

Celebrating International Night at Cooper Middle, Katie Williams presents French Culture with a poster and hand-made figurines.

LOUIS XIV

VERSAILLES

LE CHÂTEAU / THE CASTLE

Le Château de Versailles a commencé comme un logis de chasse en 1623.

The Palace of Versailles began as a Hunting Lodge in 1623.

En 1634, le logis de chasse est devenu un petit château.

In 1634, the Hunting Lodge became a Petit Castle.

Durant le règne de Louis XIV, le château a vu plusieurs siècles de rénovations.

Throughout the reign of Louis XIV, the Castle expanded greatly.

En 1745, Louis XV a agrandi le palais à l'apogée pour le mariage du dauphin.

In 1745, Louis XV added an opera house for the wedding of the Prince.

Pendant la révolution française, les maîtres étoient, le portail royal était détruit.

During the French Revolution, the furniture was sold off to rich people and the gate was destroyed.

En 1805, Napoléon a construit des maisons d'été par le château.

In 1805, Napoleon built summer houses not very far from the palace.

Après Napoléon, un palais était construit dans le régime de Louis XVII.

After Napoleon, a palace was added in the reign of Louis XVI.

Finalement, en 1832, le château est devenu une musée.

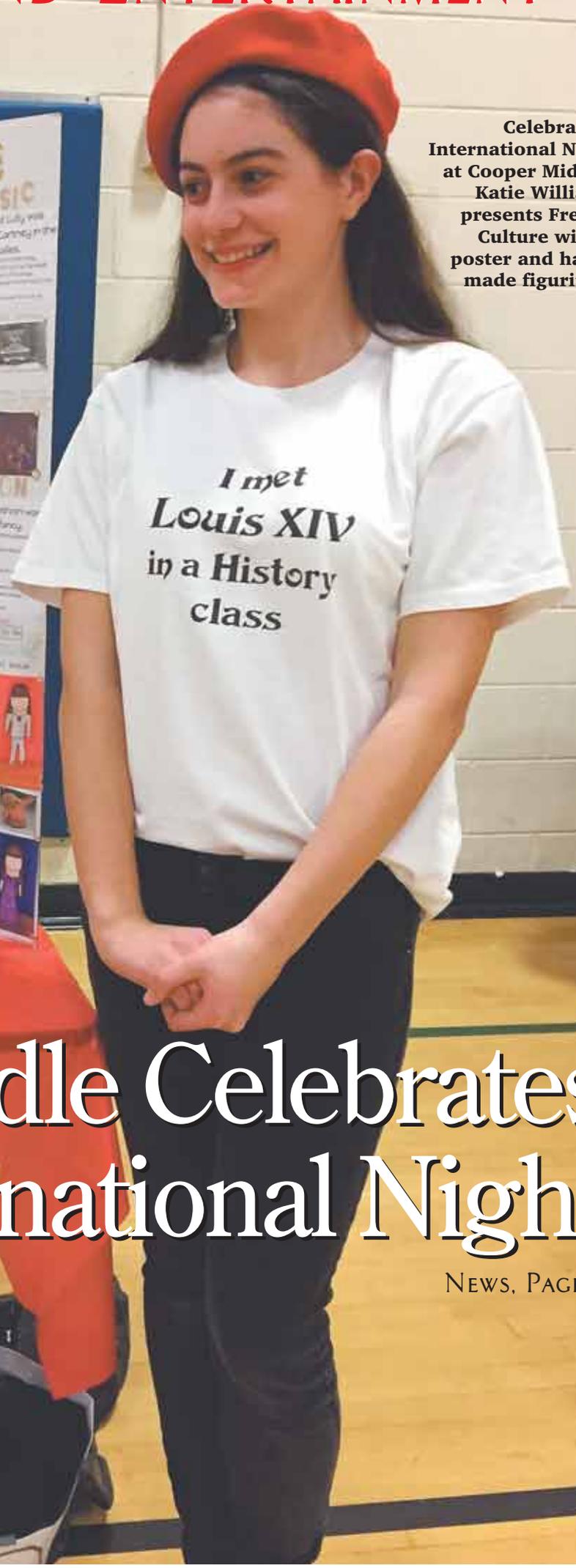
Finally in 1832, the Palace of Versailles became a museum.

BAROQUE MUSIQUE / MUSIC

Baroque music was a style of music that was popular in the 17th and 18th centuries.

LA MODE / FASHION

The Baroque fashion was characterized by its elaborate and fancy designs.



Cooper Middle Celebrates International Night

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PHOTOS BY ALYSSA MILLER/THE CONNECTION

Detective Bruce Blackwell presents safety tips to the audience.



From left: Detectives Matt Scheibel, Neal Freemer and Bruce Blackwell, and Patrick Smaldore, chairman of the McLean Citizen Advisory Committee, listen and respond to questions about home security from residents.

Preventing Burglaries in McLean

Fairfax County Police, Citizen Advisory Committee provide home security tips in response to recent burglaries.

BY ALYSSA MILLER
THE CONNECTION

A recent string of burglaries in McLean neighborhoods has left many residents wondering how to keep their homes and cars safe.

Thursday evening, detectives from the Fairfax County Police Department joined the McLean Citizen Advisory Committee to host a “Burglary Theme Night.” The detectives provided residents with tips and tricks to secure their houses and answered questions from concerned citizens.

People “know their [own] neighborhoods better than anyone,” said Bruce Blackwell, a Fairfax County Police detective. Blackwell was involved in last week’s arrest of the individual police believe to be behind the burglaries. He advises residents to be vigilant about suspicious activity in the area.

Lieutenant Jason Allegra, an assistant commander with the Fairfax County Police Department who helped answer questions throughout the evening, also emphasized the importance of looking out for anyone who doesn’t belong in the neighborhood.

“Watch out for your neighbors,” Allegra said. “Typically, people know when some-

body doesn’t live in their neighborhood or doesn’t typically have somebody walking around the back of their house.”

Blackwell, along with detectives Neal Freemer and Matt Scheibel, discussed everything from more obvious tips — locking the front door, for example — to using hidden cameras and planting thorny bushes to deter burglars.

Freemer pointed out that most burglars won’t return to the same house twice.

