CONECTION McLean & Vienna



Part of NOVA Parks, the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad Regional Park is a paved trail that runs through Vienna, connecting Shirlington to the east and Purcellville, Virginia to the west. Individuals can run, cycle or skate the 45-mile route; equestrians can ride the adjacent 32-mile gravel horse trail.

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Getting Involved Locally

ny quest to talk about the issues in Northern Virginia right now seems to lead to talk about the pandemic, and the economic crisis that follows in its wake. Hunger, food insecurity, need for donated food has grown dramatically in the area. More families teeter on the edge of homelessness.

Here are many organizations that have worked locally to fill the gaps in the pandemic. Also included are some environmental groups, some ways to help animals and more.

Please email me if we have left something out or gotten something wrong. mkimm@connectionnews-papers.com

Where to Give Locally To Help with Pandemic Hunger and Beyond

❖ Assistance League of Northern Virginia is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that feeds, clothes and educates children in need. As a result of closures relating to the coronavirus, Assistance League of Northern Virginia has reshaped its Weekend Food For Kids program to assist the struggling families of the students we serve. Since April, Assistance League has provided 1031 grocery store gift cards, valued at more than \$20,000, for four of the Title I schools that we serve in Fairfax and Prince William Counties and the City of Alexandria. To learn more about volunteer

and sponsorship opportunities, contact info@alnv.org or visit www.alnv.org

- * Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington Fairfax Area operates clubs in two of the neediest areas of the county, Culmore, Mount Vernon/ Route 1 corridor, and Chantilly, focusing on character and academic success. https://www.bgcgw.org/club-page/ fairfax-county-region-our-impact/
- * Britepaths' mission is to provide our Fairfax County area neighbors in need with short-term safety-net services and empower them to work toward long-term self-sufficiency. Britepaths serves more than 7,000 households in Fairfax County, households who live at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

(Brightpaths will launch the 2020 Holiday Program in October. Questions? Contact Vanessa De La Rosa at vdelarosa@britepaths.org or 703.273.8829 x888

britepaths.org/sites/default/files/BritepathsProgramsAndServicesJan2020.pdf

❖ Centreville Immigration Forum, a safe, organized center where residents and contractors can negotiate work arrangements with day laborers. Centreville Square Shopping Center, 5944 Centreville Crest Ln, Centreville, VA 20121. Phone: (703) 543-6272

website: www.centrevilleimmigrationforum.org and email contact@theCIFva.org

SEE GIVING LOCALLY, PAGE 5

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We're lucky to call Fairfax County home.

BY CHAIRMAN JEFF MCKAY

elcome to Fairfax County. You are moving here under unusual and unprecedented times. These last few months however, have reminded me why I'm proud to lead Fairfax County as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and why I have been proud and so fortunate to be able to call it home for all of my life.

In Fairfax County, we take COVID-19 seriously. The impacts of the virus have been far reaching. It has caused difficulty and anxiety for so many, including for my family and me. Our response to this virus has been data driven and responsive as we have learned more about COVID-19. Our low community transmission rates and stable percent positivity rates reflect that.

From the beginning, my Northern Virginia regional colleagues and I worked together with our state partners to implement a slower reopening. It was a difficult decision, but we weren't comfortable with how our data looked. Because of the work we did then and our residents' compliance with COVID-19 mitigation strategies now, we have avoided the surges in cases that have been observed around the country and in other parts of Virginia.



Jeff McKay, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, lives in Lee District with his wife Crystal and his daughter Leann and his son Aidan.

Despite all the uncertainty around us, we are lucky to live in Fairfax County. We have 23,000 acres of parkland, which includes 427 public parks and 325 miles of trails, to enjoy when you want to be outside safely. One of my favorite escapes has been Huntley Meadows Park in my neighborhood. It makes me thankful for our continued investment in our greenspaces and efforts to protect the environment.

In addition, the community rose to help and continues to inspire me. There are so many people in Fairfax vulnerable to this virus who still cannot leave their homes. So simple acts mean a lot, even if it is just picking up your neighbor's groceries or talking to a friend when they need support. Fairfax County's Neighbor to Neighbor program is one project in that spirit. The program joins neighbors together as volunteer groups and connects them with their older neighbors who need a hand. It is truly a grassroots initiative with volunteers involved across the

Navigating this pandemic has not been a straight path forward. We have had to pivot to save lives. And our work won't stop when there's a vaccine. Over time, in Fairfax County we have made significant investments in our infrastructure that have well positioned us to respond. Our sophisticated Health Department, first responders, and County frontline workers are all dedicated to our community. Their work has been exceptional and remind us why a responsive, well run government is essential in times like these. As we navigate a world beyond COVID-19, we will continue to fight for what's important: investing in people, programs, education, and creating a Fairfax that works for everyone, just as we have always done. Our community will make it through this together. Fairfax County is a great place to live and work and I hope that you quickly

About the Connection in 2020

his year, 2020 in the time of the pandemic, has been brutal for so many. More than 21,000 residents of Fairfax County have tested positive for COVID-19, and more than 600 people here have died.

