

Vienna and Oakton CONNECTION

Hundreds of Mandisa fans gathered at Tysons Corner Center Friday evening to watch a music star sing in the rain. The three-time Grammy Award nominee and 2014 winner did not disappoint as concertgoers danced beneath umbrellas while watching her perform through their smartphones.

PHOTO BY MARTI MOORE/THE CONNECTION
OPINION, PAGE 4 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

Rain or Shine, The Show Must Go On

ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 8

Shouse Village Swim-a-Thon
Brings in \$5,400 for Charity
NEWS, PAGE 12

HomeLifeStyle
PAGE 6

Vienna Businesses Take
Sustainability Challenge
NEWS, PAGE 3

PRSRV STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT #322

POSTAL CUSTOMER
EFCR WSS

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
REQUESTED IN HOME 7-12-18



CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA COMSTOCK YOUR VOICE IN CONGRESS

PROUDLY REPRESENTING VIRGINIA'S 10TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

SOME OF THE WAYS WE CAN HELP:

- › Internship Opportunities
- › Assistance with Various Federal Agencies
- › Assistance with Veterans Benefits
- › Assistance with Medicare and Medicaid
- › Passport Assistance
- › 10th Congressional District Young Women Leadership Program
- › Military Academy Nominations
- › Applying for Federal Grants

Washington, DC
229 Cannon House
Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
☎ 202.225.5136

Loudoun County
21430 Cedar Drive
Suite 218
Sterling, VA 20164
☎ 703.404.6903

Shenandoah Valley
117 E. Piccadilly St
Suite 100 D
Winchester, VA 22601
☎ 540.773.3600

COMSTOCK.HOUSE.GOV  

Vienna Businesses Take Sustainability Challenge

Challenge promotes environmentally friendly behaviors.

BY CARLYN KRANKING
THE CONNECTION

Courtney Bezell, Marketing Manager at Caboose Brewing Co., is a self-described “freak” when it comes to recycling. She said her mother raised her to be that way, and she chooses to support businesses that value the environment like she does. “Whenever I see [environmental] certifications for businesses, I’m more willing to patronize, because I know that they’re doing good things in the community, and they’re doing good things for the planet,” Bezell said. “I’m probably not alone in that.”

For the second year in a row, Vienna businesses are challenging themselves to act more sustainably as part of the Community Enhancement Commission’s (CEC’s) Vienna Sustainability Challenge, a self-certification process that allows businesses to examine their sustainable behaviors and push themselves to do better each year. To self-certify, businesses complete items on a checklist to earn points, and those that reach the point threshold by Aug. 1 will be recognized at a regular Town Council meeting.

“We want businesses and nonprofits to see that it’s a win-win for both the environment and them,” said Desiree Di Mauro, CEC member and lead for this challenge. “The sustainability piece is a win for the whole community, but it also should help [businesses] because sustainability done right means you’re going to lower your own costs.”

LAST YEAR, seven Vienna businesses were recognized by the CEC: Caboose Brewing Co., Caffe Amouri, Cycle Chi, Joanne Ehreth Burke CPA PLLC, Purple Onion Catering, Social Burger and The Sustainability Guys. To recertify, these businesses must earn more points this year than they did last year.

Sammy Thompson, a student representative with CEC and employee at Social Burger, said a lot of Social Burger’s points came from things they were already doing.



Head brewer Justin Weems and former employee Ian Gildea remove spent grain at Caboose Brewing Co. The spent grain is donated to local farms.

“Whenever I see [environmental] certifications for businesses, I’m more willing to patronize, because I know that they’re doing good things in the community, and they’re doing good things for the planet.”

—Courtney Bezell, Marketing Manager at Caboose Brewing Co.

crackers. Then we donate some of it to local farms, and they can feed their animals.”

Caboose Brewing Co. also uses herbs in its food from its own herb garden just outside the building, donated and maintained by DePaul’s Urban Farm.

Caboose has also installed touch-free appliances in the restrooms and serves drinks in glasses rather than disposable plastic cups.

DI MAURO said she hopes the wide range of businesses that got certified last year – from a brewery to an indoor cycling studio – will make it clear that businesses don’t have to have an environmental product to participate in this challenge and improve their green behaviors.

“Any business or nonprofit can make its operation more sustainable,” Di Mauro said. “You don’t have to be like The Sustainability Guys; you can be a coffee shop or sell scooters and still be more sustainable.”

While even more businesses push themselves to certify this summer, perhaps other people in the community will choose to support their commitment to sustainability, as Bezell does.

“If you’re enjoying the product that [a company] is making, and then they’re also doing good for other things, it makes you more inclined to support them,” Bezell said. “They’re doing more than just being your favorite brewery or favorite restaurant.”



Caboose Brewing Co. gets its food from local farms.

“One big thing I noticed was a lot of the workers there are walking to work, not driving to work, so that got us a lot of points,” Thompson said.

Social Burger also gets a lot of its products locally – the meat comes from Buffalo River Ranch outside Charlottesville, which is owned by a former Vienna resident. The business also has reduced its waste by serving burgers on recyclable papers. They are



Sean Doyle, front of house waiter at Social Burger, serves a plant-based Beyond Burger. The papers on the trays are recyclable, in an effort to reduce waste.

additionally looking into using paper straws to be more environmentally friendly.

Other local businesses are also finding ways to reduce waste: If it weren’t for a creative practice at Caboose Brewing Co., a lot of the business’ waste would consist of spent grain, a byproduct of the process of brewing.

“Farm animals can actually eat that,” Bezell said. “It’s food; we use it in our

Vienna Police Highlights

The following summary contains various incidents of general interest as well as vehicular crashes handled by the Town of Vienna, Virginia Police Department from June 29 – July 5, 2018.

INCIDENTS

Suspicious Person — Pure Barre 218 Maple Avenue, West June 29, 9:30 a.m. Two employees advised of interactions they had with a man walking by their business. The man also called the business to talk to them. The man was advised by the employees to stop contacting them.

Civil Dispute — 200 Block Talahi Road, SE June 29, 11:41 a.m. Two neighbors were hav-

ing a dispute over property lines and a fence that runs along the properties.

Lost Property — 300 Block Maple Avenue, East, 8 p.m. A citizen lost her wallet in the shopping center parking lot.

Suspicious Event — 100 Block Branch Road, SE Between July 1 at 10 p.m. and July 2 at 10 p.m. An employee at one of the businesses in the shopping center advised he left his vehicle legally parked in the parking lot overnight. When he returned to the vehicle, he found a suspicious note someone had left that he believed may be a threat.

