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Robert Gilbert and his 'Great Falls Green' won first place and a monetary award of \$500 in last weekend's Plein Air Competition in Great Falls.

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Robert Gilbert, Jill Banks and Rajendra K.C. won the first, second and third place respectively in the weekend Plein Art Competition in Great Falls.



Robert Gilbert and his 'Great Falls Green' won first place and a monetary award of \$500.

PHOTOS BY NADEZHDA SHULGA/THE CONNECTION

Great Falls in Plein Air

Artists brush, dip and paint their vision of the beauty of Great Falls.

BY NADEZHDA SHULGA
THE CONNECTION

Last week, the fifth Annual Plein Air Competition took place in the Arts of Great Falls Gallery and picturesque surroundings. The artists were tasked to create original artwork from scratch in four days. More than 20 artists visited Great Falls to paint, draw, and sketch its beauty and serenity.

It was a kind of an Olympic Games for painters. They demonstrated remarkable stylistic creativity, versatility, and knowledge of art.

The locations were announced by artists upfront, so the public could join them as they created out in the open air, "en plein air," in Great Falls Park, Riverbend Park, Colvin Run Mill and Great Falls Village Center, as well as private gardens and historic farms. On Sunday the works were brought inside to be showcased in the gallery.

"This year, 22 artists participated in our contest, and we can have a maximum of 25," Julie Casso, the executive director of The Arts of Great Falls said. "Each artist can submit only two paintings because our gallery space holds about 50 paintings maximum. All of the works will be in the gallery until Sept. 30."

Bethanne Kinsella Cople, plein air and studio landscape artist from Alexandria, judged the competition: "This is actually my very first time here. I'm going to be teaching a workshop at the end of the month at the Great Falls Studios."

After thoroughly reviewing all the submissions, the competition jury selected three winners.

Robert Gilbert and his "Great Falls Green" won first place and a monetary award of \$500.

"I've thought that it is about the mastery of the medium of watercolor," Cople said about Gilbert's piece. "Watercolor is not



Bethanne Kinsella Cople, plein air and studio landscape artist and Plein Air Competition judge, congratulates the first place winner Robert Gilbert.

easy. He has got delicious, beautiful washes. In addition, the composition is strong. It is very impressionistic and beautifully done."

Second place was awarded to Jill Banks

and her "Farm Flock." She was also awarded the People's Choice Award.

"Vertical and narrow composition is not an easy format," Cople said. "She did a

beautiful job. She has got some really nice warm colors in the foreground that help bring the roosters in the foreground in front and then everything else goes into depth in the painting".

The third place went to Rajendra K.C. His original watercolor painting titled "Turner Farm" showcases the peace and tranquility of the countryside.

"The beautiful artist's interpretation!" Cople said of his work.

Celebrate Great Falls Foundation provided cash prizes include \$500 for first place, \$250 for second place, and \$150 for third place, as well as the \$150 for the People's Choice award. Because of two artists got the same number of People's Choice votes, the jury decided to award both Lynne Cothorn with her "Studio" and Jill Banks with her "Farm Flock".

The exhibition is up all month in Arts of Great Falls Gallery. The Gallery welcomes visitors to view the exhibition and buy the paintings.



Jill Banks and her 'Farm Flock' received the second place award.



Third prize went to Rajendra K.C. who captured the quietude and beauty of the Turner Farm Park in his painting.

Deer Archery Program Begins

The county's annual Deer Management Archery Program began Saturday, Sept. 7 and runs through Saturday, Feb. 22, 2020.

The archery program is conducted in dozens of parks and other locations throughout the county under Fairfax County Parks Department oversight and working closely with the Park Authority and NOVA Parks. Parks remain open to the public during this program.

The archery program began in 2010 and is part of an integrated Deer Management Program to reduce and stabilize the white-tailed deer population. The program aims to minimize safety and health hazards related to an overabundance of deer, including deer-vehicle collisions, potential spread of diseases, and environmental damage attributed to deer that can impact the ecosystem.

The county's Deer Management Program was approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2000 and is recognized as a safe and efficient method of deer population control by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Because of its proven track record of safety, archery is a preferred deer management method. Archery is a compatible use

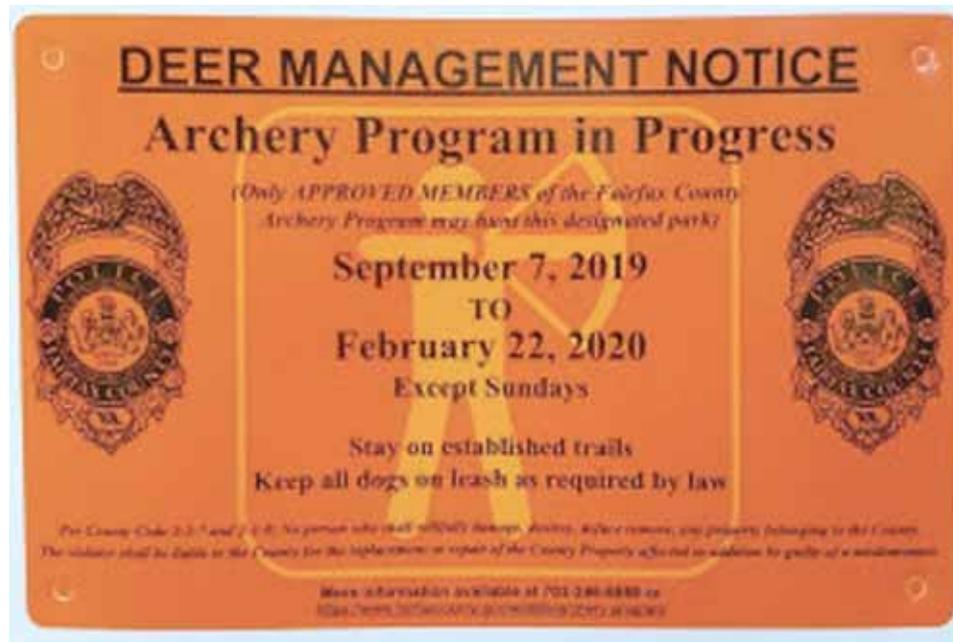


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

These signs are posted in archery program areas, at park entrances and trailheads.

with residential areas and community parks, allowing for deer population management in urban and suburban areas.

Since Virginia began tracking hunting injuries in 1959, no bystanders have been

injured by an archer hunting deer anywhere in the commonwealth. Last year, 89 percent of the total deer harvests in our Deer Management Program were through the use of archery.

The county's Archery Program standards require that all archers meet state hunter licensing, education and safety requirements and must pass qualifications to demonstrate skill and marksmanship, in addition to carrying program identification. Archers are also required to pass a criminal background check and complete additional training through the International Bowhunter Education Program to participate in the Deer Management Program.

