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Vienna and Oakton **CONNECTION**

Friendship 20 Years in the Making

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High School plays Belle in 'Beauty and
the Beast' this summer

HomeLifeStyle
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Vienna Optimists Honor EMT/Firefighter Sean Sharifi

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PHOTO BY CARLYN KRANKING/THE CONNECTION
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Sean Sharifi was honored for his service as an outstanding EMT/ Firefighter with the Vienna Volunteer Fire Company.

Vienna Optimists Honor EMT/Firefighter Sean Sharifi

The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna, with President Susan Bauer presiding, has begun a new recognition program for first responders by holding an awards dinner on July 18 at The Vienna Legion Dyer-Gunnell Post 180 in the Town of Vienna. EMT/ Firefighter Sean Sharifi was honored with a plaque in recognition for his service as an outstanding EMT/Firefighter with the Vienna Volunteer Fire Company.

Before introducing Sharifi, Fire Chief John Morrison presented a brief history about the Vienna Volunteer Fire Depart-

ment. It started at the Freeman Store then moved over to Church Street and then to its present location. All the firefighters are volunteers and work much like reservists in the armed forces. Fire Chief Morrison started when he was 16 and has been with the Fire Station for more than 22 years. Sharifi is a native of Vienna and was chosen because of his dedication, work ethic and the large number of hours that he has served to volunteer at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Company. His sister, Lydia Russo, accompanied Sharifi and is also a volunteer at the station.

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—Chief Seattle (1788-1866)
Suquamish/Duwamish chief

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.

INCIDENTS

Fraud – 700 Block Park Street, SE – Between Jan. 1 at 12 a.m. and July 27 at 3:22 p.m. A resident reported that an unknown person had used his personal information to open several accounts.

Fraud – 200 Block Elm Street, SW – May 7, 12 p.m. A resident paid an acquaintance for a custom suit. He has not yet received the suit and

is unable to make contact with the acquaintance.

Suspicious Event – Massage Envy, 126 Branch Road, SE – June 22, 3 p.m. On July 31 a citizen reported an incident she believed was suspicious that occurred at the business on June 22.

Assault – Woodnor Drive, NE – July 10, 6:30 p.m. A resident reported that he had a few issues with his ex-girlfriend coming into his home uninvited. He also stated that during one of the incidents they had an argument that escalated when she assaulted him.

SEE POLICE, PAGE 6

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Musical Director Kathy Splitt and Director Babs Dyer are retiring from Vienna Youth Players this summer. Splitt has been with the program for 20 years, and Dyer started it 26 years ago.



PHOTOS BY CARLYN KRANKING/
THE CONNECTION

A Friendship 20 Years in the Making

Vienna Youth Players directors retire.

BY CARLYN KRANKING
THE CONNECTION

When Kathy Splitt's daughter made it into a Vienna Youth Players show, Splitt was at first content to just be a parent. Then one of the producers, knowing her talent, suggested Splitt be a keyboard accompanist for the productions. Director Babs Dyer said she soon realized Splitt could be more than just the accompanist, and she made her the musical director.

This summer is Splitt's 20th show with Vienna Youth Players, and she said she couldn't be happier with the way she has spent these years.

"Outside of my family, this is the thing in my life that I'm most proud of, and I will always be so grateful to Babs for giving me this opportunity," Splitt said. "She just took a chance on me. It worked out great, and then – bam! – 20 years, 20 shows later, it's been really a life-changing experience."

Out of these 20 years was born a deep friendship between Splitt and Dyer. This year, both directors are retiring after this summer's production of Walt Disney's "Beauty and the Beast."

After 26 years for Dyer and 20 for Splitt, they each decided it was time to relax in the summers. Dyer is excited to be able to spend more time with her grandchildren.

AS THEY DIRECTED side-by-side, Dyer and Splitt became close friends and grew to admire one another.

"I would say [Dyer] definitely has a vision, and I love this about her. And I'm always inspired and surprised by her innovations," Splitt said. "But why I've been able to do this for so many years is that it's almost like she's a parent first, because she really loves the kids, and I love watching her work with them."

Dyer has been able to connect with the young thespians since she started Vienna Youth Players in 1993. Splitt said Dyer will sometimes cast kids who might not have had the best audition, because she "feels they need to be there" in the community, which the directors strive to make a safe haven. Dyer likes to show kids and parents alike that they can do things they didn't know they could.

