



WELLBEING

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Great Falls  
CONNECTION

Claire Grumbly, pictured with Bright View Vibrant Living director Josh Graf, enters Great Falls Library to vote on Super Tuesday.

# Voting on Super Tuesday In Great Falls

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PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

MARCH 2-8, 2016

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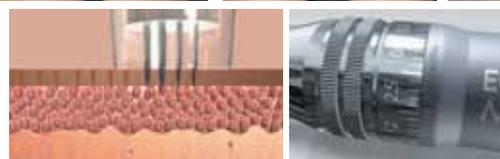


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**Art Kingdom, precinct captain with Fairfax Democrats mans the polling station at Great Falls Library.**



PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION



**More than three dozen voters get ready to vote at Great Falls Library at 10:24 a.m. on Super Tuesday.**

## Voting on Super Tuesday in Great Falls, McLean

**Danielle Saunders votes Tuesday morning at Great Falls Elementary School. She raised concerns about the fact that candidates who have dropped out still appeared on the ballot, especially on the Republican side.**



**Claire Grumbly, pictured with Bright View Vibrant Living director Josh Graf, enters Great Falls Library to vote on Super Tuesday.**

**Depending on perspective, two dozen voters took a right-turn or left turn towards the voting booths at Cooper Middle School in McLean at 11 a.m. on Super Tuesday.**



### BULLETIN BOARD

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

#### TUESDAY/MARCH 8

**Protecting Neighborhood Trees.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The event will be forum co-sponsored by Supervisor John Foust, the Fairfax County Tree Commission, and the Great Falls Citizens Association. Speakers will focus on tree preservation during the real estate development process, and what citizens can do to help protect the existing tree canopy. [prvickers@aol.com](mailto:prvickers@aol.com). 703-759-3280.

**NARFE Meeting.** 1 p.m. American Legion Post 180, 330 North Center St., Vienna. Lia Veliz Hutson, director of Operations at Liberty Tax Service will be the guest speaker. Free. 703-938-9757.

#### FRIDAY/MARCH 11

**Mind in the Making-Taking on Challenges.** 12:30-1:30 p.m. Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1, Room 100, Dunn Loring. At this workshop you will learn the research behind why taking on challenges is one of the Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs. Learn strategies for improving this skill, the importance of it in children's lives and activities to promote the skill at home. Bring your own lunch and learn. Register at <http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/index.shtml>.

# Author Faces Death but Chooses Life

Robert F. Dorr to speak to the Great Falls Writer's Group (GFWG) on Thursday, March 10, at the Great Falls Library.

BY KRISTIN CLARK TAYLOR

Undefeated. As a writer, this is the singular word that Robert F. Dorr remembers most vividly; the word his doctor used last fall, on the day of his diagnosis, to describe the type of tumor they had just discovered in his brain.

"That particular word sounded strange at the time, especially coming from a trained physician," Dorr remembers, "but that was clearly the word he intended to use. It was precise and carefully chosen. It told the whole story."

Dorr's "story," as it plays itself out with each passing day, doesn't have a neatly-packaged, happily-ever-after ending. But this much is clear: Dorr, a prolific author, popular speaker and well-regarded authority on military aviation history, is determined to write his own ending, live out his own life and embrace each day with characteristic spunk, vigor and, yes, courage.

This type of brain tumor, he explains matter-of-factly and without an ounce of pity or sadness in his voice, is one of the most common — and here, he pauses before adding his own descriptor:

"And it is always fatal."

Dorr, a former senior diplomat, retired Foreign Service officer and U.S. Air Force veteran, speaks with quiet confidence; the type of confidence that comes from having written eighty books and thousands of magazine articles and newspaper columns.

His newest book, a crime thriller titled "Crime Scene: Fairfax County," was released in January. While writing it, typing became

**Robert F. Dorr stands before a shelf filled with his published books. He holds a copy of his recent novel, "Crime Scene: Fairfax County."**

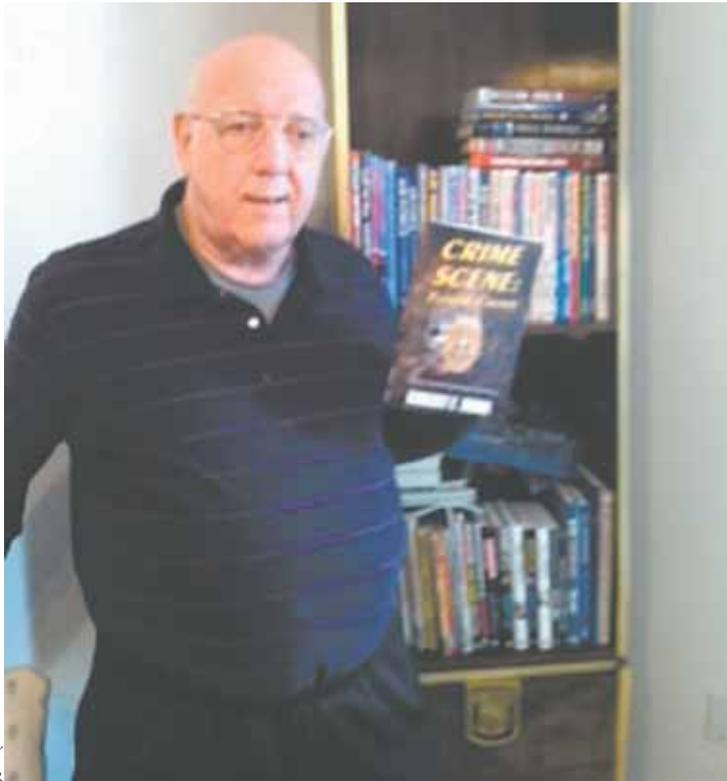


PHOTO BY KRISTIN CLARK TAYLOR

difficult, at times impossible, yet he completed the project. Dorr seems to see each word he writes (and speaks) as a precious pearl — and the determined writer continues to string them together, slowly, carefully, one after another, to create a single, shining strand; a thing of pure beauty.

Dorr has two adult children. A lovely, loving wife.

And six to twelve months left to live.

Still, he finds the words to write. The wisdom to share. The lessons to dispense —

not just about the art of writing, but the art of living.

This is why the 76-year old author has accepted the invitation to speak to the Great Falls Writer's Group (GFWG) on Thursday, March 10, at 11 a.m., at the Great Falls Library.

Says Dorr of his upcoming visit: "This meeting will give each of us a chance to learn from the other because every author has a different approach. You don't have to be the next literary sensation — or even a

## When and Where

**When:** Thursday, March 10, 11 a.m.

**Where:** The Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls

**Seating:** Because a fairly large crowd is expected, an early arrival is recommended (10:30 a.m.) Seating is open. The event is free. No reservations required.

writer at all — to find surprises as we take you inside the secrets of putting words onto paper."

Because the life lessons Dorr is expected to share at this meeting will expand far beyond the writer's lair — his messages are universal in scope, and expansive in reach — GFWG has decided to open the meeting to the general public as well.

Dorr is excited: "This is going to be fun and educational for writers and non-writers alike," he says. "I just hope that my sixty years' experience as a writer will encourage and inspire those who'll follow me."

Brian Trompeter, a journalist who has covered Dorr in the past, offers praise and respect for his subject. "He always knows his material thoroughly and gives forthright quotes," says Trompeter, plus, he adds with warm respect, he "generally is a hoot to interview."

Several of Dorr's books will be available for purchase after the event. The author will also stay behind, briefly, to sign books.

Daniela Dixon, manager of the Great Falls Library, is enthusiastic about Dorr's upcoming visit: "Mr. Dorr is well-known to our libraries," she says. "He is passionate about his subjects and inspires people with his stories."

To underscore his desire to leave behind words of wisdom, strength and courage, Dorr has already written a piece for the annual anthology that GFWG will publish in the spring. And though his presence at the unveiling in May is uncertain, his son, Robert P. Dorr, will be on hand to accept the first copy off the presses on behalf of his father. GFWG has also decided to dedicate their anthology to Mr. Dorr.

# Awaiting Brooks Farm Decision

Planning Commission scheduled to make recommendation to Board of Supervisors at this Thursday's hearing.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

Great Falls awaits the Planning Commission's decision on the potential rezoning of Brooks Farm off Springvale Road.

Dranesville Planning Commissioner John Ulfelder said the commission is scheduled to make its decision only recommendation to the Board of Supervisors this Wednesday, March 2.

