

# Great Falls CONNECTION

## Home, Home In The Grange

PAGE 3

From left, Linda Thompson, vice president of Great Falls Optimist Club, Eric Knudsen, past president of Great Falls Citizens Association (GFCA), John McGeehan, pro bono attorney for GFCA, Gary Pan, co-president of Great Falls Grange Foundation (GFGF) and president of Great Falls Rotary Club, William ("Bill") Canis, president of GFCA, and Jorge Adeler, co-president of GFGF.



### It's National Library Week

PAGES 6, 7, 8

### Words Matter

PAGE 8

OPINION, PAGE 4 ❖ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 9 ❖ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 10

PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

APRIL 6-12, 2022

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Released March 8, 2022

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...and this book will show you just how easy it is.

Order this and Dr. Whyte's other books on Amazon.com



## NEWS



Construction in the area means a few more turns when you visit Colvin Run Mill.

## Colvin Run Mill Detour

It may now be a bit more difficult to reach Colvin Run Mill Historic Site due to highway construction. Starting this week and continuing through June 2022, all drivers leaving Colvin Run Mill will turn right and proceed to the east end of Colvin Run Road to access Route 7 eastbound and westbound as crews perform utility work and other construction activities at the west end of Colvin Run Road.

Drivers entering the mill on Route 7 westbound will still be able to turn left onto Colvin Run Road at the Route 7/Delta Glen Court/Colvin Run Road intersection (west end of Colvin Run Road). Drivers entering the mill on Route 7 eastbound will still be able to turn right on Colvin Run Road at the Route 7/Carpers Farm/Colvin Run Road intersection.

Site Manager Julie Gurnee said the site will place signage to ease visitors' travels and access to the site. "Coming from the west, all visitors are able to turn onto Colvin Run Road at the first entrance (Delta Glen) to enter; but to exit to Route 7, visitors will all turn right out of the site to turn onto Route 7 at the Carpers Farm/Route 7 inter-

section," Gurnee said.

For more information, call 703-759-2771. Colvin Run Mill is located at 10017 Colvin Run Road in Great Falls, Virginia. Visit Colvin Run Mill for more information. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill>

It's worth the trip. The Colvin Run Mill Store is open Thursday – Sunday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. All grain and teas can now be purchased in the store during those hours.

We offer White and Yellow Grits, White and Yellow Cornmeal, Soft and Hard Wheat Flour and Buckwheat. All grains are ground on site at the Historic Mill.

All grain comes in 2-lb bags for \$7.97.

We also offer local tea blends from the Great Falls Tea Garden for \$10/bag.

Along with these supplies, our historic early 20th century store sells toys, "penny" candy, jewelry, mugs and many other interesting finds. Visiting the store is an adventure in itself. See more information on our Colvin Run Mill General Store webpage. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill/store>

## BULLETIN BOARD

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

### VIENNA TO PROVIDE RELIEF TO UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

Vienna Mayor Linda Colbert joined other Northern Virginia elected leaders at the Fairfax County Government Center last week to help launch a multi-jurisdictional relief effort to support Ukrainian refugees. Beginning now through April 15, residents who wish to help may drop off the following relief supplies at the Vienna Community Center:

- New or gently used coats
- New blankets
- New pairs of heavy socks or sweat socks
- New pairs of gloves.

Once the drive concludes, the donated items will be picked up and shipped to Poland for distribution to Ukrainian refugees there. The regional aid drive was organized by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission. The Vienna Community Center is located at 120 Cherry St. SE. Donations may be dropped off at the Community Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.; Saturday from 8 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday from 12-6 p.m. For more drop-off locations visit [www.helpukrainianova.org](http://www.helpukrainianova.org).

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 11

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# NEWS



People gather on April 4, 2022, at the Great Falls Grange No. 738 when the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Great Falls Grange Foundation ratified a licensing agreement that permits the Foundation to operate and maintain the historic property. The Grange will serve as a community meeting place.



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PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS



From bottom left, Jorge Adeler, co-president of the Great Falls Grange Foundation, Gary Pan, co-president of the Great Falls Grange Foundation and president of Great Falls Rotary Club, and Jai Cole, executive director of Fairfax County Park Authority sign the licensing agreement. From top left, Bill Canis, president of Great Falls Citizens Association; Timothy B. Hackman, Fairfax County Park Authority Board, Linda Thompson, vice president of Great Falls Optimist Club; Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust (D), Eric Knudsen, past president of Great Falls Citizens Association and Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD Fairfax County Park Authority.

## Great Falls Gets Community Center

### Park Authority and Great Falls Grange Foundation Ratify Licensing Agreement.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n April 4, the Great Falls Grange No. 738 on Georgetown Pike was packed with folks looking forward to its future. The Fairfax County Park Authority, which owns the historic structure, its biggest indoor rental facility, adjacent pavilion, and 133-year-old Forestville Schoolhouse, took a leap of faith with the Great Falls Grange Foundation and the community that evening.

Park Authority Executive Director Jai Cole and Great Falls Grange Foundation (the Grange Foundation) co-presidents Jorge Adeler and Gary Pan ratified the long-awaited licensing partnership agreement and signed their names to the document. With the stroke of their pens, the Grange Foundation now operates and maintains the historic property owned by the Park Authority.

