

2015  
Virginia  
PRESS  
Association  
Second Division  
Newspaper

# Great Falls CONNECTION

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



FAMILY CONNECTION

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Gail Pean, mother of Vanessa Pean, protests against the turf renovation on Saturday, June 10, at the Great Falls Nike Park during a "Family Fun Day" event hosted by the Great Falls Soccer Club to benefit its fund to turf the field.



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## NEWS



PHOTOS BY MAGGIE GIORDANO/THE CONNECTION



**Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville)** gave people who attended the meeting a chance to ask questions about concerns they had.

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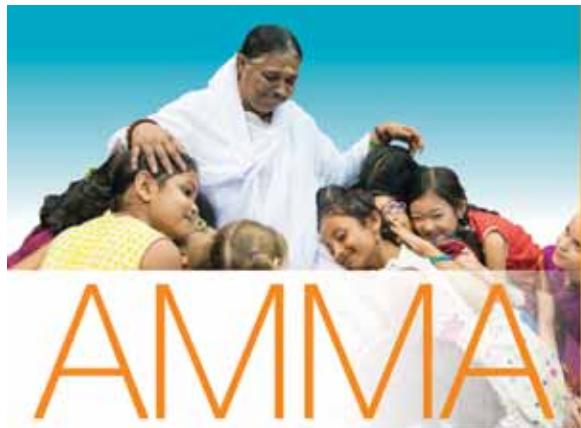
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MAY ALL BEINGS EVERYWHERE BE HAPPY

## Community Projects Reviewed with GFCA

By MAGGIE GIORDANO  
THE CONNECTION

On Wednesday, June 21 at the Great Falls Library, the Great Falls Citizens Association held a town hall meeting. Community members gathered to discuss current Great Falls projects.

The greatest concern from the community seemed to be the issues of traffic and roadwork. The back up at the Great Falls Park intersection located at Old Dominion and Georgetown Pike caused a stir. The GFCA has held multiple meetings with police and park services with no resolution. They have asked for police presence to monitor the traffic but that could not be fulfilled due to budget constraints.

Community members were informed about the widening of the Route 7 project. There will be three lanes in both directions with 10 feet of shared path on each side for pedestrians and bikers. The GFCA will work with VDOT and asked for community input into the \$34 million project.

GFCA President, Bill Canis, let the community know that the Long Range Planning committee has been working with a group of trail blazers, led by Julie Ben-Achour, to try and connect the walking paths throughout Great

Falls to benefit the community. They have developed guidelines about surface, aesthetics, and other issues that Great Falls had not developed before.

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) came to discuss the county's past fiscal year and to answer questions that community members had. Foust said that last year, they were able to push through a teacher pay increase, but class sizes did increase as well. They had a three year plan to get pay up to market salaries, but will have to expand to a five year plan because of the budget. Plans for the upcoming fiscal year will be made by looking at everything they have done this past year to see how they can be more effective. The proposed budget for 2018 was approved, without raising the tax rate, unlike last year.

Foust also said that the Great Falls Grange will be turned over to the community, becoming a community center. He said that it will most likely be happening in late fall of this year.

The GFCA held voting for new members before the meeting. It was announced that the entire slate was elected including Bill Canis as President, Phil Pifer as Vice President, and Ruth Carver, Wayne Foley, David Kondner, Torsten Kracht, Dawn MacPhee, Gary Pan, Ed Phillips and Laurie Rowe as Directors.



Great Falls Citizens Association members and non-members both attended the town hall meeting to be informed about the community projects.

# Opposition Against Crumb Rubber Grows

**Mother: Turf field would tarnish teen's legacy.**

BY FALON FORBUSH  
THE CONNECTION

The number of Great Falls residents opposing the \$1.25 million renovation of Field No. 7 at the Great Falls Nike Park is growing. The reason: Crumb rubber.

The Great Falls Citizens Association's Environment, Parks and Trails Committee passed a new resolution 9-0 opposing the use of crumb rubber infill on synthetic turf fields.

The private-public partnership between the Great Falls Soccer Club and Fairfax County originally presented a plan to the community to replace the Bermuda grass of the soccer field with a CoolPlay system made of synthetic turf material.

The technology was invented by the FieldTurf company, which designed the system to have cooler surface temperatures than traditional turf fields, which can become burning hot.

The three-layer infill of the CoolPlay system uses a cork top dressing instead of a top layer of crumb rubber, however; the other layers of cryogenic rubber and silica sand still form the majority of the infill of the CoolPlay system.

This is the second time the citizens association has intervened on plans to convert natural grass fields to artificial turf in Great Falls. In 2012, the GFCA prevented the Great Falls Lacrosse Association from using crumb rubber when it was converting the Nike Field No. 4 from natural grass to synthetic turf, according to Glen Sjoblom, a member of the GFCA EPT Committee, which passed the resolution.

The GFCA's intervention in 2012 resulted in the lacrosse association and the county using an alternative synthetic infill on the field called TPE.

TPE, or thermo plastic elastomer, is a non-toxic, heavy-metal-free infill that is 100 percent recyclable and reusable when the field is replaced, according to the Synthetic Turf Council, a trade association for the synthetic turf industry.

TPE infill uses virgin-based material, while crumb rubber is composed of used tires. The TPE material is what the soccer club has been pushing the county to use for its new soccer field.

"We actually don't want the crumb rubber," said Will Simonds, commissioner of the GFSC. "We had said that right at the beginning to the county, but there's a cost associated with [TPE] that's a bit more than the crumb rubber."

The CoolPlay field was a compromise the soccer club agreed upon with the county, according to Simonds.



**A Cat excavator sits behind the memorial for Vanessa Pean on Saturday, June 24.**

PHOTOS BY FALON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION



**Field No. 7 at Nike Field Park, which has Bermuda grass, is named after Vanessa Pean.**

"It has 25 percent of the crumb rubber in it, so much less volume of it," he said. "We thought that was a decent compromise, but then people started complaining about any crumb rubber, which we are fine with. We'd love to work with them and get the stuff that we originally asked for. We never asked for the crumb rubber."

**THE CALL TO BAN** crumb rubber is out of concern for its safety.

Last year, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Consumer Product Safety Commission launched a multi-agency "Federal Research Action Plan on Recycled Tire Crumb Used on Playing Fields and Playgrounds" to study environmental and human health concerns around artificial turf.

The agencies have not published any find-

ings yet. However, a status report was released on Dec. 30, 2016, that identified chemicals found in tire crumb.

Chemicals of concern used in tire manufacturing range from polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in carbon black to zinc oxide (ZnO), which is used as a vulcanizing agent and could contain trace amounts of lead and cadmium oxides, according to the status report.

Research continues and the agencies are collecting and analyzing samples of tire crumb material collected from tire recycling plants and synthetic turf fields around the country.

While the federal, multi-agency investigation continues, the GFCA committee's resolution is mandating the soccer club to find an alternative material and that Fairfax County phase out the use of crumb rubber on its public playing fields.

Whether the county listens to the GFCA's demands is optional, but officials are taking the group seriously and have postponed construction.

"The Fairfax County Park Authority is delaying the start of construction for conversion of Field No. 7 at Great Falls Nike Park to synthetic turf pending further community discussion on the project," Judith Pedersen, spokesperson for the park authority, said in a statement to the Connection.

The original plan would have started construction in June and completed the work by early September in time for the fall soccer season.

Another wrinkle in the plan has surfaced as more community members learn of the partnership to renovate the field. This latest objection is a personal one from a local mother.

**VANESSA PEAN**, a junior at the Potomac School in McLean, died in October 2005 after she lost control of her car and crashed when she was just 16 years old.