Life is vastly different than it was pre-pandemic. Most students have not been face-to-face with their teachers or classmates since March. Lucky families are merely juggling homeschooling and home child care with telecommuting and meetings via Zoom.

Less fortunate parents have jobs that cannot be accomplished remotely, and they must find a way to have their children cared for at home while they go to work, risking infection. Even less fortunate people have lost their jobs.

Families of all stripes are facing food insecurity and demand at food pantries has skyrocketed.

Thousands of families could be facing eviction.

Small businesses and their employees hope that Congress will deliver more help. The Paycheck Protection Program was designed at the beginning of the crisis to pay employees for two months. Employees face unemployment; businesses face closure and/or bankruptcy. Customers are unlikely to return to retail businesses, restaurants and other public places in sufficient numbers for revenues to rebound until after the pandemic is under control.

Local newspapers, including the Connection newspapers, are facing an existential threat from the combination of nationwide downturn in newspaper advertising that has been worsening over several years, compounded by the economic crisis of corona-

In the midst of this, we at the Connection hear the call to continue to serve our communities. We still seek to fulfill our mission by continuing to publish, even with reduced resources. It's still our mission to provide information about where to get help and how to help; to disseminate information about the virus and efforts to stem its spread; to tell the stories of those who are helping, of those who are hungry; of those who have gotten sick with the virus, of those who are caring for the sick; and those who are performing essential jobs, from grocery clerk to firefighter to nurses and doctors. It's still our mission to tell the stories of those working for social and racial justice, and battling income inequality in the time of COVID.

Perhaps most of all, it is still our mission to deliver the local news you need, to help make sense of what is happening in your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives. It is still our mission to cover the normal news of the local communities.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

Tell us: how are you surviving in the pandemic?

We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome.

For many months, there were no calendar listings in our papers. Everything was cancelled. Now there is a return of some outdoor events, and many virtual events. If you are planning an event, we appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

Your community Connection newspaper is published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md. Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

> — Mary Kimm mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com



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Vienna/Oakton / McLean Connection ❖ September 30 - October 6, 2020 ❖ 3



Supervisor Foust, Fairfax County Park Authority representatives, and community members celebrated the opening of the Outdoor Education Classroom/Picnic Shelter



Aerial view of Clemyjontri Park with parking addition. Photo provided by the Fairfax County Park Authority.

Dranesville Welcomes You

An excellent place to live, raise a family, and do business.

By Supervisor John W.
Foust
(D-Dranesville District)

he Dranesville
District includes
McLean, Great
Falls, Herndon and
some areas of Vienna and
Falls Church and has about
125,000 residents. It runs
from the Arlington County
border to the Loudoun Coun-

ty border along the beautiful Potomac River. Herndon is a quintessential small American town with a rich heritage and strong sense of community. It also has a vibrant transit area developing around a new Metro station that will open soon. McLean is an active community with some of the most beautiful neighborhoods in the Metropoli-



tan region. Only a few miles from Tysons and the Dulles Corridor, Great Falls is a semi-rural community where residents actively participate in preserving its history and protecting its environment.

Dranesville includes some of the best County and National parks in the region including Riverbend Park, Great Falls Park, and Scotts Run Nature Preserve. The

District is also home to numerous excellent public schools including the high achieving and highly regarded Langley, McLean, and Herndon High Schools. Throughout the District, there are excellent libraries and active arts communities. All three communities have outdoor summer concert series and old-fashioned farmers' markets.

The introduction of Metro's Silver Line has provided an alternative to the automobile for Dranesville residents. Expansion of the Silver Line to Dulles Airport and into Loudoun, scheduled to open in 2020, will make traveling that much easier. The excellent schools, parks and libraries, lovely neighborhoods, active youth sports and arts programs, and its active, interesting, and friendly residents make Dranesville an excellent place to live, raise a family, and do business.

Fairfax County, and especially Tysons and the Dulles Corridor, continue to grow and provide excellent business and employment opportunities for Dranesville residents. Our challenge in the coming years is to ensure that the growth is balanced with expanded public facilities and public services so that future generations will be able to enjoy living in Dranesville as much as the past and current residents have enjoyed making their homes here.

If you are looking to get involved in the community, there are many civic and community organizations always in need of new people. Take a look at the McLean Citizens Association www.mcleancitizens.org. and the Great Falls Citizens Association www.gfca.org. Volunteer opportunities can be found at https://www.volunteerfairfax.org

I hope you will sign up for my community notices and updates, which provide information on important goings on in Dranesville and the County. Visit my website at https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville/and subscribe to our newsletter.