This means Great Falls, which previously lacked a community meeting and event place, now has one. It will enrich the lives of people who reside in Great Falls.

"I have been in Great Falls for 42 years. I have been offered very tempting locations all over the country to set up my business. I can't. I just can't. This is home, and every home needs a place where friends get together," said Adeler, community leader, businessman, and the person who initiated the idea of awakening the 1929 public assembly hall.

Adeler and others had collaborated with the Park Authority and Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust (D) to turn the under-utilized Great Falls Grange No. 738 into



From left, Jorge Adeler, co-president of the Great Falls Grange Foundation, signs the licensing agreement completing his ten-year effort for a community meeting place. Alongside him is Gary Pan, co-president of the Great Falls Grange Foundation and president of the Great Falls Rotary Club.

a vibrant community center. It would be the heart of the community, a place for public and private events.

"Since 2012, my good friend Jorge and many other local leaders have worked patiently to address and resolve several unforeseen matters. It is a tribute to their passion for the community that, along with the support of the Park Authority, they have now achieved the goal," Foust said.

Jai Cole is the executive director of the Fairfax County Park Authority. She started her position six months ago. "Everybody has been talking about how long it took, and for me, it was like, the Grange? Done; good. One of the main tenets of leadership is to step back and let people do what they



From left, Gary Pan, co-president of the Great Falls Grange Foundation, signs the licensing agreement ending his five-year effort. Beside him, Jai Cole, executive director of the Fairfax County Park Authority, signs

are doing," she said. Cole thanked Park Authority deputy director Aimee Vosper, who spearheaded group meetings and "has the patience of Job."

When the idea of reimagining the Grange and using it as a community center was born, Adeler and others, including the then-new Great Falls Citizens Association's board president, Eric Knudsen, continued, as the years ticked on, to yearn for that neutral space. They and others forged forward; their sights set on a community meeting place.

It would, among other things, enhance community relationships. Building relationships over time, through events, builds trust. It is the groundwork needed to solve problems and get things done.

According to Pan, he did not understand the possibility until he attended a rare event



Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust (D) shakes the hand of Jorge Adeler, co-president of the Great Falls Grange Foundation.

at the Grange, a theatrical play. "It was packed with people from the community. That is when I woke up, and I realized this needs to be again, the epicenter of Great Falls," said Pan.

Pan added that as president of the Great Falls Rotary Club, whose adopted motto is service above self, it is why Rotary committed to the Foundation. "We think that we should bring more service opportunities into the community, and this can be a major hub," said Pan.

Over 75 people gathered to witness the public-private partnership agreement signing at the Great Falls Grange. Bill Canis, president of the Great Falls Citizens Association, described the Grange as "filled with a party. ... With people anticipating its future with people doing things for their family. That's what this was built for in 1929. Tonight, your presence here makes this building live," Canis said.

## The Devilish Details of Tax Cutting

DEL. KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

Cutting taxes is either the theme or a promise of most every political campaign. States that are doing well should give some of the taxpayers' money back to them. States that are struggling should cut taxes to stimulate the economy. Whatever the promise it is important to look behind the numbers to fully understand the impact of cutting taxes.



tax holiday for small businesses.

During the campaign, then-candidate Glenn Youngkin floated the idea of eliminating the income tax. To his credit when he learned that it would wipe out around 70% of the state's general fund and bankrupt state government he quietly dropped that proposal. It's one of those details that must be considered when discussing tax policy and which voters need to carefully examine when they hear a "too good to be

true" promise.

The General Assembly has not been able to agree to a final budget for the next biennium with the issue of taxes being the main hang-up and the Governor not being able to justify his proposals against the details of taxes and where the money goes. Everyone I know opposes a tax on groceries, and that is why the General Assembly cut the grocery tax with the exception of one and a half cents for education and transportation. For many rural areas with a limited tax base, groceries and gasoline were about the only items that could be taxed to provide some

funding for their schools and roads. If the decision is made to cut the gas tax the responsible thing to do is to make up the losses to the small localities with state general funds that are currently going to other programs.

Another detail about the proposed gasoline tax that must be considered is the analysis of the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (<https://itep.org/>) that shows that 30% of the projected savings would likely flow to oil producers rather than motorists. Less than 30% the analysis found would go to Virginia residents, with the remainder going to trucking companies that buy a lot of gas in the state and out-of-state tourists who visit the Commonwealth.

The same organization looked at the proposal to double the standard deduction on the income tax and found that it would not help many Virginia families whose income is already too low to be taxed. Only high-income earners who have the least need for a tax break would benefit from this proposal.

The devil is in the details as is the case in many proposals, and the Governor needs to consider those details and give the General Assembly the opportunity to pass a responsible budget.



U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner (D-VA) said he intends to support Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination to the Supreme Court.



On Monday, April 4, Sen. Tim Kaine met with President Joe Biden's Supreme Court nominee Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, who would be the first Black woman to serve on the Supreme Court if confirmed.

