

Inside **WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT**

Beth Tudan, of Vienna, executive director of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, attended the Women's March in Washington, D.C. with her son Alex Tudan, a senior at James Madison High School.

2018
Virginia
PRESS
Association
Award-Winning
Newspaper

and Oakton
Vienna
CONNECTION

#Democracy Looks Like This

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PHOTO COURTESY OF BETH TUDAN

JANUARY 25-31, 2017

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna Police Department from Jan. 13 – Jan. 18, 2017. Readers are reminded that an “arrest” is based upon probable cause and does not always mean that someone was physically taken into custody. Furthermore, it does not mean that an individual is automatically guilty of a crime. Judicial outcomes and post-arrest proceedings can be researched

through the appropriate court’s website.

Incidents

Telephone Case, Pitchers Edge, 516 Mill Street, NE Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. An employee received a threatening text from a former acquaintance regarding a financial dispute.

Lost Property, Whole Foods, 143 Maple Avenue, East, Jan. 13, 8:45 a.m. A resident reported losing her iPhone while at the store.

Juvenile Case, Cedar Lane School 101 Cedar Lane, SW Jan. 13, 12:40 p.m. School staff reported a juvenile student who was acting disorderly. The

student’s mother responded to the school and took him home.

Arrest – Noise Violation, The Bey Lounge 303 Mill Street, NE January 14 12:17 a.m. A resident reported loud music coming from The Bey Lounge. Ofc. Post arrived and observed The Bey Lounge to be in violation of the Town noise ordinance. Ofc. Post issued a summons to an employee, a 23-year-old man from Greensboro Drive in McLean, for violation of the Town of Vienna Noise ordinance. He was released on his signature.

ABC Violation, Maple Avenue at Follin Lane, SE Jan. 14 1:52 a.m. Sgt. Kiley observed a vehicle with defective equipment and initiated a traffic stop. Upon his interaction with the driver and

the two passengers he found they were all juveniles and had alcohol in their possession. The parents of each of the juveniles responded to the scene and took custody of the juveniles who were all released on warnings for being in possession of the alcohol underage.

Suspicious Person, Starbucks, 207 Maple Avenue, East, Jan. 14 9:19 a.m. An employee reported a man in the business who was acting disorderly and refusing to leave. The man left the area after PFC Tremont spoke to him.

Arrest – Hit & Run, 100 Block Park Street, SE Jan. 14, 7:20 p.m. A security guard witnessed the driver of a vehicle accelerate out of a parking space and crash. This action caused damage to three parked cars. The vehicle fled the

scene and was involved in a subsequent crash where the driver was arrested by an officer of the Fairfax County Police Department. Ofc. Post met with the arresting County officer at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where she obtained three warrants charging Hit & Run for the 40-year-old man from Fairfax Boulevard in Fairfax and released him to the custody of the Sheriff’s Department.

Arrest – Defrauding a Taxi Cab Driver and Drunk In Public, 300 Block Maple Avenue, East, Jan. 15, 6:56 a.m. A cab driver reported a passenger was refusing to pay his taxi fare. Upon his interaction with the passenger, PFC Tremont detected signs of possible intoxication. PFC Tremont arrested the 18-year-old man with no fixed address, charging him with Defrauding a Taxi Cab Driver and Drunk In Public. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where a \$1000 secure bond was set.

Police Service, Vienna Police Station 215 Center Street, South, Jan. 15, 9:33 a.m. A resident came to the police station to discuss on-going issues she is having with her 16-year-old daughter.

Found Property, 100 Block Church Street, NW, Jan. 15, 9:47 p.m. A citizen brought a wallet to the police station that was found on Church Street, NW.

Assault, Patrick Street, SE Between Jan. 15 at 11:37 p.m. and Jan. 17 at 10:08 p.m. A resident requested a welfare check on his neighbor after observing injuries to her face. Officers spoke to the neighbor who advised she had been assaulted by her roommate after a verbal dispute escalated. The officers observed minor injuries to the woman however she refused to pursue charges.

Noise Complaint, The Bey Lounge 303 Mill Street, NE Jan. 15 11:59 p.m. A resident reported loud noise coming from The Bey Lounge. Officers checked the area but found no violation.

Police Service, Wolftrap Hotel, 430 Maple Avenue, West Jan. 17, 11:04 a.m. Officers responded to the hotel at the request of Mobile Crisis to assist them with a man who was in need of medical evaluation. Due to the man’s mental state a Temporary Mental Detention Order was issued and MPO Lose transported him to an area hospital for further evaluation.

Counterfeit Money, Social Burger 350 Maple Avenue, West, Jan. 17, 2:38 p.m. An employee received payment with a \$100 bill that was later determined to be counterfeit. This case is being investigated.

Arrest – ABC Violation, Patrick Street, SE Jan. 18, 3:33 a.m. Ofc. Reedy observed a vehicle with defective equipment and initiated a traffic stop. Upon his interaction with the driver it was determined that he was driving after his license had been revoked. He was issued as summons and released on his signature. The two female passengers, one a juvenile, both appeared to be intoxicated. The juvenile was released to the custody of a relative with a warning for Underage Possession of Alcohol. Ofc. Reedy issued a summons to the second passenger, an 18-year-old female from Hilltop Road in Vienna charging Underage Possession of Alcohol and released her on her signature.

Domestic Assault, Owaisa Road, SE Jan. 18, 10:20 p.m. A resident reported having an argument with his adult daughter which escalated when she hit him in the chest. There were no visible signs of injury and the resident did not wish to pursue charges. The daughter agreed to stay at a friend’s house for the night.

Narcotics Violation, 200 Block

SEE POLICE HIGHLIGHTS,
PAGE 7

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PHOTO COURTESY OF BETH TUDAN

Members of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area marched to protect voting rights. (From left) Wendy Fox-Grage, co-president of LWVFA; Beth Tudan, executive director of LWVFA; Judy Laney; Cathy Wasilewski; Naysa Kury; Dot Artz.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOHN LOVAAS

Crowd filling metro train at 7:35 a.m. at Wiehle Station in Reston. Not an exaggeration to say thousands came from Reston alone. Heavy volume lasted from 6 a.m. to almost 12 noon.

#Democracy Looks Like This

Area residents join eventful Inauguration weekend in Washington.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

More than 500,000 people flooded the nation's capital Saturday, greeting President Donald Trump with a simple message on his first full day in office.

"Welcome to your first day. We will not go away," marchers chanted.

While many who marched, chanted and rallied hailed from states as far away as Alaska and Hawaii, thousands of locals made the march too.

Shawna Tunnell, a McLean mom and attorney, boarded the Silver Line in Tysons at 8 a.m. - her 10-year-old daughter, Sheridan Kanski, and goddaughter, Eleanor Ross of Vienna, also 10, in tow.

"I marched because I've worked too hard raising my smart, caring children to let the people now taking power damage their future," Tunnell said.

"I wanted the girls to be here too, to understand that sometimes it's important to make the effort to stand up for their rights," Tunnell said.

Another area participant, Beth Tudan, a Vienna mom and executive director of the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, said the LWVFA featured the event on its Facebook page, and drew about 150 people from across the area - as well as other states - to the march.

Tudan was already planning to march with several neighbors when she learned that the national office of the League of Women Voters had become an official partner of the Women's March.

Chris Carson, the national LWV president, said in a statement: "We march for voting rights. We march to reform money in politics. We march for health care. We march for the environment. These are our core issues and we want to ensure they are front and center."



