

Beckman's recipe takes the cake — and the trip

Jennifer Beckman's recipe for Lavender Olive Oil Cake has been declared the grand prize winner of the Mediterranean Inspirations Recipe and Essay Contest sponsored by Crisco.

As the winner of the nationwide contest, Beckman of Falls Church won a trip for two to Italy.

In January, Crisco asked home cooks to submit original Mediterranean-inspired recipes to www.GetInspired-WithCrisco.com, along with an essay of 100 words or less describing how Crisco Olive Oil inspired the recipe. Recipes had to use at least two tablespoons of one of the three varieties of Crisco Olive Oil and a minimum of two ingredients commonly used in Mediterranean-style cooking.

Qualified entries were judged on taste, creativity of the recipe, ease of preparation and appearance. Corresponding essays were judged on relevance to the theme, creative expressions and clarity. Beckman's recipe, chosen from more than 3,500 entries, can be viewed at www.crisco.com/Promotions_News/Promotions/MediterraneanInspirations/Default.aspx.

New college grads

Eunah Kim of Centreville received a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse on May 14. She also was named a departmental scholar.

Michael Romais, son of Dimitri and Marie Romais of Fairfax, and a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School

for Science and Technology, earned a bachelor's degree from Haverford College in Pennsylvania on May 15.

James McLemore of Annandale and Cristina Duarte of Centreville received bachelor's degrees from Hood College in Frederick, Md., on May 21. McLemore graduated magna cum laude.

Jacqueline Hargrove of Vienna and Sarah Young of Fairfax earned bachelor's degrees from Manhattan College in Riverdale, N.Y., on May 22. Hargrove also received the Medal for Excellence in the Liberal Arts.

U.S. Marine Corps 2nd Lt. Vidal Rodriguez, son of Vidal and Kelli Rodriguez of Fairfax, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., on May 27 with a bachelor's degree. He will be assigned to The Basic School for Marine Corps Training in Quantico in August.

Michael Balazs, son of Mary and Laszlo Balazs, received a Ph.D. in physics, with a focus on high energy, from the University of Virginia. He graduated from Chantilly High School in 2000 and received a bachelor's degree with honors from Johns Hopkins University in 2004.



People and Places
 LORIN BUCK



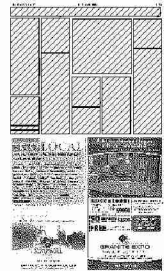
Beckman

McLean celebrates five teens of character

The McLean Citizens Association gave Character Awards to five McLean teens at its 15th annual award ceremony May 21. The event took place during McLean Day at Lewinsville Park.

Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust, Dranesville District School Board member Janie Strauss and McLean Citizens Association President Rob Jackson presented the awards, which honor teens who demonstrate outstanding character and who — on their own and without compensation — have helped out in their neighborhood or community.

Scott Feit volunteers at Share, a coalition of religious and civic institutions that meets emergency needs of families in the McLean area. The McLean High School senior reconfigured and reassembled old desktop and laptop computers — donated by community residents — into 38 high-



speed computers for client families. To purchase new components, Feit sold old but still serviceable components through eBay. He collected funds from eBay sales to purchase new components locally and traded components through eBay to assemble the inventory he needed.

Keon Hashemi volunteers at INOVA Fairfax Hospital. He has helped in the patient recovery room every Saturday for more than a year, transporting specimens, delivering flowers and helping to comfort patients. The Bullis School junior was named head of the student volunteers in November 2010 — even though some of his fellow volunteers are college students — because of his high degree of professionalism and leadership.

Lauren Kliska has volunteered at Share the past three years. In 2008, she sought donations of socks for the annual Share holiday celebration and collected about 650 pairs — one pair for each Share client. Last August Kliska became the first student to be responsible for setting up and overseeing distribution of school supplies to client families. The Flint Hill School sophomore serves as youth chair for The Reserve's food, clothing and furniture drives, creating and posting signs, distributing flyers, collecting donations and delivering them to Share. She arranged for Share to be a recipient of her school's food drives and holiday gifts.

Craig McKenzie volunteers at the Teen Center and for special events at the McLean Community Center. McKenzie, a Langley High School sophomore, helps with administrative duties at the teen center and assists with planning and running youth events. He also created Power Point presentations of feedback data collected during events. At the community center, he helps set up and take down displays and mans the information booth.