Parks remain open to the public during the archery program and fluorescent orange signs are posted in parks where hunting is authorized. Harvest attempts will be accomplished from elevated tree stands; hunting from the ground level is prohibited in county parks. Tree stands must not be located closer than 100 feet from property lines or closer than 50 feet from established park trails.

Archers are approved to hunt at assigned sites Monday through Saturday during legal hunting hours, 30 minutes prior to sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset. No hunting is allowed on Sundays in county parks. Archers are not allowed on private property without permission by the owner or tenant.

For more information, visit the Fairfax County Deer Management Program.

Great Falls Citizens Assn Focuses on Schools

GFCA Board Establishes Special Committee on Schools, announces School Board Candidates Debate.

Great Falls residents have shown a heightened interest in plans and policies being discussed by the Fairfax County Public School Board and, as a result, the Great Falls Citizens Association Executive Board has established a special committee on schools, co-chaired by board member Gordon Harris and GFCA member Fadi Shadid, GFCA announced. The special committee's mission, as adopted by the GFCA Board, is to represent the community to ensure that Great Falls' interests are addressed by county institutions and elected officials. To provide an open forum for residents and candidates, GFCA is hosting a Town Hall Debate with the FCPS Board candidates on Sept. 25. Attending are the three candidates for Dranesville District representative on the FCPS Board and candidates for the three At-Large seats. Candidates will deliver short opening and closing statements and will then take ques-

tions from the moderator and the audience. The first meeting of GFCA Special Committee on Schools will be on Monday, Sept. 23 at the Great Falls Library at 7 p.m. GFCA and community members are invited to participate. The agenda will include discussion of current committee priorities, approaches to best monitor Fairfax County plans and policies, and best methods to inform and involve the Great Falls community. Committee members will discuss insights into the draft revision of FCPS Policy 8130 that would govern school boundary changes if adopted. This policy revision was discussed at the July 22 work session of the FCPS school board, which was attended by more than 100 citizens who had concerns about the changes to current policy. The draft would revise significant parts of the policy including the type and priority of considerations that guides school boundary decisions.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MCC

A variety of offers at the McLean Community Garage Sale.

McLean to Hold Fall Community Garage Sale

The McLean Community Center will hold its annual Fall Community Garage Sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Saturday, Sept. 14, in the parking garage located at 1420 Beverly Rd. With more than 50 adult and youth sellers, it is one of the largest garage sales of the season. Admission to the sale is free.

Shoppers can find bargains galore at one of the area's first, biggest and best garage sales of the fall season. The sale offers a wide variety of gently used household goods, electronics, furniture,

clothes, appliances and other items. The Kids' Corner is a special area of the sale where children ages three to 15 can use their math and entrepreneurial skills while selling toys, clothes, games and other items.

This event has been made possible with the generous support of Stream Realty, Inc. Giant Food and McLean Properties.

For more information, call the Center at 703-744-9365, TTY: 711, or visit www.mcleancenter.org.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Langley Volleyball Team Receives Academic Award

The 2018-19 Saxon Volleyball team has been recognized as a recipient of the 2018-19 American Volleyball Coaches' Association Academic Award. This award honors their dedication to the sport of volleyball as well as their excellence in the classroom. The team's average GPA was a 3.9. The Langley High community congratulated the girls and their coach Susan Shifflet.

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Purpose of a Corporation

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



While most of my columns are about issues that need resolution and challenges that state government must meet, a column focused on what others are doing to improve life in our communities is appropriate from time to time. If we allow ourselves to relax for a few moments to see and marvel in some good news, it does not mean that we are any less committed to improving the world or that we will lose our momentum in trying to do so. There are many more stories of progress that I hope to share in this short space in the future, but an event last month deserves our immediate attention.

The Business Roundtable made up of 181 CEO's of America's biggest companies issued a new "Statement on the Purpose of a Corporation" last month that makes a dramatic shift from past statements that emphasized shareholder primacy to a "fundamental commitment to all of our stakeholders." The broadened purpose is explained to include delivering value

to customers, investing in employees, dealing ethically and fairly with suppliers, and supporting communities in which they are located. (<https://opportunity.businessroundtable.org>)

Socially responsible actions taken voluntarily on the part of many companies may have spurred the new Business Roundtable statement, but the hope is that other corporations will follow with actions that are as positive for their workers and the communities they serve as they are for the bottom line. As the Roundtable statement explained, "investing in our employees...starts with compensating them fairly and providing important benefits."

Maybe there will be a future where my bill to increase the paltry \$7.25 an hour minimum wage in Virginia will be supported by local Chambers of Commerce instead of outright opposition they have expressed in the past. Concern for workers at the minimum should be that they are paid a wage on which they can live.

The Roundtable statement acknowledged that "while each of our individual companies serves its own corporate purpose, we share a fundamental commitment to all of our stake-

holders." Among the stakeholders are the communities in which businesses are located to which the Roundtable members expressed that "we respect the people in our communities and protect the environment by embracing sustainable practices across our businesses." The consumer continues to have the choice of buying products that are made in a sustainable way and to refuse to purchase those that are not.

The auto manufacturers who made an agreement with the state of California to follow strict emission standards for automobiles regardless of the irresponsible action by the federal government to lower standards are to be applauded and supported by other states in the court suit. How ironic would it be if the courts decided that companies could not gain a competitive advantage by being more environmentally responsible.

The Business Roundtable Statement on the Purpose of a Corporation concludes that "each of our stakeholders is essential. We commit to deliver value to all of them, for the future success of our companies, our communities and our country." Those same "stakeholders" are referred to in government as "constituencies." When the common goals of business and society as reflected through its government are recognized, success will be realized by stakeholders and constituencies!

Technology, Social Media Impact Revealed

The Safe Community Coalition presents LIKE documentary, at Langley, McLean High.

More than 2 billion people have smartphones today. And we check our phones on average an incredible 150 times every day. Technology makes our lives easier in so many ways but what is the cost of our dependence, and our children's reliance on screens?

As part of a yearlong focus on social media wellness, the Safe Community Coalition, in conjunction with the PTAs of Langley High School and McLean High School, is hosting two screenings of the compelling new IndieFlix Original documentary "LIKE" Thursday, Oct. 10 in the Langley High School auditorium and Tuesday, Oct. 15 in the McLean High

School auditorium. Both showings are 7-8:30 p.m.

"LIKE" reveals the true effects of technology on the brain and uncovers the impact social media can have on our lives. The film's mission is to educate, inform and inspire people to effectively self-regulate their screen time. The film features interviews with experts including Max Stossel, Head of Education & Content at Center for Humane Technology; Leah Pearlman, Co-Creator of the Facebook "Like" button; Dr. Jerry Bubrick, Senior Psychologist at Child Mind Institute; Professor Jevin West, DataLab, iSchool, University of Washington; John Borthwick, CEO of Betaworks; and Professor Katie Davis, author of "The App Generation."

