



and Oakton
Vienna
CONNECTION
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Wellness Week Held
 at Madison High
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2016 Ending with
 Joyful Noise
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PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION



Santa Run Takes Over Vienna Neighborhoods

NEWS, PAGE 3

The annual all-volunteer Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Santa Run kicked off on Saturday, Dec. 10, at 1 p.m. On the kick-off run were driver Matt Jones, Chief Elf Adam Searle, elf-in-training Chris Jones, 7, Luisa Schwarzott, Lauren Colon, Victoria Thai, and Cameron Davis. A jolly man-in-red stood perched aboard his antique fire truck.

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

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PHOTO BY MATT JONES/VIENNA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Santa and his elves prepare for the night ride through Vienna on Dec. 10, the second Santa Run of the day. The Santa Run is an annual tradition run by the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department; volunteers brave the frigid temperatures to ensure Vienna children meet Santa in-person.



PHOTO BY SARA SONNTAG

Honorary firefighter Bill Sonntag joins Santa at the helm of the antique fire truck cruising through Vienna neighborhoods on Dec. 10.

Santa Run Takes Over Vienna Neighborhoods

Antique fire truck brings Santa and his elves to Vienna streets in annual tradition.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

It's December ... it's cold and blustery; it's dark late afternoon ... it's time for the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department's annual one-week Santa Run through the streets of Vienna. Ten shifts manned by Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus, and a team of elves direct from the North Pole brave frigid temps even as their faces freeze as the wind slaps their cheeks.

As the 1946 antique fire truck makes its way through neighborhoods, its sirens

blare, holiday music booms, and bells jingle-a-lingle, announcing its arrival. Santa waves as he rides — to cars honking a greeting, to children and their parents running out to the curb, to grandmas and grandpas — perhaps, remembering the childhoods of their own grown children — standing outside their doorways, smiling, and to landscapers and construction workers happy to see Santa in person. Even family dogs race around their yards — presumably, in glee — as the siren neared.

As children race outside their homes, the

fire truck stops, the elves — dressed in fire gear — jump off to give the children candy canes, and Santa leans over the side of the truck, waving. Chief Elf Adam Searle recommends that children come to the curb as soon as their parents hear the sirens and music on the street.

Write to Santa at santa@vvfd.org. A very hip Santa has his own Twitter account, too: @vvfdsanta.

Follow him and his touring fire truck as he rides through Vienna on Twitter, on the Glympse app (which his designated driver activates as Santa begins his runs), or at Santa's temporary-home page, <http://vvfd.org/santa.html>. Weather, mechanical issues, or immediacy at the North Pole, may prompt a deviation from Santa's run schedule.

Santa Run Schedule

[SE Vienna and NW1 between Lawyers Road and W&OD completed]

❖ **Thursday, Dec 15, 5 p.m.** - SW1, between Park and Hillcrest;

❖ **Friday, Dec 16, 5 p.m.** - NE1, between W&OD and Beulah;

❖ **Saturday, Dec 17, 1 p.m.** - NW2, west of Madison HS and Lawyers;

❖ **Monday, Dec 19, 5 p.m.** - NE2, east of Beulah. See map at <http://vvfd.org/santa.html>.

Write to Santa at santa@vvfd.org. A very hip Santa has his own Twitter account, too: @vvfdsanta.

Follow him and his touring fire truck as he rides through Vienna on Twitter, on the Glympse app (which his designated driver activates as Santa begins his runs), or at Santa's temporary-home page, <http://vvfd.org/santa.html>.



MATT JONES/VIENNA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT

As the first night-time Santa Run begins, Santa himself waves to his friends at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department station house.



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Children and their parents run to the curb to meet Santa in-person as North Pole elves hand out candy canes.



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Dogs aren't the only living creatures chasing fire trucks; parents with their young children in their cars do as well, sometimes. When the elves became aware that a mom was trying to catch up to the Santa ride, Santa had the fire truck stop and wait. An elf jumped off and made the children inside the car happy.

OPINION

History in Police Reform Part 2

Civilian Review Panel — and they said it couldn't be done

Last week, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to establish a Civilian Review Panel, part of a two-pronged concept of independent oversight of law enforcement recommended unanimously by the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

On Sept. 20, 2016, the board voted to establish the Office of the Independent Auditor, the other piece of oversight. The two branches of oversight would not overlap.