Welcome to the Dranesville District. It has been my honor to represent Dranesville residents on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for the past 12 years. I look forward to continuing to serve you in the future.

A Must-See in District

e are fortunate to have many wonderful parks, historical features, and community events in the Dranesville District. The following are some of my favorites. While some of the events listed below have been postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the parks are open, and I hope that these special community events will be able to resume in 2021.

Clemyjontri Park: Since opening in 2006, more than 200,000 visitors have enjoyed this unique playground where children of all abilities can play side-byside. Equipment allows children who have physical, sensory, or developmental disabilities to have a parallel playground

experience of fun and exploration. The park also includes a carousel, picnic pavilion, and new trackless train. The parking lot has recently been expanded so more visitors can enjoy the park.

6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean

Riverbend Park: This park offers over 400 acres of forests, meadows, and ponds. Trails include a 2.5-mile portion of the Potomac Heritage Trail that links national and regional parkland. Kayaking, canoeing, and fishing are all available on the Potomac River. Another reason to visit Riverbend Park is to take advantage of the recently completed Outdoor Education Classroom/Picnic Shelter that opened this spring.

8700 Potomac Hills, Great Falls

Foust: Places I would take a newcomer in Dranesville District.

Colvin Run Mill Historic Site: Colvin Run Mill offers visitors a chance to step back in time. There are tours of the restored mill, which was built around 1811. A general store offers stone ground cornmeal, wheat flour, grits, "penny candy," snacks, and drinks. Trails are available for quiet walks. Live music, craft demonstrations, ice cream making, and seasonal activities are offered from February through December.

10017 Colvin Run, Great Falls

Turner Farm: Originally the site of a dairy farm, the 52-acre park offers a unique mix of educational and recreational facilities. Observatory Park offers the public a chance to see the night sky from one of Fairfax County's darkest spots through permanent-

ly mounted telescopes. The Analemma Society partners with the Park Authority to provide astronomy programs at the observatory. Equestrians can enjoy a cross country course and a large multi-purpose arena with stadium jumps and dressage makers. Small children can enjoy a tot lot. Under the Park Authority's Resident Curator Program, the historic Turner Farmhouse has been restored and is now occupied by the Turner Farmhouse Foundation, under the direction of Sarah Kirk.

925 Springvale Road, Great Falls

Runnymede Park: The Town of Herndon owns and maintains this 58-acre park. It

SEE PLACES, PAGE 11

Where to Give for Local impact

From Page 12

- Closet Of The Greater Herndon Area is a nonprofit thrift shop in downtown Herndon. The Closet recently awarded over \$20,000 in grants to seven local non-profit organizations: Cornerstones, Fellowship Square, Herndon-Reston FISH, Meridians Recovery, Mobile Hope of Loudoun, South Lakes High School PTSA Food Pantry, and Herndon Woman's Club in support of Wreaths Across America. The Closet is a source of low-cost clothing and household necessities and also gives away clothing at no cost to truly needy individuals. 845 Station Street Herndon, VA 20170 (703) 437-7652. Email TheClosetInc@verizon.net Web: theclosetofgreaterherndon.org/
- ❖ Committee for Helping Others (CHO), Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring, Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. We spent \$63,000 from April through July of this year for rent, utilities, and medical bills, most of it (over \$50,000) has been for rent. This is in addition to the \$200,000 in CARES funds that helped residents affected by the coronavirus with rent, mortgage, gas, electric bills, and food. All in addition to usual programs. 703-281-7614, www. cho-va.com
- ♦ Cornerstones, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, www.cornerstonesva. org.

For nearly 50 years, Cornerstones has been helping neighbors in need. The service area of Cornerstones has grown to include most of northwestern Fairfax County, helping people build more stable lives by connecting them to vital resources that solve their needs for housing, childcare, food or financial assistance. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program, Gifts for Kids and annual Coat Drive. www.cornerstonesva.org.

Contact Nate King, Donations and Drives Coordinator, at 571-323-9569.

- ❖ Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Each year, nearly 5,000 pets, including cats, dogs, small mammals, reptiles and livestock, come to the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Friends of the Fairfax County Animal Shelter funds important needs throughout the Shelter such as behavioral training and dental or medical care beyond what the shelter's budget can provide. generalinfo@ffcas.org 571-212-9858 www. ffcas.org/
- ♦ Herndon-Reston FISH (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 herndonrestonfish. org Herndon-Reston FISH has assisted local residents in short-term crises by since 1969. 703-437-0600.
- ❖ LINK, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more. holiday@linkagainsthunger.org. 703-437-1776 www.linkagainsthunger.org.