PHOTO BY ELEANOR ROSS

Sheridan Kanski, 10, of McLean, gives her mom, Shawna Tunnell, a big hug for bringing her to Saturday's "Women's March on Washington."

"It's really about fairness," Tudan said. "Voting is a fairness issue, and it's key to our democracy."

Not surprisingly, she said, one of the chants that received widespread social media attention was this call and response: "What does democracy look like?"

"This is what democracy looks like!"

The Women's March on Washington turned out to be one of the largest demonstrations in the city's history, according to

city officials, drawing more than 500,000 participants.

The march was scheduled to follow on the heels of Friday's Inauguration of the 45th president, Donald Trump. Many from all over the country journeyed to Washington to witness the pomp and circumstance of the inauguration events.



PHOTO BY SCOTT FLESCH

Timothy Flesch of Vienna (front row, center), a sophomore at James Madison High School, marched in the Inaugural Parade as part of the Inaugural Eagle Scout Honor Guard.

James Madison sophomore Tim Flesch of Vienna got to do more than simply witness the inauguration festivities. He marched in the Inaugural Parade as part of the Inaugural Eagle Scout Honor Guard.

"This was a great opportunity for our family," said Scott Flesch. "Our relatives out of town even caught Tim's close-up on national news."

Senate Panel Cracks Down on Internet Lending

Bill would subject unregulated loans to rules that apply to consumer-finance loans.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

The Wild West of online lending might be about to become a little tamer. That's because a state Senate panel narrowly approved a bill that would subject internet loans to the same restrictions that currently exist for consumer finance loans, a move that would cramp the anything-goes culture of online loans in Virginia.

"These international companies and Indian tribes shouldn't be able to run around and do things that companies here in Virginia are not allowed to do," said state Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36), who introduced Senate Bill 1126. "This bill would basically make it clear that Virginia's Consumer Finance Act does apply to companies who make loans over the internet, and it would make it clear that State Corporation Commission has the authority to license them."

The shadowy world of internet lending allows companies from all over the world to offer loans at interest rates from 600 percent to 5,000 percent. Recent years have seen a proliferation of Indian tribes also getting into the act, taking advantage of the uncertainty of a law that crafted regulations in 1918. Surovell's bill would make the companies apply for the same kind of license that other consumer-finance companies.

"This will provide for a level playing field," said Dave Irvin, manager of the Predatory Lending Unit at the Office of Attorney General. "They will be subject to the same limits on their rates under existing law."

Consumer-finance loans are currently subject to an annual limit on the amount of interest that can be charged, 36 percent for loans that are worth less than \$2,500. A separate bill introduced by Senate Demo-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL LEE POPE

State Sen. Scott Surovell (D-36) presents his bill regulating internet lending to the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee.

cratic Leader Dick Saslaw increases that threshold to \$4,000, although that has not yet been considered in committee. If successful, that bill would mean all consumer-finance loans offered over the internet would be subject to a 36 percent limit on the annual interest rate if the loan was for less than \$4,000.

"In the absence of action, the internet becomes a lawless place that plays by different rules than traditional commerce," said Kevin Mauer, associate director of the Virginia Catholic Conference. "Without protective regulation, the commonwealth's vulnerable consumers may fall prey to more and more opportunistic lenders."

Nobody spoke in opposition to Surovell's bill, which passed the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee with an eight-to-five vote.

"Without protective regulation, the commonwealth's vulnerable consumers may fall prey to more and more opportunistic lenders."

— Kevin Mauer, Associate Director,
Virginia Catholic Conference

"I just think it's helpful to make sure we regulate the internet like we do Virginia companies," said state Sen. Steve Newman (R-23), who made the motion to report the bill out of the committee to the Senate floor.

LAST YEAR, lawmakers considered and ultimately rejected a bill that would have legalized online lending in Virginia. It was

an effort pushed by an Indiana-based company known as OneMain Financial. Company officials approached Del. Terry Kilgore (R-1) about legalizing internet lending in Virginia, and Kilgore agreed and introduced legislation to do just that.

"I don't want to get between somebody and their money and somebody and what they want to do," said Kilgore at the time. "That's something that, as far as payday or title loans, I've not done that. If you want to borrow the money and that's the last person you can borrow it from then, you know, you may be in a position where you can borrow the money."

When Kilgore's bill was considered in House committee, Ken Kinion of OneMain disagreed with the idea that his company should have a physical location in Virginia.

"When you're making loans over the internet for synergy purposes, it's better to be done at a central location because it just comes through a wire in your home," said Kinion. "So it would be prohibitively expensive for us to set up an internet location in each state."

Del. Greg Habeeb (R-8) took issue with that.

"I find it frankly a little bit suspicious that somebody says well we don't want to set up an office in Virginia because man that's cheap to do," said Habeeb.

In the end, the committee killed the bill. Democratic Del. Mark Keam was happy the bill died but displeased at

what the episode represented. "This is a classic example of how in Virginia at the state General Assembly unfortunately lobbyists and special interests come up with a business plan for themselves. They come to the government to get the government to endorse and approve their business plan and then they go out and do what they want to do."

IN SESSION

Gun Battle

The celebration of Martin Luther King Day in Richmond is known as "Lobby Day," a time when people use their day off to travel to the Capitol and lobby about everything from education funding to disability awareness. One particular issue always steals the spotlight: guns. Every year, MLK Day provides a backdrop for a pro-gun rally and an anti-gun rally.

This year is an election year, though, which means the pro-gun rally included some not-so-subtle politics. Most Republican candidates for statewide office spoke at the pro-gun rally, although there was one conspicuous absence: former Republican National Committee Chairman Ed Gillespie. Prince William County

Board of Supervisors Chairman Corey Stewart took the opportunity to go on the offensive.

"You know he's here today. I just saw him up there in the General Assembly Building," Stewart told the crowd. "But did he even bother to show up and address you? He didn't. He sent somebody else, another politician to come and talk to you. The guy's afraid of his own shadow. He doesn't do anything unless his consultants approve of it. Everything is poll driven. Folks, that's not leadership. It's cowardice."

A spokesman for Gillespie says he sent Del. Scott Lingamfelter (R-31) to speak on his behalf because he had a scheduling conflict, a Martin Luther King Memorial Day event at Mount Vernon Baptist Church in Richmond.

Heart Stopping Moment

Longtime Dominion lobbyist Bill Thomas was testifying against a bill introduced by state Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) about carbon emissions when a sudden beeping sound flooded the committee room. Thomas stopped speaking and started fiddling with a machine at his side.

"I'm wearing a heart monitor, and it seems to want to tell me that my heart is beating a little rapidly," said Thomas, prompting nervous laughter from the other lobbyists in the room. "Some would say they weren't sure that I had a heart, but we'll blame that on Senator Petersen."

Day of Tears

Leaders of a new nonprofit group known as Day of Tears persuaded Republican Del. Ben Cline (R-24) to introduce a resolution declaring Jan. 22 a "Day of Tears." That's the anniversary of the day the United States Supreme Court ruled in the Roe v. Wade case legalizing abortion. Nonprofit director Anne Fitzgerald says she would like to see states across the country take similar action.

"It's sad that we even have to have this conversation, that we are mourning 60 million children that are not with us. However, I am excited that we have gotten the ball rolling and that we are just in the beginning phases of a national movement."

Virginia is the first state that the group has targeted, although it's just a House resolution rather than an actual bill. That means it won't be considered by the Senate or the governor. The resolution asks private flag owners to lower their flags that day, not state buildings. Nevertheless, advocates for women's rights say the resolution is an attempt to shame women who have chosen to have an abortion.

