Langley seniors Chrissie Ivanova and Donya Momenian (not pictured) co-founded a chapter of the Girl Up Club at Langley, growing it from two to 30 members.

New Trees Coming To Great Falls Village Center

News, Page 13

Rabid Fox Attacks in Great Falls

News, Page 5
Reston $639,000
Spectacular, Sun-Filled End-Unit Townhome...
Located Heart of Reston Town Center!

Great Falls $2,150,000
Majestic “Southdown Meadow Farm”...
Incredible 7.9 Acre Estate in Great Falls!
Quintessential Great Falls estate offering pastoral views & picturesque vistas at every turn. Majestically-sited on a gentle knoll overlooking 7.9 acres of rolling, fenced pastures. Idyllic charm & vintage character throughout. Original stone house graced with large custom addition built by BOWA Builders — artistically melding the charm of yesteryear with the most exquisite amenities of today. Dramatic architectural design & endless walls of windows creating an extraordinarily bright & open floorplan. Over 7,400 square feet of finished space boasting 5 Bedrooms, 6 Full-Bathrooms & 2 Half-Bathrooms — including private In-Law / Nanny Suite over 3-car Garage. Outside, additional amenities include beautiful inground pool with flagstone patios, 2 Barns & full Tack Room. Nestled in one of Great Falls’ most beloved equestrian communities. A truly one-of-a-kind property … the home of a lifetime!

Great Falls $2,149,000
Spectacular Estate Home...
Located in Upscale Great Falls Neighborhood!
Dramatic architecture & exquisite finishes define this most distinctive home. Custom-built & lavishly upgraded by high-end interior designers, the property offers an extraordinary level of elegance & grandeur. 3 fully-finished levels w/ total of 5 Bedrooms (all ensuite), 5 Full Bathrooms & 2 Half-Bathrooms. 2-story Foyer w/ double staircase, glorious Sunroom, Morning Room, temperature-controlled Wine / Tasting Room, fully-equipped Theatre Room, Billiards Room, full entertaining Bar… and so much more. Outside, the property boasts an expansive tiered brick patio w/ 2 covered Gazebos, tranquil fountains & a fully-fenced backyard— all enhanced by extensive professional landscaping lighting & plantings. Top-rated Langley HS district.
Committed to Peacemaking

Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County reception honors activists and advocates.

As a member of James Madison High School Amnesty International Club, senior Sean Doyle coordinates activism with others on such issues as abolishing the death penalty, reducing gun violence and police brutality, and convincing the Vienna Town Council to make Vienna an “I Welcome Refugees” town.

Marshall senior Aidan Kemp (center) is the lead senior mentor for the Marshall Freshman Transition program and does community service work through St. Thomas Episcopal Church in McLean.

Suraya Sadeed said hearing more than 20 stories of students promoting peace in and out of their schools made her believe “there is still hope for a brighter future.”

Sadeed is a native of Kabul, Afghanistan who made a new home in the United States in 1982, fleeing the aftermath of the Soviet invasion. She founded the non-government organization Help the Afghan Children and is author of “Forbidden Lessons in a Kabul Guesthouse.”

The former owner of a real estate company, Sadeed has risked dangerous situations to deliver humanitarian aid to women and children in war-torn Afghanistan. On Sunday, March 12, she addressed high school students from around Fairfax County being honored at the Student Peace Awards.

Sadeed spoke about the importance of promoting peace through education, as a preventative measure against bullying, hatred and violence later in life.

“The cost of providing peace education to 8 million children in Afghanistan is less,” she said, “than buying one military plane.”

The student peace awards are offered in all Fairfax County public high schools and some private schools. Schools choose their winners based on their work to promote peace as well as prevent causes of violence: poverty, discrimination and injustice.

Each of the individual or groups of students not only took action for peace, but did so with creative, entrepreneurial energy — founding clubs, organizing charity projects, leading training sessions or creating documentary films.

Fairfax County School Board chair Sandy Evans said she was deeply impressed with the work of the students being honored at the Stacy Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax, from anti-bullying to human trafficking awareness to anti-genocide.

“Few goals are more important in the world today,” Evans said, “than promoting peace, acceptance, kindness and tolerance.”

Evans was joined in congratulating the students by fellow board members Ryan McElveen (at-large) and Dalia Palchik (Providence).

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors vice chairman and Mason District representative Penny Gross (D) read a letter of recognition from board chairman Sharon Bulova that thanked the students for their commitment to peacemaking.

All the students have come together, Gross read from Bulova’s letter, “in one goal, strengthening peace and unity.”

Del. Kenneth Plum (D-36) joined the other elected officials in congratulating the award-winners.

