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When Power is  
Restored

# After the Storm

NEWS, PAGE 3

Building Closed  
Till Power  
Restored!!

Businesses all over downtown McLean were closed last week on Thursday, as electricity did not begin returning to the area until evening.

## Staging Area Stays

NEWS, PAGE 4

6/5/8  
No power...  
Gone Fishin'!!!

inside



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emergency.  
Lynn

## 'American in Paris' Comes to Alden

E-SECTION, PAGE 12

OCEAN M  
RESTAURANT

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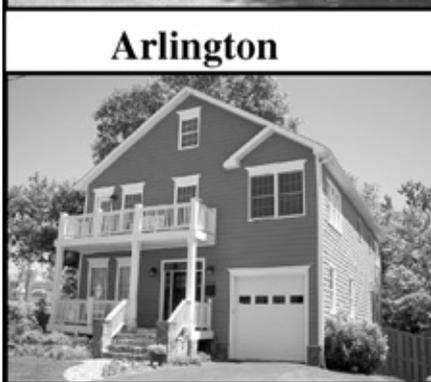
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## After the Storm

McLean, Great Falls hardest hit.

BY MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

**W**idespread power outages caused by last Wednesday's storms crippled much of Northern Virginia for more than a day, but few areas were harder-hit than McLean and Great Falls. Fairfax County Fire and Rescue spokesman Raul Castillo said the fire departments received more calls for those areas, mostly for downed power lines, than anywhere else in the county, followed closely by Falls Church and Annandale.

Most of downtown McLean lost power around 3 p.m. Wednesday and remained closed throughout the following day. The drone of generators testified to the few business owners who refused to submit to the blackout. Power was restored to many businesses in Great Falls Thursday morning, but some Great Falls residents still had no electricity by Friday evening.

"We were the only restaurant open last night in McLean," said Zeynel Uzun, owner of Kazan Restaurant, on Thursday evening, just moments after electricity was restored to his business. Uzun said he had closed



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

**Behind them, the GNC store that Tom and Joy Choi manage and will soon own is dark, but the couple kept the store open without power Thursday afternoon.**

down briefly after the power went out, in order to go home and fetch his grill. He then hooked up two generators to revive the refrigeration and lighting, and he and his staff set about feeding anyone drawn to the restaurant's light in the darkened commercial district. "I had reservations," he said. "My phone was not working, and I had people coming all the way from Baltimore. I could not turn them away." He had offered a menu of kebabs cooked on the grill.

**THE NEXT MORNING**, he went to Costco in Pentagon City and bought the biggest generator he could find. "People were in a line to get them," he said. The power fi-

nally came back on at about 6:45 Thursday evening. "It's been a hectic couple of days," said Uzun. "Thank God it's over."

It was a hectic time for public safety employees as well. Fairfax County Police spokesman Don Gotthardt said police received 2,300 calls for service in a four-hour period on Wednesday. Most were for intersections where traffic lights had gone out. In McLean, he said, traffic signals had gone dark up and down Dolley Madison Boulevard and on Westmoreland Street, Chain Bridge Road, Old Dominion Drive and Lewinsville Road, as well as many others. A number of signals on Leesburg Pike in

SEE AREA, PAGE 5

## Kidnapping Inexplicable

Two 20-year-old UVA students from China are sentenced to four years for kidnapping.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he father of 20-year-old defendant Guan Yu Lu asked Judge Dennis J. Smith to allow him to bow to the family of the victim of his son's kidnapping crime.

He doesn't know how to remedy his son's crime or how to make it up to the victim and his family, he said, but from the Circuit Courtroom witness stand he bowed twice, deliberately and slowly, as tears streamed down his face.

"I wish I could do more to make them happier or to get rid of the impact," said Lu's father, who traveled from China for the hearing.

His son apologized minutes later.

"I would like to say sorry to [the victim] and his family. I am truly sorry and I wish them to recover as soon as possible," he said, immediately before being sentenced. "I only regret my stupid action every day."

Bai Chuan Shu, now 20, apologized in a separate hearing a half-hour earlier before Judge Smith on Friday, June 6.

SEE PRIDE, PAGE 16

## Treasure Chest Serves Good Causes

BY JULIA WINKLER  
THE CONNECTION

**I**n a small gathering at the home of Bob and Deanna Okun on Sunday, Ed Norman and wife Paula of Wimauma, Fla. were presented with a collection of jewelry and war bullets valued at over \$25,000. As the grand prize winner of ThanksUSA's second annual American history Treasure Hunt, Norman was awarded the prize in a contest for which more than 10,000 people registered nationwide.

"The purpose of the treasure hunt is to motivate people to read about history, geography, and politics of the United States and to make it educational and fun," said Jorge Adeler, board member of ThanksUSA, as well as a donor of the treasure from Adeler Jewelers in Great Falls. The treasure, intended to be representative of the United States itself, contained a variety of jewels and minerals symbolizing different states, as well as two bullets from the Civil War and original Indian arrowheads.



PHOTO BY BOB OKUN

**From left, ThanksUSA board member Carolyn Ferek, Treasure Hunt co-creator Kelsi Okun, 2007 Grand Prize winner Ed Norman, ThanksUSA board member Michele Stork, and board member/prize donor Jorge Adeler pose by a portion of the \$25,000-plus treasure at the Okuns' home on Sunday.**

## ThanksUSA presents \$25,000 Treasure Chest to Treasure Hunt winner.

"The idea of creating a treasure is symbolic. I tried to represent the typical pirates' treasure chest in a more contemporary version. The whole point is to say a lot in a treasure," said Adeler. Norman cited plans to donate the treasure to his church in Florida as it undergoes a two-year debt repayment plan. By auctioning off the jewelry, Norman said, it would serve as a "double blessing" as both churchgoers and treasure recipients would reap the benefits.

Created in 2005 by McLean residents Kelsi and Rachel Okun, 10 and 12, the hunt aims to encourage donations to ThanksUSA's scholarship drive for families of active-duty military personnel. More than 1,350 scholarships have been rewarded to this day, totaling over \$4 million. The 2008 Treasure Hunt is now under way, for which registration applications are available on ThanksUSA's Web site, [www.thanksusa.org](http://www.thanksusa.org). Those interested in donating are encouraged to visit the organization's Web site, as well as attend an upcoming benefit concert at Warner Theatre on July 26.

# Staging Area Stays

After search, company keeps original clear-cut site for HOT Lanes construction.

BY MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

**F**luor Corporation and Transurban are settling in on the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (VDOT) property off the interchange of Georgetown Pike and the Beltway. Following citizen outcry, the companies had sought another site to house

equipment and vehicles for the upcoming construction of high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes on the Beltway. However, as the time for a decision neared, VDOT spokesman Steve Titunik said, "Some of the things we've seen to this point have not been suitable for our needs."

The decision to keep the site was announced at a meeting between VDOT officials, Supervisor John Foust

"Some of the things we've seen to this point have not been suitable for our needs."

— Steve Titunik,  
VDOT spokesman



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Activity has resumed at the staging area by the Georgetown Pike/Beltway interchange. All construction vehicles will have to enter and exit via this entryway being built on the northbound ramp of the interchange.

(D-Dranesville), state Sen. Janet Howell (D-32) and Del. Margi Vanderhye (D-34) last week on Thursday morning.

**RESIDENTS** of McLean and Great Falls were infuriated when the companies clear-cut three acres of trees on the five-acre VDOT property in mid-April without alerting local government or citizens. Groups such as the McLean Citizens Association (MCA) lobbied the county government to do what it could to have the site moved. Of particular concern was the presence of Co-

per Middle School across the street, several other schools nearby and the attendant school bus traffic that would have to contend with construction vehicles.

Titunik said VDOT and the private companies had agreed that if the current property is used, construction vehicles will enter and exit only via the northbound ramp off of the Beltway, rather than also driving on Balls Hill Road as originally planned. He also expressed regret for the lack of warning before the trees were cleared. "I take

SEE HOT LANES, PAGE 18

## MCA Supports Madeira Trail

Citizens Association encourages county to require trail behind school in exchange for special exception.

BY MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

**D**an DuVal made several attempts to craft a compromise between the McLean Citizens Association's (MCA) desire to see a trail along the Potomac River behind The Madeira School and the private girls' boarding school's concerns about its students' safety. However, his proposition could not win more than a few votes at last week's MCA meeting on Wednesday, June 4.

The MCA member proposed that the group support the county asking for the trail easement in return for a special exception but acknowledged security concerns "that must be addressed before the easement can

be granted." But the desire for the trail and concerns about consistency won out in the end. The trail easement, for a segment of the Potomac National Heritage Scenic Trail, has been part of the county's Comprehensive Plan for about 30 years.

Madeira's wastewater treatment plant, built in the 1930s, is currently in violation of state code, which has become more stringent since the plant's construction. Last fall, the school submitted an application for a special exception to rebuild the plant in a new location and to alter several previously approved plans in order to accommodate the plant's move.

**THE RESOLUTION** that the MCA ended up passing, after extensive debate, asked that the trail be made a requirement only for the changes other than the sewage plant's move.

Mark Zetts, chair of the MCA's Planning and Zoning Committee, said he hoped to

"Everybody in the county has security concerns. We deal with it regularly."

— Mark Zetts, chair, Planning and Zoning Committee

address Madeira's concerns but did not want the easement to be conditioned on the school's satisfaction. "Everybody in the county has security concerns. We deal with it regularly," said Zetts. "They can say their concerns are never met."

"I strongly object to this resolution," said MCA member Margaret Malone, noting that her daughter had been a student at the school in the 1970s "when somebody came up from the river and brutally assaulted and killed one of her classmates."

According to the school's Web site, in 1973, one Stephen Gilreath was convicted of the murder of a student named Natalya Semler of the class of 1976 after she died "of exposure" on campus.

"I think the safety issue is a real and serious issue," said MCA member Sally Horn. She said the trail was also planned to go through her neighborhood, The Reserve,

SEE TRAIL DEBATE, PAGE 18

### WEEK IN MCLEAN

## Fire Damages McLean House

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to a house fire at approximately 8:20 p.m., Friday, June 6, at 1008 Timberwicke Road in McLean area.

Firefighters encountered heavy black smoke coming from the first and second floors and attic of the two-story brick single-family home. Firefighters brought the fire under control within a few minutes. A portion of the second floor between the kitchen ceiling and second floor hallway had burned through. The fire originated in the ceiling of the kitchen. One adult male was home when the fire broke out. Red Cross was not needed. There were no injuries. Damage is estimated at \$60,000.

According to fire investigators, the fire was accidental. An electrical anomaly in the ceiling caused the fire.

## Fund-raiser for Cancer Research

The English Trading Company will be hosting a cancer research fundraiser at its Tysons Corner Center store on June 14. The event, open to all, is intended to raise awareness on cancer research as well as raise funds for The American Cancer Society. A percentage of that day's sales as well as proceeds from a silent auction will be donated to The American Cancer Society. Those who cannot attend may make donations directly to The English Trading Company for the American Cancer Society throughout the week.

The event will feature door prizes by Faberge, Vera Bradley and Thymes among others as well as silent auctioning of oil paintings and other decorative objects.

For more information contact The English Trading Company at 703 893 9651 or [englishtrading\\_va@yahoo.com](mailto:englishtrading_va@yahoo.com).

## MCC Selects Officers, Chairs

Four adult tax district residents and two youth residents have won seats on the 2008-2009 McLean Community Center Governing Board. The election was held at the McLean Day 2008 festival.

Votes went to Risa Sanders (255), Sean Dunn (199) and Lee DiCenso (192), each of whom will hold three-year positions. Lori Wertz (186) will fill a two-year adult position left vacant by Katherine Armstrong. Thomas Meyer (42) won the one-year youth position for the Langley High School area and Jennifer Dunn (19) won the one-year youth position for the McLean High School area.

SEE WEEK IN MCLEAN, PAGE 18

# Area Faces Storm Challenges

FROM PAGE 3

Great Falls remained dark as night fell on Thursday.

A damage report issued by the county listed five road closures in the McLean police district, more than were listed for any other district. Three were along Old Dominion Drive. Castillo named two more intersections that had been closed, noting that many closures went unreported. He said most resulted from trees falling, often taking power lines down with them.

Half an hour into the storm, with winds gusting to more than 50 mph, Fire and Rescue had received more than 50 reports of downed power lines countywide, said Castillo. He said there had been several outdoor fires, possibly resulting from fallen power lines, and three structure fires, possibly caused by lightning. The department had also received a number of calls for vehicles stranded in high water and trees falling on houses.

**IN THE AFTERMATH,** Hair Quarters Barber Shop next door to Kazan ran its electric equipment with a generator that employee Ali Zirek had borrowed from a neighbor. As Helen Nguyen cut his hair by the sunlight coming through the windows, customer Mike Bowers said he had made an appointment for a haircut the day before and decided to find out whether it could be kept. "I just came over. I didn't know if they'd be open or not," he said.

A few doors down, Tom and Joy Choi did not need a generator to keep open the GNC nutrition store they manage and are soon to own. "Business is slow, a little bit," said Tom Choi, adding that they were getting about 30 percent of their usual clientele load. He said they had kept the store open because

some customers might rely on the supplements and vitamins the store provides.

Ed Danoff, a pharmacist and owner at The Medicine Chest pharmacy across Redmond Drive, had the same idea. "I don't think a pharmacy should close," he said. He noted that the business had been almost as busy as usual on Thursday and said his staying open through a blackout was "what separates us from the [pharmacy] chains." Having regained power at about 6 p.m., he had just shut down the generator he'd had on hand since he purchased it after Hurricane Isabelle. Danoff said he had traveled as far as Gaithersburg, Md. in search of another generator that morning but found that the machines were sold out everywhere.

Because businesses in the Great Falls Village Center run on a three-phase electric system, many of them retained some power throughout the blackout, but this presented its own challenges.

Jad Bouchebel, whose family owns and operates Le Grand Appetit European Deli, said he had been at work until 11 Wednesday night stuffing the floor refrigeration units with food from the walk-in refrigerator that had lost power. "We still lost all this stuff," he said. Bouchebel said the family kept the deli open throughout the storm, although the cash register and much of the equipment was inoperable.

Power was restored at about 10:30 Thursday morning, but the business was still without air conditioning that evening. Flickering electricity before the outage had shorted out the air conditioning unit, sending up a column of smoke that brought the Fire Department.

With the coffee machine still working Thursday morning, said Bouchebel, "I was selling crazy

coffee" until all electricity was shut off for an hour or so while the system was repaired. "It was the only time I got to sit down and enjoy breakfast," he said.

There was no air conditioning at the nearby Tavern at Great Falls either, but a line of people waited for seating at the restaurant anyway. Manager Berhanu Bogale said the rush was a result of continuing power outages in Great Falls homes. "That's why we're so busy. Nobody has power," he said.

As Friday's dinner hour began, Michael Kearney, owner of The Old Brogue and Katie's Coffee House, said the Brogue, too, had been "slammed" for the last two nights. "A lot of people in Great Falls, until just an hour ago, still did not have power," he said, adding that some customers arriving still did not have electricity.

Dominion Power had warned that the last customers would not have their power restored until Saturday evening, and Saturday lived up to forecasters' expectations of punishing heat and humidity.

Operating at two-thirds power, The Old Brogue had offered an "emergency menu" of simple items like sandwiches, soup, chili and salad Wednesday night. Customers had been appreciative of even a limited menu, said Kearney. "They thanked staff over and over for being there." The next morning, Katie's could only offer drip coffee, but more than 300 customers turned out. And on Friday morning, the coffee shop was "packed with kids who didn't have a place to eat breakfast," he said.

Kearney pointed out that there was sometimes a price to pay for living in an area with abundant trees and above-ground power lines. "I guess one of the disadvantages of living in a rural community is living in a rural community," he said.

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# PEOPLE

## FATHER'S DAY PHOTO GALLERY

**The Lind family of McLean in Colorado, June 2007. Overlooking the Colorado National Monument, near Grand Junction, from left: Holly (18), Ashley (22), Howie (Dad), Jackie (Mom), Melody (19), and Shelley (24).**



CONTRIBUTED

**Mary Claire Mahaney**

### McLean Author Wins Book Prize

“Osaka Heat” by Mary Claire Mahaney has been selected as the Silver Medal Winner in the Multicultural Fiction Adult category in the 12th annual Independent Publisher awards.° There were 3,175 books competing in a variety of categories for the best independently published books of the past year.

“Osaka Heat” (AuthorHouse 2007) follows the story of an American widow who travels to Japan and becomes involved in a forbidden romance with a Japanese man. The multicultural aspects of “Osaka Heat” are brought out in the literature, music, and Japanese cuisine woven throughout the book, along with the personal, religious, and cultural challenges faced by the protagonist during her travels in Japan.

Mahaney was inspired to write “Osaka Heat” when she traveled to Japan as the chaperone for her son’s high school student exchange. She saw the cultural setting of a Japanese school as the perfect setting for a novel. Six years later she has an award-winning book.

“I’m honored that ‘Osaka Heat’ has won a Silver Medal in this competition and am pleased that the book has been enjoyed by so many readers,” said Mahaney. “One of the best things about having written ‘Osaka Heat’ is the opportunity it has given me to meet people who love to read and who enjoy hearing about the writing process.”°

Mahaney, a retired lawyer, lives in McLean, where she has served on numerous education and community boards. In 1997, she was awarded the McLean Youth, Inc., Citizen of the Year Award for her community work.

