first state championship.

The Saxons defeated Madison 2-0 in the 6A state final on June 13 at Robinson Secondary School, with goals from Jacob

Labovitz and Cameron Bacso. It was the fourth time the Saxons beat the Warhawks during the season.

Langley finished the year with a 20-1-1 record and went unbeaten during its final 18 matches. Along with a state championship, the Saxons took home Conference 6 and 6A North region titles, as well.

Grappler Grammes Wins 152-Pound State Title

Conor Grammes is a standout middle in-fielder for the McLean baseball team and is committed to play at Xavier University.

Grammes' most memorable performance of 2015, however, occurred on a wrestling mat.

Grammes won the 152-pound 6A state championship, defeating South County's Jacob Wassif with a 5-2 decision on Feb. 20 at Robinson Secondary School. His effort helped the Highlanders finish seventh as a team.

Grammes defeated Herndon's Samuel Milligan in the semifinals with a 6-3 decision.

McLean Gymnastics Captures State Championship

The McLean gymnastics team took home a trio of titles during the 2015 season, highlighted by winning the 6A state championship on Feb. 20 at Patriot High School.

After finishing state runner-up the year before, the Highlanders earned the program's first state title with a score of 145, finishing ahead of second-place Stafford (144.75) by a quarter-point. McLean became the first Fairfax County program to win the big school state gymnastics championship since Langley won it all in 2004.

Jacqueline Green produced the Highlanders' top score on floor (9.525), vault (9.425) and beam (9.35) during the event, and finished with a score of 8.8 on bars.

Lizzy Brown-Kaiser scored 9.15 or better in each event, with her best effort coming on floor (9.425).

Calista Parude, Carolyn Brown-Kaiser, Mathilde Larose, Madison Schumann and Delaney Gallagher also competed for the Highlanders.

McLean also won Conference 6 — the Highlanders' fourth straight conference/district title — and 6A North region championships during the season.

Langley Volleyball Wins Region Championship

The Langley volleyball program won its second region championship in three years with a four-set victory over Madison on Nov. 14.

This time, however, the Saxons failed to follow their region title with a state crown.

Langley, which won the 2013 state title, faced Madison for the fifth time this season in the 6A state final on Nov. 20. The Saxons won the first set and two of the first three, but fell to the Warhawks in five sets at VCU's Siegel Center in Richmond on Nov. 20.

Langley finished the season with a 25-6 record.

Langley Girls' Swim, Dive Wins States

The Langley girls' swim and dive team won the 2015 state championship with a score of 206, beating Oakton by two points.

It was the Saxons' sixth state title since 1998.



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

The Langley volleyball team won the 6A North region championship in 2015.



PHOTO BY MIKE GALLAGHER

One year after finishing state runner-up, the McLean gymnastics team captured the 2015 state title.

Taylor Betts reads the kindergarteners a gingerbread story.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Cooper Middle Students Attend Kindergarteners' Holiday Party

On Thursday, Dec. 17 Cooper Middle school students visited Pine Spring Elementary for their annual holiday party. The kindergarteners performed songs for the students, and then the eighth graders read the story and helped the kindergarteners decorate cookies. At the end of the party, each kindergartener was presented with a gift that they had "wished" for.



Mikayla Schoff at the Pine Spring Elementary holiday party.



Eighth grader Lucy DuBois oversees cookies decorations.



Catherine Brown works with Pine Spring Elementary kindergarteners.



Brian Feinstein helps a kindergartener decorate his cookie.