## Virginia's U.S. Senators Meet with Judge Jackson

On Monday, Virginia's U.S. Senators meet separately with President Joe Biden's Supreme Court nominee, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson.

"I'm really excited to meet the Judge. I have voted for her twice, but a Supreme Court matter is different than any other, and it's the most serious of any of the nominations that we vote for," said Kaine. "What a wonderful opportunity to have a great discussion, and I'm really looking forward to it."

U.S. Sen. Mark R. Warner (D-VA) said he intends to support

Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination to the Supreme Court.

"Judge Jackson is a trailblazer and a highly-qualified jurist. Her wide-ranging endorsements – from conservative jurists, civil rights organizations, law enforcement groups, and through her previous bipartisan Senate confirmations – speak to her sterling credentials," Warner said. "Her confirmation would also take a long overdue step toward making the composition of the Supreme Court better reflect the people it represents by finally including a Black woman."

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# NEWS

## Words Matter in Child Abuse Prevention Month

**T**ake the Words Matter Challenge this April during Child Abuse Prevention Month. Parents and caregivers, be intentional every day to speak encouraging words that build up children's sense of worth!

Children are listening all the time, even when adults least expect it. Children notice the way you talk to yourself and others. Most of all, they notice the way you talk to them and about them. Model self-love for your children, and show compassion and caring in your interactions with children (and others) to nurture kindness and resilience in them.

We all know that a few kind words can change your entire outlook on a situation, but it can be a challenge to think of positive things to say in the moment. Fairfax County Department of Family Services compiled a list of expressions to use in various situations to help parents be encouraging to their children.

These affirmations will help

spark ideas for different phrases you can use to show love, motivate children, provide support during a tough time, and boost their self-esteem.

Remember, children and teenagers are counting on their families, friends, and other caring adults to support them in good times and bad. Accept the Words Matter Challenge and start a lifelong habit.

- Words to Encourage Children
- I love you
- You can do it
- You are a good person
- I am grateful for you
- I am proud of you
- You are special
- That was a really good choice
- Mistakes mean you are trying
- You matter
- You are an amazing person
- Just be yourself
- You are a creative thinker
- Do your best
- I trust you
- It's not your fault

SEE WORDS MATTER, PAGE 8



READY TO JOIN OUR WORLD-CLASS TEAM?  
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## VINSON HALL

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Vinson Hall Retirement Community has proudly provided care to older adults in McLean, Virginia since 1969. VHRC is just minutes from downtown Washington, D.C. and is easily accessible by Metro bus. Come be a part of our team!

Apply today! (703) 721-4574  
[www.vinsonhall.org/careers](http://www.vinsonhall.org/careers)  
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## McLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER 2022 GOVERNING BOARD ELECTION



# Early Voting



**Now through Wednesday, May 18**

Residents of Dranesville Small District 1A are encouraged to vote for members of the MCC Governing Board.

**TWO WAYS TO VOTE:** 1. in person (fill out a ballot at McLean Community Center) or 2. by mail. If you prefer to vote by mail, simply phone, send an e-mail, or fill out an online request form to request ballots for members of your household. The requested ballots will be mailed to your home.

**DEADLINE:** Completed ballots must be received at MCC by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18.

**TO REQUEST A BALLOT:**  
CALL: 703-790-0123, TTY: 711  
E-MAIL: [elections@mcleancenter.org](mailto:elections@mcleancenter.org)  
VISIT: [mcleancenter.org/ballot-request-form](http://mcleancenter.org/ballot-request-form)



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# Virginia Room is Fairfax Library System's Research Lab

Many family historical mysteries are uncovered here.

BY MIKE SALMON  
THE CONNECTION

There was a Russian defector that wrote a book about his journey to the United States, and a local archivist found his book at a thrift store, spurring an investigation that led to the Virginia Room in the main library. She uncovered more about the man. "He died in Springfield, a really bizarre story," said Chris Barbuschak, a research librarian in the Virginia Room who helped uncover the mystery. It was just one of the many historical gems unearthed in this important source on this region's history. "We drill a little deeper," Barbuschak said.

More recently, a woman came in to find information on her Revolutionary War ancestor, and it was a success. "We were able to find the pension record from 1814," Barbuschak said. "We get all kinds of stories like that."

All this local history is stored in one form or another in Fairfax County Public Library's Virginia Room, where the county maintains a collection of regional history and genealogy, as well as local and state government information and legal resources. Staff collect the historical records of the people, associations, events and places of Fairfax County, Virginia. There are maps, an extensive photographic archive, manuscript collections, local newspapers, and rare books. Recently they were able to digitize a newspaper called "The Fairfax Herald," and now have issues on microfilm from 1886-1964.

The Virginia Room is an open, second floor room in the library that looks kind of like a loft due



Ean Eschenburg researches family cemeteries for a documentary film.



A view from the front desk shows the overhead directional signs.

to the fact that it is open to the first floor. There are sections for periodicals, microfilm and historical books. The room is decorated by historical signs hanging on the walls to give a real historic feel for the place, including Thelma's Ice Cream from Great Falls.

Although there is much that the user can access by themselves, going to the front desk and asking a specialist is usually the first step.