"The applicant has submitted a set of revised proffers and a number of changes," said Ulfelder.

"Planning staff has been analyzing these changes. They are preparing an addendum to the original staff report. That should be coming out tomorrow or Monday," he said

at last Thursday's Planning Commission meeting.

More than 1,400 people in Great Falls signed a petition opposing Basheer-Edgemoor Brooks application to rezone 51.97 acres of farmland off Springvale Road and around Walker Lake to allow building 20 homes.

Many testified before the county's Planning Commission in a four hour hearing that started Thursday, Jan. 21 and lasted past 2 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 22.

"We are the voice for Great Falls. We find that consensus and take it to the county to make sure our voice is heard," said Great Falls Citizens Association president Eric Knudsen. "You've heard multiple times tonight how the community feels."

Great Falls was part of a downzoning

more than 30 years ago designed to protect drinking water and the Potomac River, with much of the area zoned for one house for five acres.

**THE PLANNING COMMISSION** listened to more than four hours of testimony from commission staff and from citizens, mostly in opposition but some in support of the plan to rezone 51.97 acres of property off Springvale Road.

"It is very clear this is a special piece of property to people in the community," said Gregory Riegle, representing the potential developers. "We went to great pains to ensure that we have complete answers to questions."

Basheer/Edgemoor-Brooks spent more than a year revising its application in at-

tempt to meet concern of residents, especially regarding density, septic, stormwater, environmental, well, water, preservation of trees, and other features of the property around Walker Lake.

The proposal to rezone the property to permit Basheer/Edgemoor-Brooks to develop 20 single family homes in a cluster subdivision, meaning houses would be on smaller lots with open space around.

The developers convinced some, including neighbors Elyse and Bob Turkeltaub.

"Initially we did not favor it, but over time, as we met with them, we think it is a good and reasonable idea," Bob Turkeltaub said.

Members of the Planning Commission said that the 36 sections of proffers in the application should include arduous guidelines for attending to the environment long-term.

"If those HOAs don't have good guidelines and understanding of the responsibility to do this, it will go away," said Knudsen. "We need to do more."

# OBITUARY

## Dr. Samuel Burton Rentsch, Jr. Dies

Dr. Samuel Burton Rentsch, Jr. passed on Feb. 24 at age 87 of congestive heart failure. Born in Derby, Conn. in 1928, he was the son of Dr. Samuel Burton Rentsch, Sr. and Minnie Hazel Holloway Rentsch. He was predeceased by his sister Emily Christine. Samuel was married twice. With Juanita Good Brown Rentsch Millerick, he had five children: Christi, Sammy, Bonnie, Shelley and Rusty. With Robin Ould Sabin Rentsch, he gained another daughter, Brooke. He also was loved by six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED  
**Dr. Samuel Burton Rentsch, Jr.**

Sam attended Hopkins Grammar School in New Haven, Conn. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. where he graduated with a degree in engineering and Medical College of Virginia with a degree in medicine. He played football and other sports in high school and college. During his three years of military service, he was the doctor for two submarines in Groton, Conn. Later, he set up his medical practice in Glastonbury, Conn. where he worked until he retired and moved with Robin to Great Falls, and more recently to Ashby Ponds, Ashburn.

Sam Rentsch made a name for himself with his Model A that he worked on tirelessly and his submarine, called the Benthic Explorer. He bought the Model A when he was a teenager and continued to ride around in it right up until his last year of life.

His Model A was part of the Cherry Blossom Parade in Washington D.C. The Benthic Explorer, on the other hand, was built in his backyard. He did intensive research and inaugurated the sub in 1978 by submerging it into the Connecticut River. Later, his invention was used for oceanography research at the University of Rhode Island and now it is part of the Children's Museum of Southeastern Connecticut in Niantic. Sam made a half-dozen other inventions, notably the Cardiac Press. He was an adjunct professor of oceanography at U.R.I. As a doctor, Sam was very dedicated to his patients. He took a year hiatus to be Director of the Peace Corp in Chad, Africa from 1966-1967. Sam and Robin went on exciting scuba diving trips in Australia, the Caribbean and the Red Sea.

The family will be receiving friends at the Adams Green Funeral Home in Herndon on March 5 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to one of the causes that Sam was so interested in: Doctors Without Borders ([donate.doctorswithoutborders.org/](http://donate.doctorswithoutborders.org/)) or Jacques Cousteau Society (<http://www.cousteau.org/support-2/>). Mark Tribute to Dr. Samuel Rentsch and notify [James.Rentsch@msn.com](mailto:James.Rentsch@msn.com). It is also possible to donate by phone. Thank you for thinking positively about this quiet, courageous and interesting man.

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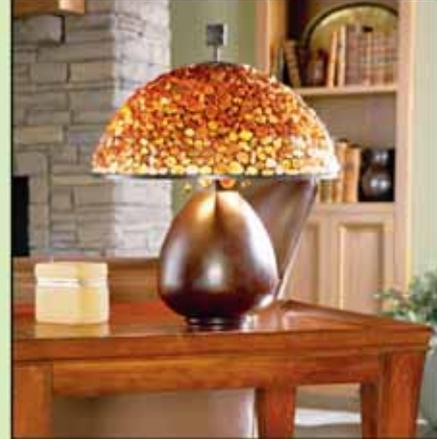
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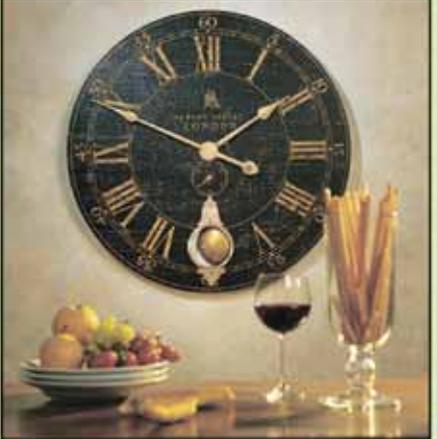
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Joan Brady of Great Falls



Piper Kurtz of Great Falls



PHOTOS BY JOAN BRADY

Jonluke, Joshua, Chiquita and Caleb O’Cain of Great Falls

# ‘Hair in Air’

Local dogs raising their ears in the air to help increase awareness of foster care adoption.

All over the country, people are raising their hair in the air to help increase awareness of the roughly 108,000 children in foster care who are currently available for adoption. This month, some local dogs joined in to show their support.

If you are interested in learning more about foster care adoption, go to the Adoption Exchange Association’s website [adoptea.org](http://adoptea.org) or call 410-636-

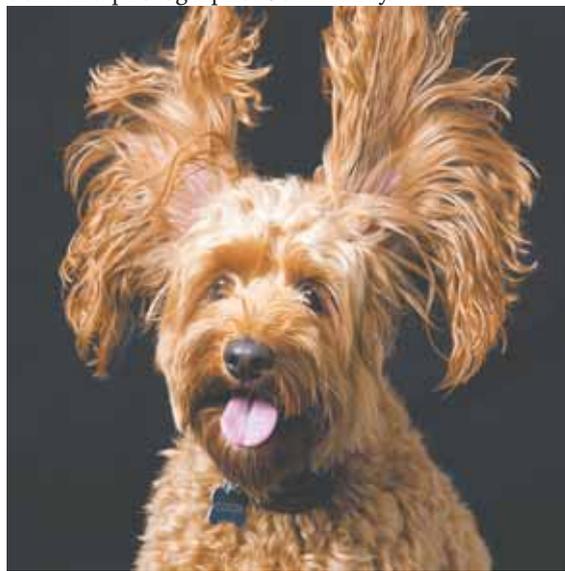
7030. To learn about specific children waiting and hoping for adoptive families visit [adoptuskids.org](http://adoptuskids.org) or call 888 200-4005.

If you would like to join the awareness effort, take your own “hair in air” pic and post it on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter with #hairinair. Learn more about the effort on Facebook, “Hair in Air.”

This project is the brainchild of Great Falls resident and photographer Joan Brady.



Oreo Angles of Vienna



Cocoa Piper of Vienna



Laura Koeppen of McLean



Hank Brady of Great Falls



Lucy of Great Falls



Abby Piper

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After several months training with her FitCoach, Barbara is 50% stronger. She looks fantastic. She is strong, fit and, most importantly, healthy.