- ❖ Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation helps homeless pets find their way into loving homes through rescue and adoption. We offer same-day adoptions and two-week trial periods.All pets are spayed or neutered prior to adoption. lostdogrescue.org
- * National Capital Food Bank, 6833 Hill Park Drive, Lorton, serving all of Northern Virginia, (571) 482-4770. We work with 450+ nonprofit partners across the region, partners who distribute an average of 88,000 meals daily. Together, we provide more than 30 million meals every year. www.capitala-reafoodbank.org
- ♦ Northern Virginia Family Service. The organization provides the essential building blocks for financial, emotional and physical well-being, serving as leaders and innovators for the Northern Virginia community. Every year, it empowers 35,000 individuals to achieve self-sufficiency. www.nvfs.org Northern Virginia Family Service, 10455 White Granite, Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124, 571-748-2500
- * Pathway Homes provides non-time-limited housing and supportive services to more than 600 adults with serious mental illness and other co-occurring disabilities in Northern Virginia. www.pathwayhomes.org
- ❖ PRS, Inc. is a nonprofit providing mental health, crisis intervention and suicide prevention services in Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. Seeking to change and save lives in our community by empowering hope, safety, recovery, wellness, independence and community integration.. PRS also provides crisis counseling and connection to supports CRISISLINK When crisis calls, we answer 24/7 Call: 800-273-TALK [8255] Text: "CONNECT" to 85511
- * Second Story Second Story (formerly Alternative House) provides shelter and residential services for homeless, runaway or abused teenagers, unaccompanied youth, and young mothers and their children. Community-based programs provide after-school homework help, life skills support, and safe havens for 2nd-12th graders in vulnerable communities. 24/7 Crisis Hotline: Call 1-800-SAY-TEEN, or Text "TEENHELP" to 855-11 second-story.org.
- SHARE of McLean is an all-volunteer organization with no paid staff. We are supported by donations from local religious congregations, community organizations and individuals. Our year round programs include family emergency financial assistance, food pantry, used clothing room, recycled furniture, back-to-school supplies. Share provides assistance to neighbors within the zip codes of 22101, 22102, 22066, and the Pimmit Hills section of 22043. Donors can donate money online by credit card, PayPal or by mailing a check. Share volunteers will purchase what is most needed and available. DONATE page www.shareofmclean.org/donate. Gift Cards can be left at the McLean Giant front desk for pick up by Share.

For more information (703) 229-1414 info@ shareofmclean.org www.shareofmclean.org



Coming This Fall!

In-Person & Virtual Classes & Events

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VIRTUAL Scavenger Hunt

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VIRTUAL Family Fun Trivia Nights

VIRTUAL McLean 5k



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many Center programs and events are not being offered this year or have been adjusted to virtual online or in-person, socially distanced formats. Please check the Center's website for up-to-date information.

1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA 22101 703-790-0123, TTY: 711 www.mcleancenter.org



McLean Community Center

@mcleanvacenter



@mcleancenterva





A Vienna Town Green Summer Concert, presented by Parks and Recreation. Businesses and organizations sponsor the free public performances. (File photo)

Year Round Celebration of the Community

Vienna carries the town's proud banner of an 'Exceptional Small Town.'

BY MERCIA HOBSON The Connection

he Newcomers and Community Guide 2020 welcomes all who choose to live, work, play and volunteer in the Town of Vienna and thanks everyone, masked and arms stretched six feet apart, for helping to make this town the best it can be in a most difficult time. This is a storyboard of the Town of Vienna, for newcomers and those who have been here a while.

Laced within the photographs of citizens, celebrations, events, happenings-all those things that create the town's day-to-day rhythm shines its character and placemaking. The storyboard tells what was and is the Town of Vienna and, through all the images and words within, carries the town's proud banner of an "Exceptional Small Town."

The Town of Vienna is home to fun, music, craft beer, local dining and history. Structured under the Council/Manager form of government, its non-partisan Council is made up of a Mayor and six Councilmembers elected at large for staggered two-year terms. The Town Council appoints the town manager as the full-time administrator of the Town government. "Duties include preparation of the Town's annual budget, carrying out orders and resolutions of Town Council, and supervising performance of department heads and other officials responsible to him or her," according to the town website.

The town's Parks & Recreation Department features a broad selection of annual town events, such as April's Walk on the Hill, a spring garden tour in the historic District, the annual ViVa! Vienna! Town Festival



Vienna Town Hall is located at 127 Center Street. Structured under the Council/ Manager form of government, the Vienna Town Council is made up of a Mayor and six Councilmembers elected at large for staggered two-year terms. Town Council appoints the town manager as the full-time Easter Egg Hunt at Nottoway Park in administrator of the Town government.



