



# Great Falls CONNECTION

HomeLifeStyle

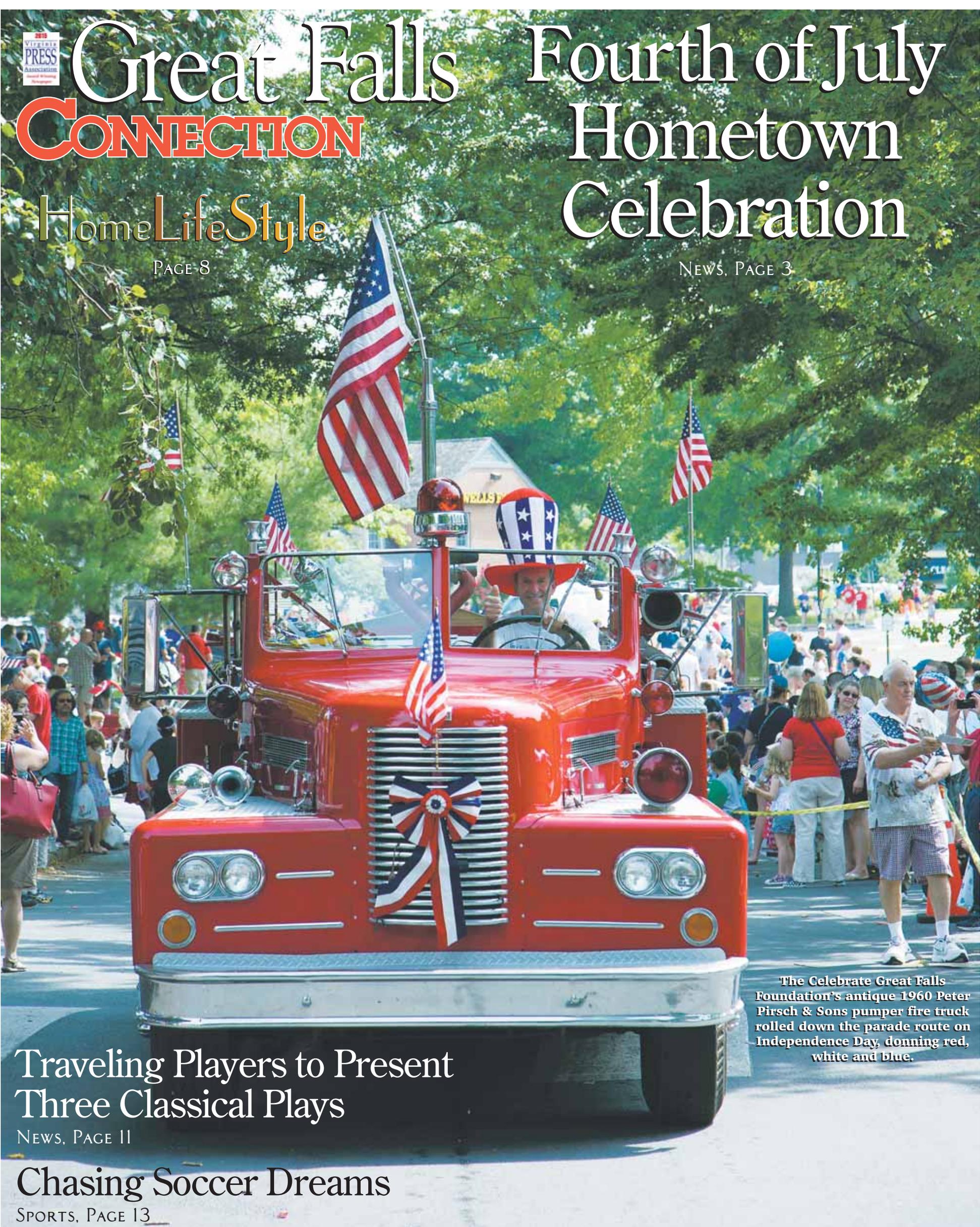
PAGE 8

# Fourth of July Hometown Celebration

NEWS, PAGE 3

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14

PHOTO BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION



The Celebrate Great Falls Foundation's antique 1960 Peter Pirsch & Sons pumper fire truck rolled down the parade route on Independence Day, donning red, white and blue.

## Traveling Players to Present Three Classical Plays

NEWS, PAGE 11

## Chasing Soccer Dreams

SPORTS, PAGE 13

JULY 12-18, 2017

ONLINE AT [WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



**BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY**  
HomeServices  
PenFed Realty

## Gorgeous Great Falls Homes



**11740 Plantation Drive • \$1,995,000**  
VIRTUAL TOUR - [www.maryandmichelle.com](http://www.maryandmichelle.com)



**855 Constellation Drive • \$1,290,000**  
**Just Reduced**  
VIRTUAL TOUR - [www.maryandmichelle.com](http://www.maryandmichelle.com)



MARY GILLESPIE  
MICHELLE PAPPAS  
703-759-7100



**332 Chesapeake Drive**  
**\$950,000**

**Just reduced!**

Linda Thompson 703-850-SOLD



**10619 Good Spring Ave**  
**\$1,169,000**

**Old World Charm with Modern Living**  
This stunning custom home is sited on 2 picturesque acres backing to a pond. It combines old world charm, with an elegant entrance hall, floor to ceiling windows, custom millwork, and hardwood floors, with the conveniences of modern living. With 5 bedrooms and 3.5 baths and a fully finished walk-out lower level, there is room to grow.



Anne Morrow  
703-856-3797



PHOTOS BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION

The Celebrate Great Falls Foundation's antique 1960 Peter Pirsch & Sons pumper fire truck rolled down the parade route on Independence Day, donning red, white and blue.



Ann Kainec (right) is reunited with her son Henry Kainec, 2 (center), after being separated during festivities for 15 long minutes. Ted Cisneros (left), who was visiting from Nebraska, found Henry attempting to cross the street on Walker Road.

## Fourth of July Hometown Celebration

Great Falls Independence Day celebration attracts 'best crowd to date.'

BY FALLON FORBUSH  
THE CONNECTION

The Great Falls Village Centre was festooned in red, white and blue to celebrate Independence Day. The patriotic festival, "4<sup>th</sup> of July Hometown Celebration," was organized by the Celebrate Great Falls Foundation.

Festivities began with a 5K walk and run race, hosted by the Great Falls Trailblazers, that started at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial at 8 a.m. and wound through local trails.

Nearly 200 joggers, walkers and runners participated in the race, according to Erin Lobato, director of the Celebrate Great Falls Foundation. "I think that it was their best turnout yet," she said.

The Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department also hosted a blood drive to support the Inova Health System.

Festivities continued at 9 a.m. with a Little Patriot Parade on the green of the Great Falls Village Centre, where babies and toddlers



The foundation for Great Falls Friends and Neighbors sponsored and judged the Little Patriot Parade, which asked babies and toddlers up to 5 years old to show off their finest patriotic attire in a parade that marched around the gazebo on the green of the Great Falls Village Centre. Awards were given for "Young George Washington," "Little Miss Betsy Ross," "Most Patriotic Baby," "Most Creative," "Most Patriotic," "Best Decorated" and "Star Spangled Family."

### Parade Winners

- ❖ Best Organization Float: Great Falls Rapids Swim Team and honorable mention Lift Me Up!
- ❖ Best Mini Float: Great Falls Garden Club and honorable mention Great Falls Creamery
- ❖ Best Business Float: Rossen Landscape and honorable mention CLS Landscape
- ❖ Best Neighbor Float: Burke Family Christmas in July and honorable mention Mary Chlopecki and Leonor's "Lady Liberty and Miss USA" scooter

up to 5 years old marched or were carried or pulled in wagons around the gazebo in their finest patriotic attire.

**THE VILLAGE CENTRE GREEN** remained the epicenter of the holiday celebration for the rest of the afternoon with carnival games and music by DJ Jon Paul of Megawatt, Inc., who played tunes from the gazebo, and organ grinder Terry Bender.

Politicians and their campaign volunteers capitalized on the entertainment by passing out stickers on the green that were branded with their candidate's names and more appealing tokens for the children: Green balloons for Republican candidate for Virginia governor Ed Gillespie; blue balloons for U.S. Sen. Barbara Comstock, R-10; red balloons for Republican Virginia attorney general candidate John Adams;

SEE BEST CROWD. PAGE 4



The Great Falls Rapids Swim Team won the Best Organization Float award.



Boy Scouts of America Troop 673, sponsored by the Methodist Men's Club of the Great Falls United Methodist Church, march in the parade along with Cub Scouts Pack 673 of Great Falls.



**Home & Auto.  
Smart & Easy.**

**Kyle Knight Ins Agcy Inc**  
 Kyle Knight, Agent  
 11736 Bowman Green Drive  
 Reston, VA 20190

ACROSS FROM RESTON TOWN CTR.  
 WWW.KYLEKNIGHT.ORG  
 703-435-2300

When you combine your home and auto insurance, good things happens – like saving time and money. Just another way I'm here to help life go right.®

**CALL ME TODAY.**



State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL.