The Independent Police Auditor will report directly to the Board of Supervisors and provide oversight in cases of police use of force that lead to serious injury or death, including officer-involved shootings. The Civilian Review Panel will respond to community concerns or complaints about alleged incidents of abuse of authority by FCPD by reviewing the investigations conducted by the department.

The vote by the Board of Supervisors for the Office of Auditor was unanimous, and for the Civilian Review Panel, 9-1, indicating the strong commitment to independent oversight and the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Commission. The experiences from other communities with civilian oversight have shown that strong, independent oversight builds legitimacy and public trust through increased police transparency and accountability to the public served. Oversight provides a meaningful voice or forum for the public and forms a crucial bridge between the public and the police. Increased transparency, trust, and communication between the police and the public

can lead to greater community cooperation in achieving the ultimate goal of decreased crime and increased public safety.

This very positive outcome seemed nearly impossible in the wake of the death of John Geer in August 2013, shot by then Fairfax Police Officer Adam Torres while standing unarmed in the doorway to his own home. Officials had long opposed consideration of a Civilian Review Panel.

Board of Supervisor Chairman Sharon Bulova deserves tremendous kudos, first for establishing the Ad Hoc Commission in the wake of public outrage over the shooting and the blackout of information that followed, and then for her unwavering support of the recommendations that emerged.

EDITORIAL

In voting for the Civilian Review Panel, Supervisor Linda Smyth said: "We all know it's time to put this in place. This is what the public has really asked us to do."

John Cook (R-Braddock), chairman of the Public Safety Committee, has been relentless in moving the recommendations forward for discussion and approval by the board. Having both the auditor and the panel approved in 2016 is no small accomplishment.

The recommendations for oversight also have the enthusiastic support of Police Chief Edwin Roessler, whose support overall for change in the FCPD has been admirable and essential.

Every member of the Board of Supervisors deserves credit for engaging on the details and supporting recommendations of the commission.

Other changes brought about by the Ad Hoc Commission's recommendations include the implementation of Diversion First, which provides treatment rather than jail for nonviolent people with mental illness, resulting in some 350 diversions from potential criminal arrest, and in police transporting more than 1,000

done for veterans — she stands with us.

William C. Moore
Major General/U.S. Army, Retired
McLean

Major Bus Routes Slated for Elimination

To the Editor:

As part of its FY 2017 budget, Metro is recommending the elimination of several major bus lines in Fairfax County. Some of these routes are used heavily and are essential to a great many people. Two routes slated for elimination are Route 1C and Route 2B. Both run from Dunn Loring to Fair Oaks but by different routes serving different communities — 2B has a daily ridership of 900-plus (257,000-plus riders a year), The 1C has a daily ridership of almost 1,000 (320,000-plus a year).

Neither my partner nor I drive. We use the 2B frequently to go to Fair Oaks, Vienna Metro, Pan Am Shopping Center, Merrifield, and to connect to the 2A at Dunn Loring to go to the

people in mental health crisis to the Merrifield Center for treatment; an emphasis on de-escalation and on crisis intervention training; the revamping of the order of officer training to emphasize the role of policing in a democracy and the sanctity of life ahead of firearms training; and the significant amendment of General Order 540 on the use of force. The FCPD has been a leading force in these changes, and its leadership has played a pivotal role in seeking out and implementing best practices.

There are still miles to go, but evidence is that county and police leadership are prepared to traverse those miles.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Mary Kimm served on the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission and continues to advocate for ongoing implementation.

SoberRide Safety Net for Holiday Celebrations

The annual Holiday SoberRide program, offering free rides home to locals over 21 who have been celebrating with alcohol, will operate between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. each evening between Friday, Dec. 16, 2016 and Sunday, Jan. 1, 2017 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk, holiday period. SoberRide is organized by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Project. Area residents celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI for a no-cost (up to \$30 fare), safe way home. Last December, nearly 1,500 people took advantage of the program.

More information about WRAP's SoberRide initiative can be found at www.soberride.com.

doctor in Falls Church.