The 2017 Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County winners are as follows, bio according to the event program:

Ethan Mirani, junior at the Cedar Lane School in Vienna

Mirani was a member of the school’s Anti-Bullying Committee for two years and worked to grow the group as well as plan activities and keep things organized.

Jasmine Howard, senior at Centreville High School

Howard organized members of the Centreville Key Club to sell 240 wristbands from Guatemala, made out of leather and pieces of coconut shell with colored string, raising $1,700 in sales and donations that went back to the wristband artisans and disadvantaged foreign youth.

Shaan Chudasama, senior at Chantilly High School

Chudasama co-founded and is vice president of Young at Art, a non-profit organization using art-related activities to improve the quality of life of seniors, less fortunate children and veterans. With his sister, the other co-founder, they’ve partnered with the Special Olympics and Sunrise Assisted Living.

Vanessas Mae Avendano, senior at Falls Church High School

Avendano is Vice president of Falls Church’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender club and also founded Falls Church High School United, a group of clubs united to spread peace and acceptance. The group has produced a series of videos dealing with anti-bullying and giving respect.

Sabah Munshi, senior at Hayfield Secondary School

Munshi helped organize a project called Walking for Water and raised both awareness of the world’s water crisis and more than $2,000 for the Tap Project by UNICEF. She has also volunteered at Virginia Hospital Center in the renal unit.

Surabhi Khanal, senior at Herndon High School

Khanal has been a member of the Herndon Leo Club and founded MedLove, Inc, a non-profit organization with the mission of helping rescue women in the United States and abroad who are human trafficking victims. Through the Key Club, Khanal and other students also organized a benefit gala to raise awareness of local trafficking and $3,000 for combating HIV and AIDS in her native Nepal.

Naba Khan and Shafia Tala, juniors at King Abdullah Academy in Herndon

Khan and Talat founded the organization
Peace Awards Presented

From Page 3

Women of the World (WOW) to promote women’s rights and help women struggling with homelessness, hunger, oppression or abuse. Some of their projects include opening a sewing institute in Nalgonia, India and fundraisers involving the whole student body.

Jamie Hunstad, senior at Lake Braddock Secondary School

Hunstad set up a Special Olympics program at Lake Braddock, starting with a basketball team and adding track and field. She coaches both teams, and also helped the Rachel’s Challenge program find a presence at her school. Rachel’s Challenge deals with stomping out bullying and promoting tolerance and inclusion.

Donya Momenian and Chrissie Ivanova, seniors at Langley High School

The two seniors co-founded a chapter of the Girl Up Club at Langley, growing it from two to 30 members who meet bi-monthly. The national and international club empowers young women in education, fundraising, advocacy and service, as well as runs development programs in Guatemala, India, Liberia, Malawi, Uganda and Ethiopia.

Naomi Soquar, senior at Robert E. Lee High School

Soquar helped found a chapter of the Amnesty International Club at Lee — she currently serves as its president. She led club members and volunteers in writing letters against human rights violations, which in one case contributed to two political prisoners in the Democratic Republic of Congo being released. Soquar also serves with Girls Learn International, the Capital Area Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity.

Sean Doyle, senior at James Madison High School

A member of Madison’s Amnesty International Club Doyle is coordinating activism with others on such issues as abolishing the death penalty, reducing gun violence and police brutality, and convincing the Vienna Town Council to make Vienna a “I Welcome Refugees” town.

Aidan Kemp, senior at George C Marshall High School

Kemp is the lead senior mentor for the Marshall Freshman Transition program and does community service work through St. Thomas Episcopal Church in McLean.

Josh Leong and Sam Gollob, juniors at McLean High School

The two juniors created a 10-minute film documenting the struggles of Herman Wainggai, a human rights advocate from West Papua who escape political imprisonment by taking a boat to Australia. “Herman Wainggai: A Hidden Genocide” premiered at the Garifuna Indigenous Film Festival in Los Angeles in April, 2017.

Yosaph Boku, senior at Mount Vernon High School

Boku helped create a program that teaches disadvantaged youth and adults in his community computer skills. The senior also gives groups of counselors feedback, suggestions for encouraging more minority students to take advantage of advanced courses.

Rozza Al Barznji, senior at Mountain View Alternative High School

Al Barznji came to the United States three years ago as a refugee from Northern Iraq, and works to help her classmates understand her Kurdish heritage using photography. She’s also published seven stories about her own journey becoming a Kurdish American, the people of Syria and refugees in American communities, as well as made a documentary about American Thanksgiving traditions.

Members of Blossoming Beauties at Quander Road School

Young women in the Blossoming Beauties program work on both becoming more well-rounded and confident, as well as carrying out school and community projects together. In 2016, the group raised money for Bethany House shelter for female victims of domestic abuse; they’ve also produced fleece blankets for New Hope Housing and their mission to end homelessness. In 2017, Blossoming Beauties is collaborating with A Space of Her Own to target and support fifth grade girls avoiding delinquency.