"She had played on Nike 7 the morning of her car accident," Gail Pean, her mother, said. "When she passed away, she was captain of the Great Falls Strikers team and she had played soccer since she was 5. She was also on varsity soccer at the Potomac School."

The morning after her fatal car wreck, the Strikers were supposed to play a game on Field No. 7, according to Pean.

"A lot of the players didn't want to play after Vanessa passed," she said.

The game was canceled and the parents of Vanessa's teammates began working together under the leadership of Jay Donegan, whose two daughters played soccer with Vanessa, to work with the county to memorialize Vanessa by naming the field in her honor and constructing a granite memorial on the grounds, according to Pean, who said she was initially unaware of the plans because she was naturally consumed with grief.

Soon after, the Vanessa Pean Foundation was established, which hosted tournaments, races and luncheons to raise funds for charitable scholarships and projects, as well as funds for the GFSC to maintain the grass field.

The foundation no longer hosts fundraising events in conjunction with the GFSC because of conflicts between Pean and a former commissioner of the soccer club. But the sign and memorial bearing Vanessa's name still stand on the field.

Pean was shocked when she learned of the plans to convert Vanessa's field from natural grass to synthetic turf.

"Vanessa was very health conscious," Pean said. "She wouldn't drink soda, she was adamantly opposed to anybody smoking. She would be appalled to find out that they're ripping up the field and putting something that's hazardous to children and

SEE OPPOSITION, PAGE 10

# NEWS



PHOTOS BY MAGGIE GIORDANO/THE CONNECTION

**Kelly Chinn comes to practice at the driving range at Army Navy Country Club more than four times a week.**

**The winning 14-year-old, Kelly Chinn, of Great Falls, said he enjoys golf more than any other sport he has played.**

## Chinn Wins College Prep Series

**Kelly Chinn hopes to play golf in college and one day compete in the PGA tour.**

By MAGGIE GIORDANO  
THE CONNECTION

**G**reat Falls teenager, Kelly Chinn, won the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour College Prep Series at University of Virginia. The competition was hosted by the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour on Saturday, June 3, through Sunday, June 4.

Chinn posted a 76 on Saturday and 71 on Sunday, equaling a 147 total. The 14-year-old Great Falls resident competed in the boys 14-15 division.

A recent graduate from Cooper Middle School, Chinn will be attending Langley High School in the fall of 2017 and has been playing golf for eight years and competing for seven. He has won 64 tournaments out of the 146 junior golf tournaments that he has played.

One of his recent accomplishments was winning first place in the 2017 Army Navy Country Club Men's Club Championships, on his home course. The tournament included all ages. Chinn was the youngest club champion in a 93-year club history.

The young player's best 9 hole score is 31 (-5), best 18 hole score is 66 (-6) and best 36 hole score is 136 (-6). He is ranked 42nd in the Junior Gold Scoreboard National ranking, as of June 22, 2017, class of 2021.

The Hurricane Junior Golf Tour is the largest junior golf tour in the country. It hosts 275 events in 32 states a year, including Virginia, California and Texas. Founded in 2007, it gives both male and female golfers, between the ages of 8 to 18, the opportunity to compete and play on remarkable courses through-



**Kelly and his mother Eiko Chinn enjoy spending family time playing golf together.**

out the United States. There are six divisions in total, boys under 10, boys 11-13, boys 14-15, boys 16-18, girls under 13 and girls 14-18. The junior tour is based out of Jacksonville, Fla.

"It was a tournament I really wanted to win. It was a lot of fun and a great dream to win. It showed me that I can bounce back from a poor round. I can really fight through those tough times," Chinn said.

This year has been his first year in the Hurricane Junior Golf Tour. Chinn and his parents, Eiko and Colin, just recently moved back to the area from Hawaii. The whole family enjoys the sport and play as a family activity.

"He played really well. The love for the game that he has is really great to see. It has kept him going," Chinn's mother, Eiko Chinn, said.

Chinn said he hopes to play golf in college and one day compete in the PGA tour.



PHOTOS BY FALON FORBUSH

**President of the Virginia Society of the Children of the American Revolution Emily Elston, 16, of Woodbridge and her father Michael Elston, president of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, respectfully cut a well-worn American flag to retire it from use.**

## More Than 100 American Flags Retired on Flag Day

By FALON FORBUSH  
THE CONNECTION

**M**ore than 100 United States flags were retired on Flag Day, Wednesday, June 14, at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial behind the Great Falls Library. The 14<sup>th</sup> annual flag retirement ceremony held in Great Falls was conducted by the Virginia Society of the Children of the American Revolution and the Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the U.S. flag when the Flag Resolution of 1777 was passed on June 14 during the American Revolution by the Continental Congress. The holiday was first celebrated on June 14, 1877, during the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the American flag, according to the National Constitution Center.

At the time, the flag only had 13 stars to represent 13 states. More stars were added to the flag after the U.S. earned independence and new states entered the union, according to the National Constitution Center.

"I like to teach the kids how to properly dispose of the flag," said Emily Elston, president of the Virginia Society of the Children of the American Revolution. "Respecting the American flags at their end creates more respect for them when they're flying on the poll."

The rules for handling and displaying the American flag are defined by a law known as the U.S. Flag Code, which is found in Title 4 Chapter 1 of the U.S. Code. The law states that when a flag is "in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display," it should



**President of the Virginia Society of the Children of the American Revolution Emily Elston, 16, of Woodbridge presents a new U.S. flag to James Cullen, the Great Falls Library assistant branch manager.**

be "destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."

However, many of the flags could not be burnt during the ceremony.

This is because American flags were traditionally made out of natural materials like cotton and wool; however, synthetic materials like nylon and polyester are becoming more common. These release toxic chemicals when burnt.

Instead, participants respectfully cut the flag, removing the grommets first and cutting the star field off and cutting the stripes off before disposal.

"The flags represent all of the men and women who have served our country," said Michael Elston, president of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and Emily's father. "By respecting the flag, you respect their commitment and service as well. It's no coincidence that we conduct the ceremony at this place where we honor men and women who have given their lives."

## NEWS

# Childhelp's Day at Roer's Zoofari

**T**he wonder, sparkling joy, and natural healing-powers of the “animal kingdom” was in full force at Roer’s Zoofari (formerly Reston Zoo) on Thursday, June 15. All for the delight of the children of Childhelp’s Alice C. Tyler Residential Village during their annual visit.

As a summer tradition, local volunteers and busloads of children from the Childhelp’s Village come together for the opportunity to feed animals and experience the Zoofari Safari. While for many children in the DMV area, a trip to Roer’s Zoofari is a normal and regular treat; for the children of Childhelp, this is a rare opportunity and a chance to build a lifetime memory.

The late Jack Crippen founded The Reston Zoo in 1975 on the site his family farmed for more than 150 years. His passion for children and animals has been carried forward by Sandra Crippen of Great Falls, who has made the post-school year visit an annual tradition for Childhelp’s children. Sandra Crippen is a long-time Childhelp Local Board Member, Chapter Volunteer, and National Board Member. She sold the zoo five years ago, though she keeps in contact with the zoo’s newest owners since March, 2016, Vanessa Stoffel (Co-Owner, CEO) and Jacob Roer (Co-Owner, Director of Maintenance).

“Jack just loved children and animals, and he and I both care so very deeply for the at-risk children of Childhelp. Connecting with animals keeps love and hope alive in the little hearts of children, which is why I continue this tradition.”