Christine Meyer volunteers at Sunrise Assisted Living. The Langley High School junior helps the senior residents with arts and crafts, guides them in designing memory boxes, makes root beer floats for their afternoon socials, decorates for their parties and assists in their exercise classes. Sun-

rise's activities and volunteer coordinator wrote that Meyer "shows great care, gentleness and respect when interacting with our residents. She listens with great interest and gains the respect and trust of our residents."

Vaxcom celebrates 25th

Vaxcom Services Inc., a technology company in **Fairfax**, celebrated a quarter-century of service to government and commercial customers last month. Founded in 1986 to provide secure information technology professional services to the U.S. intelligence community, Vaxcom was born in the hallways of a then-classified location.

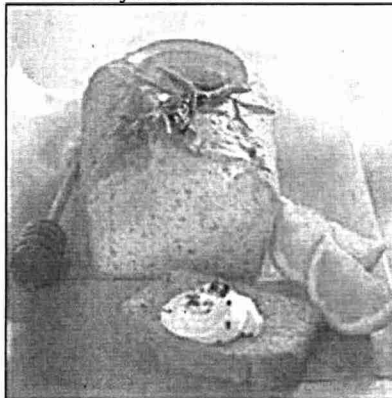
The IT company diversified its service offerings in 2003 to include threat management services for customers needing highly skilled, unarmed, discreet protection for their personnel and facilities. Vaxcom has since established itself as an industry leader in protective intelligence.

Vaxcom has grown to more than 300 technical professionals today from its 10 founding employees: **Dave Barker, Kent Barton, Thomas Boyd, Thomas Dempster, Larry Hilton, Duane Myers, Mickey Rowlett, Andrew Selph, Keith Thomas and R. Paul Warren.**

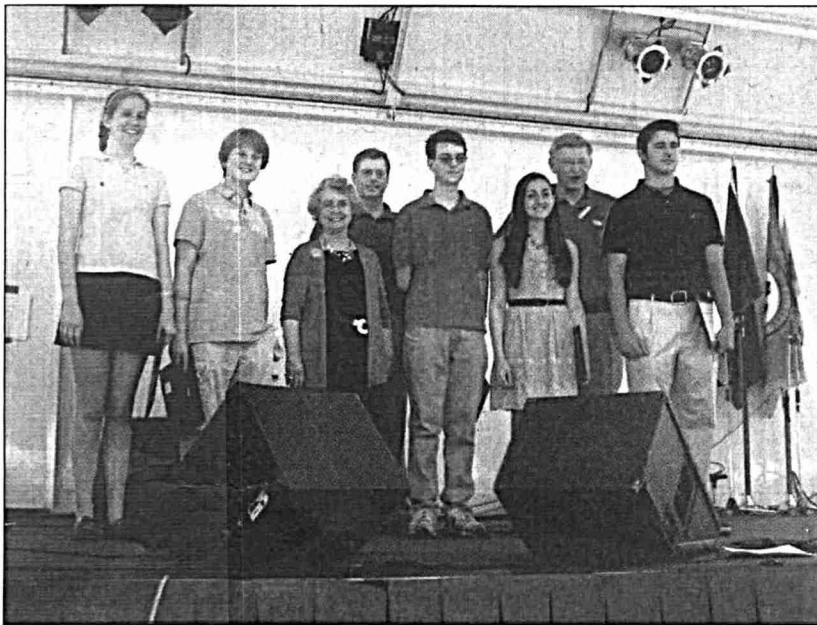
"This is a very exciting time for Vaxcom," said company President and CEO **Eric Stratton.**

"As proud as I am of what we've achieved in the last 25 years, I am 100-percent confident that our greatest achievements lie ahead."

Send news for the column to lbuck@FairfaxTimes.com.



CRISCO **Olive Oil Cake won the Falls Church resi-**
Jennifer Beckman's recipe for Lavender dent a trip for two to Italy.



MCLEAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

(From left) Christine Meyer, Craig McKenzie, School Board member Jane Strauss, MCA President Rob Jackson, Scott Feit, Lauren Kliska, Supervisor John Foust and Keon Hashemi celebrate at the McLean Citizens Association's Teen Character Awards ceremony May 21.