This bus provides the only weekend service, midday service, holiday service, and late evening service in our area. For us it is essential. Many low income folks who cannot afford cars depend upon this bus. As a regular rider I can also attest that many recent immigrants, seniors on fixed incomes or who cannot drive and disabled persons ride these buses. The loss of this service would be a tremendous blow to our daily lives.

Charles Keener
Vienna

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

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Wellness Week Held at Madison High

The annual Wellness Week at Madison High School was held Dec. 5-9 with a variety of activities focused on promoting mental and physical wellness. The Student Services Department, in conjunction with the PE department, held de-stressing activities each day to encourage the students to relax and orient their thoughts around wellness. Each day of the week is assigned a spirit wear activity ranging from pajama day to ugly sweater day.

During the school's intervention period, a 30-minute period each day, events are hosted simultaneously throughout the building. In the gym on Monday, a Faculty Vs. Senior Human Foosball game was held (the seniors won).

Multiple times throughout the week, kinesthetic relaxation activities such as coloring, board games and Play-doh construction is available for the students.

On Wednesday, the Veterans Moving Forward organization brought five therapy dogs to school for the students to interact with during their lunch period. Overall mental wellness is a year-long initiative at the school.

Each grade level is screened once a year for depression and public service announcements are shared with the students and staff to continually educate the community on the importance of mental health.

— FRANCESCA BRANSON



PHOTOS BY FRANCESCA BRANSON
The annual Wellness Week at Madison High School was held Dec. 5-9.



Multiple times throughout the week, kinesthetic relaxation activities such as coloring, board games and Play-doh construction is available for the students.



The Veterans Moving Forward organization brought 5 therapy dogs to school for the students to interact with during their lunch period.

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The changes increased natural light. A south-facing trapezoidal-shaped window in the dining room provides a hilltop view of the neighborhood.



PHOTO BY GREG HADLEY

Open Floorplan Eases Entertaining

Open house helps homeowners looking for ideas.

BY JOHN BYRD

It's one thing to talk a good game; quite another to put your ideas to the test by inviting a long list of perceptive critics to inspect your wares.

"We like to see how well our plans work first hand whenever we can," Bob Gallagher said, as he describes a holiday tour his home remodeling firm held at one of this client's homes last Saturday.

"Our designers spend a lot of time conferring with clients on specific needs and learning from case histories — but what really counts is seeing your plan in action. A holiday tour is a test drive, but it's also a chance to explore ideas, brainstorm on breaking trends — and just enjoy being around people who are enjoying what we create."

Case in point, the Arlington home of Steve and Louise Brooks.

Two years ago, the Brooks hired Sun Design to convert the primary living area of their raised rambler into space that would serve a multitude of purposes, including a place for frequent gatherings of friends and family.

Last weekend, the remodeler hosted an open house for anyone who wanted to see how their freshly-minted new space plan would perform under real life home entertainment conditions.

There were about 50 visitors in all. Standing in one corner, one could see fluidly organic pockets of revelers — but all flows smoothly, a far cry from the past.

In the past, one's guests were usually in another room.

The original small kitchen with its adjacent living room and dining room actually felt crowded whenever the head-count exceeded six or seven.

The eight-foot ceiling and small-scale windows didn't help either; ditto, the "builder grade" interior finishes and restricted space-use options.

"We're a host site for our church, so we wanted a place that would allow us to comfortably meet with friends," said Louise Brooks. "We just weren't at all sure how to make that happen within our existing floor plan."

Fortunately, Gallagher and team knew the way. In fact, Gallagher notes that there's been something of

a revolution in how homeowners are now configuring living space: Emergent interior design styles now allow for well-articulated activity zones integrated into a visually distinctive spatial continuum. "The end result feels generously-sized, yet unified."

To effect the changes Brooks sought, Sun Design concentrated on strategic improvements inside the envelope of the existing structure: a nearly 800-square-foot great room was formed by eliminating walls separating the kitchen, dining room, living room and foyer; to create the 14-foot cathedral ceiling, the new interior incorporated a seldom-used attic.

A granite-surfaced food preparation island and dining counter now facilitates the easy circulation needed for entertaining; the "built-in" was custom-designed to support a wide-range of storage, cooking and clean-up requirements.

The plan also increased natural light. A south-facing trapezoidal-shaped window provides a hilltop view of the neighborhood. Distinctive finish work details delineate key activity zones within a warmly cohesive ambiance that features sight-lines in all directions.