"I think it's inappropriate and a poor use of time by this legislative body to be passing judgment on women who have decided to have an abortion," said Anna Scholl, director of Progress Virginia.

— MICHAEL LEE POPE



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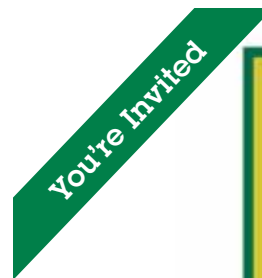
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OPINION

Not Helping the Local Economy

Federal hiring freeze will have rippling effect.

The hiring freeze announced earlier this week, will not help the local economy which has struggled in recent years due to the sequester, automatic cuts and limits to federal spending. The federal government is a critical part of the local economy and had helped recession-proof the Northern Virginia area, but more recently it has been a negative.

Kudos to U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10) for speaking out against a foolish freeze on federal hiring. As the lone Republican representing Northern Virginia in Congress, her opposition is important.

"The federal budget cannot be balanced on the backs of our federal workforce. I don't support this type of across-the-board freeze and think it is better to look at priorities and areas where appropriate cuts can be made and where we can consolidate efforts or identify unnecessary costs that can be eliminated," Comstock wrote. "As the General Accounting Office has previously reported, past hiring freezes in both Republican and Democrat administrations have cost the federal government money in the long-run because of staffing problems, or problems in recruiting or disruption of key government operations and required services to the American people. We will be monitoring and highlighting the results of this freeze and how it is impacting the mission of various agencies."

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) identifies the freeze as one of many "anti-federal workforce policies" in the works.

"Past hiring freezes in both Republican and Democrat administrations have cost the federal government money in the long-run because of staffing problems, or problems in recruiting or disruption of key government operations and required services to the American people."

— U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-VA10)

"An across-the-board federal hiring freeze is a mindless way to manage. ... It fails to take into account the need to actually beef up certain capabilities in the federal government, like cybersecurity," Connolly said. "This Executive Order, coupled with many of other anti-federal workforce policies being proposed in Congress, will have a depressing effect on our ability to recruit and retain the next generation of federal workers."

U.S. Rep. Don Beyer (D-8) calls it

scapegoating. "The number of federal workers is at its lowest level since the 1960s, and over 30 percent will be eligible to retire in the next year," Beyer said. "A report by the General Accounting Office (GAO) on previous federal hiring freezes stated such freezes are not an effective strategy for shrinking the size of the workforce, and only serve to disrupt agency operations and in the long-term increase the cost of government operations."

Bills to Watch in General Assembly

In no particular order, more to come next week:

- ❖ SB 1005 Community services boards and behavioral health authorities; services to be provided, in particular, access to same-day access to mental health screening services.
- ❖ SB 923 raises felony larceny threshold to \$500 (\$1,000 would have been better).
- ❖ SB 1379 that discourages universities from stockpiling cash, and instead lowers tuition for Virginia students and families.
- ❖ SB 931 removes the exemption for "working papers and correspondence" for university presidents.

❖ SB 1376, requires a 30-day notice from the Board of Visitors before tuition can be raised.

❖ SB 1102, records of closed investigations of unattended deaths were not exempt from the state Freedom of Information Act.

❖ SB 1442, requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to identify an evidence-based, standardized instrument for mental health screening for anyone incarcerated in local, regional, and community correctional facilities.

❖ Various proposals for nonpartisan redistricting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Protesting Vote Suppression

To the Editor:

I am fed up with gerrymandering and other tactics politicians use to stack the votes in their favor! Gerrymandering distorts the electoral process, undermines democracy, and renders legislative elections a

meaningless exercise. I am a tax-paying citizen of Virginia, but my one vote does not count as one vote. Here in Virginia, state legislators redraw district lines, which means that the party in power of the State House and Senate can draw the lines to serve their own interests, not those of our communities. Since Virginia has been Republican controlled, that means that my Democratic vote has less value in my district than a Republican vote does in another district.

According to Governing.com, Virginia is ranked as one of the most gerrymandered states in the country (fifth worst!), both on the congressional and state levels

based on the lack of compactness and contiguity of its districts. Throughout the State, counties and cities are broken in half or into multiple pieces to create heavily partisan districts. Most of the "elections" in Virginia therefore result in no change in party because of these gerrymandered districts!

With Republicans in control of the Virginia House and Senate, the gerrymandering, not only suppresses Democrat votes, but has had a detrimental impact on persons of color causing distinct echoes of Jim Crow laws. Are we going to allow discriminatory disenfranchisement to proceed unchecked in our State? I urge all Virginians and Virginian Representatives to support changes to the Virginia constitution and enactment of laws that would strengthen voting rights, make voting easier and fairer, and eliminate unfair redistricting that politicians use to keep themselves in power.

Nancy Blethen
Springfield

Area Residents Join March on Washington

One of the thousands of signs displayed at the Saturday's March on Washington, D.C. The Women's March on Washington turned out to be one of the largest demonstrations in the city's history, according to city officials, drawing more than 500,000 participants. The march was scheduled to follow on the heels of Friday's Inauguration of the 45th president, Donald Trump.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN LOVAAS

Vienna & Oakton CONNECTION

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
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VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

FROM PAGE 2

Moore Avenue, SE Jan. 18, 11:14 p.m. Sgt. Kiley observed a vehicle traveling above the posted speed limit and initiated a traffic stop. Upon his interaction with the driver he detected the odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. The driver gave the officer a container from the vehicle that contained a very small amount of marijuana. The container was confiscated to be destroyed. No charges were placed.

Crashes

Cottage Street at Kingsley Road, SW, Jan. 13, 6:35 a.m. Vehicle-1 was eastbound on Kingsley Road at the intersection of Cottage Street. Vehicle-2 was southbound on Cottage Street. After stopping for the stop sign Vehicle-2 proceeded into the intersection and was struck by Vehicle-1. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Pay Full Time and Attention. **500 Block Maple Avenue, East**, January 13 5:44 p.m. Vehicle-1 was turning left from a parking lot to go westbound on Maple Avenue. Vehicle-2 was traveling westbound on Maple Avenue in the left turn lane to turn onto Berry Street, SE. As Vehicle-1 made the turn he struck the driver's side door of Vehicle-2. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Yield the Right of Way.

300 Block John Marshall Drive, NE, Jan. 16, 12:13 p.m. Vehicle-1 was making a right turn from Glyndon Street on to John Marshall Drive, NE when the driver lost control and struck Vehicle-2

which was legally parked. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Pay Full Time and Attention.

300 Block Ayr Hill Avenue, NE, Jan. 17 5:45 p.m. A driver was attempting to turn around out of a driveway. She did not have enough room in the roadway to complete the turn, ran off the road and into a ditch. The vehicle sustained only minor damage but had to be removed from the ditch by a tow truck.

100 Block Battle Street, SE, Jan. 18, 7:56 a.m. Vehicle-2 was traveling westbound on Battle Street approaching the stop sign for Center Street. Vehicle-1 was traveling southbound on Center Street, turning left onto Battle Street. A vehicle was parked along the south side of Battle Street. Vehicle-1 went too far left to avoid the parked vehicle and struck Vehicle-2. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Pay Full Time and Attention.

400 Block Maple Avenue, East, Jan. 18, 11 a.m. An unknown driver in the shopping center parking lot struck the pedestrian crosswalk sign, knocking it down. The sign is located on the south side of the traffic light (entrance to shopping center) at the intersection of Maple Avenue and Beulah Road.