The event was supported by Long & Foster-McLean, DPR Construction, Beautyscope, and many Childhelp Washington Area Chapter members and staff whom were also in attendance to provide a picnic buffet;

including a favorite tradition of Caribbean-inspired Strawberry lemonade. The visit concluded with each child (and volunteer) delighting in an ice cream treat (donated by Sandra Crippen), and culminated in each child receiving a goody bag donated by



**From left: Nina Doherty, Childhelp Greater Washington Area Board Chair; Vanessa Stoffel, Owner, Zoofari; Chris Ruble, Executive Director, Childhelp Alice C. Tyler Village; and Sandy Crippen of Great Falls, Founding Member, Reston Zoo, National and Local Board Member, Childhelp.**

Childhelp Volunteer, Lynne Coville, who recently retired from Boston Properties – another firm that has been a longtime Childhelp Village corporate supporter.

Childhelp’s programs and services include residential treatment services,



PHOTOS BY JAN MILLER/MAKE A DIFFERENCE PHOTOGRAPHY

**Children from the Childhelp’s Village enjoyed the opportunity to feed animals and experience the majestic Zoofari Safari**

children’s advocacy centers, therapeutic foster care, group homes and child abuse prevention, education and training. Childhelp created the Childhelp National Day of Hope, held each April during National Child Abuse Prevention Month which mobilizes Americans to join the fight against child abuse. For more information, visit [www.childhelp.org](http://www.childhelp.org), [facebook.com/childhelp](https://facebook.com/childhelp) or [twitter.com/childhelp](https://twitter.com/childhelp)

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# OPINION

## Killing the Poor to Pay Millionaires

Even employer provided insurance would suffer; coverage caps and exclusions of pre-existing conditions could return.

The U.S. Senate bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act would take more than \$600 billion (yes with a B) from poor children, poor elders and people with disabilities to give a tax cut to people who make more than \$200,000 a year. Households with income of \$1 million, would gain \$50,000 in tax cuts per year. It is a massive transfer of wealth to the wealthiest households in America taken from the most vulnerable and neediest people. It would lead to more sick people and thousands of preventable deaths every year.

While much of the damage is done by massive cuts to Medicaid, affecting poor children, people with disabilities and most people in nursing homes, some of the changes will result in damage to the quality of insurance for those who get their insurance from their employers as well.

What could go wrong?

♦ Millions of people lose their health insurance — 22 million fewer would have health insurance by 2026 according to the Congressional Budget Office analysis.

♦ Loss of coverage for pre-existing conditions, including cancer survivors, people who had transplants, people with asthma, arthritis, high cholesterol, hypertension, obesity, mental health issues, ADD, etc.

♦ States could opt out of the law's essential

health benefits measure, which requires insurers to cover 10 main benefits, including hospitalization, prescription drugs and other services. That is, companies could sell health insurance that wouldn't actually be health insurance. Would Virginia be a state that opts out? Quite likely.

♦ Ending annual and lifetime coverage caps would also impact people who get health insurance from their employers and the private insurance market. For example, a serious accident or an illness that requires repeated surgeries or bone marrow transplants could put any one of us over the coverage cap.

♦ Medicaid pays public schools for many services for special education students, but the Senate bill removes schools from eligible Medicaid providers, costing Virginia an estimated \$40 million annually; \$3 million in Fairfax County; \$2 million in the City of Alexandria.

♦ \$800 billion plus in cuts to Medicaid puts the funding for most people who are currently in nursing homes at risk. Many of these are people who were middle class and but outlived their savings and coverage.

♦ In Virginia, the proposed changes to Medicaid would cost the state \$1.4 billion over seven years.

♦ Medicaid pays for much of the fight against opioid addiction, including treatment. Cuts would be devastating to efforts to counter the wave of overdose deaths and other effects of

addiction.

♦ Coverage for mental health treatment, including addiction treatment, is threatened both by cuts to Medicaid and by changes in the private insurance market.

♦ There will be greater need for Medicaid over time. More seniors will be poor, as fewer people who are retiring have pensions or adequate retirement savings. The demand for nursing home beds will be increasing as the population ages.

(This is by no means a comprehensive list of problems.)

If a version of the Senate bill were to pass, the results will be harmful to tens of millions of Americans. Call your senators. Virginia's U.S. Senators, Tim Kaine and Mark Warner, are both Democrats in the forefront of pushing back against this bill. But let them know you expect them to do the extraordinary to hold this up. Call the senators listed below and tell them to vote against it.

Ask family and friends to call their senators today.

If you have family or friends who live in West Virginia, Louisiana, Maine, Nevada, Alaska or Ohio, their calls are especially important. Senators Shelley Capito (R-WV); Bill Cassidy (R-LA); Susan Collins (R-ME); Dean Heller (R-NV); Lisa Murkowski (R-AK); Rob Portman (R-OH) are among those reported to be possible opponents of this proposal.

The U.S. Capitol Switchboard number is 202-224-3121, and a switchboard operator will connect you directly with the Senate office you request.

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

## November General Elections

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

With the conclusion of the political party primaries last week the general election is now set for Nov. 7. There were some surprises coming out of the Democratic and Republican primaries. Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam easily won the Democratic primary to be the nominee for governor even though

there was discussion beforehand that polls indicated a tight race. Polling for primaries is notorious for being inaccurate because with a typically light turnout the universe of potential voters is almost impossible to determine. Former one-term U.S. Rep. Tom Perriello has a great deal to offer and will hopefully stay on the scene for future opportunities. Although the term "establishment" was grossly over-used in describing Ralph Northam, his service in



the state senate plus his active role as lieutenant governor made him well known and greatly admired throughout the state.

Justin Fairfax gained everyone's admiration after a primary loss to Attorney General Mark Herring four years ago led to his active campaigning during the interim time making him well known for this primary. He was also well known for his work as an attorney.

If you review the areas where Ralph Northam did well and compare them with where Justin Fairfax was strongest, you create a strong statewide team that will be nearly impossible to defeat. Attorney General Mark Herring was not challenged in a primary and will be on the ballot to succeed himself in November. There is no one-term limitation with the attorney general and the lieuten-

ant governor as there is with the governor.

The greatest surprise of the primaries may have been on the Republican side to pick a candidate for governor. Ed Gillespie who has been mentioned for years as the next Republican governor of Virginia barely got through the primary with a shockingly strong showing by Corey Stewart who is known for his anti-immigrant work in Prince William County and for campaigning with a Confederate flag. He has the distinction of being so over the top that he was fired by the Trump campaign. Turnout was especially low in the Republican primary, and Stewart was just over a percentage point in taking out Gillespie. It will be interesting to see if the folks who voted for Stewart will vote in the general election or decide to stay home.

The Republican primary for lieutenant governor was a slug-fest between two state senators with Jill Vogel winning after a mud-slinging campaign that left neither

candidate looking good.

All 100 seats for the House of Delegates are up for election this fall with a record number of contested elections. Historically it has been difficult to recruit candidates to run for the House of Delegates, but events of the past year have brought forth more candidates than ever before. There was a record number 27 seats where the candidates were determined by the primary because there was so much interest in running. Democrats will certainly pick up seats in the House of Delegates getting closer to shifting or sharing power in that legislative body.

While I am uncontested in my race for the House of Delegates you can still expect to see me campaigning. It is a good way to stay in touch with constituents and to increase turn-out for the statewide elections. Expect a busy fall of campaigning leading up to the fall elections in Virginia that will send a signal to the nation as to the public's reaction to national events.

## Great Falls CONNECTION

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## FAITH NOTES

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

**Mom's Group** meets second and fourth Thursday of the Month, 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna. Join the group for coffee and fellowship. The group meets in the Lillian Croy Room, near the Church Office. Childcare will be available just across the hall in the Childcare Center. If you are interested in joining the group, contact the Church Office at 703-938-6521 so that we can plan appropriately for materials and childcare.

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, has Sunday services at 7:45, 9 and 11 a.m. with nursery care provided. In the summer, they offer musical, educational, outreach and fellowship ministries in addition to worship services, including an 8 a.m. worship service without music and a 10 a.m. worship service with nursery care. 703-759-2082.