**Learn About Advertising  
in the Connection  
and Digital Options!**

Advertising in the Connection  
and upcoming special sections:

**CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING**

or call **703.778.9431**

**G. STEPHEN DULANEY**  
**State Farm Insurance**  
 IN GREAT FALLS



**AUTO • HOME  
LIFE • HEALTH  
FINANCIAL SERVICES**



Like A Good Neighbor,  
State Farm Is There.®

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



**703-759-4155**  
 731-C WALKER RD. • GREAT FALLS, VA  
 State Farm Insurance Companies  
 Home Office Bloomington, Illinois

**NEWS**



PHOTOS BY FALLON FORBUSH/THE CONNECTION  
**Laila Moktiber of Great Falls twirls a hula hoop around her waist on the green of the Great Falls Village Centre.**



**Children line the parade route at the Great Falls Village Centre, eagerly waiting to catch candy thrown by contingents in the parade.**

**‘Best Crowd to Date’  
Celebrates Fourth, Hometown**

FROM PAGE 3

and blue balloons for Republican state delegate candidate Cheryl Buford, who is running against Del. Kathleen Murphy, D-34, who forwent balloons and showed up to the celebration in person instead.

For a brief time, the fun was brought to a halt when a 2-year-old child went missing.

“Henry, I love you. Hey bubba,” Ann Kainec said into the microphone at the DJ booth while holding back tears.

Her son Henry was instructed to wave and come to the gazebo at the center of the festivities while the crowd was told to look for a child matching his description: Short brown hair, white T-shirt with American flags on both sides and blue shorts. He was last seen on the green.

After a very long 15 minutes for Kainec, she saw Henry being carried towards her from across the green in the arms of Ted Cisneros. To her relief, she started sobbing as she embraced both Cisneros and her child who was somehow separated from her during the commotion of the celebration.

Cisneros, who was visiting from Nebraska, said he spotted Henry after he wandered away from the green and was attempting to cross Walker Road.

The police were informed that the missing child was found and the music and merriments proceeded.

By 10 a.m., the main parade with floats, horses, antique cars and pets kicked off. The parade started on Columbine Street, turned left onto Walker Road and made another immediate left into the Village Centre entrance by the Wells Fargo Bank before it looped around the south and west ends of the property, ending near the Old Brogue Irish Pub.

“We had about 18 organizations with floats and about 20 antique cars,” said Reena Brar, chair of the Great Falls July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade.

“I would estimate we had 1,000 or so spectators for the parade and afterwards for the hometown celebration,” said Lobato.

**AFTER THE PARADE,** burgers, hot dogs and snow



**Alicia Chrapaty and her daughter Lila Chrapaty, 2, of Reston bounce down the track of the “Fun Derby” on an inflatable horse.**

cones were sold on the green while carnival and field games and festivities continued.

Though bursts of rain showers poured over the county in the early evening, the weather cleared up for the finale: Fireworks at Turner Farm Park, with more live music and food from Mookie’s BBQ and ice cream from the Great Falls Creamery.

TDBank, which was the primary sponsor of this year’s 25-minute show, provided coupons for one free scoop of Great Falls Creamery ice cream to the first 500 people at the park, according to Eamon McCrann, chair of the Friends of the Fireworks organization that organizes the display each year.

“Everybody that works [the show] is a volunteer,” McCrann said. “We’ve had more than 60.”

The Boy Scouts of America Troop 55 and Troop 673 of Great Falls also agreed to volunteer, according to McCrann. The scouts cleaned the park the following day by combing the fields for remnants of the fireworks that the flashy show left behind.

“Many regulars felt it was the best show yet,” said Lobato. “Our crowd estimate is 3,000 plus for fireworks, as the parking lot was full. It was the best crowd to date and we’ve gotten a lot of compliments on the show too.”

## FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday at noon.

**McLean Bible Church.** Fitness Class at Body and Soul Fitness. Gain balance, energy and strength at 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. Email [bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org](mailto:bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.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).

**Vienna Christian Healing Rooms** are open every Saturday, 1-4 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. Call 703-698-9779 or visit [www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com](http://www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com).

**Chesterbrook United Methodist Church** is at 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Worship service is at 11 a.m. Call 703-356-7100 or visit [www.ChesterbrookUMC.org](http://www.ChesterbrookUMC.org).

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church,** 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, is holding Sunday evening worship service in a less formal atmosphere and more intimate setting to help you get ready for the week ahead. Sundays, 6 p.m. Communion offered. No childcare. Call 703-938-2119 or visit [www.elcvienna.org](http://www.elcvienna.org).

**Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church** holds Centering Prayer Group Fridays, 9:30 a.m. at 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. The hour begins with a 20-minute prayer period, followed by a brief reading related to Centering Prayer. E-mail Chris Mason at [derce@cox.net](mailto:derce@cox.net) or call the church at 703-759-3509.

**The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Jewish Outreach Institute** offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources. Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. Visit [ShalomDC.org](http://ShalomDC.org).

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax,** 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, offers the Religious Exploration program for all children, from pre-K toddlers through high school seniors, emphasizing exploration of all religious traditions while developing a personal spiritual path. The program offers classes on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings. 703-281-4230.

**Trinity United Methodist Church,** 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Sunday worship services are at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for young adults follows the 10:30 a.m. worship services and for children at 9:30 a.m. Youth Group for grades 7-12 meets Sundays at 5 p.m. A 20-minute service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at noon. 703-356-3312 or [umtrinity.org](http://umtrinity.org).

**Passages DivorceCare.** For those experiencing the pain of separation or divorce, the caring community at Vienna Presbyterian Church offers Passages DivorceCare. This 15-week program offers a path toward healing. Vienna Presbyterian Church is located on the corner of Maple Avenue (Rt. 123) and Park Street in Vienna. Cost to cover materials is \$20, scholarships available. For more information or to register call 703-938-9050, go to [www.viennapres.org](http://www.viennapres.org), or send an email to [Passages@ViennaPres.org](mailto:Passages@ViennaPres.org).

**Brightview. Bright Life!**

**Inspiring Bright Lives for All Our Residents**

**Independent Living:** It's the carefree retirement you've dreamed of! At Brightview, all you have to do is what you want to do.

**Assisted Living:** Highly trained associates provide the care you need.

**Wellspring Village®:** Compassionate professionals deliver our highly specialized dementia care program in a state-of-the-art neighborhood.

Call Carolyn to schedule your personal visit.  
**703.454.5448**  
 10200 Colvin Run Road  
 Great Falls, VA 22066  
[www.BrightviewGreatFalls.com](http://www.BrightviewGreatFalls.com)

**BRIGHTVIEW SENIOR LIVING GREAT FALLS**

**VENUS LEGACY**

**Look Your Best All Year Round**

**Fontaine de Jeunesse**

**GREAT FALLS MEDSPA**

**Great Falls Center**  
 9889 Georgetown Pike • Great Falls, VA 22066  
**703.677.8700**

**By Appointment Only Mon-Sat: 9 am-7 pm**

**Other Services:**  
 Facial, Chemical Peels, Massage, MicroPen, Venus Freeze, Venus Legacy, B-12 Shots, Kybella, Sclerotherapy, Whitening, Invisalign, Botox and Fillers

**LIFTFX & SCULPTFX**  
 BY VENUS LEGACY

**FREEZE TIME REVERSE AGING**

Through Thermal Magnetic Rejuvenation for Face, Neck and Body

- Non-Surgical Body Contouring
- Cellulite Reduction
- Wrinkle Reduction
- Circumferential Reduction
- Skin Tightening
- Stretch Mark Reduction

**Patients Love DermaPen!**

**BEFORE AFTER BEFORE AFTER BEFORE AFTER**

• Minimal Downtime • Minimal Discomfort  
 • Affordable • Safe for All Skin Types  
 • Acne Scars, Photoaging, Fine Lines, Stretch Marks

**\$400 OFF**  
 (New Customer)  
**Venus Legacy Treatment**

Cannot be combined with any other offers. Expires 6/30/17

## Problems for Public Health

**Increasing the number of uninsured is bad for the rest of us, and the economy.**

The proposed plan in the U.S. Senate to give the wealthiest Americans massive tax cuts by cutting health coverage for people who are poor, have disabilities and elders, would also affect the rest of the population, and the economy.

People without health insurance face economic uncertainty. When they do incur medical bills, they often cannot pay them in full. This increases costs to providers and decreases the ability to participate in the economy.

People without health insurance are sicker than people with insurance, but they also often can't afford to stay home from work, often exposing others to preventable illnesses. They are less likely to have flu shots and other routine immunizations that protect all of us, including those with the weakest immune systems and those who cannot be vaccinated.

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine was in Springfield this week talking to people who depend on Medicaid coverage. He and U.S. Sen. Mark Warner have been active in opposing these major cuts to health care.