PHOTOS BY MIKE SALMON/THE CONNECTION



Restoring the Fairfax Herald is one of the more recent projects.



The first set of files in this drawer is "Myths and Legends," like the Bunyan Bridge for example.

The Virginia Room is on the second floor of The City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North Street Fairfax, VA, 22030-2514 703-293-6227 option 6 TTY: 711 Send an email to [va\\_room@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:va_room@fairfaxcounty.gov)



Any copies needed require a credit card.



The authentic signs set the mood for historical research.

## Read and Feed

For several years, Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) has hosted a "Food for Fines" drive each fall as a way of facilitating food donations to our partner organization, Food for Others, which offers library cardholders a reduction on their fines.

As of Jan. 1, FCPL no longer charges overdue fines on most materials. To continue its partnership with Food for Others, FCPL is now hosting "Read and Feed" in April. Those who wish to give may simply drop off donations at any FCPL branch during its regular hours throughout the month of April.

Most needed items include: Oil; Cereal; Canned tomato products (crushed, peeled, diced, etc.), 4 oz. - 1 lb.; Canned meat (chicken, turkey, or seafood), 2 oz. - 15 oz.; Rice, 16 oz. packages; Spaghetti sauce, 14 oz. - 1 lb. (ideally in cans instead of glass); Canned fruit (packed in fruit juice instead of syrup) 11 oz. - 20 oz.; Dried or canned beans (black, kidney, pinto, etc.); Pasta; Fruit juice (100% juice) 32 oz. - 64 oz.; New or clean reusable grocery bags; Can openers.

Food for Others is unable to accept donations of items that are expired, opened items, food that is not labeled, homemade items, cooked food, or toiletries



The day before the start of National Library Week, Sunday, April 3 through Saturday, April 9, families flock to the Reston Regional Library for its Friends of the Reston Regional Library 2022 Spring Kids, Young Adults, and Educators Sale.



"I bring my family to Reston Regional Library so we can all read different things while we're here. The family can be together as well, and we're able to pick out our books. My three children are 12 years old, and then I have twins. They are five." — Keith L. Scott of Reston outside of Reston Regional Library



"I like to come here (to the Reston Regional Library). I did not know a lot about books. So, I came here and discovered many books, and that's how I got interested in reading. Now I'm passing that on to my daughter Kia. She is three. Today, we got some Dr. Seuss and some Curious George books at the book sale." — Karishma Singh and her daughter Kyra, 3



"I'm one of the ESL (English as a Second Language) volunteers (at Reston library). I enjoy it even though now we are doing it virtually. I'm here to check out a book and DVDs. I tried to interest my ESL students by taking out books with audio to practice their language skills, listening to reading, and comprehending. It's not working quite so well yet." — Rob Myhre of Reston as he enters Reston Regional Library

# Celebrating National Library Week

Twenty-three FCPL branches build connections; one is in Reston.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

National Library Week 2022 began on Sunday, April 3, and ends on Saturday, April 9. The theme for this year is "Connect with Your Library." The Fairfax County Public Library

(FCPL) system has recognized that its libraries are places to "Imagine. Discover. Connect." Those three words have served as its tagline and continue to do so today.

According to Molly Shannon, the 2022 National Library Week Honorary Chair, "Libraries are places where communities connect... But

most importantly, libraries join us." This year's National Library Week focuses on the many offers of libraries that go beyond printed books such as e-books, movies, video games, internet, computers, and activities like storytime, English as Second Language courses, and, in the Fairfax County Public Library

system, even pet palace building for small animals.

With this year's core theme of connection accomplished via library services, Connection writers visited several of the area's libraries on Saturday, April 2, and asked patrons, "What library services are you connecting to today?"

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



The Powers family of Great Falls, Josh, Jane, Krishna, and Caleb, visit the Great Falls Library the day before National Library Week.



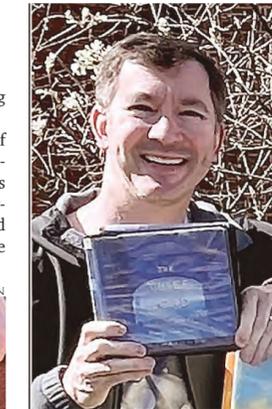
"Everything is the community here. The patrons are just wonderful. You have a lot of regulars who come in, people we see every week and get to know." — Shelly Wheeler, Library Aide FCPL



"My favorite books are fiction and nonfiction. My favorite book is Peg + Cat." — Krishna Powers



"My favorite books are Star Wars. Those are cool (with the lightsabers and spaceships)." — Caleb Powers



"It has been such a treasure living here in McLean to be able to come to the Dolley Madison Library. My girls have been coming since they were four months old. We've been getting more complex books progressively as their reading has developed. It is a wonderful experience to check a book out, read it, and bring it back. Is it like a little adventure-what am I going to do next?" — Nick Polizzi



"These geniuses are my granddaughters. I'm visiting from Cleveland; that's Cuyahoga County. I have to brag that the Cuyahoga County Public Library is the best library system in the United States." [For the 12th consecutive year, the Cuyahoga County Public Library earned the highest overall score among its national peers in the Library Journal's annual rankings Dec. 2021.] — Jerry Polizzi of Cleveland



