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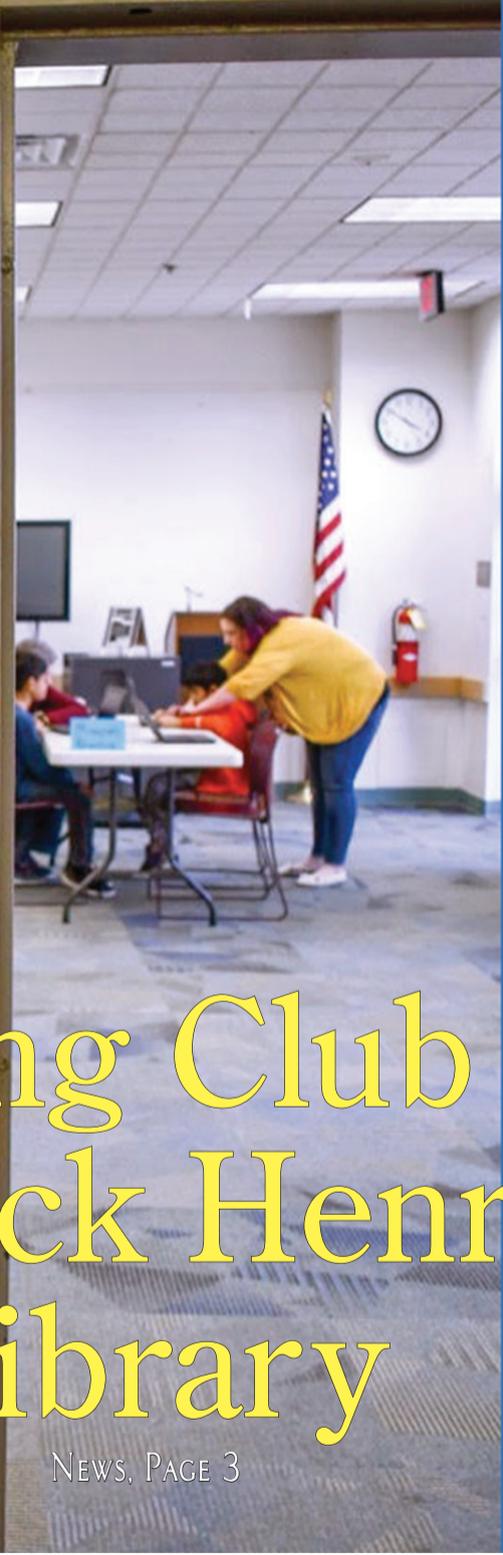
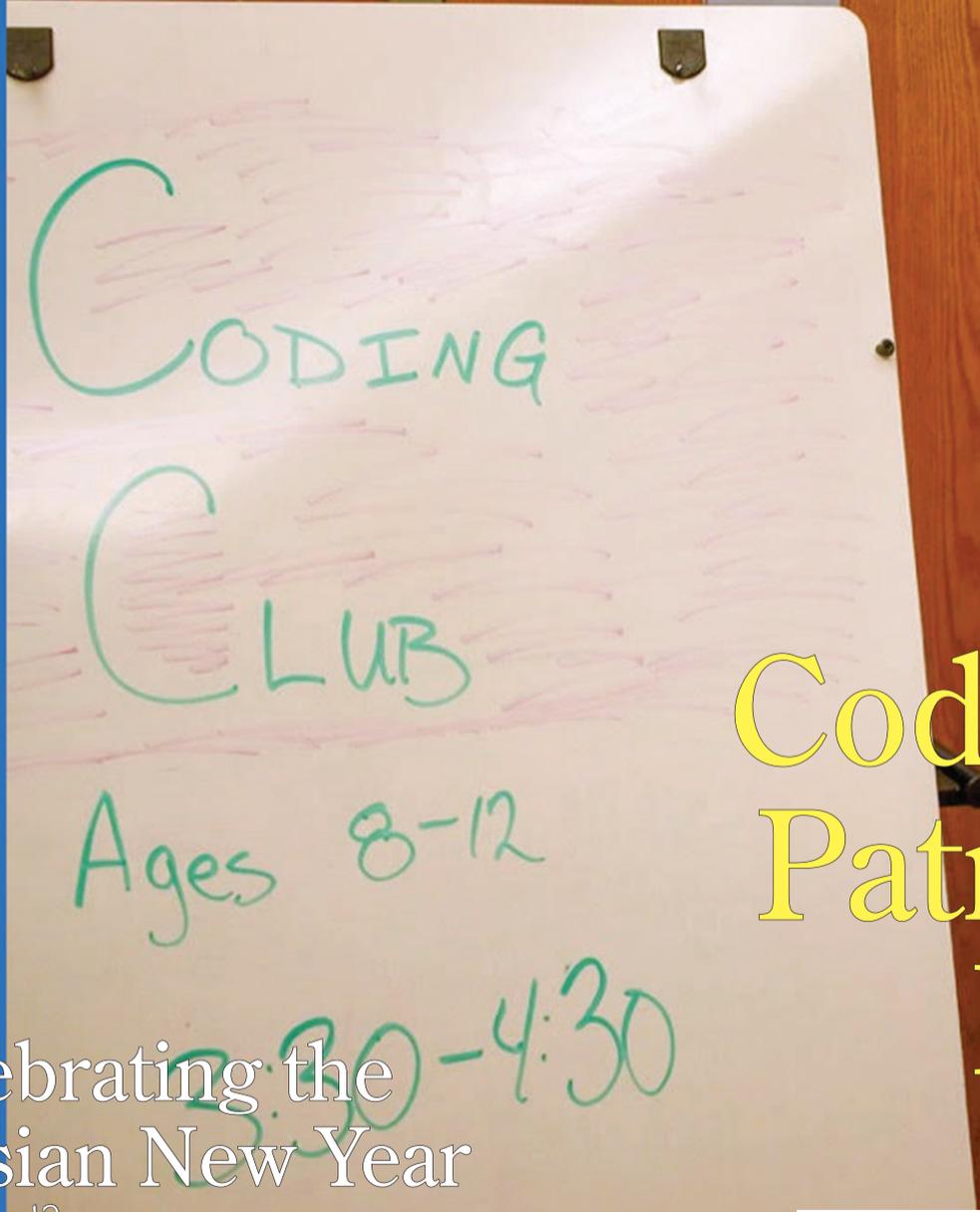
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# and Oakton Vienna CONNECTION

WELLBEING  
PAGE 6

The Coding Club at Patrick Henry Library is held every first Saturday of the month.