This bears repeating — here are some other consequences of proposals in the Senate bill:

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

- ❖ In Virginia, more than 14,000 veterans could lose coverage under Medicaid.

- ❖ 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.

- ❖ 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.

- ❖ 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 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.

Read last week's editorial, "Killing the Poor to Pay Millionaires," here: [www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jun/27/opinion-editorial-killing-poor-pay-millionaires/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2017/jun/27/opinion-editorial-killing-poor-pay-millionaires/)

— MARY KIMM  
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS

### Send in Your Pet Photos Now

The Pet Connection, a twice-yearly special edition, will publish the last week of July, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 20.

We invite you to send us stories about your pets, photos of you and your family with your cats, dogs, llamas, alpacas, ponies, hamsters, snakes, lizards, frogs, rabbits, or whatever other creatures share your life with you.

Tell us the story of a special bond between a child and a dog, the story of how you came to adopt your pet, or examples of amazing feats of your creatures.

Do you volunteer at an animal shelter or therapeutic riding center or take your pet to visit people in a nursing home? Does your business have a pet? Is your business about pets?

Have you helped to train an assistance dog? Do you or someone in your family depend on an assistance dog?

Or take this opportunity to memorialize a beloved pet you have lost.

Just a cute photo is fine too. Our favorite pictures include both pets and humans.

Please tell us a little bit about your creature, identify everyone in the photo, give a brief description what is happening in the photo, and include address and phone number (we will not publish your address or phone number, just your town name).

Email to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com) or submit online at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets).

### NEWS

## Heartbreak and Hope U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly hosts Alzheimer's Town Hall.

BY ANDREA WORKER  
THE CONNECTION

“Alzheimer's disease will touch every American family at some time or other. There aren't many other conditions you can say that about. Today, Alzheimer's kills more people each year than breast cancer and prostate cancer combined,” said U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) to the attendees of the Town Hall meeting at the headquarters of the National Capital Area Alzheimer's Association in McLean on Monday, June 10.

Connolly was one of several speakers on the agenda, that included representatives from the National Alzheimer's Association, the Agency on Aging from Fairfax and Prince William counties, the Virginia Alzheimer's Commission, and

the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.

Cindy Schelhorn, senior director of communication with the Alzheimer's Association, opened the event and Connolly began the session with a personal story about the disease's effect on his own family. “My Irish immigrant grandmother survived the boat journey to America, even being robbed on the ship. She worked hard. She saved. She was able to bring her own mother and her brothers over from Ireland. She wasn't able to fight off Alzheimer's.”

Connolly told of his grandmother's strength from years of hard work “and walking to Mass everyday.” In some ways, said the congressman, her physical fitness proved to be less than a blessing after the disease struck. “She lived

a long time with Alzheimer's. Watching her fade away before my eyes was one of the most difficult things I had to deal with growing up. The worst is knowing your loved one knows something isn't right, but there is nothing they can do.”

**THE CONGRESSMAN** has co-sponsored the HOPE for Alzheimer's Act and the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act, supported the RAISE Family Caregivers Act and is a member of the bipartisan Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's. But he is concerned. “The President's FY 2018 Budget, and many of the bills currently on the table would wreak havoc, throwing people out of nursing homes

SEE HEARTBREAK AND HOPE. PAGE 14

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

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by  
**Local Media Connection LLC**

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

**NEWS DEPARTMENT:**  
[greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Kemal Kurspahic**  
Editor ❖ 703-778-9414  
[kemal@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kemal@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Fallon Forbush**  
Reporter  
[fforbush@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:fforbush@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Kyle Kincaid**  
Editorial Assistant  
[greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com)

**ADVERTISING:**  
For advertising information  
[sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)  
703-778-9431

**Salome Howard-Gaibler**  
Display Advertising  
703-415-5394  
[salome@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:salome@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Andrea Smith**  
Classified Advertising  
703-778-9411  
[classified@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:classified@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Debbie Funk**  
National Sales  
703-778-9444  
[debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com)

**David Griffin**  
Marketing Assistant  
703-778-9431  
[dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor & Publisher**  
Mary Kimm  
[mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@MaryKimm](https://twitter.com/MaryKimm)

**Executive Vice President**  
Jerry Vernon  
703-549-0004  
[jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com)

**Editor in Chief**  
Steven Mauren  
**Managing Editor**  
Kemal Kurspahic  
**Art/Design:**  
Laurence Foong, John Heinly,  
Ali Khaligh  
**Production Manager:**  
Geovani Flores

**Special Assistant to the Publisher**  
Jeanne Theismann  
[jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com)  
[@TheismannMedia](https://twitter.com/TheismannMedia)

**CIRCULATION: 703-778-9427**  
[circulation@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:circulation@connectionnewspapers.com)



# LETTERS

## Science Finds Artificial Fields 'Safe'

To the Editor:

As a toxicologist with nearly two decades of experience in human health risk assessment, I believe that there is no scientific reason to suggest a link between chemicals found in recycled rubber infill in turf fields and any health issues ("Opposition Against Crumb Rubber Grows in Great Falls," 6/28/17).

There is a substantial body of research already in existence — more than 90 peer-reviewed stud-

ies, reports, and evaluations from academics, state health departments, and third parties — that does not find any link between this material and adverse health effects. Just recently, the Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment released a comprehensive study of 100 different fields concluding that playing on these surfaces is "safe." In February, another evaluation of more than 100 fields conducted by the European Chemicals Agency

reached a similar conclusion.

The few contrary studies that have been cited in some media stories generally do not take into account actual exposure to chemicals, and simply rely on the presence of these chemicals as a reason for alarm. Many common products we interact with as part of everyday life contain low levels of chemicals that do not pose a threat, but could if they existed at significantly higher levels. In fact, even natural soil contains low levels of hazardous and/or carcino-

genic chemicals, including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, lead, and arsenic. Presence alone does not necessarily equal danger.

And it's important to point out that recently the Washington Department of Health released the results of their own analysis of a list of soccer players with cancer being cited by those who attribute health risks to recycled rubber infill. They concluded, based on the list, that cancer rates were actually lower than would be expected.

Children's safety should be placed above all else, but when making decisions about installing turf fields that could provide a durable playing surface for hundreds of children, unsubstantiated fears shouldn't undermine science.

**Michael Peterson**

Michael Peterson is a board-certified toxicologist at Gradient, an environmental and risk sciences consulting firm. He serves as scientific adviser to the Recycled Rubber Council.

## SunTrust Bank Structure Update

To the Editor:

SunTrust Bank has proposed to build a new structure at the corner of Walker Road and Columbine Street, the site of the current farmers' market. The bank is seeking a drive-thru component requiring the approval of Fairfax County. The Fairfax County Planning Commission held a public hearing on the bank's application on June 29. The Board of Supervisors will ultimately have to vote on the measure.

At its meeting, the Planning Commission heard public comments from several citizens including GFCA representatives who ex-

pressed a range of concerns about the latest building design. In order to work to address these, the Planning Commission deferred action on the approval at the meeting. Planning Commission hearings are televised live on their website and also recorded for viewing later; those interested in watching this hearing or any of their proceedings, can visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning).

GFCA has discussed the proposed structure with SunTrust on several occasions, and GFCA's Land Use and Zoning Committee held a public meeting with the

bank's representatives on April 18, where residents commented on the plans and made suggestions. Subsequently, the GFCA Executive Board wrote to the bank with a list of changes that the board felt would make the new structure more compatible with the Village Centre, of which it will be a part. SunTrust Bank, which has operated in Great Falls for many years at other locations, has generally been open to these community suggestions. In the past month, Suntrust has agreed to slightly reduce the size of the building, move parking spaces so the two large oaks in front can be retained, add

new landscaping features and alter certain architectural features to make the north side of the building — at the entrance to the Village Centre — more attractive than in the original plans. Earlier, the bank also agreed to change the roofline and use exterior materials more in keeping with surrounding buildings.

GFCA continues to meet with bank representatives and hopes to reach agreement with the bank before the Planning Commission hearing.

**Great Falls  
Citizens Association**

## Write

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

Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste, length and factual errors.