“Burglars don’t want confrontation,” Freemer said during the presentation. “They just want to steal your stuff.”

However, a potential confrontation won’t stop a burglar from entering a home when the resident is nearby. Even when the homeowner is mowing the lawn or talking to neighbors, the detectives advised locking the door. Burglars might watch a house until they know the homeowner is otherwise occupied, and sneak in when nobody’s looking.

Skip Vibert, a longtime McLean resident, attended the theme night because he was concerned about the safety of his and nearby neighborhoods. Before the recent string of burglaries, Vibert said they’d “never had but an occasional break-in in 26 years.”

Vibert learned that he was doing a good job of securing his home, but was still glad he attended the event to become more informed about safety in his neighborhood.

“An understanding of what’s happening factually, as opposed to socially, is important,” he said.

Allegra said if he could give one piece of advice to keep the area safe, it would be that residents shouldn’t be afraid to call the police if they see something suspicious.

“I hear way too much, ‘I didn’t know whether to call or not,’ or ‘I didn’t wanna bother the police,’” Allegra said. “We want to be bothered. It’s our job to be bothered.”

Marshall High School Presents ‘Cry-Baby’

Lace up your saddle shoes and grab your leather jackets and come out to experience Marshall High School’s rendition of the Tony-nominated rebellious teen comedy musical “Cry-Baby” set to open Thursday, March 30.

In 1950s Baltimore, the conservative squares face off against the leather-clad delinquents in this rockabilly musical based on the 1990 cult classic film by John Waters. The show features an irresistible rebel without a cause, a starry-eyed good girl ready to buck her upbringing, scheming adults and a cast of kooky and colorful greasers and squares.

“Cry-Baby” is a jumping, jiving show with a delightfully demented script from the writers of “Hairspray” and a score from the co-founder of Fountains of Wayne and the executive producer of The Daily Show.

“Be prepared to laugh out loud at the snarky, irreverent humor of this show,” said director Jason Tamborini. “There will be plenty of dancing and plot twists to keep you on your toes.”

In one of the first productions of the show since it left Broadway, “Cry-Baby” opens on Thursday, March 30 at 7:30 with additional shows on March 31 and April 1 at 7:30 plus matinees on Saturday, April 1 at 2 p.m. and Sunday, April 2 at 3 p.m. The show will be on at George C. Marshall High School’s main auditorium at 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Tickets are \$10 for students, teachers and seniors and \$15 for adults. Tickets can be purchased at the Box Office with cash or check before each performance. Visit statesmentheatre.org for more information. Due to some content, this show is most appropriate for ages 13 and up.



PHOTO BY ANNIE LIN

The leads of the show, George Marshall Seniors Sam Bock (as Cry-Baby) and Amelia Lindsay (as Alison Vernon-Williams).

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When It's Time For More Space



Are you expecting a new baby or have parents or in-laws moving in? Adding space can be a great way to not only make your home function better for you, but increase resale value as well. Two popular ways to add space... adding onto the back or adding a second story.

An addition that attaches onto the back of the house is one of the most common ways to add space. They provide a great opportunity to add light and great views and access to the backyard. Being mindful of scale on any addition is important. An addition that is too large can overwhelm an existing structure. One solution can be to design the addition into several parts that blend with the existing structure.

Raising your roof to allow for a second story addition can be another great way to go especially if limited by lot size. A second story can entirely change your home's curb appeal. Many families who opt for this solution will move bedrooms to the second floor, allowing for a nice open floor plan on the first floor.



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NEWS



Students have fun tasting new foods and enjoying the Japanese booth at International Night. From left: Ellie Smedberg, Alyssa Medici, Maggie Worden and Christiana Medici.



Bolivian dancers entertain the crowd with detailed costumes and dance moves. PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Cooper Middle Celebrates International Night

BY LILIANA SCHONE
COOPER MIDDLE, SECOND GRADE

On Thursday, March 16, Cooper Middle School hosted International Night. It was a huge success. Every one had so much fun watching the acts from a variety of different cultures. The food from different countries was also a huge hit. "I loved the opportunity to try different types of food," said Cooper parent Dean Walter. Students

taking an international language at Cooper also prepared detailed displays to present information about their country's heritage. It was a fun night where you got to take a step into a different country's culture.

Kelly Chinn
shows off his
heritage.



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WEEK IN MCLEAN

Public Safety Program On March 29

The McLean Citizens Association, the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce, the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations and the Great Falls Citizens Association invite the public to a Public Safety Preparedness Program on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 270, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean.

The program will cover topics such as, "Disasters & Keeping the Doors Open," "Ready NOVA: Preparedness Planning for Residents, Businesses & Faith Communities" and "Active Shooters: Past Washington Area Events and How to Respond." Visit www.mcleancitizens.org.

Comstock Announces 2017 Congressional Art Competition

U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock announced the 2017 Congressional Art Competition for Virginia's 10th Congressional District. The competition is open to all high school students who reside in the District. The Best in Show winner of the competition will have their piece of art displayed in the United States Capitol.

Comstock is a member of the Congressional Art Caucus and started the House Arts Caucus in the Virginia General Assembly.

Students should drop-off their completed artwork

on April 17, 2-5 p.m. at Enterprise Hall on the George Washington Virginia Science & Technology Campus. Art submitted must be ready to hang and entries are limited to two per student. For information and guidelines about the 2017 Congressional Art Competition visit comstock.house.gov. Students and teachers can also contact Amanda Gray Bailey at 703-404-6903 or by email at AmandaGray.Bailey@mail.house.gov.

McLean PTSD Organization Named a Finalist

LIDS, a sporting hat company, has named McLean's own "Our Military Kids," as a finalist in the fifth annual "Tip the Hat Award" grant program, which donates a total of \$300,000 annually to five charities nationwide.

LIDS employees will determine the ranking of the five finalists, each of which will be recognized and receive their subsequent grant at an event on April 11 at LIDS' national headquarters in Indianapolis. First prize will be awarded \$125,000, followed by \$75,000 for second place and \$50,000 for third. Fourth and fifth place will each be granted \$25,000.

Our Military Kids focuses on the children of military parents that might experience their own PTSD or stress.