Fight choreographer McKenna Weipert, who began her time with Vienna Youth Players in 2008, said Dyer "has always been the rock of the group."



Vienna Youth Players Musical Director Kathy Splitt leads a vocal warm-up at rehearsal for 'Beauty and the Beast.'

Just as they support the kids, Dyer and Splitt support each other whether or not they are at work. They will bring coffee for one another at rehearsals, and Splitt said they can call each other if they ever need anything. Above all, Dyer and Splitt have a good time together.

"There's a lot of fun in our friendship. We have a lot of adventures that we've been through together," Dyer said.

Both Dyer and Splitt look back favorably on their time spent at Amphora in Vienna after rehearsals, talking about life sometimes until midnight.

"Sometimes it's just the two of us and sometimes it's a group of us, but we just go there and we laugh about things that are happening and we catch up on the other parts of our lives," Splitt said. "I really value those times."

Now that they are retiring, the directors realize they will have to work harder to keep in touch and maintain their friendship, but they know it is possible.

"I will never lose Kathy as a friend. Kathy and I will always get together; I am absolutely positive of that," Dyer said.

OVER THE YEARS, the directors have put on shows including Fiddler on the Roof, Jesus Christ Superstar and Hair most recently. This year's production of Beauty and the Beast has a large cast of nearly 45 people and is a children's show with a cast of kids, which brings the program back to its roots, Splitt said.

"I feel like this is a really great show to go out on," Splitt said. "It's like our big last hurrah."

The remaining showtimes of "Beauty and the Beast" are 7:30 p.m. Aug.10 and 11 and 1:30 p.m. Aug.12 at the Vienna Community Center. Tickets are \$15 each and may be purchased at viennava.gov/webtrac or at the community center.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Food Pantry Stocked for Community for Helping Others (CHO).

Supporting Britepaths, Community for Helping Others (CHO)

On July 1, multiple Britepaths families received special deliveries from the Our Lady of Good Counsel's community. OLG's parishioners were able to break previous records and collected more than 7,000 pounds of food and personal items and more than \$4,900. OLG's volunteers stocked the Community for Helping Others (CHO) pantry on June 29.

Oblates Fathers Hillyard, Dolan, Fiorelli and Metzger all spread the word about this annual drive. Behind the scenes numerous volunteers donated many hours of their time to distribute flyers, collect donations, sort food, or drive to deliver donated items all over Fairfax County.

CHO's Administrator has shared that more and more families are seeking assistance and OLG's food donations are welcomed and crucial in keeping the pantry open all summer. OLG will distribute all donations and surplus food items to Britepaths (formerly Our Daily Bread), and Community for Helping Others (CHO) this year.



Volunteers Ridsen Wall, Marianne Palen, Jackie Madden and Albertina Ponce help pack cars for delivery to Britepaths.

Vienna Associate Recognized for Regional Sales

Mark Ackermann, president of Weichert, Realtors' Capital Region, announced that sales associate Patricia Stack with the Vienna office has been recognized for exceptional performance in June.

A top producer, Stack led her Weichert sales region in resale listings for the month. The Weichert sales region comprises locations throughout Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Orange, Prince William and Warren counties.

Stack can be reached in



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Patricia Stack

Weichert's Vienna office at 156 East Maple Avenue, or call 703-938-6070 for more information.

OPINION

An Open Letter to Readers and More

Buy an ad in our annual Newcomers and Community Guide, please.

Adapted from a 2016 editorial ...

Has your organization been featured in the Connection News papers, or the Alexandria Gazette Packet or the Mount Vernon Gazette or the Centre View or the Potomac Almanac?

Have any of our papers taken note of your business when you and/or your employees pitch in to help the community? Or when you opened your doors or celebrated a milestone?

Are you an elected official whose messages are enhanced by coverage of issues in the Connection?

Do you work for a part of local government that has asked for help getting the word out about a need or a new initiative or accomplishments?

I have a special favor to ask:

Buy an ad in our 2018 Newcomers and Community Guide. Please.

Show your support for our organization which continues to be here to support the forces of good in our communities.

Our annual Newcomers and Community Guide is a pullout section that will appear in the Aug. 22, 2018 edition of all 15 Connection Newspapers, published by Local Media Connection. Deadline is Aug. 16.

We are striving to create a quality special issue, and we need your help. Whether you invest in a small ad in a single paper (super af-

fordable), or a full page in all 15 of our papers (super value), we appreciate your help this month.

