



## Owl Awe

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Great horned owl at Dyke Marsh.

## 48 Townhouses Replacing 13 Single Family?

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## Former Vienna Town Manager Dies

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PHOTO BY ED EDER

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## McLean Man Sentenced for Role in Tech Support Fraud Scam

A McLean man was sentenced Friday, June 3, to three years in prison for his role in a conspiracy to defraud more than 1,300 victims out of \$1.6 million in connection with a call center scam.

According to court documents, Bruhaspaty Prasad, 33, conspired with several other individuals primarily based in India at a call center to carry out a tech support scheme that primarily affected elderly victims. The defendant's

co-conspirators contacted the victims through unsolicited telephone calls and pop-up notifications on their computers claiming, in part, that the victims needed assistance to remove malware from their computers. In other instances, the call center employees pretended to be associated with companies like Amazon and Microsoft and falsely led the victims to believe that there were issues with their online accounts. The victims were duped

into signing contracts for technical support services that were never rendered. Once the victims agreed to pay for services, they were frequently contacted again for additional services and charged additional fees.

Prasad, as the primary U.S.-based conspirator, was responsible for creating several businesses that purported to offer technical support to clients. During the life of the conspiracy, Prasad opened

three businesses in the Commonwealth of Virginia, all of which received the fraudulently obtained proceeds of the scheme. Prasad was the sole signatory on the bank accounts for the entities he created. He was also responsible for transferring a significant portion of the fraud proceeds to his co-conspirators in India. Prasad continued operating these businesses and obtaining victims' funds even after personally receiving several

complaints and negative online reviews. Rather than closing the business entirely, Prasad continued to open businesses to allow the fraud scheme to proceed.

From April 2016 through September 2021, more than 1,300 individuals were defrauded. The victims suffered losses totaling more than \$1.6 million.

Jessica D. Aber, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia and Wayne A. Jacobs, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Washington Field Office, made the announcement after sentencing by U.S. District Judge Claude M. Hilton.

Amazon provided law enforcement with substantial assistance during the investigation, according to Eastern District of Virginia officials.



## FCPD Weekly Recaps for Friday, June 3

### County-wide Calls for Service Summary:

Date Covered: 5/27-6/2/2022  
 Total Calls for Service: 8,805  
 Total Domestic Related Calls for Service: 221  
 Total Persons Experiencing Mental Health Crisis Calls for Service: 196  
 Total Crash Calls for Service: 623

### McLean District Station

**MALICIOUS WOUNDING:** 7200 block of Arlington Boulevard, 5/29/22, 6:14 p.m. A 26-year-old man and the victim got into an argument. The man assaulted the victim and left the area. The victim was treated for injuries that were not considered life threatening. Through the officer's investigation, they identified the suspect and obtained a warrant for malicious wounding. The man was arrested two days later.

**CARJACKING:** 1900 block of Chain Bridge Road, 6/1/22, 5:01 p.m. The victim was sitting in his BMW M4 when two men approached. One man displayed a firearm, demanded his keys and took the BMW. No Injuries were reported.

**COMMERCIAL ROBBERY:** 2050 International Drive (Saks Fifth Avenue), 6/2/22, 2:50 p.m. A 27-year-old Alexandria man took merchandise without paying. When confronted by a store employee, the man assaulted the victim and ran from the area. Officers found the man nearby and arrested him for grand larceny, assault and battery and trespassing. No injuries were reported.

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# NEWS

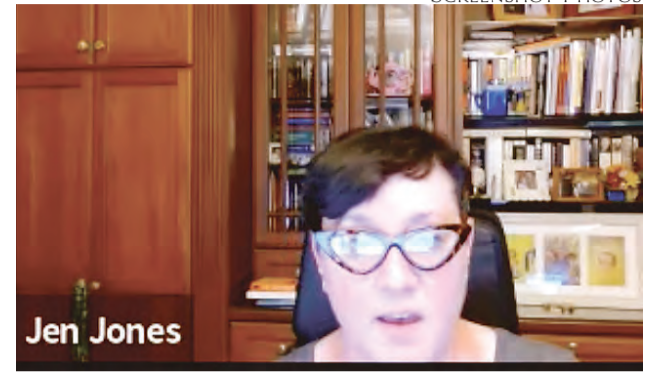
SCREENSHOT PHOTOS



Scott Spitzer, MCA president



Robert M. Perito, MCA Planning & Zoning Committee



Jennifer L. Jones, MCA first vice-president

## MCA Votes to Support 48 Townhouses Planned for McLean

8 planned as affordable dwelling units; 13 existing single-family homes to be removed.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

At the June 1 McLean Citizens Association (MCA) Board of Directors Meeting, moderated by Rob Spitzer, president of MCA, members unanimously approved its revised Resolution, dated the same day, supporting the Application and rezoning of the Seneca Assemblage, pursuant to RZ 2021-PR-00019/FDP 2021-PR-00019. The Final Development Plan shows the construction of 48 new townhomes by Toll Mid-Atlantic LP Company, Inc. (“Applicant.”). Eight of the 48 townhomes will be affordable dwelling units, slightly narrower than other units and scattered throughout the assemblage.

The McLean site in Fairfax County is in a portion of the Providence District on a 3.8 area parcel northwest of Magarity Road between Seneca Avenue and LaSalle Avenue in the East District of the Tysons Urban Center. The applicant refers to the property referenced in the Resolution as the “Seneca Assemblage.”

Robert M. Perito, MCA Planning & Zoning Committee chair, presented an overview of the project during the June 1 meeting. According to Perito, the applicant requested to rezone 3.8 acres from R-1, individual homes, to PHD-12 (Planned Development Housing, District 12, dwelling units/acre). It was consistent with the Comprehensive Plan for the East District of the Tysons Urban Center and McLean Ridge neighborhood immediately adjacent to the Seneca Assemblage.