Send via email: [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com)

Or online at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/)

**garai**  
ORTHODONTIC  
SPECIALISTS  
BracesVIP.com



**Dr. Allen S. Garai**

- Specialist in Orthodontics
- Diplomate, American Board of Orthodontics (Board Certified)
- VIP Invisalign Provider
- Attending Faculty — Orthodontic Department Children's/Washington Hospital
- Over 15 years of teaching orthodontics and private practice

"BEST ORTHODONTIST"  
Washingtonian Magazine  
Families Magazine  
"TOP ORTHODONTISTS"  
Northern Virginia Magazine  
Virginia Living  
Health & Beauty Magazine

## Thinking **invisalign teen**: the choice is clear

- **Orthodontic Specialist** NO additional charge for braces to resolve challenging problems or non-compliance cases
- **Board Certified Orthodontist**
- **Experience** (invisalign over 15 years)
- **Attending Faculty** (teaching invisalign at Washington Hospital Center Department of Orthodontics)
- **Voted "Top/Best"** orthodontist in Northern Virginia
- **Affordable**—full in-house financing with 0% interest and affordable monthly payments



Please call our office to set up your **Complimentary Consultation**

"BEST ORTHODONTIST"  
Washingtonian Magazine  
Families Magazine  
"TOP ORTHODONTISTS"  
Northern Virginia Magazine  
Virginia Living  
Health & Beauty Magazine

**Vienna**  
427 Maple Ave, West  
Vienna, VA 22180  
703-281-4868



703.281.4868  
[BracesVIP@gmail.com](mailto:BracesVIP@gmail.com)  
[www.BracesVIP.com](http://www.BracesVIP.com)

**Great Falls**  
9912D Georgetown Pike  
Great Falls, VA 22066  
703-281-4868

# Local REAL ESTATE

## April, 2017 Top Sales in McLean

PHOTOS BY  
DEB STEVENS/  
THE ALMANAC

IN APRIL 2017, 114 HOMES SOLD BETWEEN  
\$4,500,000-\$179,000 IN THE MCLEAN AND  
FALLS CHURCH AREA.



**1** 7100 Benjamin Street — \$4,500,000



**2** 6700 Lupine Lane — \$3,400,000



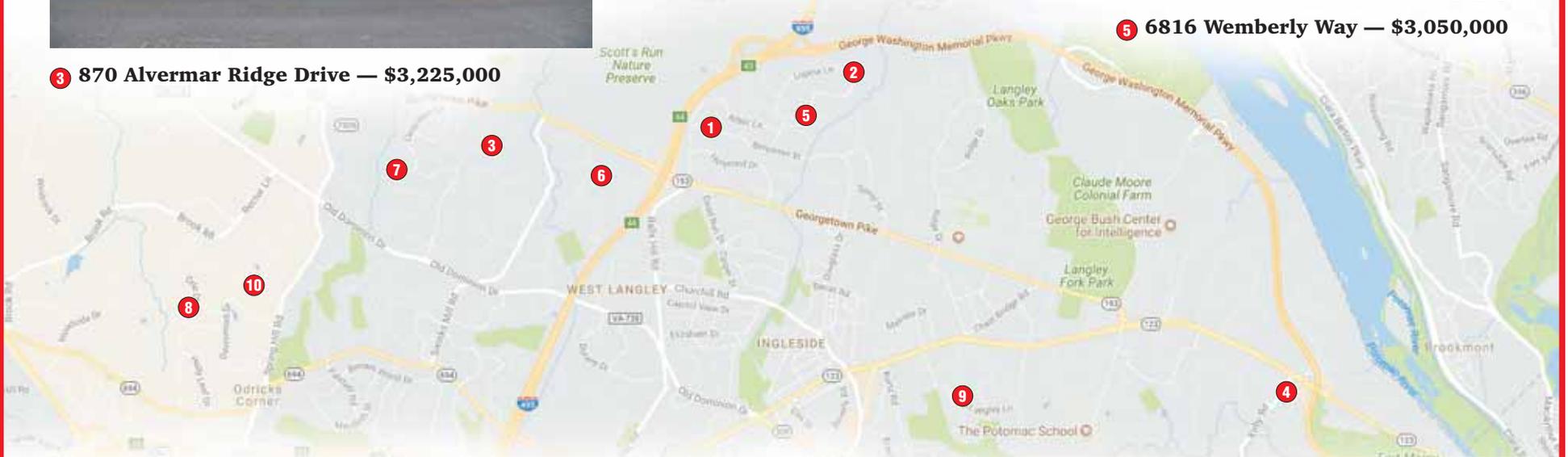
**3** 870 Alvermar Ridge Drive — \$3,225,000



**6** 921 Saigon Road — \$2,825,250



**5** 6816 Wemberly Way — \$3,050,000



Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold	
<b>1</b> 7100 BENJAMIN ST	6	7	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$4,500,000	Detached	0.97	.....	22101	LANGLEY FOREST	04/03/17
<b>2</b> 6700 LUPINE LN	7	7	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,400,000	Detached	0.99	.....	22101	PARKVIEW HILLS	04/04/17
<b>3</b> 870 ALVERMAR RIDGE DR	8	7	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,225,000	Detached	0.93	.....	22102	THE RESERVE	04/28/17
<b>4</b> 1317 KIRBY RD	6	6	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,150,000	Detached	0.57	.....	22101	WESTMONT	04/11/17
<b>5</b> 6816 WEMBERLY WAY	6	5	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,050,000	Detached	0.56	.....	22101	LANGLEY FOREST	04/13/17
<b>6</b> 921 SAIGON RD	6	6	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$2,825,250	Detached	0.60	.....	22102	SAIGON	04/14/17
<b>7</b> 7845 WESTMONT LN	7	7	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$2,807,000	Detached	1.53	.....	22102	GARFIELD PARK	04/14/17
<b>8</b> 8403 BROOKWOOD CT	6	6	1	.....	MCLEAN	\$2,600,000	Detached	0.82	.....	22102	WOODLEA MILL	04/12/17
<b>9</b> 6514 LANGLEY LN	4	5	1	.....	MCLEAN	\$2,390,000	Detached	1.09	.....	22101	SALONA VILLAGE	04/03/17
<b>10</b> 8309 WELLER AVE	5	5	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$2,350,000	Detached	0.51	.....	22102	WOODHAVEN	04/21/17



**4** 1317 Kirby Road — \$3,150,000

COPYRIGHT 2017 REAL ESTATE BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE. SOURCE: MRIS AS OF MAY 15, 2017.

# Home LifeStyle

## Redefining Space

Designer thinks outside the proverbial box.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

**A** local interior designer believes in thinking outside the box when it comes to making the best use of space in one's home.

"My advice to homeowners is to embrace spaces within their homes as if they were never assigned," said Joe Van Goethem of Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design in McLean. "Depending on location, a space previously designated as a walk-in closet can be purposefully transformed into an intimate guest bedroom, home office, or multipurpose wine cellar and bar."

Van Goethem followed his own advice when he transformed a walk-in foyer closet in his home into a multipurpose wine cellar, complete with a wine refrigerator, beer cooler, ice maker and cigar humidor. "Why a walk-in closet if it's seldom used, and only to become an open invitation for hidden clutter?" he asked. "Envision new, functional possibilities for every space within your home."

Van Goethem, who not only designed the space, but also completed the construction himself, believes that "playing with scale and attention to every detail are key when considering the transformation of a confined space such as a walk-in closet," he said. "[The] closet had a nondescript narrow solid door, glued-down wood veneer floor, shelving and hanging rods, and one light fixture."

In finishing the project, Van Goethem widened the door framing to accommodate a new French door and added storage space for a concealed television. He also installed an intercom to allow those in the cellar to communicate with those in the kitchen.

"I ripped up the old floor [and replaced it] with Spanish marble tile flooring," he said. "I added a baseboard and crown moulding, and created a grid of moulding on the walls which I painted with Farrow & Ball's Purbeck Stone. I installed Extra



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE VAN GOETHEM

**Interior designer Joe Van Goethem transformed a walk-in closet in his McLean home into a wine cellar.**

Fine Arrowroot Grasscloth hand crafted wallcovering by Phillip Jeffries within the recesses of the grid."

Van Goethem said his goal was to make the design of the new cellar consistent with the aesthetics of the rest of his home. The space includes a large drum light fixture and side lamps. An oversized cabinet holds the stemware and barware. He added a commissioned seascape painting by California artist Jonathan Koch and modern teapots by Washington, D.C. ceramicist Joe Hicks.

"Details are important in design, but they are everything ... when transforming a small space like the repurposing of a walk-in closet," said Van Goethem.

**"My advice to homeowners is to embrace spaces within their homes as if they were never assigned."**

— Joe Van Goethem of Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design



**Invest in something real. Learn how to invest in gold and silver the easy and safe way.**



Get your free Investor Kit  
[metalsmint.com](http://metalsmint.com)  
1-855-360-4653

**SHILLELAGHS**  
THE TRAVEL CLUB

Celebrating our 52nd Anniversary

**Grand Canyon of PA, Aug. 7-9 .....\$529**  
Includes coach from Vienna, McLean Metro or Grosvenor Metro, Rockville, 2 nights hotel with 2 breakfasts & dinners, Sightseeing - Call for details.

**Castles & Manors of IRELAND Nov. 4-11. ....\$2,799**  
Includes air from Dulles, 6 nights deluxe accommodations. Daily breakfast & dinner & daily sightseeing. Welcome coffee/tea/scones, whiskey tasting - Call for detailed itinerary.

**Great Trains & Grand Canyons Oct. 1-6. ....\$2,375**  
Includes air from Dulles, 5- nights hotel. Daily breakfast, 3 dinners. Sightseeing - Call for itinerary.