**The Jewish Social Services Agency** (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. [www.jssa.org/growth-learning](http://www.jssa.org/growth-learning).

**HAVEN of Northern Virginia** offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. 703-941-7000 or [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org).

**St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church**, 1830 Kirby Road, McLean, holds traditional services every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m. Visit [www.stdunstans.net](http://www.stdunstans.net).

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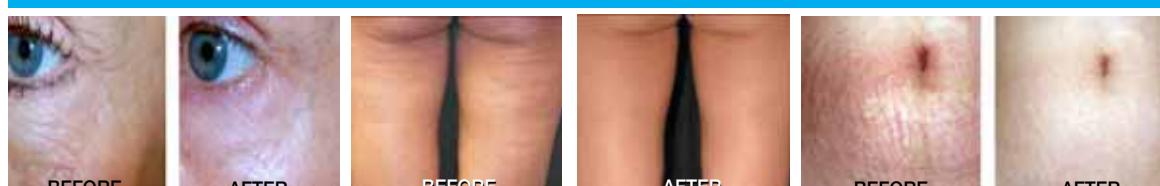
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Grand Canyon of PA, Aug. 7-9 .....\$529  
Includes Motorcoach from Vienna, Tysons Metro or Rockville, 2 nights hotel, Daily Breakfast & Dinner, Sightseeing - Call for Itinerary.

Castles of IRELAND, Nov. 4-1 .....\$2799  
Includes non stop air from Dulles, 6- nights accommodations in Castles or Manors, Daily full Irish Breakfast & Dinner, Welcome tea/scones, whiskey tasting Pre-trip Irish Coffee Briefing Party in Vienna - Call for detailed itineraries.

Vince Gill Christmas Show in Nashville, Nov. 28-Dec. 2 .....\$1255  
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## WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

### Police Investigating Fatal Crash

Mai-Huong Nguyen, 73, of Great Falls died Tuesday, June 20, after her car ran off the road and struck a utility pole, according to the Fairfax County Police Department.

Officers responded to the 500 block of Riverbend Road near Mine Run Road around 3 p.m., where they located a red, two-door, 2000 Honda Civic, according to police. Nguyen, who was the only occupant in the car, was taken to Reston Hospital Center where she later died, according to police.

Detectives from the FCPD's Crash Reconstruction Unit are investigating the crash. According to the FCPD initial investigation, the car was traveling south on Riverbend Road, ran off the road to the left and struck a utility pole. The car then rolled onto the passenger side and came to rest, according to police.

Detectives are looking into the possibility that Nguyen may have suffered a medical emergency, causing her to lose control of the car, according to police. The police urge anyone who may have witnessed the crash to call 703-691-2131 with any information.

### Collecting Backpacks

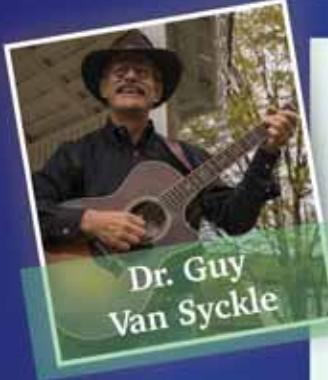
Christ the King Lutheran Church's Team Service is collaborating with Reston's aid to families organization Cornerstones and school supplies collection organization Kids R First to help the neediest youngsters in the community. Christ the King has committed to donating more than 100 backpacks to this cause. Here is what is needed: high school backpack size: 20"H x 14"W x 7"D; middle school backpack size: 18"H x 13"W x 6"D; elementary school backpack size: 16"H x 12"W x 5"D. Please note: no corporate logos or wheels. Collections will run through July; drop off in the church lobby. Visit [gflutheran.org](http://gflutheran.org).

### Healing at Christ the King

For those struggling physically or spiritually, on the first Sunday of each month, Christ the King Lutheran Church offers a rite of healing as part of worship; the opportunity to be anointed with oil and prayed over. Visit [gflutheran.org](http://gflutheran.org).

# Concerts on the Green

*Great Falls Village Centre Green at the Gazebo*



Come out with  
your picnic  
baskets and  
chairs for an  
entertaining  
evening of live,  
free music.



Celebrate Great Falls Foundation

# July

**2<sup>nd</sup> The Alan Scott Band**

A combination of driving, danceable rock combined with time-honored blues, funk and Brit Pop influences.

Sponsored by Old Brogue & Katie's Coffeehouse

**9<sup>th</sup> Dr. Guy Van Syckle**

(with special guest: Mr. Larry Tapper on harmonica) A local favorite singing classic folk and rock songs from the 60's, 70's and today.

Sponsored by The Canto Group, Glynis Canto & Kevin Canto, Keller Williams Realty

**16<sup>th</sup> Oxymorons**

Join another Great Falls local band and rock out this Sunday night.

**23<sup>rd</sup> Local Honey**

Great Falls locals take the stage with their version of Americana and American folk music.

Sponsored by Bic DeCaro, Westgate Realty

**30<sup>th</sup> Jr. Cline & The Recliners**

Unique arrangements of both classic and modern rhythm & blues and soul with rockin' edge and full brass sound.

Sponsored by Great Falls Auto Service



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The Simmons Team - Caliber Home Loans  
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**PLATINUM PARTNER**



For weather cancellations or more information, call (571) 293-0474 or  
go to [www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org](http://www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org) and sign up for our email list!!

# July 4th Hometown Celebration Parade, Festivities & Fireworks



**6:00 PM FIREWORKS & FUN  
TURNER FARM PARK**  
Pack up the family and come enjoy the evening with your neighbors at Turner Farm Park. Gates open at 6:00 pm. DJ, games, rock climbing wall and food trucks will entertain until the Big Show gets underway just after dusk.

## TUESDAY, JULY 4TH

### Schedule of Events

8am-9am	5K Walk/Run Great Falls Freedom Memorial
8am-1:30pm	INOVA Blood Drive Great Falls Fire Station
9am-9:45am	Little Patriot Parade Great Falls Village Centre Green
10am-10:45am	Main Parade Great Falls Village Centre
10:30am-12:30pm	Festivities, Food, Games & Fun Great Falls Village Centre Green
6pm-10pm	Fireworks Celebration Turner Farm Park



### Little Patriot Parade

Great Falls Village Centre Green  
Babies and children up to age 5 are welcome to come decorated patriotically and parade around the Green. Awards for "Young George Washington," "Little Miss Betsy Ross," and "Star Spangled Family." 9am Registration at the Gazebo ~ 9:15am Start  
Email Questions to claireabbott1@yahoo.com

### Main Parade Information

#### Registration

To be in the parade, all floats, cars, entertainers & others need to register online at [www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org](http://www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org)

Parade staging will take place at 9:30am on Lunenburg Rd. between Minburn and Columbine Streets.

#### Make a Float!

We encourage neighborhoods, local businesses, or any group to make a float for the parade!

#### PRIZES!!

- BEST BUSINESS FLOAT
- BEST NEIGHBORHOOD
- BEST ORGANIZATION
- BEST MINI-FLOAT (under 8')



#### Young Bikers & Walkers

Young Bike Riders (no motorized cars) & Walkers along with their parents can join the parade in the Village Centre. Gather in the Wells Fargo large parking lot to view the parade before joining it.



No need to register

#### 5K Walk/ Run on Great Falls Trails

Great Falls Trail Blazers again will host the Annual 5K Walk/ Run on local trails. Race begins promptly at 8am from the Freedom Memorial on the library grounds. View route maps and register at

<https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/GreatFalls/July45K>.

Also register on site, the day of the race, prior to 8am.