### More Information

For more information about Mary Claire Mahaney and “Osaka Heat,” visit [www.maryclairemahaney.com](http://www.maryclairemahaney.com).

“Osaka Heat” (ISBN: 978-1425990824) is available through Amazon and Barnes & Noble and from the publisher at [www.authorhouse.com/bookstore](http://www.authorhouse.com/bookstore).

The link for the 2008 IPPY Awards: <http://www.independentpublisher.com/>

June 23 - August 2008 / October 2008 / December 2008 / February 2009



**Kevin Manzel and Colin Manzel, 2, enjoy a hayride at McLean Day Festival last month.**



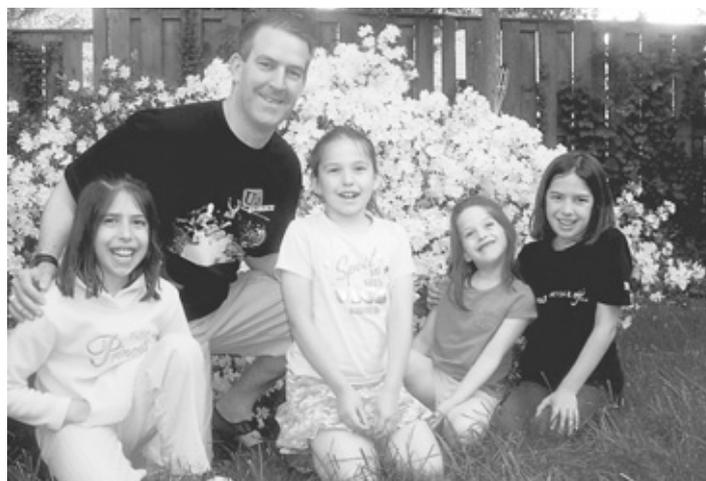
**Grandpa David Manzel and Avery Manzel (at 3 weeks old) take a nap. Photo taken in March 2008.**



**Danny McMahon and his 5-years-old twin sons Danny and Ryan, kindergartners at Lemon Road Elementary, pose at Great Falls Park in late May 2008.**



**Dad Robert Ivanauskas, and daughters Natalia and Evelyn, of McLean, pose “Just before going to church.”**



**Dad Stan Smith of Vienna with his four girls: Sarah, Hannah, Emma and Lena.**

# Charges Against Third Teen Dropped

## Two other teens to be prosecuted as adults for Christmas Eve attack.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

Charges against the third of three juveniles arrested for the Christmas Eve attack on a McLean 14-year-old were nolle prossed last Wednesday, June 4 in Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, said Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Gregory O. Holt.

Charges that are nolle prossed are dismissed or set aside, although prosecutors have the right to reopen the case any time within 12 months.

Although police executed multiple search warrants, police didn't find the evidence necessary to show that the third juvenile was part of the attacks, said Holt.

Dozens of search warrants were filed in Fairfax County Circuit Court.

The third juvenile, who was named in search warrants, was "identified as the subject alleged to have recorded the assault from the passenger seat of the involved sport utility vehicle," according to the search warrants.

"On Feb. 15, 2008, subsequent to the arrest of [the juvenile] for his involvement in the malicious wounding, a cellular telephone was found in his possession.

"[Special agent] conducted forensic examinations of the listed telephone and noted in her analysis that the removable data storage card was absent from the telephone's memory card slot," according to one of the warrants filed April 21, 2008.

**THE OTHER TWO** juveniles charged in the attack, James Clarke and Anthony Nelli, both 16, will be prosecuted as adults in Fairfax County Circuit Court for aggravated malicious wounding.

A conviction of aggravated malicious wounding carries a possible sentence of 20 years to life in prison.

Cases against Clarke and Nelli were certified to Fairfax County Circuit Court after preliminary hearings were held April 30 in juvenile court.

According to police reports, a 14-year-old McLean boy and two of his friends were walking on Westmoreland Street around 4 p.m. last Christmas Eve, when two

teenage boys jumped out of a parked car in the church parking lot.

"Unprovoked, the two suspects kicked and punched the victim, knocking him to the ground. They continued to strike him as two other male suspects watched from the car," according to police reports. Investigators received numerous tips from the community and through Crime Solvers, which helped lead detectives to the teen suspects, including a 15-year-old and 16-year-old from McLean.

The victim received treatment for "serious injuries" at Inova Fairfax Hospital, according to police.

"Non-life threatening injuries," said Officer Shelley Broderick in February.

"Permanent injuries," Holt said.

Nelli's and Clarke's trials are currently scheduled for later this year.

### CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the McLean district of the Fairfax County police department through June 4.

MCLEAN DISTRICT STATION (DISTRICT 3)

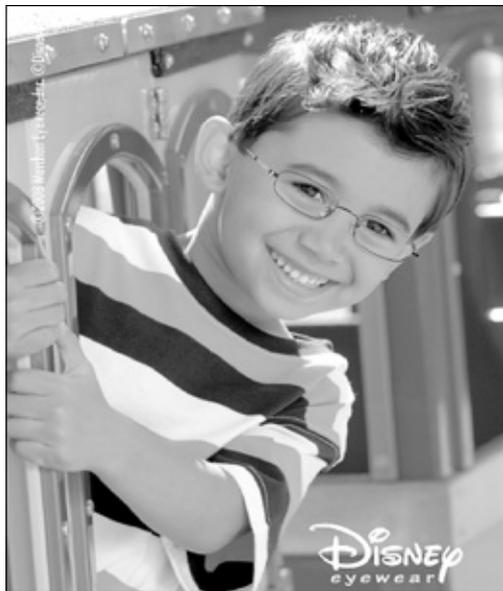
#### ARMED ROBBERY

**Arlington Boulevard 6600.** A 26-year-old Annandale-area man was robbed on Tuesday, June 3 while working at a local hotel. The employee was sitting behind the front desk of the Governor Motor Hotel, located at 6650 Arlington Boulevard in the Falls Church area, around 10:40 p.m. A man walked in the rear

door and immediately demanded money from the victim. The suspect walked behind the counter, pointed a handgun at the victim and again demanded money. The victim complied and the suspect fled out the rear door. No one was injured during the robbery. The suspect was described as Hispanic and about 6 feet tall. He was 165 pounds with short, black hair and a light complexion. He was wearing a long sleeve, black shirt, black pants, black gloves and a blue bandana covering his face.

#### LARCENIES

**Chain Bridge Road 1900.** Jewelry stolen from business  
**Colleen Lane 1400.** Two purses stolen from vehicle.



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# OPINION

## More Reasons for Change

### Price of gas, "Code Red" add reasons to change behavior.

After days of intense heat, we begin this week with a "Code Red" air quality day, meaning that breathing the air is "unhealthy for all individuals."

On a "Code Red" day, no one should stay outside or exert themselves outdoors any longer than necessary, according to federal guidelines. At particular risk are active children and adults, and people with lung diseases, such as asthma.

The primary causes of air pollution in Northern Virginia are vehicle emissions and pollution from power plants here and to the west.

Approximately 60-70 percent of the pollutants that cause ground-level ozone are created from vehicles, lawn mowers, other garden equipment and common household products, according to the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments.

The price of gas has already motivated more commuters in the area to turn to public transportation. On predicted "Code Red" days, local bus service is free, which should provide even more incentive to see if you can use transit for all or part of your commute.

The price of gas is excruciating, and takes a far higher toll on the working poor, but at \$4 a gallon and above, we're all motivated to seek conservation and alternatives. As businesses and individuals work to save money, the environment and air quality will also benefit. There's a chance that such measures could ease

### Free Ride

Riding some local buses is free on "code red" days. Check for your chance to ride for free.

- ❖ Fairfax Connector, [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/)
  - ❖ Arlington Transit, [www.commuterpage.com/art/](http://www.commuterpage.com/art/)
  - ❖ Alexandria Dash, [www.dashbus.com/](http://www.dashbus.com/)
  - ❖ Loudoun Commuter Bus Service, [www.loudoun.gov/bus](http://www.loudoun.gov/bus)
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### Air Quality Info

For the air quality forecast for Northern Virginia and links to maps, see <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/airquality>.

For more information, see [www.epa.gov/airnow](http://www.epa.gov/airnow).

traffic as well.

On bad air quality days, children, older people and individuals with heart or respiratory ailments should reduce outdoor activities. Even healthy individuals should limit strenuous outdoor work and exercise.

Here are a few more suggestions to help air quality:

- ❖ Limit driving and when possible, combine trips or work from home.
- ❖ Use area bus and rail lines or carpool.
- ❖ Avoid mowing lawns with gasoline-powered motors.
- ❖ Refuel vehicles after dusk; avoid idling.
- ❖ Conserve electricity, keep air conditioning no lower than 78 degrees, turn off unneeded lights.

For the air quality forecast for Northern Virginia and links to maps, see <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/airquality>.

For more information, see [www.epa.gov/](http://www.epa.gov/)

### Health Consequences of Bad Air

While some people say they might consider moving out of the region because of the traffic congestion, for others the choice to move might be necessary to save their health.

Consider the risks:

- ❖ One out of every three people is at a higher risk of experiencing ozone-related health effects, including active, otherwise healthy children who spend a lot of the summer playing outdoors.

- ❖ People of all ages who are active outdoors are at increased risk because during physical activity, ozone penetrates deeper into the part of the lungs that are more vulnerable.

- ❖ Ozone can aggravate asthma. When ozone levels are high more people with asthma have attacks that require a doctor's attention or the use of additional medication. One reason this happens is that ozone makes people more sensitive to allergens, the most common triggers of asthma attacks.

- ❖ People with respiratory diseases that make their lungs more vulnerable to ozone may experience health effects earlier and at lower ozone levels than less sensitive individuals.

- ❖ Ozone can irritate the respiratory system, causing coughing, throat irritation, and/or an uncomfortable sensation in the chest.

- ❖ Ozone can increase susceptibility to respiratory infections.

- ❖ Ozone can inflame and damage the lining of the lungs. Within a few days, the damaged cells are shed and replaced — much like the skin peels after a sunburn. Animal studies suggest that if this type of inflammation happens repeatedly over a long time period (months, years, a lifetime), lung tissue may become permanently scarred, resulting in less lung elasticity and permanent loss of lung function.

[airnow.gov](http://airnow.gov).

— MARY KIMM,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

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## Transportation Tops Regional Agenda

BY MARGARET VANDERHYE  
STATE DELEGATE (D-34)

A number of upcoming decisions in transportation policy may affect us here in northern Virginia. At the state level, Governor Kaine has called a special session of the General Assembly for June 23 to deal with transportation funding shortfalls, some of which resulted from a Feb. 29 Virginia Supreme Court decision that invalidated the 2007 law that raised revenue dedicated to transportation in our region. He has also released his own

funding proposals which include a 1 percent statewide increase in the sales tax on cars (from 3 percent to 4 percent) that would raise an additional \$400-\$500 million annually; the dedication of all revenue from the sales tax on cars to road maintenance; a \$10 statewide increase in the annual car registration fee; a 25 cent statewide increase in the grantor's tax with a substantial portion of it dedicated to transit; and a 1 percent regional retail sales tax increase (excluding food and

### VANDERHYE REPORT

medicine) in northern Virginia and Hampton Roads that would replace the dedicated regional funding struck down by the Supreme Court. All the Governor's proposals will include a lockbox mechanism so that they will be used only for transportation.



Vanderhye

On May 7 the Hampton Roads (Norfolk area) and northern Virginia legislative delegations met to discuss and establish principles to guide our deliberations for the upcoming special session. The delegations agree that there must be dedicated and sufficient revenue sources specific to each region. (Since the Supreme Court's action that invalidated the funding power of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, our region has lost about \$1 million

a day.) We also agreed on the need for statewide funding for maintenance.

THE MAIN POINTS of contention in the upcoming Special Session of the General Assembly are sure to be the sources of revenue and whether the solutions should address statewide shortfalls or just correct legal problems at the regional level so that northern Virginia and Hampton Roads jurisdictions can raise the revenue for their areas. The May 7 meeting of the joint delegation adopted the principle of including both regional and statewide solutions because we will continue to see our road construction funds siphoned off to pay for maintenance in other parts of the state unless we address the whole problem. Think of trying to fill a bathtub while the drain is open.

As for the sources of revenue, arguments have been made for a sales tax, gas tax, and/or a variety of fees. The Governor included in his plan a combination of these sources that have been previously proposed by the legislature. Here in northern Virginia a 1 percent sales tax (excluding food and medicine) would raise

SEE VANDERHYE, PAGE 9

## THE CONNECTION

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# OPINION Vanderhye Report

FROM PAGE 8

over \$306 million in 2009, increasing to over \$414 million by 2014. Every penny of the gas tax raises about \$52 million with \$11 million coming from northern Virginia. Both the gas tax and the sales tax, unlike fees, are paid for by all drivers, not just Virginia residents alone. Before we return to Richmond on June 23, I would appreciate hearing your views on transportation funding sources.

**AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL,** the positive news about the Dulles Rail Project recently made headlines. In January the Federal Transit Authority had said that \$900 million in federal funding for the first stage of the project was in jeopardy. Governor Kaine and the Virginia Congressional delegation worked diligently with federal officials to address their concerns, and the funding was approved in May. (A \$400 million private sector tax district is already in place to support and supplement that funding.) While the federal funding is now restored, two conditions remain, and they present substantial though not impossible hurdles to overcome: cost containment, and METRO organization and management.

As a long time advocate for rail to Dulles and a champion of the tunnel option through Tyson's Corner, I am pleased that our funding has been restored; I am extremely disappointed that the option of a tunnel seems more remote at this point, but rail to Dulles is a key component of our regional transportation plan and an important economic generator for our area and the state. I believe we can and should have a significant impact on the project by focusing on preventing cost overruns through project management and competitive bidding for subcontractors. I intend to be a vigilant "watchdog" on behalf of our citizens in the 34<sup>th</sup> district to make sure we do not bear the costs for private sector excesses or mismanagement.

As always, I welcome your comments and ideas about how we can make our community better, and transportation is at the top of the list of concerns we share. I will continue to keep you up to date on issues close to home. I hope you will be in touch with me before we return to Richmond for our special session on June 23.



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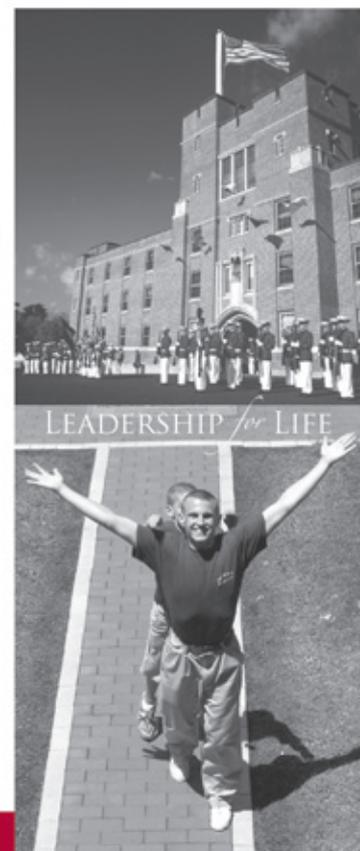
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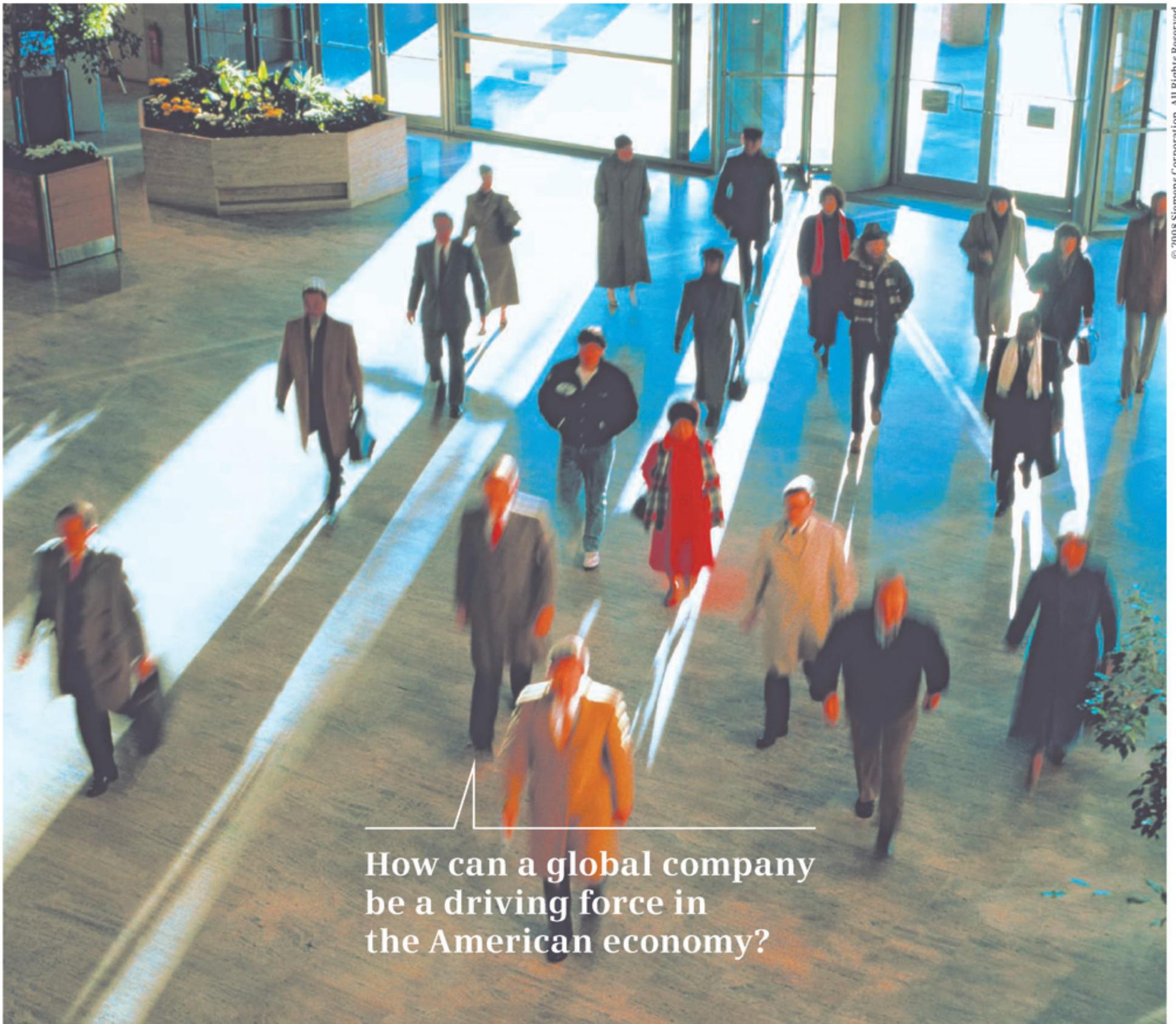
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# PEOPLE

## Area Students Receive Arts Scholarships

Nine local high school students won scholarships for successfully competing in the 2008 James C. Macdonald Fine Arts Scholarship Competition, sponsored by the McLean Community Center (MCC) and the Alden Theatre. MCC Governing Board Chairman Sean Dunn presented the awards at the final competition-performance, which was held at the Alden Theatre.

