



# Great Falls CONNECTION

Jacqueline Cheshire with Agent: The Cheshire family of Great Falls are eight time Canine Companions for Independence puppy raisers, currently raising puppies Bishop and Ekina.

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 13 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14

## Saying Goodbye to Agent

NEWS, PAGE 4

## WELLBEING

PAGE 8

## Great Falls Writers Group Adds Evening Meetings

NEWS, PAGE 3

## Finding His Comfort Zone

FOOD, PAGE 10

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Come see for yourself why we are the area's most awarded dental practice!

COSTA

FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

10135 Colvin Run Road, Suite 230  
Great Falls, VA 22066

703-592-8225

[costasmiles.com](http://costasmiles.com)

*Early and late appointments are available. Call us today!*



Our list of accolades include Ten Time Top Dentist in Metro Area as well as:



Bring this ad into your next appointment and receive \$100 off of Zoom! Teeth Whitening

*(New patient exam, x-rays and cleaning required.)*

## Great Falls Writers Group Adds Evening Meetings

Daytime meetings will also continue.

BY KRISTIN CLARK TAYLOR

The lazy, hazy days of summer are now over. The flow of fall is upon us, which means it's time to close the grill and open the books. And if you've got any interest in exploring your creative side — particularly your writing skills — it's time to pull out your notepad and flip open your laptop. In four short words, the Great Falls Writers Group (GFWG) offers its clarion call to creative action:

"It's time to write."

On Thursday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., the popular "writing family"



PHOTO BY MELISSA WINN

**Great Falls Writer's Group Founder Kristin Clark Taylor greets guests at the first Great Falls Book Festival on May 2.**

will kick off its fall season at the Great Falls Public Library. The meetings — free-flowing, fast-paced, and comfortably focused —

typically include in-class writing assignments, dynamic literary discussion and frequent opportunities to hear from noted authors and journalists eager to share their passion for the craft. (The group also hosts the GFWG Book Festival, publishes an annual Anthology, and coordinates an annual writing contest and gala for young writers.)

This season, however, in response to community interest and in an effort to widen its literary embrace, GFWG will begin hosting evening meetings as well, with its second meeting of the month being held on Thursday, Sept. 29, from 7-8:30 p.m.

Hope Pannier James, a long-time Great Falls resident and an active member of GFWG, agrees that nighttime writing might

be a fun and relaxing; a creative change of pace. On the idea of adding this new nighttime forum, Hope is happy.

"What great news, that GFWG will be holding meetings in the evening!" she says. "I am so excited for those who couldn't attend during the day to now have the same opportunity."

To assure overall continuity, the focus and content of the daytime and evening meetings will remain consistent, though ample opportunity for creative spontaneity and growth will still exist.

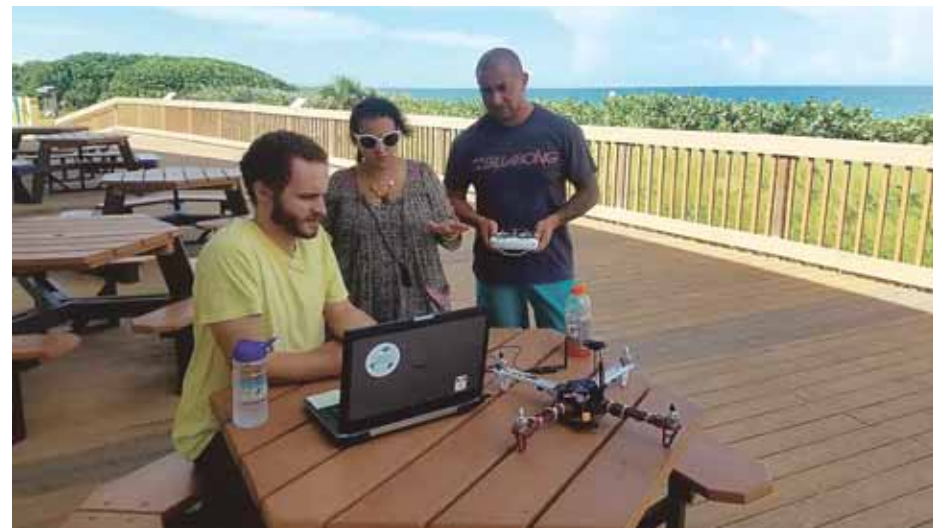
So summer is gone — but that doesn't mean all the fun has to stop! If anything, it's only just begun. What's so warm and wonderful about the written word? The answer is easy. Come to the library to find out.

And while you're there, discover the inner book in you.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**Dr. Ron Pandolfi presents on the integration of single board computers and sensors that give self-awareness to "MiSHELL the Sea Turtle Drone."**



**Princess Aliyah Pandolfi, Executive Director of Kashmir World Foundation works with the University of Central Florida Marine Turtle Research Group Team to prepare their drone for first flight at the Barrier Island Sanctuary Education Center.**

## Saving Sea Turtles

BY NICOLE WEATHERHOLTZ

On Aug. 20, Katie's Coffee House in Great Falls Mike Kearney hosted Kashmir World Foundation's MiSHELL Autonomous Sea Turtle Drone and Stem Education Presentation in order to raise awareness about threatened and endangered sea turtles throughout the world. Members of Kashmir World Foundation recently traveled to Melbourne, Fla., where three of the five different species of sea turtles who nest in Florida, come to lay their eggs. The mission of the trip was to teach a Fly for Conservation drone building workshop at the Barrier Island Sanctuary Education Center, collect aerial imagery on sea turtle tracks and nests and most importantly learn how we can help

conservation efforts for these incredible animals.

The MiSHELL Drone is a project of Kashmir World Foundation. Its goal is to detect, characterize, and locate sea turtle tracks along the coastlines in order to alert their conditions and locations to nearby field biologists and volunteers. The MiSHELL Drone is an autonomous drone, which will have the capabilities to cover a much larger portion of the coastlines in a much shorter time than current conservation methods, which involve walking or searching the beaches with ATVs until sea turtle tracks and nests are found. During our recent trip, our team was extremely excited to discover that images and videos of sea turtle tracks were easily captured by drones. We are excited to continue our research, which will include drones equipped with onboard computing

## MiSHELL: Sea Turtle Drones & STEM Education Presentation held in Great Falls.

power and thermal imaging cameras, which will allow us to find nesting turtles and emerging hatchlings at night.

Guests in attendance included local and out of state residents who shared a passion for animal conservation, drones, STEM education or a combination. Children as young as two years old attended the event with their parents. Four year old Brenna attended the event with her mother and two year old brother. She told me of her love of sea turtles as she held onto her book about them and even knew at her young age that the leatherback was the largest species. Kashmir World Foundation not only strives to find new ways to use drone technology to solve real world problems, it is also dedicated to teaching this technology and how it can benefit our world to our children at

an early age.

Currently, only 1 in 1,000 sea turtle hatchlings survive to adulthood, which should definitely raise concern, because these turtles play a critical role in the Earth's ecosystem. The rate of animals becoming extinct continues to rise at a rapid pace. Factors such as pollution, overconsumption, and habitat destruction are causing the number of multiple species to decline at a catastrophic rate. This loss of species is depleting the diversity of life on earth, and a loss of diversity can make all life vulnerable. Fortunately, there is still hope for the survival of these remarkable animals, and together, we can make a difference. Visit [www.MiSHELL.org](http://www.MiSHELL.org) to learn about how you can get involved.

## NEWS

# Saying Goodbye to Agent

The Cheshire family of Great Falls trains assistance dog to help a Norfolk woman.

Canine Companions for Independence, a national non-profit organization that provides assistance dogs for children and adults with disabilities, has announced that Norfolk resident Patricia Coale has recently received an assistance dog from Canine Companions for Independence.

Coale was matched with Agent, a two-year-old Labrador/golden retriever cross who has been trained to respond to over 40 advanced commands. Agent can turn light switches on and off, open and close doors and retrieve dropped objects. However, one of his most important jobs will be to provide constant companionship for Coale.

Much of the thanks for this suc-

cessful match goes to Canine Companions for Independence volunteer puppy raisers Jacqueline Cheshire and her family of Great Falls. The Cheshire family are eight time Canine Companions for Independence puppy raisers, currently raising puppies Bishop and Ekina. The Cheshire family raised Agent from a 10-week-old puppy, and said goodbye to him after a year and a half. Jacqueline worked tirelessly with Agent, teaching him basic commands, and the all-important socialization skills. When he was old enough to begin advanced training, Agent was returned to the Canine Companions Northeast Regional Headquarters in Medford, N. Y. where he worked for 6 months with the



**Jacqueline Cheshire with Agent: The Cheshire family of Great Falls are eight time Canine Companions for Independence puppy raisers, currently raising puppies Bishop and Ekina.**



**Patricia Coale and Agent.**

organization's nationally renowned instructors, learning over 40 advanced commands.

