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**Community meeting at Spring Hill Elementary focused on how to improve safety and traffic flow at nearby intersection of Spring Hill Road and Lewinsville Road in McLean.**



PHOTOS BY NADEZHDA SHULGA/THE CONNECTION

**Maggie Oi, the senior transportation planner, believes that the project will take 3 - 5 years to complete.**

## Improving Safety and Traffic Flow

### Community discusses the options for how to improve intersection near Spring Hill Elementary?

BY NADEZHDA SHULGA  
THE CONNECTION

A community meeting was held on Wednesday, June 5 at Spring Hill Elementary School to discuss the plans of the Spring Hill Road and Lewinsville Road intersection improvement. Residents in attendance raised strong opinions and numerous questions:

“The traffic traps us in our homes.”  
“Cars cut through our neighborhoods.”  
“We can’t walk to school because of traffic.”

“Why no bike lanes?”  
“Are you planning to keep the trees?”

The representatives of the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) gave detailed responses.

Back in May 2018, when the first public meeting was held, the FCDOT engineers presented four conceptual plans on how the intersection can be improved. The initial concern of the remodeling project was mainly focused on safety and traffic flow at this complicated spot. “The intersection has a significant skew and experiences peak hour congestion, significant cut-through traffic, long queues, and has a documented crash history,” FCDOT explained the rationale behind the planned change.

**THIS TIME**, the discussions were narrowed down to two revised concepts, a conventional intersection and offset T-intersection. According to their study, the second option, having two T-intersections in close proximity, seems to be safer for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers. Will it slow down traffic because of doubled signals and



**Sean Duffy, a resident of McLean, and parent of three children, thinks that intersection can be improved for bicyclists and pedestrians.**

turns? The study assures that the intersection operations will be equally good in both designs and definitely better than in case of the no-build option.

Sean Duffy, a resident of McLean and parent of three kids, shared his opinion. “I’d prefer the conventional intersection concept,” he said. “I drive through this inter-

section every day. That ‘offset t-intersection’ will add time for every single one of us. I want to get through this intersection as quickly as possible. I don’t know if they can do something to reduce traffic because people drive through these local roads. But

they definitely can improve it for bicyclists and pedestrians.”

Denise Balzano also lives in this area. She liked the roundabout concept introduced a year ago and now rejected. “Why have they rejected the roundabout option? They said they are not pushing the second concept, but I think they are. I think people at this meeting would actually like to say: ‘We don’t want too much traffic; we are mad because the people cut through our local neighborhoods.’ But I’m realistic. We need to do something with this intersection.”

There was no strong agreement among the participants on this topic. A no-build alternative was also an option.

“If you don’t want any of these options just tell us that. We are fine if it is what you’re feeling about this project,” Daniel Stevens, a transportation planner at FCDOT, said.

FCDOT estimates the project cost at \$2-3 million. Maggie Oi, the senior transportation planner, believes that the project will take several years to complete. “The study will take from two to three months. Depending on the findings, we’ll finish the project in three-to-five years.”

Residents can submit their feedback via the online survey through June 26, 2019.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SpringHill-Lewinsville>



**Denise Balzano, (left) a local resident, asks why the roundabout concept was rejected.**



**Daniel Stevens, a transportation planner at FCDOT (at the right), answered questions about conventional intersection concept.**

# OPINION

## Constitutional Amendment to End Gerrymandering — Not Quite

By JOHN LOVAAS  
RESTON IMPACT PRODUCER/HOST



INDEPENDENT PROGRESSIVE

Virginia is on the verge of reforming its legislative redistricting process (for VA Senate, House of Delegates and US House of Representatives) following the national census every ten years. The antiquated process encourages rampant gerrymandering, i.e., deliberate manipulation of district lines to the advantage of the party in power and incumbents. Incumbents are protected; communities are carved up; elections are less competitive; partisan gridlock is the norm and compromise impossible. Legislators select their voters instead of vice versa. Thanks to the work of the non-profit One Virginia 2021 and other reform advocates, the Virginia General Assembly (Senate and House of Delegates) passed a bipartisan constitutional amendment in 2019 to reform the process for redistricting. If enacted, it could reduce abuses with a more transparent and balanced process. To be enacted, it must be passed again, by the newly elected legislature in 2020, and then be approved by Virginia voters in a statewide referendum in Nov. 2021. The amendment came out of a legislative conference. It was a compromise with provisions from several proposals. The amendment creates a redistricting commission composed of 8 legislators and 8 citizens (the first citizen in-

volvement ever). Citizens will be bipartisan, with their final selection made by a panel of 5 retired circuit court judges from a large pool put forth by the legislature. To pass any new district maps, a supermajority of 6 legislators and 6 citizens is required. The Supreme Court of VA. will decide if they cannot agree. All commission meetings and records are open to the public. The legislature will vote to approve or not any new maps, but it cannot amend them.

One Virginia 2021 says categorically that although the amendment does not include all they proposed, "This will end partisan gerrymandering in Virginia." Del. Ken Plum sees it as a "great improvement," but acknowledges that it is "not perfect." Nevertheless, he says it "need[s] to get on the ballot for voter approval in time for the 2020...redistricting."

Others, like Reston's Bill Penniman, a public policy specialist, and myself believe there are serious shortcomings. For example, we think there is a distinct possibility that the legislature will largely still control the process. The legislators on the commission will have an interest in protecting their seats and, while dividing them up may reduce potential for abuses, the temptation for trading among them is a real possibility. Some partisan gerrymandering

abuses may be tamped down, but stopping incumbent protection will be tougher to achieve.