This non-profit helps ease the stress for military children by paying for participation in sports, fine arts and tutoring programs. These activities have helped reduce stress, improve school performance, self-esteem and even boosted the well-being of children's whole family. Visit ourmilitarykids.org.

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OPINION

Virginians Will Lose Under the New Health Care Proposal

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



COMMENTARY

Explanation of the recently announced American Health Care Act usually starts with an expressed need to clean up the mess that the Affordable Care Act — or Obamacare — had made. Most all agreed that the massive transformation the program of health care had brought about could use some tweaking and refinement, but clearly a seven-year campaign against the Affordable Care Act left a blurred view of what the program did for consumers. If the ACA had created a mess, the recently proposed replacement of it will certainly create an even messier and unfair situation.

Virginians in particular will suffer a double hit on health care especially for those most in need. The General Assembly would not approve an expansion of Medicaid that would have brought health care to as many as 400,000 uninsured most in need in the Commonwealth and would have expanded the health care network with the four billion dollars that would have flowed into the state.

While the new program would eliminate Medicaid expansion in 2020, persons would have been able to get health care in the interim rather than to go without or have to seek help at free clinics or one-time-a-year Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinics. States that have expanded Medicaid would continue to get full coverage for persons already enrolled but would get a lesser amount for new enrollees beginning in 2020. That provision alone would add to the four billion loss already incurred in Virginia.

There are 327,000 Virginians who gained coverage under the ACA as it expanded access to affordable health care. The proposed replacement to the ACA would do away with federal health insurance subsidies that helped people afford their monthly premiums and lowered out-of-pocket expenses. Subsidies would be replaced with tax credits. Currently insurers can charge older customers up to three times what they charge younger customers; under the new plan that would increase to five times.

Although some would never acknowledge it,

there are features of the despised Obamacare program that were maintained. Insurers would still be banned from denying coverage based on preexisting conditions. Dependents would still be able to stay on parents' insurance plans through age 26. Caps on annual or lifetime coverage would still be banned.

Clearly fewer people will have access to affordable care under the AHCA. Virtually every developed country in the world with the exception of the USA has decided that access to health care is a basic human right. What is the biggest objection to the program enacted under President Obama? It included targeted taxes on investment income and wages for the very high income individuals and couples. The new AHCA eliminates many of the taxes. The wealthiest 400 households including the billionaires in the new administration would get an average tax cut of \$7 million per year while taxes for many low-income working families would increase. Eliminating the two taxes on very high income households would cost the federal government \$275 billion over 10 years.

Most Virginians will lose under the replacement proposed for the ACA. Only the very rich will gain. Maybe that is what the debate is really about!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Out of Step of What Americans Want

To the Editor:

On March 1, about 250 Planned Parenthood supporters descended upon Washington to ask our elected officials not to defund Planned Parenthood. I was proud to stand in the Virginia group with another patient and two healthcare providers in addition to Planned Parenthood staff. We met with and received incredible support from Senators Kaine and Warner and Representative Connolly, and staff from Representatives Beyer, McEachin, and Scott's offices. I felt good knowing that our leaders in Washington were interested in such an important issue.

Unfortunately, not all of our leaders cared enough to respond to us. Representative Barbara Comstock failed to respond to our meeting requests. We dropped by her office, spoke with a staff member regarding the importance of Planned Parenthood, and left a packet of information. One representative from our group saw Comstock in the hall and approached her. Comstock refused to speak with her, stating that she was "heading in the other direction." She ran away.

Most Americans support funding Planned Parenthood. A recent PerryUndem poll showed 70 percent of voters oppose defunding, including 50 percent of Trump supporters. A vote to defund is out of step with what Americans want.

Of the minority of voters who do oppose federal funding for Planned Parenthood, many oppose Planned Parenthood on the basis of lies. For instance, at the March for Life in January, Vice President Pence stated that the Trump administration would end "taxpayer funding of abortion." In fact, taxpayer funding of abortion has been illegal since 1977 under the Hyde Amendment. Conservatives know that quite well and apparently have no concerns with repeating that lie to all of us.

While defunding Planned Parenthood will not prevent abortions, it will eliminate preventative care for those who need it the most. More than 90 percent of Planned Parenthood services are actually preventive health services (annual well-woman exams, sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment, cervical and breast cancer screenings, and birth control) and Planned Parenthood

served 2.5 million individuals last year. One provision of federal funding under Title X offers special pricing to Planned Parenthood for medications and devices such as birth control and IUDs (long-acting reversible birth control). Defunding Planned Parenthood drastically increases these costs and will make them cost prohibitive for the low-income individuals that rely on Planned Parenthood. This eliminates basic health care to many.

Those who oppose Planned Parenthood focus on abortion, which is legal and should be kept safe. But Planned Parenthood is responsible for so much more. I was a patient of Planned Parenthood when I was uninsured and needed a checkup. In addition to the standard breast and pelvic exam and pap test, my doctor at Planned Parenthood got to know me. Because he knew that he was the only healthcare provider I would see for a while, he also got to know my family history. Skin cancer runs in my family and he took the time to scan me for that as well. I felt safe and was able to obtain affordable care when I was poor and uninsured. I say this as a proud mother of two beautiful children and as someone who believes that

the sanctity of life means ensuring that people have access to affordable health care when they need it.

No matter how much Comstock ignores Virginians in refusing to hold town halls or to meet with citizens, and no matter how quickly Comstock heads in the opposite direction of her constituents' desires, she will answer in 2018. Americans overwhelmingly support federal funding for Planned Parenthood. If Comstock continues to refuse to listen, Virginians will send someone to Congress who will.

Sarah Jacobson
Great Falls

Write

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

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OBITUARY



Paul Frank, shown conducting the McLean Orchestra, died March 13 at the age of 76.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The Music Man

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE CONNECTION

A conductor's podium was as much an office for Paul Frank as was the traditional CEO corner suite. A simple baton would come to life in the hands of the master puppeteer, his love of music infectious. When Frank was hired as interim executive director of the McLean Orchestra in 2016, it was the perfect fit for his business acumen and musical artistry.

Frank, who held various positions with the McLean Orchestra and its board of directors over the years, was recently hired as the executive director of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. He died March 13 after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 76.