Scholarship prizes of \$1,200 were awarded to students placing first in each of three categories: Music, Dance and Visual Arts. A fourth category, Theatre, did not attract the required number of candidates for the competition this year. Second-place winners were awarded \$800 and third-place winners won \$400. The James C. Macdonald Fine Arts Scholarship Competition encourages artistic achievement and promotes study in the arts by high school students



PHOTO BY LISA HELFERT

**2008 James C. Macdonald Scholarship 1st Place prize winners (from left) William Park (Visual Arts), Risa Kaneko (Music) and Jordan Slick (Dance) with MCC Governing Board Chairman Sean Dunn (second from left).**

### Winners

Recipients of this year's awards are:

**Music:** 1st Place - Risa Kaneko, sophomore; 2nd - Rose Tobiassen, senior; 3rd - Robert Bogart, senior (all three McLean High School)

**Dance:** 1st - Jordan Slick, senior; 2nd - Stormy Budwig, junior; 3rd - Alexa Vasiliadis, junior, (all Langley High School).

**Visual Arts:** 1st Place - William Park, sophomore, Langley High School; 2nd - Cassandra Harper, senior, McLean High School; 3rd - Arthur Wessel, senior, Langley High School.

Judges for the competition were: Peggy Feerick, associate professor and division coordinator of photography at George Mason University; Rebecca Kamen, an artist and professor of art at Northern Virginia Community College; Seyon Lee, a solo and chamber musician who is pursuing a doctoral degree in

who reside or attend school in the McLean district (Small Tax District 1A of the Dranesville District).

musical arts; and Jim Scopeletis, an actor, singer and pianist.

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## CALENDAR

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### WEDNESDAY / JUNE 11

**WD Miller Band** headlines at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com)

**Louisiana Swamp Romp:** The Wild Magnolias, Pine Leaf Boys, Balfa Toujours, Nathan & The Zydeco Cha Chas. 2 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$25.

**Trisha Yearwood.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$40/in-house, \$22/lawn.

**Preschool Sing-Along.** Sing songs with Miss Belle. All ages. 10:30 a.m. at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean.

### THURSDAY / JUNE 12

**Honor by August,** Ringleader, Stepanian. Rock/pop. Show 7:30 p.m., tickets \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Kenny G.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$42/in-house, \$25/lawn.

Thursday, June 12, 10:00 AM

### FRIDAY / JUNE 13

**Annapolis Bluegrass.** 6:30 p.m., Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E., 703-255-6360

**Surprise! Arizona.** The Blackjacks, Sarah Swanner. Rock. Doors open at 9:30 p.m., tickets \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Anita Baker.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$48/in-house, \$25/lawn.

**Verdi's King for a Day.** 8 p.m. at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$28 to \$68.

**Kids Club Meeting.** The Tysons Corner Kids Club meets for story time and an activity the first Saturday every month, 10 a.m. at the food court on level 3 at Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Call 703-847-7300 or visit [www.shoptyson.com](http://www.shoptyson.com).

### SATURDAY / JUNE 14

**Mr. Knick-Knack** children's performer plays at Wren & Divine, 6645 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, 11 a.m. the second Saturday every month. Call 704-356-WREN.



Founder and Artistic Director Theresa D'Alessandro, Olivia Abboud, Kate Fitzgerald, Samantha Zimmerman, Madison Dunn, Page Tofil, Rebecca Anger and Karsyn Lawler. Not pictured: Paige Evans.



(Top row) Stormy Budwig, Kallie Boruff, Dana deLaski, Kelsey Albanese, Veronica Neuberger, (bottom row) Joanie Vasiliadis, Sophia Vasiliadis and Ashley O'Banion.

## 'An American in Paris' Comes to Alden Theatre

Area theater lovers will be served a rare feast: a Great Falls-based School of Theatrical Dance (SOTD) brings "An American in Paris" — a collage of

### Great Falls-based School of Theatrical Dance presents its Annual Performance.

ballet, jazz, modern and tap dance choreographed by Theresa D'Alessandro, Kris Beery, Carol

Hallman, and Caitlin Hoffman — to the Alden Theatre in McLean Community Center.

The school's annual performance, scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, 6:30 p.m., features all

SOTD dancers, children as well as adults.

For more information about the performance, Summer Dance Camps and SOTD Studio, call 703-759-5652 or visit [www.TheatricalDance.com](http://www.TheatricalDance.com)

**The Folsom Prisoners.** A classic country/honky tonk band that channels the vintage sounds of Buck Owens, Merle Haggard, Hank Williams, Johnny Cash and Elvis. 6 to 8 p.m. at Palladium Civic Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean, (703) 288-9505. Free.

**McLean Pet Expo.** McLean Central Park, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Attractions include: Performances by Jessie & James and *Mutt's Gone Nuts*; Pet Fashion; Health Products and Services; Pet Accessories; Trainers and Grooming Services; Pet Foods; Boutiques and Spas for Your Pet; Rescue Organizations/Pet Adoption; Petting Zoo; Kids Activities: Moon Bounce, Carousel, Pony Rides, Face Painting and more. For more information, call 703-790-0123/TTY: 711, or visit: [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

**Trout Fishing in America** (EZRA IDLET - guitar/vocals, KEITH GRIMWOOD - bass/vocals) will be appearing at the Alden Theater Family Concert Series, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean Community College, McLean, VA. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. For tickets, call 703-790-9223.

**Chuck Prophet.** Mark Mallman. Rock/Americana. Show 8 p.m., tickets \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Gordon Lightfoot.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$40/in-house, \$22/lawn.

### SUNDAY / JUNE 15

**Heroics discussed.** 3:15p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Northern Virginia Writers Club meeting and author presentation, Four-time shuttle astronaut Thomas Jones of Reston,



A three-time Grammy Award nominee, Trout Fishing brings a rare mix of music from folk to blues to rock 'n' roll to old-time favorites to the McLean Alden Theatre on Saturday, June 14.

and aviation author Robert Dorr of Oakton, discuss the details of their recently-published account of the 365th Fighter Group, the Hell Hawks, whose heroics contributed to the ultimate defeat of the *Wehrmacht* in the spring of 1945. Call 703-217-7745 for more information.

**Peter Hammill** (of Van der Graaf Generator). Progressive/experimental. Show 7:30 p.m., tickets \$20. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**We Shot the Moon.** Everybody Else, The Summer Set. Rock. Show 7 p.m., tickets \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Boz Scaggs.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$40/in-house, \$22/lawn.

**Verdi's King for a Day.** 8 p.m. at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$28 to \$68.

### MONDAY, JUNE 16

**Bedtime Stories.** Stories to end the day. All ages. 7 p.m. at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean.

### TUESDAY, JUNE 17

**Don Dixon,** Parthenon Huxley. Acoustic rock. Show 7:30 p.m., tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Pilobolus.** 8:30 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$38/in-house, \$8/lawn.

**Verdi's King for a Day.** 8 p.m. at The

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Photo by Kenneth M. Wyner

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McLean Connection ♦ June 11-17, 2008 ♦ 13

# BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

## SATURDAY/JUNE 14

**Fairfax County GOP Committee Flag Day BBQ w/George Allen** - 4-8 PM, 3107 Whimbrell Court, Oakton. \$35/\$60 couple. Call: (703) 766-4GOP.

Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA 22182. 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. Contact the VTRCC Office 703-281-1333 or log on to [www.vtrcc.org](http://www.vtrcc.org).

## WEDNESDAY /JUNE 18

**The Governing Board** of the McLean Community Center will hold its regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Center. All meetings of the Governing Board are open to the public. MCC is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue. Members of the public who wish to speak during the "Citizen Comment" portion of the meeting are asked to call 703-790-0123/TTY: 711, to be placed on the agenda. For more information on the Center's programs visit: [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)

## THURSDAY, JUNE 12

**Gurus and Gadgets.** New technology products, services and applications. The NVTC Cool Tech Committee brings together an expert panel that will share their views and wisdom on what's hot and what's not. 7:30 a.m. - Registration & Networking, 8:00 - 10:00 am - Program. Patton Boggs, 8484 Westpark Drive, 9th Floor, McLean; NVTC Member: \$45.00 Non-Member: \$ 75.00 For more information: [www.nvtc.org/events/geteventinfo.php?event=TECHEMERG5](http://www.nvtc.org/events/geteventinfo.php?event=TECHEMERG5).

## TUESDAY/JUNE 17

**Mothers First - McLean/Vienna meeting.** Non-profit support organization for mothers who have altered their careers to raise children at home; meets 10:15 a.m. at the Patrick Henry Community Library, 101 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Contact 703-827-5922 or [www.mothersfirst.org](http://www.mothersfirst.org).  
**Speed Networking Breakfast.** Location: Clyde's at Tysons, 8332

## BUSINESS NOTES

To have business notes listed, send to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com) or 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102. Deadline is Friday.

BB&T recently announced it has promoted **Mike Carpenter** to manage its residential real estate lending team for the metro Washington, D.C., area.

The 12-member team, located in Woodbridge, Va., also will include BB&T residential construction specialists **Mike Williams**, Jason Paxton, Keri Jackson and Rob Lane.

A senior vice president, Carpenter has more than eight years of commercial

banking and real estate lending experience, most recently as a regional executive with BB&T in Tysons Corner. Williams, assistant vice president, has more than eight years of real estate finance experience, most recently with BB&T's commercial real estate finance team in Tysons Corner.

**Donleigh Honeywell** of Vienna has become an independent consultant with **Tastefully Simple, Inc.**, a national direct-sales company featuring easy-to-prepare gourmet products. As a consultant, Honeywell offers the company's gourmet foods and beverages

to guests at home taste-testing parties. Guests receive samples, meal ideas, recipes and serving suggestions. For more information about the products and parties, call Honeywell at 703-849-8534.

**New York Life Insurance Company** has named **James E. Adkins, Jr.** council vice president, an honor bestowed annually on the New York Life agent with the entire company's second highest performance achievements. As council vice president, Adkins is a leader of the company's elite field force comprised of 10,500 licensed New York Life agents. Adkins, associated with New York Life for eleven years, is a registered representative and financial advisor who employs 26 at the firm he founded, Strategic Financial Associates, LLC. Strategic Financial Associates, LLC handles the corporate insurance for over 400 companies and handles insurance and financial products for thousands of individuals, with a particular focus on small business owners, corporate executives, and professionals.

Adkins grew up in the Washington D.C. area and currently lives in Vienna with his wife Nancy and two children, Nicole and Jimmy.

**Coldwater Creek** in McLean recently helped raise \$927 to benefit the Komen®National RFTC of Susan G. Komen for the Cure and their vision of a world without breast cancer. The fundraiser took place through Coldwater Creek's®Try It On for the Cure event that took place on April 20.

Coldwater Creek's fundraising program, Try It On for the Cure, donated \$1<sup>st</sup> to the Komen National RFTC of Komen for the Cure for every shopper who tried on clothes in the dressing room at Coldwater Creek's Tysons®Corner Center store. In addition, for individuals who did make a purchase, the company donated 10 percent of the entire day's sales to Komen. The company as a whole raised over \$100,000 for the cause and plans to repeat the event again this year on Sept. 21.

Weekly lunch and lead **Tip Group meetings** with the **Vienna Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce** to network, share leads and mingle, **Tuesday and Thursday, 12:15-1:30 p.m.** at Morton's, The Steakhouse, 8075 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, 703-883-0800. For information, call Harvey Silverman at 703-319-8806. To RSVP for the Tuesday group, call Harvey Silverman at 703-319-8806; to RSVP for the Thursday group call Christa Walker at 703-766-2300.

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**Trout Fishing in America**

Saturday, June 14  
11 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - \$14

**Order Tickets Now!**  
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For more information, call Box Office: 703-790-9223  
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**McLean Pet Expo**

Saturday, June 14  
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**McLean Central Park** 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd.  
At the corner of Dolley Madison Blvd. and Old Dominion Dr.  
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CLOSED  
DUE TO  
POWER OUTAGE

# After the Storm

Sorry.  
We will Reopen  
When Power is  
Restored

NEWS, PAGE 3

Building Closed  
Till Power  
Restored!!

Businesses all over downtown McLean were closed last week on Thursday, as electricity did not begin returning to the area until evening.

## Staging Area Stays

NEWS, PAGE 4

6/5/8  
No power...  
Gone Fishin'!!!

inside



703-760-0645  
emergency.  
Lynn

## 'American in Paris' Comes to Alden

E-SECTION, PAGE 12

OCEAN M  
RESTAURANT

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NO  
POWER

# OVER 30 HOUSES SOLD SO FAR THIS YEAR!!



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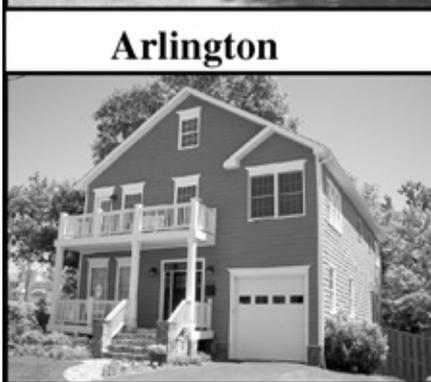
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### Arlington

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No detail overlooked in this 2 yrs young stunning 5 br/3.5 ba home w/ sparkling hardwood flrs, spacious family rm w/ woodburning fireplace; spectacular gourmet kitchen w/ soapstone counters; stainless steel appl; oversized kitchen bar area; fantastic fenced in rear yard; walk-out LL w/ au pair suite w/br & bath; full kitchen; rec rm w/fplc & tons more! Yorktown High School.



### Arlington

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**ONCE-in-a-lifetime** opportunity to purchase an expanded classic colonial w/ delightful manicured lot on one of Country Club Hill's finest streets; 5 br/4.5 ba w/ renovated kitchen, 3 fireplaces; spacious master suite w/ luxury mba; walkout LL w/ rec rm, bedroom/office w/ full ba; spectacular backyard w/ deck, patio & pond. Yorktown High School.



### McLean

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**Meticulously** maintained 5000+ sq feet in this glorious colonial w/ contemporary flair! Amazing gourmet kitchen w/ granite counters; main level sunroom, card rm & office; palatial owner's suite w/ luxury sitting area/doors to balcony overlooking private courtyard; cul-de-sac location — 1 traffic light to DC!



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## After the Storm

McLean, Great Falls hardest hit.

BY MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

**W**idespread power outages caused by last Wednesday's storms crippled much of Northern Virginia for more than a day, but few areas were harder-hit than McLean and Great Falls. Fairfax County Fire and Rescue spokesman Raul Castillo said the fire departments received more calls for those areas, mostly for downed power lines, than anywhere else in the county, followed closely by Falls Church and Annandale.

Most of downtown McLean lost power around 3 p.m. Wednesday and remained closed throughout the following day. The drone of generators testified to the few business owners who refused to submit to the blackout. Power was restored to many businesses in Great Falls Thursday morning, but some Great Falls residents still had no electricity by Friday evening.