Coale and Agent were matched after completing Canine Companion's recent Team Training Class, an intense, two-week course held at the organization's Northeast Regional Center – one of six such centers nationwide. The Northeast Regional Center serves a 13-state area from Maine to Virginia.

Each student who attends Team Training – held at each center four times a year – is paired with a fully

trained, working assistance dog, like Agent, and is taught to work with his/her canine companion. The training course consists of daily lectures, exams, practice and public outings.

Coale and Agent are settling into a routine back home in Norfolk. Coale says, "Agent is a very special dog and I hope to have many wonderful years with him. I can't thank the Cheshire family enough".

Canine Companions for Independence is the largest nonprofit

provider of trained assistance dogs with six regional training centers across the country. Established in 1975, Canine Companions provides highly trained assistance dogs to children and adults with disabilities and is recognized worldwide for the excellence of its dogs, and quality and longevity of the matches it makes between dogs and people. There is no charge for the dog, its training and on-going follow-up services. For more information, visit [cci.org](http://cci.org) or call 1-800-572-BARK.

## SUMMER CLEARANCE EVENT

Enjoy the largest outdoor furniture selection in the area. Lowest prices guaranteed.

Offenbachers

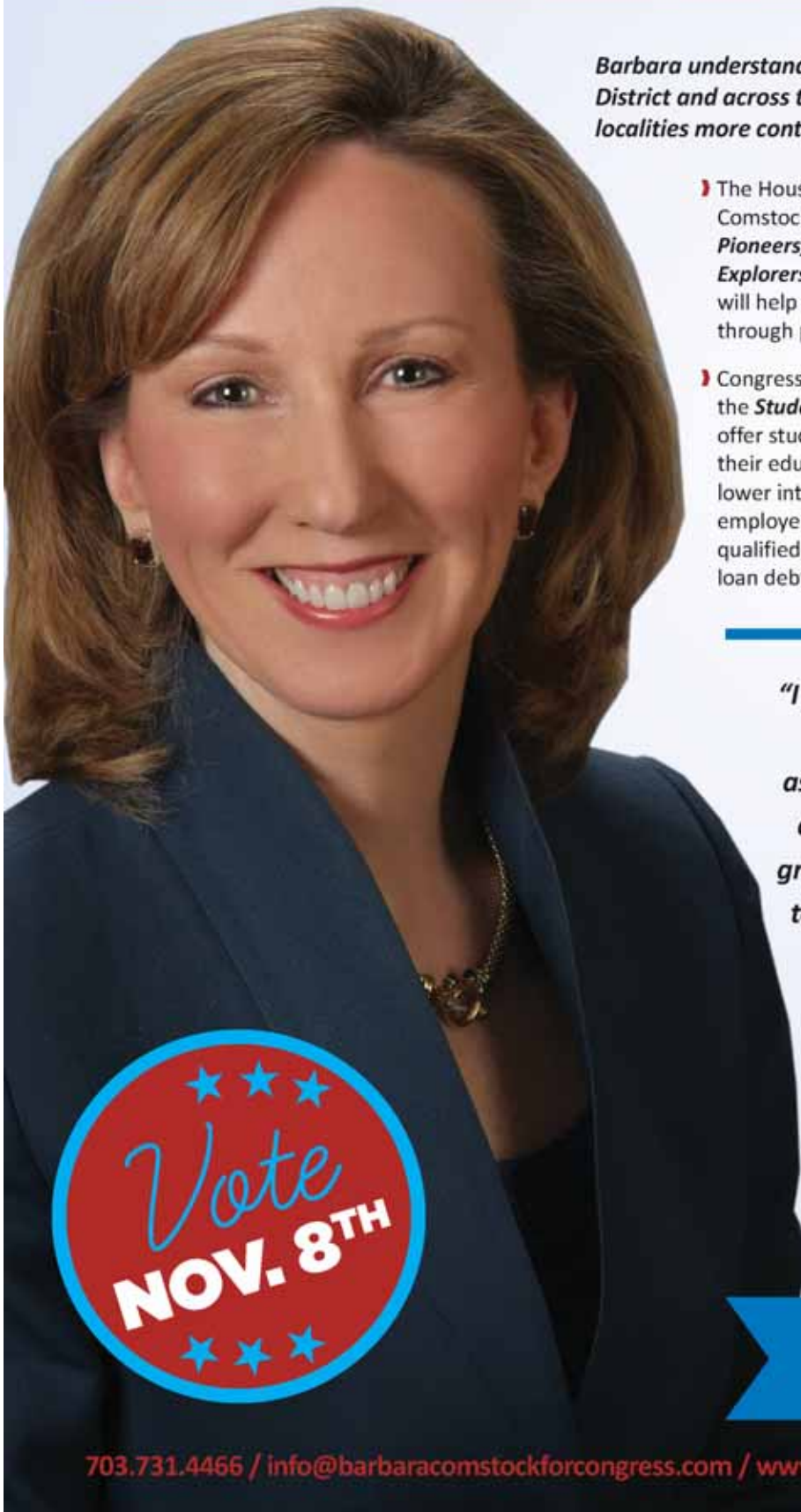
Patio | Fireplaces | Grills | Accessories

Rockville | 12229 Nebel St., 20852  
Mon-Sat 10am-9pm, Sun 11am-6pm

CONGRESSWOMAN  
**BARBARA COMSTOCK**

*Welcome Back to School!*

**As Our Congresswoman, Barbara is Putting Children First:**



*Barbara understands the sacrifices and commitments made by educators in Virginia's 10th District and across the nation. She supports policies which empower parents and give states and localities more control over their local schools to ensure the best education for our children.*

- › The House passed Congresswoman Comstock's *Inspiring the Next Space Pioneers, Innovators, Researchers, and Explorers (INSPIRE) Women Act*, which will help young women in the STEM fields through programs at NASA.
- › Congresswoman Comstock is the **Co-Chair** of the **STARBASE Caucus**, which offers hands-on STEM education to students in elementary school. She has worked in a bipartisan manner to increase resources for this important program.
- › Congresswoman Comstock has authored the *Student Loan Relief Act*, which would offer students the ability to refinance their education loans to take advantage of lower interest rates. It would also allow employers to use pre-tax dollars to assist qualified employees in paying off student loan debt.
- › Congresswoman Comstock voted for the bipartisan *Every Student Succeeds Act*. This bill, signed into law, represented a significant step toward improving our education system and empowers educators and parents to do what is best for each individual student.

*"I come from a family of educators – my mom was a school teacher and librarian and my husband Chip is a retired Fairfax County assistant principal and teacher. My sister is a guidance counselor at a Fairfax County Public School. The education of our children and grandchildren has always been a top priority of mine. It's a privilege to represent you in Virginia's 10th Congressional District. Together, we can make sure our children receive a world class education."*

*Barbara Comstock*

**Putting Our Children First.**  
**WORLD CLASS EDUCATION.**  
**21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY JOBS.**

**ABSENTEE VOTING INFORMATION:**  
[BarbaraComstockForCongress.com/absentee](http://BarbaraComstockForCongress.com/absentee)

703.731.4466 / [info@barbaracomstockforcongress.com](mailto:info@barbaracomstockforcongress.com) / [www.BarbaraComstockForCongress.com](http://www.BarbaraComstockForCongress.com)

Paid for by Comstock for Congress

## Back to School

Conversation and listening:  
top priorities for back to school.

**D**on't be afraid. Asking questions with respect and listening to the answers is one of the most important things we can all do as we head back to school.

Parents, go ahead and ask you students what they think about what's happening at school, what their plans are. Listen to the answers. Parents, go ahead and ask teachers about expectations, motivations and their philosophies and approaches on teaching. Attend back-to-school night if you can. Figure out how you will communicate with teachers.

Students, indulge your parents for five minutes a day. Answer a question or two. Share something interesting that happened during the day. Try to tell them why some things make a difference to you.

**GRATITUDE:** An excellent way to help wrestle back-to-school concerns into perspective is to count blessings and consider how to help someone wrestling harder things.

Hundreds, possibly thousands, of students headed back to school this week in Northern Virginia are experiencing homelessness. In Fairfax County, you can find ways to volunteer to help homeless students by contacting the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, 703-324-9492.