The rezoning would permit the removal of 13 existing single-family detached homes and replace them with 48 new townhomes. The eight proposed Workforce Dwelling Units would comply with Fairfax County requirements. “They are 16-feet wide rather than 22-feet wide,” Perito said.

The development would also include,



Conceptual/Final Plans: Seneca Assemblage by Applicant Toll Mid-Atlantic LP Company, Inc.

Perito said, one existing single-family dwelling, the Retained Dwelling. According to Perito, the resident owners of the Retained Dwelling home were cooperating with the Applicant and participating in requesting rezoning. However, their home had children with special needs, and the owners had made adaptations.

The new development would vacate the undeveloped right-of-way for the never-built Buena Vista Road. According to Perito, this area, known as Buena Vista Park, 0.25 acres, would be for use by area residents. Two other parks at the edge of Seneca Assemblage, Courtyard Park, a 0.12-acre private park (a bit more than 5000 square feet), and Point Park, a 0.20-acre, would include a “tot lot” play area. Constructing a new public connector road, “New Road,” within the Seneca

Assemblage in lieu of the never-built Buena Vista Road would improve accessibility between Seneca Avenue and LaSalle Avenue.

According to the Resolution, Applicant contended that “rezoning should be approved because it: (1) meets the density requirements of the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan for the East District of the Tysons Urban Center; (2) will double the park space required under said Comprehensive Plan; (3) complies with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors’ policies concerning Workforce

Dwelling Units; and (4) will improve transportation accessibility with construction of a new public street in lieu of the planned Buena Vista Road.”

Perito said that Final Development Plan and rezoning provisions of the application

appeared to comply with the Comprehensive Plan requirements of Fairfax County.

During the discussion and before approval of the resolution, the Board wanted to clarify that while “surrounding neighborhoods and the resident owner of the Retained Dwelling generally support the Applications,” one group, “nonetheless” had concerns, the residents of McLean Ridge HOA. Hence, the word “nonetheless” was added. McLean Ridge HOA had requested key changes to include, among other things, the following.

The discussion introduced by Jennifer L. Jones, first vice-president, led to an approved revision to the proposed Resolution while it was a working document.

The directors approved an added phrase to the proposed Resolution’s final paragraph, “Now, therefore, be it resolved that the McLean Citizens Association supports the Application and rezoning of the Seneca Assemblage pursuant to RZ 2021-PR-00019/FDP 2021-PR-00019.”

The tacked-on phrase states, “but recommends that the County consider the concerns of the McLean Ridge HOA regarding the need for installation of speed bumps on the New Road and Seneca Avenue to ensure safety for residents who enjoy the parks in the Seneca Assemblage, and the proposed commercial bicycle rental facility.”



## Celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage

### Recognize surge in hate crimes, discrimination.

BY DEL. KATHY KL TRAN

While Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month has just ended, communities throughout Virginia recognized the many contributions of AAPIs to our Commonwealth and country.

AAPIs include people with roots in dozens of countries and are the fastest growing minority group in Virginia, making-up seven percent of the population. In Fairfax County, AAPIs are the largest minority community, comprising over 20 percent of the population. I hope you have had an opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity of Virginia's AAPI community by participating in cultural festivals or learning about a community changemaker.

While we celebrate, it is important we also acknowledge obstacles AAPIs continue to face. For example, we are currently experiencing a rise in hate and violence towards AAPIs that can be traced to former President Trump and his allies' racist COVID-19 rhetoric.

From March 2020 to December 2021, 10,905 hate incidents nationally were reported to Stop AAPI Hate, including harassment, workplace discrimination, assault and murder. Of these,

185 incidents were reported in Virginia. Last year, the horrific attacks in the Atlanta area that killed eight people, including six AAPI women, shed light on the disproportionate targeting of AAPI women.

AAPIs have dealt with systemic discrimination and racism throughout U.S. history, from the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, to the prohibition until 1952 on Asian immigrants becoming naturalized citizens.

We also confront pernicious stereotypes on a daily basis. The "perpetual foreigner" myth furthers the notion that AAPIs are not truly American. This othering erodes our sense of belonging and sows distrust about the AAPI community. A recent study by Leading Asian Americans to Unite for Change and The Asian American Action Fund found 33 percent of U.S. adults believe "Asian Americans are more loyal to their country of origin than to the United States," up from 20 percent last year.

At the same time, AAPIs are often stereotyped as the "model minority" — polite, hard working, self-reliant, and prosperous. While seemingly positive, this myth obscures the racism AAPIs face and the economic, educational, and

health disparities within the AAPI community. It is also a deliberate effort to drive wedges between AAPIs and other minority communities.

I joined other AAPI state legislators to co-found the General Assembly's Virginia AAPI Caucus in 2021. Our caucus lifts up the concerns and priorities of AAPI Virginians and works closely with other caucuses to support the wellbeing of vulnerable Virginians. This year, we introduced legislation and budget proposals to strengthen public education, expand health care, increase language access, grow entrepreneurship and small businesses, and improve refugee services as well as to address hate. You can learn more at <https://www.vaapic.org/>.

As AAPI Heritage Month comes to a close, we should celebrate the contributions of the AAPI community, reflect on the racism and discrimination AAPIs continue to face, and recommit ourselves to working for a Commonwealth that is more just, equitable, and inclusive.

*Kathy Kl Tran serves in the Virginia House of Delegates representing the 42nd District, which includes parts of Mount Vernon, Lorton, West Springfield and Fairfax Station. She is the first Vietnamese American elected to Virginia state government and is the First Vice Chair for Policy for the Virginia AAPI Caucus.*

## More Than Enough

DEL. KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM

The world watches in astonishment as Americans kill each other with guns at a rate that is 25 times greater than in any other developed country! Those killed are not just adults as increasingly the target of gun terrorists are children. Already in 2022 there have been more children slaughtered by gun-toting terrorists than the total shot in any other developed country.