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NEWS

The scene began with what police describe as a white older model sedan running a red light on Georgetown Pike. An officer out of the Reston police district station attempted a traffic stop nearby at the 600 block of Rossmore Court. At that point a passenger got out of the suspect's car and ran off.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE

Police Car Takes Fire while in Pursuit in Great Falls

Chief Roessler pleads for help locating those responsible.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Police Chief Edwin Roessler began his Jan. 23 press conference on a dramatic note, saying he was grateful to be standing there not having to plan a police officer's funeral.

Just before midnight on Jan. 22, several shots were fired at a marked police cruiser from another vehicle in the Great Falls area, he said. The other driver and at least one passenger who bailed out while police were in pursuit managed to escape capture, which meant everyone walked away from the incident without causing a funeral.

The scene began with what police describe as a white older model sedan running a red light on Georgetown Pike. An officer out of the Reston police district station attempted a traffic stop nearby at the 600 block of Rossmore Court. At that point a passenger got out of the suspect's car and ran off.

"The driver of the car then sped away from the cruiser, making a U-turn in the cul-de-sac," police said in a statement, "then traveled back toward the officer and opened fire, striking the cruiser at least twice."

The police car was hit on the hood, feet from the vehicle's interior, and again on the passenger side rear quarter panel.

The officer then calmly called in the shooting to dispatch, Roessler said, and resumed pursuit of the suspect's vehicle. But the suspect eluded the officer heading west-bound on Georgetown Pike.

"This is one particular time we in the police department need the help of our great community to bring these armed and dangerous suspects to justice," Roessler said. "If they're willing to kill a police officer, they're willing to kill anyone to escape justice. I can't beg enough for the help of the community."



PHOTO BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Police chief Edwin Roessler begged the community to help bring suspects to justice who ran from a routine traffic stop and then allegedly fired.

Roessler said he doesn't know the gender of either the driver or the runner, or if there were additional passengers in the car. Nor is it known whether shots were fired from inside the vehicle or out the sedan's windows.

The officer did not return fire, the chief said, as the suspect's car came at the cruiser at a high rate of speed.

The officer was not injured and their name is being withheld while a risk assessment is completed.

"This was hopefully not a targeted ambush situation," said Roessler. "We need to vet through that process."

The last time an officer was fired upon was during a jewelry store heist in Springfield last spring, Roessler added.

The chief urged anyone with information to contact police at 703-691-2131. They can also contact Detective C. Guyton at 703-856-8547. Police said tipsters may be eligible for a cash reward up to \$1,000 for contacting Crime Solvers electronically by visiting <http://www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org> or text-a-tip by texting "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES(274637). Tipsters remain anonymous.

WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

Bobby (Matt Liptak) gets in the middle of a fight between Sarah (Carla Crawford) and Harry (Scott Graham) in a 'Company' rehearsal photo. McLean Community Players present 'Company' at the Alden Theatre in the McLean Community Center on weekend Feb. 3 to Feb. 19, 2017.



PHOTOS BY IRISH EYES PHOTOGRAPHY
BY TOBY/COURTESY OF MCLEAN
COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Funny and Bittersweet

McLean Community Players present musical "Company" at The Alden.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Under the direction of Sharon Veselic (Herndon), the McLean Community Players (MCP) are bringing a fresh perspective to Stephen Sondheim's Tony Award winning, musical "Company."

The richly celebrated "Company" is a groundbreaking musical-comedy. It looks into being single, relationships, and marriage as a 30-something man named Robert has major fears of commitment. The musical takes place as he is about to spend quality time with his best friends; five married couples.

In an interview with Veselic she spoke of directing a fresh "Company" for MCP audiences. "This is a new 'Company' that will take the '60s mannequin characterizations, and bring them into the present time.

"Every show evolves, changes, adapts and recreates itself within the original script," said Veselic. "The time period will remain, but the characters are now more thoughtful, sensitive and searching within."

"In this production, the goal is to give the audience a 'thinking' cast of New Yorkers—not the version of the hard, unlikable, bitter characters of the past," said Veselic.

The Sondheim musical numbers pack a wallop about love lost and life's uncertainties in both serious and comic manners. The iconic show features Broadway musical standards such as "Getting Married Today," "The Ladies Who Lunch," "Being Alive," and "Barcelona."

Northern Virginia award-winning music director John Edward Niles will direct a 9-member orchestra through Sondheim's fifteen musical numbers. Local dance instructor and choreographer Melanie Barber will direct the dance sequences.

In a recent roundtable interview, MCP performers including Matt Liptak who plays Robert, Cara Crawford, Sharon Grant, Melissa Pieja and Alana Sharp made clear that the personal issues "Company" spotlighted remain; even with the digital world and social media. Finding the "right" person to love, having best friends and a full life all matter.



From left — Robert (Matt Liptak) and his three girlfriends, Marta (Kristina Friedgen), Kathy (Vanessa Miller), and April (Melissa Pieja) in a 'Company' rehearsal photo. McLean Community Players present 'Company' at the Alden Theatre in the McLean Community Center on weekend Feb. 3 to Feb. 19, 2017.

Where and When

McLean Community Players present "Company" at the Alden Theatre in the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Performances on weekend Feb. 3 to Feb. 19, 2017. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$23-\$25. Visit www.mcleanplayers.org or call OvationTix at 866-811-4111

Both Liptak and Veselic emphasized that the McLean Community Players' "Company" will be "uplifting for audiences old and new to the show. For those who have seen the show before, the characters will be less cynical and cold. For those who may be unfamiliar with 'Company' the characters will be alive, likeable and not merely one-dimensional caricatures.

No matter an audience member's generation or familiarity with Stephen Sondheim's celebrated "Company," the McLean Community Players promises to explore emotional attachments, fears of commitment, marriage and friendship through marvelous award-winning, well-sung musical numbers.

The evening all begins with a doorbell ring to invite audiences to become best friends with the McLean Community Players' "Company."

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WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT



Young ladies at the DaddyDaughter Valentine's Dance, hosted by the Vienna Woman's Club, listen as a princess shares a story with them.



Dealer Greg Bernhardt has a winner at Casino Night sponsored and hosted by the Rotary Club of Vienna.

Living the Life in the Dead of Winter

Winter fun guide explores opportunities for getting out of the house.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Yes, it's cold .. and there remains the possibility of snowfall for another six weeks (remember last March?). But, January has — so far — been relatively mild and it's not unusual to see bike riders and strollers around the Vienna area. If you are more of an aficionado for indoor activities, the Vienna-Oakton area has options for Connection readers.

Patrick Henry Library and Oakton Library offer activities for children and events for adults — and they are free. Over at Jammin' Java on Maple Avenue are kids' shows on Thursday and Friday mornings, with the occasional Saturday morning scheduled. Culinaria Cooking School features cooking classes, many with an international bent, most days of the week. Look for "Mardi Gras" celebrations at neighborhood restaurants, as well as wine-dinners. Reston Town Center and Tysons shopping centers host outdoor ice skating while Skatequest in Reston offers an indoor rink.

Valentine's Dance for mature adults, aged 55 and older, hosted by the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna [SCOV] and the Vienna Department of Parks and Recreation, Friday, February 3, 2017, from 3 to 5 p.m.; Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, DeSales Hall.

Registration and prepayment required by Jan. 25. \$10 per person includes soup, sandwiches, cookies and beverages. Live entertainment by the Tallwood. To register, call Shepherd's Center at 703-281-0538. For more details, call the Community Center at 703-255-7801.

OLGC- DeSales Hall is located at 8610 Wolftrap Road, Vienna.Trio.