## Coding Club at Patrick Henry Library

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Celebrating the Persian New Year  
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Marshall Takes Down Westfield, 64-45  
SPORTS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY LISA FAY/THE CONNECTION  
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**Brownie, Junior and teen Girl Scouts with RESET volunteers closing the gender gap in STEM.**



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

## Girl Scouts Help Closing the Gender Gap in STEM

**T**he Girl Scouts have a series of new badges to encourage girls to consider how science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) can make the world a better place by being problem-solvers, critical thinkers, and inspirational leaders. They learn how programmers solve problems by participating in interactive computational-thinking activities and complete a project. Girl Scouts partnered with the local STEM nonprofit RESET to teach 35 teen Girl Scouts to lead 50 Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts through the new Think Like a Programmer badge program.

The first weekend I learned about the many different kinds of computer drives that we can use to store memory, how coding through an online program like SCRATCH can be fun and easy, how to fly a drone, and how building an algorithm can be as simple as creating instructions for building a paper airplane. My personal favorite activities were disassembling a hard drive and creating code through SCRATCH, a coding program that helps people of all ages learn to code. I think that by helping one person learn something new I am helping many more people learn something new.

We worked with RESET, a nonprofit, volunteer organization of STEM professionals whose mission is to motivate children to discover and explore the worlds of science and math, and to encourage them to consider educational and career choices in related fields. RESET is trying to get girls to start programming and open girls up to the world of programming and technology. The first weekend RESET volunteers taught me everything that I would be teaching younger Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts the next weekend. The things that I learned while teaching RESET to younger Girl Scouts is going to stay with me forever. I will be able to teach other girls what I have learned; not just Girl Scouts but anyone that is interested in learning.

When I first walked in the doors I was a bit scared because we had a nice size group of girls; but by the end of the entire program I was no longer nervous or worried and I felt more connected with the Girl Scout that I was working with. While working on the Think Like A Programmer Journey I discovered



**Teen Girl Scout Adriana teaches programming to Junior Girl Scout Isabel.**

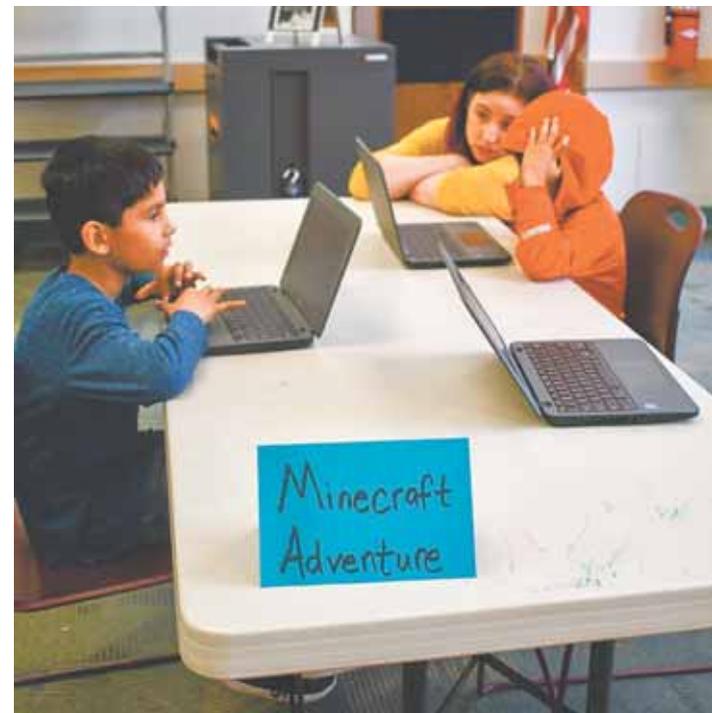


**Andrea, Sophia, Nicole and Lilith programming a drone.**

that I have a special skill for helping others without having to be asked to help. I also find that it is a little nerve-racking when you are volunteering to help other people that you may or may not have met; but everyone is so nice that you forget that you were nervous. I hope that my leadership encourages other Girl Scouts to take risks and step up into a role that is different because it is can be so much fun to change things up. I am very glad that I choose to step up and help RESET as a volunteer, because I made some friends along the way and I will never forget my experiences. I also discovered that kindness makes all the difference when thrown into a new and different situation.

If one Girl Scout at a time can learn a way to help the world become a better place than one Girl Scout at a time the world becomes a smarter and better place.

—ELLALEE M. BULLOCK  
GIRL SCOUT FROM TROOP 780 IN OAKTON.



PHOTOS BY LISA FAY/THE CONNECTION

**Pedro Osario-Laso, 8, and Aariv Shah, 8, play at the Minecraft table as Erin Guyer watches.**

## Coding Club Meets at Patrick Henry Library

**I**n today's tech-infused world, coding has become a sort of pop culture. Children are becoming more aware of technology starting at a younger age and classes like the Coding Club can expose them to technology in a fun and monitored community space. The first Saturday of every month, unless Vienna has another large town consuming event scheduled, Patrick Henry Library has begun to conduct coding exercises for children. The children are provided with Google Chromebooks, miniature laptops, that have programs such as Disney themed Infinity Play Lab and Minecraft Adven-

ture to help them learn about code while having fun. "We leave it as a self guided space," said Erin Guyer, who helps lead the youth services at the library, "I stay in the room to monitor them and I have a computer as well if they need help." The Minecraft table was most popular, with kids playing the popular adventure computer game. "We usually open it up to registration for 12 kids, but if we have the room we always welcome people who have not registered." To check the schedule of upcoming events, such as the Coding Club, for children at Patrick Henry Library visit [fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/library).