Tyler is impressed. “To see someone who has gone through so much and is now achieving her goals – it’s incredible. Barbara always wants me to challenge her, and I love it! What makes me most proud is the simple fact that she is proud of herself. I may have helped along the way, but if she hadn’t made the first step to come into Koko FitClub, none of this would have been possible.”

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## Bills and More Bills

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM  
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)



COMMENTARY

If past history provides any indication, the 2016 session of the General Assembly will have considered nearly 3,000 bills and resolutions before its 60-day session adjourns in early March. While the figure is impressive, it can be deceiving without a breakdown of the total number. For example, in 2014 which was also a 60-day "long" session, the 100 members of the House of Delegates introduced 1,950 bills and resolutions, and the 40 members of the Senate introduced 938 bills and resolutions. Of the 2,888 total bills and resolutions, resolutions accounted for 942. Most resolutions are memorial in that they recognize someone noteworthy in a delegate's district who had died the previous year or they commend in offering praise to a person, sports team, organization, or entity for a noteworthy accomplishment or event. It is seldom that memorial or commending resolutions do not pass.

Other resolutions may propose to express the sense of the General Assembly on an issue or provide guidance to another branch or level of government. Some of these resolutions can be very controversial especially when members propose to send a message to the big bad federal government. No resolution carries the force of law.

In 2014, 1,946 bills that propose new laws were introduced by the House and Senate members. By the end of the session that year 825 bills or 42 percent passed the House and Senate with only 10 of these not being signed by the governor. If more than 800 new laws seems like a big number, a further analysis will put it in perspective. Many bills are double-counted in that they have been introduced in both houses and passed by both houses. About two-thirds of the legislation passed are duplicates of other bills. Some bills are local in that they apply to only a single jurisdiction. As a Dillon Rule state—meaning that local governments have only the power

granted to them by the state—local governments must come to the state for enabling legislation to take on a new power or activity if it is not granted by the locality's existing charter or general law. These bills are generally not controversial unless the locality is asking for power not ever given to another local government. Agency bills are introduced by members on behalf of the governor and state agencies related to the functions of state government. Housekeeping bills are introduced to correct or clarify legislation that has been introduced in the past. A high percentage of bills relate to crime and punishment and civil actions.

When these clarifications distill down the total number, you get to the couple of dozen bills about which you read in the newspapers and by which you might be directly impacted. They are the bills that are controversial and sometimes partisan. Little legislation will threaten the stability of the Commonwealth. When change is needed, however, we need to be willing to make that change. I will address the most significant pieces of legislation from this session in future columns.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Cooper Students Support Students in Afghanistan

About two years ago I attended an event in Washington, D.C. where the First Lady of Afghanistan, Ms. Ashraf Ghani, spoke on behalf of the Aschiana Foundation. She passionately voiced the importance of educating Afghan children displaced from their homes due to war. She said that it is through education that these children will earn a better life. That evening I personally made a promise to Ms. Ghani that I would share with the students of Cooper Middle School what I had learned about the Aschiana Foundation.

This year I challenged the students of Cooper to collect paper, pencils and other supplies for the

Aschiana School.

They even created fillable storybooks for the students of Aschiana to express their interests mathematically through words, equations, tables and graphs—"Rule of 4!" These same students created their own "Rule of 4" storybooks. They are aware of the importance of pencil and paper for all students to learn globally. We hope the students of Aschiana enjoy composing their own storybooks as much as the students of Cooper.

**Mary Jacobs**

Seventh grade Math teacher  
Cooper Middle School



Cooper Middle students collected paper, pencils and other supplies for the Aschiana School.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Overzealous Spenders

To the Editor:

In your editorial ("Limiting Local Authority," The Connection, February 10-16, 2016) you write that the Virginia General Assembly is "rushing to restrict profers..." For decades the incessant grab for increasing revenues by local jurisdictions has been evidenced by larger and larger, more creative grabs by localities, some even illegal. There is no rush, simply a patient, prudent reply to those overzealous spenders of other people's money.

**Steve Barto**  
Vienna

## Arguing for Childfree Restaurants

To the Editor:

Childfree restaurants need to exist in today's society. Why? Because it appears that parents have forgot to be – well, parents! I do not blame the child for crying and screaming. I blame the parents for taking their child to a nice restaurant in the first place. I understand that babies scream or a child throws a temper tantrum, but the parent should rectify the situation and inconvenience themselves by having to go outside to calm the child down. I should not have to make a sacrifice so you can go out to eat with your kid. Under no circumstances will I ever be empathetic in that situation. Another issue? When parents allow their children to run wild in a restaurant.

**Reena Desai**  
Herndon

Doing this at Chuck E. Cheese is one thing, but in a "real" restaurant it is absolutely unacceptable! You shouldn't have had a kid if you weren't ready to make sacrifices.

I was searching for childfree restaurants in the NoVA area the other day and could not find one. There needs to be some restaurants with a strict rule of not allowing kids into their establishment. Until parents learn that the world does not rotate around their kid and not everyone thinks their kid is cute, there will always be a need for childfree restaurants in this local area.

## Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
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NEWS DEPARTMENT:  
greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
kemail@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  
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**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

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WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

## Great Falls Public Meeting: Protecting Neighborhood Trees

In response to residents' concerns about loss of tree canopy in Great Falls neighborhoods, community organizations have teamed up to present a public Tree Forum at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8 at the Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike.

The speakers will discuss preserving trees during the residential development process, particularly on infill lots, and how county officials, local residents, and developers can best work together. They can also address other tree related concerns, such as best care and planting of trees, tree trimming and removal along roads and utility lines, and the environmental benefits of trees.

This program is open to the public and is sponsored by Supervisor John Foust, Fairfax County Tree Commission, Great Falls Citizens Association (GFCA), Fairfax County Urban Forest Management Division (UFMD), and Virginia Cooperative Extension. The Northern Virginia Building Industry Association (NVBIA) will also be represented.

## Great Falls Teen Finalist in Science Talent Search

Kunal Shroff, a Great Falls native and student at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, is a finalist for the nation's most prestigious science research competition, the Intel Science Talent Search (Intel STS). Seventeen hundred high school seniors from around the country applied to Intel STS 2016. He is one of 40 finalists chosen to compete on the national stage, in Washington D.C. this March. Students will compete for more than \$1.2 million in awards.

SEE WEEK, PAGE 15

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# WELLBEING

## Managing Medication Can Be Challenging

**“Let’s Talk about RxSM” helps seniors avoid prescription drug mishaps.**

By MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

It was around 2 a.m. on a frigid winter night when Janet Russell was awakened from her sleep by the sound of woman calling for help. The cries were coming from the front lawn of her Arlington home. She ventured out into the cold to find her 84-year-old neighbor lying on the ground, believing that dozens of bugs were crawling on her skin.

“She was having bad hallucinations, and it turns out that she’d taken the wrong combination of medicines,” said Russell. “She was on about 11 different medications, some for her blood pressure, and she was administering them to herself.”

**MEDICATION ERRORS** are not uncommon, according to a recent survey by Home Instead Senior Care. Their survey showed that 20 percent of seniors who take more than five medications had problems taking them as prescribed. Unintentional medication misuse, such as forgetting to take a dose

or taking more or less than the required dose, can have devastating results. Home Instead is encouraging families to talk with their loved ones about medication management and are offering suggestions on how to approach such conversations.

“If you notice a change in personality or thinking, or if they’re they having a mobility issue or if they seem sluggish, those are signs of medication mismanagement,” said Ian Lovejoy, director of operations of Home Instead Senior Care in Fairfax County.

Home Instead has created a program called “Let’s Talk about RxSM” (prescription self medication). This program is designed to inform seniors’ families about the dangers of medication mismanagement as well as offer tips for minimizing the risks and suggestions for starting a dialogue about taking medication as prescribed.

“Our goal is to keep seniors at home and safe,” said Lovejoy. “We want the daughter and the son not have to focus on the pill bottle.”

Discovering that an elderly patient is taking more than five medications could be a

warning sign that they may lose track or get confused about the timing and dosage for each prescription.

“If an adult child sees that their parent is on many medications, I would suggest what I call brown bagging: putting all of the medications in a brown paper bag and taking them with you to the next doctor visit,” said Omobola Oyeleye, an assistant professor of nursing at Northern Virginia Community College who teaches a class in drug dosage calculations.