Celebrate Great Falls Foundation

Sign up for our email list at [www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org](http://www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org)

For weather cancellations or more information, visit our website [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org)

#### Volunteers Needed for this Event!

The Hometown Celebration is run entirely by community volunteers. We still need 20 people for t-shirt sales, popcorn making, snow cone making or helping kids with games. Shifts are 10:30-11:30 or 11:30-12:30. Please sign up online at [www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org](http://www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org). This is a great place for middle schoolers or older to help the community!

#### Platinum Partner



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## NEWS

# Opposition Grows Over Nike Field #7 Renovation

FROM PAGE 3

adults, the toxic crumbs in the air."

Pean has since started a "Keep Nike # 7 a Safe Soccer Field" petition on iPetitions.com, which more than 100 people have signed online. She also started collecting signatures in person on Saturday, June 10, at the Great Falls Nike Park during a "Family Fun Day" event hosted by the GFSC to benefit its fund to turf the field.

"I have about 200 signatures now against it," she said.

Pean's determination to defend the natural field surmounts any number of sympathizers' signatures.

"There are other types of grass and they need to just maintain it properly, and not worry about people having a rainy day and they can't use it," she said. "That's part of life. My daughter played in the mud and didn't mind it," she added. "It's a lot better than using something carcinogenic."

Pean and the GFSC Commissioner talked at the fundraiser, but the soccer club plans on continuing to push for synthetic turf.

"We are going to obviously continue forward trying to push for the synthetic grass field," said Simonds. "We only have one full-size field in Great Falls that's ours for three seasons, and that's Nike 7."

Simonds agrees that natural grass is the best playing surface, but insists the amount of traffic the field takes on makes it impossible to maintain.

"Our club has grown by 40 percent in the past two years, yet we haven't been allocated any more field space by the county," he said. "It just gets beat up and we can't maintain it the way it deserves to be maintained, to be perfectly honest. Playing soccer on a really, really nice grass field that's perfectly manicured is the best, but we can't keep it up with the pressure we're getting."

While Simonds sympathizes with Pean, he stands by his club's desire to turf the field and says his players' safety is at stake.

"She pulled my heart strings, and I get it, but from a club perspective and from a survey that we took from our memberships, they really want a synthetic grass field," he said. "We've only got that one field and it's not doing her daughter any service," he added. "It's in terrible shape and kids are going to roll their ankles. It's become actually dangerous to play on because it's in such bad shape."

Whether the field will continue to be a symbol of a beloved teammate and soccer player is unknown.

"We would love to keep it named after [Vanessa] if [Gail] wants to," Simonds said.

"We definitely need to turf the field and if she doesn't want her daughter's name associated with that, that's too bad, we'd love to keep it, but if that's the case, I'd understand that too."

Amy Stephan, a Great Falls resident and advocate with the Safe Healthy Playing Fields Coalition, began speaking out against the synthetic turf ever since the plan was unveiled to the community. Her coalition, along with the GFCA, formally met with county officials to present its research and concerns about both crumb rubber and TPE infill.

"We briefed the county on the health effects, toxicity and so forth," said Sjblom. "There were six or seven senior managers of the county at the meeting."

By the end of the meeting, Kirk Kincannon, the director of park authority, agreed to convene a group of people from the park authority, soccer club and citizens association to examine other field materials, according to Sjblom.

**WHILE GREAT FALLS** takes on the county, other jurisdictions are shying away from using artificial turf until the federal multi-agency investigation publishes its final determination on whether artificial turf fields are safe or not.

Across the Potomac River in Maryland, the Montgomery County Council approved a resolution in 2015 banning crumb rubber fields by requiring all new artificial turf playing fields use only plant-derived infill materials in projects where county funds or contracts for the installation are used.

"We have a growing recognition that this type of field is not good," said Sjblom. "Fairfax County is one of the largest users of

this type of field."

There are 48 athletic fields composed of crumb rubber and synthetic turf material that are used by public schools and parks within Fairfax County, according to the park authority.

For the latest project in Great Falls that is now on hold, the Fairfax County Park Authority Board approved a \$20,000 grant to be combined with an \$855,000 contribution from the GFSC and \$125,000 from the Neighborhood and Community Services Synthetic Turf Development Mini-Grant Program, and \$250,000 from the 2012 Park Bond.

In the meantime, the GFSC plans on organizing more events to raise money for its obligation of the project.

The full board of the GFCA is also working on a concurrent resolution opposing the use of crumb rubber on turf fields within the county.



## Back Again!

The Great Falls 4th of July Fireworks  
at Turner Farm Park  
Tuesday, July 4th at 6:00pm

This wonderful patriotic event would not have been made possible without all the local support, local volunteers who stepped up to put on the event and all of the funds donated by hundreds of citizens and businesses.

The Celebrate Great Falls Foundation & the Great Falls community say "Thank You!"

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### TUESDAY, JULY 4TH FIREWORKS SCHEDULE

6:00 pm - The gates open at Turner Farm Park.

Free activities include a rock climbing wall, moon bounce, inflatable rides and a dunk tank. Food will be available from Mookie's BBQ, and Great Falls Creamery ice cream and much more!!

MC and Music by DJ Megawatt

Approximately 9:20 pm - Fireworks display

VIP spots still available, donations always welcome!

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

## SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to north@connectionnewspapers.com by noon on Friday.

**Nathan Marcotte**, of Great Falls, was named to the spring 2017 dean's list at Bucknell University (Lewisburg, Pa.).

**John Poyner**, of Great Falls, was awarded a Bachelor of Science in commerce and business administration from the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, Ala.).

**Kathleen Norton**, of Great Falls, received a Bachelor of Science in computer science from Loyola University Maryland

**Claire Baker**, daughter of Mark Baker and Ellen Lokker of Great Falls, graduated with honors from The University of Virginia School of Engineering on May 21 with a Bachelor of Science in systems and information engineering. Baker presented her thesis on "Using Big Data for Good: Health Literacy Improvement Efforts and the Fight Against Diabetes and Obesity in At-Risk Populations." Among other college activities, Baker held leadership positions in E-Guides and Alpha Omega Epsilon sorority and served on the Engineering Student Council. Baker has accepted a position as a business technology analyst with Deloitte Consulting, LLP in Rosslyn.

**Lillian Baker**, daughter of Mark Baker and Ellen Lokker of Great Falls, graduated with highest honors from The Holton-Arms School on June 8 as a Global Scholar and member of the Cum Laude Society. Among other activities, Lillian was a 12-season athlete with a passion for Softball, earning all-Met honorable mention, ISL all-league, and team MVP recognition during her high school



**Claire Baker**



**Lillian Baker**

career as the Varsity team's pitcher. Lillian received an honorary 2017 National Merit Scholarship and has accepted an offer of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Lillian will be inducted into the USNA Class of 2021 on June 29.

**Nicholas Tucker**, of Great Falls, graduated from the University of Vermont (Burlington, Vt.) with a Bachelor of Science in environmental sciences.

**Maggie Bosch** was named to the dean's list at Miami University for the 2017 spring semester. Bosch, from Great Falls, is earning a B.S. in kinesiology and health, majoring in sport leadership and management Connection.

**Jake McSteen**, of Great Falls, has been named to the deans' list at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the spring semester of the 2016-17 academic year. McSteen, a senior supply chain management major, was named to the dean's list for the College of Business.



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FREE garage parking every weekend (as always)  
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### Reston Concerts on the Town

#### 27th Season

Saturdays, June 3 through August 26, 7:30 - 10 pm  
Reston Town Center Pavilion

### Family Fun Entertainment Series

Saturdays, June 17 through August 5, 10 - 10:45 am  
Reston Town Square Park

### Sunday Art in the Park with Shenandoah Conservatory

Sundays, June 18 through August 13, 7 - 8 pm  
Reston Town Square Park

[restontowncenter.com/events](http://restontowncenter.com/events)

Reston Town Center continues its commitment for community events  
and free entertainment all year long.