"Paul was passionate in his support of the McLean Orchestra," said past orchestra president Wayne Sharp. "Over the years he served in many roles, from treasurer to vice president and president to his most recent role as interim executive director. He was a key part of the McLean family."

Paul A. Frank was born in Washington, D.C. on July 4, 1940, to Murray and Freidel Frank. He attended Coolidge High School and graduated from George Washington University.

An accomplished musician, Frank led The Collegians musical group during the 1970s and later performed as both a solo pianist and accompanist throughout the greater Washington area including the Kennedy Center, the Jewish Community Center and countless other venues.

"Music was always a big part of Dad's life and our house growing up was always full of music and musical instruments," said Todd Frank. "I am forever grateful to him for passing along not only whatever 'talent gene' we got from him, but also the ear and the appreciation of music."

Mark Frank also recalled the influence of his father's music.

"My bond with my father centers around music," said Mark Frank. "My fondest memories are the little things — how he would wrap his arms around me as a young boy and show me how to play something at the piano or how he would holler from upstairs and tell me to slow down when I was practicing my scales. But the one memory that I truly cherish was falling asleep as a kid to the sound of Dad playing the piano.

To this day, I play piano for my kids when they go to sleep. And these past few weeks, I have been playing all of Dad's favorites."

Prior to his work with the McLean Orchestra, Frank served as CEO of the Collingwood Library and Museum as well as Executive Director for the Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center.

In the private corporate sector, he was president of Paul A. Frank Associates, Inc., a human resources firm, and Human Resources Director for the Boeing Company. As a banker, he was Vice President, Business and Professional Banking for M&T Bank and previously Vice President, Business Development and Community Affairs for 1st Service Bank.

Frank participated in several area chambers of commerce including the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce and Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce. He is also a past President of the Rotary Club of McLean and served as a board member of the Arts Council of Fairfax County.

"I am excited about the possibilities ahead," Frank said recently of his work with the McLean and Alexandria orchestras. "My goal is to make an impact."

Frank is survived by his wife of 23 years, Barbie Beggs Frank; a brother, David Frank, and sister, Judy Koldaro; children Todd Levinson Frank (Marcella), Denise Frank-Conneen (Michael), and Mark Frank (Suzanne); stepchildren Carter Poole (Woody) and Sarah Poole Wincovich (Nick); and nine grandchildren.

A memorial service was held March 20 at Everly-Wheatley Funeral Home in Alexandria. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the McLean Orchestra, P.O. Box 760, McLean, VA 22101

"Paul loved everything about how a symphony orchestra operates," said arts patron Fran Redmon. "Every organization Paul touched, he changed for the better."



Paul Frank, who most recently served as the interim executive director of the McLean Orchestra, died March 13 after a brief illness. He was 76.

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Susan Perry is the Vice President of Client Services at Care Options, a Lifematters Company. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in Virginia with 25 years of experience in acute care, long-term care, rehabilitation, home care and hospice care settings. Susan has served as a member of the Geriatric Consultation Team at Inova Fairfax Hospital. She has a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master of Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University.



Diane Vance is the Program Manager for the Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter. She has been immersed in dementia care professionally and as a caregiver for many years. Diane served as the Director of Dementia Care Services in Assisted Living and Director of an Adult Medical Day Program for elderly individuals with cognitive impairments. As a passionate advocate for those with dementia and their families, she has provided invaluable support to many.



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The meeting was moderated by Dale Stein, McLean Citizens Association's Budget and Taxation Committee chair (not pictured). Participants included (from left): Joe Mondoro, CFO for Fairfax County; Kristen Michael, assistant superintendent of financial services for the Fairfax County Public Schools; and Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).



Esther Lee, vice chairman of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, told the crowd that one of the biggest attractions that draw businesses to the county is its school system. She expressed her concern for maintaining the quality of FCPS schools and encouraged officials to find new ways to increase revenues for the county.

'Painful' Outlook Cast for County's Budget

BY FALLON FORBUSH
THE CONNECTION

Officials cast a dreary outlook for the ongoing budget negotiations for Fairfax County's 2018 fiscal year.

The McLean Citizens Association hosted a meeting to discuss the county's \$4.10 billion advertised budget at the McLean Community Center on Thursday, March 16. The panel of county officials was moderated by Dale Stein, MCA's Budget and Taxation Committee chair. Participants included Joe Mondoro, CFO for Fairfax County; Kristen Michael, assistant superintendent of financial services for the Fairfax County Public Schools; and Supervisor John Foust, Dranesville District representative on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

"There's a lot of pain in [the budget] for both the county and for the schools," Foust said during the meeting. "Both are going to have to make some cuts."

EARLIER THIS MONTH, the Fairfax County Public Schools projected a \$57 million shortfall in its budget for next school year. Kristen Michael, assistant superintendent of financial services for the FCPS, had slightly encouraging news for the audience: the gap had shrunk by \$8.6 million.

This adjustment is a result of the state finalizing its budget, which includes more support than FCPS anticipated. FCPS also made some new changes that helped to reduce the funding gap. An additional amount of funding from the FCPS's 2017 fiscal year budget is being carried over into the new budget and FCPS negotiated new cost savings for its employees' healthcare.

"We did go out to bid and rebid our pharmacy contract for this year, which resulted in significant savings that helped us keep that cost low," Michael said during the meeting.

Still, the county must contend with a po-

tential \$48.4 million gap between what FCPS is requesting versus what it has available.

The FCPS is scrambling to close the gap.

The FCPS will present its budget to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, April 4. Before FCPS adopts its budget, which is planned for May 25, it will hold budget work sessions on Monday, April 24; Monday, May 1; and Thursday, May 18.

These work sessions will include discussion on changes to its Educational Employees' Supplementary Retirement System of Fairfax County (ERFC) pension system, which is projected to cost an additional \$11.4 million in fiscal year 2018. The changes that the FCPS is considering include implementing \$4.7 million in reductions to the system by June in time for the fiscal year 2018 budget.

