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On Saturday, March 10, The Frame Factory in Vienna hosted an opening reception for the art show, The Landscapes of Ten Artists. Patti Cowan, owner of The Frame Factory, pictured with Thomas Xenakis in front of his paintings.

Vienna and Oakton CONNECTION



Landscapes On Display In Vienna

NEWS, PAGE 16

Public Safety Heroes Honored
NEWS, PAGE 3

The Conversation Begins: Budgeting Words
NEWS, PAGE 4



PHOTO BY JENNIFER KAYE/THE CONNECTION

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 13 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14

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Public Safety Heroes Honored

40th annual event held March 9 at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner.

The 40th annual Valor Awards was held on Friday, March 9, at the Hilton McLean Tysons Corner honoring men and women who have shown valor, courage, and service to others. Every year the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce pays tribute to public safety employees in the Fairfax County Police Department, Fire & Rescue Departments, Sheriff's Office, and Herndon and Vienna Police Departments for their exceptional bravery.

Honored guests included elected officials U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-10), Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, Supervisors John Foust (Dranesville), Jeff McKay (Lee), Pat Herryty (Springfield), John Cook (Braddock), Kathy Smith (Sully), and Dan Storck (Mt. Vernon). Chaplain Jerrold Foltz gave the benediction.

The Gold Sponsors were INOVA Health Systems, Transurban, United Bank, Visit Fairfax of Fairfax County, and Volkswagen Group of America. The Silver Sponsors were Macerich and Motorola. The Bronze Sponsors were Dominion, Fair Oaks Mall, and Sandy Spring Bank.

Chris Lawrence, News Anchor at NBC4, was the emcee, and the event was recorded in the official Congressional Record.

— STEVE HIBBARD



Members of Fairfax County's Urban Search & Rescue Team, Virginia Task Force 1

Gold Medal of Valor Recipients

Fairfax County's Urban Search & Rescue team, Virginia Task Force 1 is awarded the Gold Medal of Valor. In the effort to save lives and alleviate suffering, Fairfax County's Urban Search & Rescue team, Virginia Task Force 1 was deployed to San Juan, Puerto Rico which had sustained extensive damage from Hurricane Irma only days prior to the arrival of Hurricane Maria. Upon arrival, the team immediately established a base of operations and conducted search and rescue operations in the Virgin Islands. While conducting lifesaving and humanitarian aid missions in Puerto Rico,

Hurricane Maria formed as a Category 5 hurricane taking direct aim at San Juan. Even with the threat of the oncoming hurricane, the team continued their search and rescue operations on the Virgin Islands.

The team endured the assault of Hurricane Maria for 24 hours only to continue the search and rescue after the storm had passed.

The members of VATF-1 acted without regard to their personal safety under extremely hazardous conditions. They demonstrated courage, dedication, and determination.



Pilot Garrett G. Wymer receives his Valor Award from Ed Roessler Jr., Chief, Fairfax County Police Department.



Police Officer First Class Ali Sepehri receives his Valor Award from Ed Roessler Jr., Chief, Fairfax County Police Department.



Master Police Officer Douglas E. Middlebrooks receives his Valor Award from Ed Roessler Jr., Chief, Fairfax County Police Department.

Silver Medal of Valor Recipients

Pilot Garrett Wymer, MPO Douglas Middlebrooks, and PFC Ali Sepehri are awarded the Silver Medal of Valor for their actions involving a helicopter crash. During the civil unrest that broke out in the City of Charlottesville. The crew quickly assessed their landing options and MPO Middlebrooks and PFC Sepehri hiked ap-

proximately 300 yards in order to gain access to the crash site while Pilot Wymer provided responding fire crews and ATC personnel with aerial coverage. The fully engulfed helicopter contained two fallen Virginia State Troopers and both MPO Middlebrooks and PFC Sepehri continued to search the wreckage for any other troop-

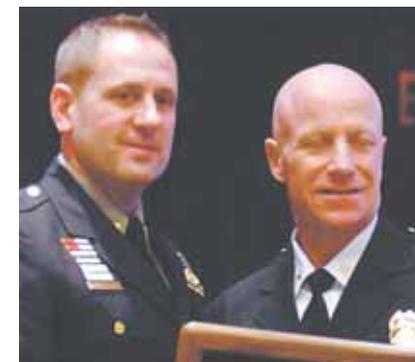
ers at the scene. Without regard for their own personal safety, the crew of Fairfax 1 landed in an unfamiliar location without ground support in order to render immediate high level medical care to fallen officers. Pilot Wymer, MPO Middlebrooks, and PFC Sepehri demonstrated exemplary courage, composure, and compassion during an incident involving extreme personal risk.

Silver Medal of Valor



Officer Isa L. Martin receives his Valor Award from Ed Roessler Jr., Chief, Fairfax County Police Department.

Officer Isa Martin is awarded the Silver Medal of Valor for his bravery and quick actions when he arrived early to work and observed a man attempting to breach the station's secure fences. Officer Martin drew his off-duty weapon while simultaneously issuing verbal challenges to the driver. With the help with another officer who arrived on the scene, they secured the subject without further incident. Despite his status as a new officer, Officer Martin handled this violent subject with both extreme professionalism and restraint.



Second Lieutenant Michael D. Gubesch receives his Valor Award from Ed Roessler Jr., Chief, Fairfax County Police Department.

Second Lieutenant Michael Gubesch is awarded the Silver Medal of Valor for his brave actions in halting a dangerous pursuit. Faced with a dangerous criminal that clearly had no intent to stop, Second Lieutenant Gubesch made a critical decision to end the pursuit before more lives could be put in harm's way. He used his patrol vehicle to execute a perfectly timed Precision Immobilization Technique (PIT) that spun the vehicle around on the road. The subject brazenly continued to try and escape but was stopped by the quick thinking and decisive actions fellow officers on the scene. Potentially placing himself in harm's way, Second Lieutenant Gubesch executed sound judgment in a tense situation, ending with a successful conclusion.

SEE VALOR AWARDS, PAGE 15

The Conversation Begins: Budgeting Words

Board prioritizes compensation for teachers and county employees.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity claimed the dissenting vote. “It probably is not going to surprise the Board that I won’t be able to support this,” he said.

By a 8-1 margin, the Board of Supervisors advertised the county executive’s budget with the proposed 2.5 cent tax increase.

Braddock Supervisor John Cook supported the advertisement but stated he won’t support a budget in May if it remains at the advertised tax rate.

“So I’ll support the advertisement because I think the process dictates that there be something on the table. But if the Board is inclined to pass it as is, it will have to do so without me,” said Cook. “If the Board is inclined to do what a couple of other people have suggested this morning, which is look for reductions and perhaps go back to that concept of balancing, then I’m looking forward to being part of that discussion and will keep an open mind to where we should end up. But 2.5 cents is not where it’s going to be.”

Jeff McKay, chair of the budget committee, said advertising a lower rate “would be taking off the table an opportunity to hear from our public about whether our public employees from the schools and county side should be getting the type of compensation increases to move them into market and to deliver the services that we rely on in this county.”

In addition to community meetings scheduled around the county, the Board slotted three days, April 10-12, 2018, for public hearings before the full Board.

“We have two months of community conversation ahead of us, and some members of this Board have declared how they are voting on the budget today or what they can’t support,” said McKay. “Two months we have to hear from our community about what their priorities are. And to me it would be irresponsible to decide how we are going to vote on the budget without hearing from members of our community and how they feel about it.”

The Board will officially adopt the FY 2019 budget on May 1, 2018.

If the Board of Supervisors were to adopt the full 2.5 cent tax rate increase, it would amount to an additional \$268 on the average homeowner’s annual tax bill.