"We were the only restaurant open last night in McLean," said Zeynel Uzun, owner of Kazan Restaurant, on Thursday evening, just moments after electricity was restored to his business. Uzun said he had closed



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

**Behind them, the GNC store that Tom and Joy Choi manage and will soon own is dark, but the couple kept the store open without power Thursday afternoon.**

down briefly after the power went out, in order to go home and fetch his grill. He then hooked up two generators to revive the refrigeration and lighting, and he and his staff set about feeding anyone drawn to the restaurant's light in the darkened commercial district. "I had reservations," he said. "My phone was not working, and I had people coming all the way from Baltimore. I could not turn them away." He had offered a menu of kebabs cooked on the grill.

**THE NEXT MORNING**, he went to Costco in Pentagon City and bought the biggest generator he could find. "People were in a line to get them," he said. The power fi-

nally came back on at about 6:45 Thursday evening. "It's been a hectic couple of days," said Uzun. "Thank God it's over."

It was a hectic time for public safety employees as well. Fairfax County Police spokesman Don Gotthardt said police received 2,300 calls for service in a four-hour period on Wednesday. Most were for intersections where traffic lights had gone out. In McLean, he said, traffic signals had gone dark up and down Dolley Madison Boulevard and on Westmoreland Street, Chain Bridge Road, Old Dominion Drive and Lewinsville Road, as well as many others. A number of signals on Leesburg Pike in

SEE AREA, PAGE 5

## Kidnapping Inexplicable

Two 20-year-old UVA students from China are sentenced to four years for kidnapping.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he father of 20-year-old defendant Guan Yu Lu asked Judge Dennis J. Smith to allow him to bow to the family of the victim of his son's kidnapping crime.

He doesn't know how to remedy his son's crime or how to make it up to the victim and his family, he said, but from the Circuit Courtroom witness stand he bowed twice, deliberately and slowly, as tears streamed down his face.

"I wish I could do more to make them happier or to get rid of the impact," said Lu's father, who traveled from China for the hearing.

His son apologized minutes later.

"I would like to say sorry to [the victim] and his family. I am truly sorry and I wish them to recover as soon as possible," he said, immediately before being sentenced. "I only regret my stupid action every day."

Bai Chuan Shu, now 20, apologized in a separate hearing a half-hour earlier before Judge Smith on Friday, June 6.

SEE PRIDE, PAGE 16

## Treasure Chest Serves Good Causes

BY JULIA WINKLER  
THE CONNECTION

**I**n a small gathering at the home of Bob and Deanna Okun on Sunday, Ed Norman and wife Paula of Wimauma, Fla. were presented with a collection of jewelry and war bullets valued at over \$25,000. As the grand prize winner of ThanksUSA's second annual American history Treasure Hunt, Norman was awarded the prize in a contest for which more than 10,000 people registered nationwide.

"The purpose of the treasure hunt is to motivate people to read about history, geography, and politics of the United States and to make it educational and fun," said Jorge Adeler, board member of ThanksUSA, as well as a donor of the treasure from Adeler Jewelers in Great Falls. The treasure, intended to be representative of the United States itself, contained a variety of jewels and minerals symbolizing different states, as well as two bullets from the Civil War and original Indian arrowheads.



PHOTO BY BOB OKUN

**From left, ThanksUSA board member Carolyn Ferek, Treasure Hunt co-creator Kelsi Okun, 2007 Grand Prize winner Ed Norman, ThanksUSA board member Michele Stork, and board member/prize donor Jorge Adeler pose by a portion of the \$25,000-plus treasure at the Okuns' home on Sunday.**

## ThanksUSA presents \$25,000 Treasure Chest to Treasure Hunt winner.

"The idea of creating a treasure is symbolic. I tried to represent the typical pirates' treasure chest in a more contemporary version. The whole point is to say a lot in a treasure," said Adeler. Norman cited plans to donate the treasure to his church in Florida as it undergoes a two-year debt repayment plan. By auctioning off the jewelry, Norman said, it would serve as a "double blessing" as both churchgoers and treasure recipients would reap the benefits.

Created in 2005 by McLean residents Kelsi and Rachel Okun, 10 and 12, the hunt aims to encourage donations to ThanksUSA's scholarship drive for families of active-duty military personnel. More than 1,350 scholarships have been rewarded to this day, totaling over \$4 million. The 2008 Treasure Hunt is now under way, for which registration applications are available on ThanksUSA's Web site, [www.thanksusa.org](http://www.thanksusa.org). Those interested in donating are encouraged to visit the organization's Web site, as well as attend an upcoming benefit concert at Warner Theatre on July 26.

# Staging Area Stays

After search, company keeps original clear-cut site for HOT Lanes construction.

BY MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

**F**luor Corporation and Transurban are settling in on the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (VDOT) property off the interchange of Georgetown Pike and the Beltway. Following citizen outcry, the companies had sought another site to house

equipment and vehicles for the upcoming construction of high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes on the Beltway. However, as the time for a decision neared, VDOT spokesman Steve Titunik said, "Some of the things we've seen to this point have not been suitable for our needs."

The decision to keep the site was announced at a meeting between VDOT officials, Supervisor John Foust

"Some of the things we've seen to this point have not been suitable for our needs."

— Steve Titunik,  
VDOT spokesman



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Activity has resumed at the staging area by the Georgetown Pike/Beltway interchange. All construction vehicles will have to enter and exit via this entryway being built on the northbound ramp of the interchange.

(D-Dranesville), state Sen. Janet Howell (D-32) and Del. Margi Vanderhye (D-34) last week on Thursday morning.

**RESIDENTS** of McLean and Great Falls were infuriated when the companies clear-cut three acres of trees on the five-acre VDOT property in mid-April without alerting local government or citizens. Groups such as the McLean Citizens Association (MCA) lobbied the county government to do what it could to have the site moved. Of particular concern was the presence of Co-

per Middle School across the street, several other schools nearby and the attendant school bus traffic that would have to contend with construction vehicles.

Titunik said VDOT and the private companies had agreed that if the current property is used, construction vehicles will enter and exit only via the northbound ramp off of the Beltway, rather than also driving on Balls Hill Road as originally planned. He also expressed regret for the lack of warning before the trees were cleared. "I take

SEE HOT LANES, PAGE 18

## MCA Supports Madeira Trail

Citizens Association encourages county to require trail behind school in exchange for special exception.

BY MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

**D**an DuVal made several attempts to craft a compromise between the McLean Citizens Association's (MCA) desire to see a trail along the Potomac River behind The Madeira School and the private girls' boarding school's concerns about its students' safety. However, his proposition could not win more than a few votes at last week's MCA meeting on Wednesday, June 4.

The MCA member proposed that the group support the county asking for the trail easement in return for a special exception but acknowledged security concerns "that must be addressed before the easement can

be granted." But the desire for the trail and concerns about consistency won out in the end. The trail easement, for a segment of the Potomac National Heritage Scenic Trail, has been part of the county's Comprehensive Plan for about 30 years.

Madeira's wastewater treatment plant, built in the 1930s, is currently in violation of state code, which has become more stringent since the plant's construction. Last fall, the school submitted an application for a special exception to rebuild the plant in a new location and to alter several previously approved plans in order to accommodate the plant's move.

**THE RESOLUTION** that the MCA ended up passing, after extensive debate, asked that the trail be made a requirement only for the changes other than the sewage plant's move.

Mark Zetts, chair of the MCA's Planning and Zoning Committee, said he hoped to

"Everybody in the county has security concerns. We deal with it regularly."

— Mark Zetts, chair, Planning and Zoning Committee

address Madeira's concerns but did not want the easement to be conditioned on the school's satisfaction. "Everybody in the county has security concerns. We deal with it regularly," said Zetts. "They can say their concerns are never met."

"I strongly object to this resolution," said MCA member Margaret Malone, noting that her daughter had been a student at the school in the 1970s "when somebody came up from the river and brutally assaulted and killed one of her classmates."

According to the school's Web site, in 1973, one Stephen Gilreath was convicted of the murder of a student named Natalya Semler of the class of 1976 after she died "of exposure" on campus.

"I think the safety issue is a real and serious issue," said MCA member Sally Horn. She said the trail was also planned to go through her neighborhood, The Reserve,

SEE TRAIL DEBATE, PAGE 18

### WEEK IN MCLEAN

## Fire Damages McLean House

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to a house fire at approximately 8:20 p.m., Friday, June 6, at 1008 Timberwicke Road in McLean area.

Firefighters encountered heavy black smoke coming from the first and second floors and attic of the two-story brick single-family home. Firefighters brought the fire under control within a few minutes. A portion of the second floor between the kitchen ceiling and second floor hallway had burned through. The fire originated in the ceiling of the kitchen. One adult male was home when the fire broke out. Red Cross was not needed. There were no injuries. Damage is estimated at \$60,000.

According to fire investigators, the fire was accidental. An electrical anomaly in the ceiling caused the fire.

## Fund-raiser for Cancer Research

The English Trading Company will be hosting a cancer research fundraiser at its Tysons Corner Center store on June 14. The event, open to all, is intended to raise awareness on cancer research as well as raise funds for The American Cancer Society. A percentage of that day's sales as well as proceeds from a silent auction will be donated to The American Cancer Society. Those who cannot attend may make donations directly to The English Trading Company for the American Cancer Society throughout the week.

The event will feature door prizes by Faberge, Vera Bradley and Thymes among others as well as silent auctioning of oil paintings and other decorative objects.

For more information contact The English Trading Company at 703 893 9651 or [englishtrading\\_va@yahoo.com](mailto:englishtrading_va@yahoo.com).

## MCC Selects Officers, Chairs

Four adult tax district residents and two youth residents have won seats on the 2008-2009 McLean Community Center Governing Board. The election was held at the McLean Day 2008 festival.

Votes went to Risa Sanders (255), Sean Dunn (199) and Lee DiCenso (192), each of whom will hold three-year positions. Lori Wertz (186) will fill a two-year adult position left vacant by Katherine Armstrong. Thomas Meyer (42) won the one-year youth position for the Langley High School area and Jennifer Dunn (19) won the one-year youth position for the McLean High School area.

SEE WEEK IN MCLEAN, PAGE 18

# Area Faces Storm Challenges

FROM PAGE 3

Great Falls remained dark as night fell on Thursday.

A damage report issued by the county listed five road closures in the McLean police district, more than were listed for any other district. Three were along Old Dominion Drive. Castillo named two more intersections that had been closed, noting that many closures went unreported. He said most resulted from trees falling, often taking power lines down with them.

Half an hour into the storm, with winds gusting to more than 50 mph, Fire and Rescue had received more than 50 reports of downed power lines countywide, said Castillo. He said there had been several outdoor fires, possibly resulting from fallen power lines, and three structure fires, possibly caused by lightning. The department had also received a number of calls for vehicles stranded in high water and trees falling on houses.

**IN THE AFTERMATH,** Hair Quarters Barber Shop next door to Kazan ran its electric equipment with a generator that employee Ali Zirek had borrowed from a neighbor. As Helen Nguyen cut his hair by the sunlight coming through the windows, customer Mike Bowers said he had made an appointment for a haircut the day before and decided to find out whether it could be kept. "I just came over. I didn't know if they'd be open or not," he said.

A few doors down, Tom and Joy Choi did not need a generator to keep open the GNC nutrition store they manage and are soon to own. "Business is slow, a little bit," said Tom Choi, adding that they were getting about 30 percent of their usual clientele load. He said they had kept the store open because

some customers might rely on the supplements and vitamins the store provides.

Ed Danoff, a pharmacist and owner at The Medicine Chest pharmacy across Redmond Drive, had the same idea. "I don't think a pharmacy should close," he said. He noted that the business had been almost as busy as usual on Thursday and said his staying open through a blackout was "what separates us from the [pharmacy] chains." Having regained power at about 6 p.m., he had just shut down the generator he'd had on hand since he purchased it after Hurricane Isabelle. Danoff said he had traveled as far as Gaithersburg, Md. in search of another generator that morning but found that the machines were sold out everywhere.

Because businesses in the Great Falls Village Center run on a three-phase electric system, many of them retained some power throughout the blackout, but this presented its own challenges.

Jad Bouchebel, whose family owns and operates Le Grand Appetit European Deli, said he had been at work until 11 Wednesday night stuffing the floor refrigeration units with food from the walk-in refrigerator that had lost power. "We still lost all this stuff," he said. Bouchebel said the family kept the deli open throughout the storm, although the cash register and much of the equipment was inoperable.

Power was restored at about 10:30 Thursday morning, but the business was still without air conditioning that evening. Flickering electricity before the outage had shorted out the air conditioning unit, sending up a column of smoke that brought the Fire Department.

With the coffee machine still working Thursday morning, said Bouchebel, "I was selling crazy

coffee" until all electricity was shut off for an hour or so while the system was repaired. "It was the only time I got to sit down and enjoy breakfast," he said.

There was no air conditioning at the nearby Tavern at Great Falls either, but a line of people waited for seating at the restaurant anyway. Manager Berhanu Bogale said the rush was a result of continuing power outages in Great Falls homes. "That's why we're so busy. Nobody has power," he said.

As Friday's dinner hour began, Michael Kearney, owner of The Old Brogue and Katie's Coffee House, said the Brogue, too, had been "slammed" for the last two nights. "A lot of people in Great Falls, until just an hour ago, still did not have power," he said, adding that some customers arriving still did not have electricity.

Dominion Power had warned that the last customers would not have their power restored until Saturday evening, and Saturday lived up to forecasters' expectations of punishing heat and humidity.

Operating at two-thirds power, The Old Brogue had offered an "emergency menu" of simple items like sandwiches, soup, chili and salad Wednesday night. Customers had been appreciative of even a limited menu, said Kearney. "They thanked staff over and over for being there." The next morning, Katie's could only offer drip coffee, but more than 300 customers turned out. And on Friday morning, the coffee shop was "packed with kids who didn't have a place to eat breakfast," he said.

Kearney pointed out that there was sometimes a price to pay for living in an area with abundant trees and above-ground power lines. "I guess one of the disadvantages of living in a rural community is living in a rural community," he said.

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# PEOPLE

## FATHER'S DAY PHOTO GALLERY

**The Lind family of McLean in Colorado, June 2007. Overlooking the Colorado National Monument, near Grand Junction, from left: Holly (18), Ashley (22), Howie (Dad), Jackie (Mom), Melody (19), and Shelley (24).**



CONTRIBUTED

**Mary Claire Mahaney**

### McLean Author Wins Book Prize

“Osaka Heat” by Mary Claire Mahaney has been selected as the Silver Medal Winner in the Multicultural Fiction Adult category in the 12th annual Independent Publisher awards.° There were 3,175 books competing in a variety of categories for the best independently published books of the past year.

“Osaka Heat” (AuthorHouse 2007) follows the story of an American widow who travels to Japan and becomes involved in a forbidden romance with a Japanese man. The multicultural aspects of “Osaka Heat” are brought out in the literature, music, and Japanese cuisine woven throughout the book, along with the personal, religious, and cultural challenges faced by the protagonist during her travels in Japan.

Mahaney was inspired to write “Osaka Heat” when she traveled to Japan as the chaperone for her son’s high school student exchange. She saw the cultural setting of a Japanese school as the perfect setting for a novel. Six years later she has an award-winning book.

“I’m honored that ‘Osaka Heat’ has won a Silver Medal in this competition and am pleased that the book has been enjoyed by so many readers,” said Mahaney. “One of the best things about having written ‘Osaka Heat’ is the opportunity it has given me to meet people who love to read and who enjoy hearing about the writing process.”°

Mahaney, a retired lawyer, lives in McLean, where she has served on numerous education and community boards. In 1997, she was awarded the McLean Youth, Inc., Citizen of the Year Award for her community work.

### More Information

For more information about Mary Claire Mahaney and “Osaka Heat,” visit [www.maryclairemahaney.com](http://www.maryclairemahaney.com).

“Osaka Heat” (ISBN: 978-1425990824) is available through Amazon and Barnes & Noble and from the publisher at [www.authorhouse.com/bookstore](http://www.authorhouse.com/bookstore).

The link for the 2008 IPPY Awards: <http://www.independentpublisher.com/>



**Kevin Manzel and Colin Manzel, 2, enjoy a hayride at McLean Day Festival last month.**



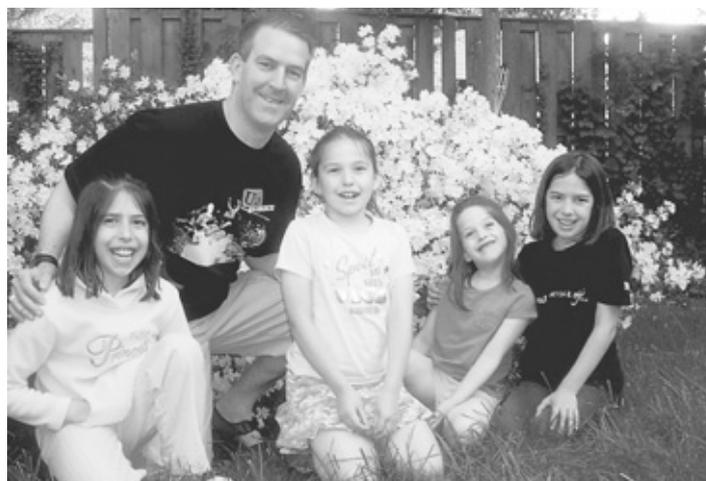
**Grandpa David Manzel and Avery Manzel (at 3 weeks old) take a nap. Photo taken in March 2008.**



**Danny McMahon and his 5-years-old twin sons Danny and Ryan, kindergartners at Lemon Road Elementary, pose at Great Falls Park in late May 2008.**



**Dad Robert Ivanauskas, and daughters Natalia and Evelyn, of McLean, pose “Just before going to church.”**



**Dad Stan Smith of Vienna with his four girls: Sarah, Hannah, Emma and Lena.**

# Charges Against Third Teen Dropped

## Two other teens to be prosecuted as adults for Christmas Eve attack.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

Charges against the third of three juveniles arrested for the Christmas Eve attack on a McLean 14-year-old were nolle prossed last Wednesday, June 4 in Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, said Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Gregory O. Holt.