Meanwhile, back at the tour, Bob Gallagher is talking to a drop-in guest about how the new space is used on an everyday basis.

"It works extremely well," he said. "The open plan allows people to happily pursue different tasks within the same continuum without loss of personal space. You have privacy, but you're in eye-contact. It's a very popular trend."

Gallagher also stresses the value of an open house to homeowners looking for ideas.

"We've been doing tours of newly remodeled homes for about 10 years," he said. "We've found that the open houses often become neighborhood meet-up opportunities where people naturally start exploring matters of mutual interest."

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors tours of recently remodeled homes as well as workshops on home remodeling topics. Headquartered in Burke, the firm recently has a second office in McLean. For information, call 703-425-5588 or visit www.SunDesignInc.com.

John Byrd (byrdmatx@gmail.com) has been writing about home improvement for 30 years.



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Inaugural Christmas Village at McLean Bible Church

Sunday Dec. 11 - Friday Dec. 16 McLean Bible Church Tysons Campus 8925 Leesburg Pike Vienna. Christmas Village is a walk-through attraction complete with family-friendly rides, indoor skating, live entertainment, and so much more. We're transforming the twelve corridors of MBC Tysons for six days of Christmas fun. Consider bringing a donation of a new, small or medium sized toy. The gifts will be used to bless needy children in the DMV. Admission: Free <https://www.mcleanbible.org/events/christmas-village-2016>

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

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 14

Giant's In-Store Nutritionists

Promote Community Wellness 6 p.m. Vienna Giant at Vienna Shopping Center, 359 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Giant nutritionist Amanda Barnes invites residents to community wellness classes, store events and in-store consultations. In a world full of food options and different diet trends, a nutritionist has the training and expertise needed to sort through individual

information to provide their clients with a plan that suits their needs. A nutritionist's primary job is to help advise customers when it comes to their health and what they consume. Through setting up consultations and creating specialized diets, nutritionists can help with various concerns, like weight loss, diabetes and other health issues where diet is particularly important.

SATURDAY/DEC. 17

Puppy Nativity Vienna Church

10 - 2 p.m. in the parking lot of the church at 2351 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Bring your puppies and dogs to take part in the Live Puppy Nativity. This will be fun for the community and may make great holiday pictures. Costumes and treats will be provided for pets. Hot chocolate will be served, and the church's youth group will be on hand to accept community donations for the Britepaths Holiday Program to help needy families <https://britepaths.org/our-programs/holiday-program>

Holiday Express and Visit with Santa at Clemyjontri Park

10 - 3 p.m. Clemyjontri Park is located at 6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Visit with Santa, go for a ride on the Holiday Express train, and take a spin on the unique carousel that's wheelchair accessible. There will also be holiday pictures for children to color. Stay for a while and let the kids play on the specially-designed playground that allows children of all abilities to have fun side-by-side. Train rides: \$5 Carousel rides: \$3. Photo with Santa: \$5 <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/clemyjontri/>.

"John Eaton's Holiday Songbook"

2 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. Jazz pianist and musicologist John Eaton's first-ever holiday concert last year was such a hit that we're bringing it back! Hear your Great American Songbook favorites with a yuletide twist. Admission: \$35/\$20 MCC tax district residents. <http://mcleancenter.org/alden-theatre>

Pet Adoption Event. Wolf Trap Animal Rescue hosts an adoption event from noon to 4 p.m. at the Tysons Corner PetSmart, 8204 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. There will be puppies and kittens waiting for their "forever homes." Make this holiday season the beginning of their "forevers" in your home.

SUNDAY/DEC. 18

McLean Symphony Family Holiday Concert

3 p.m. at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. Features Antonio Vivaldi's Winter from "The Seasons" and highlights from Gian-Carlo Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Admission: \$25/adults, \$20/seniors, \$15/students.