Animal Complaint — 100 Block Maple Avenue, West July 4, 12:59 p.m. Officers responded to a report of a dog in distress inside an unoccupied

vehicle in the parking lot of the shopping center. When officers arrived they found the vehicle was running with the air conditioning on, the windows cracked,

CRASHES

Glyndon Park — 300 Glyndon Street, NE June 14, 5 p.m. Vehicle-2 was traveling northbound on Glyndon Street near Glyndon Park. Driver-1 (a 16-year-old juvenile riding a bicycle) exited the park, did not stop before entering the roadway and struck the right front quarter panel, hood, and windshield of Vehicle-2. The bicyclist was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash. Rescue responded and transported the bicyclist to an area

hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

100 Block Lawyers Road, NW — June 18, 12:43 p.m. Vehicle-2 was traveling northbound on Lawyers Road, NW near the entrance to Money and King Funeral Home. Driver-1 was exiting the parking lot of the shopping center in the 100 block of Lawyers Road to turn left and go northbound on Lawyers. As Vehicle-1 entered the northbound lanes of Lawyers, he struck Vehicle-2 pushing the vehicle into the fence of Money and King. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Yield Right of Way.

SEE POLICE, PAGE 12

OPINION

Safe Virginia Initiative Looks ‘Beyond Thoughts and Prayers’

The ADAMS Center event focuses on communities of faith’s response to violence.

On July 5, the Safe Virginia Initiative (SVI) hosted its first Northern Virginia event, “Beyond Thoughts and Prayers,” at the All Dulles Area Muslim Society Center in Sterling.

In keeping with the title, the event focused on communities of faith’s response to gun violence, as well as violence in general. Representatives from Muslim, Jewish, Sikh, Catholic and Quaker communities addressed the assembled crowd, while a number of members of the House of Delegates listened to the varied concerns of those assembled. Attendees came from all sides of the firearms debate, from members of Moms Demand Action to members of the Virginia Citizen Defense League.

The program began with a number of faith leaders discussing how their faith dictates how to respond to violence and gun violence in



From right: Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (speaking) and Delegates Kathleen Murphy, Rip Sullivan, Wendy Gooditis, Danica Roem, Mark Levine, Jennifer Boysko, Kathy Tran, David Reid, Vivian Watts, Ken Plum and Karrie Delaney.

particular. Next, various questions were posed to the audience about how they would like to see officials respond to gun violence, what laws were sufficient and what should be changed.

Members of the crowd discussed “gun free zones,” firearm carry in places of worship, and whether or not faith leaders should speak about methods to prevent gun violence from the pulpit. The event ended with an “open mic” for audience members to speak about what the General Assembly can do to reduce gun violence moving forward.

Just a few weeks following the Parkland tragedy in Florida, the

Speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates announced the formation of a bipartisan Select Committee on School Safety. While the committee’s formation was considered historic, it was announced that the select committee would not address gun violence nor discuss potential legislative solutions with regard to guns. Following this announcement, the House Democratic Caucus formed the Safe Virginia Initiative (SVI). The SVI is organizing events between May and October of this year related to gun safety. These events will continue to occur throughout Virginia and will include public input. Prior events have included a

town hall focusing on inner city violence in Richmond and a panel on the nexus of mental health and gun violence in Lexington.

The Safe Virginia Initiative is co-chaired by Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D-41) and Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) and includes the following regional co-chairs: Del. John Bell (Northern Virginia), Del. Chris Hurst (Southwest), Del. Delores McQuinn (Metro Richmond) and Del. Marcia Price (Hampton Roads). The group will work with experts from the Office of the Governor, the Office of the Attorney General, local leaders from both parties and law enforcement to draft policy proposals for the next legislative session.

“I appreciated the opportunity to hear from a diverse group of people on how to best curb and combat gun violence,” said Filler-Corn. “This is the whole point of the Safe Virginia Initiative, we want to hear from everyone, because only by finding common ground can we move forward in a substantive manner on these issues. I look forward to continuing this conversation across the Commonwealth over the next few months,” she added.

Those interested in following the activities of this working group can like the “Safe Virginia Initiative” page on Facebook or follow @svi_va on Twitter.

Teenagers Organize ‘Rally to Reunite’

To the Editor:

In light of the humanitarian crisis on the border, high school students were not able to sit back and watch people struggle and suffer. Virginia teenagers, Tarina Ahuja, Perrin McHugh, and Bee Hyland, organized a rally titled “Rally to Reunite” that took place in front of the ICE building in Fairfax.

The event was full of inspirational speakers and performers, loud chants, colorful signs, and a pervading message that the people are watching and refuse to stay silent. The speakers included Rajwant Singh, president of EcoSikh; Mansimran Kahlon, the vice chair of the 10th District Democratic Committee in Prince Williams County; and a musical performance by Gurl Music.

The enthusiasm was contagious. Cars, pedestrians, and cyclists would stop to cheer and show their support for the cause creat-

ing a larger sense of unity and solidarity with the separated families. Throughout the day, speakers and organizers emphasized the need for both adults and young people to vote.

According to these young people, civic engagement, no matter your age, is the key to creating a government that we can be proud of. The students emphasized that having young people involved is what will bring our country forward. They emphasized that youths have new ideas, new perspectives and also will be the ones with solutions in the future. Many people have told these students that young people do not belong in politics, but they hold strong in their belief that the voice of their generation is valuable and something that is necessary considering our current political climate.

Tarina Ahuja
Ashburn



Rally organizers, from left: Bee Hyland, 17, Leesburg; Tarina Ahuja, 16, Ashburn; and Perrin McHugh, 17, McLean.

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

Andrea Worker
Contributing Writer
aworker@connectionnewspapers.com

Jean Card
Production Editor
jcard@connectionnewspapers.com

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

Don Park
Display Advertising
703-778-9431
donpark@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

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

CIRCULATION
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com



NEWS

Gallows Road Bridge Renewal Complete

Gallows Road drivers now have a much improved ride over Route 50, as the Virginia Department of Transportation has finished more than \$4 million worth of bridge and other work in the area.

The project, completed ahead of schedule and under budget, included:

- ❖ Resurfacing the bridge deck and paving Gallows Road approaching the bridge for a smooth transition
- ❖ Repairs to concrete and steel beams to maintain safety and extend the overall life of the bridge
- ❖ Reconstructing the bridge's sidewalks to improve pedestrian safety
- ❖ Upgrading interchange traffic signals to mast arm poles for improved visibility

The bridge was originally built in 1985, with extensive pier repairs made in 2016. Gallows Road averages between 35,000 and 38,000 vehicles a day through this area, while Route 50 averages 42,000 vehicles a day at the interchange.



Gallows Road bridge before ...



... and after.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF VDOT



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

From left — Detective Gregory Hylinski and Lieutenant Art Sylmar.