Narjes Benecheikh, senior at South County High School

The South County senior helped co-found a Muslim Student Association and International Club at her school. The 50-person Muslim Student Association carries out role-playing exercises and discusses issues encountered in the community.

Emily Lockwood, senior at South Lakes High School

Lockwood mentors freshmen transitioning to high school and coaches track for children with special needs.

The Student Peace Awards are offered in all Fairfax County public high schools and some private schools. Schools choose their winners based on their work to promote peace as well as prevent causes of violence: poverty, discrimination and injustice. This year’s awards were given out March 12 at the Stacy Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax.

The Fairfax County class Combatting Intolerance was created in 2015 — West Potomac teacher Robert Kerr molds the curriculum around social justice topics, racism, sexism, welcoming immigrant and refugee students, and advocating for the rights of lesbian, gay, transgender and asexual students, staff and others in the community. The 22-member class raises money to support small non-profits and sponsored a school-wide Diversity Week.

Rodney Wrice, senior, and Audrey Wever, junior, West Springfield High School

Friends Wrice and Wever started a kindness campaign using candy bars and sticky notes to encourage positive messaging around the time of the 2016 Presidential election.
A 71-year-old Great Falls woman was bitten multiple times by a rabid fox on Tuesday, March 7. She was taken to the hospital with serious injuries that were not life-threatening, according to the Fairfax County Police Department.

The woman was walking in the 600 block of Ad Hoc Road in Great Falls around 3 p.m. when the fox approached her from behind and bit her multiple times in the lower body. She turned to fight the fox off and was bitten a few more times before she went to a nearby neighbor’s home and called police.

Approximately one hour later, officers from the FCPD Animal Services Division received another call about a fox attacking a cat in the 400 block of Chesapeake Drive, about three miles from Ad Hoc Road.

Officers believe the same fox was involved in both incidents.

The cat’s owner, a 54-year-old woman, kicked the fox away from her cat. She and her husband then trapped the fox and held it until officers arrived. The cat’s owners were unharmed, but the cat remains in quarantine, according to police.

Officers euthanized the fox and took it to the Health Department for rabies testing, which came back positive, according to police.

Rabies is a deadly virus spread to people from the saliva of infected animals. Virginia law requires all dogs and cats more than 4 months old to be vaccinated for rabies.
 Republicans hold control of all three branches of government, and therefore have a responsibility to lead the civil service that employs millions of Americans, and every American relies upon for myriad services. The overwhelming majority of federal workers are hardworking people who devote themselves to public service. They secure borders, keep food safe, advance scientific and medical research, deliver our mail, and provide care to many of us, including our veterans.

Republican leaders have repaid this service with repeated attacks. In 2013, they shut down the government as a political stunt, and came hours away from doing it again in 2015 as the Department of Homeland Security. They enacted the Budget Control Act, which ultimately led to Sequestration, cutting the budget of every federal agency with the surgical precision of a meat cleaver.

But since Republicans acquired total control over government, their treatment of federal workers has been beyond the pale. On the first day of the new Congress, House Republicans passed a rules package over our objection that would potentially allow Congress to engage in political retribution against federal workers by reducing any given employee’s salary to $1. Only three Republicans opposed the measure on the floor, none from Virginia or Maryland.

The Holman Rule was especially troubling in light of the new administration’s so-called “enemies list” of employees who had worked on specific policy areas for the Obama Administration, such as climate policy. As one of his first actions, President Trump announced a hiring freeze for federal workers. This is terrible policy and a mindless approach to management that dodges hard decisions.

The Government Accountability Office studied past hiring freezes and found them “not effective.” The government is more likely to rely on overtime and contract work, which often costs taxpayers more. Meanwhile, tens of thousands of Americans have total uncertainty in their professional lives. Agencies are unable to make efficient, long term plans, driving up costs and hurting morale. Over time, Americans trying to manage social security benefits, travel in airports, or secure healthcare will see the impact of this freeze when benefits are not mailed or airport security lines move much more slowly.

Two other classes of citizen are hit particularly hard: people with disabilities and veterans.

In 2015, due to Obama Administration initiatives, 19 percent of the federal government’s new hires were people with disabilities. The federal government has hired 109,000 people with disabilities in the past five years. Veterans stand to be among those hardest hit by the hiring freeze. The Veterans Administration is one of the largest federal employers, but is also significantly understaffed. Delivering the care promised to those who served in the armed forces depends on having effective staff to deliver that care.

