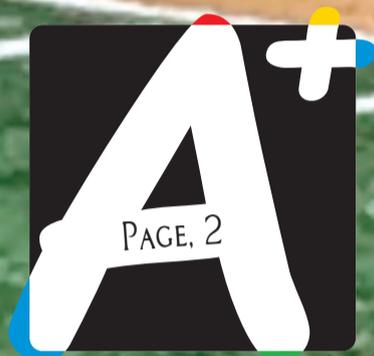


Vienna and Oakton CONNECTION



Ready for big games:
Oakton High graduate
Justin Bartee wears
Wake Forest jersey
number 40.

‘Walking-on’ Field of Dreams

PEOPLE, PAGE 5

Town Hall Told of
‘Chaos-Causing Trump Effect’

NEWS, PAGE 3

‘A Nun on the Bus’
Author to Speak in Vienna

CALENDAR, PAGE 8

OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 9 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

JANUARY 17-23, 2018

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

New Year, New Order Local organizers teach methods for streamlining a space.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

With the holidays now a memory, local organizers are getting requests from those with overflowing buckets of ambition to create and maintain a clutter-free space.

“One of the first things to learn is that a few minutes spent on a few tasks each day can go a long way in maintaining order,” said Jodie Jacobs of SOUPerior Organizing. “Decide how important a clean, clutter-free space is to you and follow through on keeping it that way. Prioritize it like other important things in your life.”

One habit that Susan Unger of ClutterSOS teachers her clients to focus on simple things that can be done easily and frequently. “In general, I recommend keeping up with household duties on a daily basis so none of them become a bigger project,” said Unger. “For example, don’t leave dishes in the sink. Load the dishwasher after every meal and put all cooking and food prep items away so the counters are clear.”

Establishing a daily routine so that tidying becomes second nature is a technique that Unger uses in her own life and teaches to her clients. “I always make my bed first thing in the morning,” she said. “Having a neat bedroom is a great way to start the



Teaching children to put away toys at the end of the day can create a peaceful environment.

day.”

Also on her recommended list of daily tasks: apparel. “Be sure to put all clothes away on a daily basis rather than leaving them on a chair or the floor,” said Unger. “Clean clothes should be hung up or put in drawers and dirty clothes in the laundry basket.”

In fact, Unger tells clients to gather the entire family at the end of each day and spend 10 minutes tidying as a group. “Make a sweep of your house and determine which items need to be put in their proper place,” she said. “It makes for a less stressful and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JODIE JACOBS

Small tasks such as putting away clothes each day can lead to an organized space.

more pleasant morning when you’re not waking up to clutter sitting around,” said Unger.

Deal with mail on a daily basis so it doesn’t pile up, advises Unger. “Immediately recycle or shred the junk mail and put bills, items to file and reading in an appropriate place.”

Whether it’s a small basket by the front door or storage boxes placed under a bed, one technique for tidiness is having a designated space for items. “Kids’ homework should have a landing place like a backpack,” said Jacobs. “The backpack should

go in a particular place, like on a hook. You have to figure out what works for your family.”

Keep bathrooms in order by adding over-the-door hooks to hold towels, suggested Todd Martz, Home on Cameron in Alexandria. “This might make the room appear smaller, but it [offers] a place to put towels,” he said. “Include a decorative bag on the door hook for toiletries so they’re out of the way.”

“Add an ottoman or coffee table with storage,” continued Martz. “Maximize the space next to a utility or laundry room by adding a ... shelf to hold blankets.”

Whether it’s once a week or once a month, schedule time to spend on organization projects and record it on a calendar, advises Jacobs. “Tie it to something that you already do and select a time that won’t be overrun by other events, she said. “If you know that every Sunday at nine o’clock, you always watch a television show, set aside that time to go through mail, pay bills and respond to invitations while you’re watching. That way, your time won’t get bumped for a soccer game or business meeting.”

One caveat that Jacobs offers her clients is, “Maintaining a routine doesn’t mean that you won’t slip up at times,” she said. “You have to hold yourself to realistic standards or you’ll get discouraged.”

Start the New Year with a **New Look & Great Savings!**

12 Months Same as Cash Financing available

Buy 1 Shutter Blind or Shade* get the second of equal or lesser value 50% OFF

BeltwayBlinds & MORE

Shutters | Shades | Blinds | Motorization |

For a free in-home consultation call: **703-991-7264**

*Offer applies to Alta Window Fashions & Norman Shutters only.

CALENDAR

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

Let us know about an upcoming event

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

Visit These Houses of Worship

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

450 ORCHARD STREET, NW
VIENNA, VA 22180
703-938-8525
email: fbcvoffice@fbcv.org
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

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 **703-214-8384**

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999

LEAD-SAFE SEPA CERTIFIED FIRM



Kofi Annan, president of the Fairfax County NAACP, moderates the Town Hall-style conversation with U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine (D), in a community room above Giardino Italian Restaurant in West Springfield.



U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine (D) speaks with Dr. Michelle Woody with the Fairfax County NAACP, the organization that hosted the Town Hall with the senator.

PHOTOS BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

Town Hall Told of 'Chaos-Causing Trump Effect'

Fairfax County NAACP hosts Town Hall gathering with Kaine.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine (D) spent almost two hours with area residents at a Town Hall-style gathering in West Springfield on the evening of Jan. 11, hosted by the Fairfax County NAACP and moderated by the organization's president, Kofi Annan.

Annan began: "From the outside, from our perspective, it looks like no one knows what's going on, it's chaos [on Capitol Hill]. How are things going in your view?"