Detective Gregory Hylinski Graduates From Forensic Science Academy

The Vienna Police Department has announced that Detective Gregory Hylinski graduated from the Virginia Forensic Science Academy on June 29, 2018. The Virginia Forensic Science Academy's objective is to provide high-level training to qualified crime scene search officers. Law enforcement personnel learn to properly recognize, document, collect, and preserve – for laboratory examination – items of physical evidence found at crime scenes. The Virginia Forensic Science Academy

graduates become familiar with the capabilities and limitations of the modern forensic laboratory in examining the spectrum of materials which can be collected as evidence in criminal cases. The nine-week course of study also provides officers with the necessary background information and practical application techniques which, coupled with the student's previous experience, permits maximum utilization of the forensic sciences to their departments and the Criminal Justice System of the Commonwealth.

Tuesdays are Ruff.
Enjoy happy hour with your pup on our patio!

caboose
BREWING CO.

Every Tuesday
4:00 - 9:00 PM
JULY • AUGUST • SEPTEMBER

520 MILL ST NE VIENNA, VA 22180

THIS CAN BE
Your New View

Actual Tall Oaks Photo

Affordable Junior Studio Assisted Living Apartments

- All utilities (except phone)
- Complimentary DirecTV
- Private bathroom equipped with safety bars and handheld shower
- Very limited supply!

Monthly Rent Starting at \$3,995
Pricing includes Level I Care.

approx. 283 square feet

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

Tall Oaks
ASSISTED LIVING
RISING TO NEW HEIGHTS

A Family Company

Coordinated Services Management, Inc. Professional Management of Retirement Communities Since 1981



Insight in Action: An Overview & Tour
 Third Thursdays from 9:00 to 10:30 am
 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax, VA 22030
Bring your loved one for a trial day!

703-204-4664 InsightMCC.org  

Past issues of
THE CONNECTION
 NEWSPAPERS
 back to 2008
 are available at
<http://connectionarchives.com/PDF>

Inside or out...



...Tech Painting's got you covered!



Serving: VA DC MD OBX
703-684-7702
www.techpainting.com 

Home LifeStyle



Low flower arrangements, like these from Patina Polished Living, add elegance to a tablescape.



Top desserts with summer floral designs or fresh flowers.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PATINA POLISHED LIVING

Designing a Midsummer Table

Using flowers and color to create a summer wonderland.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Along with sunshine and longer days, summer offers an array of design opportunities. From backyard barbecues to brunch in the garden, the right decor can add a touch of flair to a midsummer gathering.

Designing a table with the vibrant colors of summer fruit creates an air of liveliness, says interior Bridget Francis of Colors by Bridget. "Watermelon, blueberries and strawberries are plentiful now, so if you're serving them you can use those colors as a base for your tablescape," she said. "Think zinnias and red roses with white serveware."

Limiting a tablescape to two or three colors lends simplicity to a design, advises Francis. "For example, I use light blue and white dishes with white table linens," she said. "I add floral arrangements with white and pale pink roses and blue hydrangeas, some white votives, and voila, a crisp, clean summer table."

When creating those dinner party arrangements, make sure the height of the flowers is low so that guests can see and talk to each other, advises Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living. "Flower arrangements are supposed to be a lovely addition to the table, not an irritant because they're blocking your view," she said. "I just love a beautiful arrangement that you can look down and see, and that everyone at the table can enjoy. Right now hydrangeas and roses are big. When we make arrangements we're adding rosemary and lavender for a touch of green."

"Etched glass hurricanes are a beautiful addition to a table setting," said Todd Martz, owner of Home on Cameron. "They create a lovely ambiance for an outdoor setting and let you stay outside longer to enjoy the stars and fireflies."

Be it a frosty margarita or a glass of tart lemonade, infusing summer drinks with summer foliage adds warm weather appeal to a gathering. "Think of a few rose petals floating in a pitcher of sangria or sprigs of lavender in a pitcher of lemonade," said Francis. "It not only looks and smells great, but the flowers can infuse the drink with a subtle hint of flavor."

In fact, Francis says that summer blooms can be

incorporated into meal prep. "I think that a cake with simple white icing, decorated with pink roses and blue hydrangeas is the epitome of summer elegance," she said. "I also use a pastry squeeze pen to make flower designs for cupcakes. You can use the pen to squeeze whipped cream to make flower toppings for ice cream. It's especially pretty when they are the same flowers that are in your centerpiece."

"For additional table accents, add a decorative shell or accessory to hold down napkins," said Martz. "Try placing a tray in the center of the table to keep all the dining essentials in one place, making it easier to bring them out and take them in."



A few scented candles, grouped in the center of the table, creates a festive look, says Todd Martz of Home on Cameron.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



Limiting a table design to one or two colors of summer can create an elegant tablescape.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Unity of Fairfax Earns Sacred Grounds Certification

The National Wildlife Federation recently named Unity of Fairfax as one of the first recipients nationwide of the Sacred Grounds Certification which recognizes congregations that actively care for wildlife and the environment. A delegation of NWF members from around the country toured Unity of Fairfax's five-acre campus in Oakton to learn about the church's extensive environmental projects including a green roof, ecological stormwater management, meditation garden with native plants, and bluebird sanctuary project.

"This is a new program of the National Wildlife Federation, and we are very pleased today to be here to give Unity of Fairfax church one of the very first designations of the Sacred Grounds program in the whole nation," said Naomi Edelson, NWF's Senior Director of Wildlife Partnerships.

Sacred Grounds is a new National Wildlife Federation Garden for Wildlife program that recognizes congregations, houses of worship, and faith communities, which both create wildlife habitat and actively link faith practices and caring for the environment. This connection occurs in three primary ways:

- ❖ A commitment from leadership to integrate habitat stewardship into religious activities.
- ❖ Educating and engaging the congregation.
- ❖ Connecting these practices to the greater community.

"This is a part of our practice of our faith, which comes from knowing the oneness of all life," said Rev. Russell Heiland, Senior Minister of Unity of Fairfax. "It is our intention and our calling to take care of one another."

Unity of Fairfax has been focused on environmental activity and awareness since the EarthCare Ministry team was formed in 2009.

In addition to caring for the church's five acres, which are planted with a wide variety of native plants, the EarthCare team has spearheaded such projects as creation of a detention pond and riparian buffer, the implementation and maintenance of a vegetative green roof on one of the buildings, educational partnerships with the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions, extensive programs for Earth Day, and much more.

Unity of Fairfax has been designated by Fairfax County as a demonstration site to provide education to the community on best practices in stormwater management, and works with Northern Virginia Community College to educate Earth Science classes on environmental issues. In addition, Unity of Fairfax is a wildlife habitat certified by the National Wildlife Federation since 2005.

Unity of Fairfax is a positive, inclusive spiritual community focused on transformation of consciousness and awakening the spiritual light in everyone. As a spiritual center for education, practice and service, Unity offers a wide array of classes, study groups, programs, and service projects which put spiritual principles into action.