Vienna. (File photo)



Vienna Caboose -The Town of Vienna received a caboose from the Norfolk Southern Corporation after repeal of the law requiring cabooses to be manned. The corporation donated cabooses to deserving organizations and chose Vienna because of the importance of the railroad and its history in the town and its plans for a Centennial Celebration.

and one of Vienna's most popular community events, the Halloween Parade. Special Events are listed on the town's website. While the main street in the town is Maple Avenue, a block away is Church Street, a quieter and historic street with a quaint vibe.

Music and art are part of the Town of Vienna. Check out the Vienna Arts Center that offers classes, workshops, featured demos and exhibitions. Beyond the town but with a Vienna mailing address is Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts. It is an indoor/outdoor venue hosting major musical acts and theater managed through a public-private partnership. "It features three separate performance venues - a large amphitheater, a smaller performance space and a Theatre-in-the-Woods, especially for children — as well as walking trails and picnic spots to explore before or after the show," according to its website.

Virtual Fall Family Fun Night Set for Oct. 2

The Town of Vienna and the Vienna Business Association (VBA) will kick off seasonal celebrations with a virtual Fall Family Fun Night at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 2. This event will be live-streamed at @TownofViennaVA on Facebook and YouTube.

Grab takeout from your favorite local restaurant, set out a picnic in your living room, and tune in with the whole family to enjoy kids songs, stories, and a visit with George the Monkey from Mr. Jon, followed by a magic show presented by Vienna favorite The Great Zucchini.

Be sure to watch live to play games, win prizes, and provide a shout-out to your kiddos. Mr. Jon and the Great Zucchini also will take song requests. This show will be co-hosted by VBA Executive Director Peggy James and the Town's Event Coordinator Lilv Widman.

The Colbert family:From left -- Linda, Heather, Hannah, Mike.



Photo contributed

Vienna: 'A Little Slice of Heaven'

Mayor takes you to a sightseeing tour of the town.

By Linda Colbert Vienna Mayor

he Town of Vienna is a very special place, with its best attribute being our sense of community. It is a town of more than 16,500 people, yet it feels as if we all know each other or at least have a connection. Vienna residents are passionate about their neighborhoods, downtown, and activities. They have block parties, walk and bike to restaurants and shops and they play

sports, sing, and dance, and do art. However, above all, they volunteer. It is not just the parents who are volunteering: empty-nesters, single folks, and children alike share this passion for service.

Thank goodness we have volunteer groups to help put on all of the events in town. My daughters always loved Viva! Vienna! and started looking forward to the next one the minute it ended on Memorial Day. Most of our events are family-oriented and there is always something for everyone to do. We usually have food, drink, and music. We love these events because it brings the community together.

THE TOWN closes Maple Avenue for two parades per year- the Halloween Parade and the James Madison High School Homecoming Parade. These are two of my family's favorite events. Whether you are a spectator or participant in the Halloween parade, the ener-

gy can be felt by all. People line the curb with blankets to assure a good spot in anticipation of the evening event and groups line up on Branch Street getting ready to walk, dance or ride down the avenue. It is a coalition of people working together and having fun.

The Friday before the big Madison Homecoming game creates a buzz of excitement in town. Parents, teachers, locals, business owners, and employees cheer the many teams and clubs of students as they parade down the street from the Vienna Presbyterian Church to James Madison Drive. The spirit is palpable for Vienna's high school and we can all be sure that we are a part of the Warhawk spirit!

If someone wanted to see some of the best parts of Vienna, I would ask them to walk or ride the W&OD Trail from Cedar Lane to Northside Park. Along the way, they will see the beautiful flora and fauna, wildlife, and other people strolling the trail. After crossing Park Street, they will immediately see the "Taking Flight" sculpture. It is a tribute to our late Mayor Jane Seeman and all Vienna volunteers. It shows that our town cherishes its volunteers and public art. Inside the Vienna Community Center, one can see the new Field House/Gym and the renovat-

ed Rodger W. Seeman auditorium. Both places bring people together to play pickleball or basketball, watch or act in plays and musicals, or gather for a special event. Just a few feet away is Waters and Caffi Fields where you can catch a sports game. Continuing on the trail will take you across Maple Avenue to the Town Green where people love to meet for a picnic or watch a band play.

THE NEXT STREET is a favorite of many. History abounds along Church Street with the old Chapel, The Freeman House and Museum, Little Library, Bouton Hall, and the Old Bank Building. There are quaint and unusual shops and eateries, and the streetscape is reminiscent of the late 19th - 20th century small-town America, making it a lovely place to stroll. Further down the trail brings you to the Red Caboose which is fun for kids to climb up and enter and a great

meeting spot. Just pass that is the mural by Harris Miller that captures the spirit of Vienna. Everywhere you turn, there is an opportunity for community.