Recommendations include lowering the interest crediting rate on all member accounts of the FCPS pension system from 5 percent to 4 percent. The FCPS is considering more changes for new or nonvested members, including instituting a minimum retirement age of 55; increasing the period for calculating the final average salary from three years to five years; and changing the cost-of-living adjustment to equal 100 percent of the Consumer Price Index with a cap of 4 percent.

More cost-savings measures proposed by the FCPS include adding \$3.8 million in athletic fees and delaying the start of music programs from the fourth grade to fifth grade, which would save \$2.8 million. Another



Sally Horn, McLean Citizens Association Tysons Liaison Committee co-chair, stood up and urged the speakers to seriously consider three resolutions that the association approved this year regarding the county's pension systems. The resolutions ask the county to study its pension systems and make changes that would rein in their unfunded liabilities and costs.

would save \$22.8 million by increasing class sizes for all grade levels by one student.

While the rest of the county's budget is

Next Steps

- ❖ The Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings on the county's advertised budget from April 4-6.
- ❖ The Board of Supervisors Budget Committee will meet to discuss changes to the advertised budget on April 24.
- ❖ The Board of Supervisors will make changes to the advertised budget on April 25.
- ❖ The Board of Supervisors will adopt the final budget on May 2.

balanced, sacrifices were made to make it happen.

Some initiatives the county had previously prioritized will go without funding. The priority items that Edward Long Jr., the Fairfax County executive, chose to snub in his advertised fiscal year 2018 budget include:

- ❖ Implementing the county's Public Safety Staffing Plan, \$8.5 million
- ❖ Continuing the new Diversion First program, which offers alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness or developmental disabilities who enter the criminal justice system for low-level offenses, \$5.3 million
- ❖ Implementing the next phase of recommendations from the Ad-Hoc Police Commission, \$7 million
- ❖ Filling police department positions, \$7.9 million
- ❖ Increasing funding for employment and support for individuals with developmental disabilities, \$6.7 million

NEWS



Keith Tetter of McLean thanked Supervisor John Foust for voting against increasing property taxes and asked him to continue finding other ways to increase revenues for the county without relying on increasing property taxes or assessments.

McLean Citizens Association discusses county's \$4.10 billion advertised budget.

Also underfunded is the 1.65 percent cost-of-living adjustment for all county employee salaries. This line item would cost \$19.8 million.

"Based on the funding that the county executive had available to him and the decisions he was making in terms of the allocation, that [market rate adjustment] is not funded," Joe Mondoro, CFO for Fairfax County, said during the meeting. "Again, [the county executive] did fund partially the increases to employees, but not fully."

THE UNCERTAINTY surrounding the federal government and the new Trump administration worried panelists.

"Fairfax County has had significant challenges over the last several years with respect to our budget, with respect to our economy," Foust said. "Some of the things that are challenging us the most are the fact that for so long we were dependent on the federal government to basically support our economy and federal spending is way down."

Foust wants to see Fairfax County diversify its revenue sources and turn away from federal government dependence. But he cautioned the shift would take time.

"We're not going to be able to solve all of these problems at once," Foust said. "It's just ... they're too big."

This year, the county will not raise taxes to solve its predicament. "Modest tax increases is not something we shy away from, but last year's was fairly dramatic because we needed to give a big shot to the schools ... To follow that along with another tax increase this year would have been unsustainable," Foust said.

Panelists also blamed a weak commercial real estate market for the county's financial woes.

More than 20 million square feet of office space in the county is vacant, according to Mondoro, who also said the local real estate market underperformed in 2016.

"We are very dependent on the commer-

cial office market to subsidize the services and the quality of life that we have and gotten used to in Fairfax County," Foust said. "With that challenge, our budget this year is once again pretty difficult."

More than 64 percent of the advertised budget's revenues come from real estate taxes. Personal property taxes account for nearly 15 percent more.

"Clearly, we are overly or excessively reliant on real estate revenue for the general fund," Mondoro said. "In the environment that we've been in where that growth has been very low, the impact on the general fund is significant."

Mondoro brought up the November 2016 election where the county tried to diversify its revenue by implementing a meals tax referendum, which residents voted down.

The Washington Metro Area Transit Authority will continue to increase its financial need as the transit system makes repairs and adds new track. The county's coffers are one source Metro intends to dig into.

The county paid \$121.5 million towards WMATA's operating budget during fiscal year 2017 and is anticipating paying \$141.4 million in fiscal year 2018 — an increase of nearly \$20 million. Though there is an increase, the county's general fund contributions will remain flat as state aid and gas taxes cover the increase. It's WMATA's capital budget that is troublesome.

"The level of capital support is not sustainable going forward," Mondoro said. This budget is increasing by \$64.3 million in fiscal year 2018 and the county's required contribution is increasing by \$3.3 million and will only grow, according to Mondoro.

The county's general fund was not "dramatically impacted" this year, Mondoro and the other panelists are fearful for the future impact that Metro's financial challenges will have on the county.

"We're looking at a potentially really serious hit to our ability to fund other services because of the needs of Metro," Foust said.



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Illuminating and Engaging

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Classic myths of ancient Greece and Rome will be set against compelling narratives of contemporary times and modern war as the renowned Aquila Theatre brings “Our Trojan War” to the Alden.

“Our Trojan War” uses epic moments from Homer’s *“Iliad”* and scenes from other classical dramas and poetry to propel a moving chronicle of men and women at war. The production features American combat veterans who perform alongside Aquila company members. They are “The Warrior Chorus.”

“Alden patrons have asked for live theater,” said Sarah N. Schallern, director, performing arts, McLean Community Center. “This show is special. ‘Our Trojan War’ incorporates Aquila’s distinctive live theatrical style combining superb acting with expert movement, original music, innovative design and direction.”

Aquila’s “Warrior Chorus” is a National Endowment for the Humanities funded project. “The Chorus brings together men and women who served in the United States military and trains them to the highest level in the performing arts and humanities,” said Desiree Sanchez, artistic director, Aquila.



Photo by Jeremy Lock

PHOTO BY JEREMY LOCK/COURTESY MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Cast of “Our Trojan War.”

The four member “Warrior Chorus” will join four professional actors on the Alden stage to perform.