DaddyDaughter Valentine Dance,



The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna and the Town of Vienna's Department of Parks and Recreation co-sponsor a Valentine's Dance for mature adults. Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Vienna welcomes the pre-registered guests Feb. 3, 3 to 5 p.m. in DeSales Hall.

for girls aged preschool through sixth grade, Friday, Feb. 3, 6 to 8:30 p.m., at Marshall Road Elementary School.

Young girls are invited to celebrate Valentine's Day with the most special man in their lives — from dads to granddads, big brothers, godfathers, or other "VIMs" (very important men). Hosted by the Vienna Woman's Club, the DaddyDaughter Valentine's Dance is open to the public.

Guests are welcome to dress up for the fancy occasion. The party features dancing, prizes, food, activities, and a special fairy tale guest.

Tickets are \$30 a couple and must be purchased in advance at vwcdaddydaughterdance2017.eventbrite.com.

Proceeds from the event fund library donations to Vienna elementary schools and college scholarships for Vienna area high school students that the Vienna Woman's Club sponsors annually.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Mayor Jane Seeman Memorial Fundraiser at Jammin Java; Feb. 9, 2017, 6 to 11 p.m.

The Friends of Vienna Public Art presents a fundraiser named after Vienna's late mayor M. Jane Seeman, a strong supporter of the arts in the community.

Admission tickets include live music, tastings, door prizes, silent auction, and a cash bar.

Local bands Fat Chance, NRJ, and Mudlark are scheduled to perform.

Tickets are limited and available now at <http://www.jamminjava.com/>. VIP tickets are \$100 per person;

Premiere Plus tickets available \$150/person.

Doors open at 6 p.m./ show begins at 7 p.m.

Donate directly at <http://www.viennava.gov/donations>. Contact info@ViennaPublicArt.org for other questions or inquiries.

Annual James A. Bland music competition, sponsored by Vienna (Host) Lions Club, for school-aged (elementary through high school) vocalists and instrumentalists, 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Vienna Assembly of God, 100 Ayr Hill Avenue, Vienna.

Each competitor performs a musical selection for judgement by a panel of local musical experts. Cash

prizes are awarded to first and second place winners in each category; first-place finishers move to the next level of competition. Information and an application, due by Feb. 13, are available by contacting Susan Stiles at sandcs89@yahoo.com or by phone at 703-938-1142.

Public is welcome.

Taste of the World Casino Night, hosted by the Rotary Club of Vienna, Saturday, March 11, 7 to 11 p.m., Westwood Country Club, 800 Maple Avenue East.

The combination gaming-and-food night features signature dishes from the area's popular restaurants and a variety of popular gaming tables, as well as a Wheel of Fortune game of chance. Buy raffle tickets or bid on silent-auction donations.

Some of the participating restaurants are Bazin's on Church, Clarity, Earl's, Eddie V's, and Founding Farmers.

Individual tickets are \$95 per person; a couple is \$180. Sponsorships open. For more information and tickets, go to www.ViennaCasinoNight.com or call 703-981-4911.

Barns of Wolftrap; 1635 Trap Road, Vienna.

The Barns offers cold-weather programming in an intimate theatre setting, from classical, global, and bluegrass music to pop sounds and comedy. See www.wolftrap.org/ tickets for performance schedule and prices.

CALENDAR

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

FRIDAY & SATURDAY/JAN. 27 & 28

The Art of Marriage Friday 6:45 - 9 p.m. Saturday 9 - 3 p.m.

When you were standing at the altar reciting your marriage vows, did you have any idea that marriage would be so complex? It probably didn't take you long to understand that your spouse is not as much like you as you thought. But figuring them out is more than just an equation. Marriage is more than a science; it's an art. And like any art form, requires an investment of time, focused study and the right tools. If you need to soften some of the edges in your relationship, or want to brighten the landscape of your marriage, The Art of Marriage is for you. \$60 Early Registration by January 12. viennapres.org/strengthen-your-marriage

SATURDAY/JAN. 28

Virginia's Indian Tribes 10 - 12 a.m. McClean Community Center 1234 Ingleside Ave. Most Virginians have no idea about the 11 present-day Virginia tribes, the issues they've encountered, or how they continue to thrive. For a fascinating look at their past and present the McLean Area AAUW invites you to hear Karenne Wood, a member of the Monacan Indian Nation and director, Virginia Indian Heritage Program, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Cost: free.

SUNDAY/JAN. 29

The Sixth Annual McLean



Jammin Java will host an evening with The Nighthawks on Friday Feb. 3 at 7:30 p.m. For over three decades The Nighthawks have earned a reputation as one of the best and hardest-working bands around. Founded in the Washington, D.C. area in 1972, the 'Hawks' were a roots band before anyone had come up with the term. Their mix of blues, rock, soul and swing appeal to a widely diverse audience. Doors open at 6 p.m. located at 227 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Tickets: \$20

Chocolate Festival, 1 a.m. to 5 p.m. The McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. The admission fee is \$2 per person. Children age six and under are admitted free. Buy treats to eat on site or stock up for Valentine's Day. Featured on the Festival Stage will be performances by Ukulele Phil and the Hula Kids at 1:30 p.m., and bluegrass

music by Mike Mitchell and the Wildman's at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Ongoing demonstrations of colonial American chocolate-making will be presented by American Heritage, a Mars company. There will be plenty of free parking. www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

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Run for a Seat on the McLean Community Center Governing Board



PUBLIC NOTICE OF ELECTIONS MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER GOVERNING BOARD SMALL DISTRICT 1A OF THE DRANESVILLE DISTRICT FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA



This **OFFICIAL NOTICE** of elections to select members of the 2017-2018 Governing Board of the McLean Community Center (the Governing Board) is given to residents of Small District 1A of the Dranesville District, Fairfax County, Virginia (referred to as "Small District 1A"). The McLean Community Center (MCC) operates as a Special District Agency of the Fairfax County Government through a Memorandum of Understanding between the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Governing Board. On February 8, 1984, the Board of Supervisors approved the Memorandum of Understanding, which authorizes the elections. The MCC is funded by residents of Small District 1A in Greater McLean for their use through a real estate tax surcharge, the result of a 1970 Small District 1A bond referendum.

Elections are held on **McLean Day** at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia. This year, McLean Day is on **Saturday, May 20, 2017. Voting on McLean Day takes place from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Candidate Qualifications:

Each resident who lives within Small District 1A is eligible to run for a seat on the Governing Board within the appropriate category. If you need help determining whether you reside in Small District 1A, please contact the MCC at 703-744-9348, or by emailing elections@mcleancenter.org.

ADULTS: Candidates must be residents of Small District 1A and must be at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before May 20, 2017.

TEENS: Candidates must be 15, 16, or 17 years old on or before May 20, 2017, live within Small district 1A, and live in the boundary area for either Langley or McLean high schools. You **do not** have to attend either high school. You may attend another school, including one that is outside of Small District 1A, or you may be home schooled. You can only run for the seat representing the high school boundary area where you live.

Available Governing Board Seats and Terms:

Three (3) adult Governing Board seats will be filled through the election. The candidates who receive the three (3) highest numbers of votes will serve three-year terms on the Governing Board.

One (1) Governing Board youth seat for teens living within the Langley High School boundary area will be filled for a one-year term.

One (1) Governing Board youth seat for teens living within the McLean High School boundary area will be filled for a one-year term.

Candidate Petitions Requirements:

ADULTS: Must get the signatures of ten (10) residents of Small District 1A who are 18 years old or older on or before May 20, 2017.