**“Along with the car and their mobility, their medication is something that people generally like to have control over.”**

— Ian Lovejoy, director of operations, Home Instead Senior Care

“They can go through each medication with the doctor and find out what it’s for. Sometimes, for example, someone might be taking a medication that was prescribed six months ago for a condition that has already

cleared up.”

Oyeleye suggests a conducting what she calls a medication reconciliation in order to determine whether someone is taking multiple medications for the same condition. “What you might find is that one medication exacerbates or even negates the other,” she said.

Trisha Brechling Miller, 57 of McLean, has managed the medications for both her 85-year old husband, Larry, and her 84-year old mother. After Larry fell, broke his hip and became immobile, Muller began using a cal-



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOME INSTEAD SENIOR CARE

**A new study shows that that 20 percent of seniors who take more than five medications had problems taking their prescription drugs as directed by their doctor.**

### For More Information

<http://www.caregiverstress.com/senior-safety/lets-talk-about-rx/risk-solutions-guide/>

endar,” he said. “Along with the car and their mobility, their medication is something that people generally like to have control over.

Clear lines of communication are necessary, as families often play a critical role in intervening and preventing a possible negative outcomes.

“My husband is on 10 different medications, and we’re able to manage his medications, but there are people who can’t do that. Those people tend to rely on family,” said Sheila Moldover of the Potomac Community Village in Potomac, Md. “They need children or close friends who handle it for them.” The Potomac Community Village offers programs and services designed to help seniors lead healthy lives and remain in their homes as long as possible.

Gaining empathy from a parent and making it about the child’s feelings is one way to open communication, so Lovejoy suggests that caregivers start by finding a common ground. “It’s important to communicate the emotional stress that potential medication mistakes can cause for a loved one,” he said. “Let your parent know that you are concerned. Your parents don’t want you to be upset.”

endar to keep his medication schedule in order. “I have a calendar that helps keep me organized as to what he needs to take and when,” she said. “If it changes, I update it.” Miller, a Home Instead Senior Care client, is also assisting her mother in creating a medications calendar.

**CONVERSATION ABOUT MEDICATION** can be fraught with tension. A perceived loss of freedom is one factor that can make getting involved in managing family members’ medication complicated, says Lovejoy.

“It’s just one more thing that they’re losing control

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### SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

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3/23/2016..Spring Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment  
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#### APRIL

4/6/2016.....Wellbeing – Senior Living Pullout  
Easter Sunday is March 27  
4/13/2016.....Real Estate Pullout – New Homes  
4/20/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools  
4/27/2016.....A+ Camps & Schools Pullout  
4/27/2016.....Mother’s Day Celebrations,  
Dining & Gifts I  
4/27/2016.....Spring Outlook 2016

#### MAY

5/4/2016.....McLean Day Pullout  
5/4/2016.....Mother’s Day Dining & Gifts II  
5/4/2016.....Wellbeing  
Mother’s Day is May 8  
5/11/2016.....HomeLifeStyle

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# Uncovering the Roots of Slavery

Local student creates slave index to help descendants trace family history.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

A local college student is spending much of her senior year scouring the last wills and testaments of residents of Northern Virginia. While many of the documents contain antebellum treasures like silver serveware, rifles and horses, Georgia Brown is looking for more haunting line items: slaves.

"Nobody had ever combed through all 120 years of will books line by line before, so we had no idea what I would find," said Brown, a George Mason University student. "It is pretty exciting seeing George Washington's and George Mason's wills and inventories as it gives me a peek into their households... It is fascinating to see what people considered important enough to pass on to a specific person once they were gone. Some people were very worried about their riding horses or slaves, while others cared more about their...silver spoons with their monogram."

**BROWN**, who is a veteran of the United States Navy and a senior majoring in history at George Mason University, began an internship at the Fairfax County Circuit Court Historic Records Center as part of her degree program.

After expressing an interest in the Civil War and slavery, Brown was asked to comb through the probate records index. The index includes wills, inventories, and estate accounts from 1742, the year Fairfax County was founded, to 1865, when the Civil War ended. Each time a slave was mentioned in an estate, she recorded the slave's name, age, the owner's name and other details.

"We didn't know if the slaves would be listed with names, first or last, if there would be family groups, or if they would be mentioned in wills, just like livestock," said Brown.

Brown was surprised to find not only the names of slaves, but birthdates, emancipations, descriptions of character, sales and bequeathments showing trails of ownership. "After constantly showing my exciting findings to the archivists and [Maddy McCoy] a historian who specializes in African American genealogy, we started working on ideas for a way to capture this information in a database that would make the data searchable to the public," said Brown. "I would say that after reading the first few documents mentioning slaves we knew we would need to capture all the information I was finding in the will books."

Heather Bollinger, assistant archivist at



**George Mason University student Georgia Brown organizes the Fairfax Court Slavery Index by searching more than 10,000 references to slaves in the Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center will and deed books that date from 1742 to 1870.**

**"We didn't know if the slaves would be listed with names...or if they would be mentioned in wills, just like livestock."**

— Georgia Brown

Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center, supervises Brown and other interns and helped formulate the idea of a slavery database. "To determine which of the people own slaves – we realized an abundance of information that needed to be captured," she said.

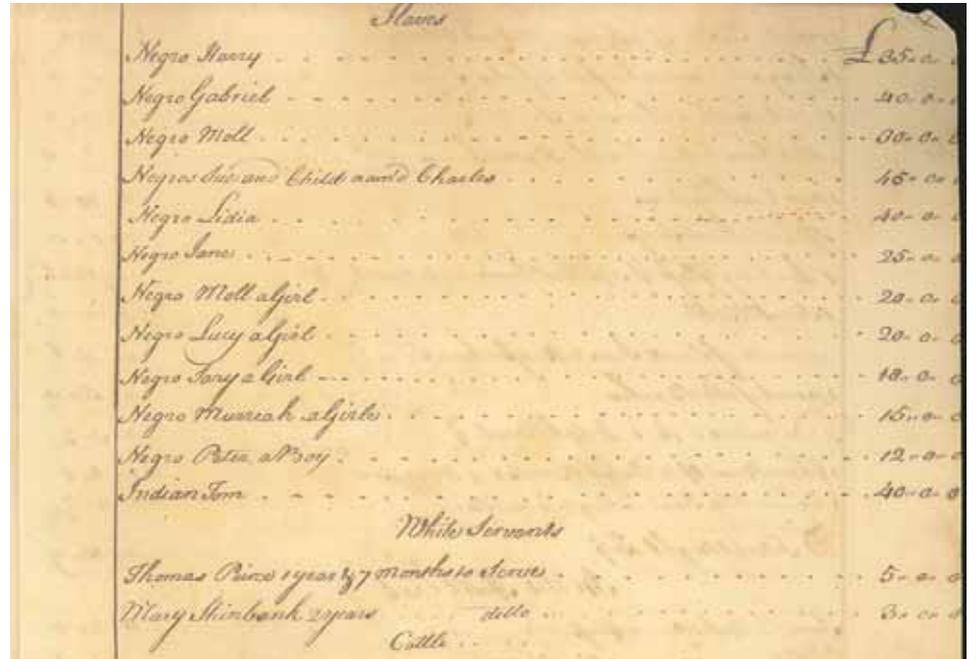
An index card is created for each slave and owner, creating a slavery database that is searchable by the names of both the slave and owner.

While the slavery index is still in its infancy, Brown hopes that, when complete, it will provide answers for those who have questions about their ancestry, answers that, for the descendants of slaves, are often hard to find.

"Our database currently is a 3x5" card catalog so it is very low tech," said Brown. "This project is a bit of a trial run."

When the project is complete, "it will be helpful to people living not only in Fairfax County, but Arlington and Alexandria, too in tracing ancestral family lines and understanding slave economy as it functioned in Fairfax county," said Bollinger.

Brown adds, "It will also be useful to historians doing research in African American history or history on early Virginia."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GEORGIA BROWN

**This is one of the documents that contained data for the Fairfax Court Slavery Index.**

**ONE SUCH HISTORIAN** is Maddy McCoy who had been researching slavery in Fairfax County for the last decade. "Once the index is complete, I will utilize that data to interpret slavery in this county in a way that has never been able to be done before," said McCoy who is serving as a consultant on the Fairfax County Slavery Index project "This is an amazing project and they are doing a great job."