Over 30 percent of the civilian federal workforce is made up of veterans, a number which has grown consistently as agencies prioritized hiring vets. Many of the positions held vacant by the hiring freeze would have gone to vets, and the progress we have made on veteran unemployment will be halted. Contrary to this administration’s claims, the federal workforce is dwindling as a share of the population. And 85 percent of federal workers are located outside the beltway. It is also aging, and over a third of the current vets will be eligible for retirement by September. Federal workers have been treated as a piggy bank by Congress for years now, their pay raises delayed or denied, they’ve been furloughed and had their benefits cut. Now their morale is hit by politicians who make them a political punching bag. A bill just proposed in Congress would make all federal workers “at-will” employees, exposing them to political retribution and punishment by a hostile administration without recourse.

The federal workforce is not, as Mr. Trump has said, a “swamp.” It is a group of committed Americans who serve us, and they deserve better from Congress. The Republican Party has total control over the levers of government. Will any of its leaders have the decency or the courage to fight for the civil service which serves us all?

By U.S. Rep. DON BEYER (D-8) and U.S. Rep. GERRY CONNOLLY (D-11)
Discuss Golf Tournament Impact on Area

The PGA will be hosting the 2017 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship at Trump National Golf Course in Potomac Falls, Va. from May 23-28, 2017. GFCA has met with representatives of the PGA, and has arranged a public Town Hall meeting to give Great Falls residents an opportunity to learn about the event’s impact on Great Falls, ask questions, and provide input to the organizers of the event and to Fairfax County officials. This meeting will be held on March 20, 7:30 p.m., at the Great Falls Library. GFCA members, residents near Trump National, and the general Great Falls public are welcome.

Many citizens are concerned about the potential impact of this event on residents of western Great Falls, especially along Seneca Road. Here are some details:

❖ The tournament will be held Memorial Day weekend.
❖ 50,000+ spectators are expected, with perhaps 12-14,000 on the busiest day.
❖ Official hotels for the event are in Reston, and most parking for the event will be at Dulles Airport and One Loudoun (Route 7 in Loudoun County). Access to the golf course by private vehicles and cab will be via Algonquin Parkway and Lowes Island Blvd.

❖ There is a proposal for spectator buses to be routed from the off-site parking areas to the Club in a loop. Inbound buses to the course would be routed north on Seneca Road, and then outbound from the Golf Club on Lowes Island Blvd. This would put buses running (at peak times) perhaps every 15 minutes northbound on Seneca Road; at non-peak times they would run 1-2 per hour; buses would operate from 5 a.m. through early evening.

❖ For security and traffic control, Seneca Regional Park may be closed during the event. Non-resident traffic northbound on Seneca Road would probably be stopped at an appropriate point (e.g., Beach Mill Road) to avoid the congestion of turnarounds at the end of Seneca near the Golf Club. GFCA was assured that this routing would only be for spectator buses, and not for shuttles or any other “official” event traffic.

Residents of Seneca are concerned about the impact on traffic and access to/from their homes. Other citizens have expressed concerns about possible restrictions at Seneca Regional Park.

Visit gfca.org for more.
Practice Makes Perfect

Local educators share strategies for getting children to practice music.

By Marilyn Campbell
The Connection

When Linda Gulyn’s son reached high school age and asked to quit his clarinet lessons, the Arlington mother of four declined his request.

“My son Timmy is an excellent clarinet player. The philosophy I’ve established in my house is that music is part of your overall education like science or math, so you can’t just quit,” said Gulyn, saxophonist, former music teacher and professor of music at Marymount University.

During the month of March, which is designated at Music in our Schools Month, educators highlight the benefits of quality music education programs. Part of a music education is practice, encouraging that in children can be daunting for some parents.

For children who play a musical instrument, regular practice is not only a path toward proficiency, it helps establish discipline that is useful in other areas of one’s life. “This habit, however, must be established purposefully,” said John Kilkenny, assistant professor of music at George Mason University. “Practice time like a part of child’s daily routine,” he said. “They have to have a consistent time for practice. For example, they come home from school each day, have a snack and practice for 30 minutes.”

Fifteen-year-old Timothy Gulyn plays Christmas music with fellow clarinetists. His teacher brings together all her clarinet students to perform with each other several times a year.

One key to keeping children motivated to practice is setting goals, be they long-term or for the current practice session. “Goal-oriented practice for younger kids, like a recital to work toward, for example is a good motivator,” said Kilkenny. “The biggest thing is consistency, practicing at or near the same time every day just like everything else they do so that it becomes part of their routine.”