“When we advertise the tax rate, that will



**Linda Smyth,
Providence**



**Cathy Hudgins,
Hunter Mill**



**John Foust,
Dranesville**



**Sharon Bulova,
BOS Chairman**

Stay Involved: County Budget Meetings

❖ **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 7 P.M.**

Providence Community Budget Meeting, Providence Community Center, First Floor Multipurpose Room, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax

❖ **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 7:30PM**

Braddock District Council Annual Budget Meeting, Braddock Hall, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke

❖ **THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 7 P.M.**

Mason District Budget Town Meeting, Mason District Governmental Center, Main Community Room, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale

❖ **MONDAY, MARCH 19, 7 P.M.**

Mount Vernon District Budget Town Hall, Whitman Middle School, Lecture Hall, 2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria

❖ **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 7 P.M.**

Lee District Budget Town Hall Meeting, Franconia Governmental Center Community Room, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria

❖ **THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 7 P.M.**

Springfield District Budget Town Hall Meeting, Springfield Governmental Center, Community Room, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield

❖ **APRIL 10-12**

Board of Supervisors Public Hearings on FY 2019 Budget and FY 2019-2023 Capital Improvement Plan. See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speakers-form to sign up.

MORE AT WWW.FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV/BUDGET

become the ceiling for what the tax rate can be. It can be lower, it can be the same, but it cannot be higher than,” 2.5 cents, said Chairman Sharon Bulova.

Below are excerpts from the March 6, 2017 Board meeting.

Linda Smyth, Providence

“Given the unknowns still from the General Assembly in terms of budget or WMATA funding, I think we need to be sure that we have some flexibility in the tax rate and in the discussion about our budget.

“But I will also say ... that I’m seeing increased assessments in some of our more affordable neighborhoods and it’s not the first year for some of these neighborhoods. This has been a multi-year cycle and that’s a concern because, again, taxes are part of the affordability of owning a home in Fairfax County. And I want to be sure that we keep

that as part of the consideration going forward.

“I hope, again, when we look closely at the budget that county executive has put before us that we will be able to see if there are savings that we can go back and find and apply that to help some of our residents out.

“Residents are ... seeing increases in their health insurance, in fact considerable increases in that, and everything they do on a daily basis.

“So it’s a balancing act, and I hope we find that balance. But we need to have a little flexibility here because we just don’t have all the answers at this point.”

Cathy Hudgins, Hunter Mill

“This advertising gives us that opportunity to look at what we really need.

“And I think it is difficult having a con-

versation with the citizens sometimes when we approach it as to what is the cost versus what is the return value. And I really have to say that we have done a lot of work to make certain that we try to and be more efficient and more creative in the services that we provide.

“So I think there needs to be a balancing that we need to have here. We provided a meaningful option [in the meals tax]. And guess what? Our citizens didn’t support it. ...

“So I think it’s important that if we want to talk about how great Fairfax County is, we need to be prepared to figure out how to have the services that

that draw people here and create a more balanced community in supporting what it takes to live in this county.

“So we’ll have a chance to have that discussion and maybe the opportunity to move forward, so my vote is yes.”

John Foust, Dranesville

“I too will be supporting advertisement of the tax rate. I think it is important to provide the flexibility that 2.5 cents increase provides. Equally important that we spend a lot of time over the next two months looking at how we can bring that down. I know that I am absolutely committed to doing that. ...

“We need to address the fact that our teachers are below the market and we are losing them.

“We need to address the fact that over the last several years we have not been consistent and have not fulfilled the obligations and commitments that we have made to our own county employees.

“Those two things are driving this budget. Those two priorities, and I think that regardless of what we do the next two months, we have to commit ourselves to funding those two things. “Other than those two things, everything else is on the table. I will be very surprised if we’re not able bring that tax rate increase down.”

Sharon Bulova, Chairman

“This is a budget that does address the Board’s highest priorities, Diversion First, addressing the opioid crisis, gang prevention, early childhood education, funding compensation for our teachers as well as our county employees ...

“I did also want to just say something for people who believe that people are fleeing Fairfax County to other parts of the region. Since 2015, Fairfax County’s population has actually increased by 26,700, which is actually the size or a little bit more than the size or the population of the city of Fairfax.

NEWS

Claire Falatko '20 and Frances North '20 participated with their mousetrap vehicle, which earned them fourth place at the regional competition.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Oakcrest School Girls Participate in Science Olympiad

This year, students from Oakcrest School participated for the third time in the regional competition of the Virginia Science Olympiad which took place at Woodson High School on Feb. 17. The all-girls team came away with medals in two events and improved scores. In this competition, students, in teams of 15, participate in 23 different science and engineering events throughout the day. In Oakcrest's region, 34 teams from Northern Virginia participated at the high school level and 26 at the middle school level.

The events spanned the breadth of the sciences and explored topics that are outside of most high school curricula. Some take the form of exams, others display unique problem solving skills, and some have students engineer devices assigned to perform a specific task. Oakcrest students prepared for months, making study guides for the exams, building prototypes and working together to practice their

various skills.

The unique component that separates the Science Olympiad from traditional science fairs is that every event is collaborative; students participate with at least one partner, and at the end of the day the event scores are totaled for the whole team. This promotes collaboration in science as well as skill. Oakcrest attended with two Upper School teams and one middle school team, led by coaches Dr. Katherine Hussmann and Patricia Romano. The Upper School participants improved from their previous year's score and earned medals in two events: fourth in Mousetrap Vehicle (Claire Falatko '20 and Frances North '20) and fifth in Dynamic Planet (Sophia Dort '18 and Julka Syska '19). All of the participants represented Oakcrest with outstanding sportsmanship, as the only all-girls school in the state of Virginia that participates in this rigorous science and engineering competition.

CALENDAR

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VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna Police Department from March 2 - 8, 2018.

INCIDENTS

Animal Case — 1000 Block of Westwood Drive NE Feb. 23, 4 p.m. A solicitor reported being bitten by the homeowner's dog. The dog was placed on a ten-day quarantine.

Juvenile — Cedar Lane School 101 Cedar Lane SW Feb. 27 12 p.m. An employee reported an incident.

Open Door — Westwood Country Club 800 Maple Avenue East March 2, 2:18 a.m. Officers responded to an alarm and discovered an open door. Officers searched the building with negative results.

Open Door — Cooper Materials 319 Mill Street NE March 2, 3 a.m. Officers responded to an alarm and discovered an open door. Officers searched the building with negative results.

Runaway — McDonald's 544 Maple Avenue West Between March 2, 8 a.m. and March 3, 8:23 p.m. A runaway teen was located and transported to the Vienna Police Station. A Fairfax County Police Officer responded to the Vienna Police Station and took custody of the juvenile.

DPW - Tree Down, 1307 Ross Drive SW March 2, 9:14 a.m. The strong winds made a large tree fall on top of a parked unoccupied vehicle.

Open Door — 200 Block of Glyndon Street SE March 2, 11:46 a.m. Officers responded to an alarm and discovered an open door. Officers searched the building with negative results.

Animal Case — 600 Block of Ninovan Road SE March 2, 1:30 p.m. A resident observed a dog on the loose and placed it on a slip leash. When the resident released the dog it bit her. The owner was contacted and advised of the incident. The dog was placed on a ten-day quarantine. **Driving Under Suspended** — Glengyle Drive / Chain Bridge Road March 2, 11:42 p.m. During a traffic stop, Officer Reedy learned that the driver did not have a valid driver's license and was revoked (DWI related). The 35-year-old man from Cashel Lane in Vienna, was arrested and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. A warrant for Driving on Revoked DWI Related was issued and served. The man was held on a \$2,000 secured bond. The man was remanded to the custody of the Fairfax County Deputies.

Emotionally Disturbed Person — 200 Block of Park Terrace Court SE March 2, 11:44 p.m. A citizen requested assistance with an emotionally disturbed person. Officers responded to the scene and spoke with the person. After speaking with the person officers determined that medical assistance was needed. The person was transported to a medical facility for treatment. **Petit Larceny** — Vienna Community Center 120 Cherry Street SE March 4, 2:30 p.m. A juvenile reported that someone stole money from him. Officers responded and investigated the allegations. After speaking with all parties involved it was determined that the allegations were false.