The citizen commissioners will be at a disadvantage. Lacking technical support and time for meaningful deliberation may weaken their potential for fair drawing of districts. The citizen members will be on a tight time schedule to hold public hearings around the state and draw maps for 140 General Assembly districts and 11 congressional districts. This could result in citizen commissioners ending up voting on districts as proposed to them by the legislative contingent.

Fixing glitches in the operation of the commission will be limited to things that can be done without having to amend the constitutional amendment. For example, the legislature, if there is the will, can level the playing field for citizen commissioners by providing for technical support and providing tools for greater scrutiny and reporting to the public of what goes on in the commission.

Perhaps we critics overestimate the flaws. I hope so, because gerrymandering is a major tear in the fabric of our democratic form of government. In any case, we agree that the proposed amendment may lead to significant improvement in drawing fairer federal and state legislative districts, certainly enough to justify proceeding. I suggest you let your legislators know you want them to vote for the amendment in the 2020 session. Reform is difficult work, made more so when it depends on some who perceive it as not in their interest to succeed.

## Special Session on Gun Violence

By KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM  
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)



COMMENTARY

Virginians are lovers of history, including this Virginian as regular readers of this column know. This year Virginia is celebrating 400 years since the first representative legislative body met at Jamestown. Virginia is the Mother of Presidents.

One bit of history that continues to loom large in Virginia's psyche these days with as little mention as possible from the state apologists is the prevalence of gun violence in the Commonwealth. Twelve years ago the campus of Virginia Tech was the scene of the largest mass murder of its time. While other mass murders have occurred since then, VA Tech through no direct fault of its own continues to hold the record for the most people killed on a college campus.

Virginia last week made history again. Virginia Beach was the scene of the biggest mass murder so far this year. A dubious distinction that we would least like to have. Virginia lost 1,028 people to gun violence in 2017, and as the Governor described it, that is almost three people a day; that is more deaths than those due to vehicle accidents.

For Governor Ralph Northam and for me and countless other Virginians, we long ago have had enough. As Governor Northam said in a press conference which I took part in last week: "No one should go to work, to school, or to church wondering if they will come home. But that is what our society has come to, because we fail to act on gun violence. I will be asking for votes and laws, not thoughts and prayers."

The laws he is seeking to get passed have been introduced in the General Assembly during its regular sessions without success. In a special session that will begin in the coming weeks, only bills intended to end gun violence will be considered. And the Governor requested that "members of the General Assembly engage in an open and transparent debate and that the bills brought before the legislature are put to a vote by the entire General Assembly."

Bills related to gun violence that have been introduced in the regular session including my bill to require universal background checks have been routinely referred by the Speaker of the House to the Militia, Police and Public Safety Committee where they are sent to a sub-

**"Four members who are buddies with the NRA get to make the decision of 140 elected members of the General Assembly."**

committee of six members. The members of the subcommittee are appointed by the Speaker of the House, four of whom have perfect voting records of opposing any gun safety legislation. My background check bill and the approximate 15 other bills related to preventing gun violence were defeated on a predictable vote of 2 to 4 with limited discussion or debate. Yes, that's right. Four members who are buddies with the NRA get to make the decision of 140 elected members of the General Assembly.

It is time for Virginia to make history again by leading the nation in doing the right thing to end gun violence. Voters, please pay close attention to how your elected representatives vote.

McLean  
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NEWS

# Celebrating Fairfax

Fairfax County Government Center hosted the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Celebrate Fairfax festival from June 7-9. The event was filled with a wide range of activities for the whole family including carnival rides and games, local vendors, and performances from rock bands Better Than Ezra and Smash Mouth.

**Friends (from back left) John Park, Madhi Lin, Faith Vargas, Fatima Vargas, Bao Ho, and Tanvi Wason, all from Fairfax, were not deterred by Sunday's rain to have a good time at Celebrate Fairfax.**