After the film, discussion will be led by Dr. Clifford Sussman, a DC-based psychiatrist and expert on helping people achieve a more balanced relationship with digital technology.

The event is free and open to the public. To learn more visit: thelikemovie.com/ or

indieflix.com/.

The Safe Community Coalition (SCC) is a 25-year-old group of community volunteers whose mission is to educate and empower youth and families to make responsible choices about their mental and physical health and safety. The group will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2020.

The SCC's vision is a community where youth learn to make responsible decisions and where they are safe, mentally and physically healthy, and free from alcohol and drug use. The SCC offers programs for youth, parents, and the community in collaboration with other community sectors concerned about our youth: schools, parent/teacher associations, faith organizations, businesses, public safety organizations, the medical community, and civic organizations.

The SCC is tax-exempt 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that is 100 percent funded by donations. See mcleanscc.org for more details on how you can donate and get involved.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Missing from the Candidates' List

To the Editor:
I was astounded to see that the Great Falls Connection (August 28-September 3), which carried a Newcomers & Community Guide, actually failed to list two of the Republican candidates for office in its helpful insert. Kathleen Murphy was listed as running unopposed

for Delegate in District 34. Somehow the editors of the Connection missed a fact that many people in the community know: Gary Pan is running against her, and he's running an energetic and positive campaign. Not only that, School Board candidate Vinson

Palathingal is dropped from the list of at-large candidates. How can this be? Is it a coincidence that both candidates are Republican? In any case it's a serious ethical error. The

Connection can do better. Our community deserves to know about all the candidates in the

race, particularly when they're listed in an insert that many new residents would find helpful.

Laura Burke
Great Falls

The Connection ran a correction and reprinted the candidates' list in full in last week's edition.

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Flutes of Freedom Welcome Veterans

Flutes of Freedom welcomed 200 WWII, Vietnam and Korean veterans at Honor Flight Saturday, Sept. 7 at Reagan National Airport. Flutes of Freedom comprises Fairfax flutists ages 9-18 from Herndon, Reston and Great Falls. Honor Flights bring veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit those memorials dedicated to honor the service and sacrifices of themselves and their friends.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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(July 1, 2020–June 30, 2021)

**McLean Community Center Governing Board
Wednesday, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.**

Residents who wish to speak at the Public Hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers list. The draft budget proposal is available on the Center's website. Copies will be available at the Public Hearing.

Written comments may be delivered to the McLean Community Center (see address below) marked "Attention: Executive Director," or sent by email to george.sachs@fairfaxcounty.gov. Written comments may be provided after the Public Hearing up through Monday, Oct. 21.



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HomeLifeStyle

By combining a first level floorplan reconfiguration with a partial second floor “pop-up,” Glickman Design Build generated almost 800 square feet of new living space for a three generation family of five. The top level, now private quarters for the twin boys, includes two bedrooms, a 71 square foot work station alcove, and a loft devoted to video games and entertainment.



BEFORE: Situated at the top of a hill on a one third-acre lot, the Coyle’s 1,400 square foot circa 1960’s Colonial..

McLean ‘Pop-up’ Accommodates Growing Family

Solution combines first level floorplan reconfiguration with attic conversion to create budget-friendly increase in living space.

BY JOHN BYRD
THE CONNECTION

Brian and Jee Coyle, two professionals in their early forties, had occupied their two-level 1,400-square-foot Colonial in McLean for over a decade. The busy household included Jee’s mother, Penvadee (65), and twin sons—Ty and Miles (10), who were fast-approaching the stage when more independence and privacy is an emergent priority.

Living arrangements called for Brian and Jee sharing the ground-level master suite on the southwest rear corner of the house while the twins bunked in a single first floor bedroom, sharing a hall bath with a tub,

Penvadee’s suite was situated on the lower level where Brian also retained a small office. The close-knit family daily shared meals and lots of quality-time pursuits. But needed changes were anticipated.

Looking ahead, the Coyles recognized they would soon want more usable square footage. Thoughts of finding a larger house nearby didn’t last long since the family considered the circa 1960s brick-facing original something of a classic, and particularly appreciated the good local schools. Still, a remodeling solution that would allow each generation to have a level to themselves made practical sense.

By making over the existing house, the boys might pick up a bedroom each, plus a shared bath and spaces for study and entertainment.

Brian would gain a larger and more private office. Yet the quest for more additional square footage also seemed something of a “reach” since the existing floorplan was notably cramped, situated on a one

third acre lot on a hill and offered few visible expansion options. Still, there were opportunities worth examination.

“An open attic with about six feet of headroom was accessible from a staircase in the dining room,” Brian said. “We could picture this as a potential new top level, but weren’t sure of the cost issues, which members of the family would live there or any of the design details.”

Taking the inquiry to the next step, Jee began investigating ideas on “Houzz,” a popular consumer web site. They noticed Glickman Design Build emerged in relation to a nearby makeover that proved to offer spot-on relevance to the Coyle’s goals.

“We had no idea how a new top level should be configured,” Brian said. “But Glickman’s advanced computer imaging technology (CADD systems) made it easy for us to not only model alternate floorplan configurations, but also to narrow-down our many finishwork choices.”

Better yet, the Coyles found that the feasibility study phase of Glickman’s agreement allowed them to closely examine a host of the technical issues while absorbing design fees into the building process.

“The contract permitted us to imagine a large range of options without adding cost,” the homeowner said. “We even considered relocating the master bedroom to the top floor, or bumping out the front. This freedom to explore every consideration was liberating.”

In the end, the attic was converted into a 776-square-foot suite designed primarily for the twins. Each son has a private bedroom. There’s a 78-square-foot master bath; a roomy work station and a spacious loft devoted to video games and entertainment.

Their former first floor bedroom has been converted into Brian’s 150-square-foot office. The now open first level plan is an improvement on all fronts.

“The whole first floor circulates much better” said Brian. “There’s more natural light throughout the primary living area, and it’s a much interactive floorplan. Great for the entire family.”

For Information: 703-832-8158 or 301-444-4663 or GlickmandDesignBuild.com

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FAITH

Jewish High Holiday Services Open to All

No need for membership or tickets at Chabad of Reston-Herndon.

We stand just a few weeks before Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and one of the holiest days on the Jewish calendar, and there are still many Jews who have no plans to attend synagogue for high holiday services.



Rabbi Leibel Fajnlant

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

brew prayerbooks, enable those of all levels to become active participants in the services.

“According to Jewish tradition, on the Jewish New Year, the doors of Heaven are open. G-d accepts prayers from everyone,” said Rabbi Leibel Fajnlant, who is hosting the services in

Herndon “The least we can do is open our doors as well, to the entire community.”