**SHILLELAGHS TRAVEL CLUB**  
100 East Street SE, Suite 202 • Vienna, Virginia 22180  
**703-242-2204 1-800-556-8646**

Please visit our Web site at: [www.shillelaghtravelclub.com](http://www.shillelaghtravelclub.com) for a listing of all our upcoming trips and socials.



**Inside or out...**

**...Tech Painting's got you covered!**



Serving: VA DC MD OBX  
**703-684-7702**  
[www.techpainting.com](http://www.techpainting.com)

**Home of the \$6,850 Bathroom Remodel**  
**From Now to WOW in 5 Days Guarantee**

**TWO POOR TEACHERS**  
Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling

10% down nothing until the job is complete for the past 17 years



**Free Estimates**  
**703-999-2928**



Visit our website: [www.twopoorteachers.com](http://www.twopoorteachers.com)

Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999



# 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.

Saturdays, 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.

**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) for more.

**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) for more.

**"Summer in the City" Art Show.** Normal business hours through Aug. 15 at Brightview, 10200 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Members of Great Falls Studios will exhibit their work in a show. Call 703-759-2513 for more.

**Stories and Sprinklers.** Wednesdays through Aug. 2, 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.

**Free Tai Chi.** Every Saturday, from 7:55-9 a.m., Introduction and Beginners' Practice, meet on the outdoor basketball court located directly behind the Dolley Madison Public Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. in McLean Central Park, McLean. Call 703-759-9141 or visit [www.FreeTaiChi.org](http://www.FreeTaiChi.org) for more.

**The Golden Girls of Northern Virginia,** a senior women's softball league, is looking for players. Any woman over the age of 40 is encouraged to join. All skill levels are welcome. Play on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings in Vienna. Visit [www.goldengirls.org](http://www.goldengirls.org).

**First Sunday Jazz Brunch** 11-2 p.m. Recurring monthly on the 1st Sunday at Bazin's on Church 111 Church St N.W., Vienna. Enjoy brunch accompanied by the soft jazz sounds of Virginia Music Adventure. Visit [www.fxva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/](http://www.fxva.com/listing/bazins-on-church/1686/)

**Bingo Night.** Sundays, 4 p.m. Flame Room, Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S, Vienna. \$10. [www.vvfd.org/bingo.html](http://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](http://www.edimprovement.org). 571-213-3192.

**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



## Dickson Displays Paintings at Katie's Coffee House

Coty Dickson will display her oil paintings depicting "Local Scenes We Love" during the month of July during normal business hours at Katie's Coffee House, Great Falls Village Centre, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Visit [oldbrogue.com/katies-coffee-house](http://oldbrogue.com/katies-coffee-house) or call 703-759-2759 for details.

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/](http://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](http://www.greatfallsart.org) for more.

**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](http://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](http://www.greatfallsart.org) for more.

**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](http://www.greatfallsart.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.

## FRIDAY/JULY 14

**Bat Watching.** 6-7:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. Learn about bats, sit around the campfire and make s'mores. \$8. Call 703-759-9018 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend-park/).

## 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).

## SATURDAY/JULY 15

**Model Railroad Exhibit.** 1-5 p.m. at Northern Virginia Model Railroaders, 231 Dominion Road, NE, Vienna. Model train and trolley activities that realistically depict an actual railroad that existed in North Carolina in the 1950s. Visit [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org).

## JULY 15-16

**Summer Colonial Market Fair.** 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Games, children's activities, music and educational demonstrations such as the blacksmith, spinning, candle-making and splitting rails. Children and Seniors: \$4; Adults: \$8; children

under 3 free; directions and more at [www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org).

## SUNDAY/JULY 16

**American Legion Breakfast.** 8 a.m.-noon at the American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St. N., Vienna. Buffet includes omelets, blueberry, pancakes, sausage, bacon and more. \$9, ages 12 and under, \$3. Call 703-938-6580 for more.

**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 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.

## SUNDAY/JULY 23

**Mountain Music Concert.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley

Madison Blvd. Slim Harrison and the Barnstormers, American folk musicians, will be joined by The Rockcandy Cloggers. 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).

**Concerts on the Green.** 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Local Honey is a local band featured. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

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

## MONDAY/JULY 24

**AARP Dinner Group.** 5-8 p.m. at Mylo's Grill, 6238 Old Dominion Drive. AARP has reserved a section of Mylo's Grill for members and their guests to enjoy dinner together with a 15 percent discount on their entire check. Call 877-926-8300 or visit [states.aarp.org/MylosGrill](http://states.aarp.org/MylosGrill) for more.

## WEDNESDAY/JULY 26

**Meet the Cooking Author.** 6:30 p.m. at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, 3rd floor, 2001 International Drive, McLean. Lecture by John Shields, author of "Chesapeake Bay Cooking," host of the PBS series Coastal Cooking, and owner of the renowned Gertrude's in Baltimore. \$65. Call 703-442-9110.

## THURSDAY/JULY 27

**Daniel Nahmod in Concert.** 7:30 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. New Thought singer/songwriter performs original music with a poetic and evocative message of peace, love, and compassion. \$20. Call 703-281-1767 or visit [unityoffairfax.org](http://unityoffairfax.org) for more.

## FRIDAY/JULY 28

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

**LeAnn Rimes Concert.** 6:30-8 p.m. at the 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 29

**Big Splash Party.** 1-3 p.m. at 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Water games and slide. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov) or call 703-255-6360.

## SUNDAY/JULY 30

**Kara and Matty D Concert.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. A couple plays songs from all eras, with vocal harmonies. 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).

**Concerts on the Green.** 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Jr. Cline and The Recliners are playing classics and rhythm and blues. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

## SUNDAY/AUG. 6

**Big Bang Boom Concert.** 5 p.m. at McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Children-friendly music. Call the Center at 703-790-0123 or visit [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

**Concerts on the Green.** 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Diamond Alley are playing contemporary and classics. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org) for more.

## SUMMER CAMPS

# Traveling Players to Present Three Classical Plays

**A one-day festival takes place July 21 at The Madeira School.**

**A**fter weeks of learning classical theatre, practicing movement and vocalizing, and fending off gnats and mosquitoes, Traveling Players' youth ensembles will present a festival of three classical plays on July 21, 2017.

The schedule for the full day is:

- ❖ 4:30-5:30 "Atum's Eye"
- ❖ 5:30-6:30 "The Blue Monster"
- ❖ 6:30-7:30 intermission for dinner (picnicking is welcome)
- ❖ 7:30-9 p.m. "As You Like It"

Tickets are \$10, available at the door. Guests may want to bring picnic items, lawn chairs, insect spray, and flash lights. Camping chairs will be available for rent. In the event of rain, the performances will be held in Madeira's Chapel Auditorium.

The outdoor festival is the final stop on a performance tour by each ensemble, and features a trio of classic plays.

In "Atum's Eye," adapted from an Egyptian creation myth by Judy White, a father's search for his missing children leads to a quest across time and space, through an-



PHOTO BY NOAH PILCHEN

**The Blue Monster 2012. Traveling Players' youth ensembles will present a festival of three classical plays on July 21, 2017.**

cient tombs and the underworld... and onto the set of a very unusual gameshow.

In "The Blue Monster," by Carlo Gozzi, true love is tested by magic transformations, deceitful nobles, and a seven-headed hydra. The playfully dramatic script mixes fast-talking comedy with fairytale spectacle.

In Shakespeare's "As You Like It," faithful cousins and vengeful siblings, city clowns and country clowns, poetic trees and prosaic sheep, all tell the story of how we find

true love (and our true selves) in nature.

Traveling Players Ensemble's mission is to bring great theatre into the great outdoors. To do this, they offer summer camps for elementary, middle and high school students, where they learn to practice their craft with the barest of props, directed by experienced theatre professionals. They also spend most of their time outdoors, even camping out once a week.

The combination of expert training and

outdoor settings creates an experience for the campers that is unique in the world of theatre programs.

The camp still has a few select openings in its programs which continue through the summer, including camps in August.

Traveling Players is in residence at The Madeira School in McLean, where they will host a second festival on Friday, Aug. 18. Also at the Madeira School, on Aug. 11, Traveling Players' most experienced performers will perform Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors," alongside a remount of "Atum's Eye."

Founded in 2003, Traveling Players has been invited to perform at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, Colonial Williamsburg, Shenandoah National Park, Reston's Multicultural Festival, and the International Children's Festival at Wolf Trap. Traveling Players Ensemble was selected as one of 25 model summer arts programs by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

Traveling Players is supported in part by the Art Council of Fairfax County, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

For directions to Madeira, visit [www.madeira.org/about-madeira/contact-us/](http://www.madeira.org/about-madeira/contact-us/).

For more information, visit [www.travelingplayers.org](http://www.travelingplayers.org) or call 703-987-1712.