**SAFETY:** We do know to slow down in school zones, watch for darting pedestrians, stop for school buses with flashing lights. Buckle seatbelts. But probably the most important

conscious step you can take for safety on the roads around schools and everywhere else is to resolve not to engage in distracted driving. Put your phone down. Students, talk to your parents about this; they could be at risk.

**Favorite Back-to-School Headline (from Fairfax County):** "Learn About School Lunches and Deer Management in the Latest News." Turns out deer management is not being incorporated into venison burgers in school lunches.

### Why Do Some Want Virginia To Be One of the Most Repressive States?

Two states allow absentee voting from prison.

Clearly that is not where we are headed in Virginia. But the restoration of voting rights moves Virginia towards the mainstream.

Virginia is one of four most restrictive states with lifetime bans on voting for those convicted of felonies.

Fourteen states automatically restore voting rights once the individual's term of incarceration is over, and two states allow absentee voting from prison.

Gov. Terry McAuliffe deserves praise for his efforts to restore voting rights for former felons who have served their sentences. He has

been thwarted at every turn by Republican members of the General Assembly, who don't appear to be done with their efforts to prevent people who have paid their "debt to society" from returning to normal, engaged lives in the community.

"If we are going to build a stronger and more equal Virginia, we must break down barriers to participation in civic life for people who return to society seeking a second chance," McAuliffe said. "We must welcome them back and offer the opportunity to build a better life by taking an active role in our democracy."

Earlier this year, the Maryland General Assembly restored the vote to all convicted felons immediately upon their release from prison. Previously, people convicted of felonies in Maryland had to complete all parole and probation before they were able to vote.

**MEANWHILE,** for all Virginia voters, the deadline to register to vote for the Nov. 8 general election is Oct. 17. You can verify your voter status at <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>. This is especially important to do if you have moved or have not voted recently.

In person absentee voting begins Sept. 23.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Experience That Matters

To the Editor:

We are fortunate in our Congressional District to have a Congresswoman who comes from a family of educators and knows our pre-K, K-12 and university system very well. Barbara Comstock's Mom was a lifelong teacher and librarian. Her husband, Chip, served in Fairfax County schools for 30 years and her sister also serves as a high school guidance counselor in Fairfax County. With my three kids attending Langley High School, these roots matter to me. She knows our schools.

Langley was where her husband started his service to our public schools.

Barbara's children attended our local pre-schools, public and parochial schools and public universities (UVa, Tech, and George Mason). As our Delegate she worked to get all-day kindergarten into our public schools and to get more in-state college spots for our children at Virginia colleges and universities. She has worked exten-

sively with the public schools throughout the 10th District as well as our universities from George Mason to the Shenandoah University and the George Washington Campus in Loudoun. I would also like to thank Barbara for hosting the Young Women's Leadership Program that my daughters were honored to participate in.

In her first term in Congress, Barbara worked on a bipartisan basis to get The Every Student Succeeds Act passed. The Every Student Succeeds Act reduces the federal role in our schools and restores local control to empower local school districts and parents. When I talk with our local teachers and parents involved in our public school system, they are very appreciative of this new legislation. The bill had a broad range of support from the National Education Association to the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools and the National Governors Association and it also removed any requirements to force Common Core on schools – something Virginia never adopted.

Barbara's opponent has no such

depth in Virginia public schools or universities. She was not involved in any of our public schools or Virginia universities. She was appointed by her District of Columbia friends (where she was living until last December when she moved from the D.C. Ritz Carlton) to the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia where she voted to raise tuition

costs by as much as 20 percent. We don't need that kind of backward D.C. policy experience for Virginia. Let's send Barbara's opponent back to the D.C. Ritz Carlton and let's re-elect Barbara Comstock to Congress to continue working for all of us.

**Puneet Ahluwalia**  
McLean

## 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  
1606 King St.  
Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail: [north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com)

[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by  
**Local Media Connection LLC**

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Ken Moore**  
Community Reporter  
240-393-2448  
[kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com)

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

**Salome Howard-Gaibler**  
Display Advertising  
703-415-5394  
[salome@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:salome@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Andrea Smith**  
Classified Advertising  
703-778-9411  
[classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Debbie Funk**  
National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

**David Griffin**  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@MaryKimm](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
**Managing Editor**  
Kemal Kurspahic  
**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly  
**Production Manager:**  
Geovani Flores

**Special Assistant to the Publisher**  
Jeanne Theismann  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@TheismannMedia](https://twitter.com/TheismannMedia)

**CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427**  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)



# WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

## Remembering September 11

On Sunday, September 11, at 7 p.m., the Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial will hold their annual September 11 Remembrance Ceremony at the site of the Freedom Memorial (behind the Great Falls Library at 9830 Georgetown Pike). Great Falls lost six residents to the attacks on September 11, thought to be the highest casualty rate in America. The ceremony will honor them, and all who sacrificed on that day and its aftermath. The event will include a Marine Corps color guard, patriotic songs, remarks by Drug Enforcement Administration Acting Administrator Charles Rosenberg, and a candle-lighting for each of the September 11 victims from Great Falls.

In case of rain, the ceremony will move to the library meeting room.

## Frank Wolf to Speak at the Great Falls Senior Center Event

The Great Falls Senior Center has announced Frank Wolf, former U.S. Rep. who represented Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> congressional district in the United States House of Representatives from January 1981 to his retirement in January 2015, as guest speaker for its Oct. 4 event; he was the state's longest serving congressman, serving for 34 straight years. Wolf is now a distinguished senior fellow for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Wilberforce Initiative and holds the Jerry and Susie Wilson Chair for Religious Freedom at Baylor University. His topic will be "defending Religious Liberty".

The Oct. 4 event will be held at the United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and includes lunch. The event sponsor is Seneca Hill Hospital Resort and Spa, located at 11415 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, senecahillvet.com. Lunch is provided by Mookie's BBQ, 1141 Walker Road, Great Falls, mookiesbbq.com. Reservations are a must and can be made by contacting Polly Fitzgerald at pollyfitz1@verizon.net or calling 703-759-4345. Visit gfseniors.org.

## Starshine Theater Offers Children's Classes

STARSHINE THEATER will offer children's classes at Great Falls Classical Ballet studio this Fall. Courses will include "Music 'n Motion for Mommy 'n Me" (ages 1 & up), "Creative Dance & Music for the Very Young" (ages 2.5 thru 5 years), and "Starshine 'Little' Theater" (Dramatics for ages 2.5 thru 5 years).

Workshops will be held by Patricia Budwig, M.A. For Students ages 6 thru 18, Budwig will also offer Dramatics, Musical Theater, Choreography, Voice, Guitar, Songwriting & Playwriting at other locations. Parents may register their students in person for all STARSHINE THEATER courses during GF Classical Ballet's Registration Week, Sept. 6 - 8. STARSHINE THEATER is celebrating its 23rd year of Performing Arts programs in Great Falls. For info contact Pat Budwig at: 703.790.9050 or StarshineTheater@aol.com.

## Robert Gilbert Exhibits at Great Falls Library

Robert Gilbert, a long time member of the Great Falls Studios, is exhibiting at the Great Falls Library throughout

the month of September. This solo exhibit features 30 oil paintings - four of Washington, D.C., 16 of New York and the rest are still life. "I think this is my best solo exhibit and I've had many," the artist said. This picture is titled 'Capitol in the Fall.'



# McLean Remodeled Home Tour

Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 12PM-4PM

6341 Linway Terrace, McLean, VA 22101

AFTER

AFTER

REINVENT YOUR HOME TO ENRICH YOUR LIFE

Come see first hand how redesigning existing space created better function, flow, and light in this remodeled home.

THIS IS A MUST-SEE REMODELED HOME!

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN-BUILD FIRM

Major Remodels • Additions • Kitchens  
Baths • Basements • Outdoor Spaces  
703.425.5588 SunDesignInc.com

BEFORE

## VINSON HALL RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Independent Living  
at Vinson Hall

Vinson Hall Retirement Community is located in idyllic McLean, VA and offers independent residential living for military officers and government employees of equal rank. Our apartment residences offer all the luxurious comforts of home within a vibrant Life Plan community. Come see what's new!

www.VinsonHall.org  
703-536-4344

1 and 2  
BEDROOM  
APARTMENTS  
AVAILABLE!

# Inquiring about Vaccines

Strategies for asking another parent if their children are vaccinated.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

As a new parent, Joy Baatin admits to being protective of her young son. In addition to guarding her son from household hazards such as electrical outlets and chemicals, she wants to protect him from catching a contagious disease from an unvaccinated playmate. But it's not easy to talk to other parents about vaccination, since it has become a controversial topic.