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**Join us throughout the summer to  
improve quality of life and connect  
with others who are caregiving  
or coping with Parkinson's**

at The Kensington Falls Church  
700 West Broad St, Falls Church, VA  
RSVP to 703-992-9868 or ConciergeFS@kensingtonsl.com  
Light refreshments served

### **Caregiver Connect: A Monthly Gathering for Caregivers**

with Aging & Dementia Expert Anya Parpura, MD, PhD

**Wednesdays, July 12 & August 2 • 6:30-8:00pm**

A facilitated discussion for caregivers, offering information,  
advice and support in a welcoming, private setting

### **Parkinson's Communications Club**

with Speech-Language Pathologist  
Susan Wranik, MS, MA, CCC-SLP

**Every Wednesday • 10:30-11:30am**

A wellness and prevention program for individuals  
with Parkinson's and their care partners,  
with a focus on maintaining communication skills

A collaboration with the Parkinson Foundation of The National Capital Area (PFNCA)

### **Energized Fitness for Parkinson's**

with Physical Therapist Sheetal Yadav, MPT

**Every Friday • 10:30-11:30am**

A high-energy fitness experience geared toward  
improving mobility and strength while sharing time  
with others facing Parkinson's

A collaboration with the Parkinson Foundation of The National Capital Area (PFNCA) & Genesis Rehab Services



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# SUMMER Sunday CONCERTS in the park

## Free Concerts

**Every Sunday in July at 5 p.m.**  
**in McLean Central Park Gazebo.**  
**1468 Dolley Madison Boulevard, McLean, Va.**

**July 02**  
**Oceans Quartet**  
*A premier Celtic fusion band.*

**July 09**  
**Trio Caliente**  
*A blend of flamenco, pop & Brazilian jazz.*

**July 16**  
**Da Capo**  
*A barbershop quartet for the 21st Century.*

**July 23**  
**Slim Harrison & The Barnstormers**  
*Good, old-time mountain music.*

**July 30**  
**Kara and Matty D**  
*An acoustic duo making beautiful, top-notch vocal harmonies.*

**EXTRA!**  
**August 06**  
**Big Bang Boom**  
*It's a kids' takeover featuring kindie-rock stars!*

**A!**  
**ALDEN**  
SMALL STAGE.  
BIG TALENT.  
[www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org)

**Presented by the Alden at the McLean Community Center in McLean Central Park, located at the corner of Old Dominion Dr. and Dolley Madison Blvd. (Route 123). Schedule subject to change.**

**Presented in cooperation with the Fairfax County Park Authority and Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust.**

## ENTERTAINMENT

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

### ONGOING

**Great Falls Farmers Market.** Every Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Music, vendors, fresh produce, fresh prepared food, delightful bakery, spices from around the world, wild-caught fish, grass-fed, free-range meats, organic-fed poultry and eggs. Email [kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org](mailto:kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org) for more.

**Ken Frye Exhibit.** Various times through June 30 at the Meadowlark Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Ken Frye is the Vienna Arts Center artist of the year. Call 703-319-3971 or visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org) for more.

**Art at the Library.** Various Vienna artists work on display in June at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Reno Number Eleven Steam Locomotive is one of five pictures supplied by the Vienna Arts Center. Visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org) for more.

**"On the Bay" Photographs.** Normal business hours through July 1 at Katie's Coffee House, Village Center, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Silvia Gonzalez Roman will exhibit her pictures taken around the Chesapeake Bay. Visit [oldbrogue.com/katies-coffee-house/](http://oldbrogue.com/katies-coffee-house/) or call 703-759-2759 for more.

**"Slice of Life: Great Falls."** Normal business hours through July 1 at in the TD Bank, 9901 Georgetown Pike. Jill Banks exhibits her oil paintings during bank opening hours seven days a week including "First Friday Art Walk" on June 2 until 7 p.m. Visit [www.greatfallsstudios.com](http://www.greatfallsstudios.com).

**The Light of Day Paintings.** Through July 15, various times Broadway Gallery, 1025-J Seneca Road, Great Falls. Featuring landscape paintings by Michael Godfrey, Christine Lashley, Tricia Ratliff, and Rajendra KC. Call 703-450-8005 for more.

**Julie Cochran Photography.** Various times through July 29 at the Vienna Arts Gallery, 513 Maple Ave. W. Exhibit called "Lotus-Palooza." Call 703-319-3971 or visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

**Sunny Days Art.** Artists exhibition through July 29 at the Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW. Sunny Days exhibition. Call 703-319-3971 or visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

**WEDNESDAYS/JUNE 28-AUG. 2**  
**Stories and Sprinklers.** 1:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna (behind the Freeman Store). Hear a story. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

### FRIDAY/JUNE 30

**Shepherd's Center Fundraising Meals.** 7 a.m.-midnight at the The Locker Room, 502 W. Broad St., Falls Church. The Locker Room restaurant will donate 15 percent of its sales from breakfast, lunch and dinner to the Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church. Visit [www.scmacfc.org](http://www.scmacfc.org) or contact Nancy Murray at 703-734-8353.

**Summer on the Green Concert.** 6:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Featuring Shenandoah Run. Free. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

**For King and Country Concert.** 6:30-8 p.m. at The Tysons Corner Metro Station Plaza, 1961 Chain Bridge Road. Part of the Tyson's Concert Series. Visit [www.tysonscornercenter.com](http://www.tysonscornercenter.com) or call 703-893-9401 for more.



### Summer Sunday

**Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park featuring Oceans Quartet, Sunday, July 2, at 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).**

703-893-9401 for more.  
**Things that Fly at Night.** 6-7:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Learn about bats, insects and s'mores. \$8. Call 703-759-9018 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/) for more.

### SUNDAY/JULY 2

**Oceans Quartet Concert.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Varied musical styles include bagpipes and Beatles music. Part of The Alden at the McLean Community Center's 2017 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

### TUESDAY/JULY 4

**Great Falls Fireworks.** 6 p.m. at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. As part of the Village of Great Falls Independence Day celebration, Christ the King Lutheran Church invites members, friends, and members of the community to gather on the church's front lawn to enjoy the fireworks from this premium vantage point. Visit [www.gflutheran.org](http://www.gflutheran.org) or call 703-759-6068.

**July 4 Festival and Fireworks.** 6:30 p.m. at 1319 Ross Drive SW, Vienna. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

**McLean Independence Day.** 6:30 p.m. at Churchill Road Elementary School, 7100 Churchill Road, McLean. Musical entertainment by a local disc jockey, as well as food trucks selling a variety of entrees and snacks. Off-site parking and shuttles available. Admission is free. In case of inclement weather, the fireworks show will be presented at 8 p.m. on the rain date, Wednesday, July 5. Call 703-790-0123, or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

### FRIDAY/JULY 7

**Summer on the Green Concert.** 6:30 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Featuring Richard Walton Group. Free. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

**Danny Gokey Concert.** 6:30-8 p.m. at The Tysons Corner Metro Station Plaza, 1961 Chain Bridge Road. Part of the Tyson's Concert Series. Visit [www.tysonscornercenter.com](http://www.tysonscornercenter.com) or call 703-893-9401 for more.

### SATURDAY/JULY 9

**Trio Caliente Concert.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley

Madison Blvd. Set to a wide array of Latin grooves with vocals in Spanish, Portuguese, Catalan and English. Part of The Alden at the McLean Community Center's 2017 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

### WEDNESDAY/JULY 12

**"Dining with Dorothy".** 12:30 p.m. at Pan Am Family Restaurant, Pan Am Shopping Center, 3051 Nutley St. SW, Fairfax. Join your friends or make new ones at this socializing/dining event. Call 703-281-0538 or visit [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org) for more.