Chabad Rabbi Leibel Fajnlant continued, “During the Jewish High Holidays, accessibility can translate into different factors for different people, such as a non-judgmental atmosphere, affordability of the services, insights and commentary on the liturgy as the service unfolds, or the ability for a beginner to follow along.

Our goal is to lower the barriers of entry, and encourage each and every Jew to actively participate in these most holy and introspective days.”

Rosh Hashanah begins this year after sundown on Sept. 29 and extends until nightfall on Oct. 1. Yom Kippur begins this year after sundown on the eve of Oct. 8 and extends until nightfall on Oct. 9.

Some are not affiliated with a synagogue; others will be travelling on business; and a sizable percentage simply don't feel comfortable in a synagogue setting. Another sad truth, there are those who cannot afford the cost of services.

Whatever the case may be, many of these would-be worshippers are feeling the pangs associated with being left out of the holiest days of the Jewish calendar. Chabad of Reston-Herndon, the local branch of the largest Jewish outreach organization in the world, has presented its own High Holiday services option, providing Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services in a warm and inclusive setting, open to all.

Chabad's services are “user-friendly,” making it enjoyable and meaningful for both the beginner and the advanced. Song, commentary and the use of English-He-

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FOR MORE INFO: For more information about Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, visit www.Chabadrh.org/newyear.

For more information on the above events, call Rabbi Leibel Fajnlant at 703-476-1829, visit www.chabadrh.org or write to Rabbi@chabadrh.org.

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Public Forum on Climate Justice to Be Held in Vienna

The forum will be moderated by William Barber III and Karenna Gore.

The 2019 Virginia Climate Crisis Forum will take place on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2019, at 7:30 p.m., at First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard Street, NW, Vienna. The forum is open to the public and free of charge. Doors open at 7 p.m.; space is limited. For additional details or to register, visit bit.ly/2019climateforum.

The Virginia Climate Crisis Forum is hosted by Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (FACS) and co-sponsored by Virginia Interfaith Power & Light, Interfaith Power & Light (DC, MD, NoVA), and the Virginia Poor People's Campaign. Attendees, including people of faith and community members across Virginia, will engage in a deep conversation about environmental justice, moderated by William Barber, III and Karenna Gore.

TOPICS of discussion will include the landscape of environmental justice issues in Vir-

ginia, the intersection with faith, energy justice, and Fairfax County's approach to equity. In addition, attendees will hear from people directly impacted by climate justice issues.

"Ultimately our work to develop local solutions to the climate crisis is about people. How can we minimize human suffering and create an equitable environment where people can enjoy a healthy, livable community?" Meg Mall, Executive Director of FACS poses this question to the community. "With this year's Virginia Climate Crisis Forum, FACS is opening a conversation about environmental justice as a civil right."

William Barber, III, is the Strategic Partnerships Associate at The Climate Reality Project. Karenna Gore is the Founding Director of the Center for Earth Ethics at Union Theological Seminary. She is the eldest daughter of former Vice President Al Gore.

Barber underscores why the topic of the forum is so important: "If we are serious about addressing the current environmental crisis of our time, we must be serious about understanding fully the connections between environmental injustice and the climate crisis. When we think of environmental injustice, we often think in the local context: we picture issues of localized

pollution and the fight by communities — often poor, black, and brown — for clean air, clean water, and a clean environment in which to live. But too often, we don't expand our thoughts to the larger connection, that every time one of these communities is encroached upon by a natural gas pipeline, disrupted by a petrochemical facility, or targeted for any other fossil fuel expansion, it increases the amount of greenhouse gas emissions being dumped into our global atmosphere and lowers the probability that we will act in enough time to minimize the worst effects of this crisis. And, what is even more damning, is that these same communities who have lived with decades of environmental and health disruptions and who contribute the least to the climate crisis are set to be the ones hit first and worst by these effects."

PANELISTS for the event include:

- ❖ Karla Bruce, Chief Equity Officer, Fairfax County
- ❖ Karen Campblin, Co-chair of Green New Deal Virginia; Transportation and Smart Growth Co-chair of the Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club; and Environmental and Climate Justice Chair of the Virginia NAACP State Conference
- ❖ Andrea Miller, Organizer for Virginia

Poor People's Campaign and Executive Director of Demanding Action

❖ Dawone Robinson, Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Director of Energy Affordability for the Natural Resources Defense Council

❖ Rev. Paul Wilson, Pastor of Union Hill Baptist Church and Union Grove Baptist Church

❖ Melody Zhang, Climate Justice Campaign Coordinator at Sojourners and Co-Chair of Young Evangelicals for Climate Action

The moderators and panelists will engage attendees in a conversation about how to respond as a faith community to better care for Creation through a commitment to local solutions to environmental justice.

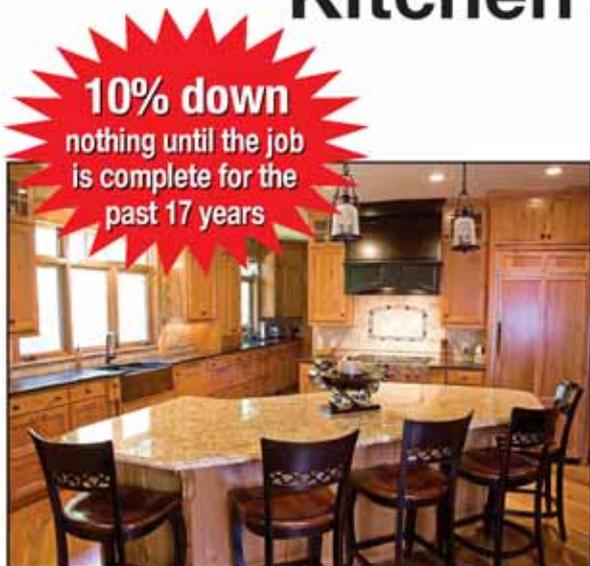
Residents from throughout Virginia are encouraged to attend the 2019 Virginia Climate Crisis Forum to participate in this conversation on climate change and environmental justice. Prior to and after the program, attendees will also have the opportunity to talk with and learn more about dozens of nonprofit organizations and government agencies who will be sharing information in the lobby. Doors will open at 7 p.m., and the program will begin at 7:30 p.m..

For more information, visit faithforclimate.org.

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3,000 Jobs Added to Local Economy

In the second quarter of 2019, the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority (FCEDA) worked with a diverse group of 35 businesses that announced the addition of nearly 3,000 jobs to the Fairfax County economy.

The companies represent a variety of industry sectors and run from A to Z: employment staffing company Aerotek to business process management software firm Zimpatica. Aerotek, which bases its Fairfax County operations in the Fair Lakes area, announced it would create 413 more jobs in the county. Zimpatica, which is based in the Merrifield area, said it would add 10 jobs to the local economy.

Other notable announcements during the quarter:

- ❖ TekSystems, which specializes in information technology staffing services and bases local operations in the Merrifield area. It is adding 840 jobs.