Vandalism — 410 Maple Avenue West March 5 between 1:30 p.m. and 2:48 p.m. A citizen reported that someone keyed her parked vehicle while she was inside a business.

Juvenile — Vienna Elementary School 128 Center Street South March

5, 5:15 p.m. A parent reported a suspicious event.

Destruction of Property — 400 Block of Yeonas Drive SW March 5 between 5:15 p.m. and 6:35 p.m. A resident reported that when he arrived to his residence he noticed that someone had shattered the glass of his storm door and caused damage to the door.

Service — Vienna Elementary School 128 Center Street South March 6, 12 p.m. A parent reported a suspicious event.

Emotionally Disturbed Person — 400 Block of Yeonas Drive SW March 7 7:06 p.m. Officers assisted members of the Fairfax County Mobile Crisis Unit while they evaluated an emotionally disturbed person.

Juvenile — Cedar Lane School 101 Cedar Lane SW March 8, 9:42 a.m. An employee reported an incident.

Arrest - Driving While Intoxicated - Beulah Road NE / Talisman Drive March 8, 11:05 p.m. While running stationary radar Officer Shaw observed a vehicle committing a traffic violation. Officer Shaw initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle. While talking with the driver, Officer Shaw detected the odor of alcoholic beverage coming from her person and observed many signs of impairment. After failing all sobriety tests and the preliminary breath test, the woman was arrested for DWI. The 50-year-old woman from Batten Hollow Road in Vienna, was arrested and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. A warrant for Driving while intoxicated was issued and served. The woman was remanded to the custody of the Fairfax County Deputies.



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Advocates Praise Sheriff's End to ICE Contract

Sheriff will no longer hold detainees for extra time for ICE.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

The "Sheriff's Office will no longer hold inmates past their release date unless an ICE administrative request to detain the inmate is accompanied by a criminal detainer issued by a court," according to Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid.

Kincaid informed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in late January that the Sheriff's Office will officially terminate its intergovernmental service agreement (IGSA) with ICE on May 23, 2018, following the required 120-days notice.

"We intend to comply with all federal obligations as they pertain to ICE. ... We found it expedient to no longer have an agreement that required us to extend our resources beyond these obligations," according to Kincaid.

ADVOCATES EXPRESSED support for Kincaid's decision at the next available public comment period before the Board of Supervisors on Feb. 20.

Elizabeth Benson, a member of Fairfax for All Coalition, said: "The cancellation of the agreement was fought for over the course of a year."

"We appreciate the stance taken by the sheriff to cancel the IGSA and how this is a vital step in Fairfax County towards protecting our communities and recognizing that we are an integral part of this county," said Michelle Larue.

"I urge every member of the Board of Supervisors to strongly and publicly support Sheriff Kincaid's termination of Fairfax County's IGSA agreement with ICE," said Penny Anderson. "She should be applauded not vilified for doing so."

BUT IMMIGRANTS WHO LIVE in Fairfax County also live in constant fear of law enforcement and immigration agents, said Anderson.

"This is a vital step in Fairfax County towards protecting our communities."

— Michelle Larue



"In Judaism, we are commanded to welcome the stranger and treat him or her as our own."

— Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe



They also fear becoming active members in the political process, educational process and in the community, said Larue.

"If I stand idly by and watch or hear about families being torn apart, people avoiding sending children to school, people afraid of getting health care they need, and the examples are endless, then I am complicit in this travesty," said Anderson, a member of ACLU's People Power.

Rabbi Jeffrey Saxe of Temple Rodef Shalom said: "Every faith tradition has its own particular ways of addressing the need to be welcoming to those who come into the community. In Judaism, we are commanded to welcome the stranger and treat him or her as our own," he said.

He told his family's history, relating that his grandparents escaped Hitler and Nazi Germany in 1938. They married two days after their arrival in America, with only four people present at the wedding.

"They were able to build good lives for themselves, not just because of their own strength, but because of the support of others in the com-

munity, people who didn't know them but wanted to help," said Saxe.

"I wonder what would have happened to them if they would have come into this country today," he said.

WORK NEEDS TO CONTINUE, the advocates said, for the county to adopt policies to "secure equal justice for all residents of Fairfax County regardless of immigration status," said Benson. "Our coalition has made additional suggestions about how to cement these protections in policies."

The political environment has changed with the current administration, said Larue, which has allowed ICE "expanded enforcement efforts which only serves to generate fear in our communities and actually undermines public safety in our county."

"Now it's time for the county to also take concrete steps in protecting our community and not collaborating with ICE," said Larue.

SEVEN SUPERVISORS raised their hands when Benson asked if they supported the termination agreement, with the exception of Braddock Supervisor John Cook and Springfield Supervisor Pat Herryty. (Providence Supervisor Linda Smyth was not present during the informal tally.)

"It was the sheriff's decision not the Board of Supervisors. I think she did the right thing," said Bulova. "Fairfax County is a very diverse community and we value our immigrant community in Fairfax County and we also keep our community safe through community policing."

According to Kincaid's statement, the Sheriff's Office will continue to cooperate with ICE, as it does with other local, state and federal authorities.

Bulova said the sheriff's action would not put the community at risk. She also urged people to stay involved in reporting crimes and when they are victims of crime.

"While I may disagree with you on your first two points, I very emphatically agree with you on the last one," said Herryty, following Bulova's remarks. "Our police don't do immigration enforcement, they never have."

His remark drew scoffs.

"I would encourage you to change that opinion," Herryty said.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Keeping Kids Safe

To the Editor:

Thank you for your excellent work, Connection! I was happy to see approximately half of the March 7-13 issue of the Oak Hill / Herndon Connection devoted to the conversation on keeping kids safe from shootings.

A law to restrict purchasing of guns to one per month only was passed in 1993 in Virginia, and then repealed in 2013. Statistics about gun violence at the time showed that having that particular law on the books prevented so much tragedy. Statistics show that gun violence went back up when the law was repealed; gun traffickers take advantage of Virginia's weaker gun laws and illegally traffic guns to other states.

I did a small amount of research on the one-handgun a month law, and I understand it was repealed, but this legislation needs to be revisited.

I was also surprised to learn about Virginia Law SB 288 - a common sense law that was going to require citizens who legally own guns to report if their gun was stolen or transferred. This law failed in committee and was never voted on. It's a common sense gun law, I can't understand how something so simple could not even go to a vote in the Senate?

We need to enact common-sense laws that protect our nation's children.

Jodi Beatty
Herndon

Write, React, Respond

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 and factual errors.

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Spring 2018 HomeLifeStyle

The 85th Historic Garden Week in Virginia includes tours of homes and gardens in Great Falls, McLean and Vienna hosted by the Garden Club of Fairfax on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. The featured historic home was once the Hunting Lodge for Lord Fairfax for whom Fairfax County is named, a privately owned home, beautifully preserved and not often open to the public, dating to the mid 1700s. One garden is designed like a quilt because the owner of this historic house is a world renown quilter. fairfax@vagardenweek.org for tickets. www.vagardenweek.org

PHOTO BY DONNA MOULTON/FAIRFAX GARDEN CLUB

Vienna and Oakton
Vienna
CONNECTION

85th Virginia Historic Garden Week in April

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, April 24, 2018, as the Garden Club of Fairfax invites you to this year's Historic Garden Week Tour in Great Falls, McLean and Vienna.

Experience 250 years of history in the once agricultural hills of northern Fairfax County. Near the village of Great Falls is the William Gunnell home built in 1750 as a hunting lodge for Lord Fairfax. Stroll through a quilt garden designed by the current owner, a well-known quilter, and enjoy carefully tended fruit and vegetable gardens as well as landscaped vistas.