"I won't be so bold as to ask another [parent]," said Baatin, of Bethesda. "I respect that it's a matter of choice. But I wouldn't knowingly let my son play with a child who hasn't been vaccinated."

Like Baatin, many parents of young children feel uncomfortable bringing up this question. However, researchers point to outbreaks of measles in recent years. The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention



FILE PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.

## Have your children's playmates had their vaccinations?

(CDC) reports that there were 189 cases of measles in 2015 and 52 in 2016 as of Aug. 15.

For that reason, it is a good idea for parents to become informed about which of their children's friends have been vaccinated, particularly for children with weakened immune systems or infants who are too young to be vaccinated. The importance outweighs the awkwardness of raising this question, and it need not be a difficult conversation to begin.

"I think it's important to recognize that,

particularly when it comes to decisions about how to raise our children, certain issues are going to be sensitive," said Carolyn Lorente, Ph.D., professor of psychology at Northern Virginia Community College in Alexandria. "It's also important to recognize that we all have different perspectives and opinions."

Approaching this topic with genuine interest in learning another parent's point of view can help quell any discomfort about engaging in this conversation. "Asking what they think about vaccines to get their opinion is a nice way to start the conversation," said Lorente. "It allows you to begin from a point of curiosity rather than judgment."

In addition to withholding judgment, maintaining an open mind and keeping conversations light-hearted and straightforward is key. "If you are able to actually avoid passing judgment and respect another parent's perspective and point of view, that will come across in a conversation," said Karen Bronco, LCSW, a psychotherapist in Arlington.

Lorente's personal experience in discuss-

## PARENTS: IT'S TIME TO IMMUNIZE

Documentation of immunization is required for children entering kindergarten and sixth grade and for new students transferring into Fairfax County Public Schools. The Fairfax County Health Department offers school required immunizations from your health care provider and at the Fairfax County Health Department's five clinics. To shorten your wait, call ahead to make and appointment.

Parents should bring the child's immunization record and insurance card to the clinic. Without an immunization record in English, the child may need to restart his or her immunization series.

## CLINIC PHONE NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS

- ❖ Herndon-Reston District Office (HRDO) 1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Suite 100 Reston, VA 20190 703-481-4242, TTY 711
- ❖ Joseph Willard Health Center (JWHC) 3750 Old Lee Highway Fairfax, VA 22030 703-246-7100, TTY 711
- ❖ Mount Vernon District Office (MVDO) 8350 Richmond Highway Suite 233 Alexandria, VA 22309 703-704-5203, TTY 711
- ❖ Springfield District Office (SDO) 8136 Old Keene Mill Road Suite A100 (Cary Building) Springfield, VA 22152 703-569-1031, TTY 711
- ❖ Annandale District Office (ADO) 7611 Little River Turnpike, #400E (East Wing) Annandale, VA 22003 703-534-8343, TTY 711

ing vaccines with one of her friends reinforced her belief that parents should educate themselves about vaccinations before having a discussion on the topic.

"My friend said that she wasn't going to vaccinate her kids," said Lorente. "I asked her what she'd read about vaccines so that I could understand her point of view. As a professional, I like to look at authoritative sources when it comes to making decisions for my children. With social media it's getting harder and harder to determine what

SEE WELLBEING, PAGE 9

## Registration is OPEN NOW

Registration ends on **October 14, 2016**

**Winter 2016-2017 Season**

**Interested in Coaching?**  
GF Hoops is looking for coaches for all levels.  
Contact  
Phil@gfhoops.com

**Select and House Leagues**

**Boys - K-12 And Girls - K-12**

22066 20194  
20170 GF Hoops 22182

Welcoming players from these zip codes

**www.gfhoops.com**

This material is neither sponsored or endorsed by Fairfax County School Board, the Superintendent or this school.  
Great Falls Basketball is a non-profit educational organization



# WELLBEING

## Walk to Prevent Suicide

### Walk supports survivors of suicide loss and American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

The Out of the Darkness Walks are American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's largest fundraiser, producing millions for suicide prevention programs, and works to unite those who have been affected by suicide, and cre-

ate communities that are "smart about mental health."

Out of the Darkness Walks connect hundreds of thousands of people to raise awareness and funds that allow the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to invest in new research,

#### DETAILS

Walk Date: Sept. 24, 2016  
 Walk Location: Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA 22035  
 Check-in/Registration Time: Sept. 24 at noon  
 Walk in registration available noon-2 p.m.  
 Walk Begins: 2 p.m. Ends: 4 p.m.  
 Contact: Leigh Boswell, 571-259-0721, Karrieboswell@aol.com

create educational programs, advocate for public policy, and support survivors of suicide loss.

Online registration closes at noon the Friday before the walk. However, anyone who would like to participate can register in person at the walk from the time check-in begins until the walk starts. Walk donations are accepted until Dec. 31.

## Vaccines

FROM PAGE 8

those sources are, but I start with well respected organizations such as the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)."

Informed decisions can be made after educating oneself about the scientific research and debunking myths about vaccines, Lorente said. One reason that parents might choose to forgo vaccinations is the now discredited belief that there is a link between vaccines and Autism spectrum disorder. The

CDC highlights multiple studies which show that there is no link.

Researchers say that it is helpful for parents of vaccinated children to know if their child's playmates have received their vaccinations. "There is still some slight risk even if your child is vaccinated, as no vaccine is 100 percent effective," said Tony Yang, ScD., associate professor of Health Administration and Policy at George Mason University in Fairfax. "Research shows vaccination reduces the probability of in-

fection substantially, but not perfectly."

As with other difficult conversations, such as asking the parents of one's child's playmates whether they own a gun, the approach and attitude parents take can make the difference between a stressful or productive conversation.

"These are all important questions and I think if we address them with an 'it takes a village' mindset and think that we're all in this together, the conversations go a lot better," said Lorente.

## Dermatology & Allergy

### SPECIALISTS OF VIRGINIA

#### Kathryn J. Sowerwine, MD



Dr. Kathryn J. Sowerwine is a board certified Allergist and Immunologist with a special interest in dermatological diseases linked to allergy. She completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Georgetown University Hospital and her clinical and research fellowship in allergy and immunology at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD.

Dr. Sowerwine has specialized training and experience to find out what causes your allergies, prevent and treat symptoms, and help keep them under control.

Allergy Patch Testing • Asthma • Hives • Allergy Eczema  
 Food & Environmental Allergy Testing • Sinusitis  
 Insect Venom Allergy Testing • Immunotherapy • Allergic Rhinitis

#### Accepting New Patients

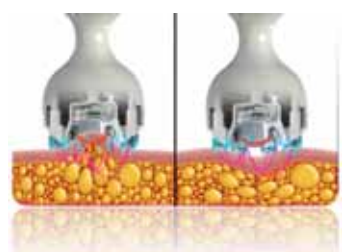
1800 Town Center Dr., Ste. 415  
 Reston, VA 20190

1715 N. George Mason Dr., Ste. 105  
 Arlington, VA 22205

Phone 703-709-1492 • Fax 703-709-5111

[www.dermspecialistsva.com](http://www.dermspecialistsva.com)

## VENUSLEGACY



### Look Your Best All Year Round

## Fontaine de Jeunesse

### GREAT FALLS MEDSPA

Great Falls Center  
 9889 Georgetown Pike • Great Falls, VA 22066  
**703.677.8700**

By Appointment Only Mon-Sat: 9 am-7 pm

#### Other Services:

Facial, Chemical Peels, Massage, MicroPen, Venus Freeze, Venus Legacy, B-12 Shots, Kybella, Sclerotherapy, Whitening, Invisalign, Botox and Fillers



## LIFTFX & SCULPTFX

### FREEZE TIME REVERSE AGING

Through Thermal Magnetic Rejuvenation for Face, Neck and Body

**\$400 OFF**  
 (New Customer)  
**Venus Legacy Treatment**  
 Cannot be combined with any other offers.  
 Expires 9/30/16

### Patients Love DermaPen!



• Minimal Downtime • Minimal Discomfort  
 • Affordable • Safe for All Skin Types  
 • Acne Scars, Photoaging, Fine Lines, Stretch Marks

- Non-Surgical Body Contouring
- Cellulite Reduction
- Wrinkle Reduction
- Circumferential Reduction
- Skin Tightening
- Stretch Mark Reduction

# G. STEPHEN DULANEY

## State Farm Insurance

IN GREAT FALLS



AUTO • HOME  
LIFE • HEALTH  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Like A Good Neighbor,  
State Farm Is There.®

[www.gstephendulaney.com](http://www.gstephendulaney.com)



**703-759-4155**

731-C WALKER RD. • GREAT FALLS, VA

State Farm Insurance Companies  
Home Office Bloomington, Illinois

## FOOD

# Finding His Comfort Zone

Steven Kurtz, 14, of Great Falls becomes an accomplished baker.