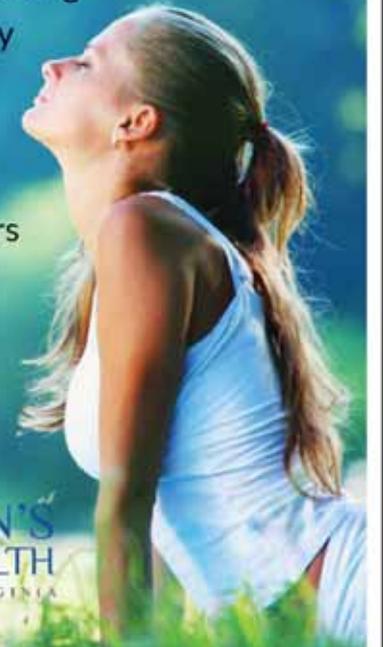
PHOTOS BY TOM MANNING/THE CONNECTION



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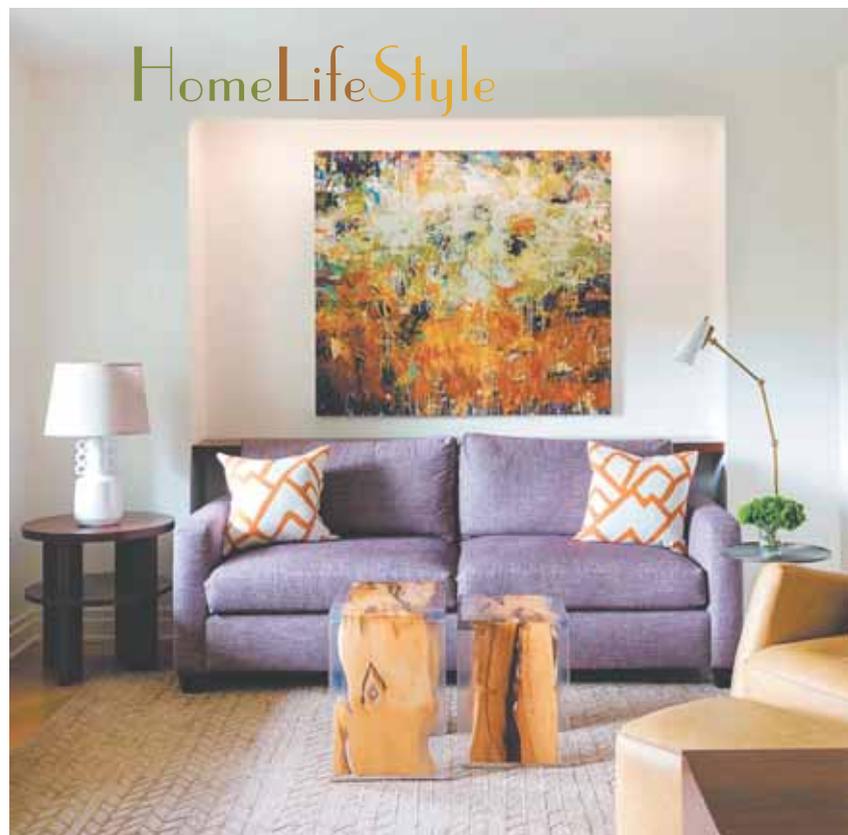
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**Designer Annie Elliott designed this room adding an abstract painting by artist Karen Silve.**

PHOTO BY  
ANGIE SECKINGER

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## Versatility of Abstract Art

Ideas for decorating with this adaptable art form.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

From adding a burst of boldly colored angular shapes to a sterile, white wall to using spheres in muted tones to create serenity in a bedroom, abstract art has the ability to set the tone or change the mood of a space. In spite of its versatility, melding it tastefully into a home's décor can be daunting. Local designers share their strategies for aesthetically appealing placement of this adaptable art form.

Abstract art can become the center of attention in a space, notes Pamela Harvey of Pamela Harvey Interiors of Herndon, Va. "One of my favorite ways to transform the look of a room is to add an over-sized piece of abstract art to create a dramatic focal point," she said. "My go-to frame is a simple floater frame to give the art a clean finished look."

Abstract art works well in pairs allowing the use of smaller scale pieces, advises Amanda Mertins of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria.

"Don't be afraid to hang abstract art in gallery style. Be mindful to use like frames and materials," she said. "The use of complementary colors to your space is a safe way to incorporate abstract art into your décor without allowing it to grab all the attention."

One of Mertins' favorite uses of abstract art is pairing it with what she describes as its decorative opposite: traditional décor. "Beautiful wood furniture, silver, crystal lighting and porcelain accessories are perfect as a backdrop for bold prints and abstract paintings," she said. "Mirrors are wonderful to use as abstract décor, but always pay attention to what will be reflected in the mirror."

Abstract art work is a versatile accessory and works well in modern as well as traditional room settings, suggests Harvey. "When choosing a piece I look for something that has some of the room's existing colors in it with an opportunity to introduce new colors into the space."

Harvey implemented this technique in the recent

re-design of a client's living room. "We added a piece that had blue and white, but introduced a bold pink to create a dramatic focal point on the back wall."

Abstract art shouldn't be limited to neutral spaces, says Annie Elliott of Bossy Color, Interior Design by Annie Elliott. "If your walls are white and your furniture is gray, the effect will be pretty, but cold and museum-like, not homey," she said. "You should complement a painting's colors [and] the room should feel harmonious. If you put a red sofa under a red and blue painting, the effect may [appear similar too] a hotel lobby."

From a practical standpoint, Anne Walker of Anne Walker Design believes in mixing media to avoid creating a space that has an overly uniform aesthetic. "Oil paintings, both abstract and traditional, framed photography, sculpture, textiles, antique botanicals, framed mirrors, antique porcelain china – all of these art forms can co-exist happily in a single home," she said.

Versatility is one of the traits of abstract art that Mertins appreciates. "This style of art can be very bold and take charge of a room or be soft and fade into the background," she said. "If your room needs a focal point, then abstract art is the way to go."

"The use of black and white art will make a bold statement without adding color to a space," continued Mertins. "Monolithic art produces a solid look, splatter art is happy and upbeat while graceful line drawings impart a feeling romance and intrigue. Photographic art can be personal, bold and sometimes more affordable than painted pieces."

Works of art that one purchases spontaneously, such as during travels, is often both more meaningful and more likely to enhance a home's décor, says Walker. "When art is purchased for the entire home all at once, the result can often feel contrived," she said.

"Surround yourself with art, furnishings and objects that make you feel joyful, and consult a design professional if you need help editing or arranging your collection," continued Walker. "I've often helped clients sort through their existing art collections and place them in just the right spot," she said. "Moving a piece of art from the wrong location to the right location can not only transform a room, it can transform the work of art itself."