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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

JANUARY

- 1/6/2016..... Wellbeing, Renewal, Resolutions
- 1/13/2016..... HomeLifeStyle
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day is Jan. 18*
- 1/20/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools
- 1/27/2016..... Community Guide
- 1/27/2016..... Winter Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment; Valentine's Preview

FEBRUARY

- 2/3/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts I
- 2/3/2016..... Wellbeing – National Children's Dental Health Month
- 2/10/2016..... HomeLifeStyle
- 2/10/2016..... Valentine's Dining & Gifts II
- 2/17/2016..... A+ Camps & Schools
- 2/24/2016..... Pet Connection

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-Dagobert Runes

CLASSIFIED

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

The Sycamore School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

21 Announcements 21 Announcements

Notice of Trustee's Sale
2050 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204
Arlington County

In execution of a Deed of Trust dated October 11, 2013, in the original principal amount of \$555,000.00, recorded as Deed Book 4732 at Page 1740 of the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of Arlington County, Virginia, the undersigned Trustee will on **Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 9:30 a.m.**, by the front main entrance to the Arlington County Courthouse, 1425 N. Courthouse Road, Arlington, VA 22201, offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder, the following property, with improvements thereon commonly known as **2050 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204** and more particularly described as follows:

Parcels 2,3, and Part of Lot 2, Estate of Benjamin Perry Improved by premises known as 2050 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA and as more particularly shown on plat attached hereto and made a part of hereof entitled "Lot 2 of the Partition of the Estate of BENJAMIN PERRY and a Vacated 16.5' Outlet Road" by Alexandria Surveys International, LLC, dated Mark 5, 2002, as the same is duly platted and attached to the corrected Deed recorded in Deed Book 4196 at page 1179 among the Land Records of Arlington County, Virginia.

RPC: 31024007

This sale is subject to any reservations, restrictions on use, covenants, obligations, rights of way, conditions, easements, leases and mechanic's liens, if any, whether of record or not of record, to the extent any of the foregoing apply and take priority over the lien of the Deed of Trust.

Deposit of \$20,000.00, or 10% of the sales price, whichever is lower, by cashier's or certified check, shall be required to qualify as a bidder prior to the sale, except for the Noteholder.

The deposit, without interest, is applied to the purchase price at settlement. Settlement will be held on or before fifteen (15) days after the sale. Upon purchaser's default, the deposit shall be forfeited and the property shall be resold at the risk and costs of the defaulting purchaser.

The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by certified or cashier's check, or wire transfer. Settlement shall be at the offices of the undersigned Trustee, or other mutually agreed upon location. The property and any improvements thereon shall be sold in "as is" condition without any warranties. The successful bidder shall assume all loss or damage to the property from and after the time of the sale. Purchaser shall be responsible for all costs of the conveyance, which shall be by special warranty including, but not limited to, the preparations of the deed, Regional Congestion Relief fee, and the grantor's tax. Real estate taxes shall be adjusted as of the sale date. The sale is subject to such additional terms as the Trustee may announce at the time of sale. The purchaser will be required to sign a Memorandum of Sale incorporating all the terms of the sale.

George J. Shapiro, Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
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By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Last week I was "naive and delusional." This week, not so much. Meaning: I'm well aware of my circumstances and not minding what usually matters. To that point, there's no doubt there are days/weeks that are more challenging than others. And even though I'm a veteran of the cancer wars, seven years and counting come this Feb. 27, I have been to have been blessed with the proper temperament and attitude for the task at hand: enduring the stress and strain of dealing with a cancer diagnosis and all its effects and affects and not going negative/dark in the process. It's not as if cancer has become my new best friend, more like a roommate I've learned to accept — who's not moving out any time soon, but I have learned to manage, mostly. (I am a Libra after all, and balance is my symbol.)

Still, over time, you do get used to the demands. You find a way to ignore the symptoms, not so much that it risks your health, but enough so it doesn't "anguish" your daily life. Because there's definitely no future — or rather not much of one, when every day becomes an emotional battle to the hopefully-not, death, so to speak. I don't want to give cancer too much credit but, it's a fairly powerful adversary and contributing to its strength serves no purpose and creates no advantage. It doesn't need any help doing all the harmful physical, emotional and spiritual, things it does. Granted, nipping it all in the bud is much easier in the garden than it is in the doctor's office/infusion center, but unless you become the master of your domain, the king of the castle, the lord of the manor, the more difficult your cancer experience will be.