Originally from Oregon, Brown says she was surprised that some of her beliefs about slavery and the south were unfounded. "From the limited education I have on slavery, I predicted that most of the slave owners would treat their slaves as chattel, or worse," she said.

By combing through documents, Brown concluded that the relationships between slaves and masters were more complicated than she originally imagined. "It seems that because Fairfax County was made of smaller farms, the relationships between slaves and their masters, for better or for worse, were more intimate," said Brown. "It was actually quite rare to see a will where the slave owner was indifferent or wanted his slaves sold. Unless a sale was absolutely necessary to provide for their families, most owners would do anything to keep their slaves."

## For More Information

Anyone interested in searching the Fairfax Court Slavery Index should contact the Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center at 703-246-4168 or [historicalrecords@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:historicalrecords@fairfaxcounty.gov)

**THE MOST FASCINATING** wills, says Brown, were those that included emancipations. "Every time I saw 'to be freed' my heart would skip a little," she said. "Some emancipations were straight to the point, while others were almost a love letter to their former slaves. I will admit that some of the words of respect made me tear up a little."

Brown hopes that her project will serve as a model for counties in other parts of the south. "A project such as this is very doable," she said. "The process can be grueling, but it is definitely a labor of love when we see all the people who are no longer lost in the archives."

Bollinger and others in the research group say they haven't had anyone find an ancestor from the database compiled so far, and they estimate that it will be more than one year before the project is complete. Anyone interested in searching the records should contact the Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center at 703-246-4168 or [historicalrecords@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:historicalrecords@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## "Saturday Night in the Suburbs" for Parents

Do you want to know what really goes on with teens on Saturday nights? The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County (UPC) will host two "Saturday Night in the Suburbs" programs in March: at Woodson High School on Tuesday, March 15, and at Westfield High School on Thursday, March 17. The program is open to adults in the community and begins at 7 p.m. at each school.

The program features a panel of high school seniors who talk openly about alcohol and drug use, teen parties, social media, parent supervision and enabling, and communication with parents. Middle school and high school parents

are encouraged to attend.

"Parents find this to be somewhat eye-opening," said UPC's Jennifer Lewis-Cooper, who will facilitate the events. "We will not ask the panel specific names, dates, places of events or put them on the spot — their job is not to 'snitch' on others but to educate parents to understand what teens are dealing with and help parents to set better limits."

Only adults will be admitted to the presentations.

For more information, visit [www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org](http://www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org) or [www.facebook.com/unifiedpreventioncoalition](https://www.facebook.com/unifiedpreventioncoalition).

# Dwelling Detectives

## Great Falls Historical Society hosts presentation on researching the history of your Fairfax County house.

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY  
PRESIDENT/  
GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Many residents of Great Falls have asked on many occasions how to research the history of the Fairfax County home they are living in. Susan Hellman, Architectural Historian, is the author of the research guidelines for researching historic buildings in Fairfax County (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/historic/ihs/research.htm>), and shared her guidance with on Wednesday, Feb. 10 at the Great Falls Library. Whether researching on the Department of Planning and Zoning website, at the local courthouses, using the land tax books, analyzing physical structures, referring to personal property tax records, consulting historic maps or gathering newspaper articles, Hellman mapped out all the steps to take to gather all the possible clues to uncover the truth about your house. (You may visit at [www.gfhs.org](http://www.gfhs.org) to find a link to Hellman's presentation.)

She gave very important tips: If your house was built before 1940, do not trust the date it may be listed because if the county had no idea of the date, they would just list the property as 1900. Structural

**Susan Hellman presenting to the Great Falls Historical Society.**



PHOTO BY TR COOK

features and research of family members provide better clues. When working with the Land Tax books, properties will be listed in alphabetical order, however the properties will not be in order within a letter – (For example, within A, Abbott and Abrams may be listed under A, however Abrams may come before Abbott – you need to examine the entire category.) Hellman warns that Oral Histories should only be considered as a starting point, as people's memories are not factual — rather they report

impressions and memories that may not be accurate or precise.

Hellman used to be the Historian at the Virginia Room prior to conducting many historical research studies at the Fairfax County Department of Planning and Zoning.

Currently, she is the Historic Site Manager for the Carlyle House Historic Site in Alexandria. The Carlyle House is featured prominently in the new PBS mini-series "Mercy Street." Hellman is a past Acting

Director of the Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House. A graduate of Duke University, she has a master of Art degree in Architectural History from the University of Virginia.

The Great Falls Historical Society's March Program, Living on the Land (Part 2): "Equestrian" Great Falls will take place on Wednesday, March 9 at the Great Falls Library at 7 p.m. The spacious pastoral setting, uniquely characteristic of Great Falls, provides a vital setting for a wide range of equestrian activities. Hear the stories of how local horse people experience the land. Hear how equestrian families, local barns and riding schools experience oneness with the land as they care for their animals and enjoy their sport. Presenters include Georgia Bay of Lift Me Up!, Sharon Molster of Black Hill Stables, Karen Washburn, equestrian homestead, Weslie Karber, Normandy Farm, and Pam Mc Dorman, Southdown and homestead.

The Great Falls Historical Society was organized in 1977 to promote community spirit by bringing the past into the present. The March program uncovers residents' many experiences of a pastoral setting of Great Falls at a time when the community wrestles with such land preservation issues as Brooks Farm and Marmota Farm, some of the last vestiges of an agrarian past.

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# SPORTS

**Ariana Aulisi and the Langley girls' basketball team will face Landstown in the state quarterfinals on Friday, March 4 at Old Dominion University.**



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



**Langley senior Paige Galiani scored 16 points against Herndon in the 6A North region third-place game on Feb. 27.**

## Langley to Face Landstown in State Quarterfinals

**Saxons beat Herndon in region third-place game.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Langley girls' basketball team has reached a level of success where the Saxons viewed a three-point loss to undefeated Oakton in the region semifinals as a disappointment.

Despite the tough loss, Langley enters the state tournament as a confident group after pushing the Cougars to the limit and beating Herndon in the third-place game.

Langley, the No. 3 seed from 6A North, will travel to face Landstown, the 6A South runner-up, in the state quarterfinals at 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 5 at Old Dominion University in Norfolk.

The Saxons enter states with a 24-5 record, having won seven of their last eight contests, including a 42-38 victory over Fairfax in the Conference 6 championship game on Feb. 20. Langley will face a Landstown team with a 23-3 record, according to maxpreps.com. The Eagles won the Conference 1 championship and lost to Woodside 39-28 in the 6A South region final.

Langley and Landstown have faced two common opponents: Lake Taylor and Centreville. The Saxons lost to Lake Taylor 45-38 on Dec. 28 during a holiday tournament in Hampton. The Eagles beat Lake Taylor 52-48 on Jan. 7. Langley defeated Centreville 43-34 on Feb. 23 in the opening round of the regional tournament. Landstown beat Centreville 31-25 on Dec. 28 during the Bulldog Bash holiday tournament at Westfield High School.

"I think we're excited," Langley senior and Co-Conference 6 Player of the Year Paige Galiani said. "We have really good position going into [states] and I think we definitely have a chance of going far — winning it all, hopefully."

Fifth-year Langley head coach Amanda Baker has turned the Saxons into one of the top teams in the region. After three straight losing seasons, Baker led Langley to a 21-5 record during the 2014-15 campaign, during which the Saxons reached the conference championship game and the region quarterfinals.

This year, Baker said the Saxons hoped to give themselves a chance to contend for multiple championships. After beating Fairfax to win the program's first conference/district title since 1988, Langley's hopes for



**Sophomore guard Jordyn Callaghan and the Langley girls' basketball team defeated Herndon 48-43 in the 6A North region third-place game on Feb. 27 at Robinson Secondary School.**

a region championship ended with a 44-41 loss to undefeated Oakton on Feb. 27 at Lake Braddock Secondary School. The Cougars went on to beat Fairfax in the region final.

Langley junior Ariana Aulisi scored a team-high 12 points against Oakton. Senior guard Lizzy Shamloo finished with 10 points and sophomore guard Jordyn Callaghan added seven.

"It's disappointing to lose," Baker said. "We really thought the expectation was to win. We didn't go in hoping to keep it close, but it was an admirable effort. I was really proud of the way the kids executed the game plan. We were right where we wanted to be at the end we just got the wrong outcome."