In the historic town of Vienna, explore an 1892 home built on the grounds of the Grange Camp and a charming cottage designed by a couple as a "sensible home" to retire-in-place.

A transitional executive home with a waterfall garden is showcased in McLean.

Tour headquarters are at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna, where admission and refreshments are included with the tour ticket.

Access to William Gunnell House is only by shuttle bus. Pick-up and drop-off at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Tickets available at the Library. Advance Tickets: \$40 per person www.vagardenweek.org or by mail before April 17. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope and check made out to The Garden Club of Fairfax to Marty Whipple, 11508 Yates Ford Road, Fairfax Station, VA 22039. (703) 978-4130 or Fairfax@vagardenweek.org for questions. \$50 day of tour.

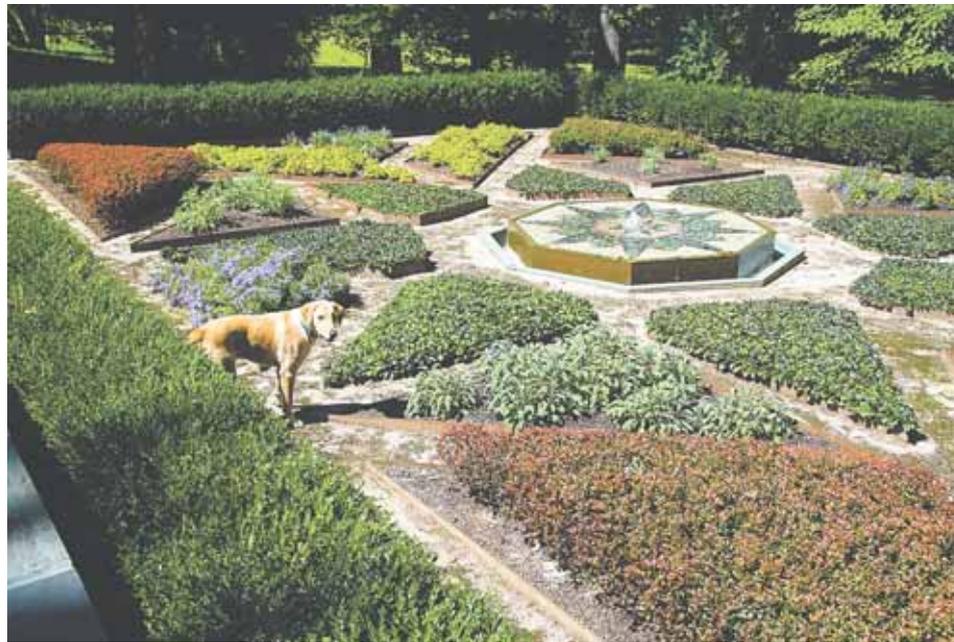
As part of the Garden Club of Virginia's 85th Historic Garden Week, this tour will be one of thirty statewide tours held April 21-28, 2018 featuring nearly 200 of Virginia's most picturesque gardens and private homes.

Proceeds from this celebrated event fund the restoration and preservation of more than 40 of Virginia's historic public gardens and landscapes, a research fellowship program, and a new partnership with the Virginia State Parks. Iconic landmarks such as Mount Vernon, the Pavilion Gardens at the University of Virginia and the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library have been restored to their original splendor due to the hard work of thousands of volunteers, the generosity of countless home and garden owners, and the nearly 30,000 visitors from around the world who have enjoyed the tours.

For more information about our Great Falls-McLean-Vienna Tour, and to buy tickets online, go to www.vagardenweek.org. The statewide schedule for Historic Garden Week is also listed.

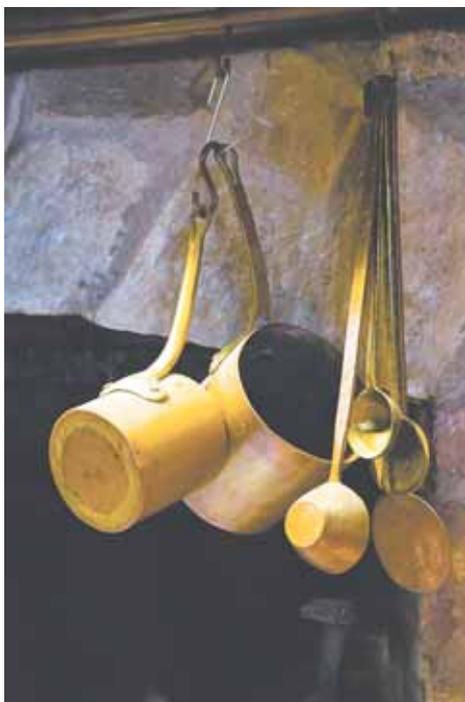
Tour Headquarters, Facilities and Special Activity: Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Tickets, maps and restrooms available on tour day.

There will be a free King's Park Flutes



The 85th Historic Garden Week in Virginia includes tours of homes and gardens around Virginia, as well as in Great Falls, McLean and Vienna hosted by the Garden Club of Fairfax on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. The featured historic home was once the Hunting Lodge for Lord Fairfax for whom Fairfax County is named, a privately owned home, beautifully preserved and not often open to the public, dating to the mid 1700s. This garden is designed like a quilt because the owner of this historic house is a world renown quilter. fairfax@vagardenweek.org for tickets. www.vagardenweek.org

PHOTOS BY DONNA MOULTON/GARDEN CLUB OF FAIRFAX



Details from the William Gunnell home in Great Falls built in 1750 as a hunting lodge for Lord Fairfax.

Concert 10 to noon. Tour tickets: \$50 per person available on tour day at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens and at tour homes.

WILLIAM GUNNELL HOUSE, Innsbruck Avenue, Great Falls The original home is a hall-and-parlor structure built in 1750 on 12,588 acres owned by Thomas, sixth Lord Fairfax, for whom the county is named. William Gunnell III (1750-1820), first known resident of the home and believed to have been caretaker for Lord Fairfax,



purchased it in 1791 and constructed an addition for his large family, making it one of the area's grandest manor homes with a 1,500-acre plantation and numerous outbuildings. One outbuilding, c.1770, survives today. The home was in the Gunnell family until 1913. Twentieth century additions are unobtrusive and compatible with the home's 18th century Colonial and post-Revolution styles. In 1934 a log cabin tavern was moved here from Ruby, Virginia, to become a dining room with a massive stone fireplace at

one end. The now 10-acre property includes a large farm pond, Virginia's fifth oldest measured hemlock, boxwood lined paths, flower, fruit, vegetable and herb gardens, and grape and rose arbors. The homeowner, a world-renowned quilter and fabric designer, designed the property's quilt garden, best viewed from a large vine-covered pergola. The star pattern quilt bedspread design in the master bedroom is repeated in a leaded glass panel in the master bath, in a wrought iron railing and in the quilt garden. National Register of Historic Places. Accessible only by shuttle bus. Jinny and John Beyer, owners.

MONTVALE WAY, McLEAN Located within a 255-acre wooded community of 166 homes in McLean, known as "The Reserve," this two-level executive style home was built in 2001 by one of the premiere builders in Northern Virginia. An exterior of bisque and gray brick construction is framed by stone pillars and enhanced by a paved circular drive. Mature trees, grasses and a massing of bulbs, perennials and shrubs provide four seasons of interest. An armored soldier stands guard, injecting a whimsical tone. Warm tones of beige and brown and faux-painted walls on the first floor act as a backdrop for the mix of old and new in art, furniture and family treasures. A sunroom is the perfect spot to enjoy the backyard koi pond and extensive landscaping designed and implemented by the homeowners. Sandra and Robert Varney, owners

THE GRANGE CAMP, Redwood Drive, Vienna The exterior front of this Folk Victorian home with a Federalist front porch is essentially unchanged from its 1892 appearance. Alexander Wedderburn, a successful printer and publisher in Alexandria, purchased the property and built a summer home on 42 acres previously owned by the post-Civil War Grange movement and used for annual summer fairs for farmers and their families. Original windows and interior doors are displayed as pieces of art and original wood molding was salvaged to become paneling in the powder room. A schoolhouse chair and piano are from Ms. Dyer's mother's school in Connecticut. Her father, a furniture maker and refinisher, refurbished the piano, a Singer sewing table and other pieces. Mature trees provide shade and privacy to enjoy an array of flowering shrubs and specimen trees on the 1.7 acre property. Bob Smith and Alison Dyer, owners.