There is an increasing plea made most recently by our President that "enough is enough!" I submit that we are well past the point of reaching some indicator that we now must act. There is an epidemic of gun violence affecting not only those who are shot and killed but also those who are shot and do not die, those family members and friends of the victim, and those who are traumatized in their homes, schools, churches, and community by the increasingly real potential that they could be next. Gun violence is a public health crisis.

There are those who point to the Second Amendment and use it as an excuse for the most violent in

our society being able to stockpile guns of massive destruction and rounds of ammunition that can be used to kill innocent citizens. Such an excuse ignores the reality that the Second Amendment in its time related to citizen militia when there were no standing armies. Furthermore, none of the freedoms are so absolute that you can use your freedoms to end the right of other citizens to enjoy their freedoms. The Second Amendment is no more absolute than are the freedoms of speech, assembly or the press.

I have no problem with individual persons owning guns for their own hobby or recreational use. In the many years I have been in the legislature I have never known of a bill being introduced that would have denied the right of responsible citizens owning guns nor any bill that would confiscate guns from owners. My concern is with our insistence that every whacko be able to have a gun even if there is a likelihood that person will harm others. I believe that public safety requires that reasonable, common-sense gun safety laws be passed.

Why do we not have common-sense gun safety laws? State

legislators and members of Congress have not had the political will or courage to take the steps supported by the American people that would remove the plague of gun violence from our society. There are too many examples of politicians losing their political office because they supported the most reasonable of gun safety measures. Make candidates for office hear from you that we have reached the point of where action must be taken on ending gun vio-

lence and that your vote depends on their gun safety positions. If you belong to the NRA, let the organization know that the responsible members who support the end of the gun-related carnage outnumber the crazies who seem to love their guns more than the lives of others including our children.

If we are not past the point of agreeing that enough is enough, will gun violence have to visit our community to have us realize that we are past the point of enough?

### Let Us Know Your View

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## OBITUARY

# John H. Schoeberlein Dies, Former Vienna Town Manager

Reliable with keen financial responsibility,  
he brought Vienna into the 21st century.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

**J**ohn H. Schoeberlein, former Vienna Town Manager from 1985 to 2011, died suddenly on May 30, 2022, at the age of 74. He served as Town Manager for little more than 26 years, beginning in April 1985 and ending on May 1, 2011.

Schoeberlein had almost 40 years of experience in municipal government and was well-known for his professionalism. He was county administrator for Winnebago County in Illinois, city manager and assistant city manager for Pompano Beach in Florida, and city clerk for Highland Park in Illinois.

In his Message from the Town Manager for his proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011, he wrote, "The ability of the Town of Vienna to weather economic downturns is a result of our history of preparing realistic projections and continually monitoring expenditures throughout the year."

Schoeberlein ended his Vienna career having balanced a total of 26 budgets. In 2011 he oversaw the town's 175 employees and presented a town budget of \$29 million almost tripling the \$10 million budget he presented in fiscal year 1986-87.

Schoeberlein said, in the Vienna Connection Newspapers when he retired in 2011, that he wanted to see the Town retain a strong financial position. "We've been able to handle this past recession better than many other jurisdictions," he said, noting the Town had a strong housing stock. "What we've tried to do in this town is to provide the best level of customer service we can," Schoeberlein said when he announced his retirement intention in the fall of 2010. "I hope our residents understand this. When you call and ask to speak to someone specific, you do. There's no shuffling you around."

"I admire and appreciate John's reli-



FILE PHOTO BY DONNA MANTZ / THE CONNECTION  
John Schoeberlein served Vienna as Town Manager for 26 years. (1985-2011. He died on May 1, 2022.

ability and dependability and his ability to navigate critical situations with a steady hand. He will truly be missed as both a leader and a colleague," said then-Mayor Seeman upon Schoeberlein's imminent retirement.

According to Senate Joint Resolution No. 425 from the 2011 Session, Schoeberlein oversaw the renovation of the Vienna Town Hall and the Vienna Community Center and the commissioning of the Maple Avenue and Church Street streetscape improvements. The Town of Vienna constructed a new police station, the Northside Public Works Facility, the Town Green, Sarah Walker Mercer Park, and the Vienna Dog Park. His sound financial policy was the key to Vienna's success and why the Town's bond rating was upgraded to AAA.

Schoeberlein continued to live in Vienna. His wife, Julie, son Adam Schoeberlein of Vienna, and one grandchild survive him. There will be no funeral.

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## Planning for a **BRIGHT** Future!

### PUBLIC HEARING ON MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER'S DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 6:30 P.M.

The McLean Community Center (MCC) is seeking public input as it finalizes its strategic plan based on public feedback gathered from district residents over the last several months. MCC has hired AMS Planning & Research to help craft the plan and invites residents of Dranesville Small District 1A to express their ideas about the future programming and strategic priorities of the center at this public hearing.  
**Your opinion is important!**

[mcleancenter.org](http://mcleancenter.org)



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Great horned owl at Dyke Marsh and young.

# Owl Awe

BY GLENDA C. BOOTH  
THE CONNECTION

Owls have always mystified and intrigued people.

From the Greeks who believed that owls predicted a military victory to Harry Potter's snowy owl pal Hedwig, owls have always mystified and intrigued people.

Harriet Tubman, an unsung naturalist, used owl calls to guide enslaved people to freedom and made owl calls to alert freedom seekers. The owl is Wayneswood Elementary School's mascot. "Owls are icons for everything from potato chips to cigars," Virginia owl expert John Spahr says.