If you are new to Vienna and want to get involved and make new friends, join one of the many service clubs, non-profits, PTA's, town boards and commissions, or just take a stroll down the W&OD and you will be sure to meet people. Our neighborhoods are "a little slice of heaven" as my neighbor John Shults once told me. There is huge support and love between our businesses and residents, and we all volunteer to make our town a better place. We are #OneVienna and I welcome you to our town and our community.



On July 6, 2020, Linda Colbert was sworn in as mayor of the Town of Vienna. The current Town Council is Mayor Linda J. Colbert and six councilmembers: Councilmember Chuck Anderson, Councilmember Ray Brill, Councilmember Nisha Patel, MD, Councilmember Steve Potter, Councilmember Ed Somers and Councilmember Howard J. Springsteen.

VDDT Virginia Department of Transportation

Shreve Road Corridor Study Fairfax County

Virtual Public Information Meeting

Wednesday, October 7, 2020, 7-8:30 p.m. www.virginiadot.org/ShreveRd

Find out about a study assessing potential safety and operational improvements along more than two miles of Shreve Road (Route 703) between Route 29 (Lee Highway) and Route 7 (Leesburg Pike). The study is addressing community concerns related to speeding, pedestrian safety and sight distance. The following priority areas along the corridor have been studied: The curve west of Oldewood Drive, Shrevewood Elementary School, Washington & Old Dominion Trail crossings, and the curve between Chestnut Street and Hickory Street.

The meeting will be held as a **virtual/online meeting**. Information for accessing and participating in the virtual meeting will be posted on the study website (**www.virginiadot.org/ShreveRd**). The VDOT study team will make a short presentation beginning at 7 p.m. and answer questions for about an hour after the presentation.

Review study information and meeting details on the VDOT study website or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030. Please call ahead at 703-259-1731 or TTY/TDD 711 to make an appointment with appropriate personnel.

Give your comments after the presentation, submit your written comments by **October 19, 2020** via the study website, by mail to Mr. Amir Shahpar, P.E., Virginia Department of Transportation, 4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 or email meetingcomments@VDOT.virginia.gov. Please reference "Shreve Road Corridor Study" in the subject line.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. If you need more information or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT Civil Rights at 703-259-1775.

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or call 703.778.9431



Lewinsville Park at 1659 Chain Bridge Road, Mclean is operated by Fairfax County Park Authority and offers athletic fields, tennis courts, a small playground and plenty of trees. There's also a community garden. The Farmers Market is there on Friday mornings.

Storyboard of McLean

Telling images and words for two communities.

By Mercia Hobson The Connection

he Newcomers and Community Guide 2020 welcomes all who chose to live, work, play and volunteer in McLean and thanks everyone, masked and arms stretched six feet apart, for helping to make the community the best it can be in a most difficult time. This is a storyboard of that area, for newcomers and those who have been here awhile.

Laced within the photographs of McLean's people and places is its day to day rhythm. The images illuminate two McLeans, contrasting in character and placemaking. Areas around McLean's established residences are quiet, buildings of minimum height, even those currently being proposed in the Community Business Center (CBC). Meanwhile within eye-sight of "old" McLean is Capital One's headquarters on its sprawling campus. It soars to the height of 470 feet tall, higher than any building in the DMV other than the Washington Monument.

On March 4 of 2020, before the pandemic hit, Tysons Partnership celebrated the 10th-anniversary of the adoption of the Comprehensive Plan for Tysons by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The goal of the plan is to shape the future of Tysons into a great urban center, a place Chairman

8 • Vienna/Oakton / McLean Connection

Jeffrey McKay (D) Fairfax County Board of Supervisors called "the economic engine of the County."

McKay said, "Tysons Plan was not developed to be implemented in a year or two. It was predicated on the need that we are in this for the long haul... As Tysons continues to succeed, it benefits Fairfax County, Northern Virginia, and this region."

The storyboard tells what was and is McLean. It spotlights the area's natural and human-made beauty. Through images and words, the storyboard carries McLean's proud banner of supporting a diversity in life and business styles.



Clemyjontri Park at 6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean features a playground where

children of all abilities can play side-by-side. Every child is welcome.

Scotts Run Nature Preserve at 2400 Georgetown Pike is known for its remarkable beauty, a place of rare plants, sheer bluffs, a shimmering creek and more. The Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail goes through Scott's Run Nature Preserve and is blazed.



McLean | WMATA Metro Station (Silver Line) at 1824 Dolley Madison Blvd. McLean. The train soars outside the elevated station and provides access from SR 123 and is proximate to major corporations and shopping at Tysons. It began operation in 2014.



Dolley Madison Library at 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean is a renovated light-filled building designed and constructed under the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program. As of Sept. 26, 2020, the library offers virtual children events and adult book talks.