This is not to imply that a positive attitude cures cancer. (But I doubt it hurts.) This is more to say that being miserable, feeling sorry for yourself or "woeing" is me, though understandable under the circumstances is boring and as Prince Kuragin (a character from Downton Abbey) said: "Nothing is more tedious than other person's misfortunes." And I certainly don't want to be tedious and boring. As a matter of fact, I'll make the extra effort — even when I don't feel like it, to avoid being thought of as anything but healthy and dare I say, normal. The more positivity I can exude, the more positivity I likely will receive in turn. It's not exactly chemotherapy, targeted treatment or immunotherapy, but "Good Vibrations" is more than just a Beach Boys classic. It's a way to my heart and soul, and hopefully to my lungs as well.

When it comes to being a cancer patient, I know what I know/what I feel, and more importantly — in my mind, anyway, I know what I don't know. Facts, figures, protocols, drugs, clinical trials, I don't know. As my wife's deceased, maternal grandmother, Franny would say: I'm as "dumb as a post." For me, ignorance is sort of bliss. I don't worry about what I don't know; I already have enough trouble worrying about what I do know.

Ergo my strategy: take the good with the bad — which is easy, and when there is bad, compartmentalize it somehow; put it in "the vault." To summarize; and with all credit and respect to Bing Crosby (singing in "White Christmas"): I must "Accentuate the positive. Eliminate the negative. Latch on to the affirmative." Moreover, I have to believe if I want to feel good, I have to think good — thoughts that is. And the more humor and normalcy I have in my life, the better I'll feel and think. I don't know if my future will be any better because of it but my present sure will be.

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

NEWS

Success with a Little Help

Northern Virginia Family Service is changing families and changing futures.

Cystal Farrington isn't afraid to work. In fact, she worked at a dry cleaning company for seven years and increased her salary by 50 percent in that time. The problem is that going from \$8 per hour to \$12 per hour still leaves you living in poverty. In trying to make ends meet, Crystal went to social services in spring 2013. She and some family members were living in a hotel on Route 1 in Mount Vernon at the time.

She was told that she didn't qualify for much because her income was too high. However, she noticed a sign about the Vehicles for Change (VFC) program, which led her to Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS).

As the NVFS caseworker helped Crystal get an affordable vehicle to get to and from work, she saw something in Crystal...a drive and tenacity. She told her, "You are supposed to do something much greater Crystal." The caseworker told her about the Training Futures program, located in Tysons Corner.

Just weeks later, Crystal's mother died of pancreatic cancer. Crystal said that she felt



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Crystal Farrington: Northern Virginia Family Service has helped change her future.

as if her VFC caseworker took her under her wings and let her cry on her shoulder. She also encouraged her again to apply for Training Futures and in October 2013, Crystal began the Training Futures (TF) program. TF is an intense program which required that Crystal reduce her hours at the dry cleaning company. Resourcefully, she found another nonprofit to assist her with affordable housing which required that she pay a very modest stipend enabling her to focus on the Training Futures program.

"It amazed me that a stranger could have more faith in me than I did in myself," shared Crystal. In March 2014, Crystal graduated from Training Futures and was even selected by her classmates as a keynote speaker. She said that the program gave her confidence and purpose. It also landed her a job. Crystal is now a concierge in an office building in downtown D.C. She is the "go-to person" for 12 businesses covering administrative tasks and distributing weekly events. Her job is to stay abreast of all that is happening in the city. With regular 8 a.m.-5 p.m. hours, a \$35,000 salary and benefits, Crystal sees a bright future for herself and her children.

Having grown up poor, Crystal is proud to shout out to the world, "I'm above the poverty line!" NVFS is changing families and changing futures.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to north@connectionnewspapers.com by Friday.

Victor Zheng, 21, of McLean, is among five University of Virginia scholars who have received Critical Language Scholarships to assist them in pursuing their love of language. They will spend seven to 10 weeks in intensive language institutes this summer in one of 13 countries to study languages the U.S. government has deemed "critical." Zheng will study Chinese in Dalian, China. He is a third-year history and Chinese major who is learning Mandarin Chinese.