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# HIGH SCHOOL CORNER

High School Corner is edited by Langley High School Literary Magazine Editor Anja O'Brien.

Art and poetry from McLean High School  
Tartan Literary Magazine

## On the Subject of Anger

BY ANNIKA HARLEY

if you hold your breath and listen close  
and tilt your head to the falling horizon  
you can hear the sky collapsing

it sounds like inevitability  
the predetermination of the tide rushing in  
before the moon beckons it back from the shore



the constellations fold in on themselves  
and lightning fractures the heavens  
leaving celestial bodies suspended over the earth

it's the pounding of blood in your head when  
you dive too deep under the waves and you  
have to claw for the surface before your lungs burst

the clouds are shredded into a mist  
ragged edges melting into the blue  
awaiting the sun to set them ablaze

it feels like a hesitant hand held over a flame  
wide eyes watching the dancing sparks that  
leap hungrily towards bare flesh

a tremor runs through the nebula  
orion wavers and cygnus splinters  
under the weight of the wishes of the world below

it's the wind whistling past your ear  
as you stand upon the overhang knowing  
how badly it will sting when you hit the water

crushed stars rain from the sky above  
onto deserts and empty highways  
leaving the air with a smell like something burning

**"Apple House," by  
Kirsten Doane**



**"Eye," by Anja O'Brien**

Art and poetry from Langley High School  
Kaleidoscope Literary Magazine



## "Haikus"

BY JACK ELLINGER

### Summer

Safe from Autumn's dark  
Safe from Winter's icy cold  
Summer's illusion

### Summer

Summer shows its face  
Full and colorful and loud  
No more sleeping now

### Peace

Birdsong fills the air  
Gentle stream to cool my feet  
Soft grass is my bed

### Blackberries

Young child's purple mouth  
Blackberries perfect picking  
Summer's in full bloom



## CRIME REPORT

The following incidents were reported by the McLean District Police Station:

JUNE 7  
LARCENIES:  
1300 block of Ballantrae Court, wallet from residence  
1400 block of Balls Hill Road, purse from location  
8300 block of Leesburg Pike, shoes from business  
2800 block of Merrilee Drive, generators from business  
JUNE 6

LARCENIES:  
1900 block of Gallows Road, bicycle from residence  
6200 block of Hardy Drive, wallet and purse from vehicle  
6700 block of James Lee Street, license plate from vehicle  
6200 block of Nelway Drive, wallet from location  
6500 block of Tucker Avenue, necklace from vehicle  
JUNE 4  
LARCENIES:  
2600 block of Avenir Place, merchandise from business

1400 block of Ball Hill Road, firearm from vehicle  
1400 block of Balls Hill Road, laptop computer from residence  
1900 block of Gallows Road, laptop computer from location  
8000 block of Le Havre Place, tires from vehicle  
2000 block of Peach Orchard Drive, golf cart from location  
JUNE 3  
**BURGLARY:** 7800 Shreve Road, 5/31/19, 8:35 p.m. Someone entered through an unlocked window and stole jewelry.

LARCENIES:  
600 block of Abbott Lane, purse from vehicle  
1900 block of Chain Bridge Road, watches from business  
8200 block of Crestwood Heights Drive, merchandise from business  
2900 block of Eskridge Road, package from vehicle  
2900 block of Gallows Road, construction material from vehicle  
8300 block of Greensboro Drive, gun from vehicle  
2000 block of International Drive, sunglasses from business

2000 block of Kilgore Road, cell phone from location  
7800 block of Lee Highway, cell phone and purse from vehicle  
8000 block of Leesburg Pike, ring from location  
8100 block of Strawberry Lane, necklace from location  
1200 block of Summit Road, cash from residence  
1800 block of Westmoreland Street, purse from vehicle  
STOLEN VEHICLES:  
7300 block of Arlington Boulevard, 2000 Honda Accord

# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## ONGOING

**The Member of the Wedding.** Extended through June 16 at 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons. Adapted from the beloved novel of the same name, this evocative, poetic coming of age drama explores the pains of youth and the meaning of family. The Member of the Wedding will run Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.; Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 2 p.m. The run time is approximately 2 hours with one 15-minute intermission. Captions and audio description will be offered for select performances. \$15-\$39. Visit [www.1ststage.org](http://www.1ststage.org) or call 703-854-1856 for tickets.

**Oak Marr Farmers' Market.** 8 a.m.-noon at Oak Marr RECenter, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. Every Wednesday through Nov. 13, rain or shine. Vendors include produce, meats, eggs, cheeses, pies, cured and smoked meats, popsicles, sorbet, bread, croissants, falafel sandwiches, humus, and pesto. Call 703-281-6501 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/oak-marr](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/oak-marr) for more.

**McLean Farmers Market.** Fridays, through Nov. 15, 8 a.m.-noon at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Sixteen local farmers and producers will sell fresh produce and fruits; meats; breads and pastries; jams; dairy products and eggs; herbs; flowers, coffee, and more. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mclean](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mclean).

**Great Falls Farmers Market.** Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Music, vendors, fresh produce, fresh prepared food, delightful bakery, spices from around the world, wild-caught fish, grass-fed, free-range meats, organic-fed poultry and eggs. Email [kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org](mailto:kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org) for more.