To put on my publisher's hat (and not my editor's hat) for a minute, if you have a marketing budget, and you value coverage of local newspapers (not just ours), why wouldn't you spend a portion of that budget (any portion) supporting that platform? Heed the cautionary tale in the closures of many newspapers in the last couple of years.

But this request is more than a charitable effort.

EDITORIAL

Share Tips about Community

We need help from our readers for our annual Newcomers and Community Guide.

We're hoping to share special places, activities, events, organizations and volunteer opportunities. What should someone new to your neighborhood know about? Events that should not be missed? Organizations that do a great job? Places to volunteer? Tips for navigating your PTA or your school's front office? A great place to see the sunset? We'd love to have your photos to go along with your suggestions.

What are your favorite parks? Favorite historic sites? Lunch place? Spot for coffee? What tips do you have for someone getting to know the community?

We will publish a selection of local tips along with a plethora of information useful to new-

For the same reasons that organizations, businesses and campaigns know they want local newspaper coverage, newspaper advertising is an effective way to reach voters, residents, clients. The Connection reaches more than 150,000 readers, in print and online, including remarkable demographics. Our readers include local and national decision makers in the public and private sector.

The deadline for the Newcomers and Community Guide is Aug. 17. Digital enhancements and support are available. More information at email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431.

comers and long-time residents alike, including our award-winning Insiders Guide to the Parks, and information on how to vote and more.

See last year's community guides by going to www.connectionnewspapers.com/PDFs/ and scrolling down to Newcomers.

Email tips and photos to editors@connectionnewspapers.com or send as a letter to the editor via the website at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/> by Wednesday, Aug. 17.

— MARY KIMM

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Comstock's Bipartisan Accomplishments Worthy of Praise

To the Editor:

While many folks and media outlets across our Commonwealth monitored the returns of the recent primaries while making partisan political predictions, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock was doing something far more important.

She was on the floor of the United States House of Representatives presenting bipartisan legislation to help combat the opioid crisis.

The scourge of opioid addiction is afflicting our country and community at an alarming rate. Everyone acknowledges more must be

done. Comstock is leading the charge. Her legislation passed with bipartisan support as part of a major package of opioid-related legislation advancing through Congress.

This is just one of Comstock's several bipartisan accomplishments. On human trafficking, gang violence, and human rights, Comstock has proven herself capable of working across the aisle. In Washington these days, that is an accomplishment in and of itself – worthy of praise.

Gary Lennon
Great Falls

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

Send to:

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-917-6444.

By e-mail: north@connectionnewspapers.com

Helping Fight Alzheimer's

By TOM COX

From Aug. 6-11 my brother-in-law, Barry Emberlin, and I will attempt a circumnavigation of the Delmarva Peninsula in our sturdy Ranger Tug 31, Happy Ranger, to honor those affected by Alzheimer's disease and in particular my wife Susan. My sisters Abby and Coletta, and our children Jason and Claire will hold down the various forts and support Susan so that Barry and I can make this voyage. Susan has always loved the water and boating so this will be a fitting tribute. In the past few years she has found peace and happiness riding in Happy Ranger and exploring the Chesapeake and the beautiful rivers that feed into it.

We plan to travel north in the Chesapeake Bay, passing through the C&D Canal, down the Delaware Bay, out into the Atlantic Ocean, down the coast past the famous Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia Beaches. We will re-enter the bay 120 miles later at Cape Charles, Va. and travel north again

Vienna resident Tom Cox and his brother-in-law Barry Emberlin will be attempting to sail the around the Delmarva Peninsula in tugboat "Happy Ranger" to raise funds and awareness for the Alzheimer's Association. Tom's wife Susan has Alzheimer's.

until we reach Galesville, Md. Along the way we will stop to refuel and re-provision at places like Cape May, N.J.; Chincoteague Island, Va.; Cape Charles, Va.; and St. Mary's, Md. before heading back to our home port of Galesville, Md. We might also be tempted to stop at some of the other unique and picturesque towns and villages that line our shores. The entire trip will be around 450 miles and take around six days.

(Our Voyage is an offshoot of The Longest Day, a fundraising event to advance the care, support and research efforts of the

SEE VOYAGE, PAGE 7

Vienna & Oakton
CONNECTION

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Preparing for New School Year

Home organizing saves space and time.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The sight of store shelves overflowing with school glue sticks and crayons signals that the beginning of school is just around the corner. While squeezing in one last vacation, the thought of turning an eye to getting one's home in order before the school bell rings might be met with dread.