TEENS: Must get the signatures of ten (10) residents of Small District 1A who are 15, 16, or 17 years old on or before

May 20, 2017, and who live within the same high school boundary area as the candidate.

Petition Packets containing a petition, instructions, and all pertinent paperwork may be obtained at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, Virginia, 22101. Candidates must pick up and return their own petitions.

DEADLINE: Each resident seeking election to the Governing Board shall file a completed petition with the MCC at the address shown below **by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 17, 2016:**

**McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue
McLean VA 22101**

For more information about the elections, please call 703-744-9348, go to www.mcleancenter.org/about/candidates, or email the MCC at elections@mcleancenter.org.

Merrily Pierce, Chair
Elections & Nominations Committee
McLean Community Center Governing Board

NOTICE: Due to the renovation of the Ingleside Avenue facility, effective Monday, April 3, MCC will relocate to the McLean Square Shopping Center. The majority of MCC's classes will be held at 6645 Old Dominion Dr., McLean, VA 22101. MCC's administrative offices will be located at 6631 Old Dominion Dr. (on the first floor of the Century 21 New Millennium building).

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WINTER FUN & ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY, JAN.27

McLean Art Society Meeting with Oil Painter Pattie Hipscher 10 - noon McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. Ms. Hipscher teaches at the Washington Art League and is a recent recipient of an award from The Arlington Artist's Alliance for a portrait of her son. 703-790-0123.

Old Firehouse Friday Night Trips Bazoooka Ball Sports 3:30 - 10 p.m. Join the staff at The Old Firehouse as they go to Bazoooka Ball Sports to play two versions of indoor, paint-less paintball, using Nerf and airsoft balls instead of actual paintballs. Pizza, arcade tokens and two hours of Bazoooka Ball are included in the fee. A signed waiver is required by Bazoooka Ball for participation. \$40/\$30 MCC district residents.

SATURDAY, JAN. 28

Virginia's Indian Tribes 10 - 12 a.m. McLean Community Center 1234 Ingleside Ave. Most Virginians have no idea about the 11 present-day Virginia tribes, the issues they've encountered, or how they continue to thrive. For a fascinating look at their past and present the McLean Area AAUW invites you to hear Karenne Wood, a member of the Monacan Indian Nation and director, Virginia Indian Heritage Program, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Cost: free.

"Flamenco 101: An Overview of Flamenco History and Styles" 6:30 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. A lecture and Q&A session with Flamenco educator Estela Vélez de Paredez that will deepen your understanding of flamenco dance and make your experience watching Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana much richer. \$5/\$3 MCC tax district residents.

Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana 8 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Ave. You'll forget all about the winter weather outside when Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana heats up The Alden. Flamenco Vivo brings an exciting evening of flamenco to the stage featuring accomplished artists from the U.S. and Spain. \$35/\$20 MCC tax district residents.



up for Valentine's Day. Featured on the Festival Stage will be performances by Ukulele Phil and the Hula Kids at 1:30 p.m., and bluegrass music by Mike Mitchell and the Wildman's at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Ongoing demonstrations of colonial American chocolate-making will be presented by American Heritage, a Mars company. There will be plenty of free parking. www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org

SUNDAY/JAN. 29

The Sixth Annual McLean Chocolate Festival, 1 a.m. to 5 p.m. The McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. The admission fee is \$2 per person. Children age six and under are admitted free. Buy treats to eat on site or stock up for Valentine's Day. Featured on the Festival Stage will be performances by Ukulele Phil and the Hula Kids at 1:30 p.m., and bluegrass music by Mike Mitchell and the Wildman's at 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Ongoing demonstrations of colonial American chocolate-making will be presented by American Heritage, a Mars company. There will be plenty of free parking. www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org

Capitol Steps Fundraiser 7 p.m. Langley High School Auditorium 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Capitol Steps are a DC-based troupe of Congressional staffers who put the

"MOCK" in democracy. They'll be performing their musical satire. Their latest program, "What to Expect When You're Electing," is updated with material from the recent election and is hilarious. Tickets are on sale NOW and can be purchased by emailing: missyperkins72@gmail.com Cost: \$30.00.

FRIDAYS-SUNDAYS/FEB. 3-19

McLean Community Players "Company." 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. A 1970 musical comedy based on a book by George Furth with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. The original production was nominated for a record-setting fourteen Tony Awards and won seven. \$25/\$23 MCC tax district residents. Visit <http://www.mcleanplayers.org/>



'Poema de Andalucía' at The Alden on Saturday, Jan. 28

New York City's Flamenco Vivo Carlota Santana, one of the nation's premier flamenco and Spanish dance companies, comes to The Alden at the McLean Community Center (MCC) for a single performance at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28. Tickets are \$35 for the general public, \$20 for MCC tax district residents. The theatre is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue. Tickets are on sale now. For more information or to purchase tickets online, visit: www.aldentheatre.org or call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711.

THE CONNECTION

Newspapers & Online

UPCOMING SPECIAL SECTIONS FEBRUARY

2/1/2017.....Valentine's Dining & Gifts I
2/1/2017.....Wellbeing - National Children's Dental Health Month
2/8/2017.....HomeLifeStyle
2/8/2017.....Valentine's Dining & Gifts II
Valentine's Day is February 14
2/15/2017.....A+ Camps & Schools
2/22/2017.....Connection Families: Pet Connection

MARCH

3/1/2017.....Wellbeing
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• Chantilly Connection • Mount Vernon Gazette • Vienna/Dakota Connection

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

ONGOING

The Freeman Store & Museum

Wednesday through Sunday noon - 4 p.m. 131 Church Street NE Vienna. The Freeman Store & Museum is dedicated to Preserving and promoting Vienna's heritage through the identification, preservation, and interpretation of history significant places, events, and persons. Historicviennainc.org

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

Bingo Night. Sundays. 4 p.m. Flame Room, Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S, Vienna. \$10. www.vvfd.org/bingo.html.

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

"Thrifty Thursdays" Basic Budgeting Classes in Annandale, Chantilly and Alexandria 7-9 p.m. Heritage Building 7611 Little River Turnpike, East Wing 1st Floor Conference Room D Annandale. Thursday, January 19, 2017 & Thursday, April 20, 2017.

South County Government Center 7-9 p.m. 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Thursday, February 16,



relationship, or want to brighten the landscape of your marriage, The Art of Marriage is for you. \$60 Early Registration by January 12. viennapres.org/strengthen-your-marriage.

2017 (Room 220) & Thursday, May 18, 2017 (Room 220) Chantilly High School 7-9 p.m. 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly. Thursday, March 16, 2017 (Room 253) & Thursday, June 15, 2017 (Room 253)
For All Sessions, RSVP to: Carole Rogers at crogers@britepaths.org or 703-273-8829

McLean Community Players
"Company." 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean, VA 22101. A 1970 musical comedy based on a book by George Furth with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. The original production was nominated for a record-setting fourteen Tony Awards and won seven. \$25/\$23 MCC tax district residents. Visit <http://www.mcleanplayers.org/>.

Concert: The Daraja Ensemble 4 - 6 p.m. at Saint Francis Episcopal Church 9220 Georgetown Pike Great Falls, VA 22066. This fellowship woodwind quintet from the University of Maryland takes its name from the Swahili word for "bridge." Coming together from around the country and abroad, their wide-ranging performances include ongoing outreach to Tanzania. Cost: Season pass \$150 or \$30 at the door. Visit: <http://amadeusconcerts.com/>

Plan Ahead Vienna

FRIDAYS-SUNDAYS/FEB. 3-19

SUNDAY/FEB. 19

FAITH NOTES

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

The S.P.O.T for Youth Wednesday's at 7 p.m. A place where youth can come together and pray, ask questions about the faith and receive mentorship. The spot is a ministry of First Baptist Church of Vienna located at 450 Orchard Street, NW Vienna.