### THURSDAY/JULY 13

**Driftwood in Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15-25. Visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com) for more.

### JULY 14-30

**Summer Musical.** 8-10:30 p.m. or Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. at Vinson Hall Retirement Community, Community Building Ballroom, 1735 Kirby Road, McLean. McLean players present "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." \$23-25. Email [publicity@McLeanPlayers.org](mailto:publicity@McLeanPlayers.org), call 703-304-3176 or visit [www.McLeanPlayers.org](http://www.McLeanPlayers.org).

### SUNDAY/JULY 16

**Da Capo Barbershop Quartet.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Barbershop quartet style music with various music styles. Part of The Alden at the McLean Community Center's 2017 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

### MONDAY/JULY 17

**JD Eicher Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna. Call 877-987-6487 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com) for more.

### FRIDAY/JULY 21

**Chillin' on Church.** 6:30 p.m. at Church St., Vienna. Water games, Harlen Simple band playing rock/funk/blues. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

**Delta Spur Concert.** 6:30-8 p.m. at The Tysons Corner Metro Station Plaza, 1961 Chain Bridge Road. Part of the Tyson's Concert Series. Visit [www.tysonscornercenter.com](http://www.tysonscornercenter.com) or call 703-893-9401 for more.

# CONNECTION FAMILIES

## Celebrate Independence Day

**FRIDAY/JUNE 30**

**Independence Fireworks.** 6-9:45 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Fireworks with Mansion Tour: \$34 for adults; \$24 for youth; No Mansion Tour: \$30 for adults; \$20 for youth. Call 703-780-2000 or visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).

**SATURDAY/JULY 1**

**Fireworks at Lake Fairfax Park.** 10 a.m.-10 p.m. at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. The Water Mine Park, boat rentals, live music, food, puppet show, camping and fireworks. \$10 per car. The rain date is Sunday, July 2. Call 703-471-5414 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lakefairfax/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lakefairfax/).

**Workhouse Arts Center Festivities.** 5-9:30 p.m. at The Workhouse, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. \$20. Golf course lecture, hole-in-one challenge, fireworks. Visit [www.workhousearts.org](http://www.workhousearts.org).

**Independence Fireworks.** 6-9:45 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Fireworks with Mansion Tour: \$34 for adults; \$24 for youth; No Mansion Tour: \$30 for adults; \$20 for youth. Call 703-780-2000 or visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).

**MONDAY/JULY 3**

**History Day Tours.** Tours at 11 a.m. through 3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Test your knowledge of U.S. history at Sully Historic Site with political trivia, games and fun facts. \$7 for adults, \$6 for students, and \$5 for seniors and children. Call 703-437-1794 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov).

**TUESDAY/JULY 4**

**Firecracker 5K.** 8-10 a.m. Reston Town Center, Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Live music and American flags while rooting for the runners in the "Battle of the Branches" competition. Call 703-912-4062 or visit [restontowncenter.com](http://restontowncenter.com).

**Autism Speaks 5K.** 8 a.m. at Potomac Library, 10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, Md. Fundraiser for autism. Registration, packet pick up at 6:30 a.m. Call 202-955-3111 or email [AutismSpeaks5K@AutismSpeaks.org](mailto:AutismSpeaks5K@AutismSpeaks.org).

**Great Falls Hometown Celebration.** 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre, 776 Walker Road, Great Falls. Great Falls 5K Walk/Run starts at 8 a.m. and then view the floats, antique cars, horses and the bike brigade in the



PHOTO BY TOWN OF VIENNA

**Celebrate Independence Day at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Food, water games, pie eating contest and more. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.**

4th of July Parade at 10 a.m. After the parade, food, music, field games and festivities on the Village Centre Green. At 6 p.m., the gates open at Turner Farm Park featuring music, games, contests and food trucks until the Fireworks Show gets underway just after dusk. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

**Fairfax Station Holiday Crafts Day.** 1-4 p.m. at the Fairfax Station Railroad Museum, 11200 Fairfax Station Road in Fairfax Station. Crafts will highlight the holiday and the railroads. Museum members and ages 4 and under, free; ages 5-15, \$2; ages 16 and older, \$4. Visit [www.fairfax-station.org](http://www.fairfax-station.org), or call 703-425-9225.

**Great Falls Fireworks.** 6 p.m. at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. As part of the Village of Great Falls Independence Day celebration, Christ the King Lutheran Church invites members, friends, and members of the community to gather on the church's front lawn to enjoy the fireworks from this premium vantage point. Visit [www.gflutheran.org](http://www.gflutheran.org) or call 703-759-6068.

**Free Sober Rides.** Tuesday, July 4, 7 p.m. through Wednesday, July 5, 2 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter the code SOBERJULY4 in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the

code. Visit [www.soberride.com](http://www.soberride.com).

**THURSDAY/JULY 6**  
**Patriotic Music.** 1-2 p.m. at Holiday Park Senior Center, 3950 Ferrara Drive, Wheaton. \$2 or free for residents. Visit [www.holidaypark.us](http://www.holidaypark.us).

**Summer Under the Stars Concert.** 8 p.m. Veterans Amphitheater (adjacent to City Hall), 10455 Armstrong Street, Fairfax. Main Street Community Band. Visit [fairfaxva.gov](http://fairfaxva.gov) or call 703-385-7855.

**SATURDAY/JULY 8**

**USA/Alexandria Birthday Celebration.** 5-10 p.m. at Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison St. Event to celebrate the 241st birthday of the USA and the 268th birthday of the City of Alexandria, featuring entertainment, cannon salute during the 1812 Overture, food and beverage sales, and fireworks at 9:30. Call 703-746-5592 or visit [www.visitalexandriava.com/alex-day/](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/alex-day/).

**Riverfront Fundraiser.** 7:30-10:30 p.m. Del. Mark Levine's house, at 805 Rivergate Place, Alexandria. Refreshments include "impeachment punch," "Orange Russians," wine and beer, soft drinks, and food. And great views of the fireworks which begin at 9:30 p.m. Come early to get a good lawn seat or come later after the festivities next door at Oronoco Park.

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# NEWS

## The Great Falls Farmers Market: The Value of Shopping Local

On the occasion of Independence Day, it is important to honor independent local small businesses.

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY  
MARKET MANAGER

There is nothing more wonderful than a July 4 Barbecue consisting of all fresh, in-season ingredients. Imagine your barbecue stove filled with corn-on-the-cob, tomatoes, shish kabobs — whether all vegetable with crimini mushrooms, zucchini, onion, etc., or with meat or fish and vegetables — sausages, chicken, beef burgers etc. on fresh buns, with zaatar and cucumbers, fresh salad, amazing marinades — finished off with fresh berries, peaches, and exquisite cakes and pies.

As you invite your friends and family to enjoy a feast at your home, celebrating Independence Day and its special meaning this year in this time, think about supporting local vendors — at the market and those all around town — who strive to make a difference, creating their own businesses to offer their concept of what is “very best” to you.

We all have our own experiences of “shopping.” We tend to make trade offs in our head about whether something is “unique,” has “quality,” and is sold at a “price” that we consider reasonable. What you find at a farmers market is typically high on “unique” and “quality,” but many regard the “price” as high.

We cannot see the amount of time it takes to prepare the items offered in that special artisan way. We can see the time it takes to personally offer the product, and appreciate that our vendors are there to answer all of your questions and personally explain their product.

A farmers market shopper is unique: it takes “discernment” to appreciate what is special about a particular offering. It takes “a spirit of generosity” to pay the vendor the “modest price” they ask — even though it may appear high. There is a cost to having your family’s nourishment well-cared for and the chain of care from farm-to-table intact.