The day before the start of National Library Week, Sunday, April 3 through Saturday, April 9, families stop by the Great Falls Library. [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)



Families stop by Dolley Madison Library. (File photo)



"We got DVDs because we are going to Tennessee. I picked the Mysterious Benedict, The Thief Lord. I'm reading "The Hunger Games." I'm halfway through..." — Elizabeth Polizzi, 10, of McLean



"I like to go to the library because there are things you can jump on outside (the big book). Right now, there's the 'Three Little Piggies' re-enactment inside. They have felt things, and we get to vote. I voted koalas." — Katherine Polizzi, 9, of McLean

## Here's What's Happening at MCC!

### Presented by The Alden



Foreign Language Movie  
Thursday, April 7, 1 p.m.  
Free; registration required

### Presented by The Alden



IN Series: Two World-Premiere Operas  
Friday, April 8, 7:30 p.m.  
\$25/\$15 MCC district residents

### Community Stage



Apply to perform at McLean Day!  
Deadline: Friday, April 8  
Including but not limited to:  
music, theater, dance and poetry

### Presented by The Alden



Performing Arts Documentaries  
Thursday, April 14, 1 p.m.  
Free; registration required

### Make a Difference



American Red Cross Blood Drive  
Friday, April 15, 1-6 p.m.  
Donors of all ethnicities needed.

### Meet the Board Candidates



MCC Adult Board Candidate  
Meet & Greet  
Saturday, April 16, 10-11:45 a.m.

**Save  
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Use code "MCCCON" at  
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The McLean  
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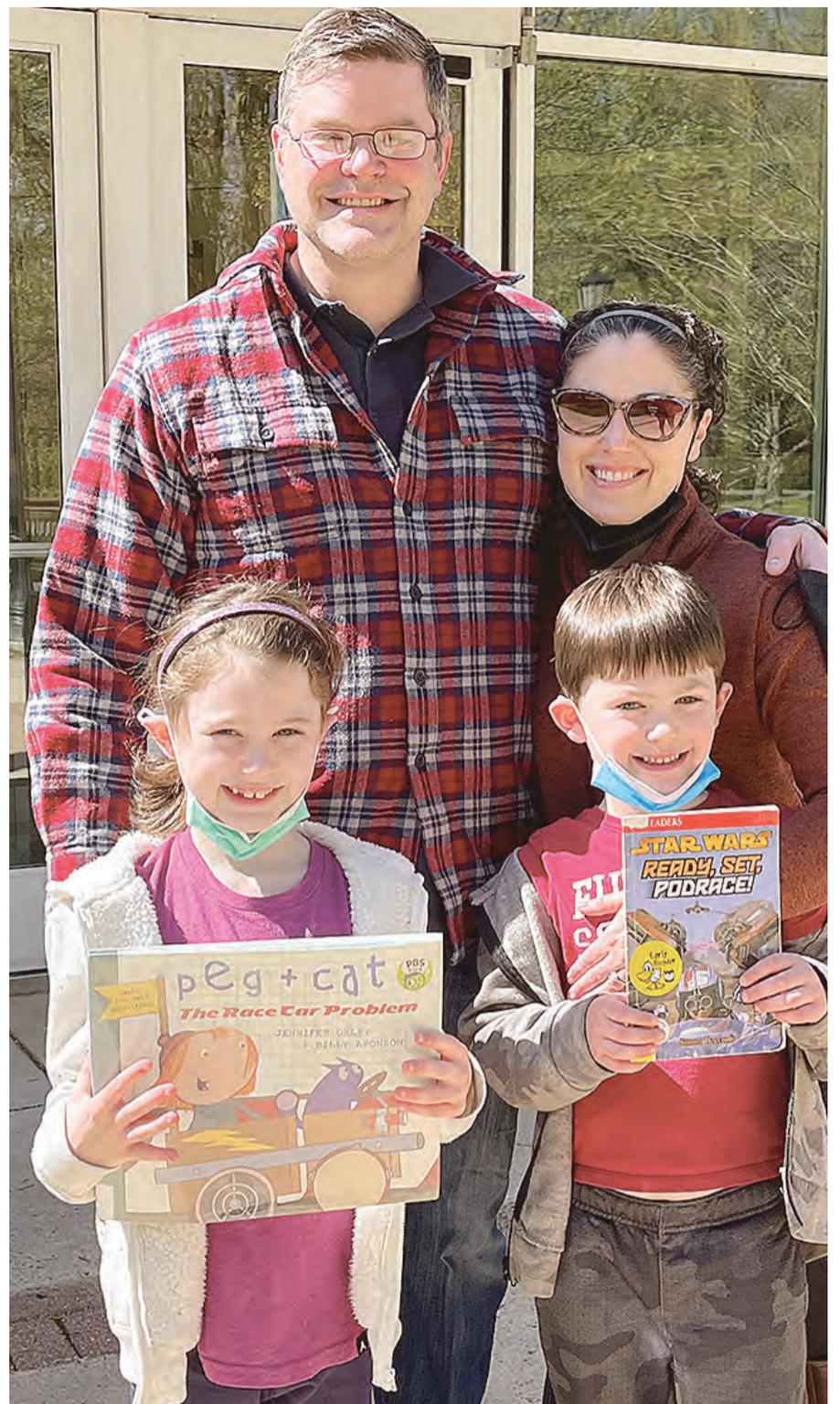


PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

## National Library Week

The Powers family of Great Falls, Josh, Jane, Krishna, and Caleb, visit the Great Falls Library the day before National Library Week.