Oakton's 44 points tied a season low. The three-point margin of victory also tied a season-low for the Cougars.

The following night, Langley defeated Herndon 48-43 in the third-place game at Robinson Secondary School. Galiani led the Saxons with 16 points. Shamloo finished with 10 points, Callaghan had eight and Aulisi scored seven.

"[It was] definitely a heart-breaking loss [against Oakton]," Galiani said, "but we definitely came out hard as a team and we were excited to come into [the third-place game] because [we] proved we're a great team last night."

Shamloo was selected to the 6A North region all-tournament team.

The winner of Langley and Landstown will take on the winner of Oakton and Woodbridge in the state semifinals at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8 at VCU in Richmond. The state championship game is scheduled for 7:15 p.m. on March 9 at VCU.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**Juvenile Skaters, from left: Piper Williams of Vienna, Nina Sebastien of McLean, Elaine Zhang, of Vienna and Taylor Olson of Falls Church.**

## Area Skaters Go National

**Vienna, McLean skaters participate in 2016 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships.**

**P**iper Williams of Vienna, Nina Sebastien of McLean, Elaine Zhang of Vienna, and Taylor Olson of Falls Church represented our area at the 2016 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships in Kalamazoo, Mich. last week. They are four of the 22 members of the DC EDGE Juvenile team, now ranked seventh in the nation after their performance at the national championship event. The team, which practices at Kettler Capitals Iceplex, Cabin John Ice Rink, and Wheaton Ice Arena, has been training since May 2015 in hopes of qualifying for Nationals. They secured their spot by winning the silver medal at the Eastern Sectional Championship in Richmond, Va. on Jan. 28, 2016.

Nicole Berry of McLean on the Novice team.

Synchronized skating is an up-and-coming discipline which brings teams of skaters together to perform a synchronized program on ice. For more information about "synchro" or the DC EDGE Synchronized Skating Teams, visit [dcedgesynchro.org](http://dcedgesynchro.org).



**DC EDGE** sent four teams to Nationals with two coming home National Champions: Adult and Masters. Their Juvenile team placed seventh and Novice placed 11th. Other Fairfax County skaters include: Ashley Morris of Vienna and

**Vienna residents, Piper Williams (front left) and Elaine Zhang (center front), skate in a block formation at the 2016 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships on February 25**



**DC EDGE Juvenile team performs a pyramid formation at the 2016 U.S. Synchronized Skating Championships on February 25**



## Chelsea Becomes a 'New Dog'

We bought an English setter puppy from an excellent breeder. She was our third English Setter but she was so different from the others. We named her Chelsea thinking she would live up to her cultured British name. But we suffered through her first year, tearfully discussing whether we would take her back to the breeder. It was like having a rabid raccoon loose in our house and she terrorized the other two setters (one was elderly and was an abused rescue dog). She contentedly slept in her crate, but the rest of time we called her "the terrorist dog." The morning after we decided to take her back to the breeder, we woke up to a "new" dog. She was still intense and had lots of energy but had a new calmer personality. We say that she's so smart she heard what we decided and straightened up and behaved. Happy ending!

—SUSAN AND BOB NEWHALL,  
GREAT FALLS

### SPORTS BRIEFS

## Northern Virginia Senior Softball League Seeks Players

The Northern Virginia Senior Softball League (NVSS) is looking for softball players for the 2016 spring/summer and fall seasons starting April 5 and ending in late October.

Women age 40 and up and men age 50 and up are eligible to play. Games are played on Tuesday and Thursday mornings starting at 9:30 a.m. at various playing fields in Fairfax County. The league has over 500 members and fields teams at three separate competitive levels of play so there is a place for players regardless of skill level, of age, when you last played, or if you never played. If you played baseball in the past, you can play softball. The League holds skill assessments to determine competitive level placement.

The league has many players in their 70s and 80s so do not let age stop you from joining. So come join us, get great exercise, have fun, and make many new friends. You can join anytime and play only one day a week if you cannot play both days. See <https://www.facebook.com/NorthernVirginiaSeniorSoftball> and <http://www.nvss.org> for more information and application form.

### WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

FROM PAGE 9

Shroff discovered new relationships between the toxic protein of Huntington's disease and the biological processes of cellular death that cause Huntington's symptoms. His work may lead to new treatments.

Intel STS is an opportunity for original research to be recognized and reviewed by a national jury of professional scientists. Alumni have earned many of the world's most distinguished science and math honors, including Nobel Prizes, National Medals of Science and Fields Medals.

The Intel STS 2016 winners will be announced on March 15. Visit the <https://student.societyforscience.org/intel-sts> for more information.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

In one recent class, Creche students drew with markers taped to toy cars.

## Great Falls Preschool Launches Innovative New Art Studio, Yoga Classes

A new art studio has opened for children at the St. Francis Creche Episcopal Preschool and the school has also added a yoga class to its after-school curriculum. "We are excited to have these offerings that enhance our active learning," says Creche director Jane Ruppe Keihn.

The Creche repurposed existing space at the church to house a new "process art" studio that students go to at least once a week. Housing the art studio in a separate, intentional space allows more freedom for ongoing projects and gives the students a sense of creative space. The art classes focus on the individual creative process as opposed to the final product.

In one recent class, students drew with markers taped to toy cars. Creche teacher Jessica Maxson, a graduate student in art therapy, says, "This is a non-directive activity that incorporates lots of movement and promotes social skills by sharing and discussing what marks appear on the paper." Other recent projects have included painting with rubber bands and making paper sculptures. "Young chil-

dren learn best through sensory means and through movement, and process art uses these modes to their best advantage," Maxson explains, adding, "It also stimulates development in many areas, including fine and gross motor skills, social and emotional skills, and cognitive skills such as planning, problem solving and creativity."

Creche students have also been trying on yoga, as regular Creche fitness instructor Coach Geoff Wright has been offering an after-school yoga class and children have been stretching into imaginative animal poses. Coach Wright's fitness classes are a regular part of the Creche Preschool weekly curriculum and include basic motor skills, strength and stretching exercises, games, nature hikes, running and balance work.

The Creche will host a preschool art show in the spring, in conjunction with a planned singing performance.

For more information, contact Creche Director Jane Ruppe Keihn at 703-759-2522 or visit <http://www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org/index.php/creche>.



Creche students have also been trying yoga.

## COMMUNITY



### Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Present a Check to Shelter House

On Feb. 10, Great Falls Friends and Neighbors presented a check to Jolie Smith, the representative from Shelter House, the parent company of Artemis House as a result of the fundraising with the the White House Ornament Sales. Great Falls Friends and Neighbors were able to raise \$5,000. The

Club wants to thank everyone — the club members, the community, and the retailers who were generous and worked diligently in support of this cause. The emergency hotline number for victims of domestic violence and human trafficking to call: 703-360-7273 TTY: 703-435-1235.



**Marshall High School team takes top honors in Virginia LifeSmarts competition.**

### Marshall High School Students Win Virginia LifeSmarts Competition

Jessica Lewis, of Great Falls, along with Marshall High School classmates Ethan Epstein, Sam Hassett, Thea Prevalsky and Quiana Dang took top honors in the Virginia LifeSmarts competition, held in Richmond.

The team competed in individual and collaborative tests and quiz bowl-type rounds against other teams in preliminary contests, ultimately defeating the former state champions in the final round. Two of the team members placed first in the state in their individual categories: Prevalsky in the environmental category, and Lewis in the consumer rights and responsibilities category.

LifeSmarts is an educational program of the National Consumers League for students in grades 6-12 that prepares them to enter the real world as smart adult consumers. Participants focus on five areas: consumer rights and responsibilities, the environment, health and safety, personal finance, and technology. Content is revised to keep up with current developments in these areas and complements the curriculum in middle and high schools.

The Marshall team advances to the Life Smarts National competition in Denver in April, where it will represent Virginia.



**Lynn Goldstein, Apres l'Crozon, 12" x 16", Pastel, on display at Broadway Gallery in Great Falls from March 1-23.**

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

### CALENDAR

Send announcements to [north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

#### ONGOING

**Scholarship.** Deadline April 1. The Bull Run Civil War Round Table in Centreville is offering a \$1,500 scholarship to a high school senior who resides in Fairfax or Prince William counties and will attend college or community college in fall 2016. Information and application instructions can be found at <http://bullrunwrt.org>.