Charges that are nolle prossed are dismissed or set aside, although prosecutors have the right to reopen the case any time within 12 months.

Although police executed multiple search warrants, police didn't find the evidence necessary to show that the third juvenile was part of the attacks, said Holt.

Dozens of search warrants were filed in Fairfax County Circuit Court.

The third juvenile, who was named in search warrants, was "identified as the subject alleged to have recorded the assault from the passenger seat of the involved sport utility vehicle," according to the search warrants.

"On Feb. 15, 2008, subsequent to the arrest of [the juvenile] for his involvement in the malicious wounding, a cellular telephone was found in his possession.

"[Special agent] conducted forensic examinations of the listed telephone and noted in her analysis that the removable data storage card was absent from the telephone's memory card slot," according to one of the warrants filed April 21, 2008.

**THE OTHER TWO** juveniles charged in the attack, James Clarke and Anthony Nelli, both 16, will be prosecuted as adults in Fairfax County Circuit Court for aggravated malicious wounding.

A conviction of aggravated malicious wounding carries a possible sentence of 20 years to life in prison.

Cases against Clarke and Nelli were certified to Fairfax County Circuit Court after preliminary hearings were held April 30 in juvenile court.

According to police reports, a 14-year-old McLean boy and two of his friends were walking on Westmoreland Street around 4 p.m. last Christmas Eve, when two

teenage boys jumped out of a parked car in the church parking lot.

"Unprovoked, the two suspects kicked and punched the victim, knocking him to the ground. They continued to strike him as two other male suspects watched from the car," according to police reports. Investigators received numerous tips from the community and through Crime Solvers, which helped lead detectives to the teen suspects, including a 15-year-old and 16-year-old from McLean.

The victim received treatment for "serious injuries" at Inova Fairfax Hospital, according to police.

"Non-life threatening injuries," said Officer Shelley Broderick in February.

"Permanent injuries," Holt said. Nelli's and Clarke's trials are currently scheduled for later this year.

### CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the McLean district of the Fairfax County police department through June 4.

MCLEAN DISTRICT  
STATION (DISTRICT 3)

#### ARMED ROBBERY

**Arlington Boulevard 6600.** A 26-year-old Annandale-area man was robbed on Tuesday, June 3 while working at a local hotel. The employee was sitting behind the front desk of the Governor Motor Hotel, located at 6650 Arlington Boulevard in the Falls Church area, around 10:40 p.m. A man walked in the rear

door and immediately demanded money from the victim. The suspect walked behind the counter, pointed a handgun at the victim and again demanded money. The victim complied and the suspect fled out the rear door. No one was injured during the robbery. The suspect was described as Hispanic and about 6 feet tall. He was 165 pounds with short, black hair and a light complexion. He was wearing a long sleeve, black shirt, black pants, black gloves and a blue bandana covering his face.

#### LARCENIES

**Chain Bridge Road 1900.** Jewelry stolen from business  
**Colleen Lane 1400.** Two purses stolen from vehicle.



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# OPINION

## More Reasons for Change

### Price of gas, "Code Red" add reasons to change behavior.

After days of intense heat, we begin this week with a "Code Red" air quality day, meaning that breathing the air is "unhealthy for all individuals."

On a "Code Red" day, no one should stay outside or exert themselves outdoors any longer than necessary, according to federal guidelines. At particular risk are active children and adults, and people with lung diseases, such as asthma.

The primary causes of air pollution in Northern Virginia are vehicle emissions and pollution from power plants here and to the west.

Approximately 60-70 percent of the pollutants that cause ground-level ozone are created from vehicles, lawn mowers, other garden equipment and common household products, according to the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments.

The price of gas has already motivated more commuters in the area to turn to public transportation. On predicted "Code Red" days, local bus service is free, which should provide even more incentive to see if you can use transit for all or part of your commute.

The price of gas is excruciating, and takes a far higher toll on the working poor, but at \$4 a gallon and above, we're all motivated to seek conservation and alternatives. As businesses and individuals work to save money, the environment and air quality will also benefit. There's a chance that such measures could ease

### Free Ride

Riding some local buses is free on "code red" days. Check for your chance to ride for free.

- ❖ Fairfax Connector, [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/)
  - ❖ Arlington Transit, [www.commuterpage.com/art/](http://www.commuterpage.com/art/)
  - ❖ Alexandria Dash, [www.dashbus.com/](http://www.dashbus.com/)
  - ❖ Loudoun Commuter Bus Service, [www.loudoun.gov/bus](http://www.loudoun.gov/bus)
- More choices, [www.wmata.com](http://www.wmata.com)

### Air Quality Info

For the air quality forecast for Northern Virginia and links to maps, see <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/airquality>.

For more information, see [www.epa.gov/airnow](http://www.epa.gov/airnow).

traffic as well.

On bad air quality days, children, older people and individuals with heart or respiratory ailments should reduce outdoor activities. Even healthy individuals should limit strenuous outdoor work and exercise.

Here are a few more suggestions to help air quality:

- ❖ Limit driving and when possible, combine trips or work from home.
- ❖ Use area bus and rail lines or carpool.
- ❖ Avoid mowing lawns with gasoline-powered motors.
- ❖ Refuel vehicles after dusk; avoid idling.
- ❖ Conserve electricity, keep air conditioning no lower than 78 degrees, turn off unneeded lights.

For the air quality forecast for Northern Virginia and links to maps, see <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/airquality>.

For more information, see [www.epa.gov/](http://www.epa.gov/)

### Health Consequences of Bad Air

While some people say they might consider moving out of the region because of the traffic congestion, for others the choice to move might be necessary to save their health.

Consider the risks:

- ❖ One out of every three people is at a higher risk of experiencing ozone-related health effects, including active, otherwise healthy children who spend a lot of the summer playing outdoors.

- ❖ People of all ages who are active outdoors are at increased risk because during physical activity, ozone penetrates deeper into the part of the lungs that are more vulnerable.

- ❖ Ozone can aggravate asthma. When ozone levels are high more people with asthma have attacks that require a doctor's attention or the use of additional medication. One reason this happens is that ozone makes people more sensitive to allergens, the most common triggers of asthma attacks.

- ❖ People with respiratory diseases that make their lungs more vulnerable to ozone may experience health effects earlier and at lower ozone levels than less sensitive individuals.

- ❖ Ozone can irritate the respiratory system, causing coughing, throat irritation, and/or an uncomfortable sensation in the chest.

- ❖ Ozone can increase susceptibility to respiratory infections.

- ❖ Ozone can inflame and damage the lining of the lungs. Within a few days, the damaged cells are shed and replaced — much like the skin peels after a sunburn. Animal studies suggest that if this type of inflammation happens repeatedly over a long time period (months, years, a lifetime), lung tissue may become permanently scarred, resulting in less lung elasticity and permanent loss of lung function.

[airnow.gov](http://airnow.gov).

— MARY KIMM,

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## Transportation Tops Regional Agenda

BY MARGARET VANDERHYE  
STATE DELEGATE (D-34)

A number of upcoming decisions in transportation policy may affect us here in northern Virginia. At the state level, Governor Kaine has called a special session of the General Assembly for June 23 to deal with transportation funding shortfalls, some of which resulted from a Feb. 29 Virginia Supreme Court decision that invalidated the 2007 law that raised revenue dedicated to transportation in our region. He has also released his own

funding proposals which include a 1 percent statewide increase in the sales tax on cars (from 3 percent to 4 percent) that would raise an additional \$400-\$500 million annually; the dedication of all revenue from the sales tax on cars to road maintenance; a \$10 statewide increase in the annual car registration fee; a 25 cent statewide increase in the grantor's tax with a substantial portion of it dedicated to transit; and a 1 percent regional retail sales tax increase (excluding food and

### VANDERHYE REPORT

medicine) in northern Virginia and Hampton Roads that would replace the dedicated regional funding struck down by the Supreme Court. All the Governor's proposals will include a lockbox mechanism so that they will be used only for transportation.



Vanderhye

On May 7 the Hampton Roads (Norfolk area) and northern Virginia legislative delegations met to discuss and establish principles to guide our deliberations for the upcoming special session. The delegations agree that there must be dedicated and sufficient revenue sources specific to each region. (Since the Supreme Court's action that invalidated the funding power of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, our region has lost about \$1 million

a day.) We also agreed on the need for statewide funding for maintenance.

THE MAIN POINTS of contention in the upcoming Special Session of the General Assembly are sure to be the sources of revenue and whether the solutions should address statewide shortfalls or just correct legal problems at the regional level so that northern Virginia and Hampton Roads jurisdictions can raise the revenue for their areas. The May 7 meeting of the joint delegation adopted the principle of including both regional and statewide solutions because we will continue to see our road construction funds siphoned off to pay for maintenance in other parts of the state unless we address the whole problem. Think of trying to fill a bathtub while the drain is open.

As for the sources of revenue, arguments have been made for a sales tax, gas tax, and/or a variety of fees. The Governor included in his plan a combination of these sources that have been previously proposed by the legislature. Here in northern Virginia a 1 percent sales tax (excluding food and medicine) would raise

SEE VANDERHYE, PAGE 9

## THE CONNECTION

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# OPINION Vanderhye Report

FROM PAGE 8

over \$306 million in 2009, increasing to over \$414 million by 2014. Every penny of the gas tax raises about \$52 million with \$11 million coming from northern Virginia. Both the gas tax and the sales tax, unlike fees, are paid for by all drivers, not just Virginia residents alone. Before we return to Richmond on June 23, I would appreciate hearing your views on transportation funding sources.

**AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL,** the positive news about the Dulles Rail Project recently made headlines. In January the Federal Transit Authority had said that \$900 million in federal funding for the first stage of the project was in jeopardy. Governor Kaine and the Virginia Congressional delegation worked diligently with federal officials to address their concerns, and the funding was approved in May. (A \$400 million private sector tax district is already in place to support and supplement that funding.) While the federal funding is now restored, two conditions remain, and they present substantial though not impossible hurdles to overcome: cost containment, and METRO organization and management.

As a long time advocate for rail to Dulles and a champion of the tunnel option through Tyson's Corner, I am pleased that our funding has been restored; I am extremely disappointed that the option of a tunnel seems more remote at this point, but rail to Dulles is a key component of our regional transportation plan and an important economic generator for our area and the state. I believe we can and should have a significant impact on the project by focusing on preventing cost overruns through project management and competitive bidding for subcontractors. I intend to be a vigilant "watchdog" on behalf of our citizens in the 34<sup>th</sup> district to make sure we do not bear the costs for private sector excesses or mismanagement.

As always, I welcome your comments and ideas about how we can make our community better, and transportation is at the top of the list of concerns we share. I will continue to keep you up to date on issues close to home. I hope you will be in touch with me before we return to Richmond for our special session on June 23.



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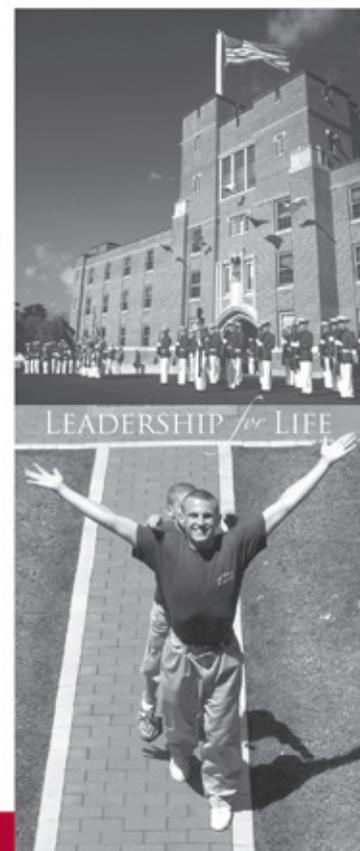
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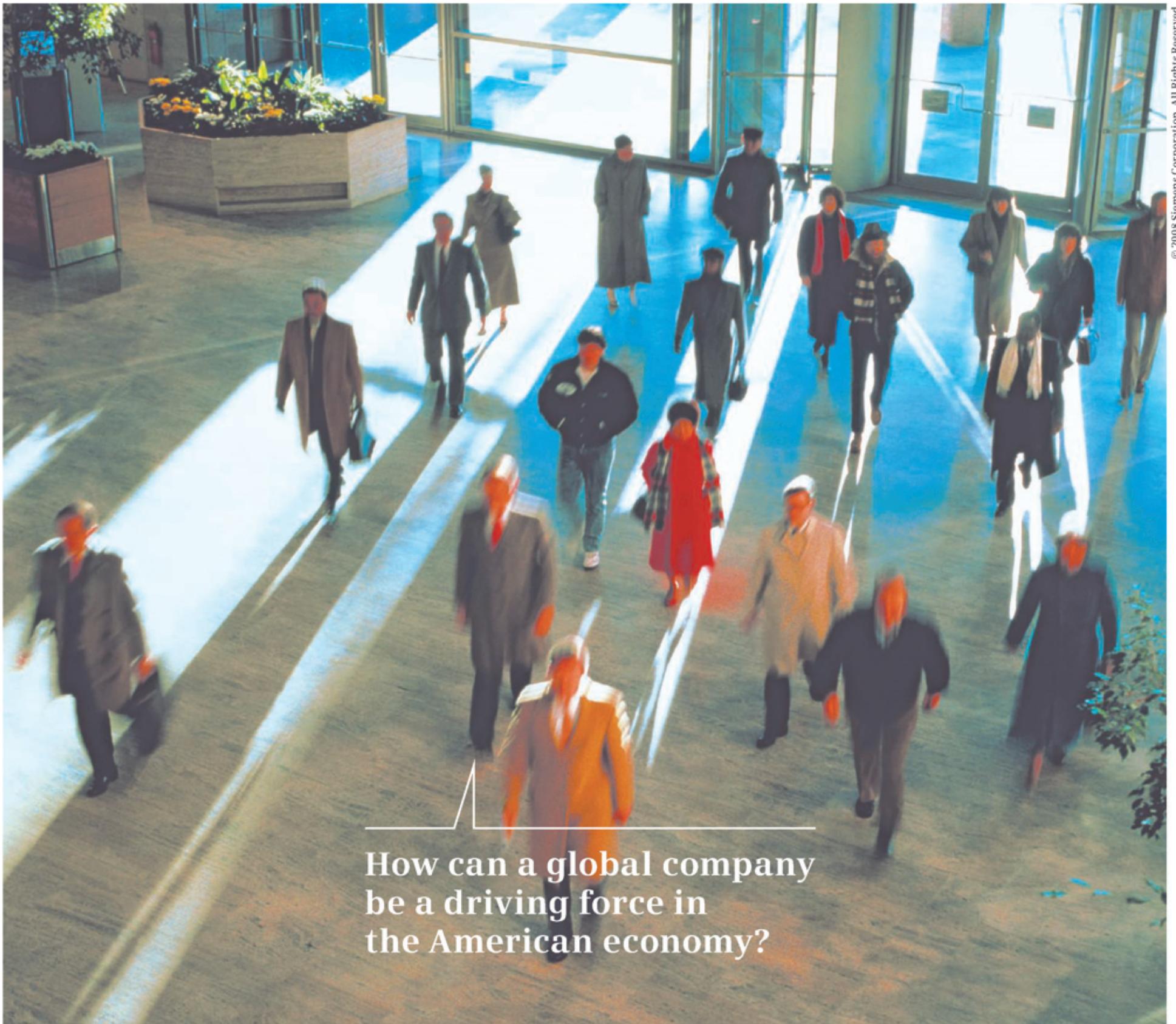
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# PEOPLE

## Area Students Receive Arts Scholarships

Nine local high school students won scholarships for successfully competing in the 2008 James C. Macdonald Fine Arts Scholarship Competition, sponsored by the McLean Community Center (MCC) and the Alden Theatre. MCC Governing Board Chairman Sean Dunn presented the awards at the final competition-performance, which was held at the Alden Theatre.

Scholarship prizes of \$1,200 were awarded to students placing first in each of three categories: Music, Dance and Visual Arts. A fourth category, Theatre, did not attract the required number of candidates for the competition this year. Second-place winners were awarded \$800 and third-place winners won \$400. The James C. Macdonald Fine Arts Scholarship Competition encourages artistic achievement and promotes study in the arts by high school students



PHOTO BY LISA HELFERT

**2008 James C. Macdonald Scholarship 1st Place prize winners (from left) William Park (Visual Arts), Risa Kaneko (Music) and Jordan Slick (Dance) with MCC Governing Board Chairman Sean Dunn (second from left).**

### Winners

Recipients of this year's awards are:

**Music:** 1st Place - Risa Kaneko, sophomore; 2nd - Rose Tobiassen, senior; 3rd - Robert Bogart, senior (all three McLean High School)

**Dance:** 1st - Jordan Slick, senior; 2nd - Stormy Budwig, junior; 3rd - Alexa Vasiliadis, junior, (all Langley High School).