## Words Matter in Child Abuse Prevention Month

FROM PAGE 5

You make a difference  
You are one of a kind  
You are brilliant  
You have choices  
You are worthy  
You were right  
It's okay to be scared (or sad)  
It's your body  
You have a voice  
Love yourself  
I see you are trying  
I believe in you  
How can we work together to fix this?

I am here to listen  
You are safe  
It will be okay  
You are a great helper  
What a great question/idea

Fairfax County is dedicated to the safety of children and to providing the appropriate supports to parents to keep families healthy. The Department of Family Services' signature Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention campaign is focused on Building Stronger Families.

Strong families can provide safe and healthy childhoods and lead to creating a thriving community

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# CALENDAR

## NOW THRU APRIL 28

A collection of paintings by Layla Gray and Coty Dickson entitled "The Four Seasons" is on display at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066. The public can view this collection of favorite seasonal paintings in the library's large meeting room from now through Thursday, April 28, 2022 during regular library hours. Contact Coty Dickson at cotyndickson@gmail.com for additional information.

## NOW THRU APRIL 16

Photos with the Easter Bunny. At Tysons Corner Center, McLean, Fashion Court, Level 1 near Nordstrom. Tysons Corner Center welcomes the Easter Bunny back on March 18th. Visit the Bunny for an unforgettable family photo experience. The option to pre-book your appointment is available and recommended to reduce wait time. Visitors can choose from a selection of photo packages as well as choose between a socially distanced experience or sitting with the Bunny, if permitted per local mandate. The Bunny will be available Monday - Saturday from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Sunday from 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

## NOW THRU APRIL 30

The Friends of Frying Pan Farm Park invite the public to participate in its 2022 photo contest. Help celebrate all that is special about the farm with the second "Focus on the Farm" fundraiser. Open to photographers of all ages and abilities, capture the beauty and farm life at Frying Pan Farm Park. The categories include nature, landscape and scenery, and farm animals. Photos must be taken, and entries submitted between March 1 and April 30, 2022. You can enter up to 10 photos. The fee is \$7 per entry for adults, and \$5 per entry for children up to age 16. The fees will directly support the park and care and feeding of the animals at the farm. Go to the Friends of Frying Pan Farm Park website for detailed



Kevin Thorne stars in "Nat Turner in Jerusalem," which will be presented at NextStop Theatre Company in Herndon from April 1-17, 2022.

instructions and submission information; or email the Friends of Frying Pan Farm Park at friends@fryingpanpark.org. Frying Pan Park is located at 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Call 703-437-9101.

## APRIL 1-17

"Nat Turner in Jerusalem." Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. At NextStop Theatre Company, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. This powerful play delves into an important moment in American history, which has continued to shake the conscience of the nation for almost two centuries. Through powerful performances, audiences are invited to take part in a deep exploration of human morality and the grim reality of the past. Visit the website: <https://www.nextstoptheatre.org/nat-turner-in-jerusalem>

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 10

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**CALENDAR**

FROM PAGE 9

**WEDNESDAY/APRIL 6**  
 Class: The Carla Perlo Story. 8 p.m. At Reston Community Theater's CenterStage. Experience a documentary film, interspersed with live performance, about dancer and choreographer Carla Perlo and her influence on her students, the field of dance, the communities in which she worked and her advocacy for property ownership by artists over the course of 48 years. Visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com).

**THURSDAY/APRIL 7**  
 Foreign Language Movie. 1 p.m. At McLean Community Center, McLean. By popular demand, the foreign language movie series is back. Curated by Performing Arts Director Sarah Schallern Treff, with more than a little help from Alden patrons, the series will pick up where it was so rudely interrupted in 2020, with a few surprises thrown in. All screenings are free, but advance registration is required. Schedule subject to change.

**THURSDAY/APRIL 7**  
 National Burrito Day. 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. At 1470 North Point Village Center, Reston. With the purchase of any burrito or burrito bowl, five lucky grand prize winners will win - free California tortilla burritos for a year. Visit the website: <https://californiatortilla.com/>

**FRIDAY/APRIL 8**  
 IN Series: Two World-Premiere Operas. 7:30 p.m. At The Alden, McLean Community Center, McLean. Join The Alden for the world premieres of Brian Arreola and Anna Deeny Morales' new opera, "Zavala-Zavala," and an IN Series commission setting the poems of Gabriela Mistral in her original Spanish, as well as in the luminescent English translations by Langston Hughes. "Zavala-Zavala" tells a story of family separation and survival at the U.S.-Mexican border—inspired by true events—with artists Elizabeth Mondragon, Judy Yannini and Alex Albuquerque. Angel-Gil Ordóñez leads the orchestras of Georgetown University and members of the PostClassical Ensemble.