For practice sessions to be effective, they must be organized and purposeful. This is another area where goal setting can be useful says, Ann McCoy, who teaches piano and violin in her Bethesda, Md. home. “Maybe a goal for a child who is working on a particularly difficult piece of music could be to spend their practice time perfecting three or four measures,” she said. “Rather than focusing on practicing for a set amount of time, they could practice until the can play the three measures perfectly and then they’re finished for the day. That is more effective than saying sitting for 30 minutes without accomplishing something specific.”

Adding a light-hearted element to practice, which can be seen by some children as laborious, also encourages students to practice. “There should be some sense that playing the instrument is supposed to be fun and students should ... have some flexibility beyond a rigid experiences,” said Kilkenny. “It shouldn’t feel like it’s a negative experience.”

For parents who have trouble getting a child to start a practice session, McCoy recommends trying different times of the day. “For example, I had one mother who had screaming matches with her children to get them to practice after they’d finished their homework in the evening,” she said. “She changed their practice time to the mornings after breakfast, but before they left for school. That made a huge difference in their willingness to practice because they were rested and in a better mood.”

Parents should be realistic about their child’s temperament and musical talent said Gulyn. “A child is only going to enjoy playing an instrument if they’re good at it and parents have to be realistic about that,” said Gulyn. “Music isn’t easy for everyone.”

Choosing a teacher who is a good fit for one’s child can have an effect on their desire to practice. “Ask around for recommendations, but find a teacher who inspires their students,” said Gulyn.

“It’s important to make sure the teacher is somebody who is credentialed and has degrees in music and also that they’re continuing to be engaged professionally as teachers and performers,” added Kilkenny. “Usually in terms of choosing a teacher, parents and children should have an opportunity to try a sample private lesson.”
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MCC is on the MOVE!
Due to the scheduled renovation of the Ingleside facility, on April 3, 2017, the McLean Community Center will temporarily relocate to the McLean Square Shopping Center.

Administrative Offices
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A fierce competition was unfolding on the basketball court last Saturday morning. No sneaker squeaks were heard. Instead, the clanks of colliding metal echoed throughout the James Lee Community Center gymnasium.

The Fairfax Falcons were using the Falls Church gymnasium to practice for the biggest event of the team’s year: The 2017 National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament in Louisville, Ky., from March 30 to April 2.

Kids from every corner of northern Virginia and into Maryland come to play for the team, which is the only wheelchair basketball team between Richmond and Baltimore.

“It’s more physical than people realize and it’s just as competitive,” said Lisa Rode, one of the team’s four coaches, including her husband Eric, who played on the team when he was a kid.

The wheelchair is considered part of the player’s body and the games are often hard-hitting, even to the point where players tip over and fall out of their chairs. The rest is like able-bodied basketball.

A wheelchair basketball player may wheel the chair and bounce the ball simultaneously. If the ball is picked up and/or placed on the player’s lap, he or she is only allowed to push twice before they are obligated to shoot, pass, or dribble the ball again. However, there is no double dribble rule in wheelchair basketball. A traveling violation occurs if the player takes more than two pushes while in possession of the ball without dribbling.

THE FALCONS have three levels of play:

❖ Novice: Children 8 and under learn chair skills and ball handling fundamentals
❖ Prep: Children 13 and under play with an 8.5-foot hoop and 27.5-inch ball
❖ Varsity: High school seniors and under play with a 10-foot hoop and a regulation-sized ball

The Falcons’ Prep team is ranked No. 1 in the nation among National Wheelchair Basketball Association teams. Its Varsity team ranks No. 16.

The top 16 ranked NWBA teams in both varsity and prep were invited to play in the Varsity and Prep National Championships in the Junior Division of the tournament.

“It’s the only place my son is the majority because he’s in a wheelchair,” said Amy Watson of Lorton. “It’s about so much more than basketball.”

Jake Watson, 18, is the only student who relies on a wheelchair at South County High School in Lorton. He has been a Falcon for the past four years.

The first time Jake saw the sport being played was during a Tampa Bay Strong Dogs game in Florida. The adult team was on the court and it made him nervous.

“It was the scariest thing I’ve seen in my life,” Jake said. “They gym was full of burning metal, rubber and sweat.”

He joined the team’s youth league and fell in love with the sport. When the Watsons had to move to Maryland, they continued playing for the Falcons.

“The Falcons are like home away from home,” said Jake.

The Falcons are excited to represent Virginia and are looking forward to making a strong showing at the national tournament.

See Fairfax Falcons, Page 11
northern Virginia, finding a wheelchair basketball team was top priority. “When we moved here, that was the most important thing,” said Amy Watson, whose family searched and found the Fairfax Falcons before they looked for a house. “It’s a sport that I can do from the chair,” Jake said. “It’s a connection with others like me.”

There is a connection among athletes’ parents as well, who can relate to what it’s like to live or care for someone facing complications from a disability. This can mean talking about surgeries that many of the athletes face off the court, Amy Watson said. “For parents, it’s therapy,” she said in between cheering from her seat on the bleachers as the team scrimmages.