“Because of their military service, veterans often understand classic Greek and Roman works at a very deep level based on their own experiences,” said Peter Meineck,

founder, Aquila Theatre. “Perhaps this is because the ancient authors were all veterans themselves and using mythic material to articulate the tensions in their own society.”

“Veterans are great people to communicate important issues,” added Meineck.

Aquila Theatre’s “Our Trojan Wars” at Alden Theatre.

Where and When

Aquila Theatre’s “Our Trojan War with The Warrior Chorus” at Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Performance Saturday, Apr. 1, 2017 at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$35/\$25 veterans and current military, \$20 MCC tax district residents. Call 703-790-0123 or visit www.mcleancenter.org.

“They have demonstrated their commitment to their society by serving and often placing themselves at great personal risk and they are representatives of all of us, every gender, ethnicity and social group. They have earned the right to be heard.”

For Alden patrons attending “Our Trojan Wars” whether current service members, veterans or civilians, “I want them to feel they have experienced a compelling and exciting evening of live theatre...I would hope they might be provoked to think about democracy, leadership, ethics and power on a deeper level,” Meineck said.

In interviews with members of “The Warrior Chorus,” who have been in military service throughout the world from the Middle East, Korea, and Italy to name a few locations: James Stanton (USAF), Adrienne Brammer (USAF) and James Becton (USA) all agreed; they looked forward to a “lively, direct, unscripted conversation and engaging our audiences after the show.”



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Bloomingdale’s pulls out all the stops to showcase the latest fashion trends at the upcoming “Spring Fling Fashion Show” on March 26.



Members of the New Dominion Women’s Club fashion show committee during the initial planning phase. From left: Desi Woltman, president; Kitty Gonzalez; Anne Deger; Carol Brunner; Jennifer Salopek, co-chair; and Mary Ann Miller

Women’s Club to Host Fashion Show

The New Dominion Women’s club will be hosting its annual fundraiser, the “Spring Fling Fashion Show” on Sunday, March 26, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. The show will feature the latest fashion trends at a new venue — Bloomingdale’s at Tysons Corner. Guests will enjoy a raffle, lite fare, and a variety of drinks including com-

plimentary mimosas. “We are proud of our long-standing commitment of helping local charities. Our club will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary next year. We appreciate McLean Properties, Inc., The JBG Companies, and Washington Investment Trust for sponsoring our event. We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones at the fashion show.

It’s a perfect event to combine fun and giving,” said Desi Woltman, president, NDWC. The beneficiaries of the fashion show are: SHARE, The Friends of Pleasant Grove, Safe Community Coalition, and McLean Project for the Arts. Jennifer Salopek, co-chair of the fashion show committee, said, “Everyone is invited to shop afterward and 10 percent of their purchases will be donated

back to the club through April 2.” The New Dominion Women’s Club is a civic organization committed to enhancing the quality of life in the community through volunteer service and financial support while providing fellowship for women. The motto of NDWC is “Friendship through Service.” Tickets are \$85. Visit www.ndwc.org.

VIEWPOINTS

What do you do for fun in McLean in the spring?

— COLIN STOECKER

Karl Anouti, 24, shift manager at Starbucks

"I like astronomy. I like to go out with the telescope at night to the McLean Community Center. I listen to the silence and watch the stars. The best time to do this is during a full moon. I always try to find the big dipper. You can always find it by looking for the north star, which really isn't as bright as people say it is. Locate the handle and then follow the two stars. I have been doing this for about three years."



Jason Moon, 16, student at Langley High School

"I have been playing soccer for three years, and in the spring my friends and I like to go to the Spring Hill Recreation Center to play soccer. Sometimes we go to the Tysons Corner mall get some food and watch a movie. I like spring because I can wear short sleeves and I really like the weather because it's not too hot and not too cold."



Vladimir Shutov, 50, library patron

"I really like having the Wolf Trap so close by. I also like to go to the Clemyjontri Park in McLean with my kids to play tag. They have a wonderful playground there and it is accessible to kids with disabilities. If you go there on a sunny day, you will see plenty of people enjoying themselves. The Wolf Trap also has cool arts programs for little kids. Kofi, a drummer from Ghana, also invites local kids to drum with him in the park. There are also volunteers and it's a big group of people, around 12 or so. It is very cool!"



Janet Wainer, consultant

"The Cherry Blossom Run is a good start to the spring and getting into the spring attitude. It's a challenging run, but the weather is not too hot and not too cold. We

have been having some weird weather lately. But this run takes place right before running season, which tends to end with the summer. Spring doesn't really last too long in McLean. It's a 10-mile run, and it used to be that it wasn't a problem registering, but now that the run has caught on and become more popular it is more difficult to register. The 'runners right of spring' will take place April 2 in Washington, D.C. at 7:30 a.m." Visit www.cherryblossom.org/



Mary Prisbey, 56, Librarian at Dolley Madison Library

"We have some events at the library here in McLean that are ongoing. There's this cute thing that's held up here in the

park, live music for kids. The McLean community festival is also a big attraction in the spring, or McLean Day 2017, which is May 20. Towards the end of the school year, the library sponsors book talks. Our Youth Services librarians give book talks to the kids where they excite them for summer reading."



George Sachs, 65, executive director of the McLean Community Center

"We have an art sale here at the McLean Community Center, and a Spring Fest

around Easter time. McLean Day, at the end of the spring, in May is also one of our most popular events. Because we are moving the McLean Community Center for a few months for renovations, the fun things have lessened, but we still offer a wide array of classes to the community. There are also teen-center trips to do things like paintball and a glow party that are coordinated to take place over their spring breaks. The community garage sale is also huge! It is held each year behind the Giant shopping center." More information on these events can be found at mcleancenter.org.

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On Sunday, March 26, fashion is in vogue at the **Spring Fling Fashion Show, 12:30-2:30 p.m. at Bloomingdale's, Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road.** The New Dominion Women's Club will be hosting a show featuring the latest fashion trends. All proceeds will be donated to local charities. \$75. Visit www.ndwc.org for more.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Spring Events to Look For

MARCH 23-25

Spring Book Sale. 10-3 p.m., open until 6 p.m. on Saturday, at the Oakton Community Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Sponsored by the Friends of Oakton Library. Call 703-242-4020 for more.