Two owl species raising their young have delighted many Dyke Marsh visitors the past few months. Several observers have confirmed a barred owl pair raising two young and a great horned owl pair with one young.



PHOTO BY JANE GAMBLE

## Barred Owl

Barred owls are named for their "bars" or striped plumage. They are common in Northern Virginia, often more heard than seen, making a baritone night call, "who cooks for you, who cooks for you-all," call in the wee hours. The call may be a mating call, especially in late winter, or members of a pair calling back and forth. Their young stay near their nest for up to six months.

Barred owls are around 21 inches long and weigh a little over a pound. They usually roost during the day and hunt at night for small mammals, lizards, snakes and frogs, but at times, they hunt during daylight. They are highly adaptable to varied habitats, including mixed forests and disturbed areas. "Barred owls are the opportunists of the owl world," wrote Leigh Clavez in *The Hidden Lives of Owls*.

The oldest barred owl recorded was at least 26 years, seven months old, according to Cornell University's *All about Birds*.

## Great Horned Owl

Great horned owls have two feathered tufts on their head that resemble horns. These birds are around 22 inches in length and three pounds in weight. With piercing

## Barred owl

yellow eyes, they have an intimidating stare. Some say that this is the owl every child would likely draw if tasked, a storybook owl.

Great horned owls prefer undisturbed habitats and forests, but also live in wetlands, forests, grasslands, backyards, cities and other semi-open habitats. They have been dubbed "tigers of the sky" because they are fierce predators of rats and mice, but can also catch skunks, rabbits, snakes and even porcupines. Their strong grip can sever their prey's spine.

## Eastern Screech-owl

Another owl often seen in Dyke Marsh over the years is the eastern screech owl. They are eight-and-a-half inches long and weigh around six ounces. They too are excellent at camouflaging, spending much of their day roosting and blending in with the bark as they perch in tree cavities. Some are reddish brown; some are gray, a color variation that ornithologists call "morphs."

They mostly eat large insects and small rodents, but may eat other small creatures. Their name comes from their call, which some say resembles a horse whinnying.



PHOTOS BY ED EDER



PHOTO BY GLENDA BOOTH

## Eastern screech owl, gray morph.

## Owl Basics

Owls are found on all continents except Antarctica and live in many habitats – suburbia, forests, farms, high desert steppes, the tropics and polar regions. Their size ranges from that of the elf owl in the western United States, around one-and-a-half ounces, to the Eurasian or European eagle owl, over nine pounds.

Most birds' eyes are on the sides of their heads, but owls' eyes face forward, like peo-

ple's eyes. Their eyesight is probably ten times better than human eyesight. They have nictitating eye membranes that help block dust. They swivel their heads to look to their sides and most can turn their heads 270 degrees.

Owls have a satellite-dish-shaped face that funnels sound to their asymmetrical ears, positioned to help determine where sound is coming from. Their hearing is so good they can hear prey rustling on the ground or a



PHOTOS BY ED EDER



PHOTO BY GLENDA BOOTH

These owls were at a Friends of Dyke Marsh Raptor Rapture event. They were injured, rehabilitated and cannot survive on their own.

mouse digging under two feet of snow, say experts.

Unlike other raptors with protruding beaks, an owl's beak curves downward. Owls have sharp, curved talons adapted to seize and squeeze prey and with their especially stout leg and foot bones, they can land hard on their prey.

Owls are excellent at camouflaging and are largely active at night. Their calls range

from hooting, hissing, howling and wailing to screaming.

When owls eat their prey, they regurgitate the indigestible parts like feathers and bones as a pellet. Some area nature centers help youngsters take pellets apart to study owls' diets. Owls can tear their prey apart, gulp down pieces and take pieces to nesting owls.

Owls can zoom through the woods and across a suburban street or yard almost noiselessly. They are very quiet flyers because they have comb-like, primary flight feathers on their wings' leading edges.

## Owl Watching and Boxes

Be respectful of all birds. Stay on marked trails, to protect the birds, the habitat and the birds' prey and to avoid startling their young that might be provoked to fly, but are not yet able to. Do not disturb nesting females. It is never appropriate to use playback bird calls in the presence of any bird that is busy feeding and protecting its young.

Some people install nest boxes to attract owl breeding pairs. All boxes should be put up well before breeding season, so for this year, it is too late. A guard can keep predators like snakes from raiding eggs and young. All bird houses and boxes should be appropriately sized and designed for the bird species you are trying to attract. Visit All about Birdhouses at <https://nestwatch.org/learn/all-about-birdhouses/>. This website has specifics on nesting periods, box placement, measurements and other tips.

## World Blood Donor Day, June 14 Donate at Inova Blood Donor Services

The World Health Organization established World Blood Donor Day as a celebration of all blood donors. Every year on June 14, Inova Blood Donor Services and blood collection organizations all around the world provide special recognition of the gift of life that our donors provide.

The history of the recognition day relates to the memorial of Karl Landsteiner, a former Nobel Prize recipient for the discovery of the ABO blood group system. Without Landsteiner's research, the transfusion medicine world would not have advanced to where it is today.

This summer, blood centers across the country are at critically low levels for nearly all blood types. Please take the time to make an appointment to donate on June 14, or whenever you have time, to help boost the blood supply and ensure there is an adequate supply for our community in case of accidents and emergencies. There is no substitute for blood when needed for patient care — it can only come from volunteer donors like you. All donors who donate on World Blood Donor Day will receive an exclusive t-shirt as a thank-you gift.

## Veteran and Military Spouse Career Fair Draws Hundreds

More than 400 veterans and military spouses attended the second bi-annual Veteran and Military Spouse Career Fair, presented by the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority (FCEDA), in partnership with the Virginia Chamber Foundation and the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. Held over two days, the free event for veterans, transitioning military members and military spouses was held on May 11, 2022, at the National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, followed by a virtual career fair on May 12.