**Erin Guyer, who helps lead the youth services at the library, helps Aariv Shah, 8, as he plays Minecraft.**



**Google Chromebooks were donated to the library to fulfill needs for classes like the Coding Club.**

But this year is supposed to be an improvement.

Every year is election year in Virginia. Add in primaries and special elections, and there are many more elections every year, all with consequences.

Control of this year's Virginia General Assembly came down to pulling a name out of bowl (literally). In 2019, every seat in the House of Delegates and Virginia Senate will be on the ballot.

**EDITORIAL** While some good things did happen in this year's session of the General Assembly, (eviction protections, foster care reform, step towards menstrual equity, to name some), other important legislation stalled because of party politics and ideology, including reforming fines and effects on drivers licenses; seat belt laws and legislation on distracted driving.

A huge number of candidates will seek seats on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and School Board as well, with the direction and tone of the future hanging in the balance.

Results of 2019 Elections will matter in many ways.

**Are you registered to vote?** Check here: <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>

Upcoming Elections:  
May 7, 2019 - Vienna Town Council Elections  
June 11, 2019 - Primary Elections  
Nov. 5, 2019 - General & Special Elections

**2019 Elections Include:**

Filing deadline for parties, March 28  
Primary if held: June 11  
General Election Nov. 5  
Virginia Senate (4-year term)  
House of Delegates (2-year term)  
Soil and Water Directors (4-year term)  
Board of Supervisors  
School Board  
Counties: 4-year terms:  
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❖ Sheriff  
❖ Commissioner of Revenue  
❖ Treasurer  
Vienna Town Council

In case you wonder what will be on the ballot next, here is a guide.

Virginia has a General Election every year on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November.

❖ Federal offices are elected in even-numbered years.

❖ State and Local offices are elected in odd-numbered years.

❖ Clifton Mayor and Town Council are elected in even-number years on the first Tuesday in May.

❖ Herndon Mayor and Town Council are elected in even-number years on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November.

❖ Vienna Mayor and 3 Town Council members are elected in even-numbered years on the first Tuesday in May.

❖ 3 Vienna Town Council members are elected in odd-numbered years on the first Tuesday in May.

❖ If primaries are called by the political parties, they are held on the second Tuesday in June.

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## New Ways of Being Heard

To the Editor:

Karl Marx was a passionate idealist from nineteenth century industrial era. Factory workers would commit to their jobs despite possible oppression, while their employers oversaw the work environment become increasingly filled with lost souls. This is occurring at a wider scale in today's government, and seen across the world especially in places whose rights don't provide them the same liberties that America has. While trying to reach the government to express a concern, one may find themselves in a never-ending battle with a voicemail, or prerecorded machine. This parallels with Marx and his belief of unequal relationships between common people and their superiors. Hopefully enough people can unite with a similar agony and anticipate change from those who run our lives. Working citizens should be able to express their concerns instead of being consistently turned away. No longer do we have to go on strike to show disapproval with the process. Now, we can use platforms like twitter to voice our opinions in an effort to be heard by our government officials.

**Jessica Seppi**  
McLean  
James Madison University  
Freshman

## Out of Touch

To the Editor:

In response to the opinion article by Kenneth Lourie from Feb. 27, 2019, ("The Following Is a Test,") I find it truly sad how difficult it is to communicate with government representatives and how separated the elected officials are from the everyday person.

After all, they are supposed to be the representation of the people's opinions and ideas. There is no real intimate relationship between politicians and the people they represent, citizens vote for them based on a generalized platform that is displayed, but to some extent, there is no transparency in the work of politicians unless they make a major news headline. And to hear that attempts by citizens to close that gap between themselves and government officials to address concerns or share ideas is almost impossible as if politicians are trying to prevent others from reaching out is concerning. The more power that is taken out of the hands of the masses and into few, the less this country will operate as a true democracy and will instead become more centralized like other countries where citizens are blindly lead by an isolated government.

**Linsey Wenk**  
McLean  
James Madison University  
Freshman

## Scouts, Integrated

To the Editor:

The article of "New Girls on the Block" (Connection, Feb. 27, 2019) sparked my interest – as a former member of a local troop of the Girl Scouts, I never thought that girls would be included in the Boy Scouts. Since adding the ability for girls to join, they renamed themselves Scouts BSA.

The integration of girls into Scouts BSA is seeming to go smoothly in Herndon. Since this is a national action to add the girl into the Scouts BSA, I wonder if areas that are more hesitant of the idea of adding girls to the program are having as much success integrating. This inclusivity is beneficial to the girls in other areas who want to participate, giving girls the ability to define themselves. Girls are now able to attain the highest level of Scouts BSA, Eagle, which was not available to them before this recent change in 2018.

My last consideration with the addition to girls being able to join is what will happen to the Girl Scouts? Does this take probable candidates for the Girls Scouts and direct them to the Scouts BSA instead? Also, what happens if a boy wants to join the Girl Scouts?

Some thoughts and considerations on how this change will affect all Scouts in the future.

**Morgan Hoskins**  
Reston

## Lifesaving Legislation

To the Editor:

Did Virginia voters ever think their Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner and Governor Northam would sanction infanticide?

It is a matter of common sense and basic human decency to require, as Senate bill 311, Born-Alive survivors protection act would have, that any health care practitioner present when a child is born alive following an abortion be given the same degree of care to preserve the life and health of the child as would be given to any other newborn. It is an outrage that Virginia's U.S. Senators Warner and Kaine voted against this critical lifesaving legislation. This is not an abortion rights issue. This is protecting the weak and most vulnerable among us.