- ❖ Inova Schar Cancer Institute, which opened in May in Merrifield is adding 500 jobs.

- ❖ EY, the multinational provider of advisory, assurance, tax and transaction services is adding 481

jobs based out of the Tysons office.

- ❖ OBXtek, a service-disabled veteran-owned business that provides technical and logistical services to government agencies is adding 100 jobs based out of the Tysons office.

- ❖ Caboose Brewing Company, which opened Caboose Commons in the Mosaic District of Merrifield created 95 jobs.

- ❖ Furnace Record Pressing, which manufactures vinyl records in the Alexandria area of the county – one of just a handful of such operations in the nation – is adding 26 jobs.

Zach Sells, director of business operations (Northern Virginia and Winchester professional and industrial) for Aerotek, said the company continues to expand here because of the proximity to other growing companies and the talent they need. “We were very intentional in having an established presence in Fairfax County to capitalize on the growing job market here,” said Sells.

Victor Hoskins, president and CEO of the FCEDA, noted the range of industries represented by the companies that announced expansions during the quarter.

“We want to continue to diversify the economy in order to withstand the next recession,” Hoskins said. “Having companies in everything from IT to life sciences to manufacturing creating thousands of jobs will help us attract and retain a broad range of talent and continue to strengthen our economic base.” Business growth and innovation helps Fairfax County fund the nation’s top-rated school

system and other public services that contribute to the quality of life of residents. Fairfax County offers businesses a state-of-the-art telecommunications infrastructure, access to global markets through Washington Dulles International Airport, a vibrant investment capital community and a highly skilled, well-educated workforce.

The Fairfax County Economic Development Authority offers site

location and business development assistance, and connections with county and state government agencies, to help companies locate and expand in Fairfax County. In addition to its headquarters in Tysons, Fairfax County’s largest business district, the FCEDA maintains business investment offices in six important global business centers: Bangalore/Mumbai, Berlin, London, Los Angeles, Seoul and Tel Aviv.

lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way. 2. not appreciated or understood. 3. no longer owned or known

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lostdogandcatrescue.org

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At the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®, people carry flowers representing their connection to Alzheimer's — a disease that currently has no cure. But what if one day there was a flower for Alzheimer's first survivor? What if there were millions of them? Help make that beautiful day happen by joining us for the world's largest fundraiser to fight the disease. Register today at alz.org/walk

Walk to End Alzheimer's
Sept. 29 • Reston Town Center
Oct. 12 • National Mall

Additional Walks available.
Find one near you at alz.org/walk
or call 703.359.4440.



alzheimer's association®

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CALENDAR

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

ONGOING

Senior Olympics. The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics features more than 60 events that challenge the mind as well as the body. New games this year: jigsaw puzzle and line-dancing. The public is invited, free of charge, to all NVSO events. The games run Sept. 14-28. There will be no on-site registration for participants. Visit www.nvso.us.

Oak Marr Farmers' Market. 8 a.m.-noon at Oak Marr RECenter, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. Every Wednesday through Nov. 13, rain or shine. Call 703-281-6501 or visit 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. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mclean.

Great Falls Farmers Market. Year-round, Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Email 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. Visit community-foodworks.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 12

Art Demonstration. 7:30-9 p.m. at Vienna Art Center, Windover Building, 243 Church St. NW, Suite 100 LL, Vienna. After a brief membership meeting, enjoy light refreshments while artist Bob Magnuson describes his quick application techniques, using acrylics to create impressionistic/post-impressionistic paintings. An experienced plein air painter, Bob is a copyist for the National Gallery of Art and other Washington, D.C. museums. Open to the public. Free. Visit www.ViennaArtsSociety.org or call 703-319-3971.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 13

Great Decisions: Decoding U.S. - China Trade. 1-3 p.m. at Great Falls Public Library. Great Falls Senior Center is partnered with the Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services in all ventures and events. Visit gfseniors.org for more.

Old Firehouse Friday Night Trip. 4-10 p.m. meet at The Old Firehouse, 1440 Chain Bridge Road. Old Firehouse Friday night trip to Dave and Buster's, dining and entertainment attraction. Dinner and a \$25 game card with unlimited arcade game play are included in the fee. \$50; \$40 MCC district residents. Visit www.mcleancenter.org or call 703-448-8336.

SEPT. 13-NOV. 3

Pop-Up Scream Selfie Museum. Select dates and times at Tysons Corner Center, Lower Level near Lord & Taylor. The American Scream Selfie Museum will feature interactive exhibits that will make visitors laugh and scream and the star of eye-popping selfies. The museum will feature an array of custom-built Halloween themed sets individuals can interact with: sit on the Iron Throne and rule the Seven Kingdoms, stand in an ancient Egyptian tomb and face the Mummy; visit a gruesome morgue; and more. \$15-\$18. Visit www.american-scream.com

SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

NVSO Opening Ceremonies. 9-9:30 a.m. at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 South 2nd St., Arlington. The public is invited, free, to all NVSO events. Competition, Sept. 14-28, call 703-228-4721, go to www.nvso.us or email nvso1982@gmail.com.

Tea Seminar: ABC's of Tea. 1-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Learn about and taste teas from around the globe - white, green, oolong, black, and dark styles - their history; how they are similar to, and different from, each other; and how to best brew each style for optimum flavor. Tea infused treats and a take home tea sampler included. \$35 per person. Use ID Code 070.6BBA. Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes or call 703-222-4664.

Model Railroaders Open House. 1-5 p.m. at the Vienna Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE. Northern Virginia Model Railroaders hold an



COURTESY OF NVMR

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

Open House

Northern Virginia Model Railroaders hold an open house at the Vienna Depot each month and on Vienna celebration days, including Viva! Vienna and the Vienna Holiday Stroll. Free admission. Saturday, Sept. 14, 1-5 p.m. at the Vienna Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE. Call 703-938-5157 or visit www.nvmr.org.

Lunch 'n' Life

Presented by Shepherd's Center of Oakton/Vienna, Elaine Flynn portrays Mary Pickford: America's Sweetheart. The biggest star of the silent screen and first female star to earn \$1,000,000 She performed in over 200 films. Monday, Sept. 16 or Tuesday, Sept. 17, noon-2:30 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Call 703-281-0538 or visit www.scov.org/events.

Elaine Flynn portrays Mary Pickford: American's Sweetheart



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.

American Feud Documentary. 2-4 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. American Feud: A History of Conservatives and Liberals is the only non-partisan classroom friendly documentary that traces the American story of liberalism and conservatism featuring voices from many perspectives. Revised, updated and re-released in 2017, the new version explores the problem of dysfunctional government in light of a liberalism and conservatism that have become increasingly incoherent. Free. Call 703-938-0405 or visit librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/5395442.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 15

Breakfast Buffet. 8 a.m.-noon at Vienna American Legion Post 180, 330 Center St., N. Vienna. Get omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy and more. Adults \$10, children 12 and under \$4. Call 703-938-6580.