**Visual Arts:** 1st Place - William Park, sophomore, Langley High School; 2nd - Cassandra Harper, senior, McLean High School; 3rd - Arthur Wessel, senior, Langley High School.

Judges for the competition were: Peggy Feerick, associate professor and division coordinator of photography at George Mason University; Rebecca Kamen, an artist and professor of art at Northern Virginia Community College; Seyon Lee, a solo and chamber musician who is pursuing a doctoral degree in

who reside or attend school in the McLean district (Small Tax District 1A of the Dranesville District).

musical arts; and Jim Scopeletis, an actor, singer and pianist.

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## CALENDAR

Send announcements to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com).

### WEDNESDAY / JUNE 11

**WD Miller Band** headlines at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com)

**Louisiana Swamp Romp:** The Wild Magnolias, Pine Leaf Boys, Balfa Toujours, Nathan & The Zydeco Cha Chas. 2 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$25.

**Trisha Yearwood.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$40/in-house, \$22/lawn.

**Preschool Sing-Along.** Sing songs with Miss Belle. All ages. 10:30 a.m. at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean.

### THURSDAY/JUNE 12

**Honor by August,** Ringleader, Stepanian. Rock/pop. Show 7:30 p.m., tickets \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Kenny G.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$42/in-house, \$25/lawn. Thursday, June 12, 10:00 AM

### FRIDAY/JUNE 13

**Annapolis Bluegrass.** 6:30 p.m., Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E., 703-255-6360

**Surprise! Arizona,** The Blackjacks, Sarah Swanner. Rock. Doors open at 9:30 p.m., tickets \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Anita Baker.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$48/in-house, \$25/lawn.

**Verdi's King for a Day.** 8 p.m. at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$28 to \$68.

**Kids Club Meeting.** The Tysons Corner Kids Club meets for story time and an activity the first Saturday every month, 10 a.m. at the food court on level 3 at Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Call 703-847-7300 or visit [www.shoptyson.com](http://www.shoptyson.com).

### SATURDAY/JUNE 14

**Mr. Knick-Knack** children's performer plays at Wren & Divine, 6645 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, 11 a.m. the second Saturday every month. Call 704-356-WREN.



Founder and Artistic Director Theresa D'Alessandro, Olivia Abboud, Kate Fitzgerald, Samantha Zimmerman, Madison Dunn, Page Tofil, Rebecca Anger and Karsyn Lawler. Not pictured: Paige Evans.



(Top row) Stormy Budwig, Kallie Boruff, Dana deLaVeronica Neuberger, (bottom row) Joanie Vasiliadis Ashley O'Banion.

## 'An American in Paris' Comes to Alden Theatre

Area theater lovers will be served a rare feast: a Great Falls-based School of Theatrical Dance (SOTD) brings "An American in Paris" — a collage of

Great Falls-based School of Theatrical Dance presents its Annual Performance.

ballet, jazz, modern and tap dance choreographed by Theresa D'Alessandro, Kris Beery, Caroil

Hallman, and Caitlin Hoffman — to the Alden Theatre in McLean Community Center.

The school's annual performance, scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, 6:30 p.m., features all

**The Folsom Prisoners.** A classic country/honky tonk band that channels the vintage sounds of Buck Owens, Merle Haggard, Hank Williams, Johnny Cash and Elvis. 6 to 8 p.m. at Palladium Civic Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean, (703) 288-9505. Free.

**McLean Pet Expo.** McLean Central Park, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Attractions include: Performances by Jessie & James and *Mutts Gone Nuts*; Pet Fashion; Health Products and Services; Pet Accessories; Trainers and Grooming Services; Pet Foods; Boutiques and Spas for Your Pet; Rescue Organizations/Pet Adoption; Petting Zoo; Kids Activities: Moon Bounce, Carousel, Pony Rides, Face Painting and more. For more information, call 703-790-0123/TTY: 711, or visit: [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

**Trout Fishing in America (EZRA IDLET - guitar/vocals, KEITH GRIMWOOD - bass/vocals)** will be appearing at the Alden Theater Family Concert Series, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean Community College, McLean, VA. 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. For tickets, call 703-790-9223.

**Chuck Prophet.** Mark Mallman. Rock/Americana. Show 8 p.m., tickets \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Gordon Lightfoot.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$40/in-house, \$22/lawn.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 15

**Heroics discussed.** 3:15p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Northern Virginia Writers Club meeting and author presentation, Four-time shuttle astronaut Thomas Jones of Reston,



A three-time Grammy Award nominees, Trout Fishing brings a rare mix of music from folk to blues to rock 'n' roll to old-time favorites to the McLean Alden Theatre on Saturday, June 14.

and aviation author Robert Dorr of Oakton, discuss the details of their recently-published account of the 365th Fighter Group, the Hell Hawks, whose heroics contributed to the ultimate defeat of the *Wehrmacht* in the spring of 1945. Call 703-217-7745 for more information.

**Peter Hammill** (of Van der Graaf Generator). Progressive/experimental. Show 7:30 p.m., tickets \$20. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**We Shot the Moon,** Everybody Else, The Summer Set. Rock. Show 7 p.m., tickets \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Boz Scaggs.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$40/in-house, \$22/lawn.

**Verdi's King for a Day.** 8 p.m. at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$28 to \$68

### MONDAY, JUNE 16

**Bedtime Stories.** Stories to end the day. All ages. 7 p.m. at Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean.

### TUESDAY, JUNE 17

**Don Dixon,** Parthenon Huxley. Acoustic rock. Show 7:30 p.m., tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Pilobolus.** 8:30 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$38/in-house, \$8/lawn.

**Verdi's King for a Day.** 8 p.m. at The



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Barns at Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$28 to \$68

**Singer/guitarist Parthenon Huxley, aka P. Hux.** 7:30 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E., Vienna. Tickets: \$10 and \$1. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

**Sparky's Flaw**, Theresa AndersonAlex Mejias. Pop/rock. Show 7 p.m., tickets \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave., Vienna, 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**James Taylor and his Band of Legends.** 8 p.m. at the Filene Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, 877-WOLFTRAP. Tickets are \$75/orchestra, \$75/boxes, \$68/loge, \$30/lawn.

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# BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

## SATURDAY/JUNE 14

**Fairfax County GOP Committee Flag Day BBQ w/George Allen** - 4-8 PM, 3107 Whimbrell Court, Oakton. \$35/\$60 couple. Call: (703) 766-4GOP.

Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA 22182. 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. Contact the VTRCC Office 703-281-1333 or log on to [www.vtrcc.org](http://www.vtrcc.org).

## WEDNESDAY /JUNE 18

**The Governing Board** of the McLean Community Center will hold its regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Center. All meetings of the Governing Board are open to the public. MCC is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue. Members of the public who wish to speak during the "Citizen Comment" portion of the meeting are asked to call 703-790-0123/TTY: 711, to be placed on the agenda. For more information on the Center's programs visit: [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)

## THURSDAY, JUNE 12

**Gurus and Gadgets.** New technology products, services and applications. The NVTC Cool Tech Committee brings together an expert panel that will share their views and wisdom on what's hot and what's not. 7:30 a.m. - Registration & Networking, 8:00 - 10:00 am - Program. Patton Boggs, 8484 Westpark Drive, 9th Floor, McLean; NVTC Member: \$45.00 Non-Member: \$ 75.00 For more information: [www.nvtc.org/events/geteventinfo.php?event=TECHEMERG5](http://www.nvtc.org/events/geteventinfo.php?event=TECHEMERG5).

## TUESDAY/JUNE 17

**Mothers First - McLean/Vienna meeting.** Non-profit support organization for mothers who have altered their careers to raise children at home; meets 10:15 a.m. at the Patrick Henry Community Library, 101 Maple Ave. E, Vienna. Contact 703-827-5922 or [www.mothersfirst.org](http://www.mothersfirst.org).  
**Speed Networking Breakfast.** Location: Clyde's at Tysons, 8332

## BUSINESS NOTES

To have business notes listed, send to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com) or 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102. Deadline is Friday.

BB&T recently announced it has promoted **Mike Carpenter** to manage its residential real estate lending team for the metro Washington, D.C., area.

The 12-member team, located in Woodbridge, Va., also will include BB&T residential construction specialists **Mike Williams**, Jason Paxton, Keri Jackson and Rob Lane.

A senior vice president, Carpenter has more than eight years of commercial

banking and real estate lending experience, most recently as a regional executive with BB&T in Tysons Corner. Williams, assistant vice president, has more than eight years of real estate finance experience, most recently with BB&T's commercial real estate finance team in Tysons Corner.

**Donleigh Honeywell** of Vienna has become an independent consultant with **Tastefully Simple, Inc.**, a national direct-sales company featuring easy-to-prepare gourmet products. As a consultant, Honeywell offers the company's gourmet foods and beverages

to guests at home taste-testing parties. Guests receive samples, meal ideas, recipes and serving suggestions. For more information about the products and parties, call Honeywell at 703-849-8534.

**New York Life Insurance Company** has named **James E. Adkins, Jr.** council vice president, an honor bestowed annually on the New York Life agent with the entire company's second highest performance achievements. As council vice president, Adkins is a leader of the company's elite field force comprised of 10,500 licensed New York Life agents. Adkins, associated with New York Life for eleven years, is a registered representative and financial advisor who employs 26 at the firm he founded, Strategic Financial Associates, LLC. Strategic Financial Associates, LLC handles the corporate insurance for over 400 companies and handles insurance and financial products for thousands of individuals, with a particular focus on small business owners, corporate executives, and professionals.

Adkins grew up in the Washington D.C. area and currently lives in Vienna with his wife Nancy and two children, Nicole and Jimmy.

**Coldwater Creek** in McLean recently helped raise \$927 to benefit the Komen®National RFTC of Susan G. Komen for the Cure and their vision of a world without breast cancer. The fundraiser took place through Coldwater Creek's®Try It On for the Cure event that took place on April 20.

Coldwater Creek's fundraising program, Try It On for the Cure, donated \$1 to the Komen National RFTC of Komen for the Cure for every shopper who tried on clothes in the dressing room at Coldwater Creek's Tysons®Corner Center store. In addition, for individuals who did make a purchase, the company donated 10 percent of the entire day's sales to Komen. The company as a whole raised over \$100,000 for the cause and plans to repeat the event again this year on Sept. 21.

Weekly lunch and lead **Tip Group meetings** with the **Vienna Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce** to network, share leads and mingle, **Tuesday and Thursday, 12:15-1:30 p.m.** at Morton's, The Steakhouse, 8075 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, 703-883-0800. For information, call Harvey Silverman at 703-319-8806. To RSVP for the Tuesday group, call Harvey Silverman at 703-319-8806; to RSVP for the Thursday group call Christa Walker at 703-766-2300.

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## SCHOOLS

# Langley's Wiese Wins Cappie

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

Starry statuettes were evenly distributed during Sunday night's ninth annual Cappies Gala, honoring the best and the brightest in high-school theater.

St. Stephen's & St. Agnes in Alexandria and H-B Woodlawn in Arlington each won four Cappies during the three-hour ceremony at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Westfield, Robinson and West Potomac each won three.

The Best Play award went to Woodlawn for "As Bees In Honey Drown," and Best Musical went to Walt Whitman for "Aida." Chantilly's Eddie Monk won the Cappie for Lead Actor in a Play for "The Andersonville Trial," and Natalie Walker of St. Stephen's won the Lead Actress in a Play Cappie for "Metamorphoses."

McLean resident Peter Wiese of Langley High School won Comic Actor in a Musical for "Urinetown."

"I'm very surprised," said Wiese, a senior. "I was nominated last year and didn't win. It was a unique show for our school because, for the first time in a long time, we had a really strong cast that meshed together really well to make one of the best productions our school's ever had."

James Madison's Trey Ervine won Lead Actor in a Musical for "Fiddler on the Roof," and Andrea Carroll of Whitman won Lead Actress in a Musical for "Aida." The Best Song award went to West



STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

**McLean resident Peter Wiese of Langley High School won Comic Actor in a Musical for "Urinetown."**

Potomac's "Luck Be a Lady" from "Guys and Dolls."

This Cappies Gala was dedicated to the program's co-founder, Bill Strauss, who died of cancer in December at age 60. A published author and playwright, himself, his vision — along with that of co-founder Judy Bowns — was to cel-

brate students of theater and journalism via the Cappies, or Critics and Awards Program.

Strauss was honored with a special tribute during Sunday's gala, and his wife, Janie — a member of the Fairfax County School Board — was presented with an award called, "The Show Must Go On."

## SCHOOL NOTES

**The Potomac School** in McLean will graduate 81 seniors on Wednesday, June 11 at 10 a.m. under the iconic Swing Tree on the school campus. George Zaras was chosen by his classmates as the senior speaker. Newsweek Magazine senior writer and political correspondent Jonathan Darman, class of 1999, will deliver the Commencement Address.

**The Longfellow Middle School** 8th Grade "School is Out" Party will be held Saturday, June 14 from 7:30-10 p.m. at the school. The event features DJ music/dance, fun games and door prizes. Dress code: T shirts, shorts, jeans/ sundresses; no bathing suits or bare midriffs. Tickets are \$10 — sold by the cafeteria on June 10, 11, 12, and 13 — check payable to Longfellow PTA. No tickets will be sold at the door.

**Elleen Hsu of McLean**, a spring 2008 Virginia Tech graduate in environmental science, received the Outstanding Senior Award for environmental science in the Department of Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for the 2006-2007 academic year.

The Outstanding Senior Award is presented annually to one student majoring

in environmental science for exceptional academic achievement, involvement and leadership in extracurricular activities, and contributions of service to the university and/or community.

**McLean High School** has been invited to perform at the American High School Theatre Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland, in the summer of 2009. The annual festival runs in conjunction with the world-renowned Edinburgh Fringe Festival — the world's largest performing arts festival. Only the nation's top high school theatre programs are nominated to participate.

**A Spring Hill Elementary Science teacher** gave her students a homework assignment: draw pictures for a poster contest on which there must be five examples of protecting one's skin. After completing the project, the Sixth-Grader forgot about it until her teacher reminded her, "Remember that skin-care poster you made? You won first place for the state of Virginia!" After initial disbelief, the winning child was excited to learn she would receive an apple ipod nano, a certificate, some 3,000 color-changing beads, and more. She appeared on Spring Hill's Morning Show to share with the whole school her

poster and her winnings. Up till last week, posters were being voted for online. She didn't win for the nation, but "I still got a great experience out of it all. I'm just glad that I got the chance!"

**Congratulations to the McLean Women's Freshman 8**, winners of the Ted Phoenix Regatta Trophy. The regatta, held Saturday May 3, is the showcase for lower boats, freshman and novice, of area high school crew teams. The McLean team with coxswain Emmy Levine calling the shots, pulled to first place leaving the closest competitor three seconds behind. Rowers in the victorious boat also include Rachel Youssef, Chloe Benner, Chelsea Skinner, Zeynep Arslan, Yuriko Salmon, Julie Glauber, Stephanie Kerruish and Nikki Kerruish. The Women's Novice 4 boat, racing for the first time, gave an impressive showing with a fourth-place win. The Men's Freshman 8 competed in the Petite Finals for a third- place finish.

**The following McLean students** graduated from the College of Charleston during the Spring 2008 commencement ceremony: Alexander Golland, Alexis Gross, Ashley Sinclair and Melissa S Cohen.

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# Pride Turns Into Shame in Abduction Case

FROM PAGE 3

“First of all, I would like to apologize to my victim. It was outrageous, immature, irresponsible, it was stupid,” said Shu, a Rodman scholar from China who was studying at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

“If I spent a minute thinking about him and what he would go

through, I would not have done this,” he said. “I wish I could turn back time, if I could I would do it. But I can’t do it.”

Judge Smith sentenced both to 20 years in prison — the minimum sentence for abduction with intent to extort money. Smith suspended all but four years and six months of Shu’s sentence and all but four years of Lu’s sentence. Each will

remain on supervision for three years after their release.

“I don’t understand it, I don’t understand it,” the judge said. “This is something that irrevocably changed people’s lives.”

“When you spread terror to the victim and the victim’s family, that terror reverberates for them the rest of their lives,” Judge Smith told Shu.

**SHU AND LU** were arrested and charged on Nov. 20, 2007 after police received a call from a McLean man who said his 20-year-old friend and occupant of his house had been abducted.

The McLean man told police he received several telephone calls on Nov. 20 from an Asian male who told him in Chinese that his friend would be killed if he did not give the callers \$500,000, according to court documents.

Fairfax Police detectives conducted surveillance of the Stratford Motor Lodge after learning that cell phone calls, including calls from the victim’s cell phone, were being made in the area of Park Avenue and Little Falls Street in the City of Falls Church.

Detectives observed Shu and Lu entering and exiting Room 27 of the motel, where they found the 20-year-old victim bound and gagged with duct tape, lying in the bath tub.

The victim told police the suspects were wearing masks when they abducted him and implied they had a handgun and knife, according to court documents.

The victim’s credit card was used to purchase \$1,290 worth of clothing from Tysons Corner Mall.