The junior senator from Virginia since 2013, Kaine answered that in terms of the daily workings of the Senate, his response would be mostly unchanged from the last few years to this moment. "In our general work, more happens cooperatively than you think. A lot less happens than should. For example, Obama Care. We spent a year fighting to protect health care for 32 million Americans. Instead of repeal, we should have been working on improve, and we weren't."

But the real change today in Kaine's view is "the Trump Effect, not knowing, quite frankly what new surprise will come along."

Kaine spoke of the alleged vulgar remarks made by President Trump earlier in the day about immigrants and some of the countries from which they came. "I mean, you hear that and you just don't know what to say."

THIS LATEST CONTROVERSY, according to Kaine, makes the work being done to address the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Act (DACA) and immigrants in the country under Temporary Protection Status (TPS) that much more difficult.

"And then we didn't know that last week

was going to be 'open season for offshore drilling week' around the country," Kaine added, saying that this decision was followed this week by an exception for the state of Florida. "Why Florida? Because we listen to Floridians and the Governor there opposed it. Well, so do we in Virginia."

Kaine admitted that the "Trump Effect" was chaos-causing and frustrating when there "is so much critical work on the table, like hurricane emergency relief and avoiding a government shutdown," but instead, he says, that work gets side-tracked. "Every week it's left hooks, curve balls and surprises."

Annan also asked the senator his opinion of racism in America, including "Why isn't the Ku Klux Klan categorized as a terrorist organization?"

"I don't know," replied Kaine. "To me, it is. I am not sure of the process, but you know, I now plan to find out."

Racism has long been a societal scourge, Kaine said, but that it was the election of Donald Trump and the actions and comments made by the Trump administration that "gave permission to express those racist views" basically with impunity. But he still sees good that may come from this new attitude of "taking off the mask."

"You know who and what you are up against. To really deal with a problem you have to know its dimensions." It is Kaine's belief that the exposure of the depth and breadth to which racism continues to exist will help bring focus to the issue and aid in the fight against it.

The attendees questioned Kaine and the topics were wide-ranging.

Nayely Lopez is a field employment specialist with CASA, an organization that works with low-income immigrant commu-



Yasmeen Durrani and Naila Alan, both of Herndon, came to the meeting to ask what U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine (D) would do about the Trump travel bans. "Keep up the fight, work with those who oppose them," replied the senator.

nities. She attended the session with Sookyung Oh, area director for the National Korean American Service and Education Consortium (NAKASEC), and Jung Bin Cho, also with NAKASEC. "Will you vote to approve the continuing resolution [to fund the government] if there is not a clean DACA bill before then?" she asked.

Kaine was unwilling to commit to her request. Despite being a "passionate advocate" for immigrants, he also said "I am an anti-shutdown person" and cited the damage done to the Virginia economy and many of its citizens because of the government shutdown in 2013. "I need to see the details of the bills being put forth before I can make a decision. I think we are really close."

THE QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS kept coming — environmental protections

and the effects of climate change, LGBT rights and the status of transgender persons in the military, protection against voter suppression, advancing opportunities for minorities at Governors Schools in Virginia (a program started in 1973 by then-Governor Linwood Holton who would later become Kaine's father-in-law), even the possibility of promoting programs like Fairfax County's Diversion First (aimed at diverting individuals with mental health issues to medical care versus the criminal justice system) on the national level.

Jorel Sabado of Springfield wanted to know how the senator's Catholic faith affected his political actions. "Of course, your values inform your decisions," replied Kaine, but added that it was not his job to make everyone follow the rules of his church. "That is not why we are elected."

Naila Alam from Herndon, and a member of the All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) worries about the travel bans that have been in and out of effect and in the courts since President Trump first introduced them as an Executive Order January last year. Kaine vowed to continue to fight against them.

Asked to comment on the election of more Democrats to the Virginia Legislature, Kaine responded that it gave him a level of energy and confidence for his own chances in Virginia, it bode well for the expansion of Medicaid in the state, and that as a member of the Senate Health and Education Committee there was a synergy that could result.

Kaine is seeking re-election in November, and has already made campaign stops "in some areas of our state that are really suffering," but said that the Town Hall meeting wasn't about campaigning, but about keeping up a dialogue with all Virginians. "Hearing what the concerns are, and keeping people informed — that's practicing democracy."

OPINION

First Week in Richmond

BY BARBARA FAVOLA
STATE SENATOR (D-31)



COMMENTARY

It is always exhilarating and humbling to sit in the Chamber as the President of the Senate gavels an unruly body of 40 senators into order. On Jan. 10, Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam did just that. The next day, Lt. Gov. Northam presided over the Senate for the last time. We wished him well and sent him off to be inaugurated as the 72nd Governor of Virginia.

in committee meetings. This long overdue bit of sunshine will enable Virginians to see for themselves how seriously lawmakers are tackling issues important to them. The link to view meetings can be found under the “Members and Session” tab of the viriniageneralassembly.gov website.

Education: Option for Four-Year Teaching Degree: I am proud to say that my bill SB 76 to enable prospective teachers to potentially gain a teaching degree in four years, rather than five, passed out of the Senate Health & Education Committee unanimously. This will reduce the opportunity cost of becoming a teacher, a factor that weighs heavily on prospective teachers who have incurred a large school debt, yet they have the desire to enter

an important but low-paying profession.

Children & Families: Kinship Care Bill — My bill (SB 44) provides support payments to relatives who are willing to offer kin in foster care a permanent home. It passed out of the Rehab and Social Services Committee but was referred to Finance. More than 75 percent of the cost of this kingship program, called “Fostering Futures” is born by the Federal Government. I really hope the money committees can find the \$45,000 to start this program.