It takes an attitude of “giving” or “blessing” or “gratitude” to experience the positive energy you convey to the vendor or shopkeeper with the money you pay in exchange for the item you receive. Shopping at our local community farmers market — or shopping at any local business that has confined themselves to serving only our community — we “bless” our local vendors and shopkeepers when we choose to receive their local offerings as opposed to traveling miles away to support huge establishments that grow to “wealthiest companies in America” proportions, motivated by bulk buying at lower prices — paying the producers less so that their prices can undercut competition in our local neighborhoods.

On the occasion of Independence Day, it is important to honor independent local small businesses who are launching products and services that each entrepreneur believes will serve you and your family well. Our village is unique, thanks to the unique people in our midst who take the road less traveled, hoping that they can make a real difference in the quality of their neighbor’s lives. If we broaden our thinking to have regard for the successful economic base we create when we support local, we can look forward to a thriving village in our future. If we choose rather, to focus on our own penny, quarter, or dollar savings at



Luke Wahlgren, owner of World Eats, invites Kathleen Murphy, Great Falls Farmers Market manager, to his tent for a photo celebrating two years in his own business. Wahlgren thanks Murphy, who two years before, encouraged him to follow his dream of cooking, and his mother, Jackie Wahlgren, who supported him every step of the way. Wahlgren makes empanadas from three countries, and has recently started selling from his food truck in other locations.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Eva Kronenburg, owner of EC Pastries, was at the peak of her pastry chef career at Convivial (a top ten D.C. Restaurant), having been just nominated as Rammies Award 2016 Best Pastry Chef of the Year, when she chose to forego professional recognition in exchange for caring for her baby daughter full time and the joy of bringing her daughter, now 11 months, to the market each Saturday with her.

the expense of local business, we can look forward to more chain stores being able to afford the rent of our commercial spaces, rendering Great Falls a copy of every other town that has sold out on unique for the sake of a buck. On Independence Day, it is good to reflect on the destiny we hope for and translate that into our daily and weekly actions.

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

## BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, visit [connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline for submissions is noon on Friday.

### INDEPENDENCE DAY

**Free Sober Rides.** Tuesday, July 4, 7 p.m. through Wednesday, July 5, 2 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter the code SOBERJULY4 in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code. Visit [www.soberride.com](http://www.soberride.com).

### THROUGH JULY 31

**Backpacks for Students.** Various times at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Christ the King's Team Service is collaborating with Reston's aid to families organization Cornerstones and school supplies collection organization Kids R First to help youngsters in the community. Collections will run through July; drop off in the church lobby. Visit [www.gflutheran.org](http://www.gflutheran.org) or call 703-759-6068.

### THROUGH SUMMER

**Vienna Street-sweeping Program.** The Town of Vienna began its annual street-sweeping program beginning March 20. The Town is divided into eight sections for purposes of the sweeping program. During the first pass through Town, the Public Works Department asks that residents not park on the street. Find the "sweeping" sections at [viennava.gov/sweeping](http://viennava.gov/sweeping). Additionally, signs will be placed on streets marking a window of 7-10 days during which the truck will come through. Contact public works at 703-255-6380.

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**Are You A Caregiver? Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna Caregivers' Support Group** takes place first & third Thursday of each month, February 2nd and 16th, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Join us at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF) - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Rd, Oakton, VA. For more info contact facilitator, Jack Tarr, 703-821-6838 [jtar5@verizon.net](mailto:jtar5@verizon.net).

**Haven of Northern Virginia Support Group.** 703-941-7000, [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org) or [havenofnova@verizon.net](mailto:havenofnova@verizon.net).

**Virginia Chronic Pain Support Group** Meets from 1:30 - 3 p.m. the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Kaplan Center for Integrative Medicine, 6829 Elm St., Suite 300, McLean. Group leader, Jodi Brayton, LCSW. 703-532-4892.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church,** 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean continues to have an urgent need for new volunteers to help area senior citizens get to and from their medical and therapy appointments. To find out more about the Shepherd's Center and how you can volunteer to provide transportation and other services, call the Center at 703-506-2199 or e-mail the Center at [info@scmaf.org](mailto:info@scmaf.org). The Center's website is [www.scmaf.org](http://www.scmaf.org).

**Master Gardener Training.** The Fairfax County Master Gardener Association offers plant clinics, home turf training or speakers for homeowner's meetings. Fees vary. Visit [fairfaxgardening.org](http://fairfaxgardening.org) or call MG Help Desk at 703-324-8556 for more.

**Volunteers Needed.** PRS is looking for empathetic and caring volunteers to make phone calls to older adults who may be feeling socially isolated. The commitment is one 3-hour shift per week for one year. Located in Arlington. Ages 21 & up. Intensive training provided. Learn more and apply: <https://principalsinc.org/careering-volunteering/>. Questions? Email [lpadgett@principalsinc.org](mailto:lpadgett@principalsinc.org).

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

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

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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. <b>-Werner Heisenberg</b>			

## Infusing is Rarely Amusing

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Four weeks out of every five, it appears as if I don't have cancer. Fortunately, I don't look the part. Nor do I act the part – in my opinion. However, there is one week out of every five when I most definitely feel the part: the week after my chemotherapy infusion, when eating is a particular challenge. The look, feel, taste and thought of food and/or drink is nearly impossible to swallow – literally and figuratively. And though I'm not in any pain during this post-chemotherapy week, I am compromised nonetheless.

Friends and family who are familiar with my "normal" eating habits (I'd order off the children's menu if I could) have joked that since I'm unable to eat any of the usual and customary Kenny selections, perhaps I should try eating foods that I would never select: Brussels sprouts, grapefruit, tuna fish in a can, fresh fish on a platter, all condiments other than mayonnaise, all legumes and a million other foods that you probably love. Plain and boring is how I roll (a potato roll is my preference), repeatedly.

The problem is that when I'm post chemo, nothing satiates: salty, sweet or "snacky;" hot, cold or medium; fast or slow; store-bought, home-made or restaurant-ready. It's all merely a variation on a theme where my back stiffens, my head tilts back and down and my eating mind says "no." It's been this way for about two and a half years now. And though I don't look the least bit undernourished, I am overwhelmed by these week-long post-chemotherapy eating fits and non-starts.

Naturally I have discussed this side effect with my oncologist. When asked how long this situation lasts, my seven-ish day struggle seems about average, according to my doctor, maybe even slightly shorter than some other patients he treats who are infused with the same chemotherapy drug as I am. Apparently, there are other patients where the eating challenges last even longer than mine. And since there's nothing to be prescribed/recommended to affect this eating problem/lack of outcome, all I can do is live with the consequences of my treatment. Live being the operative word. So unless I stop treatment, this eating challenge will persist, presumably. (Although, there's scant clinical information regarding side effects on stage IV, non-small cell lung cancer patients still living after eight years and four months as we're a patient population that doesn't much exist. We're not exactly unicorns, but neither are we ponies at the Fair.)

Fairness – and normalcy for me was officially gone on Feb. 27, 2009, the date of my diagnosis and the initial Team Lourie meeting with my oncologist. But so what. As of that date, my perspective/orientation became about living forward, not recriminating backward. Sure, the present was important, but the future was more important, and the past, well, it had passed. No more could I afford to consider who, what, where, when, why and how I ended up in this predicament. My goal was to remain positive, take the bad with good, survive until the next drug approval by the FDA (of which there have been half a dozen in the last two years specifically for the treatment of lung cancer) and try not to impose my problems on anyone else.

Which I believe I've succeeded in doing. Oh sure, I've imposed myself on you regular readers, but what I've imposed on you have been my experiences. Considering the context, I'd like to think I've shared, not self-indulged. Moreover, I'd like to think we're all better off for the 'experience.' I know I am.

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