Regular services are held on Sundays at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Unity of Fairfax is a member of Unity Worldwide Ministries and is affiliated with Unity World Headquarters, which publishes the well-known magazine, Daily Word. Visit www.unityoffairfax.org for information and to watch live-streamed services on Sunday.



PHOTO COURTESY OF OLGC

Fr. Doug May and Emma Lavallee

Our Lady of Good Counsel Student Wins Third Place in Essay Contest

Emma Lavallee, Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) Catholic School eighth grade student, won third place and \$150 in the 29th annual Maryknoll student essay contest. The national essay theme was "Recognizing Violence and Promoting Peace." Lavallee was presented with the award by Maryknoll Father Doug May on June 6, 2018 at

the school's awards Mass.

Lavallee addresses the role racism has played in causing violence throughout American history and laments that racist attitudes still exist. "The God I believe in cares for all people equally," she says. She offers these words of wisdom: "To end racism, we must confront it in ourselves, in our communities and in our nation."

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

Select your products from our Mobile Showroom and Design Center
 Fully Insured & Class A Licensed Since 1999
 LEAD-SAFE SEPA CERTIFIED FIRM

Free Estimates
703-214-8384 Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

THE CONNECTION
 Newspapers & Online
Special Edition
PET Connection

Publishes: July 25, 2018 • Ads close: July 19, 2018

Connection readers love their pets. This keepsake edition will feature photos, anecdotes, advice and more about beloved family pets.

The Pet Connection will publish on July 25, 2018, and photos and stories of your pets with you and your family should be submitted by July 19.

This edition provides a great advertising opportunity to reach pet owners where they live in a section sure to attract and hold their attention - be sure to take advantage of our different advertising options.

Find more information about submissions online at www.connectionnewspapers.com/pets.

For advertising information, call 703.778.9431 or Email SALES@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM for more specials, digital advertising options and pricing.

LOCAL MEDIA CONNECTION
 Newspapers & Online
 703-778-9431
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Reaching Suburban Washington's Leading Households

- Alexandria Gazette Packet
- Arlington Connection
- Burke Connection
- Gaithersburg Connection
- Quantico Connection
- Fairfax Connection
- Fairfax Station/Old Dominion Connection
- Great Falls Connection
- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Hemdon Connection
- Potomac/Arlington
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

You Can Make a Difference

Cats benefit from being in a foster home. We need long- and short-term fosters for cats of all ages, mothers with litters and kittens on their own.

Consider Fostering visit our website, click on Participate
 Adopt/Donate/Volunteer at www.lostdogrescue.org

LOST DOG RESCUE FOUNDATION



ENTERTAINMENT

PHOTOS BY MARTI MOORE/THE CONNECTION



The show must go on rain or shine and “That Married Couple” Johnny and Stacey Stone, left and center, broadcast their afternoon radio segment live on location June 22 from 3-7 p.m. in a makeshift WGTS 91.9 studio at Tysons Corner Center from a glass nook in between the plaza entrance and the Starbucks coffeehouse. McLean resident, right, Tom Miner, is their rush-hour Beltway traffic announcer and self-proclaimed “third wheel.”

“I really prefer to sing this song at night time,” Grammy Award-winning artist Mandisa confesses to her audience Friday evening on the plaza at Tysons Corner Center before singing her uplifting 2011 hit single “Good Morning.” The original recorded version of this song features guest Christian rapper and Fairfax native TobyMac. Hundreds of DMV residents enjoyed this rare opportunity for both free ice cream and a concert by shining star Mandisa June 22 in the light of a summer solstice weekend.

Rain or Shine, the Show Must Go On

Fans overcome foul weather to hear Mandisa sing at Tysons.

BY MARTI MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Stormy weather could not dampen the spirits of hundreds of Mandisa fans gathered at Tysons Corner Center Friday evening to watch a music star sing in the rain.

The three-time Grammy Award nominee and 2014 winner did not disappoint as fans danced beneath umbrellas while watching her perform through their smartphones.

The program started with Mandisa’s 2011 song “Stronger” and ended with her title hit from the 2013 recording “Overcomer,” which earned the 2014 Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Christian Music Album.

Mandisa made her music breakthrough in 2006 as a contestant on the television talent competition “American Idol,” accord-



Hundreds of Mandisa fans gathered at Tysons Corner Center Friday evening to watch a music star sing in the rain. The three-time Grammy Award nominee and 2014 winner did not disappoint as concert goers danced beneath umbrellas while watching her perform through their smartphones.

ing to her online bios.

Before the concert started, WGTS radio listeners helped fill nearly five cargo vans with in-kind donations of diapers, baby wipes and Metro cards for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and family



Christy Cole, left, accepts a package of baby wipes from Lorton resident Oneyda Parada, 37, minutes before a free outdoor concert by Mandisa in Tysons Corner on a cool Friday evening June 22. Parada has been a faithful fan of Washington radio station WGTS 91.9 for nearly 20 years and raised her son and two daughters on its “always encouraging”

homelessness through Arlington charity Doorways For Women and Families — according to the non-profit organization’s fundraiser Christy Cole. Learn more about their program at doorwaysva.com.

The event kicked off the summer concert

series for the WGTS “91 Days of Summer” promotion and is fourth in the mall’s outdoor performance schedule. Also, it was part of the radio station’s free ice cream tour at a new stop every week throughout the District, Maryland and Virginia.



Christy Cole, left, accepts a package of baby wipes from Lorton teen Emily Parada minutes before a free outdoor concert by Mandisa in Tysons Corner on a cool Friday evening June 22. Parada grew up listening to Washington radio station WGTS 91.9. She looked forward to hearing the Christian music star sing “Bleed the Same” from the 2017 album “Out of the Dark,” because Parada feels it’s a song that should bring everybody together.



Concert volunteers Elyse Inukai, 34, of Gaithersburg, Md., and Rigo Benitez, 45, of Annandale cannot stand still to an upbeat song performed live by contemporary Christian recording artist Mandisa, June 22 on the plaza at Tysons Corner Center — where they danced freestyle without breaking a sweat in a cool breeze and mild outdoor temperature of 66 degrees Fahrenheit.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: "Exploring Colors & Textures." Through July 31, gallery hours at IACC, Pars Place, 2236-C Gallows Road, Vienna. A solo painting exhibition by Ramin Abraham. Email info@iacommunitycenter.org or call 703-314-7240 gallery hours.

Art Exhibit: Country Places.

Through Aug. 4, gallery hours at Village Green Shopping Center, 513 Maple Ave. NW, Vienna. Artist Libby Eckert's exhibit Country Places is on display. Free and open to the public. Call 703-319-3971 or visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 11

Summer Stories, Songs, and Sprinklers. 1 p.m. on the lawn of the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Young children and families are invited to listen to a story, tune into some favorite songs, then have a little casual fun with water sprinklers at 1 p.m. Wednesdays, through Aug. 8. Free and appropriate for all ages. Visit www.viennava.gov.