**Ethel Pascal RN**  
Great Falls

## Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. Send to:

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Alexandria VA 22314  
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By e-mail:  
north@connectionnewspapers.com



## CAPPIES REVIEW

# Nostalgia-filled Production

## Oakcrest High School's production of the 'The Wizard of Oz.'

BY ISABELLA WALRATH  
OAKTON HIGH SCHOOL

One ticket for the next twister to Oz, please! Oakcrest High School's The Wizard of Oz transformed the dull plains of Kansas into the merry old land of Oz in a heartwarming and nostalgia-filled production that sent audiences over the rainbow.

Originally a book authored by L. Frank Baum in 1900, The Wizard of Oz centers around Dorothy Gale, a farm girl from Kansas, and details her excursion through the magical city of Oz. The book served as inspiration for the 1902 Broadway musical, which was revived in 1942, 1987, and 2011. The most recognized medium of the story, however, is the 1939 film starring Judy Garland; featuring an iconic black-and-white to color transition, the film was nominated for six Academy Awards, winning Best Original Song for "Over the Rainbow" and Best Original Score. The story has moreover influenced a myriad of adaptations, including the 2003 Broadway musical Wicked and the 2013 Disney film Oz the Great and Powerful.

Ding, dong! The Witch may be dead, but her performance brought the show to life. As she taunted "Ring around the rosie, pocketful of spears!", the Wicked Witch of the West (Katiebelle Thompson) addressed the familiar, expected nature of the character and turned crowds on their heads with a high-energy performance that made the character captivating and fresh. With her clear characterization and iconic cackle which kept audiences on their toes, Thompson stole the show.

The Scarecrow (Ava Quaale), Tin Man (Edith Barvick), and Cowardly Lion (Eli Crishock) built off each other's energy with a natural chemistry as the unlikely trio supported Dorothy's (Kiley Hatch) endeavors into Oz. The consistency of Quaale's bent, unsupported scarecrow stance, Barvick's pin-straight posture for the metallic man, and Crishock's puffed out, lion-esque chest contributed to each character's unique persona. Most notable of the trio was Crishock; with the bark of a boxer but the bite of a baby, she perfected the act of faking confidence, and her comical turnaround from practicing her right hook to quaking behind her friends was laudable. The clarity of Crishock's voice was additionally stellar; while some struggled to properly project, Crishock was reliably crisp and enunciated.

Designer Mary Wall et al landed a major success with simple, but impressive hair, which became pivotal in denoting characters' genders among the all-female cast. Smartly designed



PHOTO BY JOHN-PAUL PLUTA

From left, Kiley Hatch, Edith Barvick, Eli Crishock in Oakcrest High School's production of the 'The Wizard of Oz.'

braiding and pinning paved the subtle indication of male characters without detracting from the performance. Further emphasizing the ability and skill held by the hair design team was their careful consideration of Dorothy's hair evolution; her introductory pigtails gave the essence of Dorothy's naivety while her hair down in later scenes indicated a newfound maturity, with a simple red ribbon as a reminder of her creative spirit.

Costumes for the production, led by Bela Wilson, were additional commendable features, demonstrating clear vision and purpose in every decision.

Dazzling and sparkling like ruby red slippers, Oakcrest High School's production of The Wizard of Oz functioned as a reminder that, though the yellow brick road may be long, a family with open arms awaits at the end of it.

## 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 Feb. 22 -28, 2019.

### INCIDENTS

**Grand Larceny** — Brooke Rental, 321 Mill Street, NE between Feb. 7 at 3:35 p.m. and Feb. 25 at 10:33 a.m. An employee reported that a customer had failed to return a rented sewer snake. After the police report was filed the customer returned the property and paid all outstanding fees.

**Lost Property** — Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, SE, Between Feb. 20 at 5 p.m. and Feb. 21 at 5:45 p.m. A juvenile reported that he lost his wallet at the Community Center.

**Assist EMS** — 300 Block Locust Street, SE, Feb. 21, 8:08 a.m. Officers responded to assist EMS personnel who had to force entry into a home for a medical emergency. The resident was transported to an area hospital for treatment.

**Arrest - Drunk In Public** — Park Terrace Court, SE, Feb. 21, 8:20 p.m. Officers responded to the report of a domestic dispute between a resident and her husband. The husband had left the home and was located outside by officers. The officers detected signs of impairment and placed the man under arrest. Officer Farr

SEE POLICE, PAGE 7

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A new study shows that even after one hour spent on electronic devices each day, children and teens may begin to have less emotional stability and a greater inability to finish tasks.

# Managing Screen Time

Working collaboratively  
with one's child can  
decrease the struggle.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Julia Wires purchased an iPhone for her 12-year-old daughter in part she says, because many of the girls at her Potomac, Md. school have smartphones that they bring to campus daily. Wires and her husband were initially hesitant to make the purchase because their daughter was diagnosed with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Anxiety Disorder at the end of 2018.

"First, there's the social pressure she feels because all of her friends have iPhones. Then there's the issue of her dad and I being able to keep in touch with her now that she has more freedom to go places on her own," said Wires. "Both of those [factors] are juxtaposed against the fact that she has trouble staying focused and calming down when she needs to. That made the decision tough for us."

Too much time spent on gaming, smartphones and watching television could exacerbate symptoms in children who've been diagnosed with ADHD, according to a new study by researchers at San Diego State University and the University of Georgia. The report showed that even after one hour of screen time, children and teens may begin to have lower self-control, less emotional stability and a greater inability to finish tasks.

"Kids with ADHD have trouble keeping track of time, so they could spend hours on their tablet without realizing it. Screen time can make bedtime rou-

tines more difficult and parents might have an additional struggle getting their kids to fall asleep," said child psychologist Adele Schwartz, Ph.D, of McLean, who was not involved in the study. "Kids with ADHD also might be more likely to ignore parental guidelines and I would worry more about them engaging in risky behavior online."

Helping a child with ADHD transition from playing a video game to doing their homework could require special handling, advises Sarah Bryant, LCSW. "Instead of telling your child that they have to stop watching television at six o'clock or that they have five more minutes on a video game, try telling them that they have to stop at the next commercial break or at then end of the round in a video game," she said.