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

## FRIDAY/JUNE 14

**Dining with Dorothy.** 12:30 p.m. at Olive Garden, 8133 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. – A program of the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna. Join with friends or make new ones. Newcomers are always welcome. To reserve a space contact event chair, Dorothy Flood at [dflood1706@gmail.com](mailto:dflood1706@gmail.com).

**ESL Playdate Cafe.** 1-2 p.m. at Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Meet other caregivers of young children. Adults practice English while children enjoy play time in the same room. Birth-5 years with adult. Free. Call 703-242-4020 or visit [librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/5260042](http://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/5260042).

**Summer on the Green: Nowhere Man (acoustic Beatles tribute band).** 6:30 p.m. on Vienna's Town Green. The Summer on the Green concert series returns to Vienna's Town Green Friday nights through Aug. 23. Please see the text below or the attached release for details. Bring chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages are permitted. Consider leaving pets at home. In the event of rain, check the weather line at 703-255-7842. Learn more at [www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997](http://www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997).

**Movie Night: Loving.** 7:30-10 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Mystical Movie Night, features "Loving." The movie tells the story of Richard and Mildred Loving, a couple whose arrest for interracial marriage in 1960s Virginia began a legal battle that would end with the Supreme Court's historic 1967 decision that Virginia's interracial marriage law violated the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. Free. All are welcome. Call 703-281-1767 or visit [mysticalmovienight-loving.eventbrite.com](http://mysticalmovienight-loving.eventbrite.com).

## SATURDAY/JUNE 15

**Spring Fair.** 10 am.-2 p.m. at Pleasant Grove, 8641 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Pleasant Grove is holding its community fair, featuring "attic treasures" quality yard sale and antiques, a homemade bake sale, lunch, an artisan-made quilt raffle, and a Tom Sawyer clean-up day. All proceeds are donated to Pleasant Grove. Stop by



## Ants Ants Ants

With their optimistic lyrics and innovative instrumentation, Ants Ants Ants offers an invitation into that golden childhood we always dreamed of having and creating for the ones we love. Johnny Clay and Dave Gulick, the founding indie rock duo behind Ants Ants Ants, will perform with a full band. Ages 2 and older. Friday, June 28, 10:30 a.m. at Wolf Trap Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$10. Visit [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

Friday to drop off donated "attic treasures." For information, visit [www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org](http://www.HistoricPleasantGrove.org).

**Classic Truck and Car Show.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard St., NW, Vienna. The First Baptist Church of Vienna, Va., will celebrate Juneteenth with Classic Truck and Car Show. There will be vendors, food concessions, educational presentations, musical entertainment, African dancers, African drummers, video game truck and fun games for the kids. A Juneteenth Revival takes place on Wednesday, June 19. Visit [fbcv.org](http://fbcv.org) or call 703-938-8525.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 15-16

**Father's Day Park Programs.** This Father's Day weekend spend time with fathers and grandfathers in a program just for them at a county park.

❖ **Golf Tournament.** Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon at Burke Lake Golf Course. Kick off the weekend with the "Father's Day Golf Tournament." Two-player teams compete in an 18-hole scramble format in three divisions: Father/Jr. 7-12; Father/Jr. 13-17; Father/Adult partner with closest-to-the-pin contests and prizes for the top three places in all three divisions. \$75 per team includes lunch. Call 703-323-1641 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/burke-lake](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/golf/burke-lake).

❖ **Wood Carving.** Sunday, noon-4 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill. Celebrate by treating Dad to a free wood carving lesson with the Northern Virginia Carvers. There is a nominal charge for wood blanks. While visiting the mill, take a tour. Dads and granddads tour for free on Father's Day when accompanied by a paying child. Call 703-759-2771 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill).

❖ **Animal Dads.** Sunday, 1-1:45 at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, Annandale. Children age 2-6 can pretend to be a penguin, wolf and beaver dad as they learn about these dotting fathers. Participants will meet live animals and make a craft for their favorite father/grandfather. The program at Hidden Oaks Nature Center runs from 1 to 1:45 p.m. \$8 per child. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 703-941-1065 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-oaks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hidden-oaks).

❖ **Family Fishing.** Sunday, 2-3:30 p.m. and 4:30-6 p.m. at Riverbend Park, Great Falls. If Dad likes to fish, register for the "Father's Day Family Fishing" program at Riverbend Park. Supplies and equipment will be provided, or bring a rod and reel. Pick up some fishing tips. All fish caught will be released. Designed for participants age 4-adult. \$12 per person. Call 703-759-9018 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend).

❖ **Father's Day Campfire.** Sunday, 6-7 p.m. at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, Chantilly. Wrap up the day with the "Father's Day Campfire." Learn about some of nature's best fathers, take a hike near a stream and eat s'mores. Of course, moms are invited, too. \$8 per person. Children must be

accompanied by a registered adult. Call 703-631-0013 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence).

## SUNDAY/JUNE 16

**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.

**Summer Concerts: Alphabet Rockers.** 5 p.m. in the gazebo of McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The Alden at the McLean Community Center is again sponsoring free summer concerts in the gazebo of McLean Central Park featuring a mix of musical genres Get moving to music that moves you. Call 703-790-0123 or visit [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

**Concerts on the Green: Wes Tucker & The Skillets.** 6-8 p.m. on the Great Falls Village Centre Green. Bring picnic baskets, chairs and blankets for an evening of live music. Free. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

## WEDNESDAY/JUNE 19

**Live Music: Lily Neill & Clive Carroll.** 7:30 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Harpist Lily Neill and guitarist Clive Carroll make their debut concert as a duo at Jammin Java. \$20-\$25. Visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## THURSDAY/JUNE 20

**Nottoway Nights: Moonshine Society.** 7:30 p.m. at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Thursday evenings, June 20-Aug. 22 (except July 4). Bring a picnic and a blanket or chair. For last minute weather cancellations call 703-324-7469 one hour prior to the program start time.