First Baptist Church of Vienna located at 450 Orchard Street, NW Vienna. Sunday services are held at 7:45 and 10 a.m. weekly.

Wednesday Night with the Family service is held at 6 p.m. followed by corporate singing at 7 p.m. Bible studies take place Tuesday's at noon.

Wesley United Methodist Church located at 711 Spring Street SE, Vienna, Virginia 22180, at the corner of Spring Street and Moore Avenue. 10:30 a.m. - Fellowship time in the fellowship hall, 11 a.m. Traditional family worship in sanctuary. If you are seeking a church home which encourages: caring and supportive fellowship, an active and devoted prayer life and study of scripture, support for local and world missions, an open, responsive awareness to the presence and power of God's Holy Spirit.

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Whew



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

How do you spell relief? ROLAIDS? Hardly. I spell relief: "Mr. Lourie, your scan remains stable." News, as I'm extremely fond of continuing to say, "I can live with." And despite the fact that I'm ending the previous sentence with a preposition, I'm sure you can appreciate how relieved I am to be 'stable,' and how amazing it is to hear my oncologist characterize me as his "miracle" (not possessive really, more descriptive). So life goes on, for another three months anyway, until my next scheduled diagnostic scan which this time will include an MRI of the abdomen as well as the CT of the lungs to give my oncologist a bit more information to more thoroughly evaluate my condition/status. Having been there and done both previously, the prospect doesn't really concern me. Although it's easy to be a big shot now, three months out, especially after receiving a good report. Perhaps my columns in April will be a bit more realistic — given that my life will once again be on the tomography/resonance-imaging-line.

Planning for the future however begins with yours truly assessing the present and wondering why I was so nervous the days before the scan and of course the two days after, until we saw the oncologist and received the results. I mean it's not as if my life — and quality of life — isn't at stake when these scans are interpreted; nevertheless, stressing about it doesn't help, or should I say, doesn't enhance my prospects. Somehow, integrating/assimilating the stress and anxiety of it all and not giving cancer its due must remain a major part of the psychological solution. I can't give into it emotionally and for some reason, that's exactly what I did this past week. I need to learn from my mistake. Though I'm sure it's understandable under the death-defying circumstances, it's not helpful. It may even be harmful.

I should know better, and I have known better; that's what's peculiar here. Moreover, I'm usually up for the challenge. In fact, I take pride in my ability to take on the challenge. Heck, it's not exactly my first dance with the devil so what's the fuss? The 'fuss' is obvious but fussing over things/outcomes I can't control is not the process that works here. Going with the flow, taking the good with the bad (and vice versa), not putting any part of the cart before the horse meaning: not presuming any negative facts not yet in evidence and most importantly, as the band "Wet Willie" sang in the 1970s, you've got to "Keep on Smilin'." Humor may not truly be the best medicine, but laughing and joking is hardly the problem.

Cancer is the problem, but sometimes the patient/me is the problem. As Moe Howard said to his brother Shemp in a Three Stooges short entitled "Pardon My Backfire:" "Every time you think you weaken the nation." And though I don't want to weaken my nation/resolve with respect to my underlying disease, occasionally, as perhaps happened this past post-scan week, I get caught up in my own circumstances and think too much, and lose some cohesion and poise. Neither of which a cancer patient can afford to lose. I know — as a cancer patient/survivor — that if I do receive bad/disappointing news, it will be bad enough when I receive it so thinking/worrying that the news will be/could be bad before I actually learn that it's bad is a complete waste of valuable emotional wherewithal. Wherewithal that I'll possibly need later should the news in fact be bad. What my survival has taught me is that even after initially receiving some very discouraging life expectancy statistics for lung cancer patients from my oncologist back in 2009 when I was originally diagnosed, one might still have a future. I'm living proof of that. And it just might be the present that provides the means, justified or not.

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

EMPLOYMENT

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EARN \$100 CASH

\$100 CASH paid for focus group participation for offering opinions on court cases. No experience needed. Groups held on Wednesday evening (2/1), Thursday morning (2/2) and Thursday afternoon (2/2) in the McLean area. Each group will be four hours long. All backgrounds, genders and education levels wanted and you must be 21 years of age to apply. To apply to participate in one of the groups call Focus Groups at (304) 377-2903 on Friday, January 27th, 2016, ONLY, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Calls will not be accepted on any other day or at any other times.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Public Notice:
**Proposal to Voluntarily Remediate a
Property**

There is contamination from Petroleum impacted soil on site at Gilliam Place, 3507 Columbia Pike, Arlington, VA 22204

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is working with Gilliam Place LLC c/o Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH) to develop a Remedial Action Plan to address cleanup of petroleum hydrocarbons at the site. If you have any questions regarding the cleanup please contact Vincent Maiden, P.G., Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Northern Regional Office, 629 East Main Street, Richmond, VA 23218, Vincent.Maiden@deq.virginia.gov or Jason Beck, C.P.G., Senior Environmental Project Manager, ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC, 703-471-8400, jbeck@ecslimited.com

As part of the remedial action process a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) was submitted to the Northern Regional Office of DEQ on January 10, 2017, which allows for corrective action at the property to begin immediately. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed RAP with the staff of DEQ, please feel free to contact the Corrective Action Project Manager, Vincent Maiden, whose contact information is listed above. You may also contact Jason Beck, the environmental consultant for Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing, whose contact information is listed above. DEQ will consider written comments regarding the proposed Remedial Action Plan until February 24, 2017 and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is a significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to DEQ at the address listed above. DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case; VRP Case # 00664.

Respectfully submitted,

ECS MID-ATLANTIC, LLC on behalf of ARLINGTON
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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
JD Sisters, Inc., trading as Aroma Indian Cuisine, 4052 Campbell Ave. Arlington, VA 22206. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine & Beer On Premises; Mixed Beverage license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jyoti Chhatwal, President 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.

21 Announcements

ABC NOTICE
Maru, Inc trading as Maru Korean Cuisine & Sushi, 128 Maple Ave West, 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. Chun Ki Lee, President/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 newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF BERNARDINE CONNELLY

Head of school of BASIS Independent McLean (BIM), Sean Aiken discusses electoral process with BIM students.

BASIS Independent McLean Elects Its New Mascot by Student-Designed Election Process

BASIS Independent McLean started its inaugural year this fall in McLean, Tysons Corner's first k-12 school, and quickly went to work on the election process to vote in their first school mascot, the BASIS Independent McLean Bobcats. The student-designed electoral process, led by BASIS Independent McLean ninth grader, Rohit Narayanan, mimicked a voting system similar to the United States, and provided a learning tool for students to understand the electoral process during the recent presidential election. For more information on the school, go to <http://mclean.basisindependent.com>.

Although the BASIS Independent McLean students selected the Bobcat name, they are now dealing with post-election results, as they became aware that two other BASIS ed campuses already claim the Bobcat school mascot. A lesson in innovation and leadership, Narayanan and students leaders will be discussing their options to maintain the similar mascot or to review and vote from their secondary mascot selections. Students are now distributing a student-pro-

duced public service announcement to take an opinion poll to see if students want a special election. If so, students will have time to campaign and create materials that work for all grade levels.

"This has been a rigorous electoral process," said Rohit Narayanan, ninth grader at BASIS Independent McLean and lead on mascot voting process.