## Visit These Houses of Worship

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

450 ORCHARD STREET, NW  
VIENNA, VA 22180  
703-938-8525  
email: [fbcvoffice@fbcv.org](mailto:fbcvoffice@fbcv.org)  
[www.fbcv.org](http://www.fbcv.org)

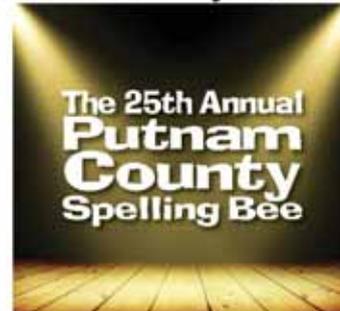
SUNDAY WORSHIP, 7:45 AM & 10:00 AM  
CHRISTIAN LEARNING ACADEMY (SUN.) 9:00AM-9:45AM  
MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM

To Highlight Your Faith Community, call Don at 703-778-9420

**TELL US  
WHAT  
YOU  
THINK**

**SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR HERE**  
[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter)

## McLEAN COMMUNITY PLAYERS Opens Friday, July 14!



Music & Lyrics by William Finn Book by Rachel Sheinkin  
Conceived by Rebecca Feldman

Additional material by Jay Reiss Originally directed on Broadway by James Lapine

Produced by Annie O'Neill Galvin and Diane Sams  
Directed by Kevin and Pamela McCormack  
Choreographed by Kathleen McCormack  
Music Directed by Lori Roddy

### July 14-30

Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m.; Sundays at 2:00 p.m.  
Performances at Vinson Hall Retirement Community  
Community Building Ballroom  
1735 Kirby Road, McLean, VA 22101

Tickets: Brown Paper Tickets 1-800-838-3006 OR [www.McLeanPlayers.org](http://www.McLeanPlayers.org)

Audio description will be offered by the Metropolitan Washington Ear on Sunday, July 23, 2017.  
The McLean Community Players, Inc. is funded in part by the Arts Council of Fairfax County.

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).  
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com)

CONNECT WITH MCP: [FACEBOOK.COM/MCLEANPLAYERS](https://www.facebook.com/mcleanplayers)



Senior living that fits your active *lifestyle* at  
**ARBOR TERRACE OF HERNDON**

- Independent living community
- Assistance available as needed
- Rental units – no costly buy-ins!
- Two daily chef-prepared meals
- Spacious two-bedroom apartments
- Beautiful patio area

Schedule your  
tour today!  
**703-956-6311**

**SUMMER SPECIAL**  
3rd month free by signing  
a lease by August 30.

JOIN US FOR THESE UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Wine Tasting | Friday, July 21, 4 – 6 p.m.
  - Beer Tasting | Thursday, August 3, 4 – 6 p.m.
  - Ice Cream Social | Tuesday, August 8, 1 – 2:30 p.m.
- All events are free and open to the public!



703-956-6311 | [www.at-herndon.com](http://www.at-herndon.com)  
1100 Dranesville Road, Herndon, VA 20170



Enjoy **FREE** weekend performances  
and many more special events all summer long!

- FREE** garage parking, 5 pm until 3:30 am, Monday to Friday
  - FREE** first hour of garage parking, Monday to Friday
  - FREE** garage parking every weekend (as always)
- Garage parking session activation is **not** required after 5 pm or on weekends.  
[restontowncenter.com/parking](http://restontowncenter.com/parking)

**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.

**RESTONTOWNCENTER.COM**   



## PEOPLE

Friends of the  
McLean Community  
Center President W.  
Glenn Yarborough,  
Jr. (right) presents  
the award to Paul  
Kohlenberger.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MCC

# Kohlenberger Honored As Friend in Deed

**McLean Community Leader Paul Kohlenberger receives 2017 'Friend in Deed' Award from The Friends of the McLean Community Center.**

Paul Kohlenberger has been named the Friends of the McLean Community Center (FMCC) organization's 2017 "Friend in Deed." Kohlenberger is the 26<sup>th</sup> person to receive this award "with gratitude for outstanding leadership and support of the McLean Community Center." FMCC President W. Glenn Yarborough, Jr. presented the award at the group's annual meeting on Monday, June 5. At the completion of the McLean Community Center's renovation, Kohlenberger's name will be added to the list of award recipients on the "Friend in Deed" plaque, which is displayed in the Center's main lobby.

Kohlenberger, who is president of the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce and of the Historical Society of Fairfax County, is a longtime resident of McLean who is active in a number of community organizations. He has been instrumental in promoting the FMCC through helping establish the group's website, offering new program ideas, promoting membership initiatives

and documenting the Friends history and role in the building of the McLean Community Center (MCC). Some of his program ideas have included the Friends' 50th Anniversary Reception held in 2014 and the "Meet the Candidates" receptions, which provide a platform for community members to meet the candidates running for election to MCC's Governing Board. In addition, Kohlenberger, a two-term member of the MCC Governing Board, served for three years as the Liaison from the Board to FMCC.

According to Yarborough, Kohlenberger has been instrumental in assisting the organization to progress in a number of ways. "Paul always has new ideas to move the Friends of the MCC forward. He goes the extra mile by always making himself available to help — be it day or night. Most of all, Paul's love and dedication to the McLean community and the Center has always been most evident."

For more information on Friends of MCC or to volunteer, visit [www.friendsmcc.com](http://www.friendsmcc.com).

## Ms. Senior Virginia Named

Barbara Barron, of McLean, on right, was the first runner up for the Ms. Senior Virginia Pageant which was held on June 30 in Falls Church. She lost to Cheryl Brown Davis from Heathsville, who will represent Virginia this fall at the National Ms. Senior America Pageant in Atlantic City, N.J. Victoria Pereira, of Alexandria, was second Runner Up.



# SPORTS

**Adrien Cushing and his father Kenny outside of Great Falls library.**



PHOTOS BY COLIN STOECKER/ THE CONNECTION

## Chasing Soccer Dreams

**Great Falls soccer player joins D.C. United Under 17 League team.**

BY COLIN STOECKER  
THE CONNECTION

**A**drien Cushing, 16, of Great Falls, a junior at Langley High School wants to make the U.S. national team for his age group, and is already on the way to that goal. He was just ranked 142 on IMG's Top 150 soccer players in America according to topdrawersoccer.com.

Since the age of 4, Cushing has been playing soccer competitively. He has switched teams almost as much as he has switched positions on the field. He recently left Bethesda Soccer Academy's team to join DC United's Under 17 league team. "There is a lot of opportunity for him to get noticed by colleges and get a lot of exposure," said Martin Ryan, the D.C. United Academy Director and U17 coach.

Technically, Cushing is a defender. But he has played center back and right mid, as well as center midfield when he was younger. "I switched positions a good amount through my whole career," he said.

Cushing has progressed through all of the levels of travel soccer in the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia area, moving from McLean's Club Team, to Bethesda Soccer Academy and now D.C. United. "This is his fifth team in five years," said his father, Kenny Cushing. "With D.C. United, he has hit his apex."

"I wanted to stay with my teammates but it was a good move to go to D.C.," said Cushing.

His fondest memory of playing travel soccer was going to Las Vegas for a national league tournament when he was on the McLean Club team. "There was a Panda Express in the hotel, so he was very happy," said his father.

Cushing wants to play internationally in the future. "I want to play overseas in Europe for an English Premier League team," he said.

He follows all the Premier league soccer teams, but his favorite is Manchester United.

Cushing is the middle of three children and has two brothers. "My parents pay for everything and my dad takes me to all of the games," said Cushing.

Ryan Martin, the U17 DC United youth league head



**Adrien Cushing in his DC United Under 17 jersey. He just joined the team which will have two games for a week and four practices with lifting after each for the 10-month season.**

coach is excited to have Cushing join his squad. "We are focused on the holistic approach and building the whole player. Adrien's defensive skills will be very important for our team," he said.

Cushing is hoping to get a contract and continue to play on the U18 D.C. United youth team before entering college. As a rising junior, which Division One college conference to play in is a major decision for him and his father. They are looking at the Atlantic Coast Conference, Big East, and Big Ten conferences, balancing offers from different schools.

"I don't want to go too far so my dad can still come to my games," Cushing said.

"It's not the same as football or basketball scholarships," said Cushing Sr. "The schools still expect the same amount of academic performance from the players."

Although there is a bit of pressure on him in school to get good grades, Cushing believes that as long as he continues to practice he will succeed. He will play two games for D.C. United a week and attend four practices with lifting after each for the 10-month season.

Cushing is excited about the opportunity to play for a top tier team like D.C. United. "I can push my teammates and not let any goals in the net," he said.

**Sign up for  
FREE DIGITAL  
SUBSCRIPTION**  
to any or all of our 15 papers  
[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE)



**THE CONNECTION**  
Newspapers & Online

**SPECIAL PULLOUT TAB**  
**Newcomers & Community Guide**  
**August 23, 2017**

The annual Newcomers and Community Guides for each of our 15 communities with inside facts on what makes each community special, their secret places, the real power players, how to get involved and more.