On a lighter note, my bill to help small business that bake alcohol infused confectionery products obtain an ABC license, so they may continue to grow their businesses, passed out of committee, as well.

Your emails and support are crucial to the legislative process. It is an honor to represent you and to fight for our values.

The state senator represents parts of Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun.

HIGHLIGHTS OF MY WEEK

Transparency: Committee votes will now be recorded and live-streamed, so Virginians can hear the substantive debates on bills as they work their way through the process. Most bills, especially controversial ones, face their defeat

Girls United Madison Commend U.S. Rep. Connolly

BY NEHAL JAN AND MADELEINE MAI

COMMENTARY

Every year, James Madison High School buzzes with excitement of the new school year. With junior year fast approaching, we are excited to dive back into our studies, and one of our favorite activities is going back to school shopping. We love choosing binders and matching notebooks and buying the latest innovation in the pen world (this year it's erasable pens). But it also makes us think of the millions of refugee children who are denied an education. Children who won't have the opportunity to learn basic math or reading skills. Children who won't learn linear functions or about World War II, even though many of these kids are living in the world's biggest refugee crisis since World War II.

Today 65 million people globally are displaced from their home, and of these 65 million displaced people, 50 percent of them are under the age of 18. With the average refugee staying in exile for 20 years, many of these refugee children will live out their childhood away from home and school. Globally, the enrollment rate for primary school is 90 percent, but for refugee children it is 50 percent and that number drops dramatically with only 22 percent of refugee children being able to enroll in secondary school.

Education makes it easier for people to rebuild their lives and communities. It offers psychological stability and more economic opportunities. In particular, refugee girls, are the most vulnerable when not educated. These girls are more likely to be victims of sexual assault, be a child bride, fall victim to extremist ideology, and have less socioeconomic opportunities. We see when girls are educated they are more likely to have leadership positions whether it be in politics, business, or tech. Educated women are better able to lift themselves and their families out of poverty. When refugee children, especially girls, have access to education they can start to build more peace-

ful and prosperous communities.

This cause is close to our heart because we have always had access to a top quality education. Education was never a question mark in our life. Our school is filled with advanced placement classes, clean facilities, and amazing science labs. We have supportive parents and amazing resources at the touch of a button, but these resources aren't available to everyone around the world. We want to change that, and we know Congressman Gerry Connolly does too.

We are proud of Congressman Connolly for cosponsoring H.R. 2408, the Protecting Girls' Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act. By giving refugee children, especially girls, an education, we are allowing them to find their voice in their community.

Girl Up helped us develop a voice and passion for advocating on behalf of underprivileged girls. Developing a voice in a community is crucial for advancing in not just school, but in life.

Representative Connolly, one of the many

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Voting the Party Line

To the Editor:

The Republican Party celebrated the New Year with the recent passage of their so-called “tax reform” bill. While some of us may enjoy modest and temporary tax cuts, the bill is a gift to our nation's plutocracy whose tax cuts are substantial and permanent. All this will come at the cost of an exploding federal deficit. The fiscal rectitude preached by the Republicans during the Obama years was pushed aside when it came time to do the bidding of the moneyed interests they are beholden to.

The bill was hurriedly written in a slapdash manner, with no serious analysis of economic impacts, and rushed through the legislative

cosponsors of H.R. 2408, is, “Glad to cosponsor H.R. 2408, the Protecting Girls' Access to Education in Vulnerable Settings Act, which would authorize the Secretary of State and the USAID Administrator to prioritize efforts to support access to primary and secondary education for displaced children. As the proud father of a young woman and a 14-year-veteran of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, I understand the importance of a safe and well-rounded education. It is critical to ensure that children, particularly girls, displaced by conflicts overseas are able to receive a quality education and that the educational needs of women and girls are considered when developing and implementing U.S. foreign assistance policies.”

Our Girl Up club and many community members commend Congressman Connolly's efforts in co-sponsoring this important bipartisan legislation. This legislation will help refugee girls have a voice and become leaders in their community. After all, an educated society is a more prosperous and free society.

Nehal Jan and Madeleine Mai are the president and vice president of Girls United Madison club.

process in part to avoid public scrutiny. It complicates the tax code and will no doubt bring a host of unintended consequences. One foreseeable consequence is new opportunities for tax cheaters, who will be further emboldened by the fruit of long-term Republican efforts to diminish IRS enforcement powers.

Sadly, District 10's Representative Barbara Comstock voted for this bill. The excuses she offers to justify her vote show once again that she is just reliably voting the party line regardless of the interests of her constituents or our nation. The people of District 10 can only hope that 2018 will bring them better representation in Congress.

Richard Markeloff
Herndon

Vienna & Oakton
CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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

Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
vienna@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ♦ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Donna Manz
Contributing Writer
dmanz@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Worker
Reporter
aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike Salmon
Editorial Assistant
vienna@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Don Park
Display Advertising
703-778-9420
donpark@connectionnewspapers.com

Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com
@MaryKimm

Executive Vice President
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
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
@TheismannMedia

CIRCULATION
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



PEOPLE

‘Walking-on’ Field of Dreams

Herndon native and Oakton High graduate Justin Bartee looks forward to NCAA Division 1 Challenges.

BY ASHLEY CLAIRE SIMPSON
THE CONNECTION

Every fall season, some of the most authentic, untainted American dreams are played out on a college football field. For these thousands of players, the wins and losses are about pride, their team, and long-standing – even lifelong – passion for sport. Herndon native and Oakton High graduate Justin Bartee is one of these NCAA Division I college football players currently on the unpredictable roller coaster that comes with playing football at this level.