"I applied out of a desire to have another opportunity to go back to China and be immersed in its environment," he said. "I also just inherently love being abroad where I believe I learn the best and the most." Zheng, who is a member of U.Va.'s Virginia Glee Club, plans to pursue a master's degree in international relations.

Graham P. Lobel, the son of Doug and Betsy Lobel of McLean, received a Bachelor of Science degree cum laude, from Haverford College, in Haverford, Pa., at the school's 177th Commencement on Sunday, May 17. Lobel graduated with High Honors in Chemistry. At Commencement, Lobel also received The George Peirce Prize in Chemistry, for excellence in undergraduate research. Lobel graduated from the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in 2011.

Fishburne Military School in Waynesboro, Va. announced Cadet Second Lieutenant **Chase Dixon** from Vienna as Officer of the Month for October. Dixon is a senior and the son of Mr. Michael Filan and Mrs. Elizabeth McElroy-Filan. Cadet Dixon is the Executive Officer of Alpha Company and is a member of the Key Club.

Masato Chang, of Vienna, an eighth-grader at Longfellow Middle School was awarded first prize at the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) for the State of Virginia. He will travel to Florida in January 2016 to represent the State of Virginia for the next round.

George Mahaney-Walter, son of Mary Claire Mahaney and Herbert Walter of McLean, was awarded the degree of Master of Business Administration in recent commencement exercises at the Simon School of Business of the University of Rochester.

Gabrielle Greco, of Vienna, daughter of Drs. Stephen and Judith Greco, was named to the Dean's List at the College of William and Mary for the Spring Semester.

Chun-Ming "Chris" Chen of Vienna and Maria Vera Alvarez of South Riding have been awarded **Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarships**. Both students attend Northern Virginia Community College.

Chen and Vera Alvarez are among 90 students nationally to receive the prestigious award which provides up to \$40,000 a year toward tuition, books, living expenses and required fees for the final two to three years needed to earn a bachelor's degree. It is the largest private scholarship for two-year and community college transfer students in the country.

Kathryn Seymore Hahne of Vienna, was named to the Dean's List at the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy for the spring semester of 2015. The University of Virginia established the Batten School in 2007 as part of its strategic plan and as an expression of its Jeffersonian heritage.

Saba Chinian of Vienna, was named to the Dean's List at the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy for the spring semester of 2015. The University of Virginia established the Batten School in 2007 as part of its strategic plan and as an expression of its Jeffersonian heritage.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to north@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication.

TUESDAY/DEC. 22

TIPS I: Lead Sharing & Networking at Fleming's. 12:15-1:30 p.m. Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar, 1960A Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Free to join, \$16 for lunch. Contact Peter Himmelberger, Travel Cruise and Tour, 703-496-4125 or phimmelberger@travelcruiseandtour.com.

MONDAY/JAN. 4

Town Council Meeting. 8-10:30 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers, 127 Center Street South, Vienna. All Town Council meetings are open to the public and individuals are invited to attend and provide their input. Agendas are made available to the public on the Town's website after 12 p.m. on the Friday preceding a scheduled meeting. www.viennava.gov.

JAN. 5, 7, 12

ESL Registration. 7-8 p.m. St. Mark Catholic Church, 9972 Vale Road, Vienna. Classes begin Jan. 19 and ends March 17. Classes held Tuesdays and Thursdays. \$25 for English classes, \$10 for conversation, writing, citizenship and workshop. Textbook cost extra. Cash only. 703-502-9433.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 6

Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce Brand Launch. 8:30-10 a.m. Silverline Center Atrium, 7900 Westpark Drive, Tysons. Meet staff and members of the board of directors. Hear plans for future collaboration. Learn about upcoming meetings and events where businesses can get involved. Call 703-749-0400 for registration information.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 20

Fairfax Commission on Aging. Noon. Oakton Regional Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The public is welcome to attend and join in the comment period that begins each session. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/coa.htm. 703-324-5403, TTY 711 for meeting access needs.



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