BY ALEXANDRA GREELEY  
THE CONNECTION

Every so often a youngster finds his passion in life, long before adulthood captures his time and energy. That is the case with 14-year-old Steven Kurtz, who has garnered a reputation as an accomplished baker in the Great Falls community. What makes his success so remarkable is that Steven is on the autism spectrum, and has for much of his young life found socializing in the community or at school challenging. But the kitchen is his comfort zone and an ideal setting to develop his talents.

Diagnosed as being on the autism spectrum at the age of two, Steven may have found many social situations uncomfortable, his mother Susan Kurtz said. But when he turned 7, he asked to join his mom in the kitchen to be close to her. “We knew we were on to something,” she said. “So when we saw that school was not going well, we decided to homeschool him and use his love for the kitchen to teach academics. We quickly learned that all could be factored into baking and cooking.”

To educate and train Steven, his parents, therapists and homeschool teachers, developed special curriculum to teach him math, science, geography, reading, and writing. As part of his “classwork,” he researched and developed recipes, shopped for ingredients, and then met the homework requirement by baking weekly.

All progressed smoothly for about 6 years, but when Steven turned 13, the family decided to take his baking skills to the next level by forming Whippouwill (We Whip, We Pour, We Spread Goodwill), a nonprofit bakery whose mission is to create meaningful employment for people of all abilities. “The encouragement of our community and Steven’s accomplishments inspired our family to think more strategically about the future, not only for Steven, but of other teens and adults with disabilities.”

To further this mission, the family with the cooperation of the private group overseeing the Great Falls farmers’ market, held a charity bake-sale and its proceeds would benefit children with disabilities. “The point was to take all his skills and learning to blend into this event: make flyers and ask friends to help,” she said. The bake sale, held at the Great Falls farmers’ market, was incredibly successful at raising money. The beneficiaries? Children in a community in Brazil.

Another outcome was the public discovering the quality of Steven’s baked goods. “People wanted to find his baked goods,” she said. So on occasion, Steven bakes an array of cookies and muffins, handmade caramels, soft pretzels, cupcakes, and many other confections. He also prepares and packages several cookie and brownie mixes (regular and gluten-free) his customers can take home to bake. All this he sells at the farmers’ market. (Note: the market is located in the center of town and open every Saturday. In the wintertime, it moves indoor into The Grange.)

“This is an unusual market,” said Mrs. Kurtz.



Steven Kurtz doing what he loves best.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Dylan Kurtz, Steven’s younger brother, assisting a customer at Great Falls Farmers Market.

### Q&A: Steven Kurtz about His Baking

**Q: What is your favorite part about baking?**

**A:** My favorite part of baking is using a rolling pin and making cookies.

**Q: How many hours a week do you bake?**

**A:** I bake for 1 hour a day.

**Q: What is your favorite recipe?**

**A:** My favorite thing to make is chocolate chip cookies.

SEE COMFORT ZONE, PAGE 11

**Inside or out...**

**...Tech Painting’s got you covered!**

Serving:  
VA  
DC  
MD  
OBX

**703-684-7702**

[www.techpainting.com](http://www.techpainting.com)

Since 1987

# FOOD

## Cuisine Zone

FROM PAGE 10

“Whippourwill goes once a month or once a quarter. For example, for Father’s Day, Steven made cookie cards, which were sugar cookies with a plain white icing.” Customers designed them with edible markers and edible decorations on the site. Whippourwill volunteers (including Steven’s teacher, mother and brother) package them with special bags ribbon, and custom tags, she said.

### Whippourwill Coconut Cupcakes

#### Cupcake:

- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 egg white
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 cup canned coconut milk
- 2 cups shredded unsweetened coconut

#### Frosting:

- 1/2 cup butter, softened
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 cups confectioners’ sugar
- pinch of sea salt
- 4 tablespoons canned coconut milk

How has baking impacted his life? As his mother explains, “It has given him tremendous confidence,” she said. “He knows he is different than his peers, but just like the others, he knows he will pursue a career.” Fulfilling a dream, Whippourwill has given Steven great confidence. It makes him really happy to see people want and pay for his goods, so that he feels embraced by the local community.

For more information, visit the website: <http://www.whippourwill.org>

#### For the Cupcakes:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease or line muffin tins with paper liners.

In a medium bowl combine the flour, 1 cup coconut shreds, baking soda, baking powder, and salt. In a separate mixing bowl, cream the butter and sugar. Beat in the egg and egg white, one at a time. Add the vanilla and almond extract; mix well. Add the flour mixture to creamed mixture alternately with the coconut milk (batter will be thick). Fill the muffin cups with 1/4 cup of batter.

Bake at 350 degrees for 20- to 25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. In a nonstick pan, toast the remaining one cup shredded coconut until a light golden brown, stirring frequently. Set aside to cool.

#### For the frosting:

Beat butter and vanilla until creamy. Add salt. Add the confectioners’ sugar 1 cup at a time, alternating with the coconut milk, beating until combined. Frost cupcakes. Roll frosted cupcakes in the cooled toasted coconut! Enjoy!

**14th Annual Alexandria King Street Art Festival**

EXTRAORDINARY

*Alexandria*

Visit [AlexandriaVA.com/ArtFest](http://AlexandriaVA.com/ArtFest)

**September 17th - 18th**  
Sat. 10am - 7pm / Sun. 10am - 5pm

Featuring over six blocks of artwork by more than 200 artists from the US and abroad

THE LINCOLN MOTOR COMPANY | MGM | LASIK Vision | McENEREY ASSOCIATES | art league

Artfestival.com | 561-746-6615



**GE APPLIANCES**

*Labor Day Sales Event*

**SAVE UP TO \$2,000\***

*on select appliance packages*

**Now - September 13**

*\*Via online or mail-in rebate*

21800 Towncenter Plaza  
Sterling, VA 20164  
703-450-5453

*Sterling*  
APPLIANCE

1051 Edwards Ferry Road  
Leesburg, VA 20176  
703-771-4688

[www.sterlingappliance.com](http://www.sterlingappliance.com)



**Family is why we do it all.**

**Kyle Knight Ins Agcy Inc**  
 Kyle Knight, Agent  
 11736 Bowman Green Drive  
 Reston, VA 20190

ACROSS FROM RESTON TOWN CTR.  
 WWW.KYLEKNIGHT.ORG  
 703-435-2300

We all feel the same commitment to care for our families. Helping you meet your insurance needs is part of my commitment to you.  
**Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®**  
 CALL ME TODAY.



0907504.1 State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

**Élite Piano Academy**



**OPEN HOUSE**  
**Sunday, Sept. 11, 2016**  
**2:00 - 5:00 pm**

at its new location  
**7911 Westpark Drive, Suite 623**  
**Tysons, VA 22102**


Miss Hyun-Mi Chung, a graduate of Juilliard School (B.M. & M.M.) with over 20 years of teaching experience.

**Miss Hyun-Mi Chung**  
**202-674-0499**  
**www.Hyun-MiChung.net**

**Visit These Houses of Worship**  
**To Highlight Your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-917-6468**

Welcoming, Diverse, Progressive

**ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • Reston**



8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
 5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

Nursery care provided at 10:00 a.m. service

The Rev. Laura Cochran, Priest-in-Charge  
**703-437-6530**  
 www.stannes-reston.org  
 1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA**

**450 ORCHARD STREET, NW**  
**VIENNA, VA 22180**  
**703-938-8525**  
**fbcvoffice@verizon.net**  
**www.fbcv.org**

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

**SPORTS**

**Great Falls Teen Wins Track Championship**

**Thirteen-year-old Daniel Silvestri achieves track championship in the Bandolero Series.**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED  
**Daniel Silvestri next to his father Brian Silvestri after finishing first for the fourth time this season at Southside Speedway.**

**T**hirteen-year-old Daniel Silvestri from Great Falls won Southside Speedway's track championship in the Bandolero series. This well-known short track is located just outside of Richmond and is known as the "toughest short track in the south." Nascar legends like Darrel Waltrip, Bobby Allison, and Richard Petty have all raced at Southside Speedway and home track to Current NASCAR Driver Denny Hamlin. Throughout the 10-race season, Daniel has achieved top three podium finishes in 8 races. With four wins, three second place finishes, and one third, fourth and fifth place finishes, Daniel has accumulated a total of 291 points overall; 15 points ahead of the second place driver.