Any child with a permanent, lower-extremity disability can play for the team, even if they are capable of walking. “The most common misconception is that you don’t have to be in a chair all of the time to play,” Rode said. “It’s for kids who cannot play on an able-bodied team.” The team is supported by the Therapeutic Recreation Services branch of the Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services that is dedicated to helping people with disabilities participate in recreation and leisure programs.

While this provides free access to county facilities for games and practices, the team is run by four volunteer coaches: Lisa Rode, Eric Rode, Danny Malloy and Melissa Buckles.

These coaches are making sure they can send both of their teams to the tournament, which includes fundraising to make the costs less burdensome. “It costs $2,000 for each wheelchair and the club pays for that,” Rode said.

FOR THE TOURNAMENT, the team paid $1,000 in registration costs and travel expenses will be funded entirely by parents. The team started a “Falcons Wheelchair Basketball” fundraiser on GoFundMe, an online social fundraising platform at www.gofundme.com. It has raised more than $4,600 of its $10,000 goal so far.

The Adult Division of the tournament will feature the best players in the world, Rode said. “For our kids to see them play, they look up to them,” she said.

This will be the third time the prep team has competed and the second time the varsity team has competed in the tournament, but this year holds a special meaning for the players who are dedicating their competition to their teammate Alex Green who died of cancer last summer at age 12. “It hit the kids really hard,” Rode said. “The last time they played with him was at nationals.”

The yellow shirts the team will be wearing are a tribute to Alex’s Army, a childhood cancer foundation run by his parents, Jenni and Derek Green. “We’re really fighting for him,” she said.
**Visit These Houses of Worship**

To Highlight Your Faith Community, call Karen at 703-917-6468

1. **ST. ANNE’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH • Reston**
   - 7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
   - 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
   - Sunday School: preschool - grade 2
   - Music: grades 1-7
   - 10:25 a.m. Sunday School Grades 3 to 6
   - Music: 4 years to 2nd grade
   - 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
   - 5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

2. **McLean Community Center**
   - 6645 Old Dominion Drive
   - McLean, VA 22101-0211
   - www.mcleancenter.org

3. **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA**
   - 450 Orchard Street, NW
   - VIENNA, VA 22180
   - 703-938-8525
   - email: tbcvoice@ tbivc.org
   - www.tbcvoice.org

**CALENDAR**

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www.mcleancenter.org

**ON GOING**

**Stuff-a-Bus Food Drive.** Through April 15, various times at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A food drive for non-perishable items to support Arlington Food Assistance Center. There will be drop off hours for donations of non-perishable food throughout the church. Then, on April 1, look for the school bus parked in front of the church. Call 703-759-6068.


**Fishing Rod Rentals** 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Rentals available during visitor center hours. Fishing tackle and live bait are available for purchase. Reservations required for group rentals. $6/rental (2 hour max). Valid driver’s license required. Rod/reel combinations are perfect for beginners and children. A Virginia or Maryland freshwater fishing license is required for those 16 years or older. The park does not sell fishing licenses. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/

**FRIDAY/MARCH 17**

**Children’s St. Paddy’s Party.** 7-9 p.m. at the Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Music, dancing, games, free catered food, videos and various attractions. 5th and 6th graders only. $35/$25 McLean District residents. Visit www.mcleancenter.org or call 703-446-8336 for more.

**MARCH 18-19**

**Sponsors Work Day.** 9 a.m.-noon at The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. McLean Trees Foundation needs volunteers to edge mulch beds, and prune 30 trees along Chain Bridge Road at Lextonsville Park, Lynchburg. Provided: Email single@1771.org or visit www.1771.org for more.

**McLean Youth Production** 3 p.m. at the Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. “The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales” adaptations. $15/$10 McLean district residents. Visit www.mcleancenter.org or call 703-446-8336 for more.

**SUNDAY/MARCH 19**

**The National Brass Quintet.** 3 p.m. at St. John’s Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Works by Handel, Bach, Bozza, McKee, Bernstein, Barnes and a special multimedia tribute to veterans. Visit www.stjohnsmdc.org/ for more.

**Opening Reception** 3-5 p.m. at ArtSpace Herndon, the Art Gallery and Performance Space, 750 Center Street, Herndon. There’s No Place Like Home exhibit by members of the Great Falls Studios. On display March 14 – April 8. Visit ArtSpaceHerndon.com for more.

**Uppy Women.** 3 p.m. at Chapel Auditorium, Madeira School, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Traveling Players Ensemble celebrates strong and difficult women with its “Uppy Women Festival,” a double bill of “The Wizard of Oz,” and “The Taming of the Shrew.” Visit www.travelingplayersons.org or call 703-987-1712 for more.