**Live Music: Maggie Rose.** 7:30 p.m. at Wolf Trap, Vienna. Opening for Trampled By Turtles and Deer Tick. \$30. Visit [www.maggirosemusic.com](http://www.maggirosemusic.com) or [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

## FRIDAY/JUNE 21

**White Elephant Bingo & Ice Cream Social.** 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Vienna Community Center, 129 Cherry St SE, Vienna. Adults 50+ meet up for an afternoon of White Elephant Bingo and an Ice Cream Social. Enjoy a traditional bingo game in a friendly atmosphere and win white elephant prizes. Bingo cards are \$2 for 2. Pay at door. Please bring a white elephant item in good condition to donate to the prize table. Call the Shepherd's Center at 703-281-0538 to register or with questions.

**Summer on the Green: Chillin' on Church: The Deja Gruv Band (R&B, funk, and soul).** 6:30 p.m. on Vienna's Town Green. The Summer on the Green concert series returns to Vienna's Town Green Friday nights through Aug.

23. Please see the text below or the attached release for details. Bring chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages are permitted. Consider leaving pets at home. In the event of rain, check the weather line at 703-255-7842. Learn more at [www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997](http://www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997).

## SATURDAY/JUNE 22

**AAUW McLean Branch Used Book Collection.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Used books, CDs, DVDs, software, children's books, records, and recent textbooks. No encyclopedias, VHS or audiotapes. The Book Sale will be held on Sept. 13-15 at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Proceeds benefit scholarships for women. Questions, contact [aauwbookfair@gmail.com](mailto:aauwbookfair@gmail.com), or 703-527-4206.

## SUNDAY/JUNE 23

**Summer Concerts: Jazzy Ash and the Leaping Lizards.** 5 p.m. in the gazebo of McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The Alden at the McLean Community Center is again sponsoring free summer concerts in the gazebo of McLean Central Park featuring a mix of musical genres Get moving to music that moves you. Call 703-790-0123 or visit [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

**Concerts on the Green: Mars Rodeo.** 6-8 p.m. on the Great Falls Village Centre Green. Bring picnic baskets, chairs and blankets for an evening of live music. Free. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

## THURSDAY/JUNE 27

**Nottoway Nights: City of Fairfax Band 'Alte Kameraden' (Music of Germany).** 7:30 p.m. at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Thursday evenings, June 20-Aug. 22 (except July 4). Bring a picnic and a blanket or chair. For last minute weather cancellations call 703-324-7469 one hour prior to the program start time.

## FRIDAY/JUNE 28

**Ants Ants Ants.** 10:30 a.m. at Wolf Trap Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. With their optimistic lyrics and innovative instrumentation, Ants Ants Ants offers an invitation into that golden childhood we always dreamed of having and creating for the ones we love. Ages 2 and older. \$10. Visit [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**Summer on the Green: Sarah Bennet Swanner.** 6:30 p.m. on Vienna's Town Green. The Summer on the Green concert series returns to Vienna's Town Green Friday nights through Aug. 23. Please see the text below or the attached release for details. Bring chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages are permitted. Consider leaving pets at home. In the event of rain, check the weather line at 703-255-7842. Learn more at [www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997](http://www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997).

## SATURDAY/JUNE 29

**July 4th in June.** All day at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Get the nation's birthday party started early. The park opens at dawn and the fun continues until the last fireworks disappear from the sky after dark. The water park is open 10 a.m.-8 p.m. There will be live music with Modern Vintage and the U.S. Navy Band Commodores from 3:30-9 p.m. Food vendors will be on hand throughout the day. Fireworks begin at 9:15 p.m.. The park generally closes to new arrivals around 8:45 p.m. Walk or bike to the park and admission is free. There is a parking fee of \$10 per vehicle. The rain date Sunday, June 30. Call 703-471-5414 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax).

**Intro Canoeing Tour.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills S., Great Falls. Come and experience the upper Potomac's beautiful scenery and wildlife from the water. Start with an introduction to canoeing basics and then head out onto the river with an instructor. This is not a whitewater tour and is good for canoeing beginners. There will be three people per canoe and paddling and safety gear is provided. \$41 per person. For participants age 16 to adult and will be canceled in the event of inclement weather or hazardous river conditions. Call 703-759-9018 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend).



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

**Members of the New Dominion Woman's Club for 2019.**

## New Dominion Woman's Club Gives Back

**Presents \$4,000 checks to four beneficiaries in the community.**

BY STEVE HIBBARD  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he New Dominion Woman's Club (NDWC) presented checks for \$4,000 each to four of its 2018-2019 club year beneficiaries on Monday, June 10, 2019, at member Kathleen Manning's residence, where guests dined on catered cuisine from Moby Dick. Those organizations receiving funds included the Falls Church McLean Children's Center, McLean Project for the Arts, Safe Community Coalition and Share, Inc. of McLean.