CENTER STREET NORTH, Vienna From drawing board to completion, the homeowners envisioned a "sensible" home allowing for present-day living and entertaining within an open floor plan, and the flexibility of converting the current den to an additional first floor bedroom and bath for aging in place for this custom built, 2011

SEE HISTORIC GARDEN, PAGE 9

HomeLifeStyle

PHOTO BY DONNA MOULTON



modern Cape Cod cottage in historic Vienna. As the owner of REfind, a Vienna boutique, the homeowner mixes vintage with fresh accessories throughout this three-level cottage. The gardens were designed to be low maintenance with native plants, and compatible with the historic Vienna neighborhood. Three large crepe myrtles at the front of the home expand out into layers of mass plantings of perennials, shrubs, and spring blooming bulbs. Carey and David Williams, owners.

The Garden Club of Virginia's horticultural programming inspires one of Historic Garden Week's greatest attractions: the world-class floral arrangements created by club members. We estimate that over 2,300 fabulous arrangements, using greenery and flowers grown in members' own gardens, will decorate the featured homes on this year's tours.

Places of Interest:

Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Ct., Vienna. This 9.5 acre park includes large ornamental display gardens and three native plant collections. There are paved walking trails, three lakes, four gazebos and a restored 18th century farmhouse, more than 20 varieties of cherry trees, azalea, lilac and peony col-

Don't miss this chance to see the 1750 William Gunnell home and gardens in Great Falls.

lections, irises, a hosta and fern garden and a children's garden.

L'Auberge Chez Francois Gardens, 332 Springvale Rd., Great Falls. Owner and Executive Chef Jacques Haeringer continues his family's tradition of serving fresh French classics in the original River Bend Country Store.

Great Falls, McLean, Vienna House & Garden Tour

Tuesday, April 24, 2018, 10-4 p.m.

Hosted by the Garden Club of Fairfax, Contact: Claudia Lewis, Garden Club of Fairfax PR
Fairfax10618@verizon.net or
fairfax@vagardenweek.org for tickets.
www.vagardenweek.org

MARCH 17TH

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A Stitch In Time

With the children out of the nest, Shafer Dobry is re-embracing her passion for fiber arts in a basement studio.

BY JOHN BYRD

Nothing inspires renewed hobbying interests like children leaving the house. Parents — affectionately dubbed “empty-nesters” by demographers — are now left to their own devices, and there’s new square footage to conjure with. Maturity being a precious commodity, one doesn’t dawdle.

Certainly Shafer Dobry of Herndon ascribes to this theory. An artist who has worked with fibers since college, Dobry had maintained a basement space for her sewing projects for years, even selling her work online and at crafts shows. It was workable space, but shared with accumulated oddments, a designated TV-viewing zone and clutter.

When a son moved out last year though, Dobry seized the day: a chance to convert the 620-square-foot basement into a productive artist’s studio with dedicated workstations devoted to key phases in a sequential process, and a library of fabrics, threads and yarns filed for easy access.

To this end, Dobry called in Dory Clemens, a designer at Foster Remodeling Solutions, whom she had met at a home show. Approaching the studio makeover proposition, Clemens was intrigued by the question of exactly what is entailed in custom-designing a fiber arts studio.

“There are essential pieces of equipment that require a dedicated workstation,” Clemens said. “But Shafer has her own techniques regarding which phases are to be hands-on and which aren’t. I soon realized there wasn’t a patented tool for every task. Fiber art is something of a folk art ... where technique follows inspiration.”

That’s when Clemens saw that Foster’s skilled carpenters might prove handy in helping her client take her process to the next level.

“We would discuss how she worked,” Clemens said, “and I would suggest built-ins our carpenters could create that might advance her process.”

Chief among these is a cutting table which now occupies a back corner of the room.

Three feet high and with a top that measures 8 feet by 1 foot, the work table has been designed as a modular platform that provides the waist-high flat surface needed



Fiber artist Shafer Dobry (left), with an assist from Dory Clemens of Foster Remodeling, demonstrates how her new custom-designed work table is used for cutting fabric. Dobry hired Clemens last year to help convert basement space into a fiber arts studio



Shafer Dobry at her antique Ashford spinning wheel converting wool into yarn.

for cutting fabric, and for assembling the combinations that might be employed in the final art piece.

There are three panels — each with a 2-foot by 2.5-foot surface. Panels can be raised independently, or linked together as a three-part unit for cutting larger pieces. Pipes and hooks keep the table solid and unified. The base also provides shelving for storing bolts of fabric. When the cutting is over, the panels can be folded down to form a sliding door on an otherwise nondescript credenza.

As a space plan, the room has been zoned to support the two primary phases of Shafer’s creative process.

A 10-foot by 10-foot work cubicle formed by U-shaped laminate counter-surfaces and situated on LVP (Luxury Vinyl Plank) floor-

ing is set up to facilitate sewing and knitting. An ergonomic office chair on casters allows Shafer to roll from sewing machine to knitting machine, retrieving threads and yarns at will, and scrutinizing fabric bolts ... all without standing.

Old mattress springs (“found objects,” as Shafer calls them) mounted on the two walls offer buttons, threads, curiosities, notions into the artist’s hands. Meanwhile, overhead task lighting provides the illumination needed for close-in work.

In an adjacent space one finds tools of the knitting trade, many of which are antiques. There’s an Ashford spinning wheel; a six-spoke yarn “winder” (also an antique); several support spinners; and an umbrella swift.

Shafer says she is in the studio daily and that the environment is conducive to producing her art which she mostly sells online at www.etsy.com/shop/needleclicksEtc.

The former basement interior, with English pub finishes, has disappeared without a trace.

“There was a dropped-ceiling before, which made the room feel smaller,” Shafer says “Dory was essential in helping us pursue non-traditional design ideas. Removing the ceiling, for instance, raised the height of the room about a foot. That’s then I saw the potentials for more industrial ambiance — much like one sees in more urban art studios.”

As interior design process got underway, Clemens suggested painting the exposed rafters and duct work mat black. The perimeter walls are Grey Screen. Combined with the lighter-tone flooring, the effect is restful.

Shafer and her husband Michael also use the re-designed space to work out on their rowing machine, practice yoga, and enjoy music and video in a comfortable part of the room devoted to home entertainment.

“This really brings a lot of useful interests into one place,” Dobry said. “It’s a real lifestyle boost for both of us.”

Foster Remodeling Solutions will be sponsoring a seminar March 7 at 10 a.m. titled “Big Impact, Small Space.” The event will be held at its offices and showroom in Lorton. For information call 703-550-1371 or sign up now at www.fosterremodeling.com/remodeling-resources/seminars-and-sign-up/.

An open house of an Arlington home recently remodeled by Foster Remodeling Solutions will be held on March 24. Call for details and to register.

John Byrd (byrdmatx@gmail.com) has been writing about home improvement for 30 years.

SPORTS



PHOTOS BY WILL PALENSCAR/THE CONNECTION
Lauren Maloney #10 looks for space to dribble as Trinity Jackson #10 defends



Carly Britt scored 11 points and accounted for 6 rebounds in Langley's state final loss to Cosby.