**Pigments of My Imagination.** Jan. 4-March 31. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Long time Great Falls resident Donna Barnako, has created over a dozen colorful and whimsical small works. Her subjects are varied, from pigs to puppies and cowboy boots.

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

**Gentle Yoga.** Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. Emmaus United Church of Christ, 900 E Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Gentle Kundalini Yoga, one free introductory session, senior discounts. Increase your flexibility, improve your breathing and health, reduce your stress. Ravi Kaur has 15 years experience teaching yoga. \$15 per session. [www.edimprovement.org](http://www.edimprovement.org). 571-213-3192.

**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](http://FreeTaiChi.org). 703-759-9141.

**Goldstein Artist Showcase.** March 1-23. Broadway Gallery, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. Great Falls Gallery will feature the pastels and mixed media paintings of local artist, Lynn Goldstein. [www.broadwaygallery.net](http://www.broadwaygallery.net). 703-450-8005.

#### WEDNESDAY/MARCH 2

**Imagine Dragons in Concert: Smoke+Mirrors.** 7:30 p.m. Tyson's Corner 16, 7850 Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Watch the concert as it is broadcast live on the big screen. <http://www.fathomevents.com/event/imagine-dragons-in-concert>.

#### THURSDAY/MARCH 3

**Game Night: King of Tokyo.** 7 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Bring friends, grab a snack from the Cafe and get ready for some board game fun. Free. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

#### FRIDAY/MARCH 4

**St. Paddy's Day Party.** 7-9 p.m. The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. This 5th and 6th-grader party will include music, dancing, games, snacks, videos and more. \$35/\$25. Advance registration is required; walk-ins will not be admitted. [mcleancenter.org](http://mcleancenter.org).

#### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/MARCH 4-5

**Scrapbooking.** Friday, 6 p.m.-midnight. Saturday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St., South, Vienna.

Proceeds benefit fire department. \$50/\$60. Dinner available for purchase. Contact Lisa Emerson at [lisaemerson3@verizon.net](mailto:lisaemerson3@verizon.net) or 703-981-4504.

#### SATURDAY/MARCH 5

**"Wishes and Dreams" Reception.** 4-6 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Free. [viennaartsociety.org](http://viennaartsociety.org). 703-319-3971.

**Robert E. Simon, Jr. Children's Center Book Fair.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. The students, parents and staff from Robert E. Simon, Jr. Children's Center will host a variety of activities to entertain children including an 11 a.m. Storytime, bookmark making and face painting. Free. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

**Author Reading and Signing.** 1 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Local children's author Alison Grace Johansen will read and sign copies of her picture book "HumFree the Bee Has a Food Allergy." 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

**Author Reading and Signing.** 4 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. David Priess will tell stories from 50 years of Presidential intelligence at the highest level and sign copies of his new release, "The President's Book of Secrets." 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

**Making Justice Work.** 2-4 p.m. United Christian Parish, 11508 North Shore Drive, Reston. Second of two forums on Criminal Justice in the U.S. Subtitled "Police Practices" and will have local orientation. Free. Open to all. [ucpreston.org](http://ucpreston.org).

#### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 5-6, MARCH 12-13, "Sideways Stories from Wayside School."

3 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Delightfully demented comedy about the strangest school ever built, where the students battle supernatural teachers and endure madcap lessons. Performed by youths. Ages 7 and up. \$15/\$10. [mcleancenter.org](http://mcleancenter.org). 703-790-0123.

#### TUESDAY/MARCH 8

**Protecting Neighborhood Trees.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The event will be forum co-sponsored by Supervisor John Foust, the Fairfax County Tree Commission, and the Great Falls Citizens Association. Speakers will focus on tree preservation during the real estate development process, and what citizens can do to help protect the existing tree canopy. [prvickers@aol.com](mailto:prvickers@aol.com). 703-759-3280.

**NARFE Meeting.** 1 p.m. American Legion Post 180, 330 North Center St., Vienna. Lia Veliz Hutson, director of Operations at Liberty Tax Service will be the guest speaker. Free. 703-938-9757.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 17

# NEWS

## Trompeter to Address Great Falls Writer's Group

It began with a camera and a Christmas tree. A Kodak Handle instant camera and a family Christmas tree, to be precise. This was the gift that Brian Trompeter received from his parents on Christmas Day almost four decades ago, when he was just twelve years old. This was the camera – the cool, cutting-edge camera that was probably, back then, the envy of every kid on the block – that launched his journey into journalism. This was the gift that sparked that first flame, ignited that first fuse, and left this passionate pre-teen from Midland, Michigan hopelessly, helplessly hooked. That very next year, Trompeter bought his own camera — this time, a 35 mm — and shortly thereafter, at the tender age of 14, his very first photographs were published in the "Midland Daily News." Trompeter's early career path took a few interesting twists and turns, as most paths do, but throughout it all, his interest in journalism never really waned. (He once backpacked through Europe for four months, worked a brief stint as a U.S. Census Bureau enumerator, and worked in the retail and restaurant industries.) In 1995, Trompeter was hired by The Connection

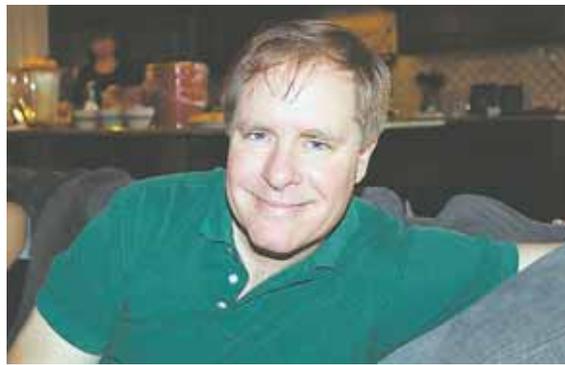


PHOTO BY MICHAEL O'CONNOR

### Brian Trompeter

Newspapers to cover the areas of Vienna and Oakton, where he worked as a writer and editor for five years. From there, he was hired by the Sun-Gazette Newspapers, to cover McLean, Vienna, Oakton, Great Falls and Tysons Corner — all fast-growing, highly-diverse geographic areas that provide good, solid material for good, solid journalists such as Trompeter. This is why the Great Falls Writer's Group (GFWG) has invited Trompeter to speak on Thursday, March 24 at the Great Falls Library (11 a.m.), where he will spend time reflecting on his own career in journalism, on the changing face of journalism itself, as an industry, and on the dynamic, fast-changing world of photojournalism as well. His four-year-old nephew Michael shot the photo that appears in this article.

—KRISTIN CLARK TAYLOR

## CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 16

### THURSDAY/MARCH 10

**Vienna Art Society Meeting.** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Speaker will be Davi D'Agostino who will discuss and demonstration her paintings in oils and acrylics and how she plans subject matter. Free. [viennaartsociety.org](http://viennaartsociety.org). 703-319-3971.  
**Game Night: Sheriff of Nottingham.** 7 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Bring friends, grab a snack from the Cafe and get ready for some board game fun. Free. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

### SATURDAY/MARCH 12

**Model Trains and Thomas at Open House.** 1-5 p.m. Historic Vienna Train Station, 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends. The layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. Free. Donations accepted.

[www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org). 703-938-5157.  
**Churchill Road Elementary School Book Fair.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Students, parents, staff will host activities to entertain children. Bookmark making, face painting and performances. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

**Look to the Rainbow.** 6-10 p.m. Charles Wesley United Methodist Church, 6817 Dean Drive, McLean. Come celebrate with the World Children's Choir with songs, dance, drumming and activities. Songs with a Celtic spirit in honor of St. Patrick's Day. \$10-\$30. [worldchildrenschoir.org](http://worldchildrenschoir.org). 571-344-2206.

### TUESDAY/MARCH 15

**Perennial Personalities.** 10 a.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., Vienna. Karen Rexrod, plant expert and former owner of Windy Hill nursery, will present her favorite perennial personalities. Karen's expertise and knowledge of perennial plants and their habits. Free. [lmc323@aol.com](mailto:lmc323@aol.com).

**Cocktails and Conversation.** 5-6:30 p.m. Capital Grille, 1861 International Drive, McLean. The Community Foundation for Northern Virginia invites you to a private event for substantial supporters and friends of the Community Foundation. Reserve at [www.cfnova.org/cocktails](http://www.cfnova.org/cocktails) or call Tara Nadel at 703-879-7637.