Bartee, who plays Safety for Wake Forest University, is fresh off the team’s coveted Belk Bowl victory last month over the Texas A&M Aggies. The Demon Deacon victory in Charlotte, N.C., was both an unusually high-scoring bowl game and a hard-earned win over the favored Aggies.

“Last year, I was actually at the Military Bowl [in which Wake Forest beat Temple University’s team] as a spectator; I was just a student fan,” Bartee recalled. “It was so exciting. This year, though, being on the other side was absolutely amazing. It was a dream; an out-of-body experience that I never expected to be in. Being on Wake’s football team, and getting to the Belk Bowl with a team and coaching staff I respect so much, has been an incredible experience and definitely something I’ll remember forever.”

It wasn’t until the winter of 2016 – a time when Bartee, a 2016 graduate and football team alum of Oakton High School, already had a semester of college under his belt – that he no longer ignore the swirling thoughts in his mind about playing college ball.

“I didn’t really feel like I was involved in very much,” Bartee said. “I talked to my dad about trying to play for the team that following January, after I’d given it some serious thought. Then, I started emailing coaches. Finally, I got a meeting with Wake Forest’s head coach, Dave Clawson.”

It may seem simple, but setting up that initial meeting was a quest in itself for Bartee.

“We all knew from the start that it was an audacious goal and one which came with

much push back,” Justin’s dad, Ken Bartee, said. “He had to keep knocking on many doors, and multiple times. Ultimately, the coaches laid out a pretty tough gamut and they saw what I’ve seen in him since he was a kid. He pushes hard. Once he goes for something, he really goes. And, watching him with his teammates, it’s very clear that he’s already accepted as part of the team. They see his commitment. As his parents, we are really proud of him. He worked hard to then make it become a reality. He did this on his own.”

JUSTIN’S JOURNEY to the Belk Bowl is particularly emblematic of the American dream for a multitude of reasons. As a “walk-on,” Bartee had no scholarship luring him toward the blood, sweat, and tears that inevitably come with the grind. Still, he embraced – and successfully cleared – every hurdle it took to get him to where he is today.

As supportive as his parents are of Justin’s undertaking, the idea of their youngest son playing a notoriously rough sport caused them more than passing hesitation.

Step one: convincing mom that trying out was a good idea.

“My initial reaction was, ‘No way,’” Justin’s mom, Sue Bartee, said. “After his



Sports have always been a big part of Justin Bartee’s life.



Justin Bartee in his Oakton High days.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

last high school football game, I was so excited because I thought I didn’t have to worry anymore. Then, it started all over again.”

Before Justin made any commitments, Ken and Sue made absolutely sure that Justin understood the full picture of playing college football. As a family, they weighed the pros and cons, laying out all that factors that come with a sport known not just for glory, but also for injury.

“We also talked about Justin’s wants for his future,” Ken recalled. “He’s always wanted to be in sports management as a career, and the reality is, to achieve that, it’s invaluable to have played a college sport. I also know he’s always loved being a part of a team. Justin also knew that he had to

keep his grades up. He had to comprehend that not everything was going to go his way. When all was said and done, I was okay with him pursuing the game once he understood everything he was up against.”

What followed was what Justin called a “whirlwind.”

“I was invited to participate in spring practice last year,” Justin said. “My time with the team from mid-February until the end of April was a tryout period. I did all the workouts and went to every practice. Then, I was invited to their fall camp from July through August of 2017, until about school started. I spent those couple of months every day doing workouts, and in

SEE ‘WALK-ON,’ PAGE 6

A Special Gift for You
It may be cold outside, but this offer is hot!

SAVE \$3,000 IN THE NEW YEAR

Sign a new, long term lease (excluding respite) before February 28, 2018, and receive \$1,000 off your rent for the first three months and a one year rate lock!*

*Does not apply to care level fee changes.

Call 703-834-9800 to take advantage of this limited-time offer!

January Events • You’re Invited!
Free and open to the public - call for details or to RSVP.

Hoarding Education & Downsizing Workshop
Thursday, January 25 at 10 am
Presented by Lisa Brewer, TAD Relocation

Country Western Barn Dance
Wednesday, January 31 at 7 pm
District Music performs live. Enjoy dancing and fun!

Tall Oaks
ASSISTED LIVING
Senior Living Without Compromise

703.834.9800
12052 N Shore Drive
Reston, VA 20190
www.TallOaksAL.com

Coordinated Services Management, Inc. - Professional Management of Retirement Communities since 1981

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

Employment

Snr Computer Systems Analyst needed to archit. and admin comp. systm's using tools/tech such as WebSphere App Srvr, WebSphere Portal Srvr, Weblogic Server, JBOSS, Tomcat, OBIEE, IBM HTTPServer, IIS, Apache, IBM Tivoli Directory Srvr, Site minder, CM1 Percussion, PHP, Java, DB2, Oracle 11g, Sybase, SQL Srvr UNIX Shell scripts, and Jython scripts. Req'd: MS or equiv. in CS, IT, IS, Engg or related field plus 2 yrs of exp.; OR alternatively, employer will accept a BS or equiv. in one of the same or rtd fields plus 5 yrs progressively responsible exp. Must be willing to travel/relocate to unanticipated clt sites anywhere in the U.S. Mail resumes ATTN: JOB-CSA, to Criterion Systems, Inc., 8330 Boone Blvd., #400, Vienna, VA 22182

FROM PAGE 5

meetings with the team and coaches, strategizing and planning – you name it – all day.”