"We all know this was a big presidential election year, and so we thought it timely to weave in our student-led election process and use it as a way to teach the students about our country's electoral voting process, while the students take the lead at every stage," said Sean Aiken, head of school, BASIS Independent McLean. "No process is perfect, and our students are getting to learn that as well, as we re-evaluate our mascot options since our first choice was already picked by our sister campuses," said Aiken.

BASIS Independent McLean is located at 8000 Jones Branch Drive in McLean. Visit them at <http://mclean.basisindependent.com>.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

SUNDAY/JAN. 29

Home Seller Seminar: Become A Savvy Seller. Free, no obligation, offered by Lyons McGuire Homes & Estates of Keller Williams Realty. Speakers include a professional stager, organizer, & photographer. Learn insider secrets to getting the most money for your home. 1-4 p.m. at Keller Williams, Great Falls, 774-A Walker Rd. Great Falls. RSVP: LyonsMcGuire@LyonsMcGuire.com

FEBRUARY

Free public service seminars -
 -Decluttering: Feb. 2, McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Rd., McLean.
 -Aging in Place: Feb. 8, Falls Church H.S., 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church.
 -Downsizing: Feb. 14, Marshall H.S. 7731 Leesburg Pk., Falls Church.
 -Retirement Communities Feb. 22, Madison H.S., 2500 James Madison Dr., Vienna.
 For more information and seminar registration go to RetireeRealEstate.org, or call 703-772-3033.

Fairfax-based non-profit Britepaths offers free Financial Education classes

and sessions at various locations in the Fairfax County area to low- and middle-income adults who reside throughout Northern Virginia. The offerings are free and open to the public, but reservations are required.

Below is a listing of our Winter/Spring offerings. A graphic with information is also available at: <https://britepaths.org/news/get-financially-fit-new-year>

THROUGHOUT MARCH 2017

Free Public Service Seminars. March 1, 8, 15, 21, 29, at 7 p.m. on Selling Your Home, Aging in Place, Downsizing, Retirement Communities Seminars. Free public service seminars on Selling Your Home (March 1, McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Rd., McLean), Working With Builders (March 8, Falls Church HS, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church), Financing Your Retirement (March 15, Marshall HS, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church), Tax & Estate Planning (March 21, Madison HS, 2500 James Madison Dr., Vienna), and Decluttering & Organizing (March 29, Oakton HS, 2900 Sutton Rd., Vienna). For more information and seminar registration go to RetireeRealEstate.org, or call 703-772-3033.

Lockard Channels Garza, Proposes \$2.8 Billion FCPS Budget

FY2018 focuses on employee compensation and classroom resources.

By TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Public Schools interim superintendent Steve Lockard is asking for \$130.4 million more for the school system's FY2018 operating budget than the previous year, a 4.9 percent increase, to a total of \$2.8 billion.

Lockard spoke at the school board's regular business meeting, announcing the budget, on Jan. 12.

"This really is a basic needs budget," Lockard said in an interview. He stressed that two key priorities of the proposed budget are employee compensation and classroom resources.

"Our programs are what separate Fairfax County from other school systems," he said. "We're only as good as the people we have leading them."

Fairfax County Public Schools' population has eclipsed 188,000 students at around 200 schools



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Fairfax County Public Schools interim superintendent Steve Lockard spoke at the FCPS school board regular business meeting, announcing the budget, on Jan. 12.

and centers. The staff is nearly 28,000 employees, 90 percent based in the schools.

In 2016, former superintendent Dr. Karen Garza led a charge for increasing teacher salaries, which she said have been lagging behind the market average and are causing Fairfax County to lose teach-

ers to surrounding jurisdictions as well as fail to attract high quality new instructors.

Last year's approved budget managed a step increase for employees and began a four-year plan for bringing salaries to the market average.

"We really started in earnest last

year," Lockard said, "the biggest part of the budget proposal continues that work."

The FY2018 proposed budget includes \$44 million for an average step increase of 2.5 percent for all eligible employees, including teachers and non-teachers. As part of that multi-year market average-matching plan, there's also a \$33.2 million investment for teacher pay.

Another \$41.2 million covers "anticipated increases in health insurance and contributions to the retirement systems," according to a release from FCPS.

Kimberly Adams is president of the Fairfax County Council of PTAs. She's also a librarian at Mantua Elementary School.

"The most encouraging thing is the superintendent kept class size and teacher compensation at the forefront," she said.

But getting a 5.7 percent raise over FY2017 in the transfer from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors "is going to be a struggle," said Adams.

Lockard said the FCPS budget requires 72.2 percent of the total revenue from the county.

"We're so appreciative of our funding partners at the Board of Supervisors for the collaborative work last year," he said. "We wanted to advocate for the needs that we have, but we need to be prepared should the funding not occur. We recognize the challenging fiscal times."

Pre-empting the school board's adoption of this budget and an advertised transfer from the supervisors, Lockard has already reconvened a budget task force that spent six months combing through the budget last year looking for inefficiencies and opportunities to trim.

"The group will examine work from last year, but also, any additional things we haven't considered," Lockard said, adding that the group is already at work.

One added stress contributing to what Lockard anticipates will be a \$90 million shortfall is a change in the schedule for paying into the Virginia Retirement System. An earlier plan had the school system paying a \$25 million obligation in FY2019, however that has been pushed up to FY2018.

"We've been actively lobbying to see if there's any way that can get moved back," Lockard said.

FCPS had also hoped to benefit from a meals tax that was on the ballot last November and could have contributed an estimated \$70

million to the school system. The measure was voted down, much to the dismay of teachers like Precious Crabtree, who teaches K-6 art at Deer Park Elementary School in Centreville.

"I was devastated as an employee," Crabtree said. And looking at the FY2018 budget, she acknowledged, "the reality is we're not going to get all of it."

But Crabtree added that she and other teachers are still hopeful, encouraged by the ambitious proposal.

"If you don't ask, say what you need, you don't get anything," she said.

Lockard is continuing Garza's work, she said, though the school board hopes to have a new superintendent in place by the end of the current school year.

"We need someone who is strong," Crabtree said, "who isn't going to back down. It's frustrating that every year is a struggle, that you have to fight."

Lockard said since 2008, FCPS has cut half a billion dollars from the operating budget, including 2,200 positions.

"We're constantly peeling back the layers of the onion to try to continue to become as efficient as possible," he said. "There comes a point where you begin to impact services you can provide."

Part of the proposed budget includes preliminary changes to the ERSC local retirement fund. Though perhaps not as visceral of a threat as cutting fourth grade strings, Fairfax Education Association president Kevin Hickerson said that potential change stops short of providing more competitive compensation overall.

"We cannot provide the level of education our students deserve if we are short staffed, stretched thin and losing employees to surrounding areas," Hickerson said in a statement.

Lockard emphasized that this proposed budget is just the beginning of a long budget process, and that the Commonwealth of Virginia has yet to sign into law its budget, which will have an impact on that FCPS shortfall.

"We remain hopeful and recognize the challenge," he said. "We're preparing ourselves to roll up our sleeves, figure out how to best meet our budgetary needs and continue to provide excellent services students deserve and have come to expect in FCPS."

A public hearing on the proposed budget is scheduled for Jan. 30. For more information, visit www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/budget/FY2018.

Watching the Parade

Tyler Flesch of Vienna, 13, watches the Inaugural Parade route, not only for the new president, but to catch a glimpse of his older brother, Tim, who marched as part of the Inaugural Eagle Scout Honor Guard.

PHOTO BY
SCOTT FLESCH