From left, Michael Batt, Director, Talent Initiative Program FCEDA; Fort Belvoir Deputy Garrison Commander John M. Moeller; Mount Vernon District Supervisor Daniel G. Storck, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors; and Vance Zavala, Fort Belvoir Liaison, Fairfax County Department of Economic Initiatives.

"We are very pleased that the Veteran and Military Spouse Career Fair was again a great success," said Michael Batt, Director of FCEDA's Talent Initiative. "More than 130 veterans and military spouses had the opportunity to attend the in-person event at the National Museum of the United States Army and over 600 online conversations were had between more than 300 jobseekers and recruiters during the virtual event," he continued. "We are proud to assist the military community with finding jobs in Northern Virginia."

At the two-day event, jobseekers had the opportunity to talk to representatives from 25 companies in-person and 150 recruiters from 50 companies virtually. Participating regional employers – including Microsoft, Mandiant and C2 Technologies – are collectively hiring for more than 10,000 positions across a wide variety of sectors, including government, IT, finance, defense, renewable energy and healthcare. Jobseekers were also able to engage with veteran organizations providing valuable resume review and guidance, community services and military spouse career education services. All backgrounds and experience levels were welcome at the events, and attendees of the virtual event hailed from across the globe. While not a requirement, more than half of the jobseekers that attended the events had active security clearances.

At the in-person event on May 11, Fairfax County Board Supervisor Daniel G. Storck

presented a Military Spouse Appreciation Week Proclamation to Fort Belvoir Deputy Garrison Commander John M. Moeller.

"Tremendous support today at the National Museum of the United States Army for the Veteran and Military Spouse Career Fair," said Storck. "This partnership with Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, Fort Belvoir and Fairfax County brought together over 50 companies looking to fill over 10,000 jobs."

Home to nearly 80,000 veterans and their families, as well as more than 1,900 veteran-owned firms, Fairfax County is a choice location for both active duty and retired military to successfully transition into the civilian workforce. Northern Virginia's 27 military bases make for a robust defense industry presence. The Veteran and Military Spouse Career Fair is the latest effort by FCEDA and partner agencies to attract and retain talent in Northern Virginia. A series of seven virtual career fairs hosted by FCEDA since May 2020 have attracted nearly 5,000 attendees and resulted in more than 11,000 completed conversations between job seekers and hiring reps from a wide range of employers.

Visit [workinnorthernvirginia.com/veterans-clearance](http://workinnorthernvirginia.com/veterans-clearance) to learn more about career opportunities for veterans, transitioning service members, and military spouses in Northern Virginia





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## CALENDAR

### SATURDAYS UNTIL DECEMBER

The Reston Farmers Market (sponsored by the Fairfax Co. Park Authority) will take place at Lake Anne Village from 8 a.m.-noon. SNAP beneficiaries receive up to \$20 match. Visit <http://restonfarmersmarket.com/>

### NOW THRU JULY 4

Paper Jewels. At Reston Art Gallery and Studios, 11400 Washington Plaza West, Reston. Julia Malakoff presents her newest mixed media artworks to stimulate the senses of sight, smell, and taste through vivid colors and textures in her solo show, "Paper Jewels," featured at Reston Art Gallery and Studios (RAGS) from June 2 until July 4. Malakoff's own senses of smell and taste were altered by a case of Covid in 2020, but as a professional artist she has been able to put her imagination to work to ease the challenges of being a long-hauler, and to bring joy. Visit <https://juliamalakoff.com/>.

### NOW THRU DEC. 31

Crafts for Kids. 10 a.m. to 12 noon. At Reston Art Gallery and Studios, 11400 Washington Plaza W at Lake Anne, Reston. Free, themed art projects for children (with guardian) are offered at Reston Art Gallery and Studios every Saturday from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. Visit the website: [www.restonartgallery.com](http://www.restonartgallery.com)

### MCLEAN FARMERS MARKET

The McLean Farmers Market opened for the 2022 season on Fridays at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The market will run every Friday from 8 a.m. to noon through Nov. 11. Local farmers and producers will sell fresh produce and fruits; breads and pastries; prepared foods; meats: herbs; flowers, and more. All products are grown or produced by the vendors and come from within 125 miles of Fairfax County. Visit: <https://www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/>

### HERNDON FARMERS MARKET

Thursdays through Nov. 3, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 765 Lynn St., Herndon, VA, 20170 <https://www.fairfax-county.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/herndon>

### GREAT FALLS FARMERS MARKET

The Great Falls Farmers Market Outdoor Market is open every Saturday, Spring and Summer, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. For vendors and weekly highlights see <https://www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org/>

### NOW THRU JUNE 19

HomeAid Diaper Drive. At HomeAid Office, 3684 Centerview Drive, Suite 110B, Chantilly. HomeAid Northern Virginia is currently hosting their annual Builders for Babies diaper drive. With the drive closing on Father's Day (June 19th) they encourage everyone to get involved to reach our collection goal of 50,000 diapers and wipes. Then, on June 24th, they will be



The political comedian Bassem Youssef will appear at the Alden Theater in McLean on Friday, June 10, 2022.

distributing to roughly 20+ of our nonprofit partners in need in Northern Virginia and Winchester. Contact Georgeanne Harter at [gharter@homeaidnova.org](mailto:gharter@homeaidnova.org) or 703-953-3529. Visit the website: <https://homeaidnova.org/>

### JUNE 2-19

"Under the Sea." At 1st Stage in Tysons, 1524 Spring Hill Road Tysons. Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$50 general admission, \$47 seniors (65+), \$15 students, educators, and military. Purchase online at [www.1ststage.org](http://www.1ststage.org).