"It can feel like a daunting task to organize when artwork overflows from school or small trinkets come home from birthday parties, the end of summer is a great time to purge a lot of unnecessary items to make way for new school year ahead," said Allie Mann, designer-senior interiors specialist, Case Design/Remodeling. "And it's always a great time to donate gently used items as well."

"Especially now as families are preparing to get back to school, it's so important to get organized," added Anne M. Walker, Esq., Allied ASID, Owner + Principal Anne Walker Design LLC. "Nothing is more stressful than searching for something when you're already five minutes late, it's pouring down rain, it's picture day at school, and you have a big work meeting in 45 minutes."

Now that organization is often considered a part of interior design, the tools and hacks available are more stylish and innovative than ever, say local designers. "In a kitchen in Old Town, Alexandria I installed four shallow drawers underneath the countertop at the island — one for each family member," said Sarah Glenn, interior designer and project manager, Braswell Design+Build, Alexandria. "I designed the drawers to be just large enough to store school papers and a laptop so that each family member would have a dedicated temporary storage space without creating four individual junk drawers."

A Potomac, Md. family recently enlisted Walker's help in redesigning and reorganizing their home from top to bottom with an eye toward all things chic and stylish. She began in the bedrooms of the family's teenage daughter, creating custom closets.

"After the new closet was installed, I spent the better part of two days helping this teen fill the closet with all of her belongings, putting things where they were visible and readily accessible," she said. "Organization is important primarily because of the time it saves. If you can find what you need to get out the door right away, you can sleep 20 minutes later."



PHOTO COURTESY OF NICELY DONE KITCHENS AND BATHS

This kitchen by Nicely Done Kitchens and Baths features custom cabinets of painted Maplewood and quartz countertops. An abundance of drawer space helps with organization.



PHOTO BY STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG

Hooks for backpacks and jackets, like this one by Allie Mann of Case Design/Remodeling, are a must for an organized mudroom.

A similar closet was created for the family's middle school aged son. "Amazing how even young children can keep their rooms tidy as long as there's a system in place that they can understand and is practical enough for them to use," said Walker. "If you know exactly where all of your clothes are, and exactly where to put them back after laundering them, it will seem like you just won the lottery. You won't believe how many things you have, many of which have been long forgotten, stuffed in the back of some drawer or under the bed."

One of the most important tasks on Walker's agenda was organizing a large basement space with abundant shelving to create a home office. "In an office this size, children could easily use it for homework while the parent was working there, also," she said. "Sometimes it's calming and comforting just to be in the same space, even if you aren't actually helping the child with their work."

A home's mudroom is supposed to serve as a gateway into the main house, creating order and keeping clutter from overflowing into the home's interior, but often that isn't the case as clutter overtakes the space. In a recent mudroom project, Mann incorporated elements into the design that addressed the family's lifestyle. "Cubbies and bench storage for sports and after-school activities for older children are a must," she said. "If space allows, allocating a designated cubbie for each child is best to keep things separated and from getting lost."

"With organization, you are constantly trying to strike a balance between carving out enough space for a specific function without over-organizing to the point that you lose flexibility to change what you store as your life evolves," added Glenn.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE WALKER

Interior designer Anne Walker installed a custom closet by Capitol Closet Design in the bedroom of this Potomac, Md. home to create an organized space in time for school.



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NEWS



**Advice to
motorists:
Turn Around
and Don't
Drown!**

PHOTO COURTESY OF
FIRE & RESCUE
DEPARTMENT

Two Motorists Rescued from Water Water on Browns Mill Road

On Wednesday, Aug. 1 at 9:51 a.m., personnel from Stations 42 (Wolf Trap), 29 (Tysons Corner), 21 (Fair Oaks) and 39 (North Point) responded to a report of two trapped motorists on Browns Mill Road over Difficult Run in the Vienna area of Fairfax County. The driver followed two other vehicles into rapidly moving and rising water after a motorist removed a previously installed protective barrier. The water knocked out the engine and swept the car against an

obstruction that thankfully kept the vehicle from free-floating into the flooded waterway. Both occupants required extrication, were removed from the hazard area and evaluated by EMS. Motorists are again reminded not to enter flooded roadways. This was the second rescue in the same spot in less than a day.