Langley Girls Reach State Final, Lose in Overtime

The Langley Lady Saxons advanced to the VHSL 6A tournament as the #2 seed after losing to Marshall in the regional final 44-43 on Feb. 24.

In the Lady Saxons first round game in the VHSL State Tournament they defeated Woodbridge 47-46 on March 3. Two nights later they defeated TC Williams HS 56-54 in overtime to advance to the Virginia 6A State Championship.

Langley faced Cosby HS from Midlothian, Va., winners of three of the last four 6A state titles. Cosby defeated Ocean Lakes 76-39 in the first round, then Landstown 53-44, to face Langley.

In the first quarter Langley jumped out to an early 13-8 advantage.

Cosby then cut into the lead, outscoring Langley 14-13.

With Langley up 26-22 to start the third quarter, Cosby had their most productive quarter of the game scoring 16 and holding Langley to 11.

With the start of the fourth quarter, the Cosby girls had taken a 38-37 advantage and the 6A Championship was up for grabs. Both teams defenses would



Jordyn Callaghan #1 goes airborne towards the basket.

hold the opponent to low scoring in the fourth quarter with Langley narrowly outscoring Cosby 7-6, to force overtime, after Jordyn Callaghan's shot was no good in the closing seconds of regulation.

With the game in OT and the score knotted up at 44, and with 2:36 to play in overtime Langley had gained an early 4 point advantage, 50-46.

But Cosby responded, holding Langley scoreless in those closing minutes and scoring the final 6 points. With 1.9 seconds Langley had one last shot for a buzzer beater, but the in bound pass was intercepted by Nia Covington.

Cosby won 52-50.

Cosby ends the year (24-4) with their fourth State championship. Langley ends the year (21-8). Langley was led by Rana Azad's 17 points. Carly Britt added 11. Nia Covington's 25 points led Cosby while Charme Lilly added 14. Azad would also add three assists, two steals and six rebounds. Jordyn Callaghan added 9 points, six assists, two blocks, three steals and three rebounds.

— WILL PALENSCAR

The Lady Saxons of Langley ponder a close state final score moments after losing to Cosby 52-50 in Richmond.



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‘Nevertheless, She Persisted’

Commission for Women celebrates 2018 honorees at Women’s History Month reception.

BY ANDREA WORKER
THE CONNECTION

March is Women’s History Month, and the theme for this year’s celebrations is “Nevertheless, She Persisted,” referring to the now-famous phrase that was part of Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell’s rebuke of Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts in February of 2017 after a party-line vote to stop Warren’s speech against the appointment of Sen. Jeff Sessions as the U.S. attorney general.

“Sen. Warren was giving a lengthy speech,” said McConnell at the time. “She had appeared to violate the rule[s]. She was warned ... nevertheless, she persisted.”

Since then, that phrase has become a rallying cry for women’s rights advocates and others around the world, and is a fitting description for the women chosen by the Fairfax County Commission for Women as their 2018 honorees, according to Michelle Mueller, the county’s liaison to the commission, who led the program at the commission’s reception on March 6 at the Government Center.

The women selected as this year’s recipients for recognition by the county “have exemplified that persistence,” said Mueller in her remarks, especially in their work to “fight all forms of discrimination against women.”

❖ **Sheila Coates**, a sixth generation Virginian, Coates has been “persisting” for over four decades. The founder and president of Black Women United for Action since its inception in 1985, Coates has served on the board of the National Council of Women’s Organizations and as a delegate to the National Summit on Africa. She successfully lobbied for a minority-at-large position to the Fairfax County Commission for Women, as well as for the appointment of an African American woman to the board at George Mason University — a first for the institution which she attended and where she studied public administration and political science. Coates continues her work, serving on a number of boards, panels and committees, and advising and educating on women’s rights issues.

❖ **Grace Wolf Cunningham** is serving her fourth term on the Herndon Town Council and is the first Korean American elected official in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Cunningham is an adviser to the Washington Coalition for Comfort Women’s Issues (WCCW). The group’s name comes from the euphemism given to the more than 200,000 women trafficked as sex slaves during World War II by the Japanese military as “comfort” for the fighting troops and was started to call for acknowledgement of, and reparation to these victims. In addition to their founding mission, today, WCCW continues to advocate for the rights of war-



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

From left: Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova; honorees Lidia Soto-Harmon, Laura Harris, Grace Cunningham, and Sheila Coates; Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins; and Michelle Mueller, county liaison to the Commission for Women at the Women’s History Month 2018 Reception.

time victims and is dedicated to the “eradication and prevention of sex crimes.” Cunningham was the driving force behind the installation of the “Peace Garden,” unveiled at the Government Center in 2014, as a memorial to those “Comfort Women” and as a reminder of the need to remain vigilant and continue to fight human trafficking.

❖ **Laura Harris** is another veteran in the fight against discrimination and as a champion for victims of domestic violence. Harris has worked for Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Services Unit for over 30 years and led the charge to bring county services and resources together in a coordinated response to domestic violence, instrumental in establishing the county Domestic Violence Prevention, Policy and Coordinating Council, as well as the

Domestic Action Center. Among her achievements, Harris also helped to start the volunteer “Attorney for the Day Program” which provides pro bono legal services to clients seeking protective orders in domestic violence situations, but who cannot afford attorneys or who face challenges understanding their rights and the legal system.

❖ **Lidia Soto-Harmon**, the CEO of the Girl Scout Council of the Nation’s Capital, believes in developing and supporting future leaders, assuring that all young women have the opportunity to succeed. To that aim, Soto-Harmon works to make sure that no girl or volunteer is excluded from full participation in Girl Scouts because of financial difficulties. Adding to her resume of years of activism, Soto-Harmon currently serves as the governance chair for the Meyer

Foundation, an organization that “works on pursuing and investing in solutions that build an equitable Greater Washington community in which women of color and economically vulnerable thrive.”

Assisting Michelle Mueller in presenting certificates to the honorees were Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, and Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins. At the regular Board of Supervisors’ Meeting which followed the reception, Bulova presented a proclamation, accepted on behalf of the Commission for Women by Cunningham, declaring March 2018 as “Women’s History Month, and a time to honor all women who continue to fight and succeed in bringing positive change to the lives of diverse American Women.”

ACKNOWLEDGING THE WOMEN who sacrificed in the past to gain the opportunity for women of today to succeed, the reception also included a display of the planned Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, a garden-based memorial to be located within the Occoquan Regional Park in Lorton — once part of the prison grounds where women suffragists were incarcerated.

Executive Director of Turning Point Patricia Wirth was on hand to showcase the drawings of the memorial and remind attendees of the contributions of the women “who came before us.” Wirth says they still haven’t raised all the funds needed to build the national memorial, but declared that regardless of what phase of achievement has been reached by that time, “there’s going to be an unveiling event on Aug. 26, 2020.”

Cunningham vowed to “put pressure on my colleagues to donate to the fundraising efforts for the memorial. We are so fortunate to live in amazing Fairfax County,” said Cunningham, “where we have a woman as our Board of Supervisors chair, a woman chair for the public school board, mayors like Lisa Merkel of Herndon, women serving our area in the state legislature and so many more, unlike many other jurisdictions across our region and the country — and we wouldn’t have this opportunity without these women who sacrificed to get women the right to vote.”

For more about Women’s History Month and the Commission for Women, see www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cfw. The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association has a Facebook page and information on www.suffragistmemorial.org. A public Women’s History Month Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, March 17 from 1:30 – 4:40 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Alexandria. Those interested in attending can RSVP and purchase the \$7 tickets at www.womens-history-month-2018.eventbrite.com.

CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

"Harvey." Through March 24, Friday-Saturday, 8-10:30 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. at the Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The McLean Community Players will present Mary Chase's Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy, "Harvey." Matinees on Sundays, March 11 and 18. \$18-\$20. Email info@McLeanPlayers.org or visit McLeanPlayers.org.