SATURDAY/MARCH 25

Hosting a Bee Hive. 10-11 a.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Learn about these local pollinators and the role they play. Ages 6 and up. \$8. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/.

SUNDAY/MARCH 26

Spring Fling Fashion Show. 12:30-2:30 p.m. at Bloomingdale's, Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road. The New Dominion Women's Club will be hosting a show featuring the latest fashion trends and enjoy food and drinks, including mimosas. All proceeds will be donated to local charities. \$75. Visit www.ndwc.org for more.

MONDAY/MARCH 27

Ayr Hill Garden Club. 12:45 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran

Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Topic: "Getting to Know Your Fellow Ayr Hill Garden Club Members Through Their Love of Plants." Visit www.viennava.gov/resourcedirectory for more.

SUNDAY/APRIL 2

Tours of Marie Butler Leven Preserve. 1-4 p.m. at Marie Butler Leven Preserve, 1501 Kirby Road, McLean. Tour guides Matt and Earth Sangha. Volunteers have been doing invasive management and planting native plants there for 10 years. Free. Call 703-324-8702 for more.

SUNDAY/APRIL 9

Easter Spring Festival. 12:30-4:30 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre, 776 Walker Road, Great Falls. Games, rides, food and egg hunt at 4 p.m., proceeds directly benefit the community through the Great Falls Optimist Club. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org/ for more.

SATURDAY/APRIL 22

Family Fishing Rodeo. 9 a.m. at Wildwood Park, 700 block of Follin Lane SE, Vienna. The creek will be stocked with hundreds of trout, bring a fishing rod, bucket, plastic bag, and ice. \$3. Visit www.viennava.gov for more.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

"Birds Eye View" Exhibit. Through April 1, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesdays - Saturdays at Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. 703-319-3971 www.ViennaArtsSociety.org

"No Place Like Home." Juried art show on exhibit through April 8. at ArtSpaceHerndon, 750 Center St, Herndon. Great Falls Studios presents. Visit www.artspaceherndon.com/.

The Freeman Store & Museum Wednesday through Sunday noon-4 p.m. 131 Church St. 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.

Tai Chi Beginners' Practice. Saturdays, 8-9 a.m. St. Luke's Catholic School Gymnasium, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Weekly Tai Chi practice. Group has met for over 20 years. Free. FreeTaiChi.org. 703-759-9141.

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/

Colvin Run Mill open 11 - 4 p.m. daily, closed Tuesday. 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Fairfax County's operational 19th century water powered gristmill, offers recreational and educational activities for all ages through daily tours, school programs and special events. Fees: \$7/adult, \$6 students 16+ with ID, \$5 children & seniors. Admission to park is free except for

some special events.

Fundamentals of Watercolors. Mondays 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Artist Lorrie Herman will help students get comfortable working with watercolors and understanding this medium. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

Still Life Painting. Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Still life provides a great tool to hone skills. Recommended for students of all levels. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

Evening Painting. Tuesdays 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Jill Banks focuses on oil painting fundamentals with two sessions each of still life, landscapes, and portrait/clothed figure from a live model. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

Intro to Jewelry Design. Tuesdays 9 a.m.-noon at The Arts of Great Falls, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. JJ Singh teaches a class for anyone interested in exploring the world of metal clay and its design possibilities. Visit www.greatfallsart.org.

MARCH 23-25

Spring Book Sale. 10-3 p.m., open until 6 p.m. on Saturday, at the Oakton Community Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Sponsored by the Friends of Oakton Library. Call 703-242-4020.

FRIDAY/MARCH 24

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McLean Art Society. 10 a.m.-noon at Dolly Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. Joyce McCarten, a painter of abstract oils, will be the featured presenter. Call 703-356-9770.

SpiritMind and Drum Circle. 7-9 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Join this mind-body-heart-spirit experience and gathering where participants are guided in co-creating a sacred space through chanting, singing, meditating, and drumming. \$20. Visit Unityoffairfax.org or call 703-281-1767.

SATURDAY/MARCH 25

Hosting a Bee Hive. 10-11 a.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Learn about these local pollinators and the role they play. Ages 6 and up. \$8. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/.

Great Falls Farmers Market. at the GF Grange Hall, 9818 Georgetown Pike. "Let Your Light Shine: Show Your Talents" event sponsored by TD Bank - neighbors show their talents at the market. JointVenture plays music. Last indoor winter market. Visit greatfallsfarmersmarket.org/.

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

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.

SUNDAY/MARCH 26

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MONDAY/MARCH 27

Ayr Hill Garden Club. 12:45 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Topic: "Getting to Know Your Fellow Ayr Hill Garden Club Members Through Their Love of Plants." Visit viennava.gov/resourcedirectory.



PHOTO BY ED BEHRENS

Long Necked Woman in Thailand is one of the photos in Ed Behrens photo exhibit in April at Katie's Coffee Shop, Village Centre, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls.

GOP Committee Fundraiser. 7 p.m. at Nouvelle, 7911 West Park Drive, Tysons. 11th Congressional District GOP Committee Fundraiser with Eric Cantor. Visit www.vagop11.org/.

TUESDAY/MARCH 28

Art Show Opening Reception. 4:30-6 p.m. in the Chain Bridge Corner Shopping Center, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. McLean Project for the Arts hosts this community Youth Art Show showcasing the work of students from the McLean High School Pyramid, show runs March 25-April 2. Free. Visit www.mpaart.org.

Writer's Panel. 7:30-9 p.m. at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Sisters in Crime: Local Mystery Writers' Panel. Visit fairfaxcounty.gov/library or call 703-938-0405.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 29

Great Falls Historical Society. 6 p.m. at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike A, Great Falls. 1890s Baseball Team Challenge & Free Picnic presented by four young historians. Call 703) 757-8560.

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 703-994-9054 or visit www.viennava.gov/.

FRIDAY/MARCH 31

Gluten Free Evening. 6:30 p.m. at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, 3rd floor, 2001 International Drive, McLean. Chefs Moreno Espinoza and Edwin Amaya will prepare a custom five-course menu, each paired with a gluten free wine to complement. \$80. Make reservations at 703-442-9110.