**FRIDAY/APRIL 8**  
 Two Operas. 7:30 p.m. At The Alden, McLean Community Center, McLean. "Zavala-Zavala" by Composer Brian Arreola and Librettist Anna Deeny Morales, tells a story of family separation and survival at the U.S.-Mexican border—inspired by true events. The second opera, "Our Queer Mother, Gabriela," is an IN Series commission that sets the poems of Gabriela Mistral in her original Spanish, as well as in the luminescent English translations by Langston Hughes. Tickets are \$25, \$15 for McLean Community Center (MCC) district residents. The theater is located inside MCC at 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Visit: [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org) or call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711.

**SATURDAY/APRIL 9**  
 123 Andrés. 3 p.m. At Reston Community Theater's CenterStage, Reston. 123 Andrés is the award-winning duo of Andrés and Christina, who entertain with catchy songs and a

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 11

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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 10

high-energy show that gets kids and families singing and dancing in Spanish and English. Visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 9

Spring Bazaar and Craft Show. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street, South Vienna. The Auxiliary to the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department will hold their popular Spring Bazaar and Craft Show. Offered for sale will be crafts, holiday decorations, items for your home, clothing and gifts for that special someone. A delicious lunch menu is planned, as well as a bountiful homemade baked goods table. Looking for a unique find? Come shop at Vera's Attic table. Fire Department T shirts will be available for purchase. For information, or to reserve a space and request an application, call Carol at 703-309-3468 or email [Dancers1023@aol.com](mailto:Dancers1023@aol.com), or Lisa at 703-981-4504 or email [lisamerson3@verizon.net](mailto:lisamerson3@verizon.net). Admission is free.

## SATURDAY/APRIL 9

All-Day Family Fun. 4 p.m. At Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. Celebrate the anniversary of Reston's founding with the Reston Historic Trust and Museum, RCC and Public Art Reston. The free event features a public art walk, a multilingual birthday party, family activities and family-friendly performances, including an appearance by award-winning duo 123 Andrés.

Featuring the Underwater Egg Hunt, Terry L. Smith Aquatics Center at RCC Hunters Woods, 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. (\$4 Reston/\$8 Non-Reston). The Easter Bunny is missing hundreds of eggs, and they have been found floating in the RCC pools. Come splash, swim and hunt - each child will receive a goody bag upon the competition the event. For more information and to register your child by age group, visit [myRCC](http://myRCC.com).

Featuring 123 Andrés at the CenterStage, 3 p.m. (\$5 Reston/\$10 Non-Reston). 123 Andrés, a high-energy children's duo, will get kids and families singing and dancing in English and Spanish. Don't miss the fun at this Professional Touring Artist Series performance. Tickets are available at the RCC Box Office or online.

## APRIL 9-10

Native Plant Sale. The Friends of Riverbend Park's Native Plant Sale this year will be held to coincide with Riverbend Park's Bluebell Festival. To order native plants online, go to the FORB website at [www.forb.wildapricot.org](http://www.forb.wildapricot.org) and click on the "2022 Native Plant Sale" tab. Twenty-eight different species of native plants are available for purchase at \$11 per quart-sized plant and \$13 per gallon-sized plant. All plants ordered and paid for online must be picked up at the Riverbend Park Educational Pavilion on Potomac Hills Street on April 9th or 10th between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Additional Bluebells will also be available for sale by cash, check or credit card at the

Visitor Center during the Bluebell Festival. If there are any questions, contact Hugh Morrow at [hughmorrowiii@gmail.com](mailto:hughmorrowiii@gmail.com).

## SUNDAY/APRIL 10

Mah Jongg. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church. Mah Jongg Fun Day with brunch and raffle (cash or checks). Questions? Iva at [wotrs@templeroodefshalom.org](mailto:wotrs@templeroodefshalom.org). Registration by March 25th, <https://adobe.ly/3mY7eWr>

## SUNDAY/APRIL 10

Clifton Easter Egg Hunt. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. At Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. Fun and games, bake sale, craft sale, and ice cream. Main Street Pub - The Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner is outstanding! Corned Beef brisket layered atop a wedge of cabbage and finished with sides of red skinned potatoes and carrots (available only in the month of March).

## SUNDAY/APRIL 10

Spring Community Parking Lot Sale. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. At MCC Parking Lot, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Featuring up to 50 adult and youth sellers, shoppers can find bargains galore at one of the area's biggest community sales of the spring season. The sale offers a wide variety of gently used household goods, electronics, furniture, clothes, appliances and other items. The Kids' Row 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. Got stuff? A limited number of selling spaces are available. Residents selling household items are welcome as are commercial vendors or flea market dealers. To sell at the sale, register online at [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org), in person or by phone by contacting the MCC Registrar at 703-744-9365, TTY: 711.