Glorious Sounds of Christmas Concert

4 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park Street, Vienna. Share in the Christmas celebration with all of the VPC choirs and the Cathedral Brass orchestra. Child care available with 48-hour reservation by calling 703-938-9050, x351. <http://viennapres.org/>

Great Falls United Methodist Church Living Nativity

5 - 6 p.m. Three 20 minute, one act plays will kick off the event. Come listen to the story, sing some carols, pet the animals, enjoy refreshments, and rekindle joy for Christmas. 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. www.greatfallsumc.org

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HOLIDAY CALENDAR

2016 Ending with Joyful Noise

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

There are not many days left in 2016, but what the community offers in way of fun is joyful noise, from a concert of seasonal music to the free and family-friendly new year's eve celebration known as FirstNight Vienna.



Santa and his elves ride through Vienna neighborhoods, stopping wherever children are outside. While Santa waves and poses for photos, his elves hand out candy canes to the kids.

PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION



Children and their parents converge under the Big Top for the children's entertainment during First Night Vienna, the community's alcohol-free New Year's Eve celebration.

EventOverview.aspx?feID=39110.

FIRST NIGHT VIENNA, a family-friendly, alcohol-free New Year's celebration, is sponsored and hosted by the Vienna Business Association in partnership with the Town of Vienna on Dec. 31, 6 to midnight.

Historic Church Street from Mill Street to Center Street closes down for a pedestrian block party featuring music and entertainment for all ages. Food trucks, from plate dinners to Indian, offer hot comfort food for purchase. The Vienna Wireless Society will share

New Year Eve celebrations around the world by radio with First Night Vienna guests.

Performances include Kids Jam, under the Big Top, 6 to 9 p.m.; Rocknocerous, 6 to 7 p.m.; The Great Zucchini, 7 to 8 p.m.; and Rocknocerous, 8 to 9 p.m.; New Year's Eve celebration, 9 p.m.

On the adult stages, from 7 to 11:45 p.m. are Blues Jam, Concord Lodge, Blue Grass Jamboree, VPC Chapel, Acoustic artists, Caffe Amouri, Magic & Illusions, Cocoa Vienna, DJ Dance Party, under the Big Top – Countdown to the new year, 9 to midnight.

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON will be performed by the Vienna Choral Society, Saturday, Dec. 17; 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road SW.

Holiday music is brought alive by 25-year-old choral group. Ticket prices are \$25 per adult admission; \$20 senior admission; students 15 to 18 years old pay \$20; and children 14 and under are free with paying ticketholder.

To buy tickets, go to <http://viennachoralsociety.org/>.

COUNTDOWN TO NONE 5K with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) supports Type 1 diabetes research. The race, founded in honor of two young Vienna girls battling Type 1 diabetes, begins at 4:30 p.m., Dec. 31, as a prelude to FirstNight Vienna celebration. Register or donate at imathlete.com/events/

Trinity United Methodist Church
1205 Dolley Madison Blvd.
McLean, VA 22101
703-356-3312
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Dec. 18	10:30 a.m.	Lessons & Carols
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Dec. 24	5 p.m.	Family Service
	8 & 10 p.m.	Candlelight & Communion Services
Dec. 25	10:30 a.m.	Christmas Day Service
Jan. 1	10:30 a.m.	New Year's Day Service

Weekly worship: Sundays at 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays at noon

McLean Community Center
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Here's What's Happening at MCC



Onstage @ The Alden
John Eaton's Holiday Songbook
Saturday, Dec. 17, 2 p.m.
\$35/\$20 MCC district residents

The Old Firehouse Winter Break Trips



Timeline Arcade
Tuesday, Dec. 27

\$50/\$40 MCC district residents
Activity No. 8305.216

XP Laser Sport
Thursday, Dec. 29

\$65/\$55 MCC district residents
Activity No. 8307.216

AMC Double Feature
Friday, Dec. 30

\$55/\$45 MCC district residents
Activity No. 8308.216

Onstage @ The Alden



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration
Chuck D

Sunday, Jan. 15, 2 p.m.
\$20/\$10 MCC tax district residents

Closing Notice

MCC and The Old Firehouse will be closed on Friday, Dec. 23 through Monday, Dec. 26, for the Christmas holiday.

Happy Holidays!

from the Governing Board and staff of the McLean Community Center.

The McLean Community Center
www.mcleancenter.org

Home of the Alden Theatre
www.aldentheatre.org

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No Urge



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

It's not often; heck, it's extremely rare, that I don't write a cancer column, as I call them. And my reaction to not having the 'urge' to write yet another cancer column is, somewhere between simply taking a break/brake in the action and having no need to impose my cancer-centric self-indulgence on you faithful readers.