Holt, the prosecutor, talked about the long-term effects the crime will have on the victim’s sense of security, confidence and ability to trust people in the future.

“This has always been a crime that was calculated and planned out,” said Holt.

The victim and his family chose not to testify during the hearings, electing instead to write private victim impact statements directly to the court and judge.

**SHU AND LU** had no intention of harming the victim, a peer they knew through a mutual friend at the University of Virginia, they both said.

Daniel Krisky, Shu’s attorney, implied that his client thought their actions were a game.

They provided the victim with a pillow and blanket, fed him food and water, and placed padding and gauze over his eyes so the duct tape they wrapped around him wouldn’t hurt, Krisky said.

“It doesn’t make it right, I’m not suggesting it does,” Krisky said.

“He truly didn’t want to hurt [the victim],” he said.

Shu said he believed at the time that if he didn’t harm the victim physically, he wouldn’t be hurt.

“I realize now I was wrong,” Shu said.

Although their clients were gifted academically, both defense attorneys called them naive, immature young men with little common sense. Both Lu and Shu are only children, and their parents referred to China’s one-child-per-family policy at the hearing.

**SHU’S MOTHER** tearfully testified about her son’s academic awards, leadership awards, and charity work helping poor students.

“I sent him to the United States to study so he would have a bright future,” she said.

He was even set to volunteer for the Olympic Games in China, she said.

From jail, Shu asked his mother to donate all his clothing to earthquake victims in China.

“This is not an uncaring individual,” said Krisky, who submitted letters from UVA professors, and teachers and counselors from Shu’s schools in China. Shu’s parents traveled from China for the hearing.

“Mr. Shu’s future and opportunities were limitless,” Krisky said, “and over the course of 30 hours,” he ruined his life.

Lu’s father talked about how his son was the first person from their region in China to go directly to the United States to study.

“He was the pride of his family and his community,” said his defense attorney Robert Whitestone.

Lu’s mother was denied a visa to come for her son’s sentencing hearing because she was so emotional when explaining the reason for her trip to the authorities, Lu’s father testified.

“I always see her in China, in my mind, crying and blaming herself for not being here today,” Lu told Judge Smith. “I understand the seriousness of this crime, and I deserve punishment, but I also ask your Honor to consider my parents as you have [the victim] and his family.”

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# Congressional Primaries Held

Voter turn out very low during the morning.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

The Great Falls polling station parking lot was packed at 8:30 a.m. on June 10. But it wasn't because the double congressional primary in Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District was taking place.

The Great Falls polling station doubles as the Great Falls Elementary School and most of cars in the parking lot belonged to parents dropping their children off at school for the day. Judging from the number of "I voted" stickers on people leaving the school building, not many people were stopping by the polling station after saying goodbye to their sons and daughters.

Ashburn resident Vern McKinley was challenging incumbent U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf in the Republican primary. McLean resident Judy Feder, who ran against Wolf in 2006, faced retired Loudoun County resident Mike Turner in the Democratic contest. The Connection went to print before the polls closed on election day.

"Lower than low," was how election official Jim Allen described the voter turnout at the Great Falls precinct. Only 24 people

had participated in the Republican and Democratic primaries combined since the polling station opened two hours earlier, he said.

"The low turnout was expected but I don't know if we believed it would be this low," said George Caines, the election chief at the elementary school.

Allen and Caines, both Great Falls residents, said the general public did not seem to be aware a primary was underway. They speculated that some people might be burned out after following the long, drawn out presidential primary between Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton.

"I don't think anyone is thinking primaries now," said Caines.

**THIS SENTIMENT** was echoed in other parts of the 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District in Fairfax County.

"Voter turnout is light, very light," said Verne Wattawa, the election chief at Herndon High School. Out of the 3,000 voters registered in his precinct, 15 people had voted by 9 a.m., including Wattawa and one of the other volunteers at the polling station.

"It is a typical congressional primary. Nothing out of the ordinary," said Wattawa.

Wattawa, reclined in an auditorium chair and eating a piece of candy, said he and the other volunteers would have a lot of down time during the day, which started at 5 a.m. and will end at 8:30 p.m. One poll worker



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

**McLean resident John Bowman campaigns for Frank Wolf and other Republicans outside two polling stations at Langley High School.**

had decided she would reread the election official manual, since she had taken training awhile ago, he said.

At Riverbend Middle School in Sterling, precinct captain Carl Crea said about 36 people had voted before 10:45 a.m.

"Early this morning there were people but it didn't last long. ... If we hit 100, I'd say we're doing well. We'll celebrate," he said.

**LOWER VOTER TURN OUT** could benefit some candidates. Turner, who had less name recognition and money than Feder, said he felt the unusually low turnout had put him on track for a big upset.

"The lower the better as far as we are concerned. ... The lower the turnout, the higher the likelihood that I or we have touched more of those voters that are coming to the polls," said Turner.

The candidate said he had guessed that about 1.5 of registered voters would participate in the primary but — at 11 a.m. on primary day — the numbers seemed to be even lower than that. At this time, the campaign estimated that fewer than 5,000 voters were show up district-wide.

"All circumstantial evidence suggests that we are on track to have a big win tonight," said Turner.

At least one McLean resident said she had decided to vote for Turner.

"Feder lost the last time and I like Turner's resume better," said Alice Latter as she left her polling station at Langley High School.

Still, Feder remained positive about her chances the morning of the primary and said she noticed nothing out of the ordinary about the low voter turnout.

"I am confident but taking nothing for granted. ... [Off year elections] are typically lighter than we would like," she said.

**DESPITE THE LOW TURNOUT**, volun-

teers were still out there pounding the pavement for their candidates. McLean resident Doris Cheely was trying to stay in the shade as she handed out leaflets about Feder at Langley.

Cheely said she chose to support Feder because the candidate "was the one who could get health care done in this country."

She added: "I feel very confident this year. I feel the Democrats are going to do very well."

A few steps away from Cheely, John Bowman was sitting behind a large table with literature about several Republican candidates, including Wolf, on display.

"Security is a big thing for me being retired military. ... We need people that can face reality. Lots of people are bright and articulate but that doesn't mean they can understand the word," said Bowman.

Bowman said he thought his candidate would easily win the primary and, apparently, so did Wolf. After voting this morning in Vienna, the congressman headed to Capitol Hill for the day.

Congress was voting on the reauthorization of Amtrak, including an amendment added by U.S. Rep. Tom Davis about Metro, on primary day. Wolf did not want to miss the vote, he said.

"I am here working, where I should be," said Wolf, who plans to leave downtown after the House of Representatives last scheduled vote at 6 p.m.

Even if he does win the election, Wolf's primary competition, McKinley, said he felt as if he had gotten his point across.

"We gave people more options by at least having more people to choose from in the primary. ... Those are big accomplishments," said McKinley, who added that he probably would not run again.

"I know the congressman did this three times [before he won] but I don't think that is for me," he said.

Reporter Jennifer Lesinski contributed to this article.

## Rules Would Remove Consent

Parents oppose Virginia proposal that could write their leverage out of special education regulations.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

Linda Falkenson's daughter doesn't pick up on the social cues that most other people do. She suffered from a stroke in utero that has left her with some challenging emotional disabilities.

At times, the 13-year-old, isolated at school, can make inappropriate comments or talk too loudly. She doesn't have full sensation around her mouth, so she doesn't realize that crumbs are on her chin, according to her mother.

Sometimes Falkenson is the only person who understands the full impact of her daughter's disability. So the Vienna mother does not understand why Virginia's Board of Education would consider decreasing her power over her daughter's special education.

Currently, a Virginia school system can only terminate a student's special education services with a parent's consent. But proposed changes to special education regulations would revoke this veto power. Parents would also lose the right to call additional meetings with school staff to review their child's "individualized education program."

"I am my daughter's best advocate," wrote Falkenson in testimony to Virginia's school board.

**MORE THAN 100 PEOPLE**, including Falkenson, signed up to speak before the state school board at Oakton High School June 2. Most came to oppose the proposed changes in special education regulations. Parents, students and other advocates were most concerned about the new limits that could be placed on parents of children with special needs.

"I know of no families who request services their child no longer needs," said Phyllis Yoshida, the special education representative on the McLean High School Parent Teacher Student Association.

SEE PARENTS, PAGE 21

### On the Web

For primary results, see  
[www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com).

# Trail Prompts Heated Debate

FROM PAGE 4

and that “all of the communities along there are strongly opposed” to the trail.

Two days earlier, The Madeira School had hosted a meeting of the school’s neighbors, parents and board members regarding the trail, and virtually everyone who spoke at the meeting had denounced the idea.

**“I think the safety issue is a real and serious issue.”**

— Sally Horn, MCA

**AT THE MCA MEETING**, David Houston, an attorney contracted by the school, said school officials were concerned not only about protecting their students

but also their environment. He said the Virginia Department of Conservation had asked for a conservation easement on the property’s Potomac shoreline because of its “pristine condition.”

Frank Crandall, chair of the MCA’s Environment, Parks and Recreation Committee, said the protection of any endangered species was up to the federal government, not The Madeira School.

Houston also pointed out that the school had already given a trail easement along Georgetown Pike, as well as \$89,000 for that trail’s construction.

Zetts said the land for the Georgetown Pike trail, as yet unbuilt, would probably be returned along with the money.

“We’re simply supporting the county master plan,” said MCA member Steve Del Bianco.

William Denk, also of the MCA, agreed, saying he didn’t see how the association

could not support this trail after it had supported a trail easement at the Potomac School, another private school that had voiced security concerns regarding a trail.

Zetts said he did not intend to support a trail easement going into effect at the school until the path could be connected to other trails, which would probably not happen for years, and that he would expect the trail to be closed at night.

The resolution to support the trail easement passed with two opposing votes and two abstentions.

After the vote, Houston said he was “very disappointed” with the outcome and the fact that many members “did not seem willing to listen to any compromise positions.”

“We’ll continue to pursue our zoning approval and hope the [Board of Supervisors] will see it differently,” he said.

The Fairfax County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the matter Thursday, June 26.

# HOT Lanes Construction Area Stays

FROM PAGE 4

the blame for that. I’m terribly sorry about that,” he said.

The property will be used as a staging area for construction to take place over the next five years. The project is being built via a public-private partnership between VDOT, Transurban

and the Fluor Corporation, with the state supplying \$409 million of the \$1.4 billion price tag. Fluor and its private contractor, Lane Construction Corporation, are building the lanes, and the Australian company Transurban will operate the lanes for 75 years. Tolls on the HOT Lanes will adjust according

**“We can’t force them not to use it, and they are saying they feel they have to use it.”**

— Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville)

to traffic volume.

Titunik said the site, which was used as a staging area 30 years ago during the widening of the Beltway, would be screened off and then would be reforested after the project is finished, even though the contract only calls for reseeding. “It’s a state area, and we’re custodians of it for the citizens,” he said.

He said one factor in the decision was that VDOT land is free, while another site would probably have to be leased.

He said VDOT could have forced Fluor to move the staging area but then might have had to reimburse the company the cost of clear-cut-

ting and reforesting the current site, since the department had given permission for the location to be used. Barring any such compensation for backtracking on plans, the state’s contribution to the project is capped, and the private companies will have to cover any cost overruns.

**“WE CAN’T FORCE** them not to use it, and they are saying they feel they have to use it,” said Foust. He said the project managers had been reasonably cooperative in making the site a less distasteful option and noted that they had agreed to meet with him, Howell, Vanderhye and neighbors of the staging area to discuss its landscaping.

Foust also said he thought VDOT had been “far more cooperative and committed” to moving the site than the private companies, who he said seemed to have been “dragging their feet.” He worried that conflicts between residents’ desires and the companies’ commercial interests could continue to be problematic throughout the construction, and he said he had asked the county attorney to look into the county’s right to regulate Fluor and Transurban’s activities on VDOT property.

That investigation yielded little. “The bottom line is that we don’t have much legal authority to restrict what they’re doing on a VDOT right-of-way,” said Foust. “Obviously, that’s making my job much more difficult, because we’re asking instead of telling.”

He said he and his fellow legislators had also asked that the companies minimize tree cutting and add sound walls beyond what is currently planned. “They say they hear us and they’re trying to make that happen,” he said, adding that he remained “guardedly optimistic” about the planners’ follow-through.

**MCA PRESIDENT** Rob Jackson said the association would not necessarily have pushed for VDOT to force the site to move. “We’re not taking the position that costs don’t count — that there’s a big pot of gold somewhere for this project,” he said. “We’re looking for a reasonable solution.” Jackson said the agreement to keep construction traffic off of local roads significantly improved the current arrangement, “putting aside what [the site] looks like and the fact that we got no notice.”

Foust said he said he expected the project ultimately to benefit the area, if by no other means than providing more points of access to the Beltway from Tysons Corner. “I think at the end of this we’ll be better off, but getting there is going to be horrendous,” he said.

Titunik agreed. “We’re pretty frank to say, when we start turning dirt, there’s going to be some pain out there,” he said, adding that the project would “help everyone in the end.”

**THE PROJECT** will entail simultaneous construction at every Beltway interchange from the Springfield “Mixing Bowl” to the Dulles Toll Road. Construction is planned to begin in July.

In the interest of managing frustrations over the construction, as well as satisfying residents’ curiosity, VDOT will open an information center in Tysons Corner, similar to the one it set up in Springfield Mall when eight years of work began on the Springfield Interchange. “We’ve had such great success with having a place here where people can come in and if they want to yell and scream, at least they can do that,” Titunik said.

He also said VDOT and its partners would work “much more closely” with local county supervisors’ offices in the future.

## FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

**“God’s Big Backyard.”** A Vacation Bible School that’s all about service, June 23 – 27, from 9:00 a.m. to noon for children 4 years old to 5th grade. Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, 703-356-3346 [www.redeermclean.org](http://www.redeermclean.org)

**Faith and Public Policy breakfast** – Sat., June 21, 8:30 – 10:15 a.m. at the Lewinsville Presbyterian Church chapel, 1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. The topic will be *Modern Slavery – What Christians Can Do To End It*, with speakers Bethany Hoang, Director of the International Justice Mission Institute, and Dr. Kevin Bales, President and Co-Founder of Free the Slaves. Contact the church for details, 703-356-7200.

**Yard Sale.** Great Falls United Methodist Church holds yard sale. Come shop or sell, Saturday, July 12, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, Va. 22066. To rent a space (\$20) or for information contact Carol Wesley Wright at [carolwright@starpower.net](mailto:carolwright@starpower.net) or (703) 582-1640.

**The Baha’i community of McLean** holds a weekly fireside, a meeting of discussion, devotion and fellowship, at 7500 Box Elder Court in McLean, beginning at 8 p.m. **every Friday.** The fireside is an opportunity to learn about the Baha’i faith and why Baha’is find hope in a seemingly hopeless world. Call 703-556-3400.

**St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church,** located at 1830 Kirby Road in McLean, invites all to come for the **Third Sunday Service** every month at 10:15 a.m. This service allows the children to play active roles during the service, particularly in the music and as greeters and ushers. In addition to the Third Sunday Service, traditional services take place every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m. Nursery is available at the 10:15 a.m. service. Call the church office at 703-356-7533 with questions.

**McLean Bible Church Fitness Class** — at Body & Soul fitness, balance is key, energy is renewed, strength is gained, and friendships are formed. **Mondays** 9:15 a.m. and **Fridays** 9:45 a.m. Childcare is free for registered students. Spring discount available. E-mail [bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org](mailto:bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org) for more information.

## WEEK IN MCLEAN

FROM PAGE 4

The Governing Board selected the following officers:

Jan Auerbach, chair; David Sanders, vice chair; Kevin Dent, treasurer; Sean Dunn, secretary.

Committee chairs are: David Sanders, capital facilities; Ed Shahin, programs; Kevin Dent, finance; Drew Clark, communications; Sean Dunn, elections/nominations; and Lori Wertz, Liaison to Friends of the McLean Community Center.

The next Governing Board Meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25. For more information, call the Center at 703-790-0123/TTY: 711.

# SPORTS

**The McLean Speed/Fire** (rising U15B NCSL Div 2/3 teams) are looking for skilled, highly motivated players who understand soccer and the work needed to stay at the top of their game. Coach David Madlin ([davemadlin@juno.com](mailto:davemadlin@juno.com)) creates a positive coaching environment that emphasizes enjoyment and a strong work ethic, allowing players to flourish and fulfill their potential.

Tryout schedule: Thursday, June 12 (4:30 to 6 p.m.) at MYS Field; Friday, June 13 (4:30 to 6 p.m.) at Capital One North (by invitation only). Tryout info web page: <http://register.mysoccer.org>

**Registration** is now open for **McLean Youth Soccer's** Premier Soccer Academy Summer Camp for ages 5 to 16. Players from MYS and other clubs are invited to reg-

## SPORTS ROUNDUP

ister for weekly sessions offered June 16 through Aug. 15 at Lewinsville Park in McLean. Access the brochure and register on MYS' website: [www.mcleansoccer.org](http://www.mcleansoccer.org) For more information, email [admin@mcleansoccer.org](mailto:admin@mcleansoccer.org), or call the MYS office at 703-506-8068.

**McLean MPS U12** (rising U13) Girls: The McLean Premier Soccer program within McLean Youth Soccer will hold tryouts for the Fury Green and White teams as follows: Thursday, June 12, 4-5:30, LP2; Saturday, June 14, 10-11:30 a.m., CapOne South; Saturday, June 21 10-11:30 CapOne South.