According to NDWC President Jennifer Salopek: "We feel like we make an enormous impact on our community, especially given the size of our membership; we have 66 members and we have raised nearly \$25,000 this year — even without our Spring fundraiser, so we're enormously proud of that. It's something we're very proud of as we enter our 52<sup>nd</sup> year."

She said this year's club fundraisers included a wine

SEE WOMAN'S CLUB, PAGE 10



**The 2018-2019 beneficiaries of the New Dominion Woman's Club are representatives from The Falls Church McLean Children's Center; McLean Project for the Arts; Safe Community Coalition; and Share, Inc.**

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**RHONE & SAONE RIVER CRUISE, Nov. 1-9** ..... \$4,295  
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**JULY** ALL AGES

**JULY 7 DuPONT BRASS**

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**JULY 21 JUSTIN TRAWICK AND THE COMMON GOOD**

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North Boro LLC trading as North Italia, 1651 Boro Place, McLean, Fairfax County, Virginia 22102. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer On and Off Premises and Mixed Beverage Restaurant (seating capacity - over 150 seats) license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Samuel W. Fox, Manager authorizing advertisement. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

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**NEWS**



PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

**New Dominion Woman's Club President Jennifer Salopek leads the meeting.**

**Woman's Club Donates to Area Groups**

FROM PAGE 9

tasting at Chain Bridge Cellars; Giving Tuesday, an after-Thanksgiving event at the Preppy Pink Pony; Arts Night Out at McLean Project for the Arts; and also, they were selected as the beneficiary for the rally for a community charity tennis event at McLean Racquet and Health Club.

"Another reason we were able to give so generously this year is because of the enormous support of our corporate donors. Our lead donor is TD Bank, so we are very grateful to them for their generosity and support," she said. "Even in the absence of our usual Spring Fashion Show fundraiser, we were still able to give the same amount that we did last year, especially thanks to the support of those corporate sponsors."

**ACCORDING TO RECIPIENT** Elizabeth Hale, President, Safe Community Coalition: "The Safe Community Coalition is thrilled to receive funds once again from the New Dominion Woman's Club to support our programs and events fostering mental health and wellness and our youth across McLean. Their ongoing support means so much to our financial security and allows us to have events free of charge." She said the 25-year-old organization based in McLean supports student health and wellness; mental health; putting on events for sixth-graders all the way up to college kids and parents that are focused on how to manage stress and anxiety.

Added recipient Deb Bissen, Director of Communications and Development at McLean Project for the Arts: "We are so appreciative as always of the New Dominion Woman's Club and their strong support to so many community organizations in the McLean area. They've been long-term supporters of McLean Project for the Arts, both financially and the hard work they do in volunteering with some of our events, especially with our MPArFest every fall in McLean Central Park. They've been wonderful in helping create the Children's Walk and we can't thank them enough for all of the support over the years."

Nancy Sausser, MPA Curator and Exhibitions Director, said the mission is to exhibit the work of contemporary artists from the mid-Atlantic region and also to educate the public about contemporary art. They have many classes; run MPArFest and have at least 16 exhibits a year, changing every 6-8 weeks, and work with living artists from the area.



**(From left): NDWC President Jennifer Salopek with funds recipient Donald Frickel, President of Share, Inc.; Jessica Faust, VP Resource Allocation; and Kim Marinus, VP of Ways and Means.**

Added recipient Crystal Jean, Executive Director, Falls Church McLean Children's Center: "We're honored to be a recipient of the New Dominion Woman's Club this year. Not only do they contribute financially but we're very fortunate that they have a hands-on approach as well. So, they come to our center twice a year as part of the Reading is Fundamental Program and actually spend time with our children so they can see where their dollars end up going, and the support they provide, what it has done to better the lives of the children that we serve."

She added: "We are a child-care center that serves low-income working families. So, without our services, many of the families below 250 percent of the poverty line would not have the ability to afford quality child care."

**RECIPIENT** Donald Frickel, President of Share, Inc., added: "We are particularly excited about receiving funds from the New Dominion Woman's Club at this time of the year because the Fallstead has recently opened on Lewinsville Road. It has added potentially 80 clients to our client rolls; we've already had a lot of interaction with many of them. They're starting to come to the food and clothing room. They're also making requests for financial help. That's a huge boost in our clientele so we're happy to have these extra funds this time of year to help us deal with that expansion in demand."

# BULLETIN

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

## FRIDAY/JUNE 14

**Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training.** 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Pennino Government Building (Rooms 200 + 206), 12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Join SCAN for a Stewards of Children Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training. As a Partner in Prevention with Darkness to Light, SCAN offers this evidence-informed training to empower adults to take action to protect the children in their lives. Free; space is limited. Register at [scanD2Lfairfax.eventbrite.com](http://scanD2Lfairfax.eventbrite.com).

**Application Deadline: Fire Academy.** The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department is now accepting applications for its Girls Fire and Rescue Academy summer camp, which will take place July 11-13, 2019. The Academy is open to female students who will be in grades 7-12 in the upcoming 2019-2020 school year. Participants must be a Fairfax County resident. Free. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire-ems).

## WEDNESDAY/JUNE 19

**Juneteenth Revival.** 6 p.m., dinner; 7 p.m., program at First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard St., NW, Vienna. The program will feature music by the Juneteenth Community Choir. Guest speaker, Bishop McKissick, Jr., is the Senior Pastor of the Bethel Baptist Institutional Church in Jacksonville. Visit [fbcv.org](http://fbcv.org) or call 703-938-8525.