I'll be the first to acknowledge that I write these columns because I need to, and because I'm allowed to; thank you Mary Kimm. Not that the related purpose is to avoid therapy (however, I did go on a handful of appointments with a psychologist but it seemed pointless and especially so, when the therapist expressed that she felt I was fairly well-adjusted). Ergo, I really didn't see a purpose per se.

Oh sure, I will admit that the writing of these columns gets out of me some very personal and occasionally painful prose outlining the anxieties and fears of a cancer patient undergoing life-sustaining treatment that is better out than in, if professionals are to be believed. And maybe I'll further acknowledge that, based on feedback I've received in the six-plus years that I've been writing them, that the content is, generally speaking, much appreciated (I'm not ready to characterize them as having served a greater purpose/been for the greater good however, because it's only me I'm writing about and there's a much bigger world than what I perceive in my head) and helpful. Nevertheless, I can't imagine that it's just me I'm writing about, mostly; and a la Las Vegas, sort of: in that what happens to me only happens to me. Hardly.

Just because I've made public something very personal and presumably private doesn't make me the go-to-guy for cancer chat, it just makes me a person willing to open the doors wider than are typically opened. So what? A little honesty never hurt anyone; self-indulgence though, can be really boring and tiresome. (I mean, sometimes, too much of a good thing is simply too much. To quote my deceased mother: "It's enough already.") And as much as I'm cognizant of possibly droning on and wasting what attention-span you've allocated in my direction, I am trying not to drone on and trying not to lose you in the process.

Possibly there is a means to my hopefully not premature end. Perhaps admitting the error of my ways and/or addressing the cancer concerns as I regularly do has contributed/caused my rather unexpected (based on my oncologist's original "13 month to two-year prognosis from FEBRUARY 2009) living "unexpectedly." Perhaps laughing in the face of danger extends one's life more than giving in to it. All I know is, whatever I've done/been able to do emotionally was not/has not been thought out. I've just continued to be me, myself and I — which has included my weekly cancer columns. Moreover, the three of us, collectively, have likely survived for so long because so much that could have bothered us/me, didn't.

Whether it was the outlet I had/have in my column, my personality, encouragement from family and friends, or my connection to The Connection, there's no way to know. What I do know is, the weeks when I don't write a cancer column are my favorites. Those are the weeks when I feel that cancer doesn't have a hold on me and in turn, I feel that I have a hold on cancer. And if there's one thing us cancer patients want to feel, it's control. Even if it's only for a week or two, here or there, the benefit is exponentially greater than the time we actually get to experience it.

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

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21 Announcements

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Gong & Yuan, LLC trading as Hunan Gate, 4233 Fairfax Dr. Arlington, VA 22203. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises and Mixed Beverage on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Zhao Feng Gong, owner
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 legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
K. Rob Krupicka, Jr. trading as Sugar Shack Donuts, 1014 S. Glebe Rd. Arlington, VA 22204. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer On Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. K. Rob Krupicka, Jr., Managing Member
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 legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Natural Food LLC trading as Asia Origin, 1753 Pinnacle Dr., McLean, VA 22102. 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. Chaosheng Liu Member
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 legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

21 Announcements

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Thai Boys Inc. trading as Tom Yum Thai, 226 Maple Ave. W, Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On Premises and Mixed Beverage Restaurant license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Tanitta Diwtragulchai, President
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-Werner Heisenberg

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Free Holiday Cab Rides Help Prevent Drunk Driving

Combating that holiday period which the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says is a "dangerous time to be on the road due to a high number of drunk drivers behind the wheel," a local nonprofit organization will offer free cab rides to would-be drunk drivers throughout the Washington-metropolitan area during the winter holidays.

Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), operates the annual Holiday SoberRide program between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. each evening between Friday, Dec. 16, 2016 and Sunday, Jan. 1, 2017 as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk, holiday period.

During the evening hours, between Dec. 16 and Jan. 1, Washington-metropolitan area residents celebrating with alcohol may call the toll-free SoberRide phone number 1-800-200-TAXI and be afforded a no-cost (up to \$30 fare), safe way home.