Family Fun Bingo. 7-9 p.m. at the Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Players will have free popcorn and winners will take their pick of prizes. Visit www.mcleancenter.org or call 703-448-8336.

SATURDAY/APRIL 1

Warrior Chorus at Alden. 8 p.m. at The Alden in McLean, 1234 Ingleside Ave. Area premiere of "The Trojan War: Our Warrior Chorus," a production that features American combat veterans. \$35, \$25 for veterans and current military and \$20 for McLean Community Center tax district residents. Visit www.aldentheatre.org or call 703-790-0123.

APRIL 1-2

Potomac River Convention. 10 a.m.-3:30 both days at the Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 28th annual Potomac River Shape Note Convention, with singing, bring a dish to share both days. Sponsored by the Folklore Society of Greater Washington. Visit visitfasola.org or shenandoahharmony.com.

Organ Music. 7 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. NE, McLean. The Organ, the Orchestra, and the Youthful Originals show. Call 703-938-9050.

APRIL 1-30

Ed Behrens' Photographs. Various times at Katie's Coffee House, Village Centre, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. The showing will celebrate Ed's ten years as a member of Great Falls Studios, his very active 80th birthday. Call 703-759-0927.

SUNDAY/APRIL 2

Tours of Marie Butler Leven Preserve. 1-4 p.m. at Marie Butler Leven Preserve, 1501 Kirby Road, McLean. Tour guides Matt and Earth Sangha; volunteers have been doing invasive management and planting native plants there for 10 years. Free. Call 703-324-8702.

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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.

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I Can't Forget What I Don't Remember



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I wouldn't say I'm forgetting things, but according to my wife, Dina, I certainly don't seem to be remembering them, at least as she does. Naturally, this "misremembering" could be attributed to the condition which likely affects many couples who have been over hill, over dale and over many dusty trails in nearly 39 years of marriage, as we have. Nevertheless, identifying the condition doesn't soothe the savage beast. Another possible/probable explanation is the ever-unpopular, recently-confirmed actual occurrence common to many cancer patients receiving chemotherapy: "chemo brain."

Even though I'm a veteran of these cancer/chemo wars apparently doesn't make me immune to its harmful effects. Quite the contrary in fact. Survival is wonderful, but years-long treatment does take its toll. And for a cancer patient now in his ninth consecutive year of treatment, the bell tolls for me. Fortunately, I can still hear the bell. The question is: will I remember having heard it? I say, absolutely! My wife says: not so fast.

All kidding aside, I can see this difference of opinion becoming a problem. At present, I'm not the least bit (well, maybe a little bit, otherwise; why would I be droning on about it?) concerned about a few of our memories fading since I don't believe that they have. I'm inclined to invoke an opposite-George Costanza here and say it's her, not me. Not surprisingly, my wife will play the part of one of George's ex-girlfriends and say it's definitely me. So what else is new? Nothing. The question/worry is: will this become a chronic problem?

Which in a way is what all us heretofore "terminal" cancer patients want. Obviously, a cure for what ails me/others similarly diagnosed would be ideal, but the more realistic scenario is that one day, cancer will be treated as a chronic condition, like diabetes, not a terminal disease as my stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer was originally characterized by my oncologist on Feb. 27, 2009 (you bet I remember that date!). Oh yes, that is a date that will live in infamy. Unlike Pearl Harbor, however, where thousands died, and unlike the message delivered by Franklin Delano Roosevelt that same day, when the sober news was first heard by a nation then at war, only three people heard what my oncologist said to me that day, and only my life was at stake, though certainly my wife, Dina and my brother, Richard were impacted, even though they weren't the ones receiving a grim prognosis.

As Dina and I regularly reminisce about our life together, we regularly have different recollections. She's entitled. I'm entitled. There might be a right. There might be a wrong. But without Warner Wolf around to "go to the videotape," the chance that we'll remember a shared memory similarly or at all considering there's now almost four decades worth of stuff is unrealistic, isn't it? I mean, we're different people. We process and store information differently. In fact, I might say, it's likely a miracle if we did actually remember, identically, people, place and things.

The older one gets, the greater the cumulative information in our brains and apparently, the less chemical/muscular ability we have to access/retrieve all that information. Not remembering or remembering differently is nothing more than the passage of time rearing its ugly head. Now combine that inevitability with the toxicity of chemotherapy — and God knows what else my cancer is affecting, and what you have here is a sitting duck. If I were to believe totally in this inevitability or in my wife's assessment, I would say there's disintegrating hope for me. But I don't. I believe in the power of me. I believe in the power of positive thinking and in always seeing the bright side — and joking/laughing about all of it. So what if I don't remember or remember differently, it probably wasn't worth remembering anyway.

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

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OBITUARY



Virginia Y. Sinclair, age 90 of Great Falls Va passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by friends and family on Monday March 20, 2017. Virginia was born November 2 1926 in Greene New York to Helen and Clarence Young. She graduated from Albany State Teachers College studying the classics and then married Alexander Malcolm Sinclair who was visiting on leave from the Naval Academy.

Ginny had a long and varied career in many parts of the country as a public school teacher. Her military family moved around from base to base during two wars. She finished her public school career in Fairfax County at Herndon Intermediate teaching english. She then started her beloved Grandmothers Back Room childrens' clothing store and worked everyday until she was eighty five years old. Her faith, and involvement in St. Francis Episcopal Church, was her mainstay. She had many roles in the church since the beginning of the parish, when they worshipped in a modest building in the field. She taught Sunday school, arranged flowers, sat on the vestry, helped bless the animals, sat on the selection committee for several new rectors, and in general supported and helped the church. Her faith was a central part of her character as well as her very strong work ethic.

She is survived by two daughters; Amy S. Dahm (Henry), Elizabeth S. Larson (Willard), five grandchildren, Alexander H. Dahm (Kerry), Nicholas S. Dahm, Tyler Larson, Zachary Larson, Katelynn Larson, and one great grandchild Felix P. Dahm.

She was predeceased by her husband Rear Admiral Alexander Malcolm Sinclair in 2009.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 am Saturday March 25th at St Francis Episcopal Church Georgetown Pike Great Falls Virginia. 22066. Reception to follow. A private burial service will be held in Greene, New York at a later date.

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