Get Fired Up. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. The mill's blacksmith will be firing up his forge - watch as he works with hammer and tongs to make iron tools and utensils. Free, no reservations are required. No reservations are required. Call 703-759-2771 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill.

MONDAY-TUESDAY/SEPT. 16-17

Lunch 'n' Life. Noon-2:30 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. Presented by Shepherd's Center of Oakton/Vienna, Elaine Flynn portrays Mary Pickford: America's Sweetheart. The biggest star of the silent screen and first female star to earn \$1,000,000 She performed in over 200 films. \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Call 703-281-0538 or visit www.scov.org/events.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 17

2019 Virginia Climate Crisis Forum. 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Vienna, 450 Orchard St., NW, Vienna. Join people of faith and community members across Virginia to engage in a deep conversation about environmental justice. The forum will feature expert panelists and is moderated by William Barber, III and Karenn Gore. Visit actionnetwork.org/events/2019-virginia-climate-crisis-forum/ to register.

Garden Wisdom. 7:30 p.m. at Vienna Town Hall, 127 Center St. S., Vienna. Margaret Fisher, of Plant NoVA Native, will discuss the benefits of native plants while soil scientist Dan Schwartz, with the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, will address "The World Beneath Our Feet." Both presentations are designed to inspire residents to think about their own gardens in new ways. Free and open to the public. Visit viennava.gov for more.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 18

50th Anniversary Luncheon. 11:15 a.m. at Westwood Country Club, 800 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. McLean Newcomers and Neighbors celebrate the 50th Anniversary. \$36 per person. To attend, pay at squareup.com/market/mclean-newcomers-club. Prospective and former members are welcome. No reservations will be accepted after Tuesday, Sep. 10. Visit www.McLeanNewcomers.org.

Learning at the Roll-Top Observatory. 7:30-8:30 p.m. at Turner Farm, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Learn about the planets, constellations, stars, galaxies, space missions and more at the Roll-Top Observatory at Turner Farm Park. Turner Farm hosts a talk on an astronomy-related topic each month. Participants will have a chance to use the observatory's telescopes, if the weather allows. Designed for participants age 8-adult. \$8 per person. Visit www.analemma.org for more.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 20

Application Deadline: Halloween Parade.

The 2019 Halloween Parade theme is "Famous Children's Books and Fairy Tales Brought to Life." To apply as a parade entrant, submit a completed registration form, narrative, waiver, and float policy form (if entering a float into competition) with a detailed sketch and description. Forms and additional information are available at viennava.gov/halloween.

Summer on the Green: Hard Swimmin' Fish (funk-infused blues). 6:30 p.m. on Vienna's Town Green. Friday nights through Aug. 23. Bring chairs and/or blankets. No alcoholic beverages. Consider leaving pets at home. Check the weather line at 703-255-7842. Learn more at www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3997.

Batty Myth-Busting. 7-8:30 p.m. at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. Separate fact from fiction with the "Let's Get Batty" program at Lake Fairfax Park. Park staff will debunk some common myths about our friendly bat neighbors. Short naturalist-led hike. Designed for participants age 7-adult. \$7 per person. Call 703-471-5414 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax.

Young Adult Game Night. 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The Young Adult Ministry will be hosting its first Game Night of the program year. All young adults are invited to gather in the chapel for some games, snacks, and fellowship. Bring friends and games you are interested in playing. Newcomers welcome. Free. Visit www.lewinsville.org/events/young-adult-game-night/ or call 703-356-7200.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

Annual Walk for Mental Health. 9 a.m. check in; walk starts at 10 a.m. Tysons Corner Center on the Plaza 1961 Chain Bridge Road, Tysons. In addition to live music, face painting, interactive music and art stations and information booths, participants will be celebrating hope and raising mental health awareness. Visit www.nami-northernvirginia.org/ to register.

Global Hunger Banquet. 6 p.m. at Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah Road NE, Vienna. An intergenerational education event and meal, illustrating the global division of food portions and supplementing the Vienna CROP Walk. Free tickets at www.eventbrite.com - enter "hunger banquet" in the events button. Free, but there will be an opportunity to donate to the CROP Walk at the event.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 22

Nature Nook-Turtles. 10-11 a.m. at Clemyjontri Park, 6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Join a naturalist to learn about the region's native turtles. For children ages 3-5, take a short park hike, meet a live turtle and make a turtle craft. \$9 per child. Call 703-388-2807 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/clemyjontri.

Cider Fresh from the Press. Noon-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Learn about the distilling process, how ciders are made, and why these activities are mill-related. Watch the cider press in action and see how a still operates. This will be a water-only operation, no alcohol is involved. \$5 per person. Designed for participants age 3-adult. Call 703-759-2771 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill.

Law Enforcement Challenge Awards Presented

Local police and special law enforcement agencies awarded for best traffic safety programs in the state.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

Impaired driving, occupant protection and speed awareness impact the safety of Virginia roadways. The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP) Law Enforcement Challenge is a traffic safety recognition program that recognizes agencies that excel in keeping their roadways safe. Last week, VACP announced multiple Northern Virginia police agencies recipients of the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge awards for the best traffic safety programs in the state in 2018. The Virginia law enforcement community consists of 125 city and county sheriff's offices, 242 police departments and seven state police divisions within 48 areas of the state according to the 2018 Virginia Highway Safety Plan, Annual Report Fiscal Year 2018 by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

According to the report, while a data comparison of Jan. 1 – Nov. 30: 2015 vs. 2018 revealed a 7 percent increase in Virginia fatalities, 689 to 737, there was a 12 percent decrease in serious injuries, 7430 to 6569, and an 8 percent decrease in unrestrained passenger vehicle occupant fatalities, 277 to 254 respectively.

VACP named the first, second and third place state winners during an awards luncheon that took place during its 94th Annual Training Conference on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at the Hilton Norfolk. VACP also presented special awards for outstanding enforcement and education efforts in the areas of occupant protection, impaired driving, speed awareness, commercial motor vehicle safety, distracted driving, technology, bicycle/pedestrian safety, and motorcycle safety, as well as the Commonwealth Award for the Best Overall Traffic Safety Program in Virginia 2018, regardless of agency size or type and special awards.