Art Exhibit. Through April 7 at Village Green Shopping Center, 513 Maple Ave. NW, Vienna. Vienna Arts Society presents First 100 Weeks, paintings by Deborah Schneider. Free and open to the public. Visit viennaartsociety.org/.

Oakton Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Year-round weekly farmers market in Oakton. Local produce, meats/eggs, dairy, baked goods, and more. Admission is free. Visit community-foodworks.org.

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.

MCC Summer Camps. Plan now to register children for MCC's enriching summer camp programs for children ages 3 through 18. Summer Camp Registration begins Monday, Feb. 5, for MCC district residents and Monday, Feb. 12, for all others. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

THURSDAY/MARCH 15

Bunco Fundraiser. 7-9 p.m. at the Vienna Arts Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Vienna Art Society Bunco fundraiser. \$20 reserves a seat for an evening of hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, prizes, 50/50 raffle, and of course a game of Bunco. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 17

Model Railroaders Open House. 1-5 p.m. at the Vienna Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE. Northern Virginia Model Railroaders hold an open house at the Vienna Depot each month and on Vienna celebration days, including Viva! Vienna and the Vienna Holiday Stroll. Free admission. Call 703-938-5157 or visit www.nvmr.org.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 17-18

"The Snow White Variety Show." 2 p.m. at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. All the fun of just about every TV show genre you can imagine is jam-packed into this wild and fast-paced comedy. This is a part-talk-show, part-reality show dramatic retelling of a classic story you thought you knew performed by talented local young



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY ALI KHALIL

Nowruz Festival to Be Held March 18

Following 3,000 years of customs and traditions, the colorful Nowruz Festival — the Persian New Year celebration — will be held Sunday, March 18, 2018, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Tysons Corner Center. The free event attracts 20,000 visitors who come for the music, dance, dramatic performances, shopping at the Bazaar, and costumed characters roaming the festival. For more information, visit the website at <http://nowruzfestival.org>.

actors! The dwarves team up to share their own side of Snow White's story. \$10-\$15. For ages 6 and older. Visit www.mcleancenter.org for tickets.

SUNDAY/MARCH 18

Breakfast Buffet. 8 a.m.-noon at Vienna American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N., Vienna. Get omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy and more. Adults \$9, children 12 and under \$3. Call 703-938-6580.

Nowruz Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at Tysons Corner Center, 8100 Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Persian festival will feature family-friendly fun and food trucks. Visit nowruzfestival.org.

"Winnie the Pooh & Friends." 3 p.m. in the Chapel Auditorium at The Madeira School, at 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The play is a world premiere of Judith Walsh White's new adaptation of A. A. Milne's classic "The House at Pooh Corner" with original songs with lyrics by White and music by Michael Oosterhout. \$10 at the door, and \$5 for children 6 and under. Visit www.travelingplayers.org or call 703-987-1712.

Spring Fling. 12:30-2:30 p.m. at Bloomingdale's Tysons Corner. The New Dominion Women's Club will host the 11th annual Spring Fling benefit fashion show. Enjoy delicious food and drink as well as bid on a raffle while viewing the newest trends in spring casual, business, and resort fashion. Visit www.ndwc.org.

"The Trojan Women." 4 p.m. in the Chapel Auditorium at The Madeira School, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Trojan Women by Euripides is widely considered history's oldest existing anti-war play, as well as one of literature's greatest tragedies. Tickets are \$10 at the door, and \$5 for children 6 and under. Recommended for ages 13 and up. Visit www.travelingplayers.org or call 703-987-1712.

TUESDAY/MARCH 20

Garden Club Meeting. 10 a.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. NE, Vienna. Five Hills Garden Club will present Kirk Brown discussing "Designing on the Verge," about gardens and changing lifestyles. Free. Call 571-606-7084 or email lmc323@aol.com.

THURSDAY/MARCH 22

The Enola Gay. 7:30-9 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Learn about the history of the Enola Gay and her most famous mission from Scott Wiley, Docent at the Stephen F. Udvar-Hazy Center. Free. Call 703-938-0405 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/3456120.

SATURDAY/MARCH 24

Healthy Strides Wellness Book Club. 11 a.m.-noon at Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. "The Prediabetes Diet Plan," by Hillary Wright. This club is for adults, and meets at different Fairfax County Public Library sites each month. No registration required to attend. Books are available for checkout at Fairfax County Libraries or purchase from a retailer. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/healthy-strides.

SUNDAY-SATURDAY/MARCH 18-31

Fairfax County Parks. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/park-news/2018/psa055.

On Sunday, March 18 – At **Colvin Run Mill**, children age 2-9 can hunt for eggs and make egg-cellent crafts to take home. Bring a basket. \$8 per person. At **Hidden Pond Nature Center**, children age 3 to 12 can create a spring mobile of favorite pond animals from plastic eggs. All materials will be provided. \$6 per child. **Hidden Oaks Nature Center** is hosting a Woodland Wildlife Egg Hunt for children age 3-8. Meet costumed woodland characters along a trail, collect eggs with non-candy treats and discover how different animals raise their young. \$8 per child.

On Saturday, March 24 – Children age 1-6 are invited to the Easter Eggstravaganza at **Frying Pan Park** to hunt for eggs that contain treats and prizes and visit with farm animals. \$8 per child. Add a wagon ride for \$2 per person. **Sully Historic Site** is offering an egg hunt, egg-related games and an Easter craft for children age 1-8. \$8 per child. Wagon rides cost another \$2 per person.

On Sunday, March 25 — Stop by the Easter Egg Hunt at **Sully Historic Site**. The historic site is offering an egg hunt, egg-related games and an Easter craft for children age 1-8. \$8

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Hearing on the
McLean Community Center's
FY 2020 Programs



Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

The Governing Board and Staff of the McLean Community Center are seeking input from residents of Dranesville Small District 1A at a Public Hearing on Programs for FY 2020 (which runs July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020). MCC programs are scheduled to return to the newly renovated Ingleside facility in 2019.

The Board and Staff are interested in hearing residents' suggestions for class offerings, community events, theater programs, art exhibits, tours, youth events and teen activities when they return home to the Center.

If you would like to speak at the hearing, call the Center to have your name placed on the speakers' list. You also may submit comments in writing to: george.sachs@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The hearing will be followed by the regular monthly meeting of the Governing Board.



The McLean Community Center
6631 Old Dominion Dr., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

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WEEK IN VIENNA

**Vienna's Budget
Presentation: Exceptional**

For the 24th consecutive year, the Town of Vienna has received the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. The award recognizes the Town's 2017-18 budget.

The GFOA award highlights the commitment and principles of the Town toward creating an effective budgeting document. The Town of Vienna is among more than 1,600 communities nationwide who participate in the Budget Awards Program. Each budget recognized by the award demonstrates excellence in a number of criteria, including as a model policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communications device.

**Paving and Restriping
Meeting Set for March 19**

The Virginia Department of Transportation and Fairfax County Department of Transportation will host a community information meeting to discuss this year's paving and restriping efforts in the Hunter Mill District on Monday, March 19, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., at the Terraset Elementary School cafeteria, 11411 Ridge Heights Rd, Reston. The meeting provides residents with an opportunity to speak directly with road engineers and transportation planners about the paving program, proposed striping changes and general traffic safety concerns. Information about paving and restriping in the Hunter Mill District will be

on display in an open house format, with a presentation at 7:15 p.m.

Community members are invited to give feedback on general traffic safety concerns regarding roads scheduled for paving, and the proposed striping changes at the meeting or by submitting comments online via the comment form on the paving and restriping program page. Comments will be accepted through April 6, 2018.

For more information on the 2018 Paving and Restriping Program, visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/2018-paving-and-restriping>. The Hunter Mill District information page, located at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/2018-paving-and-restriping/hunter-mill>, includes maps, sample photos, the proposed list of roads being considered for paving and link to a comment submission form.