### WEDNESDAY/MARCH 16

**McLean Newcomers and Neighbors Monthly Luncheon.** 11:30 a.m. Peking Gourmet Inn, 6029 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Cabi clothing stylist, Allison Bateman, will speak, providing us with all the latest spring trends for 2016. \$24. RSVP by March 11 to Susie Osser at [sosser@verizon.net](mailto:sosser@verizon.net). [McLeanNewcomers.org](http://McLeanNewcomers.org).

### THURSDAY/MARCH 17

**Spanish Storytime featuring CommuniKids.** 11 a.m. Barnes and Noble Tysons, 7851 L. Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Give your child the love of language at a fun, engaging Storytime in Spanish. 703-506-6756. <http://stores.barnesandnoble.com/store/2238>.

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# It Just So Happens...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

That as I sit and attempt to write next week's column, I am doing so on the exact date, February 27th, seven years ago when I met the oncologist who delivered to me, my wife, Dina and my brother, Richard (a.k.a. "Team Lourie") the devastating news that would change my life/life expectancy forever. A phone call from my internal medicine doctor the previous week had confirmed that the biopsy indicated a malignancy in my lungs and an appointment with an oncologist to discuss the details was recommended. A week later, "Team Lourie" met the oncologist who advised us that the tumors were in fact non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), stage IV; "inoperable, incurable," and with a "13-month to two-year" prognosis. After reviewing the recent medical history that led up to this appointment, and then discussing with the doctor the various alternatives/treatment protocols – and likely outcomes, we all agreed that I should begin every-three-week chemotherapy as soon as possible. And so, six days later, on the following Wednesday, it began. The rest, as you regular readers know, is history, and "history" which I'm proud to say is still being made.

However, as much as this date is about me – and as a cancer patient, you're often told: "it's all about you" – I can't appreciate my life (and amazing good fortune) without expressing my condolences generally to all the newfound friends, acquaintances, a few relatives and the miscellaneous names; some famous and noteworthy, many not, whom I have heard about and read about, who have succumbed to this terrible disease. A disease which, at least when I was originally diagnosed, offered patients very little hope of surviving even beyond two years; I'm living into my eighth year now. My oncologist refers to me as his "third miracle," a moniker I am happy to embrace and incredibly fortunate to have earned with a disproportionate amount of luck, perseverance and a positive, self-effacing, find-humor/make-humor, take-the-good-with-bad and the-bad-with-the-good approach that if I believe any of what I've been told by numerous medical professionals, has likely contributed to my overall good health. And though there are no guarantees offered or given in oncology, I am at least one example of a grim tale that turned out not to be a fairy tale.

Let me be clear: I am not in remission. I am still under the regular and recurring care of my oncologist. I still receive chemotherapy infusions every four weeks. I still go for diagnostic scans every three months, and a follow-up appointment with my oncologist a week or so later for evaluation and assessment. I still live every day knowing there remains no cure for what ails me. And as written about in last week's column, "A Further Explanation," the experience has changed me forever, no doubt reflecting the ongoing demands of being diagnosed with a terminal form of cancer, a diagnosis which is all it's cracked up to be.

But dwelling on this reality serves no purpose. And living as if today is my last day doesn't resonate with me either. I prefer to live my life as much as possible, anyway, as how I would otherwise live it: no bucket lists to fill or must-haves or must-dos. Instead, I'd rather do what I must and live as I have: consistent with who I am and who I've become: a seven-plus year cancer survivor amazed to still be alive and appreciative of all the help and encouragement I've received along the way.

One might think being diagnosed with cancer/living with cancer is a solitary pursuit, and in many ways, I suppose it is; but in my sharing, I've found caring, and I believe there's strength in those numbers. Happy Anniversary to me and to all my fellow cancer patients who claim this date as a significant milestone; be it one day, one week, one month, one year or multiple years. Congratulations to us all. We deserve it!

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

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### ABC LICENSE

Pamplona, LLC trading as Pamplona, 3100 Clarendon Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises; Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Naeem Mohd, President

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

## 21 Announcements

### ABC LICENSE

Basic Burger, LLC trading as Basic Burger, 2024 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Dave Diamond, Operations Director

NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

## 21 Announcements

### LEGAL NOTICE

Edward Koch, M.D., a gynecologist, announces the closure of his clinical practice located at 6707 Old Dominion Drive in McLean Virginia as of April 30, 2016. Dr. Koch can be reached at 703-288-0794 or by email at egkmdpc@hotmail.com. Information about medication refills and medical records can be obtained using the telephone number or the email noted above. Dr. Koch will remain in McLean as a medical consultant.

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## 21 Announcements

### NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION & NOTICE TO CLAIMANTS OF PROCEDURE TO FILE CLAIMS PURSUANT TO Code of VA. § 13.1-746.1(b.)

Inge's Properties Inc. (the "Corporation"), a Virginian corporation organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, has dissolved in the Commonwealth of Virginia as of February 10, 2016. Pursuant to the filing of the certificate of dissolution, the Corporation hereby gives notice to all persons having a claim against the Corporation, other than a claim against the Corporation in a pending action, suit or proceeding to which the Corporation is a party, to present their claims against the Corporation in the manner prescribed below:

1. All claims must be presented to the Corporation in writing and must contain sufficient information reasonably to inform the Corporation or successor entity of the identity of the claimant and the substance of the claim.
2. The mailing address to which such a claim must be sent is: Inge's Properties Inc. c/o Robert B. Nealon, Esq., 119 N. Henry Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.
3. The date by which such a claim must be received by the Corporation or its successor entity is May 1, 2016.
4. Any claim that is not received by May 1, 2016 will not be evaluated for payment at this time.
5. The Corporation may make distributions to other claimants or persons interested without further notice to the claimant.
6. Further, any claim will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce such claim is commenced by the earlier of the expiration of the statute of limitations, or three years after the date of publication of this notice.

Robert B. Nealon, Secretary Pro Tempore, Inge's Properties, Inc.

Results! Why, man, I have gotten a lot of results. I know several thousand things that won't work.

-Thomas A. Edison

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## 21 Announcements

## 21 Announcements

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**ABC LICENSE**  
P&M Group, LLC trading as Red Galanga, 144 Church St, NW, Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises; Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Perawat Pradawong, member  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 dates from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

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## 21 Announcements

## OBITUARY NOTICE

Thomas (Tom) B. Bonner, 84, of Bristow, Virginia and formerly long time resident of Vienna, Virginia passed away peacefully on February 27, 2016.

Tom was born in Altoona, Pennsylvania, the only son of the late Thomas A. and Jessie A. (Miller) Bonner, and was raised in Arlington, Virginia. Tom married his wife, Marie, in 1953, and they made their home in Vienna, Virginia, where they resided happily for 58 years, raising their family of four children. Tom was employed as an illustrator for the U.S. Department of Defense for 37 years until he retired in 1988.

Tom loved living in the town of Vienna, Virginia and was active in the community for most of his life, with a passion for service in the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. Tom joined the department in 1961 as a volunteer fireman, and throughout the rest of his life he proudly contributed in many different capacities there, with his most recent efforts focused on the fire department's historical preservation. In 2012, after 50 years of volunteer service, he was recognized as a Life Member of the VVFD and also the VVFD Auxiliary. Tom loved baseball and enjoyed coaching in the Vienna Little League for many years, where he was inducted as a member of the Vienna Little League Honor Roll in 1985. He was also a member of the Vienna American Legion Post and was actively involved in the Knights of Columbus organization.

Tom is survived by his beloved wife, Marie, of 62 years, his four children Thomas, Jr. (Lyndee) of Centreville, VA, Terry Maddox of Warrenton, VA, John (Anne) of Centreville, VA, and Donald (Lale') of Cornelius, NC. He leaves behind nine grandchildren, Justin, Matt, Nicolle, Michelle, Jennifer, Mike, Chris, Danny, and Ben, and great grandson, Gavin. He was preceded in death by his son-in-law Ken Maddox. Tom was a loving husband, father, and grandfather and will be deeply missed by all his family and friends.

Visitation will occur from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at Pierce Funeral Home in Manassas, VA. The funeral mass will be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, in Bristow, VA, at 10:30 a.m. with interment to follow at Fairfax Memorial Park Cemetery, in Fairfax, VA. Donations in his name can be made to the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department.  
www.vvfd.org

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