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY/JULY 11-12

Studio Ghibli: Kiki's Delivery Service. Wednesday, 7 p.m. (Japanese with English subtitles); Thursday, 11 a.m. (English dubbed) at Angelika Film Center – Mosaic, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. The Angelika Mosaic will feature animated films from the celebrated Studio Ghibli praised for their originality, stunning animation, and ambitious storytelling. All tickets are regular admission. Visit www.AngelikaFilmCenter.com.

SATURDAY/JULY 12

Used Book Collection. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave., E, Vienna. Used books, CDs, DVDs, software, children's books, records, and recent books will be accepted. No encyclopedias, VHS or audiotapes. The Book Sale will be held on Aug. 31-Sept. 2 at the Spring Hill Recreation Center. The sale proceeds benefit scholarships for women. Questions: aauwbookfair@gmail.com or 703-527-4206.

Nottoway Nights. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Featuring The Hot Lanes Big Band (Big Band/Jazz). Bring blankets and chairs and enjoy music from around the world every Thursday evening at Nottoway Park. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/nottoway-nights.

JULY 12-22

Logan Festival of Solo Performance. At 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons. The festival will gather solo performers from across the country for two-weeks of performances, workshops, discussions, and events. The main stage festival schedule features: "The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey" written by James Lecesne; "Where Did We Sit On The Bus?" written and performed by Brian Quijada; and "Brahman/i" written by Aditi Brennan Kapil. General admission \$20; students \$10; festival passes, \$50. Purchase at 703-854-1856 or www.1ststagetysons.org.

FRIDAY/JULY 13

Three Classical Comedies. 4:30 p.m. at The Madeira School – Chapel

Auditorium, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. After weeks of learning classical theatre, practicing movement and vocalizing, and roasting s'mores over the fire, Traveling Players' youth ensembles will present a festival of three classical plays. \$10 tickets available at the door. For directions to Madeira, visit www.madeira.org/about-madeira/contact-us/. Visit www.travelingplayers.org or call 703-987-1712.

River Fishing by Boat. 5:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Get an introduction to fishing and boating in the "River Fishing by Boat" program. Participants age 5-adult will fish for smallmouth bass and sunfish from a canoe or jon boat. The two-hour lesson starts with an introduction to boating and fishing basics. Previous experience rowing or paddling is not required. Boats, personal flotation devices (PFDs), fishing rods and bait are provided. \$16 per person, and each participant must register. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

Tysons Concert Series: Matt Nathanson. 6:30-8 p.m. on the Plaza at Tysons Corner Center. Tysons Corner Center's 5th annual free Summer Concert Series offers a variety of musical guests and has proven to be a popular event for families, couples and teenagers. The Plaza is located off of The Tysons Corner Metro Station of the Silver Line. Guests are encouraged to arrive early. Visit www.tysonscornercenter.com/events/SummerConcertSeries2018.



Summer on the Green: Mary Lou & the Drugstore Lovers. 6:30 p.m. area residents can catch a new and diverse musical act at the Town Green or at Chillin' on Church. Bring blankets and chairs, but please leave Fido and any other pets at home. The concerts are free and open to the public. Visit www.viennava.gov.

SATURDAY/JULY 14

Teddy Bear Picnic. 10:30-noon at Freeman Store and Museum, 131 Church St., NE, Vienna. Bring a blanket and your favorite bear or other stuffed creature (dolls are welcome, too) and picnic on the Freeman Store grounds or inside the

Freeman Store if it rains with a lunch just for Bear Lovers. Partake in Bear-Friendly activities. Aged 9 and under. \$5 per child; no charge for Bears. Parents are asked to stay to accompany their child. Call 703-938-5187 or email stuntzag@aol.com. Reservations and prepayment required by Wednesday, July 11.

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.

Open House

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. Saturday, July 14, 1-5 p.m. at the Vienna Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE. Call 703-938-5157 or visit www.nvmr.org.

The picture is one of the HO gauge steam engines stopping at the Salisbury station. This is an award winning model of the real station in Salisbury, NC.

MLB Commemorative Artwork. 6-9 p.m. at Wentworth Gallery in Tysons Galleria. Meet 3-D Pop Artist Charles Fazzino as he premieres his 2018 All-Star Game Commemorative Artwork Collection, which will consist of original artworks, limited-edition prints on paper and aluminum, and other fine art collectibles, including hand-painted limited-edition baseballs and home plates. RSVP at 703-883-0111 or tysons@wentworthgallery.com.

SUNDAY/JULY 15

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 \$10, children 12 and under \$4. Call 703-938-6580.

Alden Summer Concerts: Oh He Dead. 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free parking at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. The Alden's 2018 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park expand this year to include a "welcome, summer" concert on Sunday, June 3, and then seven concerts from July 1 through Aug. 12. Visit www.aldentheatre.org.

Concerts on the Green: The Unfinished. 6-8 p.m. on the Great Falls Village Centre Green. Sundays throughout the summer, bring a picnic and chairs for an evening of free, live music. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

TUESDAY/JULY 17

Harmony Heritage Singers. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The Great Falls Senior Center (GFSC) event features the Harmony Heritage Singers, a men's chorus founded in 1996 by members of the Alexandria Harmonizers singing familiar songs sung from memory and without accompaniment in the rich harmonies that are the barbershop tradition. Lunch included for those who make reservations with Polly Fitzgerald at pollyfitz1@verizon.net or call 703-759-4345. A contribution will be appreciated. Visit gfseniors.org.

Art Exhibit: New Members. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Vienna Arts Society members will be able to exhibit and sell works in two new places – in the society's new space at 243 Church St. and the new Vienna Community Center. Membership application forms are available at the Art Center and at www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Explore the Cosmos by Telescope. 8-9 p.m. at Turner Farm, 925

DINING

Fiery and So Delicious

Restaurant Review: Asian Origin in Tysons

BY ALEXANDRA GREELEY
THE CONNECTION

The Tysons' Corner area is replete with go-to restaurants visible to passersby. But tucked away on Pinnacle Drive, a few blocks from the Tysons II center is Asian Origin. Located on a corner spot with nearby trees, this Asian destination is becoming a popular draw for foodies seeking well-prepared Szechuan, Japanese, and a collection of Mainland China dishes.

Despite its selection of Japanese fare, which are basically sushi and sashimi offerings, Asian Origin really specializes in authentic Chinese dishes.

An extensive menu needs close scrutiny. If you stop by at lunchtime, staff will hand you a short lunch special menu. That's fine, but unless you read through the major listings of every imaginable appetizer, soup, rice-noodle dishes, plus seafood, pork, chicken, and beef offerings, you will miss out on some amazing fare.

For starters, consider the green onion (scallop) pancake, a flat breadlike dish cut into wedges and served with a savory, not sweet, dipping sauce. Apparently originating in Northern Mainland China, these crunchy appetizers have multiple variations, some puffy, others flat, but

note that even street vendors in China offer these for sale.