As he has learned over the last year, “walk-on” is a bit of a misnomer.

“Camp was technically my ‘try out,’” Justin explained. “Some schools do more traditional try-outs, but, since Wake Forest is such a small school, it’s a process that begins with that invitation. It was tough, but I loved it, and I got through it. I got a spot on the roster. I was the only one that season who had a spring try out, too.”

Out of the roughly 110 members of the team, less than 20 percent are walk-ons. And, at Wake Forest, it takes more than athletic prowess to become one.

“Coach Clawson made sure I was a good student, that I worked hard, and that I never had any kind of drug issues,” Justin said. “They like kids who are going to respect the program and keep it on track.”

Justin spent the entire 2017 season playing his part in preparing the starting lineup for absolutely every game of what resulted in an overall winning season.

“As a Safety, I play more of an intellectual position for the defense,” he said. “My coach likes having me around because I challenge people.”

While Justin, whose jersey dons the number 40, has not yet played during any of the big games, it’s impossible to overlook his role. You can count on his persistent professionalism, taking his position and his time on the field.

“I still practiced every day as part of the scout team,” Justin explained. “My job is to emulate the other team’s defense. For example, leading up to the Belk Bowl, we knew we had to prepare to go up against an All-American Safety. I spent a whole week wearing his number and a different-colored jersey to represent him for the rest of my team who would be facing him on the field come game time.”

After a successful ride with team, the future looks bright for the fresh-faced college Safety. Having wrapped up his season as a redshirt freshman, Justin still has three more years of eligibility. Of course, Justin envisions that his future seasons with the Demon Deacons will involve salient moves in season-defining games. Still, he will always relish his first season on the team for exactly what it has been.

“Sometimes, Coach Clawson will ask the entire team how many

people want to go into the NFL after their time playing with Wake,” Justin said. “While most do, I don’t. I know I won’t play pro ball, and that’s okay with me. I love to play football. If I have the opportunity to do so right now, I’m going to.”

SPORTS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN a big part of Justin’s life. That comes with the territory of being one of two athletic boys, and your built-in athletic rival being five years older. Justin always showed signs of being a natural competitor even when he wasn’t roughhousing big brother Zack.

First and foremost a student at a prestigious university, Justin seeks those challenges in the classroom, too. He understands the value of his education, and how it will help him continue to go after lofty goals for the rest of his life.

“I love sports, but I also never identified myself or found my self-worth exclusively within an athletic realm,” Justin said. “Statistics always clicked with me, even in high school. It’s actually my minor right now. I also always enjoyed my history classes. I really enjoyed a religion class I took recently. It was about all about the history of Hinduism and its traditions.”

Speaking of traditions, Justin has become a part of a major American institution. As interesting as he’s found his college courses, he said he’s also learned so much as a member of Wake Forest’s bowl-winning football team.

“A&M is a power house school,” he said. “It was cool to be able to play a team like that. Our coach told us from the beginning, ‘This is a big game. This means a lot. This is an SEC team that thinks they are better than you.’”

And Justin, who prepped to play if he had been needed in a pinch, felt the stress of the game even from the sidelines.

“Games like that drag because you’re so nervous that you keep looking at the clock every minute,” Justin said, “especially once you have the lead.”

Now that the Belk Bowl is over and Wake Forest is in the midst of its official winter break, Justin has given more thought to some of his non-football-related goals, too.

“The goal is to go to the business school,” he said. “It would be cool to be working in sports somehow, but it’s such a difficult field to get into. As I’ve learned over this last year, you really never know what can happen. We will see.”

Employment

At Home Parents & Retirees
More than sales, join us and enhance life in your community
Need and have discipline for flexible hours?

Work from Old Town and/or your home office
Full or Part Time
Sell print and digital advertising campaigns
Area’s most trusted local media
Sell all or any combination of 15 distinct markets
Print & Digital Marketing
Web sites • Sponsored content
• Email blasts • Social media
Attract new customers based on upper income profiles
Competitive compensation plus commission

One page cover letter & resume to sales@connectionnewspapers.com

Find us on Facebook and become a fan!

www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers



Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community

www.connectionnewspapers.com

Employment

Snr Database Admin. needed to oversee the dsgrn, dvlpmnt, testing and admin complex databases (DB2 UDB and MySQL), on Unix, Linux and Windows, Implement DB builds and upgrades, initiate backup, recov. and High Avail. strategies, provide capacity planning and perform. optimiz., coord. w/ Dvlprs and DB Analysts. Req’d: MS or equiv in Comp. Sci./ Apps.IT/IS, Engg (CE/SW/EE/Elect. & Instrum./ME or rtd) or a rtd field plus 2 yrs exp.; OR alternatively, employer will accept a BS or equiv in one of the same or rtd fields plus 5 yrs progressively responsible exp. Must be willing to travel/relocate to unanticipated client sites anywhere in the U.S. MAIL resumes ATTN: JOB-DBA to Criterion Systems, Inc., 8330 Boone Blvd., Suite 400, Vienna, VA 22182

Employment

Network Storage Engineer needed to admin ntwrk data storage protocols/processes. Install/config media/master srvs ntwrk updates, storage admin tools, prod.’s and pkgs Coord. backup/restore scheduling, building, Troubleshoot automation/compl./remed. jobs. Recomm. improvem. for ntwrk storage perf. Create and maint. docs incl. Netback-up docs, SAN admin req forms/billing table. Req’d: MS or equiv. in Computer Networking, CS/IT/IS, Engg or rtd field plus 2 yrs exp.; OR alternatively, employer will accept a BS or equiv. in same or rtd fields plus 5 yrs of progressively responsible exp. Must be willing to travel/relocate to unanticipated client sites anywhere in the U.S. MAIL resumes ATTN: NSE-JOB to Criterion Systems, Inc., 8330 Boone Blvd., #400, Vienna, VA 22182

Find us on Facebook and become a fan!

www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers



Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community

www.connectionnewspapers.com

Announcements

Donate A Boat or Car Today!