Daniel, whose dream is to be a Nascar driver, started his racing career when he was 6 years old at a local indoor go kart track in Sterling. He quickly rose to the top, and when his love for the sport only increased, his parents decided to make a jump into paved oval racing in the Summer of 2015. Thanks to his sponsors, Ike Lans Dentistry in Ashburn, ChiceLacu in Vienna, the United States 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion 5<sup>th</sup> Marines Echo Company, and the support of his family, Daniel has been able to race at three Virginia tracks this season (Southside Speedway, Dominion Raceway and Shenandoah Speedway).

The Bandolero series is part of the US Legend INEX Series. A Bandolero car contains a Briggs and Stratton Vanguard engine with 30 Horse Power, and typically ranges between 68-72 miles an hour with a restrictor plate. Top Nascar drivers including Joey Logano, David Ragan, and Reed Sorenson all started their racing career in this series.

Next year, Daniel will be moving up to the Legend

car series, also a part of the US Legend INEX Series. Many successful current Nascar drivers that include Joey Logano, Kurt Busch, and Kyle Busch have raced in this series as well. These Legend cars have 132 horsepower with a Yamaha 1250cc engine, running at average speeds of 70 to 100 miles per hour, depending on the size of the track.

When interviewed after the track championship award ceremony, Daniel said, "Southside Speedway is my favorite track in Virginia because driving skills make a difference on this track. If I have a slow car on a certain day, that does not determine what place I finish. Our goal this year was to win the track championship, and we have done just that. It has come with hours of studying videos of my races, and lots of time spent tuning the setup of the car. No words can't express both the gratitude I feel towards God for the favor he has given me, and towards my sponsors, Ike Lans Dentistry, Chicelacu, The United States 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion 5<sup>th</sup> Marines Echo Company. Also a big thank you to my father who has done all the work on the car throughout the whole season."

In his class, Daniel is currently number one in Virginia state points, and top 25 in the nation. He is currently third in points at Dominion Raceway in Fredericksburg with two races to go.

For more information and updates about Daniel's racing career, visit his website at [www.danielsilvestriring.com](http://www.danielsilvestriring.com).

**Great Falls Player Joins Soccer Academy**

Adrien Cushing, 15, of Great Falls — who attended Forestville ES, Cooper MS, and is 10th grader at Langley HS — started playing recreational soccer for Great Falls and then travel soccer for them. He then moved onto McLean Hotspurs, Loudoun 00B Red, and recently joined US Soccer Development Academy at Bethesda SC Academy (DC United has the only other full US Soccer Development Academy here).



**Adrien Cushing**

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Adrien is also a 3-Star Rated Player with TopDrawerSoccer. There are only 162 players in the country (2019 year group) with a 3-Star or higher rating.

Adrien also won three straight "Best XI" honors this summer at the TopDrawerSoccer Showcases for DC/Baltimore, North Carolina, and Tri-State (N.J., Pa., Del.) He was the youngest defender at all of these showcases too.

Adrien is a defender with the Bethesda Academy U15s under U.S. Soccer Development Academy. His teammates include several players from the U.S. National Premier League and Bundesliga Academy programs. During the Academy's 10-month season, Adrien will be playing other Development Academy teams from the Atlantic and Northeast Regions.

# CALENDAR

Send announcements to [connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). Deadline is Friday at noon for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

### Great Falls Farmers Market.

Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road Great Falls. <http://greatfallsfarmersmarket.org/>

**Cirque du Soleil "Kurios."** July 21 to Sept. 18. Tysons II, The Lerner Town Center, 8025 Galleria Drive, Tysons Corner. \$39-\$170. 1-877-924-7783. [cirquedusoleil.com/kurios](http://cirquedusoleil.com/kurios).

**Lobby Hero 1st Stage Tysons** Sept. 8 - Oct. 9 Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. What does it truly mean to be a hero? While struggling with a world of conflicting truths, the characters grapple with their own realities and those of the people around them. [www.1ststage.com](http://www.1ststage.com) or 703-854-1856.

### Art Walk in the Village: First

**Fridays** beginning Sept. 9, 6 - 9 p.m. through Dec.31 at 756 Walker Road, Great Falls, VA. Admission free and open to the public. Visit: <http://www.greatfallsart.org/artwalk/>

### ValeArts Fall Show "Artful

**Aspirations"** Sept 30 through Oct. 2 at 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday 10 a.m. 6 p.m. Saturday & Sunday at the Vale Schoolhouse 3124 Fox Mill Rd. ValeArts welcomes Reston artist Betsey Mulloy to the fall show "Artful Aspirations". Contact: Diana Eichler or visit [valearts.com](http://valearts.com)

## WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY/ SEPT. 7 - 10

### Paint Great Falls: Plein Air

**Competition.** The community is welcome to come out and watch the art as it's being made. Find artists around Great Falls creating their original plein air paintings for prizes during the competition. This is a great opportunity to see the art and chat with the artists who make it. Sign up via email [info@greatfallsart.org](mailto:info@greatfallsart.org) to receive texts during the event to be notified where artists are painting around Great Falls. Attend a reception and see the art on display during the - Art Walk in the Village: First Fridays

## SATURDAY/ SEPT. 10

**Food for Others Tysons 5K.** 8 a.m. Tysons Corner Mall, by Bloomingdales, 8100 Tysons Corner Center, Tysons, VA 22102. Even though Northern Virginia is considered one of the wealthiest jurisdictions in the country, we still face a poverty rate of about 5 percent - more than 90,000 people are living in poverty and 30 percent are children. Come run or walk to help feed our neighbors. Visit: [foodforothers.org](http://foodforothers.org) or <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/McLean/>

### McLean Fall Community Garage

**Sale** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 1420 Beverly Road, McLean, behind Staybridge Suites Hotel. The McLean Community Center will hold its annual Fall Garage Sale. Admission to the sale and parking are free. A limited number of selling spaces remain and can be purchased for \$45. Individuals selling personal items and some commercial vendors may participate. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, Sept. 7, or until sold out. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit: [www.mcleancenter.org/special-events](http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events)

### Native American Lifestyles

**Festival** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Riverbend Park. at 8700 Potomac Hills Street in Great Falls, Va. This exploration of the history and lives of Virginia's First Families includes many hands-on activities. Park visitors will shoot a bow and arrow, throw a spear, help build a dugout canoe, and learn to use ancient tools. There will be stories told, demonstrations of primitive technology, and a chance to enjoy traditional dancing featuring the Rappahannocks. Admission is \$6 per person in advance or \$7 at the door. Call: 703-759-9018 or visit the Riverbend Park website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/>

**Saint the Town Reception.** 4-6 p.m. 115 Pleasant St. NW. Vienna. Vienna Arts Society members exhibition. [ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://ViennaArtsSociety.org).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 10- WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 21, 2016

**Northern Virginia Senior Olympics.** Online registration open. Various venues around Northern Virginia. Events include badminton, volleyball, cycling, a 5k road race, and many more. \$12 per person. Visit [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us) for more.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 11

**Annual September 11 Remembrance Ceremony** 7 p.m. behind the Great Falls Library at 9830 Georgetown Pike. The event will include a Marine Corps color guard, patriotic songs, remarks by Drug Enforcement Administration Acting Administrator Charles Rosenberg, and a candle-lighting for each of the September 11 victims from Great Falls. Contact: Bruce Ellis Fein, Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial, 703-248-0390 or [bruce@newdream.net](mailto:bruce@newdream.net).

### Vienna Church to Hold Rally Day

**Community Cookout.** Immediately after the 10:15 a.m. Sunday worship service at the church, located at 2351 Hunter Mill Road in Vienna. Rally Day is the fall kickoff to the church Sunday School classes (9 a.m.) programs and

activities. This year the cookout provides an opportunity to reconnect after summer travels and adventures and to welcome neighbors to meet new Good Shepherd pastor Eric Song and his wife, Dr. Heather Weger. During its worship service, the church also will hold a litany for the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sept. 11. Visit: [www.GoodShepherdVA.com](http://www.GoodShepherdVA.com)

**Mike Terpak Blues Explosion.** 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green, Great Falls. <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

**Kathryn Dean Concert** 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java 227 Maple Ave E Vienna, VA 22180. Rising indie singer Kathryn Dean will be supporting 80s pop phenom Tiffany. Admission: \$30 GA \$40 Premier. Visit: <http://jamminjava.com/event/1218415-tiffany-million-miles-vienna/> or email Sophie Boltz at [sophie@bmfmedia.com](mailto:sophie@bmfmedia.com)

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 14

**Teddy Bear Band Jammin' Juniors** Free Concert 12:30 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Teddy Bear Band is a real band that helps children gain a positive sense of self and an appreciation of their own abilities. Participation and interaction are cornerstones of the band's musical shows. Visit: <http://www.mcleancenter.org/>

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 15

**Seniors Learn** 10 - 2 p.m. Open house and the following eight weeks of Thursday classes will be at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Program Building, Oakton. Sunrise at Hunter Mill provides refreshments. Classes begin September 22nd and run through November 10th from 9 - 2 p.m. There is a \$40 registration fee for the semester. Program administered by Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna. Full lineup of classes will be available by the end of August on our website, [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org) or call (702)281-0538.