Also kick off your meal, lunch or dinner, with wontons, noodle dishes, and a choice of soups, including the beloved Hot and Sour soup, egg drop soup, and a Hot and Sour seafood soup. You could likely fill out your meal with any number of these first-course offerings and feel sated.

As for main course choices, you better hope you come with friends or have an enormous appetite. Staff have marked the dishes that are spicy with a chili, but you can ask the waiter to make it milder rather than hot. That said, consider spooning into General Tso's chicken, Peking duck (half duck more reasonably priced), Kung Pao shrimp, Chengdu salt and pepper shrimp, and the totally classic Chinese dish, Ma Po tofu. Note that this tofu offering apparently originated in a Szechuan restaurant in Szechuan Province, mirroring the beloved spiciness of many Szechua dishes. This may be fiery, but it is so delicious.

If you want a few Japanese samples, pick up some of their rolls.

The Chef's Specials include a Spider Roll, a Chesapeake Hand Roll, and a Dragon Roll. These probably capture the essence of a sushi/sashimi treat.

As more people learn about this relatively new place, you may consider making a reservation. It is probably crowded at dinner time, if lunch is any indication.

Asian Origin, 1753 Pinnacle Drive, McLean, 703-448-5588. Hours: Sunday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Announcements

We pay top \$ for STERLING,
 MEN'S WATCHES,
 JEWELRY, COSTUME JEWELRY,
 FURNITURE, PAINTINGS AND CLOCKS.
Schefer Antiques
 703-241-0790
 theschefer@cox.net

Find us on Facebook
and become a fan!
[www.Facebook.com/
 connectionnewspapers](http://www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers)

 www.connectionnewspapers.com

Announcements

**PERMANENT MAKEUP
 FOR BROWS, EYES & LIPS**
 Wake up beautiful every day
 with your makeup ON!
 Great for professional women,
 busy moms and senior ladies.
 Custom implantation. Save time,
 correct symmetry. Licensed
 Permanent Makeup Artist
 & resident can make it happen!
 Great rates & Excellent work!
Text or call Christina
at 703-585-6072

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

Announcements

OUTER BANKS, NC - VACATION RENTALS

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



Brindley Beach
 VACATIONS & SALES

877-642-3224
www.brindleybeach.com

Announcements

Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL
SUBSCRIPTION
to any or all of our 15 papers
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM/SUBSCRIBE




ENTERTAINMENT

OLGC Sponsors Chillin' on Church Event

Our Lady of Good Counsel (OLGC) Catholic School sponsored the Town of Vienna's Parks and Recreation's first Chillin' on Church event of the season on Friday, June 15. Chillin' on Church is a town block party in the heart of Vienna where friends and neighbors come to listen and dance to a live band performance, grab dinner from one of several food trucks, and sip on a favorite beverage. OLGC School sponsored the band The Rockits and greeted attendees at a tent near the Freeman House. At the tent Adrienne Jewett, school principal, teachers and church staff handed out bubbles, reusable water bottles, seat cushions, temporary tattoos and foam fingers to showcase their Wildcat pride around the event. Current families, as well as prospective families, stopped by the tent to talk and learn more about the K-8 grade school, which is starting a Preschool this 2018-19 school year. OLGC School has a long standing reputation for academic excellence and a caring environment which facilitates learning and spiritual, social, emotional and physical growth and just celebrated its 60th Anniversary.



2018 Chillin on Church tent: Fifth grade teacher Wendy Kehoe and students.



2018 Chillin on Church band - The Rockits.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

Springvale Road, Great Falls. In "Intro to Telescopes," learn some astronomy basics and how to set up and use a telescope. The course content will depend on the types of telescopes participants bring. Program is designed for participants age 9-adult. \$8 per person. Call 703-324-8618 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/turner-farm.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 18

Summer Stories, Songs, and Sprinklers. 1 p.m. on the lawn of the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Young children and families are invited to listen to a story, tune into some favorite songs, then have a little casual fun with water sprinklers at 1 p.m. Wednesdays, through Aug. 8. Free and appropriate for all ages. Visit www.viennava.gov.

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY/JULY 18-19

Studio Ghibli: Tales from Earthsea. Wednesday, 7 p.m. (Japanese with English subtitles); Thursday, 11 a.m. (English dubbed) at Angelika Film Center - Mosaic, 2911 District Ave., Fairfax. The Angelika Mosaic will feature animated films from the celebrated Studio Ghibli praised for their originality, stunning animation, and ambitious storytelling. All tickets are regular admission. Visit www.angelikafilmcenter.com.

THURSDAY/JULY 19

Nottoway Nights. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Featuring Wayne

Henderson and Helen White (traditional Appalachian music). Bring blankets and chairs and enjoy music from around the world every Thursday evening at Nottoway Park. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/nottoway-nights.

Discover Visitors from Space. 8-9 p.m. at Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Examine meteorites in a program at Observatory Park called "Meteorites: Explore Visitors from Space." Learn about meteorites, and touch and examine meteorite specimens from the moon and Mars in the roll-top observatory classroom. Program is designed for participants age 6-adult. \$8 per person. Call 703-324-8618 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/turner-farm.

FRIDAY/JULY 20

Tysons Concert Series: Open Park Standoff. 6:30-8 p.m. on the Plaza at Tysons Corner Center. Tysons Corner Center's 5th annual free Summer Concert Series offers a variety of musical guests and has proven to be a popular event for families, couples and teenagers. The Plaza is located off of The Tysons Corner Metro Station of the Silver Line. Guests are encouraged to arrive early. Visit tysonscornercenter.com/events/SummerConcertSeries2018.

Chillin' on Church with Mudlark. 6:30 p.m. area residents can catch a new and diverse musical act at the Town Green or at Chillin' on Church. Bring blankets and chairs, but please leave Fido and any other pets at home. The concerts are free and open to the public. Visit viennava.gov.

SUNDAY/JULY 22

Benefit Concert with Sweet Yonder. 1:30 p.m. at Jamin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. A benefit performance for SCOV's 20th Anniversary. \$20. Tickets at www.ticketfly.com/event/1691320-shepherd-s-center-oakton-vienna/ or at the door. Visit www.scov.org.

Vegetable Plant Clinics. 4-6 p.m. At Nottoway Park, 9601 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Focus will be on planning a fall vegetable garden. Fairfax County Master Gardeners will add a focus on vegetable gardening to their Plant Clinic program. Sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension. Contact the VCE Fairfax County Master Gardener Help Desk at 703-324-8556.

Alden Summer Concerts: Hip-Hop Meets the Music of India (Family Friendly). 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free parking at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave. The Alden's 2018 Summer Sunday Concerts in the Park expand this year to include a "welcome, summer" concert on Sunday, June 3, and then seven concerts from July 1 through Aug. 12. Visit www.aldentheatre.org.