### WEDNESDAY/JUNE 8

Mary Gauthier with Special Guest Jaimee Harris. 7:30 p.m. At Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com)

### WEDNESDAY/JUNE 8

Princess Diana: Accredited Access Exhibition. At Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. This exhibition features photos and never-before-heard stories of the People's Princess from her Official Royal Photographer, Anwar Hussein, and his sons, Samir and Zak, who are now Official Royal Photographers for the next generation of Royals. Tickets are available here: [www.PrincessDianaExhibit.com/Washington](http://www.PrincessDianaExhibit.com/Washington).

### THURSDAY/JUNE 9

Get to Know. 5-7 p.m. At Brightview Great Falls, 10200 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Explore the community, enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and meet the team at Brightview Great Falls.

### FRIDAY/JUNE 10

The Winery at Bull Run Anniversary. 6:30-9:30 p.m. At 15950 Lee Highway, Centreville. Featuring the Special Occasions Band in concert on Hillwood Park. Tickets are \$10.

### FRIDAY/JUNE 10

Political Comedian Bassem Youssef. 7 p.m. At The Alden Theater, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. Egyptian heart surgeon turned world-famous political comedian, Youssef was dubbed the Jon Stewart of the

Arab World. He was the creator and host of the first political satire show in the Middle East and the most watched show in the Arab world, with 30 million viewers each week. Visit: [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org) or call 703-790-0123.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 11

Public Safety Day. 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. At London Towne Elementary School, 6100 Stone Road, Centreville. Fairfax County's Communities of Trust Committee will host a Public Safety Day. The event will feature food and games plus various police vehicles on display. Email [fairfax-COTC@gmail.com](mailto:fairfax-COTC@gmail.com).

### SATURDAY/JUNE 11

The 28th Tinner Hill Music Festival. 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. At Cherry Hill Park, 312 Park Ave., Falls Church. In addition to great music,

there's food, craft beer, vendors, kids' activities, and more to delight and entertain the entire family. Festival Lineup: Rebirth Brass Band, Marcia Ball, Dale and the ZDubs, Carly Harvey's Kiss & Ride, Batala Washington, Gordon Sterling and the People, Mr. Jon & Friends, DJ Stylus "The Vibe Conductor." An enticing array of activities and vendors will be found throughout the park in the Interactive Villages. Visit [www.tinnerhill.org](http://www.tinnerhill.org).

### SUNDAY/JUNE 12

Concerts on the Green. 6-8 p.m. At the Village Centre Green, Great Falls. Featuring Timmie Metz - Rock & Roll with a soulful, slightly gravely touch. Hosted by The Old Brogue and Katie's Coffee House. Come relax at the Village Centre Green and enjoy laid-back evenings of good music and good times with your neighbors.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 12

My Chorus NoVa Lights Choral. 4 p.m. At St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 3439 Payne Street, Falls Church. My chorus, NoVa Lights Choral, a mixed chorus based in Northern Virginia, will present a free concert. See <https://novalightschorale.org> for more information.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 12

Zoom Panel Discussion. 3:30-5 p.m. Via Zoom. Pathways out of Poverty in Northern Virginia - Easing Reentry for the Convicted. Panelists will share experiences at helping the eligible formerly convicted and incarcerated to rebuild their lives, and suggest ways to help. Sponsored by Lewinsville Presbyterian Church and Redeemer Lutheran Church of McLean and Tysons Interfaith coalition. Register at: [www.tysonsinterfaith.org](http://www.tysonsinterfaith.org)

### TUESDAY/JUNE 14

Author John Schmitz. 7-8:30 p.m. At Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave, E, Vienna. Author John E. Schmitz will discuss his book, Enemies Among Us: the relocation, internment, and repatriation of German, Italian, and Japanese Americans during the Second World War. Visit the website: <https://librarycalendar.fairfaxcounty.gov/event/8977805>



# Langley Student Honored with Scholarship

**A**nnie Zhang of McLean was awarded the 2022 Claes Nobel Future Female Leader Scholarship by the National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS). This scholarship was established to empower young women to assume future leadership roles in their higher education, careers, and communities, and to become mentors for the young women following in their footsteps. Of nearly 500 applications, Annie was one of 10 students who were selected to each be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

As president of the Anti-Trafficking International (ATI) Student Advisory Council (SAC), Annie has spearheaded many youth campaigns against human trafficking: a video miniseries, bi-monthly articles for the ATI newsletter, and social media showcases of council members. Her efforts have reached over 250,000 youth around the world. She started by organizing freedom sticker distributions within the council. Stickers had trafficking hotline info, in case survivors walk into a bathroom and need help. She's also worked on two of ATI's annual human trafficking conferences, leading the planning for youth tracks and providing social media insight for their main team. She joined the planning committee as the leader of the SAC sector in hopes of bringing a youth perspective to an interactive conference that had to be moved online due to COVID. It was one of the most challenging tasks she has ever faced, but the conference went on and the participants were engaged and thoroughly enjoyed the information provided.

Through the SAC, Annie has been able to bring together many students from around the world to work against human trafficking, not just in her community, but beyond. In college, she plans to learn computer science skills to be able to create programs that prevent human trafficking. And beyond, she will continue her efforts against trafficking and use her leadership skills to be a voice for the voiceless. Beyond her work at ATI, Annie has also worked with the Advancement of Student Accessibility Project, contacting various companies and organizations around the county that could provide resources for underprivileged students. When the project expanded, she led the website design and organized all the resources so they were accessible. Her efforts helped many discover and utilize resources they didn't previously know about and helped them in their academic endeavors.

She says, "My leadership and service will only expand. I will continue to advocate for those who have no voice and intertwine my passion for advocacy with my academic studies. I know I have the power to do so much good in my community, and in the world."

NSHSS is an international honors and scholarship program co-founded by Claes Nobel and James Lewis. It offers a lifetime of benefits, pairing the highest performing students worldwide with high school and college scholarships, events, connections, internships, and career opportunities that begin in high school and carry on through college and careers. For more information, visit <https://nshss.org>.