## APRIL 14-MAY 8

The Mamalogues. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. At 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons. In this satirical comedy, three friends share the joys, challenges, and anxieties of being middle class single Black mothers in predominantly white suburbs. The story celebrates motherhood and community while exploring racial profiling on the playground and supporting your kid who is perpetually the Only Black Child (OBC). Follow their journey as they lean in and steer their children from pampers to college while navigating their own road toward retirement. Visit [www.1ststage.org](http://www.1ststage.org).

## SATURDAY/APRIL 23

Clifton Lions Club Family Pancake Breakfast. 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. At Clifton Presbyterian Church, 12748 Richards Lane, Clifton. Cost is \$10 per adult; \$5 per child. Proceeds go to charity.

## BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 2

### GREAT FALLS FARMERS MARKET OPENS

The Great Falls Community Farmers Market reopened on Saturday, April 2. Stop by for fresh bagels, coffee, produce, seafood, flowers, baked goods, sweets, pet treats, live music, and more. The Farmers Market is located in the Village Centre Parking Lot, 754-C Walker Road, Great Falls. (Across from Safeway and Wells Fargo). Open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### SHEPHERD'S CENTER SPRING CLASSES

The Shepherd's Center of Northern Virginia will hold Spring classes from April 21 to June 9, 2022. All Classes will be held virtually on Zoom and in person at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Registration: April 4-19, 2022. The Spring 2022 semester schedule includes 40-plus

classes with a wide range of subjects -- from a Health and Wellness series to National and World Affairs.

The following classes are but a few of the classes to choose from:

- April 28 - "Sorting Fact from Fiction" - Larry Lipman, AARP
- May 5 - "Monarch Butterflies - Life Cycle and Migration" - Scott Schroth
- May 19 - "Whale Watching in Baja" - Paul Wormeli
- May 26 - "Vienna African American Trailblazers and Liberty Amendments" - Gloria Runyon/Sylvia/DeeDee

Students may attend one or all of the all spring classes for a \$55 fee and are encouraged to create their own schedule - attend classes all day or attend only one class. For a complete listing of classes or to register, visit the ALL page on the SCNOVA website at [SCNOVA.org](http://SCNOVA.org) in Learning Spring 2022 or call the office at 703-281-0538. Visit [www.scnova.org](http://www.scnova.org) or contact the Office at 703-281-0538.

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## Cause for Concern?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

If you've read any of my columns, you might be able to guess the answer. In my mind, it's not so much cause for concern as it is a topic for conversation. The topic being the side effects of cancer medicine/treatment. I remember hearing/reading that as it relates to cancer patients, sometimes the side effects of the medicine so severe/so debilitating that the patient must stop the treatment (which I never have). And in stopping what's managing - so to speak, the tumors, the tumors start growing and the cancer starts spreading and then shortening your life. In the past when I've asked my oncologist what would happen to my stable tumors if I were to stop treatment, he unequivocally stated: "I know what will happen. The tumors will grow." And as you might imagine, tumors growing has been my greatest fear.

Per my last series of diagnostic scans in late Dec. and early March, tumors are stable, and life goes on. I had been anxious about these scans because previously we had reduced the dosage of my thyroid cancer medicine down to 10 mg from the initial 24 mg. We had to do this because the side effects from the medicine was adversely affecting my ability to perform my activities of daily living. Walking upstairs or even a modest incline would take my breath away; as would bending over or even standing over the commode. However, this original maximum dose was keeping the tumors stable. Why risk that just so I can breathe easier?

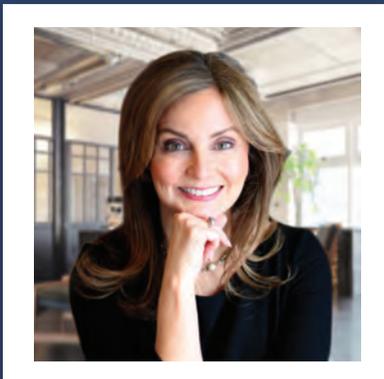
In talking with my oncologist over the years, I've learned - and experienced, that cancer medicine is constantly adjusted and changed your body reacts negatively. The goal, according to my oncologist is to try and find that "sweet spot" as I call it. That's the spot where the minimum amount of medicine tolerated by the patient is doing the maximum good, and of course, when the side effects are the least impactful. Which is where I've been for the past six months or so: reduced dose, less side effects, while still having "stable" results on my quarterly scans.

Recently however, my breathing has become more labored, even while performing less arduous tasks. My wife, Dina, asked me today, after she saw me pull over in the house and sit down to catch my breath, if I thought I should contact my oncologist and tell him of my recent difficulties because it's new-ish and any new symptoms need to be reported to the doctor.

But lowering my dose yet again really scares me. At some point/dosage, the medicine stops being effective. And I'm not sure if one can experiment with a lower dose and if there are complications/disappointments, simply revert to the higher dose and return to the previous abnormal? My oncologist has also said that he can try to keep me from going down, but once down, he can't likely bring me back up. Ergo, my dilemma.

Obviously, it's prudent to keep the oncologist in my loop; he does kind of have my life in the speaker of his stethoscope and should be apprised of all changes in my health. Nevertheless, a reduction in my medicine could be a turning point in the wrong direction, and one quite frankly from which I might never recover.

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



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