BoatAngel

“2-Night Free Vacation!”

800-700-BOAT
(2628)

www.boatangel.com

sponsored by boat angel outreach centers STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

Announcements



Announcements

Earn more with Quality!
★★★ 30 YEARS OF SERVICE ★★★

Looking for CDL A or B drivers to deliver new trucks all over the US and Canada.
Experience preferred. Must have DOT physical and be willing to keep logs. No DUIs in last 10 years, clean MVR.



Apply Online at
www.qualitydriveaway.com
or call 574-642-2023

PEOPLE

‘Walk-on’

BULLETIN BOARD

Submit civic/community announcements at ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Child turning 5 years old by Sept.30? If so, contact your child's school to make arrangements for kindergarten enrollment. Most schools begin getting information together now for parents of incoming kindergartners, and many host an orientation or open house. All kindergarten programs are full-day and located in FCPS elementary schools. Check your school's webpage or contact the school directly for specific enrollment information and dates of orientation or visit www.fcps.edu/registration/kindergarten-registration.

FY 2019 SCHOOLS BUDGET

FCPS Superintendent Scott S. Brabrand will present the **2018-19 school year (FY 2019) Proposed Budget** at the School Board meeting on Thursday, Jan. 11, at Jackson Middle School at 7 p.m. The School Board plans to hold a budget work session on Jan. 22, and a public hearing on the Proposed Budget on Jan. 29, with additional hearings on Jan. 30 and Jan. 31, if needed. Get more information on the FCPS budget at www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/budget/fy2019.

GOVERNING BOARD CANDIDATES

The McLean Community Center (MCC) is seeking candidates to run for seats on its 2018-2019 Governing Board. A candidate must reside in the Center's tax district (Small District 1A-Dranesville). Three adult positions and two youth positions are open this year. Key Election Dates:

- Monday, Jan. 22: Petition Packets are available.
 - Friday, March 16: Completed Petition Packets are due at MCC by 5 p.m.
 - Monday, March 19: Candidates' Orientation, 7 p.m., The Old Firehouse Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd.
 - Monday, April 9: Absentee Voting begins at the MCC Administrative Office, 6631 Old Dominion Dr., and The Old Firehouse Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road.
 - Sunday, May 6: Candidates Meet and Greet, 2-4 p.m. Sponsored by the Friends of MCC, at the Old Firehouse Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road.
 - Wednesday, May 16: Absentee Voting ends at the MCC Administrative Office and the Old Firehouse Center at 5 p.m.
 - Saturday, May 19: Elections at McLean Day from 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit the Center's website: <http://bit.ly/2ix7qc1>.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 17

Public Meeting. 7 p.m. in Room 106 of the Herrity Building located at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The Fairfax County Park Authority will hold its annual public comment meeting on the agency's proposed fee adjustments. The public meeting agenda includes a brief presentation on the fee process followed by an opportunity for public comment. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/feemeeting for more.

THURSDAY/JAN. 18

Economic Conference. 7:30-11:30 a.m. at the Fairview Park Marriott 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce will host the 26th Annual Economic Conference — *One Region, One Future: Accelerating Economic Growth, TOGETHER*. \$100 for Northern Virginia Chamber members and \$125 for non-members. Visit www.novachamber.org for more.

Caregivers Support Group. 10-11:30 a.m. at UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. For caregivers to adult family members with dementia, meets first and third Thursdays of every month. Call 703-821-6838 or email jtarr5@verizon.net for more.

JAN. 18-MARCH 15

Winter Classes. The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna continues its Adventures in Learning (ALL) line up of classes with their Winter 2018 semester schedule. Students may attend one or all of the classes for one \$45 fee and are encouraged to create their own

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| LANDSCAPING A&S CONSTRUCTION SOD, Mulch, Clean-Up Leaf Removal Hauling. 703-863-7465 | | Good is not good, where better is expected. -Thomas Fuller | LANDSCAPING LANDSCAPING Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-912-6886 | |
| ELECTRICAL ELECTRICAL K & D ELECTRIC COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE Family Owned & Operated Recessed Lighting Ceiling Fans Phone/CATV Computer Network Cabling Service Upgrades Hot Tubs, etc... | | Licensed/Bonded/Insured Office 703-335-0654 Mobile 703-499-0522 lektrkman28@gmail.com | J.E.S. Services Free Estimates - Fully Licensed & Insured <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | |
| GUTTER GUTTER GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES Lic/Ins 703-802-0483 free est. email jamie@lawnsandgutters.com web: lawnsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price! | | TILE / MARBLE TILE / MARBLE BATHROOM REMODELING 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. www.brennan-tile.com 703-250-2872 Licensed • Bonded • Insured | | |
| IMPROVEMENTS IMPROVEMENTS Power Washing Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a hoa violation? We do houses, decks, fences, side walks, etc. Deck and fence repair, deck staining and sealing. Licensed & Insured • Free Estimates email: jnave@comcast.net 703-987-5096 | | TILE / MARBLE TILE / MARBLE Quality Tree Service & Landscaping 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 703-868-5358 24 Hour Emergency Tree Service | | |
| A&S Landscaping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Concrete work Retaining Walls • Patios Decks • Porches (incl. screened) • Erosion & Grading Solutions French Drains • Sump Pumps Driveway Asphalt Sealing 703-863-7465 LICENSED Serving All of N. Virginia | | ATTENTION ADVERTISERS: expand your audience beyond our weekly print edition with THE CONNECTION DIGITAL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email Marketing Social Media Sponsored Content FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 703.778.9431 OR VISIT CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/ADVERTISING | | |
| RN. CONTRACTORS, INC. 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: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com www.rncontractors.com | | An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg | | |

Seasons Gratings



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As a baby-boomer, I've transitioned from black and white television to color to "H.D" - and of course now to "Smart Television," and within that evolution, so too has the variety, content and number of channels— and the "demand" that we consumers can make — from home, transitioned as well. And I don't suppose much of it could have happened without advertising and the revenue it has generated. Promoted by people, places and things. From sports heroes to celebrities to news makers to cartoon characters to puppets and on to anthropomorphic agents/avatars and other creative mouthpieces.

I grew up watching television — without a remote, not listening to the radio. I remember seeing "Mr. Clean," "The Jolly Green Giant," "Mr. Magoo," "Speedy" — from Alka Seltzer — among other iconic creatures of the creative, all of whom sent so many messages to so many consumers, ripe for the plucking. A brand new medium had arrived: television, and its audience was extra large and extra eager.

And even though these spokes-things were not exactly speaking from the heart (what heart?), they were speaking/symbolizing with conviction — and repetition. The impressions made on impressionable future consumers were incalculable. It launched a generation. Not the "Greatest Generation," mind you, but a generation nonetheless, prepped and ready to make its mark: in the drug store, the convenience store, the supermarket, the box store and now the on-line store. We are not merely what we buy, we are what and how we are advertised to.

Previously I had written a column about how I loathe the computer-generated characters which have been utilized on television in an attempt to capture consumers' interest. As soon as they appear on television, I switch rather than fight. For me, it's an immediate turn off, literally and figuratively. I am not listening to inanimate objects/creations tell an "animate" (yours truly) object what to do. And though I understand the humanity behind the message, as far as I'm concerned, the delivery system does not compute (an old-fashioned usage). Artificial spokes-things are not worth the computer screens they're drawn on.

What has brought this rant on is a new element in the artificially-intelligent world in which many of us are subjected: holiday greetings from a computer. Mass emails sent by manufacturers from whom as a consumer we've emailed, inquired, bought, sold, etc., wishing me a "happy, healthy, prosperous holiday/New Year," yada, yada, yada; click/delete. As fast as I can. Are you kidding me? It's not bad enough that as consumers we are regularly watching/listening to fake spokes-things on television, I am now being directly interacted with through my personal emails too. No. That's where I draw the line/terminate my attention span.

However well-conceived, I am not getting involved with what is in effect, a thing. Pre-programmed messages of this kind are the unkindest cut of all; "Et tu, Brute?" If you/your company can only treat me like a number — and not as a person, don't treat me at all. Don't think for a nanosecond that a holiday missive to a massive holiday audience carries any substantial weight. It doesn't. It provides the exact opposite: a greater wait until I respond. It's akin to be weightless in outer space. It's for bemusement. It serves no functional purpose. And though I can certainly appreciate how getting into thousands/millions of personal email accounts with one keystroke has an appeal, you risk squandering a previously hard-earned resource: goodwill.

You want me as a customer? Don't email me feelings. Email me facts and figures. You really want me as a customer? Then speak to me, really. Save your greetings; and not for next year either.

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



McLean Community Center
The Center of It All



Here's What's Happening at MCC

2018 MCC Governing Board Election Petition Forms for Candidates



Available Beginning Monday, Jan. 22
Is it your turn to serve your community?

Sponsored by The Alden The Unruly Theatre Project

Thursday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m.
MPA@ChainBridge
1446 Chain Bridge Rd.
Free admission



Teacher Workday Trip Splitsville & Paragon Village



Friday, Jan. 26, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
The Old Firehouse
1440 Chain Bridge Rd.
\$65/\$55 MCC district residents

Presented by The Alden

ANCHORMAN Quote-Along Movie

Saturday, Jan. 27, 8 p.m.
The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd.
Admission and popcorn are free.
Prop bags are \$5 each.

Sponsored by The Alden

"Best Worst Thing That Ever Could Have Happened"

Sunday, Jan. 28, 2 p.m.
The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd.
Free admission

Open Auditions for The Alden Spring Production "The Snow White Variety Show"

Mon. & Tue., Jan. 29 & 30, 7-9 p.m.
MCC Class Programs Office
6645 Old Dominion Dr.

The Old Firehouse Family Events Family Fun



Friday, Feb. 2, 7-9 p.m.
The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Rd.
\$10/\$5 MCC district residents



The McLean Community Center
www.mcleancenter.org
Home of the Alden Theatre
www.aldentheatre.org



Administrative Offices
6631 Old Dominion Dr.
McLean, VA 22101
703-790-0123, TTY: 711



CALENDAR

Submit entertainment announcements at www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/. The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

ONGOING

The 2018 Eclectic Essentials production features four plays that focus on relationships: For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls, Death Be Not Loud, Capsmittment and One Click Away. Eclectic Essentials: Relationships will be performed at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 19-20, 26-27, Feb. 2-3, as well as at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 28, and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 4. Tickets are general admission and available for \$14 at the Vienna Community Center, online at viennava.gov/webtrac, or at the door, if still available. Visit viennatheatrecompany.org or e-mail vtcshows@yahoo.com for more information.