Annie Zhang



Kennedy Ferguson

# Potomac School Student Is Virginia Winner for Google Doodle Contest

**K**ennedy Ferguson, a senior at The Potomac School in McLean, has been selected as the Virginia state winner in the 14th annual Doodle for Google contest. Her artwork is now eligible to be included on the Google homepage for hundreds of millions to see. Doodle for Google is an annual contest where K-12 students create their own versions of the Google logo, and Ferguson is one of the 54 state and territorial nominees whose work was selected. This year the theme for the competition was "I care for myself by..."

Ferguson explains, "My Doodle represents the ways I care for myself. My self-love language is self-expression, pampering, and indulging in things that make me the most happy and hopeful version of myself."

A student in Potomac's selective Visual and Performing Arts Concentration program's fine arts track, Ferguson shares, "I have been fascinated with art since I was a child, and my passion has pushed me to always study, watch art tutorials, fill sketchbooks,

and make insultingly bad crayon portraits of my family. This recognition means so much to me, and I am thankful for the opportunity to share my art with a larger audience."

The judges for this year's Doodle for Google contest are the 2021 National Teacher of the Year, Juliana Urtubey; director, model, and mental health activist Elyse Fox; and artist, entrepreneur, and philanthropist Selena Gomez.

The national winner will take home a \$30,000 college scholarship, and their school will receive a \$50,000 tech package toward the establishment or improvement of a computer lab or technology program.

Google has postponed public voting because of the tragedy in Uvalde, Texas. Once it resumes, this link (<https://doodles.google.com/d4g>) will direct voters to all the state and territory winners. Five national finalists will be announced once the voting closes, and the winning Doodle will be featured on the Google homepage for one day.

## BULLETIN BOARD

### SATURDAY/JUNE 11

**Invasive Plant Management.** 9-11:30 a.m. At the Great Falls Grange Park ballfields. Volunteers needed. They will be cutting and uprooting the Oriental bittersweet vines that are choking the oak trees on the far side of the ball field. Last year, Fairfax County Parks Authority designated the Grange Park as an Invasive Management Area, and is supporting the work

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

to clear out destructive invasive plants and restore natural habitat in the park.

### JULY 6-29

**Host French Teens.** Ten volunteer families are needed to host French students from July 6-29. Enjoy an international experience and help promote international understanding and worldwide friendships. Call Tiffany 484-347-3459. Visit

the website: <https://www.smored.com/n2csd>

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**Parent Support Partners,** a service of the Healthy Minds Fairfax initiative, are all parents who have received training and are qualified to offer education, support and assistance at no cost to families or caregivers. They provide reliable information that families can use in deci-

sion-making and are familiar with services and resources that can help families in distress. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/healthymindsfairfax) or [www.nami-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html](http://www.nami-northernvirginia.org/parent-peer-support.html).

**The Shepherd's Center of Northern Virginia Caregivers' Support Group** takes place the first and third Tuesdays of each month, 10-11:30 a.m. via Zoom. This group is for caregivers of family members with dementia. Meetings are gently

facilitated. For more information and to get the Zoom link, contact Jack Tarr at [jtarr5@verizon.net](mailto:jtarr5@verizon.net) or 703-821-6838. **Haven of Northern Virginia Support Group.** 703-941-7000, [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org) or [havenofnova@verizon.net](mailto:havenofnova@verizon.net). **Virginia Chronic Pain Support Group** Meets from 1:30-3 p.m. the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Kaplan Center for Integrative Medicine, 6829 Elm St., Suite 300, McLean. Group leader, Jodi Brayton, LCSW. 703-532-4892.



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# HOMELIFESTYLE

## Using Interior Decor to Herald the Arrival of Summer

From throw pillows to rugs, small changes in a home's accessories can create the lazy days of the coming season.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

With Labor Day in the rear view mirror and the official start of summer just two weeks away, three local design aficionados are focusing on accessories that create a seamless transition from spring to summer. Their ideas run the gamut from foliage to rugs and offer inspiration for embracing the beauty of the new season.

Light and airy color combinations, particularly those found in works of art can evoke a relaxed aura. Having recently completed a series of breezy beach scenes, reminiscent of summer, interior designer and artist Gretchen Fuss, formerly of Patina Polished Living in Alexandria, says that paintings can set the tone of an interior space. "Attention to detail and design is all about truly living in a comforting environment. Each space needs harmony and purpose." Fuss works with other tastemakers to create a piece of art commissioned by a client.

In fact, Bethesda designer Eleanor Burch uses beach inspired elements to create ocean inspired spaces. "Beige, blue and white color schemes can take you away to a lazy summer day at the beach even if you're sitting in your living room," she said. "Even adding rattan baskets or using rattan placemats at dinner can create a sense of peace."

Seasonal foliage can be used to make the transition from spring to summer and blossoms are plentiful in the Washington region, says local designer Georgia Hoyler, owner of Passerine, an online shop which carries handmade vintage rugs from around the world. "Flowers offer an array of bright floral arrangements," she said. "But for a more dramatic statement, consider clipping flowering foliage from your yard to bring the season in. When it comes to branches as decor, bigger is always better. Oversized branches bring a sculptural element to a space that evokes a natural drama. Opt for an asymmetrical arrangement to create a more graceful line. By refreshing their water daily, a cut branch can last up to two weeks in your home."

From the understated elegance of a cotton knit throw draped casually on the back of a chair in the family room or a quilt in airy hues topping the bed in a guest room, trading heavy textiles for their warm weather counterparts throughout one's home is a cost effective way to embrace the carefree spirit of summer. "The simple replacement of throw pillows from stripes to tonal, block print floral patterns, for instance, makes a substantial impact with little effort," said Hoyler. "Beyond just pattern updates, consider the fibers of your textiles. Swapping a heavier weight cotton velvet or wool that



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGIA HOYLER.