**TUESDAY/MARCH 20**

**Meet the Author: 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** at

**.atomicbominovemovie.8. 2017-03-20. 08:38:45.09.**

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

**ONGOING**

**Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Laura M. Elliott, local author, is the guest speaker. Call 703-759-3705 for more.**

**Italian Renaissance Art.** 5 p.m. at Dante’s Ristorante, 1148 Walker Road, Great Falls. Dr. Gianni Cicali will speak on the topic will be “The Influence of the Legend of the Cross on Italian Renaissance Art.” RSVP to Dedra Calderazzo at 703-759-4605 by March 16.

**WEDNESDAY/MARCH 22**

**Groundbreaking Ceremony.** 10 a.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Celebrate the start of the $8 million renovation of its Ingleside Avenue facility. A reception will follow the ceremony in the Center’s Community Hall. Contact Sabrina Anwah at sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-744-9363 for more.

**FRIDAY/MARCH 24**

**Atomic Trampoline & Movie.** 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Bounce on 40 interconnected trampolines and foam pits and then see a PG or PG-13 movie. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/

**Saturday/March 25**

**Hosting a Bee Hive**

**TUESDAY/MARCH 28**

**Writer’s Panel**

**TUESDAY/MARCH 29**

**Historic Vienna Membership Meeting**

**WEDNESDAY/MARCH 29**

**Atomic Trampoline & Movie.** 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Bounce on 40 interconnected trampolines and foam pits and then see a PG or PG-13 movie. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/

**Amadeus Benefit Concert and Auction.** 4 p.m. at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Visit www.stfrancisgreatneck.org/ for more.

**Christian Band**

7 p.m. at Smith Chapel, 11318 Beach Mill Road, Great Falls. Join Pastor Dave and the Smith Chapel family for an evening of music and fellowship with neighbors and friends. Email thechapel@live.com for more.

**MARCH 27**

**MONDAY/MARCH 27**

**Ava Hill Garden Club.** 12:45 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Topic: “Getting to Know Your Fellow Ava Hill Garden Club Members Through Their Love of Plants.” Visit www.viennavva.org/ for more.

**GOP Committee fundraiser.** 7 p.m. at Touche, 7911 West Park Drive, Tysons. 11th Congressional District GOP Committee fundraiser with Eric Canter. Visit www.vagop11.org/ for more.

**TUESDAY/MARCH 28**

**Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Sisters in Crime: Local Mystery Writers’ Panel. Visit viennavva.gov/library or call 703-938-0405 for more.**

**WEDNESDAY/MARCH 29**

**Historic Vienna Membership Meeting**

7:30 p.m. at Vienna Town Hall, 127 Center St., S., Vienna. Features of the meeting will be presentation of the Annual Heritage Preservation Award and the telling of a Civil War Love story. Call 703-947-9014 and 697-5473.

**www.Viennavva.gov/**

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**greatfallsconnection.com**
The Great Falls Garden Club and the Celebrate Great Falls Foundation are working to beautify the streetscape at the Village Center at Walker Road.

The organizations will be planting 14 trees along both sides of Walker Road, from Georgetown Pike to the edge of the commercial district.

"Our town center has lost a lot of trees, so that's really changing the appearance of town," said Candace Campbell, a garden club member and past president.

One of the massive oak trees located near the intersection of Georgetown Pike and Walker Road fell in the summer of 2012, killing Albert Carl Roeth III while he was driving. The tree was more than 100 years old and was showing signs of aging.

Three other oak trees along the roadway were removed following the incident as a precaution, according to Campbell.

Another oak tree did not survive the pedestrian safety and traffic flow improvements to the roadway that the Virginia Department of Transportation constructed.

The process of bringing trees back to the area has been more complicated than the garden club would have ever guessed.

"It's taken us like 15 or 16 months to get all of our ducks in order," Campbell said. "There's a lot of balls in the air. It's really amazing. You would think, 'Ah, so simple. Just plant some trees down Walker Road.' But, it's not simple."

The garden club met with Fairfax County and Dranesville District arborists to determine which trees would fare well in the area. However, the hornbeam trees may need to be replaced because they would grow too tall for power lines along Walker Road.

**New Trees for Village Center**

By Fallon Forbush

The initial plans call for planting sourwood, American plum, fringe, downy serviceberry and American hornbeam trees — which are all native to the area. However, the hornbeam trees may need to be replaced because they would grow too tall for power lines along Walker Road.

**THE GARDEN CLUB** met with Fairfax County and Dranesville District arborists to determine which trees would fare well in the area.

"They knew information about bugs and diseases so that we didn't pick trees that would succumb to something that we didn't know about for five years from now," she said.