Summer on the Green: Vienna Community Band. 6:30 p.m. area residents can catch a new and diverse musical act at the Town Green or at Chillin' on Church. Bring blankets and chairs, but please leave pets at home. The concerts are free and open to the public. Visit viennava.gov.

Concerts on the Green: Tom Principato. 6-8 p.m. on the Great Falls Village Centre Green. Sundays throughout the summer, bring a picnic and chairs for an evening of free, live music. Visit www.celebrategreatfalls.org. Church St. Vienna Arts Society members will be able to exhibit and sell works

BULLETIN

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

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board's Merrifield Center offers a new stand-up information kiosk. Part of a pilot project, the new feature aims to improve the customer service experience and decrease wait times for individuals who are seeking mental (behavioral) health services. To check in, individuals respond to five simple questions, then the CSB's Patient Track software alerts staff. Based on clinicians' schedules and availability, as well as the needs of the client, individuals are triaged and seen by the next available staff member. For more information on available services, call the CSB at 703-383-8500 (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.). In an emergency 24/7, call CSB Emergency Services at 703-573-5679 or the Fairfax Detox Center at 703-502-7000 (TTY 703-322-9080).

WEDNESDAY/JULY 11

Public Information Hearing. 5-8 p.m. at Spring Hill Elementary School Cafeteria, 8201 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority is hosting a public hearing to inform and solicit comments from the community about proposed toll rate increases along the Dulles Toll Road. There will be informational exhibits related to the Dulles Toll Road and planned improvements that may be made, the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Silver Line Extension Project, the revenue projections associated with the proposed toll rate increases and how this additional revenue will be spent. Representatives from the Airports Authority will be present to discuss these items. Visit www.mwaa.com for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 12

Story Time: Perspective Taking. 10-11 a.m. at The Parent Resource Center Library, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 105, Dunn Loring. This Story Time will highlight books and activities to support perspective taking in young children. Perspective taking is an evidence-based executive functioning skill that forms the basis for children's understanding of their parents', teachers', and friends' intentions. Registration is limited and required for children ages 4-6 and their parents. Visit www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center for more.

TUESDAY/JULY 17

Story Time: Making Connections. 10-11 a.m. at The Parent Resource Center Library, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 105, Dunn Loring. This Story Time will highlight books and activities to support this evidence-based executive functioning skill in young children. Registration is limited and required for children ages 4-6 and their parents. Visit www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center for more.

THURSDAY/JULY 19

Story Time: Taking on Challenges. 10-11 a.m. at The Parent Resource Center Library, 2334 Gallows Road, Entrance 1 - Room 105, Dunn Loring. This Story Time will highlight books and activities to support taking on challenges in young children. Life is full of stresses and challenges. Children who are willing to take on challenges do better in school and in life. Registration is limited and required for children ages 4-6 and their parents. Visit www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center for more.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 1

Application Deadline. Think and Act Green. The Town of Vienna's Community Enhancement Commission (CEC) is challenging local businesses and nonprofits to adopt green practices and self-certify as "sustainable" based on points earned. Find a list of suggested green strategies and the Sustainability Challenge checklist at viennava.gov/sustainabilitychallenge. Submit to Town Hall at 127 Center Street S., Vienna to the attention of the Community Enhancement Commission. Contact Desiree Di Mauro at desiree@d2t2.org.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CALL 703-549-0004 FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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 Patios & Drainage Your neighborhood company since 1987 703-772-0500		LANDSCAPING 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	
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		ELECTRICAL 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	
GUTTER GUTTER CLEANING Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned Small Repairs • Gutter Guards PINNACLE SERVICES Lic/Ins 703-802-0483 free est. email: jamie@lawsandgutters.com web: lawsandgutters.com Friendly Service with a Friendly Price!		TILE / MARBLE TILE / MARBLE Quality Tree Service & Landscaping Reasonable prices. Licensed & insured. Spring 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	
IMPROVEMENTS Power Washing Go from green to clean, do you have mold on your siding rotten wood that's a hoavolation? 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		IMPROVEMENTS 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	
PAVING GOLDY BRICK CONSTRUCTION Walkways, Patios, Driveways, Flagstone, Concrete FREE ESTIMATES Licensed, Insured, Bonded 703-250-6231		PAVING MASONRY Alfredo's Construction Company, Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concrete Driveways Patios • Sidewalks Stone • Brick Phone: VA: (703) 698-0060 • MD: (301) 316-1603 www.alfredosconstructioncompany.com	
Find us on Facebook and become a fan! www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online The Connection to Your Community www.connectionnewspapers.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	

A Relative Unknown



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I knew we had family in Argentina. I knew that one of my maternal grandfather's younger brothers, Simon, had immigrated from Eastern Europe to South America in the early 1900s.

I knew, or thought I knew, that someone from his family – removed or not, I never know, had visited my parents and first cousins a time or two in Florida in the '80s and '90s. But until recently, neither my brother Richard nor myself had ever met any of these distant – double entendre-intended – relations. Well, that ended on Wednesday, June 27, in Union Station at 5:55 p.m.

There outside Gate "G" my wife, Dina and I stood holding a sign with my cousin's name on it: Eduardo Blacher (my middle name is Blacker). He had flown into New York City from Buenos Aires earlier that morning and then boarded a south-bound Amtrak train to visit us in Washington, D.C.

My first cousin, Ronnie (formerly of Florida, now of Massachusetts) with whom Eduardo has corresponded and visited over the years, had emailed us a selfie Eduardo had taken so we had a pretty good idea of his general appearance. Along with our handwritten sign, we were pretty confident the familial connection would be made.

And so it happened a bit after 6 p.m. as he walked through the gate into the station looking around for someone he'd never seen. We cautiously saw one another and then immediately hugged and kissed and said: "Great to meet you!"

Eduardo's English was pretty good so we were able to coordinate our exit from the station where, once outside, we met my brother, Richard, who had been sitting in his car waiting for our appearance. As soon as he saw us, he got out of his car and quickly walked over to Eduardo and likewise gave him a hug and kiss: mishpocheh (Yiddish for family).

When my widowed mother died in 2008, Richard and I felt orphaned, so to speak. Our parents, as in most families, were the keepers of the family faith. Having both been born 10 years before "The Great Depression," they knew the family history dating back to before the turn of the century. When they died (in 2006 and 2008, respectively), their knowledge and memories died with them. It was a palpable loss that Richard and I still feel.

We are lucky though; my cousin Ronnie (my mother's niece) has lots of family information and has become our go-to resource for all things Blacher/Blacker. She facilitated this much-anticipated visit (Eduardo is seeing her next).