**Remembering
Freedom Bird**

Chapter 227, Vietnam Veterans of America Inc., invites all veterans, friends, and the general public to attend the April 19, 2018 chapter meeting at Amphora Restaurant, 377 Maple Avenue West, Vienna, at 7:30 p.m. BJ Elliott Prior will discuss her stewardess service on the commercial flights (aka Freedom Bird) that transported troops to and from Vietnam and the Vietnam veterans that she got to know. Her story provides another unknown facet of every war. Admission is free. For information, call Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or visit the web page at www.vva227.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

SOBER-RIDE FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Free Sober Rides. Saturday, March 17, 4 p.m. through Sunday, March 18, 4 a.m. Area residents, 21 and older, may download Lyft to their phones, then enter a code in the app's "Promo" section to receive a no cost (up to \$15) safe ride home. WRAP's St. Patrick's Day SoberRide promo code will be posted at 2 p.m. on March 17 on www.SoberRide.com. The SoberRide code is valid for the first 1,500 Lyft users who enter the code.

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.

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). To have their names placed on election ballots, candidates are required to obtain the signatures of 10 McLean tax district residents in their respective categories (either adult or youth). Three adult positions and two youth positions are open this year. Key Election Dates:
❖ 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.
- For more information on the MCC Governing Board Elections, call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit the Center's website: <http://bit.ly/2ix7qc1>.

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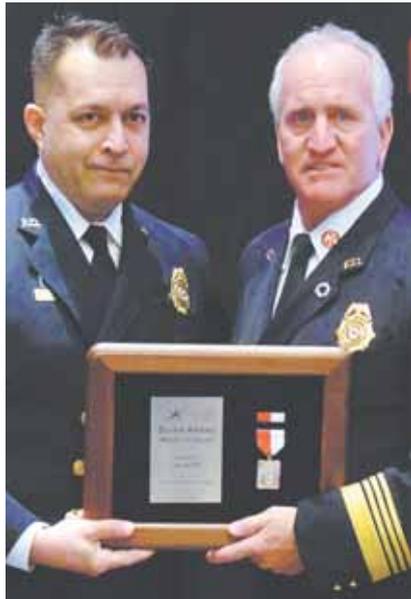
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Silver Medal of Valor



Lieutenant Jay Smith receives his Valor Award from Richard Bowers Jr., Chief, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department.

Lieutenant Jay Smith and retired Battalion Chief Tyrone Harrington are awarded the Silver Medal of Valor for their courageous response to house fire of a neighbor. They began to utilize a garden hose to attack the fire in the garage and both personnel had entered the home multiple times in an effort to rescue a trapped child. Lieutenant Smith and Chief Harrington operated without the benefit of a fire hose, breathing apparatus, or protective equipment, putting the rescue of the child before their own personal safety. As fire and rescue units arrived, Lieutenant Smith and Battalion Chief Harrington continued to provide direct assistance and information to the arriving units. Lieutenant Smith and retired Battalion Chief Harrington exhibited extreme courage while drawing upon extensive training and experience to assist their neighbors.



Battalion Chief (Ret.) Tyrone Harrington receives his Valor Award from Richard Bowers Jr., Chief, Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department.

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"Introspections"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

According to my oncologist, it's time, way past time in fact (not so much 'fact,' more like his experiences with other cancer patients) that I make more significant changes in my cancer treatment than I have diagnosis to date. What he means, specifically – and what we regularly discuss – is extending the interval of my CT Scan, which currently occurs every three months.

Not so much to minimize the radiation exposure, more so due to my continuing survival. No one's ready to characterize me as "N.E.D.," (no evidence of disease), but neither does it appear, based on the last five years – since I was hospitalized and began my alimta infusions, that my tumors are growing and/or moving; at least not as indicated with any clinical significance.

Nevertheless, the prospect of waiting longer to find out if any tumor action has occurred is unsettling. Currently, given that I am generally asymptomatic, the primary way that I learn if there's been "progression," is by the computerized tomography of my lungs/upper torso. Rarely have symptoms manifested themselves otherwise. And when they have, they've as often indicated nothing as something – and vice versa; meaning, sometimes no symptoms still showed growth. So it's confusing, counter intuitive and contra-indicated, and I'm stuck in the middle.

While maintaining this quarterly scan schedule, I have extended the interval between infusions however: from every three weeks originally to every six weeks now. Which means I've reduced the amount of chemotherapy I receive by 50 percent per quarter. Still the scans have showed "stable." Given that I'm starting my 10th year post diagnosis, perhaps it's time to scan less and live more?

Our concern has been that if the CT Scan continues to be the first real indicator/confirmation that tumor growth has occurred – and if so, presumably different/more aggressive/life-sustaining tactics would need to be employed (immunotherapy comes to print, which I have not yet utilized), why wait through the fourth month to find out? Maybe that month's-long delay in scanning would matter in possibly nipping my tumor growth in the bud?

My oncologist's thinking is that so little change has occurred during the past five years that perhaps it's reasonable to take advantage of my amazing good fortune and extend the interval?

Moreover, with respect to my quality of life, reducing the weeks of stress we experience leading up to the scan, and of course the stress the week after, waiting for results, would enhance our lives; and eliminating that stress and improving the quality of our lives has always been an interest/concern of my oncologist.

And I appreciate his concern for our overall well being; and I would like to have less cancer-related impact on my life but, yes, there's always a 'but.' If I extend the scan interval, I might worry about what's happening in my lungs during the month after I would have already been scanned? What if? I mean, it's not as if we can't go back in time, sort of. We can always restart, re-interval, re-scan, re-everything; so I've been reassured. Why not re-engage more with life and rearrange less because of cancer?

Maybe I've survived nine-plus years with a terminal form of cancer because I'm meant to? Why not leverage my many good results and better manage my cancer commitments? Perhaps it's time to take control of my life and live like I'm not dying? Heck, I've done alright so far. Who's to say I can't do better?

If my oncologist characterizes me as his third miracle, then maybe I should start living more miraculously?

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



Some of the many guests of the show pictured with visual artist Thomas Xenakis, second from the left.



Two of the guests discussing the works of art displayed throughout The Frame Factory.

PHOTOS BY JENNIFER KAYE/THE CONNECTION

Landscapes on Display in Vienna

On Saturday, March 10, The Frame Factory in Vienna hosted an opening reception for the art show, The Landscapes of Ten Artists. Around 50 people of all ages gathered in the shop to see the work of Thomas Xenakis, Sheila Blake, Marsha Gallo, Gary Goldberg, Linda Greigg, Barbara Johnson, Robert McBride, Be Sargent, Susan Yanero, and Ellen Zelano. Visual artist, Thomas Xenakis, selected the artists for the show and made sure that each artist represented a unique style of work and also a unique type

of landscape. The works vary from beachscapes to woods, and from traditional oil paintings to marker on wood. The show runs through April 28 and all the works of art are available for purchase. For more information on the show and see examples of the artists' work you can visit The Frame Factory website <http://www.theframefactory1.com>
212 Dominion Rd NE, Vienna, VA 22180, (703) 281-2350. Monday through Saturday 9:30 - 5:30; Thursday 10-5:30

—JENNIFER KAYE



Pastels on paper done by artist Robert McBride. McBride does a lot of his work in New Jersey, and goes out into the landscape to create his pieces.



Five year old Annika Lehming-Gallo, loves to visit her grandmother Marsha Gallo while she is working in her studio. On her most recent visit she handed her grandmother a painting and said it was her entry to the upcoming show. Here she is photographed in front of her displayed painting at The Frame Factory.



Thomas Xenakis speaking with one of the guests at the show about the exhibited art in the shop.



One of the paintings in The Landscapes of Ten Artists show named, Path To Opal Daniels, by artist Sheila Blake. Blake is a resident of Takoma Park, Md. and created a series of paintings of houses in her neighborhood and how they speak about the residents who live in them.