Including the history, schools, parks, libraries, local people, elected officials, county/city offices, how decisions are made, a calendar of events and other vital community information.

Due to the popularity and long shelf life of this issue, an overrun of the publication is made to meet demand. Extra copies are delivered to select Chambers of Commerce, Realtors, Citizens' Associations and local government.

Space Reservations Due: Thursday, August 17, 2017  
E-mail [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) for more information.

**Great Marketing for:**

- Hospitals, Healthcare, Wellbeing
- New Homes, Realtors, Remodelers
- Schools, Camps, Services for Students
- Malls, Shopping Centers
- Professional Services
- And Much More

Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

- Alexandria Gazette Packet
- Fairfax Connection
- Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection
- Potomac/Arlington
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection
- Centreville Connection
- Leesville Connection
- Manassas Connection
- Manassas Park Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Charlottesville Connection

**Call 703.778.9431**  
**Email [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com)**  
**Visit [connectionnewspapers.com/advertising](http://connectionnewspapers.com/advertising)**

# CLASSIFIED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

## Announcements

**We pay top \$ for STERLING,**  
MEN'S WATCHES,  
JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,  
FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.

**Schefer Antiques**  
703-241-0790  
theschefers@cox.net

## Computers

## HDI COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

JENNIFER SMITH  
Serving the Area Since 1995



- > Speed Up Slow Computers
- > Virus Removal
- > Computer Setup
- > Help with Windows 8

**571-265-2038**

Jennifer@HDIComputerSolutions.com

## Announcements

## OUTER BANKS, NC - VACATION RENTALS

Over 600 vacation homes from S. Nags Head to Corolla's 4x4!

**Brindley Beach**  
VACATIONS & SALES

**877-642-3224**  
[www.brindleybeach.com](http://www.brindleybeach.com)

## Lifetime ROOFING

by VA CAROLINA BUILDINGS, INC

**FACTORY DIRECT  
WE FINANCE**

**CALL 800-893-1242**

SINGLE WIDES  
DOUBLE WIDES  
HOUSES

[WWW.METALROOFOVER.COM](http://WWW.METALROOFOVER.COM)

If you've quit reading due to

## MACULAR DEGENERATION

Special low vision glasses  
may help you enjoy  
reading again.

Call for a **FREE** phone consultation  
with Dr. Armstrong, Optometrist

Offices in: Roanoke, Harrisonburg, Wytheville, Virginia

Learn more at: [www.VirginiaLowVision.com](http://www.VirginiaLowVision.com)  
Dr. David L. Armstrong (866) 321-2030



## Announcements

**Make Your Vehicle  
An Ad Space And Earn  
\$300 Weekly.**

Earn \$300 weekly when you drive your vehicle with an Ad on it. Vinyl graphic sheets are installed for free by the Advertiser and you earn \$300 by just driving to your normal routine places.

Contact:  
Conceptcarwrap@gmail.com  
or text (305) 501-0507 to apply.

**LIKE US ON  
FACEBOOK**

[www.Facebook.com/  
connectionnewspapers](http://www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)



## Announcements

## NEWS



PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

**The panel at the Alzheimer's Town Hall included U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), and representatives from the National and local Alzheimer's Association, Area Agencies on Aging, the Virginia Alzheimer's Commission, and the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.**

## Heartbreak and Hope

FROM PAGE 6

and adult care centers, and severely limiting care and resources for our vulnerable seniors." A threatened 18 percent cut in the funding for the National Institutes for Health "would gut federally funded research ... it certainly would bring us no closer to a cure," said Connolly. "And right now, there is no cure. There really isn't much in the way of treatment."

"There are about 140,000 Virginians estimated to be suffering from some form of dementia," said panelist Sharon Davis with the Virginia Alzheimer's Commission, and she says the effect of the disease takes a toll on the family as well as the afflicted. "I have spent more than half of my adult life as a caregiver." Davis's husband is now a live-in patient at a memory-care facility, suffering from early-onset Alzheimer's. Her mother lived for 18 years with the disease.

"It's a tragedy. It's a disease that robs them of what should be the best years, time they have earned to relax and enjoy." As Davis pointed out, it's also a disease that can have devastating emotional and financial impacts on families, as many struggle to cope physically and financially to provide usually round-the-clock care.

Stories of heartbreak and challenges continued, but Karen Hannigan with Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging wants to get the word out that there is help and support, for the patient and the families and caregivers.

"We operate based on the 'No Wrong Door Initiative' model," said Hannigan.

That model means that persons who call for help don't encounter a "sorry, wrong department and we can't help" response. "No matter what, we guide you. Our staff are 'field-trained.' We know the system. Let us do the navigating and take away at least that much stress from the situation."

Negotiating the government regulations, the gaps between Medicare and Medicaid, the insurance maze, and trying to find appropriate resources while dealing with the actual disease and its effects on the patient, and possibly on the family as caregivers, can be overwhelming. "Call us, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at 703-324-7948," said Hannigan. "You don't need to know all of the information. We do. Just tell us your story."

The National Alzheimer's Association also offers a helpline. "It's free care consultation. It's nationwide. We work with agencies around the country and can help you get to the right people," said Jane Priest, program manager with the association. "24/7, call us at 1-800-272-3900, or visit the website at

[www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)."

Along with more assistance for patients, caregivers and families, Priest and others on the dais and in the audience want to see more focus on education and training, as well. The National Alzheimer's Association and the regional chapters are dedicating more time and resources on outreach programs. Annandale resident Catherine Bergstrom who attended the event welcomes this initiative.

Bergstrom related the experiences of her husband who had to be hospitalized. "This was a hospital, and they still did not know how to deal with a patient suffering from this disease."

Sharon Davis of the Virginia Alzheimer's Commission added her own stories of her husband's treatment at hospitals and medical facilities that worsened his mental state, instead of improving the situation.

"And what about a patient that can't communicate to the emergency room staff because of their condition?" asked Connolly, or even worse, the Alzheimer's sufferer who doesn't have a caring family member who can help "interpret" during medical transactions or who can advocate on the patient's behalf?

**THE OUTREACH PROGRAMS** of the Alzheimer's Association seek to train the general public, as well as doctors, caregivers, law enforcement personnel and others on how to recognize if someone is suffering from Alzheimer's or dementia, and how to best react and assist.

Currently, there are no "Dementia Friendly Communities" in Virginia. The model, which seeks to raise awareness of the disease and of dementia in general and offer training and tips for real-life encounters is being tested in other jurisdictions nearby. Toni Reinhart, owner of Herndon-based Comfort Keepers that provides in-home senior and elder care services, wants to change that. This month, she is gathering local service and community leaders in her area to make Herndon a "proof of concept" project. "Herndon is so community-focused. Our leaders are very service-oriented. I think it's the best place to get this rolling in Virginia."

Connolly applauded all of these efforts, as he pledged to continue to fight for Alzheimer's funding. "There are 1.1 million people in Fairfax County. Eleven percent are over 65. The fastest growing population is over 80. This is an issue that won't just go away. We need to take action now. Contact your members of Congress — and not just the 'friendlies!' We have a 'moon-shot' for fighting cancer. Well, we need a 'moon-shot' to fight Alzheimer's disease."

# BULLETIN

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

## 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.

## SATURDAY/JULY 15

**Free Health Screening.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Chain Bridge Corner Giant, 1454 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Customers can receive free blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol screenings. Visit [www.giantfood.com](http://www.giantfood.com) for more.

## SUNDAY/JULY 16

**Intro to Connection Practice.** 4:30 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Learn simple, science-based tools for feeling and expressing peace, responding with empathy and insight, and building resiliency to life's ups and downs. \$20. Call 703-281-1767 or visit [unityoffairfax.org](http://unityoffairfax.org) for more.

## JULY 20-22

**36<sup>th</sup> Annual NFED Family Conference.** 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at The Westin Tyson's Corner, 7801 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. An opportunity for families affected by ectodermal dysplasias to gather information on the syndromes and treatment options; to network with other affected families; and to educate legislators on Capitol Hill about ectodermal dysplasias. Visit [www.nfed.org](http://www.nfed.org) for more.

## THROUGH JULY 28

**Vendor Application Deadline.** Reston Community Center is seeking arts and crafts vendors, food vendors and civic organizations of all cultures for the 17th Annual Reston Multicultural Festival. The festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. Interested groups or individuals should fill out the appropriate Vendor Application Form, available at [www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf).

## THROUGH AUG. 18

**Artist Application Deadline.** Visual artists who wish to participate in the 17th Annual Reston Multicultural Festival art exhibit "Art Mirrors Culture" should visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com). The festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017 at Lake Anne Plaza in Reston. Interested groups or individuals should fill out the appropriate Vendor Application Form, available at [www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/mcf).

## 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 [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@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).