Please remember: Turn Around and Don't Drown! Also remember to not remove temporary barriers or cones. They are there for a reason.

VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

FROM PAGE 2

Vandalism – 900 Block Park Street, SE – July 25, 12 p.m. A resident reported vandalism to his mailbox.

Animal Case – 100 Block James Drive, SW – July 26, 5:01 p.m. Loudoun County Animal Control advised that a resident of the Town of Vienna brought two dogs to a veterinarian in their jurisdiction. The vet was concerned for the dogs' welfare and notified the Loudoun authorities. ACO Barker will follow up with the investigation with the Loudoun County ACO to ensure the safety of the animals.

Arrest – Narcotics Violation – Nutley Street and Mendon Lane, SW – July 26, 11:02 p.m. Ofc. Williams observed a driver commit a traffic offense and conducted a traffic stop. Upon his interaction with the driver, the officer detected the odor of marijuana. The driver was found to be in possession of a measurable amount of marijuana and an open bottle of alcohol. Ofc. Williams issued two summonses to the 26-year-old man from Sheridan Street in Hyattsville, Md. charging Possession of Marijuana and Open Container of Alcohol While Driving. He was released on his signature. Noise Violation – Wolftrap Hotel, 430 Maple Ave., West – July 27, 2:55 a.m. A resident at the hotel reported arguing from the room above theirs. Officers spoke to the people staying in the room but found no noise violation.

Arrest – Stolen Vehicle – 600 Block Frederick Street, SW – July 27 between 4 a.m. and 4:22 a.m. A resident reported hearing a loud noise from outside of his home. When he went to investigate the noise, he noticed his vehicle was missing. The resident advised this was the same vehicle he had previously reported as stolen on June 13, 2018. In both of these cases, he believes it is his nephew, who resides with him, who has taken the vehicle. Two felony warrants were obtained for the resident's nephew. On July 28 at 3:03 p.m. officers served the warrant on the 33-year-old man at his home. He was taken to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Auto Theft in each of the two cases. The resident's vehicle was recovered.

Grand Larceny – 1000 Block Lynn Street, SW – Between July 27 at 1 p.m. and July 30 at 11:46 a.m. A resident reported money missing from their home.

Vandalism – 1000 Block Park Street, SE – July 27, 7 p.m. A resident reported vandalism to her fence.

Domestic Dispute – Wolftrap Hotel, 430 Maple Avenue, West – July 30, 11:16 a.m. Officers responded to a dispute between boyfriend and girlfriend at the hotel. The hotel management requested the couple leave and advised they were not permitted to return to the hotel. Both individuals left separately without further incident.

Trespassing – United Bank, 374 Maple Ave., East – July 31, 9:02 a.m. An employee reported a woman who had previously harassed one of the employees. The woman was now at the bank and making the other employees feel unsafe. The woman was advised by the bank management that she is no longer permitted on their property and that she may be charged with trespass if she returns.

Police Service – 600 Block Roberts Drive, NW – July 31, 9:30 a.m. A resident turned in firearms and ammunition for destruction.

Fraud – CVS, 337 Maple Ave., East – July 31, 7:20 p.m. A customer paid for her prescription then unknowingly dropped her credit card as she left the pharmacy. An unknown man found the card and proceeded to make unauthorized purchases on it at the CVS and other stores. The manager of the CVS was able to describe the man who used the card. This case is being investigated.

Arrest – Abduction – Wolftrap Hotel, 430 Maple Ave., West – Aug. 1, 12:01 a.m. A woman residing at the hotel advised she was visiting with acquaintances in another room. When the woman attempted to leave the room one of the acquaintances blocked the door and refused to allow her to leave. Officers responded to the hotel and MPO Smith arrested the 49-year-old man. He was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Abduction.

Suspicious Event – 300 Block Maple Avenue, East – Aug. 1, 12:13 p.m. The driver of an 18-wheeler reported an incident that occurred on Maple Avenue with another driver. The other vehicle pulled into the Giant Food parking lot. Officers searched the area but were unable to locate the other driver.

Police Service – Navy Federal Credit Union, 820 Follin Lane, SE – Aug. 1, 1:51 p.m. Officers were dispatched to the report of a man who was distraught and there was a concern for his welfare. The man was located and advised officers that he wanted to seek treatment. MPO Finelli transported the man to an area medical facility for assessment and treatment.

Animal Case – Quarantine – The Hope Center, 140 Park St., SE Aug. 1, 4 p.m. An employee advised a dog had been hit by a vehicle and was transported to The Hope Center.