LOCAL NORTHERN VIRGINIA WINNERS of the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge were
Municipal Police:

- ❖ Herndon Police Department- First Place, Category 2: 26-60 Officers
- ❖ Arlington County Police Department-First Place, Category 5: 301-600 Officers
- ❖ Alexandria Police Department- Second Place, Category 5: 301-600 Officers
- ❖ Fairfax County Police Department- Second Place, Category 6: 601 or More Officers
- Special Law Enforcement:
 - ❖ Metro Washington Airports Authority Police Department (MWAA)-First Place

VACP also recognized MWAA with the Distracted Driving Award and recognized Herndon Police Department with the two additional awards, the Commonwealth Award for the Best Overall Traffic Safety



PHOTO BY ERIN SCHRAD/VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE
Sgt. Steve Brown, Sgt. Brian Hamilton, Sgt. Sean Merritt and Cpl. Robert Ronk of the Herndon Police Department accept three awards on behalf of the department: the Impaired Driving Award, the 2019 Commonwealth Award for the most outstanding traffic safety program in Virginia in 2018, and 1st Place in the 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge for municipalities with 26-60 Officers.

Program in Virginia and the Impaired Driving Award. Although representatives from most of the recognized agencies attended the awards luncheon, representatives of Fairfax County Police Department did not.

AWARDS were based on entries prepared by the participating agencies, which highlighted their traffic safety education and enforcement activities in occupant protection, impaired driving and speed over the past calendar year, according to VACP. Judges gave points to the agencies in six areas — problem identification, policies, planning, training of officers, public information and education, enforcement, and an evaluation of the outcomes of the agency's efforts.

The Herndon Police Department issued the statement: "We were both incredibly honored and surprised this year to receive three awards in the Virginia Chiefs of Police Law Enforcement Challenge for traffic safety enforcement and education. We were notified in advance that we were awarded first place in our agency size category, but we had no idea HPD would receive the Commonwealth Award for the most outstanding traffic division statewide, regardless of size and also be recognized for our efforts in combating impaired driving. We could not be more proud of the efforts put forth by our officers who work very hard each day to keep our roadways and our citizens safe. Traffic and pedestrian safety will continue to be a focus for HPD as development and roadway improvements increase both in the Town of Herndon and around it."

The Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Awards program is supported by a grant from the Virginia Highway Safety Office. The Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police & Foundation is a statewide organization of federal, state and local police chiefs and law enforcement executives dedicated to improving the professionalism of police agencies in Virginia. The Association was founded in 1926 and has more than 600 members.

Here's What's Happening at MCC!

Presented by The Alden



Movies for Kids & Families
Wednesday, Sept. 11, 12:30 p.m.
In the Community Hall
Free admission

The Old Firehouse Friday Night Trip



Dave & Buster's at Fair Oaks
Friday, Sept. 13, 4-10 p.m.
1440 Chain Bridge Rd.
\$50/\$40 MCC district residents

More than 50 Sellers!



Fall Community Garage Sale
Featuring the Kid's Corner
Saturday, Sept. 14, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
1420 Beverly Rd., McLean, Va. 22101
Free admission

Presented by The Alden



"Broadway Princess Party"
Sunday, Sept. 22, 3 p.m.
\$50/\$45 students and seniors
/\$35 MCC district residents

Presented by The Alden



Midday Movies:
Foreign-Language Films
Wednesday, Sept. 25, 1 p.m.
Free admission

MCC Governing Board Meeting



Public Hearing on FY2021 Budget
Wednesday, Sept. 25, 7:30 p.m.
All Governing Board meetings are open to the public.



The McLean Community Center
www.mcleancenter.org
Home of the Alden Theatre
www.aldentheatre.org
703-790-0123, TTY: 711

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-Werner Heisenberg

Announcements

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NEWS

Candidates Forum to be Held on Sept. 23

The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area will hold a Candidate Forum for Fairfax County Chair of the Board of Supervisors and At-Large School Board candidates on Monday, Sept. 23, 2019 at 7 p.m. The

event will be held at the Fairfax County Government Center; 12000 Government Center Parkway, in Fairfax.

All certified candidates for the Nov. 5, 2019 General Election have been invited. This event is free

and open to the public, and questions for the candidates will come from the audience.

Questions can be submitted in advance by accessing: www.surveymonkey.com/r/LWVFA2019

Assistance League to Sustain, Expand Children's Programs

Allstate Foundation awards \$20,000 to assist vulnerable communities in Northern Virginia.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia recognizes The Allstate Foundation, Allstate agency force and employee volunteers who helped the organization secure a \$20,000 grant award to ensure basic human needs are met in vulnerable communities.

In late spring 2019, sixteen members of Allstate's regional advisory board, comprising agency owners, exclusive agents and financial specialists from across Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and the Metro D.C. area, came together to participate in a volunteer service activity that yielded 500 bags of nonperishable food items for elementary school children at-risk of hunger on weekends. The efforts of Allstate volunteers allowed the all-volunteer nonprofit to satisfy an immediate unmet need, providing supplemental food to students at two schools not served by its Weekend Food for Kids program. At the time, resources allowed the nonprofit to provide 1,810 bags of food monthly to six partner schools. The extra food bags made a positive difference. In addition, the volunteers' service to Assistance League qualified the organization to apply for The Allstate Foundation's Helping Hands Grant program.

Assistance League recognizes Sharee Merenov, Allstate Capital Region division manager - corporate relations, and the agents who committed their time, resources and energy to help it win the significant grant award, including Christine Angles, Doris Banegas, Frank Ciambone, Benjamin Jessurun, Tae Kim, Michael Lee, Sara Lewis, Mike Masri, James Mwangi, Glenda Palacios, Amber Ritchie, Claudia Rivas, Paul Sarnak, Jason Sengpiehl, Miguel Villegas and Logan Wease.

"As a mom, I know how important it is for kids to eat right to be ready to learn and do their best. As a volunteer, I know how critical it is to have the funding to do what your heart knows is right," said Christine Angles, Allstate exclusive agent in Manassas. "It's been a pleasure working with the Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a group of passionate volunteers working to get kids on the right footing so they can thrive. And, it makes me proud that the Allstate Foundation supports nonprofits like this one where I volunteer my time and work towards making our community better."

The Allstate Foundation grant award will help the organization sustain and expand its successful Op-

Volunteer Information Meeting

Assistance League of Northern Virginia is sponsoring an information meeting to be held on Oct. 9, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Rd., Chantilly. Join us to learn about the organization's children's programs and how you can help support and expand these activities. Contact Vernetta Gaiani at Membership@alnv.org if interested in attending.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Allstate's exclusive agent, Christine Angles, and field senior vice president of the Capital Region, Robert Becker, engaging in community service.

eration School Bell programs that help nearly 8,000 low-income children in the region every year. Through its New Clothing for Kids, Literacy for Kids and Weekend Food for Kids programs, the nonprofit addresses the negative effects of poverty on children's academic performance and behavior.

The grant funds will be used to purchase nutritious, nonperishable food items, school clothes and new books for students in 11 Title I elementary schools in Fairfax and Prince William counties and the City of Alexandria, where up to 85 percent of the students live in poverty. Some of them experience homelessness or live in multi-family housing environments and rely on the organization to fulfill a number of their basic, critical needs.