"Last December, nearly 1,500 (1,456) Greater Washington residents did the right thing and availed themselves of this life-saving service rather than possibly driving home impaired," said Kurt Gregory Erickson, WRAP's president. "For SoberRide's hours of operation during just last New Year's Eve, alone, such ridership (580) translated into the removal of a would-be drunk driver from our shared roadways every 49-seconds."

Since 1993, WRAP's SoberRide program has provided 65,385 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

More information about WRAP's SoberRide initiative can be found at www.soberride.com.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar. The deadline for submissions is noon on Friday.

THROUGH DEC. 18

The Container Store Annual Holiday Hugs Program in Partnership with Children's National Health System Collections are going on now through December 18th and gifts will be delivered to the hospital the week of December 19th. The Container Store is thrilled to continue its annual, nationwide signature giving program, Holiday Hugs. In each of our Washington, DC-area stores, we are partnering with Children's National Health System to collect and deliver new, unwrapped gifts to their young patients who are spending the holidays in the hospital. Customers can participate in the Holiday Hugs program by dropping off new, unwrapped books, small toys and games, toiletries, gift cards and kid-friendly stocking stuffers in collection bins at our Washington, DC, Arlington, VA, Reston, Tysons Corner and Rockville locations

ONGOING

The Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Also visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/litombudsman/.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

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PHOTO BY JIM LEWIS

Flint Hill Cemetery: A well-known, historic cemetery that dates to 1852, or earlier, and abuts a Civil War-era fort.

Flint Hill Cemetery to Construct Columbarium in 2017

Area residents have opportunity to honor loved ones.

Flint Hill Cemetery (FHC), under the authorization of Fairfax County, is planning to construct a columbarium to house human remains in 2017. Three hundred burial niches will be available in

the columbarium.

The Flint Hill Cemetery Association (FHCA), the organization that oversees the burial ground, is raising money for construction costs by offering pavers and benches to the public for placement in the

cemetery. Pavers and benches can be engraved with names or messages in honor of loved ones, whether they are buried in FHC or elsewhere. In addition, niches are available for purchase at a special, pre-construction price.

FHC dates to 1852, or earlier, and abuts a Civil War-era fort. Many local dignitaries from Vienna and surrounding communities are laid to rest in FHC. The columbarium is designed with a low profile and will feature cultured stone so the structure blends in with the cemetery.

“Land is scarce, and we have less than 250 spaces available for purchase for in-ground burials in the cemetery,” said David Farmer, president of the Flint Hill Cemetery Association. “More people are considering cremation as an alternative to traditional burial, so we are responding to that trend with a columbarium that will accommodate the needs of the community for years to come.”

The public can purchase pavers or benches on the FHCA website, www.flinthillcemetery.org or contact them by email to inquire about purchasing burial niches at pre-construction prices.

Flint Hill Cemetery, located in Oakton, is believed to be one of the oldest community cemeteries in Fairfax County. Dating back to 1852, it was originally known as the Flint Hill Burial Ground, when Oakton was known as Flint Hill. Flint Hill Cemetery is managed by volunteers that make up the Flint Hill Cemetery Association. The Flint Hill Cemetery Association is a 501(c)(13) nonprofit organization.

FAITH NOTES

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

Chabad Tysons Jewish Center is holding a Menorah workshop at The Home Depot at Merrifield, 2815 Merrilee Drive in Fairfax on Sunday, Dec. 18, 2 p.m. Open for all. They are also having a Chanukah Wonderland Dec. 25 till Dec. 30 in Vienna at 226 W. Maple Ave. from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. every day and a Menorah lighting at the first night Vienna.

Great Falls United Methodist Church will be holding its annual Living Nativity on Dec. 18. Three 20 minute, one act plays of this glorious event will begin at 5 p.m. and end at 6 p.m. Come listen to the story, sing some carols, pet the animals, enjoy refreshments, and rekindle your joy for Christmas. 10100 Georgetown Pike Great Falls www.greatfalls.umd.org Questions? Call 703-759-3705.

Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna offers a monthly Healing Eucharist with the Laying on of Hands and Anointing for Healing (first Sunday of the month, 5

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Information Center: 1212 W Broad St, Falls Church, VA | 703.992.9868 | www.TheKensingtonFallsChurch.com