**History of the Military-Industrial Complex** 7:30 p.m. at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna, Virginia. Molly Sinclair McCarthney, co-author of "America's War Machine: Vested Interest, Endless Conflicts", will discuss the history of the military-industrial complex and its potential impact on future American foreign policy. She is a thirty year newspaper journalist with emphasis on national security issues. The general public, teachers, and all veterans are invited. Admission is free. For information, call Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or visit the web page at [www.vva227.org](http://www.vva227.org).



McLean  
Community  
Center  
*The Center of It All*



## Here's What's Happening at MCC

Over 50 Sellers!

### Fall Garage Sale

Saturday, Sept. 10, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

1420 Beverly Rd

Admission: Free



### Jammin' Juniors Free Concert

### Teddy Bear Band

Wednesday, Sept. 14,  
12:30 p.m.

McLean Central Park

### Onstage @ The Alden

### Grey Seal Puppets

### "A Tangle of Tales"

Saturday, Sept. 17, 2 p.m.

\$15/\$10 MCC district residents

### Jammin' Juniors Free Concert



### Yosi and Eugene

Wednesday, Sept. 21,  
12:30 p.m.

McLean Central  
Park

### Celebrate the Change of Seasons

### Harvest Happenings

Saturday, Sept. 24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

General Admission:

\$5 per person/Free 36 mon or younger

### Onstage @ The Alden



### Martha Graham Dance Company

Saturday, Sept. 24,  
8 p.m.

\$50/\$35 MCC district  
residents

### The McLean Community Center

[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)

### Home of the Alden Theatre

[www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org)



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



## Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel

### From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee

## TWO POOR TEACHERS

### Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling

10% down  
nothing until the job  
is complete for the  
past 17 years



Free Estimates  
703-999-2928



Visit our website: [www.twopoorteachers.com](http://www.twopoorteachers.com)

Select your  
products from  
our Mobile  
Showroom  
and Design  
Center

Fully Insured &  
Class A Licensed  
Since 1999



# Hardly Where



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If there's one place where I don't belong, one place where I have limited knowledge, one place where I have minimal interest; it's a hardware store. Complicating those incontrovertible facts are the size and scope of the modern-day, box store-type monstrosity familiar even to me. I realize/have been told that size doesn't matter; apparently, that message hasn't translated to the hardware store. The height of the ceilings, the width of the aisles, the depth of the shelves, the numbers of registers, the miscellaneous service counters, the automated/sliding entry doors, the pick-up areas, the shopping carts, the "vested" staff, the interactive displays and the sheer variety of everything are totally overwhelming to me (I'm being kind to myself; now I'll be honest: intimidating to me).

The chance of me walking out with the item necessary to solve the problem I came in to address is almost impossible to calculate. However, if I were to try, I'd guess, somewhere between zero and none. And what chance I might have would likely require talking with "an associate" and being able to accurately describe the problem and the presumptive solution. That sounds simple and reasonable enough unless you're me. I likely wouldn't know the right answer if I heard it because either I had asked the wrong question or characterized the wrong set of circumstances which precipitated my visit in the first place. Moreover, knowing the eventual outcome will entail yours truly returning to the store and exchanging the item or spending hours at home on a repair that a "normal"/capable man/homeowner would spend minutes on, makes the entire process as unpleasant as any I've undertaken. Yesterday was just such a day.

I wouldn't say I'm still recovering from the effort, but neither am I basking in the glow of a job well done. Now I'm not going to humiliate myself and tell you what the attempted repair was; you can be sure it wasn't plumbing or electrical and certainly didn't involve a toilet or a trap of any kind. Nevertheless, when you're a person of extremely limited ability, instincts and experience as I am, any home repair in which you walk away uninjured and without any further adieu (follow-up service call from a professional or need for a new/replacement item because you broke the first one or made the problem worse by breaking something else) is a "Mt.-Rushmore" success. Certainly not worthy of a mention in a magazine, but worthy I thought, of a column.

Now don't get any ideas that yesterday's success ('success' in this context is defined as 'not a disaster') emboldens me with any sort of self-confidence about future endeavors. Hardly. The fewer and farther between they remain, the happier I'll be. Yesterday's experience was nothing short of a miracle and simply moves me closer to the inevitable calamity I will cause when next I am faced with a similar set of homeowner-type circumstances.

For me, the devil is not in the details, it's in the "do-tells." The problem begins with the problem. It is then compounded by my inability to communicate the problem at the store, it is then compounded by my inability to understand the solution to the problem I am given at the store and finally, the problem is compounded by my inability to do at home what I was told at the store.

Believe it or not, I can accept my level of incompetence; I'm used to it. It's much harder on my wife, Dina, though; she has to live with me.

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

ZONE 6: • ARLINGTON • GREAT FALLS  
• McLEAN • VIENNA/OAKTON

# HOME & GARDEN

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CONTRACTORS.com

703-778-9411

ZONE 6 AD DEADLINE:  
MONDAY NOON

**ELECTRICAL**      **ELECTRICAL**

**K & D ELECTRIC**  
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE  
Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting  
Ceiling Fans  
Phone/CATV  
Computer Network Cabling  
Service Upgrades  
Hot Tubs, etc...

Licensed/Bonded/Insured  
Office 703-335-0654  
Mobile 703-499-0522  
lektrkman28@gmail.com

**IMPROVEMENTS**      **IMPROVEMENTS**

**Power Washing**

Go from Green to Clean. We clean Houses, Decks, Fences, Patios, etc. Deck Staining and Sealing, Exterior Wood Rot, Deck & Fence Repair.

Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates  
email: jnave@comcast.net  
**703-987-5096**

**LANDSCAPING**

**A&S CONSTRUCTION**  
SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up  
Leaf Removal  
Hauling.  
**703-863-7465**

**PAVING**

**Joseph Sealcoating Specialist**  
**PAVING**  
40 Years Experience! Free Estimates!  
**703-494-5443**

**GUTTER**      **GUTTER**

**GUTTER CLEANING**  
Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned  
Small Repairs • Gutter Guards

**PINNACLE SERVICES**  
lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est.  
email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com  
web: lawnsandgutters.com  
Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!

**GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION**  
Walkways, Patios, Driveways,  
Flagstone, Concrete  
FREE ESTIMATES  
Licensed, Insured, Bonded  
**703-250-6231**

**LAWN SERVICE**      **LAWN SERVICE**

**J.E.S. Services**  
Your neighborhood company since 1987  
**703-912-6886**

**Landscaping & Construction**  
Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured

- Planting & Landscaping Design
- Drainage & Water Problems
- Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New
- Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid
- Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose
- Retaining walls of all types

All work Guaranteed

**IMPROVEMENTS**      **IMPROVEMENTS**

**A&S Landscaping**

- All Concrete work
- Retaining Walls • Patios
- Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions
- French Drains • Sump Pumps
- Driveway Asphalt Sealing

**703-863-7465**  
LICENSED  
Serving All of N. Virginia

**Roofing • Siding • Gutters  
Windows & Doors  
Flagstone & Brickwork**

**(703) 587-7762**  
Quality Builds Trust  
www.mainstreet-home-improvement.com

**Picture Perfect Home Improvements**

**(703) 590-3187**

Remodeling Bathrooms, Kitchens & Basements

Exterior & Interior Repair, Painting, Carpentry,  
Wood Rot, Drywall, All Flooring, Decks

- FREE Estimates
- EASY To schedule
- FAST & Reliable Service
- NO \$\$\$ DOWN!