With Allstate's partnership, Assistance League will be able to increase the level of support provided to low-income families and expand the programs to include additional schools. Allstate's charitable donation will directly impact children and help prepare them for success in school.

www.alnv.org.

BULLETIN

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

THROUGH OCT. 23

How to Build a Better Budget. At the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The McLean Community Center (MCC) Governing Board invites residents of Small District 1A-Dranesville to engage with planning Center's fiscal year 2021 budget. All meetings of the Governing Board are open to the public. The preliminary consolidated budget will be posted on the Center's website and available at the Center's reception desk a week prior to the public hearing on Wednesday, Sept. 25. Visit www.mcleancenter.org/news-items/404-board-holds-meetings-on-fy2021-budget-proposal

- ❖ The Public Hearing on the FY2021 Budget, will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 25.
- ❖ Residents may submit written comments through Monday, Oct. 21 - by mail to McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101; fax 703-653-9435; or email to george.sachs@fairfaxcounty.gov.
- ❖ The Board will approve the FY2021 budget when it meets at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 23. The final budget will be approved by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in spring 2020.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 13

Public Art and Placemaking. 8-10:30 a.m. at Booz Allen Hamilton, 8283 Greensboro Drive, McLean. Join a fun, interactive discussion about co-creating more vibrant public spaces that engage, interact, and transform the region. Keynote Speaker Katarzyna (Kate) Balug is a co-founder of Department of Play, a lost city department that examines play as a powerful form of collaboration between residents and urban systems. Registration is \$40 and includes continental breakfast. Visit cfnova.org

FRIDAYS/SEPT. 13-OCT. 11

"Caring for You, Caring for Me." 10 a.m.-noon at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna. Fairfax County and Inova Health System present free "Caring for You, Caring for Me" programs. This workshop series provides a blend of support and education for caregivers of older adults. Respite services available if requested three weeks in advance. Call 703-324-7210, TTY 711.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

2019 Arts Educational Panel. 8:30-11 a.m. at the Reston Community Center Hunter Woods (Rooms 2-3-4). ARTSFAIRFAX welcomes the community to the 2019 Arts Educational Panel, 'Think Like an Artist: Creativity in the Classroom' featuring Dr. Kimberly Sheridan, Associate Professor of Educational Psychology at George Mason University and Julie Carmean, Museum Educator and Coordinator of Professional Development at the National Gallery of Art. \$10-\$25. Open to the public, but advance registration is recommended at bit.ly/AFXArtsPanel19.

Fall Community Garage Sale. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 1420 Beverly Road, McLean. Shoppers, find bargains at the biggest garage sale in McLean with more than 50 vendors. See the Kid's Corner, where children (ages 3-15) can use their math and entrepreneurial skills in selling their gently-used toys, clothes, games and other items. Residents selling household items are welcome. Vendor enrollment deadline is Wednesday, Sept. 11. Free admission. Visit www.mcleancenter.org/special-events for more.

111 Healing Bowls. 6-9 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Practice with 111 Tibetan Bowls from the Gilung & Sindupalachoka Villages in Nepal. Use these hand-crafted sound tools and support these villages in recovering and rebuilding their homes from the 2015 earthquakes. \$25. Register at www.eventbrite.com/e/111-tibetan-healing-bowls-essential-oils-chakra-chocolate-experience-sound-healing-fairfax-va-tickets-64390522787.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 15

Raise Our Frequency. 2-5 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Join Dr. Dream and Stephanie as they facilitate this experiential workshop exploring the practical role of frequency in daily life. \$25. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/lets-raise-our-frequency-an-experiential-workshop-in-fairfax-va-tickets-64391794591 to register.

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Time and Again



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Not to be morbid in the least – or self-indulgent in the most (last week's column, "Something or Nothing" notwithstanding), but recently I've had cause to hear about the future and be more concerned about the present.

I have a homeowner problem that like all such problems, is way beyond my limited skills: a crack in the concrete slab which "porches" our house, apparently caused by a very large and old tree growing way too close to this slab.

This is not a water-leaking-into-the-house problem. This is a structural-type problem identified by a home appraiser whom I've paid for – but not bought, to process a mortgage refinance.

Given the two-week time-frame during which I was expecting to schedule this assessment – considering the time-sensitivity of these applications, I was flabbergasted to learn that my expectations were totally unreasonable. Two weeks! I might as well have been asking for two months, which is what I ended up getting.

After hearing the nearly identical appointment-unavailability story multiple times, and getting increasingly frustrated and impatient at the unlikely timely resolution of my problem – in my lifetime (no joke), I finally heard from a company that was able to schedule an appointment which they did so with an apparent straight face (as much as I could glean over the phone): "I can have someone to your house on Oct. 25." I snickered.

"October 25! That's two months," I said. ("I could be dead by then," I said to myself.) To the woman I said, "No. I need someone sooner, in the next week or so. Good-bye." (I made this call on Aug. 21.)

When I hung up the phone I started laughing at what I didn't say and why I hadn't said it. Being that I have stage IV lung cancer, I am not exactly on firm footing.

I didn't say to the woman that I could be dead by then because those words were, figuratively speaking, a bit too close to my literal reality. It was a case of fiction being a bit too close to fact and my mouth actually being able to cash that check.

In addition to providing fodder for this column, my calls to miscellaneous home improvement/concrete/foundation repair companies left me not high, still dry, but totally unrequited. I needed help. I put myself out there and received practically nothing in return. It is a lesson I'll take to the grave.

I don't want to sound unreasonable because I still think I'm of sound mind (not so much sound body), but being diagnosed with cancer does, at least in my experience, move up your timeline, so to speak. There's a certain amount of patience and accommodation that is totally ripped from your subconscious.

When your life is in jeopardy, dealing with the daily double: life and death, becomes extraordinarily difficult, regardless of whether your answers are in the form of questions. The uncertainty of it all is very off-putting. Sometimes, you don't know whether you're coming or going.

Trying to live a "normal" life under these kinds of constraints – and restraints – can make Jack a very dull boy. And very often this dullness manifests itself in one's inflexibility.

When your life is at stake, it's nearly impossible to act as if it isn't. Your brain seemingly gets rewired and re-purposed. As much as you attempt to retain your old and familiar self, this newer cancer-affected version slowly takes over.

You're not exactly in "The Twilight Zone," but "imagine if you will" at age 54 and a half, expecting to live into your mid-80s as both your parents did, instead being told that you have "13 months to two years" to live?

Though I've taken it mostly in stride and lived way beyond my oncologist's expectations, to say one's stride is not changed by the experience is to give naivete a whole new meaning. (Not to mention the fact that the neuropathy in both my feet makes walking extremely difficult.) Nevertheless, life goes on.

As such, as much as I want to plan for the future, sometimes, it's the present for which I need to plan.

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

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