Working collaboratively with one's child will reduce the chance of a power struggle, says Bryant. "You and your child can work together to list all of

**"... parents should model the behavior that they want their children to have by limiting their own screen time."**

— Adele Schwartz, child psychologist

the things that need to get done, like homework, time spent outside, doing sports, chores and other activities and come up with a schedule," she said. "Figure out how much time is left for things like video games and television. Hang the schedule somewhere that's visible to both of you. Your child will see how little time is left for playing video games and since they were part of the process, they'll feel like they're part of a team rather than a subordinate with no control over their life."

"Parents of kids with ADHD should definitely make use of parental controls on tablets, smart phones and television, especially during school hours or when kids should be doing their homework," added Schwartz. "It's also important that children, especially those with ADHD not use electronics at least an hour before bedtime. And it almost goes without saying that parents should model the behavior that they want their children to have by limiting their own screen time."

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## VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

FROM PAGE 5

transported the 27-year-old man from Park Terrace Court, SE, Vienna to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center where he was charged with Drunk In Public.

Arrest – Narcotics Violation — Locust Street and Park Terrace Court, SE, Feb. 22, 3:40 a.m. Officer Farr observed a driver in a vehicle, pulled over to the side of the road. The officer stopped to check the welfare of the driver. Upon his interaction with the driver, the officer found the driver was in

possession of a measurable amount of marijuana. Officer Farr issued a summons to the 21-year-old man from Wuthering Road, Lutherville Timonium, Md. charging Possession of Marijuana. The man was released on his signature.

Fraud — Vienna Town Hall, 127 Center Street, South, Between Feb. 22 at 9:13 a.m. and Feb. 25 at 11:43 a.m. An unknown person, claiming to be a Town employee, submitted a request to the Town Finance Department for the employee's payroll to be direct deposited into a fraudulent account.

Found Property — 900 Block Carole Court, SE, Feb. 22 between 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. A resident advised that she heard a knock at her door. When she answered the door, no one was there, but she found a dollar bill on her driveway. After picking up the dollar bill, the resident felt dizzy. The

resident refused medical treatment. The dollar bill was turned over to the property section.

Narcotics Violation — 600 Block Tazewell Road, NW, Feb. 22, 10:30 p.m.

Officers responded to the report of several people going into the backyard

SEE POLICE, PAGE 12

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## ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday.

### THURSDAY/MARCH 7

**International Women's Day Market.** 4-9 p.m. at Caboose Commons, 2918 Eskridge Road, Fairfax. Caboose Commons will be hosting a pop-up market consisting of local, women-run businesses in the community. Limited edition women empowerment merchandise for sale and pop-ups from Park Story, Skips and Flutters, Oddxii, Color Street, doTerra essential oils, Beauty Counter, and more. Visit [www.CabooseBrewing.com](http://www.CabooseBrewing.com).

**Live Music: House of Hamill.** 7 p.m. at Maggiano's Little Italy - Tysons Corner, 2001 International Drive, McLean. Maggiano's Concert Series will present an early St. Patrick's Day performance with national touring artists, House of Hamill. Showtime is 7 p.m. with the option of a pre-concert early admission experience at 6. 18 and older. \$25-\$45. Call 703-893-5810 or reserve tickets at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) (search House of Hamill).

### THURSDAY-SATURDAY/MARCH 7-9

**Oleanna.** 8-10 p.m. At the Italian Cafe, 7161 Lee Highway, Falls Church. "Oleanna" - The Providence Players, in partnership with the Italian Café restaurant in Falls Church, perform a special theater engagement of David Mamet's Oleanna. Originally staged during the aftermath of the Anita Hill hearings, David Mamet's 1992 Oleanna electrified and enraged audiences and was described as "a buzz saw of gender, sex, and power." Cost is \$10. Visit [www.providenceplayers.org](http://www.providenceplayers.org).

### FRIDAY/MARCH 8

**Be My Neighbor?** 7:30-10:30 p.m. At Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Movie Night: "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" is a documentary about the lasting legacy of Mister Fred Rogers. Free. Visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/mystical-movie-night-wont-you-be-my-neighbor-tickets-57048925873](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/mystical-movie-night-wont-you-be-my-neighbor-tickets-57048925873)

### SUNDAY/MARCH 10

**Grand Opening Reception.** 2-4 p.m. at the Freeman Store and Museum, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Historic Vienna Inc announces the grand opening reception for two new exhibits: 1. Upstairs, "Vienna and the '50s." Come experience Vienna in the 50s through an exciting multimedia exhibit. 2. Downstairs, "Women Creating a More Perfect Democracy: 100 Years of the League of Women Voters." Visit [historicviennainc.org/](http://historicviennainc.org/).

**Winter Concerts: Beth Patterson.** 4 and 6 p.m. seatings at The Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Winter Traditional Celtic Concerts performed in a listening room by the fireside. Tickets must be purchased in advance at [oldbrogue.com](http://oldbrogue.com): \$18 general admission; \$12 children. Visit [www.oldbrogue.com](http://www.oldbrogue.com) or call the Old Brogue at 703-759-3309.

**The Glory of France.** 4:30 p.m. at Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The City Choir of Washington's celebrates the Great Tradition of French Choral Music, with guest artist Metropolitan Opera Soprano Danielle Talamantes, who is a graduate of McLean High School. Visit [www.thecitychoirwashington.org](http://www.thecitychoirwashington.org).

### MONDAY/MARCH 11

**Internet and Net Neutrality.** 7-8:30



## Solo Art Show: Jim Trusilo

Through Saturday, March 16, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, at The Frame Factory, 212 Dominion Road, NE, Vienna. Visit [www.theframefactory1.com](http://www.theframefactory1.com).

p.m. At Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave., E, Vienna. Free. In 2017, the FCC decided to eliminate open Internet access, firing widespread speculation about whether this would result in an Internet lacking in rules and consumer protections. Hear about the debate, how the FCC's action will affect Internet users, and what happens next. Visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/4708859](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/4708859).