Handyman Services Available  
<http://www.pphionline.com/>  
"If it can be done, we can do it" **BBB**  
Licensed - Bonded - Insured

**RN. CONTRACTORS, INC.**

Remodeling Homes, Flooring,  
Kitchen & Bath, Windows,  
Siding, Roofing, Additions &  
Patios, Custom Deck, Painting

We Accept All Major Credit Cards  
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic  
Phone: 703-887-3827  
E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com  
www.rncontractors.com

**MASONRY**      **MASONRY**

**BRICK AND STONE**  
**Custom Masonry**  
**703-768-3900**  
www.custommasonry.info  
Patios, Walkways, Stoops, Steps, Driveways  
Repairs & New Installs • All Work Guaranteed

**HANDYMAN**      **HANDYMAN**

**Alfredo's Construction Company, Inc.**

- Concrete Driveways
- Patios • Sidewalks
- Stone • Brick

Phone:  
VA: (703) 698-0060 • MD: (301) 316-1603  
www.alfredosconstructioncompany.com

**TILE/MARBLE**      **TILE/MARBLE**

**BRENNAN TILE**  
Bathroom Remodeling Partial or Full. Kit.  
Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic,  
Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones.  
Also repair work. 35 yrs exp.  
www.brennan-tile.com  
**703-250-2872**  
Licensed • Bonded • Insured

**HANDYMAN**      **HANDYMAN**      **HANDYMAN**      **HANDYMAN**

**HAND & HAND HANDYMAN LLC**  
General Remodeling • Residential & Commercial  
**DESIGN AND BUILD • COMPLETE HOME RENOVATION**

- Kitchen, Bath, Basement Remodeling • Electricity, Plumbing • Doors, Windows, Crown Molding, Hand Rails, Chair Rails, Interior, Exterior, Finish Carpentry • Interior, Exterior Painting, Pressure Washing • Ceramic, Hardwood Flooring, Refinish Floors, Deck Reflooring
- Build Deck, Fence, Patios, Retaining Walls • Concrete Driveway, Brick or Stone Sidewalk
- Building Maintenance • Residential, Commercial • Foreclosures, Realtors Welcome

Serving Northern Virginia, D.C., Maryland • Licensed and Insured  
**703-296-6409**

**TREE SERVICE**      **TREE SERVICE**

**Quality Tree Service & Landscaping**

Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured.

**Summer Cleanup...**  
Tree removal, topping & pruning,  
shrubbery trimming, mulching,  
leaf removal, planting, hauling,  
gutter cleaning, retaining walls,  
drainage problems, etc.

25 years of experience - Free estimates  
**703-868-5358**

**24 Hour Emergency Tree Service**

I'm a slow walker,  
but I never walk back.  
-Abraham Lincoln

# EMPLOYMENT

703-778-9411

ZONE 6 Ad DEADLINE:  
TUESDAY 11 A.M.

ZONE 6: • ARLINGTON • GREAT FALLS  
• McLEAN • VIENNA/OAKTON

# CLASSIFIED

703-778-9411

ZONE 6 Ad DEADLINE:  
MONDAY NOON

**Delivery Person needed immediately**  
703-938-3672  
North American Office Furniture  
204 A Mill St NE Vienna, VA

**Preschool Staff Needed**  
We are seeking mature energetic creative people for full-time Lead Teacher positions at our four locations in Springfield, Annandale, Alexandria & Fairfax.  
Prior experience working in childcare. Degree or CDA required.  
Teacher Assistant positions also avail. CDL drivers wanted.  
Competitive Salary & Med Benefits.  
Earned Leave & All Federal Holidays Off, Paid Annual Training. 401K.  
Position avail immediately.  
Fax Resume 703.425.2703 or Email Resume: r.addo@achildsplaceinc.com . EOE.

**Educational Internships**  
Unusual opportunity to learn many aspects of the newspaper business. Internships available in reporting, photography, research, graphics. Opportunities for students, and for adults considering change of career. Unpaid. E-mail internship@connec  
tionnewspapers.com

**CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS CLASSIFIED**  
For Local...  
-Employment  
-Employees  
-Services  
-Entertainment  
-Announcements  
-Real Estate  
-Cars  
-Trucks  
-Vans  
-RV's  
-Boats  
-Pets  
-Yard Sales  
-Crafts  
-Hobbies  
-And More!  
For All Your Advertising Needs...  
It Works. Week After Week.  
703 917-6400  
Place Your Ad Today!

**101 Computers**

**HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS**  
JENNIFER SMITH ♦ Serving the Area Since 1995  
> Speed Up Slow Computers  
> Virus Removal  
> Computer Setup  
> Help with Windows 8 & 10  
571-265-2038  
Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

**21 Announcements**

**21 Announcements**

**DOING WHAT WE SAY SINCE 1935. SEE FOR YOURSELF.**  
SIGN-ON BONUSES — UP TO \$10,000 — AVAILABLE IN YOUR AREA!  
Opportunities available in these divisions  
**VAN | INTERMODAL | DEDICATED TANKER | PORT DRAY**  
Team and Solo | Local, Regional and Over-the-Road Full- and part-time work  
**COMPANY DRIVER BENEFITS**  
\$6,000 tuition reimbursement | Paid orientation and ongoing training  
Medical, dental and vision insurance and 401(k) plan  
**SCHNEIDER** schneiderjobs.com  
schneiderowneroperators.com  
800-44-PRIDE | 800-28-LEASE

**21 Announcements**

**ABC LICENSE**  
1st Stage Inc, trading as 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Rd, Mclean, VA 22102. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Annual Mixed Beverage Special Event license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages, Alex Levy Managing Director  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

I am easily satisfied with the very best.  
-Winston Churchill

**21 Announcements**

**21 Announcements**

**GORDON PARKS BACK TO FORT SCOTT** Jul 23-Oct 30  
A rarely seen view of African American life in 1950, captured by groundbreaking photojournalist Gordon Parks.  
VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS VMFA  
200 N. Boulevard | Richmond | 804.340.1405 | www.VMFA.museum  
Gordon Parks, Back To Fort Scott is organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, in partnership with the Gordon Parks Foundation. Photo: Husband and Wife, Sunday Morning, Detroit, Michigan, 1950; Gordon Parks (Newman, 1912-2006), gelatin silver print. Courtesy of and copyright the Gordon Parks Foundation.

**21 Announcements**

**21 Announcements**

**LIFETIME METAL ROOFING** www.metalroofover.com  
**1-800-893-1242**  
**WE FINANCE!** w.a.c  
LOCAL CALL **434-645-7411** SINGLE WIDES DOUBLE WIDES HOUSES  
VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

**HOW TO SUBMIT ADS TO THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online CLASSIFIED**  
**DEADLINES**  
Zones 1, 5, 6 ..... Mon @ noon  
Zones 2, 3, 4 ..... Tues @ noon  
E-mail ad with zone choices to: classified@connection newspapers.com or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411  
**EMPLOYMENT**  
**DEADLINES**  
Zones 1, 5, 6 ..... Mon @ noon  
Zones 2, 3, 4 ..... Tues @ noon  
E-mail ad with zone choices to: classified@connection newspapers.com or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411  
**ZONES**  
**Zone 1:** The Reston Connection  
The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection  
**Zone 2:** The Springfield Connection  
The Burke Connection  
The Fairfax Connection  
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection  
**Zone 3:** The Alexandria Gazette Packet  
The Mount Vernon Gazette  
**Zone 4:** Centre View North  
Centre View South  
**Zone 5:** The Potomac Almanac  
**Zone 6:** The Arlington Connection  
The Vienna/Oakton Connection  
The McLean Connection  
The Great Falls Connection

**21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements**

**Earn Extra Money!**  
**Deliver Phonebooks in Northern Virginia including Alexandria and Arlington.**  
Stop by:  
**4607 Eisenhower Ave Alexandria, 22304**  
Or  
**110 Terminal Dr Sterling, 20166**  
Classes Mon-Fri 9a & 11a  
Delivery dates: 8/24-10/15  
Call (877) 581-0555  
**deliverYELLOW.com**  
8/21, 22, 24  
8/28, 29, 31  
9/4, 9/7  
9/11, 12, 14  
11 days



# JAN & DAN DIANNE

www.GreatFallsGreatHomes.com



Great Falls \$2,399,000



Great Falls \$2,499,000



Great Falls \$2,599,000



Great Falls \$1,375,000



Great Falls \$2,248,000



Great Falls \$2,425,000



Great Falls \$1,495,000



Great Falls \$1,099,000



Great Falls \$1,549,000



Great Falls \$995,000



Great Falls \$1,050,000



Reston \$635,900



Great Falls \$758,000



Great Falls \$535,000



Great Falls \$699,000



Susan Canis Associate Realtor



Sally Marvin Associate Realtor



Justin Scango Associate Realtor

Jan & Dan Laytham  
Dianne Van Volkenburg  
Office: 703-757-3222

9841 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066 • 703-759-9190



#1 Seller of Luxury Homes