**Vienna Woman's Club Meeting.** 7-9 p.m. at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna. Vienna Woman's Club invites prospective members to its open membership meeting with a guest speaker on a common interest subject. Visit [www.ViennaWomansClub.org](http://www.ViennaWomansClub.org) for more.

## THURSDAY/JUNE 20

**Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training.** 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Pennino Government Building. See June 14, above.

**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](http://scov.org). Contact facilitator Jack Tarr at 703-821-6838 or [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net).

**Memory Cafe.** 2-4 p.m. at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. Connect with others living with loved ones with dementia. Helping those with dementia and their caregivers find fun, resources and "family." Email Carol Blackwell at [lovrivier@aol.com](mailto:lovrivier@aol.com) or call at 571-236-6933.

## MONDAY-FRIDAY/JUNE 24-28

**Hogwarts Vacation Bible School.** Monday-Friday, June 24-28 at Holy Comforter. All children 5-11 years old are invited to participate in a summer camp experience which explores the Christian themes and lessons in the Harry Potter stories. Holy Comforter is magically converted into Hogwarts School where children attend "classes" taught by favorite professors including Prof. McGonagall, Snape, Hooch, and Binns. Teenage prefects lead age level groups to their activities and all students share a closing snack in the Great Hall. Morning Session: 9 a.m.-noon; afternoon session: 1:30-4:30 p.m. Download registration forms at [www.holycomforter.com](http://www.holycomforter.com).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 28-30

**Women's Summit.** Tysons McLean Hilton, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Speakers and workshops cover women in politics, education, equality, diversity, environment, healthcare, racial and social justice, reproductive freedom, public safety, rural economy, voting rights, and family friendly economy. \$139. Visit [networknova.org](http://networknova.org) for more.

## THURSDAY/AUG. 1

**Champions of Character Nomination Deadline.** The nomination process for the 2019 annual Fairfax County Champions of Character Awards are underway. Honor youth, coaches and parents for extraordinary service in pursuing victory with honor in athletics. Anyone can nominate a player, coach or parent for consideration of a Champions of Character Award. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/neighborhood-community-services/athletics/champions-of-character](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/neighborhood-community-services/athletics/champions-of-character) for more.

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## What A Week!



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The least of it was my pre-immunotherapy lab work on Wednesday and then my actual immunotherapy infusion on Friday. The most of it was my navigating websites and trying to properly complete applications/enrollment forms for the Virginia Unemployment Commission and the Maryland Health Connection.

For a man (me) who fancies himself your go-to-guy for sports and chocolate, getting immersed in policies and procedures for government agencies providing unemployment benefits and health care – with our (my wife, Dina and I) respective lives somewhat dependent on the time-sensitive completion of said documents, was akin to sending yours truly out to sing the National Anthem at the next Nationals' game. It would be a disaster of titanic proportions (fortunately without the loss of life).

As it has been my entire life, I can't sing any more than I can now compute.

As I sit and write this week's column, having barely survived the excruciating ordeal of this past week – with only an in-office visit left to go on Monday – I now have next week to look forward to. And what garden path am I leading you down?

Another week of time-sensitive/computer-centric tasks, of course. Once again I will be sitting at my computer attempting to navigate through another government web site and this time a private sector website, as I try to sign up for Medicare effective Sept. 1, as well as the associated but independent supplemental medical insurance necessary to fill in the coverage gaps that I, as a former insurance broker, know exist.

Granted, with these two tasks I do have some time. I just hope I have the wherewithal.

This past week took a toll emotionally. And I'm not sure if I really want to climb that emotional mountain yet again.

This week's tasks are not any easier. Shooting fish in a barrel they're not. They're more like having to make the barrel and then catch the fish. Not easier said than impossibly done. For a man who knows his limitations, the week ahead will likely test those limitations.

But if not me, then who? Unfortunately, it has to be me. The other party with whom I share a long-standing arrangement has a skill set unsuited to and incompatible with, computers, and the kind of searching/deciphering/hunting and pecking on web sites required for completion of this week's tasks.

Moreover, if I enlist her support or insist on her participation, my present and future will not be enhanced by the experience. She may be a resource in many other respects, but in this respect, she's not.

And I can respect that. Give me a little credit, I've learned something in our 40 years together.

That being said – and understood, I think I'll take the weekend off from such endeavors and prepare myself for next week as I consider the challenges which lie ahead.

I'd like to think I've gained some confidence in the progress I made this past week. I've nearly completed both tasks, tasks which initially seemed almost insurmountable. However, if it were not for the amazingly patient, courteous and knowledgeable assistance I received from the call centers associated with these sites, I'd still be stumbling and stammering (literally) into oblivion.

But as of this past Friday, I've nearly reached the promised land. ("I can see Russia from my house.")

I can only imagine the satisfaction I'll feel next Friday when I anticipate I will have completed two more of these tedious tasks and secured yet another part of our financial and emotional future.

Four huge hurdles overcome, but still with a few more yet to go: probably applying for a reverse mortgage and possibly researching a kitchen renovation.

Wait a second. Don't I have lung cancer? Jeez, I almost forgot.

With all this other stuff going on, the cancer compartment stayed closed. Now it's open again. Damn, now I really have problems.

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



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