Welfare Check – Wolftrap Motel, 430 Maple Ave., West – Aug. 1, 4:22 p.m. Officers conducted a welfare check on a resident at the hotel. Officers located the man in his room and found him to be heavily intoxicated. Rescue personnel transported the man to an area hospital for evaluation and treatment.

Vehicle Tampering – 600 Block Truman Circle, SW – Between Aug. 1 at 8 p.m. and Aug. 2 at 8 a.m. A resident advised that someone entered his unlocked vehicle and stole US currency.

BULLETIN

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

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is looking to expand its team of volunteers for the upcoming tax season. Tax-Aide, now in its 51st year, offers free in-person preparation and assistance to anyone, especially those 50 and older, who can't afford a tax preparation service. Volunteers make a difference in their communities by assisting many older, lower-income taxpayers, and their families, who might otherwise miss out on the tax credits and deductions they've earned. To learn about volunteer opportunities, visit aarpfoundation.org/taxaide or call 1-888-OUR-AARP (1-888-687-2277).

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).

SUNDAY/AUG. 12

Spiritual Prosperity Workshop. 1:30-4 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Learn how to make changes in life using spiritual laws of abundance in this workshop with nationally-known author and speaker Edwene Gaines. Workshop is offered on a love offering (donation) basis. Call 703-281-1767 or visit www.unityoffairfax.org/four-spiritual-laws-prosperity-workshop-s for more.

THURSDAY/AUG. 16

Caregivers Support Group. 10-11:30 a.m. at UUCF Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax - Program Building, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. For caregivers to adult family members with dementia. First and third Thursdays of every month. Hosted by Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna, scov.org. Contact facilitator Jack Tarr at 703-821-6838 or jtarr5@verizon.net.

Voyage

FROM PAGE 4

Alzheimer's Association.

(Today, more than 35 million people across the world are living with Alzheimer's, including more than 5 million Americans. In the U.S. alone, more than 15 million caregivers generously dedicate themselves to those with Alzheimer's and dementia. It is already the most expensive disease in our country. We must take action now, or these numbers will continue to rise.

Together, we can show those facing Alzheimer's disease that they are not alone. Please make a donation today to help the Alzheimer's Association support all those facing the disease.

For more information on Alheimers and the longest day, see www.alz.org/nca.

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"Slow Progression"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

OKAY. It's not exactly what I wanted to read in the email from my oncologist interpreting the results of my July 25 CT Scan.

Since August 2013 when I was hospitalized for a week with fluid in my lungs, "CT stable" has been the recurring message. Now the message is different.

My question, which will be addressed Monday afternoon: can I live with 'slow progression?' I would imagine that there are more aggressive characterizations of 'progression.' Nevertheless, I have to wait three more days to find out.

What has been suggested so far by my oncologist is simple enough: reduce the interval of my infusions or change medications. Sounds reasonable and not particularly drastic. What's distressing (but not at all drastic) however, is the fear of the unknown.

Not having had a reason to change in five years, I've grown awfully comfortable and confident in the ebb and flow of my life vis-à-vis my cancer treatment/side effects. I've known what to expect and when to expect it.

For a terminal cancer patient still undergoing treatment, this kind of regularity/normalcy is as good as it gets. Accordingly, I've been able to live a relatively manageable life.

And by 'manageable' I mean a life worth living and one not consumed by, if I may retrieve a phrase from last week's column: "cancer centrality." Not that I don't have deficits or spiritual, emotional or psychological problems/complications, I do, but I have so much more than that. I not only have a present, I have a future too.

No small caveat when one considers I was given a "13 month to two year" prognosis on Feb. 27, 2009. Over nine years ago - and counting. As Maurice Chevalier sang to Hermione Gingold in "Gigi" (1958): "I remember it well."

So life has indeed gone on and I'd like to think that despite this most recent email from my oncologist, life will continue to go on. I have to think positive; I'm my father's son, and deceased though he may be, he wouldn't have it any other way.

Besides, as Dr. Mobley said to Augustus McCray in the epic mini series, "Lonesome Dove," (1989) when Gus refused to let him amputate his remaining leg: "I assure the alternative is gloomy."

Well, Gus was rarely gloomy and considering my circumstances, neither have I been gloomy. There's just no future in it.

Right now, it's the present I'm concerned about. Specifically, Monday afternoon when my oncologist and I (we, actually; my wife, Dina will be on the phone as well) will talk.