The trees the group selected to plant are sourwood, American plum, fringe, downy serviceberry and American hornbeam — which are all native to the area.

"There's been a big push to use native trees, shrubs and flowers because it's better for wildlife and the environment," Campbell said. "The non-native stuff is beautiful, but it's not home or food for anybody. If you're going to plant a tree, you might as well plant a native."

The garden club also made sure they received a permit and approval from VDOT, since it owns the land. However, plans may have to change as they work around utilities, which they forgot to consider.

The group arranged to plant hornbeams, which the United States Department of Agriculture said can grow up to 30 feet tall, near above-ground power lines.

"Now we're investigating smaller trees that would still fit all the other criteria and would prevent Dominion from coming through and butchering them in five years when they're mature," she said.

**THE FINAL HURDLE** is funding the streetscape project to the amount of $20,000. About $6,000 will buy and plant the trees; another $6,000 will be spent on maintenance for the trees’ first year; and more will be used as a contingency in case trees need to be replaced or watering is needed next summer, according to Campbell. "We need to water them to make sure they get established and so they don't just bake in July and August and die."

"It's taken us like 15 or 16 months to get all of our ducks in order," Campbell said. "There's a lot of balls in the air. It's really amazing. You would think, 'Ah, so simple. Just plant some trees down Walker Road.' But, it's not simple."

The McLean Community Center

**The McLean Community Center**

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Great Falls Connections  March 15-21, 2017  15

THURSDAY/MARCH 16
Caregivers’ Support Group. 10-11:30 a.m. at Unitarstional Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF) Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Contact Jack Tur at 703-821-6838 or jaart5@verizon.net.
Fairfax County 2018 Budgets. 7:30 p.m. at The Mclean Community Center Community Hall, 1234 Ingleside Drive, Mclean. A conversation on Fairfax County and Fairfax County Public Schools 2018 Budgets, with speakers including John Foote, Fairfax District Supervisors and Joe Momeda, CFO, Fairfax County. Visit mcleanconnections.org/ for more.
SATURDAY/MARCH 18
Job Fair for Teens. 1-3 p.m. at Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna. Local businesses and agencies will be on hand to offer a range of opportunities including part-time jobs, internships, and volunteer work. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/ teenjobfair.htm.

TUESDAY/MARCH 21
Tax Relief Workshops. 10-2 a.m. at Mclean Governmental Center, Community Room, 1437 Balls Hill Road, Mclean. Each year the Fairfax Board of Supervisors hosts a series of tax relief workshops. Real estate tax relief is available for older adults and people with disabilities who meet certain qualifications; individuals may be eligible for car tax relief and tax relief for renters. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta or call 703-222-8234 (TTY 703-222-7794).

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 22
Meal with a Message. 11:30 a.m. at the Juku Box Restaurant, 6060 North Community Plaza, Sterling. Dranesville Church of the Brethren sponsors Meal with a Message is held the fourth Wednesday of the month at a local restaurant. RSVP to Joy Trickett, joygoshppard@verizon.net or Maryannne Bivens, mba915@gmail.com or Dranesville Church of the Brethren, 703-430-7872.
You Can Offer College Workshop. 3:30-7:30 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Virginia Society of CPAs offers a college affordability workshop that covers topics such as student plans, financial aid grants, scholarships and loans. One-on-one counseling and additional resources will be available. Free. Contact David Bass at dbass@vscpa.com or 804-612-9440 or visit www.vcpa.org/college.
Georgetown Pike Trail Community Meet. 7-9 p.m. at Great Falls Library, Large Meeting Room, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is holding a community meeting concerning the Georgetown Pike Trail Phase III and Phase IV projects. There will be a presentation by County Staff at 7:30 p.m., followed by a brief question and answer session. Public comments will be accepted through April 14, 2017. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/odot/ pedestrian/georgetownpiketrail.htm.

TUESDAY/MARCH 28
Tax Relief Workshops. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at McLean Governmental Center, Community Room, 1437 Balls Hill Road, Mclean. Each year, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors hosts a series of tax relief workshops. Real estate tax relief is available for older adults and people with disabilities who meet certain qualifications; individuals may be eligible for car tax relief and tax relief for renters. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta or call 703-222-8234 (TTY 703-222-7794).

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 29
Public Safety Preparedness Program. 7 p.m. at American Legion McLean Post 270, 1355 Balls Hill Road, Mclean. Public Safety Preparedness Programs, co-sponsored by the Greater Mclean Chamber, the Mclean Citizens Association, the Great Falls Citizens Association and the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. Visit www.mcleanpost270.org for more.

To have community events listed in the Connection, please contact newspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is noon on Friday.
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