**SCOV Lunch n Life.** At Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Cost: \$15/person payment due by March 4, 2019. RSVP to [SCOVoffice@scov.org](mailto:SCOVoffice@scov.org) - 703-281-0538.

### TUESDAY/MARCH 12

**1950s Civil Rights Issues.** 7:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chamber of Vienna's Town Hall, 127 Center St., Vienna. Colbert King is coming to Vienna to talk about 1950s civil rights issues. A Pulitzer Prize winning Washington Post journalist, he will speak at the Historic Vienna Inc meeting in connection with Historic Vienna Inc's new exhibit "Vienna in the 1950s." He will also reflect on current topics. Refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public. Visit [historicviennainc.org/](http://historicviennainc.org/).

**McLean Historical Society Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Phyllis Verhalen who will present "The Life of Julia Grant, Wife of President Ulysses Grant." Everyone is welcome. Call Carole Herrick at 703-356-8223.

### THURSDAY/MARCH 14

**National Pi Day Celebration.** Amphora Bakeries celebrate National Pi Day with iconic pies in their Vienna and Herndon locations. Call 703-964-0500 to pre-order or visit [amphorabakery.com](http://amphorabakery.com).

### THURSDAY-SATURDAY/MARCH 14-16

**Oleanna.** 8-10 p.m. At the Italian Cafe, 7161 Lee Highway, Falls Church. See March 7-9 listing. Cost is \$10. Visit [www.providenceplayers.org](http://www.providenceplayers.org).

### FRIDAY/MARCH 15

**Game Night.** 7 p.m. in the Chapel at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Game night for adults in their 20s and 30s. Board games and card games, and snacks will be provided. Free and open to all young adults in the area. Contact the Rev. Annamaria Goeneneboom at 703-356-7200 or [agroenenboom@lewinsville.org](mailto:agroenenboom@lewinsville.org).

### SATURDAY/MARCH 16

**Taking Better Photos with a Smartphone.** 1-2 p.m. at Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn from a teacher and avid amateur photographer how to take better pictures with a smartphone and to enhance use of this handy and versatile camera. No registration necessary. Free. Email [joyce.fitzpatrick@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:joyce.fitzpatrick@fairfaxcounty.gov) or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/).

**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](http://www.nvmr.org).

**Humanities Lecture Highlights Cicero.** 7 p.m. at Oakcrest School. Oakcrest classical languages teacher Paula Rondon-Burgos will deliver the school's Fifth Annual O'Donovan Humanities Lecture on "The Second Greatest Story Ever Told: The Life of Cicero—Roman Statesman, Philosopher, and Friend." Rondon-Burgos will reflect on the writings of Marcus Tullius Cicero, a first-century B.C. Roman politician and author. Register at [bit.ly/OSHumanitiesLecture](http://bit.ly/OSHumanitiesLecture).

### SUNDAY/MARCH 17

**Made to Move.** 9 a.m. at The Church of the Good Shepherd (United Methodist), Fellowship Hall, 2351 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. All bodies, all abilities and all ages are invited to participate in Made to Move, an intergenerational class led by fitness expert and author Wendy LeBolt, PhD. LeBolt, an educator and sport scientist, is the author of the newly released book Made to Move: Knowing and Loving God Through Our Bodies. Good Shepherd also is doing a six-week Lenten study of LeBolt's book on Thursday mornings from March 7-April 11. Call the church office at 703-281-3987 or visit [www.GoodShepherdVA.com](http://www.GoodShepherdVA.com).

**Capitol Steps.** 4-6 p.m. at James Madison High School - Auditorium, 2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna. The Capitol Steps performs songs from their newest album "Make America Grin Again" in this fundraiser for Madison Crew. Advance tickets, \$25-\$30; at door, \$35-\$40. Visit [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3915612](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3915612). Email [fundraising@warhawkcrew.org](mailto:fundraising@warhawkcrew.org) or call 703-938-9615.

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Backbeat Underground Comes to 1st Stage

Soul-jazz group in a special musical event at Tysons.

BY DAVID SIEGEL  
THE CONNECTION

“We want everyone to begin thinking of Tysons as a vibrant and far-ranging musical destination,” said Douglas C. Lovejoy, President, Virginia Chamber Orchestra Board of Trustees. Working together with 1st Stage, “we are always on the lookout for performers who will attract audiences to Tysons.

“Our partnership with 1st Stage goes back to the opening of the Silver Line in July, 2015. There are a number of dark stage evenings for 1st Stage that the VCO uses to bring music to Tysons,” said Lovejoy.

As for scheduling Backbeat Underground, “after listening to their music, it became obvious that this was an opportunity to introduce a unique sound at 1st Stage. Backbeat Underground will give us the opportunity to attract a unique segment of live music consumers in the area.”

Backbeat Underground’s musical genre is described this way by Satya Thallam, one of the group’s members: “We call it souljazz. It’s informed by the deep funk tradition of DC, the idioms and structure of jazz, and pioneers of the neo-soul movement. Above all it’s built on ‘groove.’ We like to say it glitters like steel wool!”

Backbeat Underground was formed in 2012. The group plays to crowds all over the DC area, from smaller, hidden-gem venues up to the well-known Union Stage, the Kennedy Center and Lincoln Theater.

All the Backbeat Underground members have been based in the DC area for years. The band is Satya Thallam (saxophone and percussion), Brad Booth (keyboards), RJ James (drums), Gerald Pierce (bass), and John Wedeles (guitar).

Pierce who attended McLean High School and The Langley School before that, credits the excellent music programs at both schools for contributing towards his lifelong passion.

The group regularly lays down tracks; either instrumental songs or tunes featuring a variety of guest



PHOTO BY TODD BELL/COURTESY BACKBEAT UNDERGROUND

**Backbeat Underground (from left): Brad Booth, John Wedeles, Satya Thallam, Gerald Pierce, RJ James**

### Where and When

Backbeat Underground presented by Virginia Chamber Orchestra at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Rd, Tysons. Performance: Friday, March 15, 2019 at 8 p.m. Tickets \$25 at the door; Seniors and advance purchase \$20; Students and military \$15. For tickets go to [www.vco.events/](http://www.vco.events/)

**Note:** Meet the Backbeat Underground musicians in a champagne reception following the performance.

vocalists. “The band delivers tight, energetic sets steeped in fresh improvisation and head-bopping, booty-shaking pockets,” said Thallam.