To try and put Eduardo's visit in some context; in the 10 years since my mother's passing, given the ages of the surviving family members in the United States with whom we're in touch, we've not really gained any family members, let alone connected with an entire line of cousins going back to before World War I.

Eduardo has three children, four grandchildren, a sister in Israel and parents, both of whom are their mid-80s still alive and well. In familial fact, his father is my grandfather's nephew and knows lots more about my grandfather than I ever did, and has knowledge of the Blacher/Blacker family going back over 125 years as well in and out of our respective countries.

Given the pogroms and the Holocaust, for many Jewish people my age, a treasure trove of family history/knowledge like this was thought to be lost forever. Now, I have found some of it. Talk about filling a void. In facts and feelings, it has – and is about to, fill everything.

For three days, until Eduardo's departure Sunday morning, we rarely left one another's side. In addition to touring Washington, D.C., we shared photos, exchanged email addresses, talked nearly non-stop about everything, downloaded WhatsApp which we'll enable us to message each other in the future, and together on Friday night lit the Shabbos candles and together prayed in Hebrew.

I can't really express how I feel other than to say I've been crying while I've been writing this column. And it's the best cry I've had in years.

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



Swim-a-Thon Co-Chairs James Bouharoun, 17, and Maren Kranking, 17, work the check-in table at the event, collecting paperwork and donations to HSC Pediatric Center.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CARLYN BOUHAROUN

Grace Riihimaki, 9, and Alice Ru, 8, chat in between laps.

Shouse Village Swim-a-Thon Brings in \$5,400 for Charity

Neighborhood team swims 4,490 laps to raise money for HSC Pediatric Center.

BY CARLYN KRANKING
THE CONNECTION

For Shouse Village swimmers, Monday nights are synonymous with swim meets, and rarely do they get a break. But on June 25, instead of relaxing on their night off, swimmers and parents gathered at the neighborhood pool to give back to the greater community in the team's annual Swim-a-Thon.

"It's not like a normal charity event where you're just donating money," Swim-a-Thon Co-Chair James Bouharoun, 17, said. "Kids are having fun swimming laps, eating food and they're enjoying their time that they spend there, and all the money's going toward a good cause."

The Swim-a-Thon is an annual fundraiser that brings the team together to raise money for a local charity. Swimmers ask family, friends and neighbors for either a flat donation or a pledge per lap, then they swim as many laps as they can to earn money for the cause. In the past, beneficiaries have included KaBoom!, INOVA Children's Hospital and Down Syndrome Association of Northern Virginia.

This year's beneficiary is HSC Pediatric



Maeve Williams, 11, and Olivia Phillips, 11, complete some of their laps on piggy-back.

Center, a children's hospital in D.C. that serves children from birth to age 21. The money raised by Shouse swimmers will go to an emergency fund to help families with unexpected medical costs that aren't covered by insurance.

"It's really nice to see the kids that are on the team get passionate about something

that's for a good cause," Swim-a-Thon Co-Chair Maren Kranking, 17, said. "The kids talk about how much money they want to raise or how many laps they want to swim, because they're really excited to get that money, so I think that's really cool."

Not all of the money has come in yet, but the co-chairs have calculated that the event

raised at least \$5,400, and that number is going to grow throughout the summer. Nearly \$500 came from a concession stand set up at the event.

"All of the materials that we sold were donated from parents in the community," said Stephanie Abraham, a volunteer parent mentor for the co-chairs. "That's how we were able to maximize the charitable contributions."

With the parent mentors available to help if needed, the co-chairs planned, organized and ran the event. Abraham said she was more "on the sidelines" and helped mainly to communicate between the co-chairs and swim team parents.

In preparation for the event, Bouharoun and Kranking went to local businesses to ask for food donations, coordinated parent volunteers and organized a silent auction, among other things.

The co-chairs and Abraham agree that this year's Swim-a-Thon exceeded all expectations. "Our goal this year was to maximize our charitable contributions, to teach fundraising to the kids on the Shouse Village swim team and also to have fun," Abraham said. "I think that we accomplished all three."

PHOTO BY CARLYN KRANKING/THE CONNECTION

Vienna Police Highlights

FROM PAGE 3

Nutley Street and Windover Avenue, NW — June 27, 4:15 p.m. Vehicle-2 was traveling southbound on Nutley Street. Vehicle-1 was traveling westbound on Windover Avenue. After stopping at the stop sign, Driver-2 proceeded into the intersection and was struck by Vehicle-1. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Yield of Right of Way.

Kingsley Road near Park Street, SE — June 28, 5:51 p.m. Vehicle-2 was traveling east on Kingsley Road, approaching Park Street. Vehicle-1 was exiting the parking lot of 1101 Park Street to turn right onto Kingsley Road. As Driver-1 pulled onto the roadway, she struck Vehicle-2.

300 Block Maple Avenue, East — June 30,

10:06 a.m. Two vehicles were traveling westbound in the right lane on Maple Avenue approaching the intersection of Branch Road. Vehicle-2 stopped as the traffic light turned red. Vehicle-1 was unable to stop in time and ran into the rear of Vehicle-2. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Following Too Close.

Vienna Community Center — 120 Cherry Street, SE June 30, 1:30 p.m. A vehicle was left legally parked in the parking lot. When the driver returned, they found their vehicle had been struck. The other driver left the scene without providing their information.

Center Street near Maple Avenue, NE — June 30, 2:50 p.m. Vehicle-2 was legally parked on the roadway when an unknown driver struck the vehicle and left the scene without providing their

information.

200 Block Glyndon Street, SE — June 30, 9 p.m. Vehicle-2 was legally parked on Glyndon Street, SE. Driver-1 was backing out of a driveway when they struck Vehicle-2 causing minor damage.

200 Block Lawyers Road, NW — Between June 30 at 10 p.m. and July 1 at 5 a.m. An unknown driver struck the plastic guide wire sheath on a telephone pole.

The pole and wire appeared undamaged. However, the sheath was shattered. The driver left the scene without reporting the accident.

Church Street near Center Street NW — July 2 between 9:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. A driver returned to find their legally parked vehicle had been struck by an unknown vehicle.

200 Lawyers Road, NW — July 2, 10:04 a.m.

Vehicle-2 was traveling southbound on Lawyers Road. Vehicle-1 was traveling northbound on Lawyers Road and attempting to turn left into the Post Office parking lot. Driver-1 failed to yield to the approaching traffic and was struck by Vehicle-2 as he made his turn. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Yield Right of Way.

Park Street near Battle Court, SE — July 2, 1:55 p.m. Vehicle-2 was traveling southbound on Park Street. Vehicle-2 slowed to a stop behind another vehicle that was attempting to turn left onto Battle Court. Vehicle-1 was traveling behind Vehicle-2. Driver-1 was unable to stop in time and ran into the rear of Vehicle-2. Driver-1 was issued a summons charging Failure to Pay Full Time and Attention.