When updating a home's interior to reflect a change in seasons, designer Georgia Hoyler, owner of online boutique Passerine, says that the most substantial change that you can make without replacing a single piece of furniture is updating your rug.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRETCHEN FUSS

Works of art, such as these beach scenes can herald a new season.

works for winter to lighter linen in pillows and bedding subconsciously feels fresher. Most importantly, consider the color palette. Consider romantic, cooler hues of spring and summer, such as soft blues, creams and whites."

The most substantial change that you can make without replacing a single piece of furniture is updating your rug," says Hoyler. "On cold winter nights, the shag of a Moroccan rug's thick pile may have appeal, but spring was made for a vintage Persian area rug," she said. "The lower pile height of an antique Persian Tabriz, Farahan or Bahktiari make them perfect options in warmer months."

Changing the lighting in a space can be a minor endeavor that can have a major impact when transitioning for one season to another. "Knowing that summer's longer days typically pull brighter, natural daylight tones in your home, consider how to control your lighting," said Hoyler. "Swap the warm 2700 kelvin bulbs that you craved in winter for energy-efficient LED bulbs to compliment the change in natural light outdoors. If you have an outside space you like to enjoy in warm spring or summer evenings, install solar-powered landscaping spotlights or string twinkle lights over your patio or deck to draw you outdoors, even as the light fades."

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## It's My Idea, and I Do Think Much Of It



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

And while I ended last week's column referring to two cities, Rome, and Milwaukee, that weren't built in a day (figuratively speaking), neither as it happens are they cities that I've visited. In fact, there are lots of cities that I've not visited, for all the usual reasons. Reasons which, after receiving a diagnosis of "terminal" cancer, become insignificant, and life in the post-cancer diagnosis years takes on a whole new/urgent meaning. A meaning which invariably presents itself in the organization and planning of a presumptive "bucket" list, a list of people you want to see, places you want to go, and things you want to do before you succumb to your disease.

It is a question/concept I have been presented with frequently over my many cancer years, most of them while characterized as "terminal." Even my oncologist suggested it one time after a particular infused medication I had been taking stopped working and we were deciding how next to proceed. He said that perhaps I should stop treatment for a while, and since I was likely feeling as good as I ever would, perhaps take that trip I had always dreamed of. He added that I might feel worse after we started new treatment; never knowing exactly whether the side effects would be manageable, or even if the treatment would work.

As it has turned out, I never took my oncologist seriously. I figured my treatment was not something to stop just to take a vacation - because it might get worse if I didn't. I just didn't think like that. My thought was keep doing what we're doing and not allow the cancer - to the extent we had any control, to get any kind of foot hold. To me, it felt like giving up/giving in to the cancer, and I never wanted to do that. And pursuing one's bucket list, during, and as direct result of, the intervals of my cancer treatment, seemed ill-advised, or at least, ill timed - to me. Just because my treatment wasn't working at a certain point, never seemed like a good reason to do even less and try to live more. My attitude was then and is now to live as normally as possible and not create artificial diversions/accomplishments to satisfy some arbitrary list that might not otherwise exist if you weren't "terminal." I never wanted to realize that the reason I was doing something was because I was dying, and it needed to be done - or else. I never wanted to impose that kind of pressure on myself. Cancer creates enough pressure on its own. A cancer patient doesn't need to increase that pressure by trying to check off a list.

But perhaps I'm just being contrary. I've heard much about a so-called "bucket list" these last 13 and half years. And as I've said, I've never bought it to it because I thought the price was too high. I never have wanted to deny my cancer reality by living a life unsuitable to who I am at my core. I'm not exactly Popeye the Sailor Man, but "I am who I am," and if I'm not doing things that I normally do, and instead doing things that I don't normally do, I would know the only reason I'm doing these things - that I don't usually do, is because I'm dying. To me, I'd be reinforcing a negative, and the last thing I've wanted to do during my cancer career was allow negativity to take root anywhere, anyway, anyhow. I've always felt that when I die, I want to die on my own terms, doing my own things for my own reasons.

To summarize my philosophy, I don't want to do things because I have cancer, I want to do things as if I don't. Granted, some days are harder than others, but at the end of every day, I'm more determined than ever to make the best of a bad situation. And for me, a vacation from my treatment was never going to work.

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





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By Premier/Award Winning modern home builder TriCrest Homes. Sited on a premium near-half acre lot in one of McLean's most sought-after neighborhoods - Chesterbrook Woods! This to-be-built, spectacular, modern home features 6 BRS/5.5 baths on 3 spacious finished levels; you can expect dramatic walls of glass with natural light, creative architectural features. The builder is now in the design phase, so plans, specifications, and finishes can be tailored to the homeowner. Contact the listing agent to learn more, tour one of the projects and plan your future one-of-a-kind dream home. **Chesterbrook, Longfellow, McLean schools!**

**BEST  
WASHINGTONIAN  
2021**



**SOLD!**

1504 Laburnum Street  
McLean, 22101  
\$1,299,000



**SOLD!**

3950 N. Dumbarton St  
McLean, 22101  
\$1,400,000



**SOLD!**

429 James Court  
Falls Church City, 22046  
\$539,000



**SOLD!**

1623 Woodman Drive  
McLean, 22101  
\$2,850,000



**SOLD!**

1446 Woodacre Drive  
McLean, 22101  
\$1,310,000



**SOLD!**

1506 Hardwood Lane  
McLean, 22101  
\$1,582,000



**SOLD!**

6932 Tyndale Street  
McLean, 22101  
\$1,905,000

**We're seeing multiple contracts and escalations! Call to chat with JD today!**