For more information about MPS and to gain directions to the fields, go to [www.mcleansoccer.org](http://www.mcleansoccer.org).

Please direct any questions to Tom Noll at [GreenFury@Juno.com](mailto:GreenFury@Juno.com).

**McLean MPS 90**, a rising U18 Boys team currently ranked No. 1 in Virginia, is interested in highly motivated and talented players. Players who aspire to play at an advanced level and who want a coach with extensive experience in the college recruiting process are encouraged to contact Coach Sean Lanigan at 703-231-6519 or via email at [sdlanigan@cox.net](mailto:sdlanigan@cox.net). Coach Lanigan, who holds both UEFA "A" and USSF "A" licenses, along with a NSCAA Advanced National Diploma, is also the head soccer coach for the boys varsity team at Herndon High School. He is a former ODP Coach, DC United Youth Coach, and Director of Coaching of a local club.

**The McLean Premier** Soccer program, within McLean Youth Soccer, will hold tryouts for two WAGS teams as follows: Friday, June 13, 6 to 7:30 p.m., at Capital One South. For more information about MPS and directions to the fields, go to [www.mcleansoccer.org](http://www.mcleansoccer.org).

Please wear a white shirt, bring water, wear shin guards, and come early. For more information, call John Guidi at 703-585-4353 or go to [guidij@saic.com](mailto:guidij@saic.com).

**The rising U10G** McLean Spirit, ranked No. 5 in Virginia, invites athletic, competi-

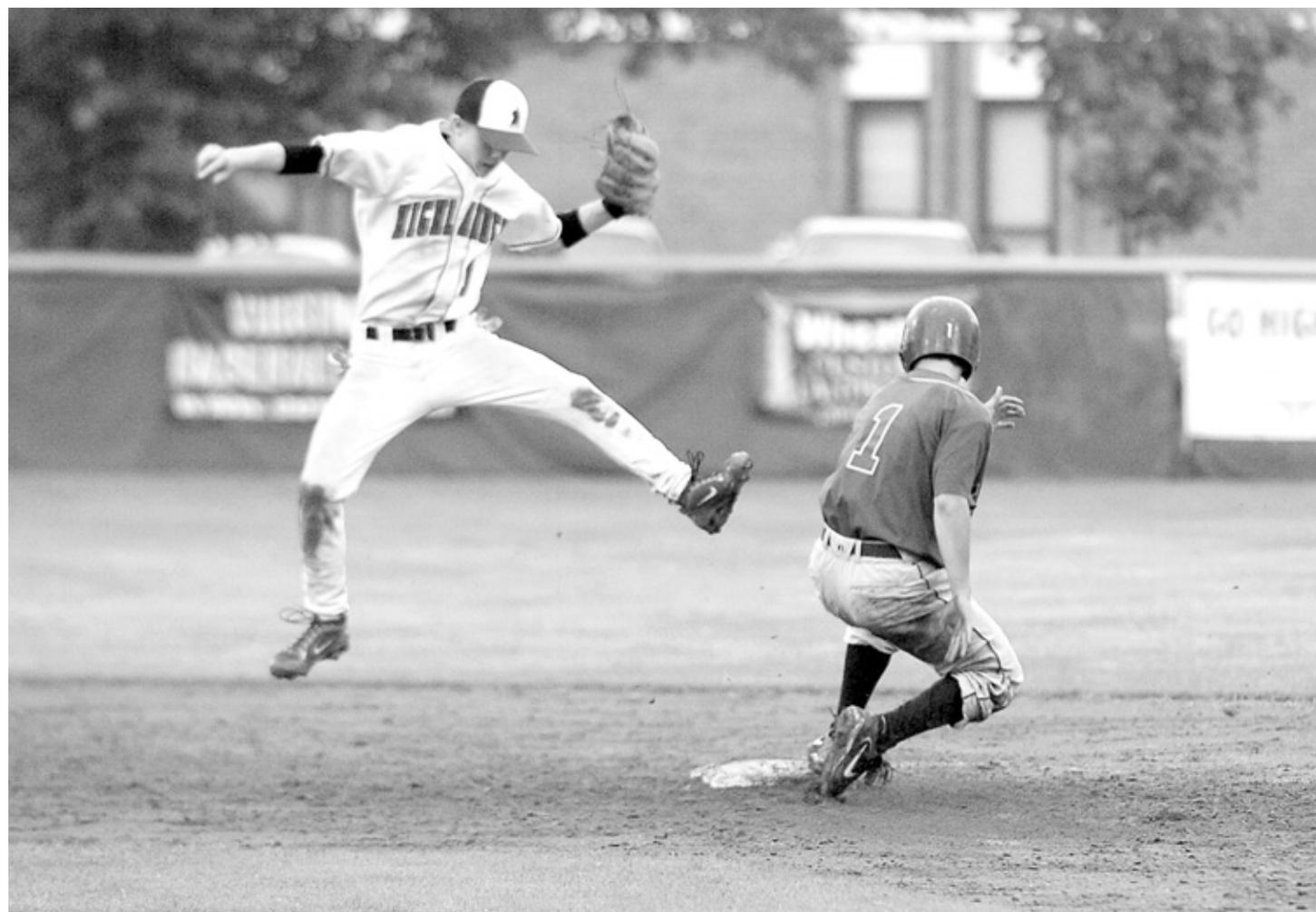


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**McLean High baseball infielder Chris Russo, a sophomore, tries to get to the bag before a Langley base runner. The Highlanders had a strong spring season. Three of the team's players were recently named to the All-Northern Region Team. Those players are: sophomore outfielder Riley Beiro (2<sup>nd</sup> Team), sophomore Sean Fitzgerald (2<sup>nd</sup> Team, utility), and sophomore pitcher Denis Buckley (Honorable Mention).**

tive girls born between Aug. 1, 1998 and July 31, 1999 to their tryouts. Come learn soccer in an exciting, fun, competitive environment. The MYS girls soccer program is ranked No. 1 in Virginia. For more information, contact Coach Stephanie Donaldson at 703 868-0325.

**The Potomac Softball Camp** will be holding week long camps for girls ages 7 to 13. The first session is scheduled for June 16-20 and the second session is Aug. 4-8. Both camps will be on the campus of Potomac School in McLean. Sessions will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and Friday from 9 to noon. Cost is \$240. For more information contact Wayne Loving at [jwloving@verizon.net](mailto:jwloving@verizon.net)

**Virginia Elite Volleyball** Club swept the 18, 17 and 16 year old divisions of the East Coast Volleyball Championships held in Pittsburgh, PA over Memorial Day weekend. Virginia Elite 18s won the Beast of the East Competition with a 6-0 record against the east coast's toughest competitors, while Virginia Elite 17s won thrilling matches against strong opponents to claim the gold in the 17s Championship Division title. Meanwhile, Virginia Elite 16s faced tough competitors from Canada, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Ohio but remained undefeated with a record of 9-0, winning the gold medal in 16s Championship Division. Virginia Elite 15s also brought home gold Memorial Day weekend by winning the 15s

Division at the South Atlantic Championships held in Richmond, VA. All four Virginia Elite teams will represent the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area at the US Volleyball Association National Championships in Dallas, TX, June 26-July 5, 2008.

"This week, our teams won four championship titles through hard work, dedication and teamwork," said John Teifer, College Recruiting Director for Virginia Elite. "The competition was extremely tough, but all of our players' hard work paid off. We're incredibly proud of all of our players and coaches and their championship achievements."

**The Herndon Braves** summer collegiate team will sponsor a baseball camp at Herndon High School for four weeks this summer beginning June 23 for girls and boys ages 7 to 14. Each camp will last four days and run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with an option for early drop-off and/or late pick-up. Camp cost is \$150 if paid before June 1. Instructors include Braves coaching staff, Herndon High coach Al McCulloch and collegiate players to register or call 703-973-4444 for more information.

## 2008 Spring Northern Region Champions

Girls Lacrosse  
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Boys Lacrosse  
Chantilly High School (Chantilly 8, Oakton 6)

Baseball  
Lake Braddock Secondary School (Lake Braddock 9, Chantilly 6)

Softball  
Westfield High School (Westfield 5, Herndon 3)

Girls Soccer  
Robinson Secondary School (Robinson 2, Westfield 1)

Boys Soccer  
Stone Bridge High School (Stone Bridge 1, Robinson 0)

Boys Tennis  
Robinson Secondary School

Girls Tennis  
Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology

Girls Outdoor Track and Field  
Lake Braddock Secondary School (Lake Braddock 101, Centreville 56.50, Edison 53, Langley 46, T.C. Williams 45.50)

Boys Outdoor Track and Field  
South Lakes High School (South Lakes 93.50, Edison 86, T.C. Williams 77.50, Lake Braddock 51.50, West Potomac 45)

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# THE COUNTY LINE



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

At Oakton High School June 2, Virginia's Board of Education listened to more than 100 residents testify about proposed changes to special education regulations.

## Parents Oppose Changes

FROM PAGE 17

Several said the change would end up hurting special education students and could lead to an increase in litigation on the part of parents. Without an avenue to secure the services their children deserve, families would be forced to resort to the legal system, said many parents at the hearing.

"The Virginia Board of Education's proposal to limit parent rights and participation in the special education process can be summarized in two sentences: 'Parents, get out of the way and let us do our job. We're the professionals.' If only that were true," said Teresa Champion, a Springfield resident whose son has special needs.

The Oakton hearing was the eighth of nine the state school board conducted around Virginia. Complaints about the proposed limits on parents rights "have been a constant through out all the public hearings," said Charles Pyle, director of

### Special Education Report

In addition to concerns about changes in the state law, Fairfax County special education advocates are also worried about practices in the local school system.

In its annual report to the Fairfax County Public Schools, the school board's advisory committee on students with disabilities stated it is "very concerned that the rights of students with disabilities are being violated under [federal law] and their access to the education available to their non-disabled peers compromised."

The committee listed the following as some of the most "prevalent and pervasive" issues:

- ❖ Special education screening committees at local schools will require a child to fail before they will test for disabilities thereby forcing parents to forgo the support they have already put in place in order to get services.

- ❖ High school guidance counselors resist placing students with disabilities in accelerated classes.

- ❖ Some children must "work" their way back to a less restrictive environment.

- ❖ Some teachers do not have the proper training to implement the individualized learning plans of students with special needs in the general education classroom.

- ❖ Some school administrators are unprofessional or intimidating toward parents who are trying to be advocates for their children.

- ❖ Some schools fail to provide reading remediation to students in middle and high school who have been successful with accommodations but cannot read independently.



"The overwhelming sentiment is that the parent-school relationship needs to be more balanced."

— **Margaret Fisher, Fairfax County Council of PTAs**



"We shouldn't give any signals or do anything to suggest that parents are not welcome."

— **James Lafferty, Alexandria parent of a child with autism**



"Parents need to be more involved because they know their children best."

— **Wesley Robinson, Woodson High School special education student**

communications for the Virginia Department of Education.

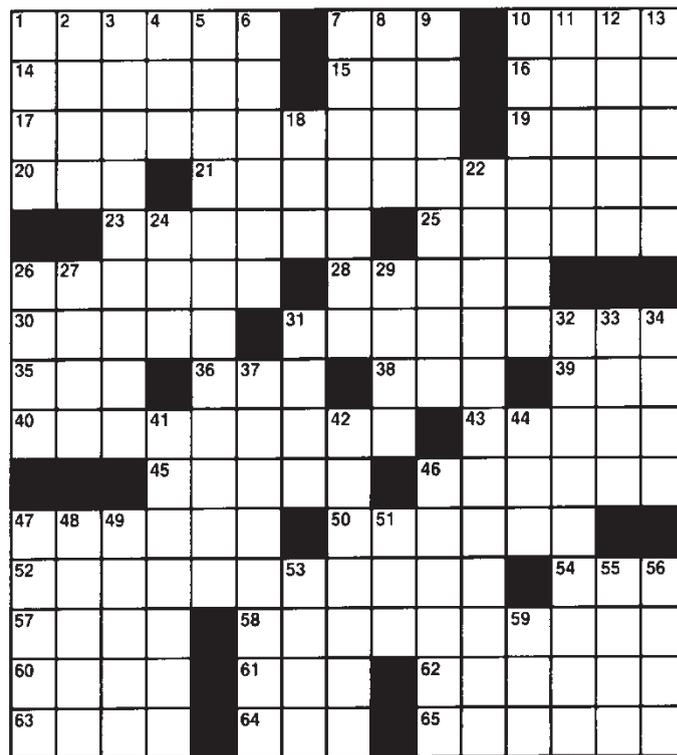
One person spoke in favor of the proposal to eliminate parental consent during the hearing. Mary Lou Wall, of the Virginia Council of Administrators of Special Education, said it doesn't make sense to give parents unilateral veto power over the termination of their child's special education services if professionals agree that the support

is no longer needed. "There is a lot of confusion about these regulations. This is about celebrating children who tested out of special education," said Wall.

## NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0312-6



Puzzle by A. J. Santora

### ACROSS

- 1 Eerie feeling
- 7 "Alice" spin-off
- 10 Badlands Natl. Park locale
- 14 Brightest star in Draco
- 15 "At Seventeen" singer Janis
- 16 Sound
- 17 Occasion to give a speech
- 19 Albania's last Communist president
- 20 Greek consonant
- 21 Something often at stake?
- 23 "I Am a Camera" setting
- 25 Leans (on)
- 26 Portaged
- 28 Of a tart fruit: Prefix
- 30 Mohawk River city
- 31 Admonition to the unhip
- 35 Clockmaker Terry
- 36 "\_\_\_ Te Ching" (classic Chinese work)
- 38 Yemana's portrayer on "Barney Miller"

### DOWN

- 1 Billet-doux beginner
- 2 Write with a point
- 3 "The Battle With the Slum" author

4 Rosemary Clooney's "Botch—"

- 5 Red-carpet reception
- 6 Countless
- 7 Back
- 8 Milk: Prefix
- 9 Not many
- 10 Béarnaise ingredient
- 11 Start of a holy name
- 12 Fashion mode
- 13 "Hyperion" poet
- 18 Friend of Nancy
- 22 Some antiques

- 24 Enumeration abbr.
- 26 Helped with a line
- 27 Brynhild's brother, in myth
- 29 Tiny, informally
- 31 Yummy
- 32 Dental worker
- 33 What a folder wouldn't say
- 34 Little kick
- 37 Discomfiting
- 41 Like water or wind
- 42 Gives a hand
- 44 Org. with many schedules
- 46 Least buggy
- 47 Crossing swords
- 48 Sang-froid
- 49 Dragon's blood, e.g.
- 51 Job for a tailor
- 53 Chimp in space
- 55 Responses to some calls
- 56 Frank or Francis
- 59 South Korea's Roh \_\_\_ Woo

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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**'Real-time' Traffic**



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

That's what I'm hearing on the radio; on the 8s, on the 4s, pick a number, pick a station, television, too; the implication being that "real-time" is somehow new and better — and different — and to your driving advantage, than non "real-time." All of which is of great comfort to us Washington DC Metropolitan area commuters because the last thing any of us Washingtonians need is misinformation. We receive enough of it already. Moreover, given the fact that typically we are out and about attempting to go somewhere when we hear this misinformation, misinforming us as how to best get there seems contrary to the greater good.

Now, every time I hear "real-time" I can't help wondering exactly what traffic information I have been receiving for the past 30 years. Was it fake-time traffic? Was it old-tyme? (No, that's Schmidt's-brand bread.) Was it given at the right time? Was it even reported at a useful time? And at what time, and under what circumstances, did "real-time" all of a sudden become timely?

Certainly these are all questions above my pay grade, as the expression is so often heard in Washington, but somebody, somewhere has to be responsible. When I consider (shudder at the thought, actually) how much time, real or otherwise, I spend — and have spent — commuting (idling more than anything, it seems), and how frequently I have been listening to the radio — more specifically listening to what I thought were up to the minute and accurate traffic reports; and now to find out, that after all those years, all those bullets I sweated, all those bathroom breaks I couldn't make, may have all been for naught, and not because of the truth, either. But, because the traffic reporters, traffic observers, traffic readers, etc., were providing useless traffic information (but in a timely fashion of course), fictionalizing what is, for many of us, the worst part of our day; someone should suffer, other than us commuters, that is, for the unnecessary consequences of these traffic inactions.

Now I'm not naive enough to think that had the traffic reports always been in "real-time" (meaning/inferring that the traffic reports are for the current commuting situation at the time the report is being given/heard), that my commuting would somehow have been drastically different. No, I'm many things, but stupid and delusional I'm not. However, as a former adolescent who grew up watching George Reeves play Superman on television — in black and white, no less — fighting for "truth, justice and the American Way," misinforming the American public in the manner and the consistency I've described seems hardly truthful, just or the American Way.

Learning that we've been deceived, (apparently) since the traffic is now "real-time" hurts. It makes me wonder, that if the American public can't be trusted enough to be given honest, accurate and timely traffic reports, of all things — for fear of whatever, then what other information have we not been given? On the one hand, it's only traffic; but on the other hand, maybe it's symptomatic of a much deeper problem. Trust is a wonderful feeling; to be sure; when you can be trusted. No matter the time.

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



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