Friday Night Telescopes. The Roll-Top observatory is available to the public for viewing the skies on Friday nights: Jan. 19 and 26, 7:30-9:30 p.m. The Analemma Society holds Friday Night Public Viewing Sessions at Turner Farm on Springvale Road in Great Falls. There is a lot to see in the night sky. Events are weather dependent. Please check the Analemma tweet page for updates on Friday viewing if the weather looks questionable. Visit www.analemma.org.

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 for more.

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 for more.

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

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

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.

987-1712, email jeharrison@travelingplayers.org, or visit www.travelingplayers.org.

The Arts of Great Falls School offers winter classes for adults and children of all skill levels. Visit www.greatfallsart.org for more.

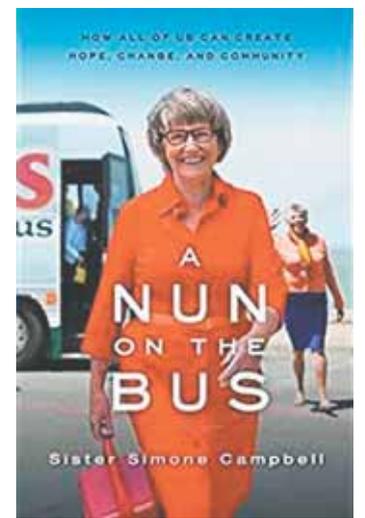
WEDNESDAY/JAN. 17

Art Workshop. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St. Artist Jacqueline Saunders is hosting a one day workshop. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org for more.

'A Nun on the Bus' Author to Speak in Vienna

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) and Patrick Henry Library are co-sponsoring a free presentation by Sister Simone Campbell on Saturday, Feb. 10, at 10 a.m. at Vienna Community Center. Sister Simone is a nationally recognized social justice activist and the author of *A Nun on the Bus*. The meeting will focus on economic justice, immigration issues, healthcare reform and voter turnout.

AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Founded in 1881, AAUW mem-



bers examine and take positions on the fundamental issues of the day — educational, social, economic, and political.

For more information, visit vienna-va.aauw.net.

FRIDAY/JAN. 19

Improv-Extravaganza. 7 p.m. at Herndon ArtSpace, 750 Center St., Herndon. For one-night-only, The Alden's (the) Unruly Theatre Project and Loudoun County High School's Improvasaurus will bring their signature improv styles to ArtSpace Herndon. Visit www.artspaceherndon.org.

THURSDAY/JAN. 25

Genealogy Meeting/Program. 7:30-9 p.m. at Kilmer Middle School, 8100 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. Fairfax Genealogical Society monthly member meeting and program. Librarian Leslie Anderson will discuss the Alexandria Library's resources and help available to family history and other researchers. Open to members and public. Snow date, Feb. 1. Free. Email education@fxgs.org, call 703-644-8185 or visit www.fxgs.org for more.

The Unruly Theatre. 7 p.m. at MPA@ChainBridge, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The area's hottest professional teen improv troupe will bring you a hilarious night of comedy. Come help them spread some joy while being wildly entertained. Sponsored by The Alden. Free admission. Visit mcleancenter.org.

FRIDAY/JAN. 26

Splitsville & Paragon Village. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The Old Firehouse teacher workday trip. Teens can experience glow-in-the-dark bowling with big screen video walls and a booming surround sound system that plays their favorite songs. Following bowling, the group will unwind with a movie. \$65/\$55 MCC district residents. Fee includes bowling, shoes, lunch and movie tickets. Bring additional money for movie concessions as desired. Visit mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY/JAN. 27

Genealogy Education Session. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire Station, 2149 Gallows Road, Vienna. Librarian Leslie Anderson presents "Private Live, Public Records, and the 'Free Negro' Dilemma in Virginia—a discussion of the history and records available on the US Colored Cavalry, as well as on the Free Black community in Virginia. Snow date, Feb 3. Email education@fxgs.org, call 703-644-

8185 or visit www.fxgs.org for more.
Artists Reception. 4-6 p.m. at Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW. Jazz It Up! Exhibit open until March 3. Free and open to the public. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org for more.

"Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy." 8 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. This 2004 comedy film starring Will Ferrell is a tongue-in-cheek take on the culture of the 1970s, particularly the new "action news" format. Admission and popcorn are free. Prop bags are \$5 each. Visit www.mcleancenter.org or for Old Firehouse activities, call 703-448-8336.

SUNDAY/JAN. 28

7th Annual McLean Chocolate Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at at McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. Taste the specialties of 17 area chocolatiers and the Children's Game Room features the bluegrass music of local artist Mike Mitchell, popular with all ages at last year's festival. Admission is \$2. Visit www.mcleanchocolatefestival.com for more.

"Best Worst Thing That Ever Could Have Happened." 2 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. "Best Worst Thing That Ever Could Have Happened" tells the story of "Merrily We Roll Along," the Stephen Sondheim/Hal Prince musical that opened to enormous fanfare and closed after just 16 performances. Directed by one of the musical's original cast members, it features interviews with the creators and original cast. Free admission. Visit www.mcleancenter.org or call 703-448-8336.

MONDAY/JAN. 29

Teacher Workday Trip: Skiing & Snowboarding. 8 a.m.-7 p.m. leaving from The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Let's hit the slopes! Ski/snowboard rental, lift ticket and charter bus transportation are included in the fee. Participants should dress appropriately for the weather, including warm coat, gloves, hat, pants and waterproof clothing. Goggles highly recommended. Helmets are available upon request. \$140/\$120 MCC district residents. Visit www.mcleancenter.org or for Old Firehouse activities, call 703-448-8336.