As for what to expect for the evening at 1st Stage; “expect sophisticated originals as well as a mix of classic soul and modern rock covers, filtered through the band’s unique interpretations,” said Pierce.

“We hope people will come away thinking of funk and soul in a new way,” said Thallam. “We love the classics, and look to them for inspiration, but we hope audiences see them in a new, vibrant, vital light.”

As for drummer James, he was clear; “Expect a funky good time! Let’s have fun!”

Backbeat Underground presented by Virginia Chamber Orchestra at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Rd, Tysons, Friday, March 15, 2019 at 8 p.m.

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## SPORTS

# Pioneers Defeat Statesmen in Semifinals

**H**agen Vandiver scored 21 points including 4 three pointers and Zack Blue added 17 for the Patriot Pioneers as the Pioneers held on for a 61-54 victory over the Marshall Statesmen on Feb. 25 in the semifinals of the Northern Region 6D tournament.

Vandiver connected on the first of his three pointers in the 1st quarter and scored half of his team's 10 points. Teammate Yusef Salih also sank a shot from long distance, but it was Marshall who opened a 13-10 first quarter advantage behind Daniel Deaver's 10, 1st quarter points. Jack Taylor added a 3 pointer.

In the 2nd quarter, Patriot made 9 field goals, five of which were three pointers. Jackson Ford, Yusef Salih, and Zach Blue each connected from long range with a three, while Vandiver scored 5 points in which he was successful on two from downtown. That shooting was enough for Patriot to overcome the early deficit and to take a 34-21 advantage. Jack Taylor's 5 points paced Marshall for the quarter.

Marshall would go back to Deaver who add 8 more points to his total. The Statesmen's Ryan Schlaffer would score 4 points in the 3rd quarter helping Marshall to narrow their deficit to 45-35 by quarter's end. Hagen Vandiver again led the Pioneers in scoring for the quarter accumulating 5 points. Jackson Ford added another 3 pointer for the Pioneers. Devon Parrish added his fourth basket of the game in the quarter.



PHOTO BY WILL PALENSCAR/THE CONNECTION

**Marshall's Jack Taylor #1 elevates over  
Patriot's Yusef Salih #23.**

Marshall scored 19 points in the final quarter. Daniel Deaver again scored 8 points. Ilias Hwang scored 5 points, and Jack Taylor added 2 three pointers. Hagen Vandiver led Patriot in scoring for the quarter. Vandiver would score 6 of those points from the charity stripe while converting on Patriot's only successful three pointer of the quarter.

Patriot was led by Vandiver with 21 points, and Blue's 17. Marshall was led by Deaver who scored 29 points, and Jack Taylor's 16. For the game Patriot made 10 field goals and 10 three pointers.

— WILL PALENSCAR

# Marshall Takes Down Westfield, 64-45

## In regional playoff.

**T**he Westfield Bulldogs took on the Marshall Statesmen in a second round regional playoff game in Falls Church on Feb. 22. Westfield advanced to the game having defeated Washington-Lee in the first round 58-55. Marshall advanced defeating Osborn Park 74-42.

Marshall started off with 11 first quarter points, led by Ryan Schlaffer's 9 points, while Westfield managed only 4 points all of which came from Trent Reimonenq.

In the 2nd quarter Marshall balanced their scoring with Daniel Deavers scoring 8, Ryan Schlaffer 6 and Alex Pigeon scoring 3. Westfield's Marshall Reed scored 9 points in the quarter with teammate Tahj Summey adding the other 4 Westfield points. Halfway through the game neither team had been successful on a three pointer, yet Marshall led by double digits, 32-17 at the halfway point.

In the 3rd quarter Marshall increased their lead margin another two points, with all but four of the Marshall 15 points coming from Daniel Deaver. Deaver would tally

11 in the quarter. Westfield's Sam Johnson scored 6 points in the quarter while teammate Marshall Reed added 4, and Gavin Kiley added a basket.

With just eight minutes to play and trailing 47-29 in regulation Westfield still had fight in them and outscored the Statesmen 17-16, but were not able to stage a comeback. Marshall closed out the game with

a 64-45 victory. Westfield's Marshall Reed scored 8 points in the quarter, including two 3 pointers to give him a game high 25 points, and Trent Reimonenq added another three pointer. Taylor Morin and Robert Black each added a basket. Marshall's Daniel Deaver scored 6 points in the quarter for a team high of 23 points. Jack Taylor added 5 points and ended the game with 9 points. Ryan Schlaffer scored two points and ended up with 17 for the game.

Marshall (22-6) moves on to the third round where they will face Patriot High School, who defeated McLean High School 65-56. Westfield ended their season at 4-22.

For the game Marshall converted on 12 of their 15 free throws. Westfield sank the game's only 3 pointers, all in the 4th quarter.

— WILL PALENSCAR



WILL PALENSCAR/THE CONNECTION

**Marshall's Ryan Schlaffer  
lays in two of his 17  
points for Marshall in the  
2nd round regional game  
with Westfield**



# Celebrating the Persian New Year

PHOTOS BY ALI KHALIGH/THE CONNECTION

**Nowruz Festival to be held March 17, 2019 at Tysons Corner Center.**

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

Following 3,000 years of customs and traditions, the colorful Nowruz Festival — the Persian New Year celebration — will be held Sunday, March 17, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Tysons Corner Center. The free event attracts 20,000 visitors who come for the music, dance, dramatic performances, shopping at the Bazaar, and costumed characters roaming the festival.

Nowruz, which normally falls in early spring, is when Persian-Americans will join locally to celebrate the new year. The festival was previously held at the Reston Town Center and the John Carlyle Square Park in Alexandria.