McLean Community Center- Alden Theatre, a 383-seat performing arts venue, presents nationally and internationally touring acts in music, comedy, dance, film, children's programming and more. It is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue in McLean.

❖ September 30 - October 6, 2020

Newcomers & Community Guide 2020-21 ❖ www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Residents Revel in Old McLean

Future changes pend for area in and near McLean CBC Study.

> By Mercia Hobson The Connection

he Connection asked McLean residents in or near the McLean Community Business Center what the greatest things about living in the area were. Here's what they said while visiting Lewinsville Park, a true neighborhood spot operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority. Located at 1675 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, the district park was built in 1977. It is heavily used and offers free parking, rectangular fields, a diamond field, and tennis and basketball courts. There is a playground, garden plots, a historic house and a seasonal farmers market on the grounds. Projected population growth and need for more parks is discussed in the McLean Community Business Center (CBC) Study.



os by Mercia Hobson/

Wendy Simon, McLean resident since 2004: "I love the sense of community and the great Fairfax County Public Schools system. McLean's Little League is a total gem. Some of our happiest memories were on the Little League fields. I like the McLean **Community Center, especially** its Scavenger Hunt in the height of the pandemic. It takes you to different places. I like the Mc-Lean High School and the Class Rock. It's an institution, and they paint it for different school events. Of course, the (Fairfax **County Public Library) Dolly** Madison branch."



Amy Johnson, McLean resident for 16 years: "I like that it's a safe community, family-oriented. Sports and fields are our life. The fields are kept up well. There's more local shopping (in McLean's Community Business Center) making for a good mix."

Allen Hudson, a McLean resident for ten years visits Lewinsville Park with his sons, Liam, 5, and Ari, 3: "I love the neighborhood feel and the relative quiet on the weekends and in the evenings. You wouldn't know you were inside the beltway."





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An expert is someone who knows some of the worst mistakes that can be made in his subject and how to avoid them. -Werner Heisenberg

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Newcomers Guide 2020

A Place that Has it All

By Mercia Hobson The Connection

he Connection asked Vienna residents what were the greatest things about living in the area. Here's what they said while sipping drinks and soaking up the rays, people watching on Church Street.

As background, Church Street underwent an incentive based development called the Church Street Vision Plan. The project area extended from Lawyers Road to Mill Street. It set things moving for a pedestrian-friendly area, welcoming to businesses and shoppers. Twenty years later, there are brick sidewalks and street crossings, cutouts for flowers and plantings, benches and relocated utilities on one side of the street. These allow the beauty and streetscape of the late 19-century to remind locals and visitors Church Street was once Vienna's main street.

According to the town website, the Plan brought economic benefits, including increased businesses along Church Street and increased opportunity for special events. With the larger FAR (floor to area ratio), business owners could potentially receive additional income from building. Also, it created a more inviting Church Street, which brought the potential to attract a greater number and variety of businesses to Vienna. The Town of Vienna 2019 Strategic Plan holds the tagline, "Honing Excellence in an Exceptional Hometown".



Thea Prevalsky, a resident of Vienna for 14 years-"One of the greatest things about living in Vienna is it has all four seasons. I went to (George C.) Marshall High School in Falls Church. Going to college made me realize there are good schools in the Fairfax County Public Schools (division). I love, (here in Vienna) the closeness of D.C. and the availability of the museums and taking Metro."



(Left) Kathy Kline, a resident of Vienna for seven years: "I love that you can walk everywhere and love Halloween (Halloween on the Green and the Vienna Halloween Parade).

(Right) Kritin King, a resident of Vienna for one month: "I love how beautiful it is. I like Caffe Amouri Artisan Roaster and Community Coffee House, and I'm looking forward to trying the chocolate shop, Cocoa Vienna.

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The Connection to Your Community

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Places to See

From Page 4

is the site for many community nature-related events such as the annual NatureFest, the Spring Native Plant Sale, and the Fall Native Plant Sale. Situated near the Sugarland Run Stream, the park attracts over 100 species of bird, deer, fox, and other wildlife. Guided walks are offered to highlight the wildlife on the trails. Two park shelters are available for rent.

196 Herndon Parkway, Herndon

MPAartfest: Every October, the McLean Project for the Arts converts McLean Central Park into a free, one-day festival of the arts. Thousands of area residents attend. Vendor tents display the works of numerous juried artists, which are complemented by the exhibitions of children's and seniors' artwork, an Open Studio demonstration, and performances by local musicians.

McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean

McLean Day: Sponsored by the McLean Community Center, McLean Day is held on the third Saturday in May. The festival features live entertainment, carnival rides, exhibitions, and delicious foods for visitors of all ages. The event also includes booths where artisans, local businesses, civic organizations, nonprofit groups, and local officials showcase their wares.

Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean

Herndon Festival: Held in late May, the Herndon Festival offers something for the whole family. The festival features two entertainment stages, 10K and 5K races, carnival rides, hands-on arts and activities, food vendors, fireworks, and more. Enjoy four days of fun-filled activities and entertainment.



It's Friday Night Live! reimagined for the pandemic; live-

Falls Freedom Memorial was created in 2004 to honor all who have served our country. The Freedom Memorial hosts annual ceremonies, on Memorial Day, September 11, and Veterans' Day, as well as a 5K race on July 4. It is a special place to pay respects to and remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

9830 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls (Behind the Great Falls Library)

Herndon Friday Night Live!: Friday nights during the summer, Friday Night Live! concerts are held on the Herndon Town Green. Concerts are free and feature popular local and regional acts. Most featured bands play rock and roll covers from classic to modern rock, but country and original music are also included for good measure.

Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon

Photo by Mercia Hobson/The Connection streamed from Arts Herndon. (Aug. 2020) 200 Spring Street, Herndon Great Falls Freedom Memorial: The Great

Connection

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And So It **Continues**



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Two-plus weeks into my thyroid cancer treatment, all is as I anticipated. I'm still not in a comfort zone, routine wise, nor side-effect wise, I am feeling some predicted discomfort. I won't self-indulge and list the difficulties that I'm having. I will say that even though I'm extremely thankful not to have experienced any of the more severe side effects (blood clots, arrhythmia), I have felt something. The 'something' I've felt has been made more complicated due to the synthroid pill I take daily, since I had my thyroid surgically removed in late January, 2020. The proper dosage, prescribed to replace the function of the thyroid is not easy to determine. As such, I'm not exactly feeling myself. I'm not sure who it is I'm feeling (as Groucho said because he could never get that close), but it's not who I've come to feel.

The complication I refer to is the effect on my thyroid replacement medication (synthroid) by my thyroid cancer pills. What happens, I'm told, is that the synthroid's effectiveness is partially mitigated by the cancer medication and as a result, I need regular lab work to monitor the situation and maintain proper thyroid replacement. If my thyroid hormone is too low, I'll feel tired and unmotivated. And since a side effect of the thyroid cancer medication is among others, fatigue, I am tired for two reasons: the cancer drug itself and the effect the same cancer drug has on the synthroid pill, which has everything to do with my energy level.

Now, not only am I a two-for-the-price-of-one cancer patient (non small cell lung cancer and thyroid cancer), I am also a thyroid cancer patient being treated for cancer and for the replacement of the thyroid. As a result, in addition to juggling two cancers, I am also juggling one cancer with two semi competing side effects: feeling tired due to low thyroid hormone and feeling tired as a side effect of the thyroid cancer treatment. I imagine one or the other would be manageable but simultaneously, not so much. (I guess it's another BOGO-type situation).

Granted, it's a living and it sure beats the alternative. Still, I was hoping one set of side effects would be enough rather than having to consider a second set (side effects of the side effects, if you will). My concern is compounded by something my oncologist was wary of doing years ago: Treating the side effects, in addition to treating the cancer. Moreover, he said that often it's the side effects that become so debilitating and harmful that the actual cancer treatment itself has to be stopped. And though your quality of life might improve - with the reduction/elimination of the side effects, the cancer is now left untreated and cancer left untreated generally speaking, doesn't usually mind it's own business, if you know what I mean? In either scenario, you're unlikely to be smelling any roses

And not 'smelling any roses' is what I'm most worried about. Stopping treatment for the thyroid cancer would be bad enough, but what about my previous pre-existing stage IV, non small cell lung cancer diagnosed Feb. 2009? I'm currently not receiving any treatment for that as we defer to the thyroid cancer. If I have to stop the thyroid cancer treatment because of the side effects, will I then re-start the lung cancer treatment for which I had very minor side effects. Is treating the back-up (so to speak) cancer better than not treating the new primary: thyroid cancer? As you can possibly tell, I am potentially between a rock and a very hard

Nevertheless, as my oncologist emailed me a month or so ago when we received the results of my third tumor biopsy (which was taken from a tumor inside my lung rather than outside from a lymph node), "Thyroid cancer is better than lung cancer." And though I certainly liked the sound of that when I first read it, the present complica tions were not yet a part of the discussion. But that's what being a cancer patient is all about: an evolving existence of good, bad and indifferent information with nary a guarantee in sight.

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



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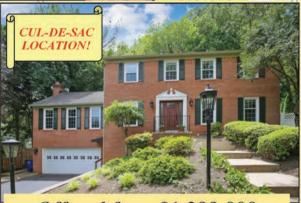
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