Having a three participant phone conversation is a little awkward. The questions and answers might not flow as easily as if the three of us were sitting together in an examining room. But since that's what's happening/been scheduled, we'll endeavor to make the best of it.

What probably will help, oddly enough, is the three days Dina and I will have to think about what concerns we have, what questions we'll ask and what answers from the oncologist we anticipate hearing.

Then, with the doctor's encouragement, together we'll be able to make an intelligent decision concerning a prudent course of action/treatment going forward. A discussion we've had many times before.

And given our respective history over the last nine-plus years, there's no reason to think we can't achieve similar success living forward.

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

ENTERTAINMENT

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

ONGOING

Art Exhibit: "Too Much of Too Much." Through Aug. 18, gallery hours in the Bullock | Hitt Gallery at MPA@ChainBridge, 1446 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. McLean Project for the Arts will open "Too Much of Too Much: Overstimulated, Overexposed, and Overextended," featuring works by mid-Atlantic artists whose works explore the ideas of overstimulation, excessiveness and bombardment. Visit mpaart.org.

REGISTRATION OPEN

Vienna Youth Soccer Fall 2018. House Soccer is Vienna Youth Soccer's recreation soccer program. House is open to all boys and girls ages 3-18 years old who wish to play and learn soccer while having fun, making friends, and developing sportsmanship in a non-pressure environment. Visit www.vys.org.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 8

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. Free and appropriate for all ages. Visit www.viennava.gov.

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY/AUG. 8-9

Studio Ghibli: Spirited Away. 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.AngleikaFilmCenter.com.

THURSDAY/AUG. 9

Nottoway Nights. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Featuring Cathy Ponton King (Blues/Soul). 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.

FRIDAY/AUG. 10

Three Classical Comedies. 3 p.m. at The Madeira School Chapel Auditorium, 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. The schedule for the full day is: 3-4 p.m. - Bourgeois Gentleman (Middle School Ensemble); 4:15-5:45 Love's Labor's Lost - (High School Ensemble); 5:45-6:30 - Dinner (picnic on the lawn); 6:30-8 - Sleeping Beauty (Commedia Troupe); 8-8:30 - Campfire cast party/strike. \$10 tickets available at the door. For directions, visit www.madeira.org/about-madeira/contact-us/.

River Fishing by Boat. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Fish for smallmouth bass and sunfish from a canoe or boat with an introductory class on boating and fishing basics. No previous experience paddling or

rowing is required. Boats and personal flotation devices (PFDs), fishing rods and bait are provided. Designed for participants age 5 to adult. Maximum of three participants per boat, one of whom must be 16 or older. \$16 per person, and each participant must register. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

Summer on the Green: Richard Walton Group. 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.

13th: The Movie. 7:30 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Mystical Movie Night—13th: Join Unity of Fairfax for a screening and discussion of "13th," an Emmy-Award-winning look at the 13th Amendment and the history of racial inequality in the U.S. prison system. Free. Visit www.unityoffairfax.org/events.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 10-12

Beauty and the Beast. Friday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1:30 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna. Vienna Youth Players' premieres Walt Disney's Beauty and the Beast. The cast and crew features more than 30 aspiring student-artists, ages 8-18. This production will be a swan song as it is director Barbara 'Babs' Dyer's final show with the company after helming the director's chair 26 years. Tickets are \$15 each general admission, at viennava.gov/webtrac or at the community center.

SATURDAY/AUG. 11

Author Event and Book Signing. 1-3 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue, E., Vienna. What was it like to live in early 20th century rural Vienna? George Atkisson, 95, a lifelong resident of Vienna and a World War II veteran, will sign copies of his new Vienna-inspired novel "The Chalice and the Stirrup Cup" and answer questions about the book or his life in Northern Virginia during the Great Depression. Copies will be available for purchase on site, or buy a copy before the event at the Freeman Store or online. All ages. Visit historicviennainc.org or call 703-938-5187.

Bands for Bikes. 1-4 p.m. at Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Rising college freshmen Jack Lichtenstein and Morgan Poirier, will host their 5th annual "Bands for Bikes" concert to benefit Wheels to Africa (a youth-led all volunteer 501c(3) that collects used bikes for needy children). Joining the boys as an organizer this year will be Langley rising sophomore and musician, Claire Fulton. Area student musicians and bands will be performing on the outdoor stage. Bike donations welcome (but not required) and can be dropped off 10 a.m.-4 p.m. that day.