According to organizer Shohreh Asemi, what's new this year is a larger and taller stage that will accommodate musicians, vocalists, dancers, DJs, artists, costumed characters, and traditional players. The entertainment begins at 11 a.m.

She said they will have around 50 tents offering jewelry, books, artwork, crafts, and other traditional Persian products. Three tents will introduce Persian culture and two tents are just for kids to have fun. In addition, there will be lots of tasty food sold by a variety of food trucks. There will also be a raffle for two airline tickets by Turkish Airlines. Asemi said the Nowruz Festival has been voted Best Cultural Festival for D.C. by the Washington City Paper's readers in year's past.

**THE NOWRUZ FESTIVAL** is a free, family-friendly, fun event that celebrates life, love and good will. Of all the Persian national festivals, the New Year celebrations are at once the most important and the most colorful.

The venue provides a fun place for people to celebrate with family and friends, to taste Persian food and enjoy traditional and modern Persian entertainment. Among the traditions is a ceremonial table called the cloth of seven dishes (each one beginning with the Persian letter Sin). The symbolic dishes consist of Sabzeh or sprouts, usually wheat or lentil, representing rebirth. Another is Samanu or a sweet, creamy pudding. There's Senjed, the sweet, dry fruit of the Lotus tree, which represents love. And another is Seer, which is garlic in Persian, representing medicine.

In addition to attracting people from Virginia, Maryland and the District, organizers hope to attract international guests from other countries that celebrate Nowruz, including Turkey, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan, among others.

**THE GOAL** is to share the Nowruz Festival with both Persians and non-Persians. The event sends out positive messages, like celebrating earth, spring time, love and peace to the community. Planners want to bring different musicians and dancers from other countries that celebrate Nowruz, as well as new musicians that



**Sabzeh or sprouts representing rebirth at last year's Nowruz Festival.**



**Persian dancers celebrate the Nowruz Festival last year in Tysons Corner Center.**



**Persian dancers at last year's festival in Tysons Corner Center. Planners want to bring different musicians and dancers from other countries that celebrate Nowruz, as well as new musicians that offer more variety.**

offer more variety. They also want to bring different historical and costumed characters from Persia (like Haji Firuz, a traditional herald of Nowruz dressed in a red costume and tambourine) that interacts with the crowd.

The 2019 Nowruz Festival will be held Sunday, March 17, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Tysons Corner Center, 8100 Tysons Corner Center, McLean. For more information, visit the website at <http://nowruzfestival.org>. Or contact organizer Shohreh Asemi at 202-369-1515 or email Shohreh directly at [shohreh@nowruzfestival.org](mailto:shohreh@nowruzfestival.org).



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Pure Pasty of Vienna owner Michael Burgess and chef Stuart Moll display their World Championship trophy.**

## Pure Pasty of Vienna Wins World Championship Again

The Vienna bakery that dared put pineapple in a pasty last year have only gone and won again for the second year running at the World Pasty Championships in Cornwall, UK. This time with an oggy inspired by that most American of traditions – the Thanksgiving meal. In a closely contested race, Pure Pasty won in the Open Savoury Company category for the second year running, this time with a Turkey, Sage and Cranberry baked goody.

The company of Vienna returned to the Eden Project for the World Pasty Championships this weekend to do battle with another innovative range of pasties. British owner Michael Burgess and chef Stuart Moll presented a mouth-watering array; as well as

the prize-winning turkey. Additional pasties included those inspired by other classic American meals - the Reuben and a Santa Fe Southern Western Veggie. They were joined by British favourites such as Chicken Masala, Pork & Apple and Lamb Jalfrezi.

Last year Pure Pasty's BBQ Chicken won the Open Category section provoking a flurry of publicity the size of which hasn't been seen since the first pizza chef put the pineapple on a Hawaiian.

Are they going to make it a hat trick? Who knows but one thing for certain is they will be back in 2020 with a fresh load of ideas.

Find them on Facebook - [@thepurepastyco](https://www.facebook.com/thepurepastyco), Twitter - [@PurePasty](https://twitter.com/PurePasty), and Instagram - [Purepasty](https://www.instagram.com/Purepasty).

## VIENNA POLICE HIGHLIGHTS

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of a residence. Multiple people were located; many of them were high school aged juveniles. Officers detected an odor of marijuana and found both marijuana and alcohol at the residence. One of the juveniles advised it was her residence and that her parents were not home. Parents and guardians of all of the juveniles were notified and responded to pick up their children.

Animal Case — 100 Block Kingsley Road, SE, Feb. 23, 9:04 a.m. A resident reported an injured deer that was stuck between two fences. Officers responded, found the animal in severe distress and euthanized the deer.

Welfare Check — 200 Block Park Terrace Court, SE, Feb. 23 8:03 p.m.

Officers responded to check on a resident after reports of ongoing disputes over noise and suspicious activity. When the officers made contact with the resident, they did not observe any violation.

Shoplifting — CVS, 337 Maple Avenue, East, Feb. 24, 9:35 p.m. An employee reported that a man and woman left the store with multiple items that they did not pay for.

Juvenile Case — Cedar Lane School, 101 Cedar Lane, SW, Feb. 25, between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. The school's administration reported that a student made threatening remarks to a staff member.

Animal Case — Quarantine — The Hope Center, 140 Park Street, SE, Feb. 25, 12 p.m. An employee was bitten on the hand by a cat during a medical procedure. The cat will remain at The Hope Center for the 10-day quarantine.

Police Service — Giant Food, 359 Maple Avenue, East, Feb. 25, 2:20 p.m.

A citizen reported that his vehicle was damaged by a shopping cart in the parking lot.

Civil Dispute — Aldeerah Restaurant, 262 Cedar Lane, SE, Feb. 25, 2:33 p.m. A customer advised he paid for his food and tip with his credit card. He later found that the employee submitted the transaction on the credit card for several hundred dollars more than what the customer authorized. The customer returned to the restaurant, and the manager refunded the full amount of the charge back to the credit card. The customer was upset that the refund was not immediate and may take a few days for the bank to process.