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS, CALL KAREN AT 703-778-9422

<b>ELECTRICAL</b>	<b>ELECTRICAL</b>	<b>LANDSCAPING</b>	Good is not good, where better is expected. <b>-Thomas Fuller</b>
<b>K&amp;D ELECTRIC</b> COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc...		<b>A&amp;S CONSTRUCTION</b> SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. <b>703-863-7465</b>	
<b>GUTTER</b>		<b>LANDSCAPING</b>	
<b>GUTTER CLEANING</b> Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards <b>PINNACLE SERVICES</b> lic/ins 703-802-0483 free est. email <a href="mailto:jamie@lawnsandgutters.com">jamie@lawnsandgutters.com</a> web: <a href="http://lawnsandgutters.com">lawnsandgutters.com</a> Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!		<b>LANDSCAPING</b>	
<b>IMPROVEMENTS</b>		<b>LANDSCAPING</b>	
<b>Power Washing</b> Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a hoia violation? We do houses, decks, fences, side walks, etc. Deck and fence repair, deck staining and sealing. Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates email: <a href="mailto:jnave@comcast.net">jnave@comcast.net</a> <b>703-987-5096</b>		<b>LANDSCAPING</b>	
<b>A&amp;S Landscaping</b> • All Concrete work • Retaining Walls • Patios • Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions • French Drains • Sump Pumps • Driveway Asphalt Sealing <b>703-863-7465</b> LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia		<b>LANDSCAPING</b>	
 <b>RN. CONTRACTORS, INC.</b> Remodeling Homes, Flooring, Kitchen & Bath, Windows, Siding, Roofing, Additions & Patios, Custom Deck, Painting We Accept All Major Credit Cards Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic Phone: 703-887-3827 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rncontractorsinc@gmail.com">rncontractorsinc@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.rncontractors.com">www.rncontractors.com</a>		<b>TILE / MARBLE</b>	
<b>Alfredo's Construction Company, Inc.</b>  • Concrete Driveways • Patios • Sidewalks • Stone • Brick Phone: <b>VA: (703) 698-0060 • MD: (301) 316-1603</b> <a href="http://www.alfredosconstructioncompany.com">www.alfredosconstructioncompany.com</a>		<b>TILE / MARBLE</b>	
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>		<b>TILE / MARBLE</b>	
<b>Patios &amp; Drainage</b> Your neighborhood company since 1987 <b>703-912-6886</b> <b>J.E.S. Services</b> Free Estimates • Fully Licensed & Insured • Planting & Landscaping Design • Drainage & Water Problems • Concrete Driveways, Replacement or New • Patios and Walks • Masonry Work or Dry Laid • Paver, Flagstone, Brick, any style you choose • Retaining walls of all types All work Guaranteed		<b>TILE / MARBLE</b>	
<b>BATHROOM REMODELING</b> by Brennan Bath and Tile Partial or Full. Kit. Floors, Backsplashes. Specializing in Ceramic, Porcelain, Glass Tiles and Natural Stones. Also repair work. 35 yrs exp. <a href="http://www.brennan-tile.com">www.brennan-tile.com</a> <b>703-250-2872</b> Licensed • Bonded • Insured		<b>TILE / MARBLE</b>	
<b>Quality Tree Service &amp; Landscaping</b> Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Summer Cleanup... Tree removal, topping & pruning, shrubbery trimming, mulching, leaf removal, planting, hauling, gutter cleaning, retaining walls, drainage problems, etc. 25 years of experience - Free estimates <b>703-868-5358</b> <b>24 Hour Emergency Tree Service</b>		<b>TILE / MARBLE</b>	
 <b>TELL US WHAT YOU THINK</b> SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR HERE <a href="http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter">www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter</a>		<b>TILE / MARBLE</b>	
<b>Find us on Facebook and become a fan!</b> <a href="http://www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers">www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers</a> <b>THE CONNECTION</b> Newspapers & Online The Connection to Your Community <a href="http://www.connectionnewspapers.com">www.connectionnewspapers.com</a>		<b>TILE / MARBLE</b>	

## A Near Catastrophe, Always



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I bring our two cat carriers up from the basement in order for "The Buff Boys" to acclimate in anticipation of their impending visit to the veterinarian, I can't help but think back to the spring of 1976. That's when an appointment to mend my male cat, Tillie, nearly went very wrong.

To this day, the circumstances still haunt me. Tillie had been a surprise birthday gift given to me in September 1975, along with a puppy I named Gus (both named after a W.C. Fields' movie, "Tillie and Gus").

Tillie was an all-black domestic short hair. Gus was a German Shepard/St. Bernard mix. He was beautiful. He had a white-ish beige coat, floppy ears and a curly tail.

Introduced to one another at 6 weeks old, Tillie and Gus were the best of friends/siblings. Though I made sure they spent their evenings inside, during the day, both were outside. (We had a fenced-in yard so Gus was confined. Tillie however, as you might imagine was not. He had the run of the neighborhood.)

Sure enough, one day, Tillie got into a cat fight. His tail had been bitten and was beginning to abscess. I knew I had to take him to the veterinarian. However, I was in college and had very little money to spare. Nor did I have a credit card either. (Those were the days before credit card companies solicited college students.) In a financial bind, I called my parents and asked for money (I did work in the dining hall all through college but lived in a house off campus and had the usual room and board-type expenses). They sent me \$25. (In my mind, I can still see the check.) In addition to whatever other money I could scrape together, I guess it was enough so I took Tillie to the "vet" for repair. He stayed overnight. The next day, I got the call that he was ready for pick-up. That's when the event occurred that has affected me/my animal-owning life going on - four decades plus.

I went by myself. I had a car; a 1970 Ford Maverick, but no cat carrier. I was, apparently, planning on simply holding Tillie in my arms as I had done the day before. However, the pick-up was not nearly as uneventful as the drop-off.

Once I got outside the building, Tillie began squirming (his tail had been shaved and had stitches where the abscess/bite had been inflicted) and broke free from my grasp. He ran off about 20 yards - or so to the rear of this modest one-story building and stopped just shy of a chain-link fence which separated where we all were to another neighborhood - beyond my reach. My fear: had Tillie climbed over that fence somehow, he likely would have been gone forever.

Slowly I approached Tillie, repeatedly calling his name as quietly and reassuringly as I could, trying not to rattle, startle or scare him in any way; presuming post-surgery, in an unfamiliar place, possibly in pain, it might not take much from his father to cause him to scamper off and disappear.

As I casually walked toward him, amazingly, Tillie sort of stood still, enough for me to scoop him up. Which I did and then carefully walked back to my car and drove us both home without any further ado - except for the rest of my taking cats-to-the-"vet" life. And yes, that means now.

And though I'm not stupid enough to transport cats without cat carriers anymore, I am only at ease once we're back home and have let the cats out of their boxes and released them into the house (all our cats are indoor cats). Throughout this process, I must check the latches on their carriers a half-a-dozen times; in the house, in the car, in the parking lot outside the "vet's" office, in the waiting room, in the examining room and then again afterwards; back in the waiting room while I pay, in the car on the way home and finally in the driveway as I prepare to carry the carriers/cats across the yard and into the house. Once inside with the cats/carriers in hand, finally I can relax. Home at last.

Forty-one years ago; it seems like yesterday, or maybe tomorrow if the "vet" can see us. And that's what worries me. Been there and unfortunately, have done that.

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



www.GreatFallsGreatHomes.com

# JAN & DAN DIANNE

#1 Realtor and Home  
Sales in Great Falls

Call Us Today to Help You Buy or Sell Your Home!



**1133 Springvale Rd., Great Falls \$1,800,000**

Magnificent in every way! Flowing floorplan with a combined 2-tiered—kitchen, family room, sun room with 10 + foot ceilings and transom windows that provide natural light and overlook 5 woodland Acres. Connecting walking paths lead to a quiet neighborhood with 2 mile walking loop! Renovated walk-out lower level and 4-car garage.



Great Falls \$1,149,000  
Bright, open floorplan with inviting outdoor living areas



Great Falls \$1,999,000  
Gated, compound with pool and guest house



Great Falls \$1,399,000  
Quality built Craftsman – Incredible Value!



Vienna \$1,249,000  
Magnificent retreat! Mins. to Metro & major commuting arteries



Great Falls \$2,399,000  
Flawless home. 4-car garage & Bonus Wing



Great Falls \$1,299,000  
Modern retreat on 6 private acres



Great Falls \$1,015,000  
5,000 sq.ft. with main level master bedroom



Great Falls \$2,699,000  
12,000 sq.ft. with a Viking Kitchen



Great Falls \$1,495,000  
Beautifully appointed with a Park-like setting



Susan Canis  
Associate Realtor



Sally Marvin  
Associate Realtor

Jan & Dan Laytham, Dianne Van Volkenburg

Office: 703-757-3222

9841 Georgetown Pike,

Great Falls, VA 22066 • 703-759-9190



LONG & FOSTER  
REAL ESTATE

CHRISTIE'S  
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