Live Music: Dan Navarro. 8 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. With a career spanning decades and a dozen albums with Lowen & Navarro, Dan Navarro has just released his first true studio-recorded solo album, "Shed My Skin." \$20-25. Visit www.jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/AUG. 12

Alden Summer Concerts: Morgan Taylor's "Music of Gustaf Yellowgold" (Family Friendly). 5 p.m. in McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free parking at



PHOTO BY GREG HOTSENPILLER

From left: Eric Stein, organizer Jack Lichtenstein and Bryan Bedell of The Unexpected have played Bands for Bikes for the last four years.

Bands for Bikes

Rising college freshmen Jack Lichtenstein and Morgan Poirier, will host their 5th annual "Bands for Bikes" concert to benefit Wheels to Africa (a youth-led all volunteer 501c(3) that collects used bikes for needy children). Joining the boys as an organizer this year will be Langley rising sophomore and musician, Claire Fulton. Area student musicians and bands will be performing on the outdoor stage. Saturday, Aug. 11, 1-4 p.m. at Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Bike donations welcome (but not required) and can be

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: Rew Smith. 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.

MONDAY/AUG. 13

Dining with Dorothy. 12:30 p.m. at Ledo Pizza, 141 Park St., Vienna. A program of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Join with friends or make new ones. Newcomers are always welcome. To reserve space, contact event chair, Dorothy Flood at dflood1706@gmail.com.

Donation Deadline. During bank hours at Sonabank, 6830 Old Dominion Drive, # A, McLean. Sonabank is collecting school supplies at all branches. Visit www.sonabank.com.

MONDAY-FRIDAY, AUG. 13-17

Mini-Miller Camp. 9 a.m.-noon at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. The mini-miller camp gives children ages 6-12 an opportunity to work a 200-year-old operating grist mill. They'll learn the skills the miller needed as well as those of a blacksmith, and have a chance to make their own butter. Cost for the full week of camp is \$197. Call 703-759-2771 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill.

TUESDAY/AUG. 14

Live Music: Cory Wong. 8 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Known for his guitarwork in the midwestern ensemble Vulfpeck, Cory Wong steps out on his own for the 2nd time with "The Optimist,"

due out Aug. 17. \$15-25. Visit www.jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY/AUG. 15-16

Studio Ghibli: Howl's Moving Castle. 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.AngleikaFilmCenter.com.

THURSDAY/AUG. 16

Nottoway Nights. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Featuring Seldom Scene (Bluegrass). 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.

FRIDAY/AUG. 17

Chillin' on Church with Fat Chance. 6:30 p.m. area residents can catch a new and diverse musical act every Friday 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/AUG. 18

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony. 10 a.m. at Safeway - Chesterbrook, 6244 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Safeway will unveil renovations to its Chesterbrook store. Local dignitaries are expected to join Safeway officials for the ceremony, with live music presented by McLean High School band students.

Paddle the Potomac. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Watch for deer



Mary Jane Cogan exhibits at Great Falls Library.

Art Exhibit

As a young piano student, Mary Jane Cogan studied the three Bs of music: Bach, Beethoven, and Brahms. Now as an artist, she has selected three popular Bs of art - Blossoms, Birds, and Butterflies - for her art show at the Great Falls Library. The theme is presented in a variety of media: watercolor and acrylic paintings, alcohol inks, and photography. The exhibit can be viewed through Aug. 30. Great Falls library is located at 9830 Georgetown Pike.

foraging on the islands and osprey and bald eagles searching for fish as you paddle a kayak through a wildlife-rich section of the Potomac River. This is not a whitewater tour, and no previous experience is required. Kayaks will be provided - one person per kayak. For participants age 14 to adult runs. Download the waiver at go.usa.gov/xnFnc and bring the completed form to the tour. \$40 per person. Call 703-759-9018 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend.

SUNDAY/AUG. 19

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.

Concerts on the Green: Vinyl Invention. 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.

MONDAY/AUG. 20

Ann Wilson & Jeff Beck. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap's Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Ann Wilson of Heart is gearing up for a busy summer that will see her performing on the "Stars Align Tour" with Jeff Beck and Paul Rodgers and prepping the release of her new solo album, IMMORTAL, due out Sept. 14. \$35-\$75. Visit www.wolftrap.org for tickets.