

# Great Falls CONNECTION

## Birdie

## Invitational

From left, Brad, Brandon and Amy Davis and Harvey Barnett at the Birdie Invitational golf tournament Saturday. Following the drowning of their 2-year-old, Trevor "Birdie," the Davises have raised money through the golf tournament and other donations to have instructors trained in Barnett's Infant Swimming Resource program.



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# Task Force Presents New Vision for Tysons

**GMU study projects fewer “new” Tysons residents than once discussed.**

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

The assignment was so surreal that Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly likened it to creating science fiction last month. Connolly and the other members of Fairfax's Board of Supervisors charged 30 stakeholders to predict the future of Tysons Corner. That group, called the Tysons Corner Land Use Task Force, was supposed to envision how a collection of office parks and strip malls arranged around a high-end shopping mall could look and function like an urban city center 40 years from now.

It was a daunting task. To put it in perspective, Tysons Corner counted more cows than people as residents 50 years ago. And it is hard to imagine what might lie in the decades ahead for Virginia's largest business district, said task force chairman Clark Tyler.

But after three and half years of plodding and reflection, the task force made recommendations for Tysons Corner's redevelopment to the supervisors Sept. 22. The group compiled suggestions that they hope will guide Fairfax as it attempts to transform the 1,700 acre Tysons from a sleepy suburban office park to a vibrant 24-hour, seven day per week downtown.

**THE TASK FORCE** recommendations are broad and a draft of legally binding details plan language have been left up to county staff and a special task force committee chaired by state Sen. George Barker (D-37) to develop.

Though Tyler and other task force members urged the county to act expeditiously, the specific planning language and more details about Tysons redevelopment plan are not expected for several months.

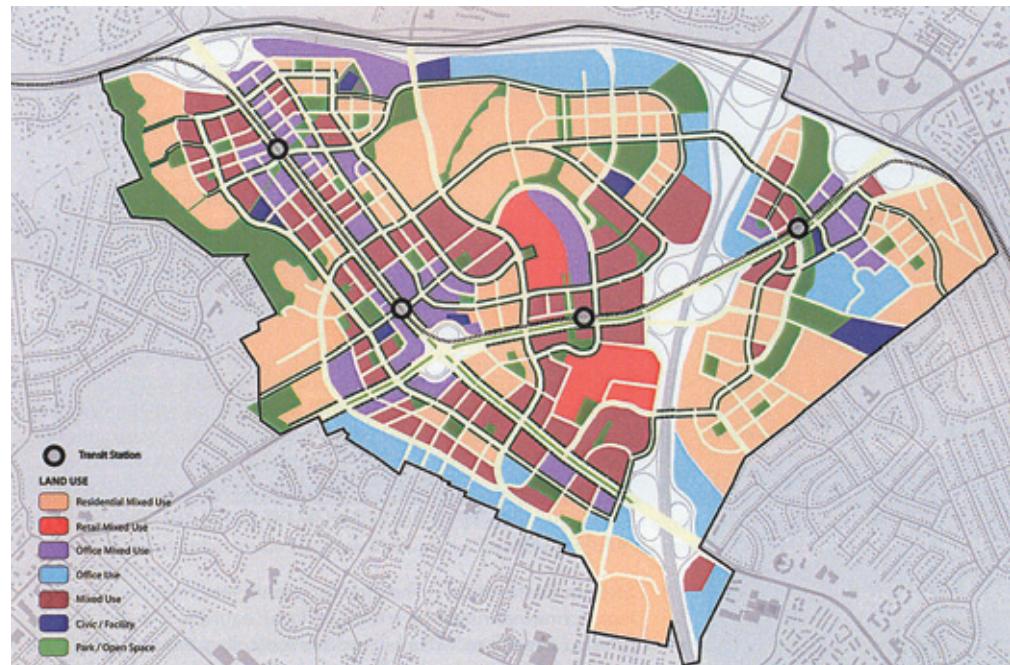
Tysons Corner is economic engine of not only Fairfax County but also the entire state of Virginia, and it is very important that the county get Tysons redevelopment plan correct, said several supervisors.

“I don't believe there is anything more important to this board than getting it right in Tysons,” said Connolly.

**THE FOUR NEW** metro stations Fairfax County expects under the rail-to-Dulles project have dramatically altered what the local government considers possible for Tysons.

“Getting rail makes everything different,” said Connolly.

With expectation that the metro stations would be coming in, the task force focused on transit-oriented development.



**The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors hopes to redesign Tysons Corner to include more residential and mixed-used development over the next 50 years.**

## For Tysons That Makes Sense

### Tysons Tomorrow hosts ‘Avoid Tysons Commute’ event.

This past Thursday, Sept. 18, Tysons Tomorrow hosted an event called “Avoid the Tysons Commute” at the eCities Restaurant and Bar on Tyco Road. By holding it from 5 to 7 o'clock, during the peak of rush hour, the association welcomed area residents and commuters to stop by to discuss what they would like to see happen in Tysons in the future.

“We wanted to make people aware of the changes that are to come,” says executive director of Tysons Tomorrow Erin Fuller. “We wanted to gather area commuters together to give them an update and encourage them to let the Fairfax County board of Supervisors know that they are in favor of a new,

eco-friendly Tysons Corner,” said Fuller.

After a telephone survey, Tysons Tomorrow found that 87 percent of Fairfax County residents want to find new strategies for growth in the Tysons Corner area. This includes everything from building Metro stations to creating walkable, pedestrian-friendly locations to eat, shop, and do anything else. One of the major concerns of Tysons Tomorrow has been to find solutions to the area's heavy traffic. Holding an “Avoid the Tysons Commute” event was their way of opening up the floor to anyone who had a say in how to handle it.

Tysons Tomorrow gained over 60 new supporters during the course of the event. “What we want is make Tysons make sense,” Fuller said. “With over 75,000 jobs and 17,000 people living in the area alone, we need to find a way to make Tysons a community rather than only a business center.”

— ANDREW JOHNSON

## Area Activists Discuss Tysons' Priorities



**Erin Fuller**, Tysons Tomorrow

A smart vision is needed to make it a real community. This requires executive direction to make our presence felt, to make our voice heard.



**Lauren Campbell**, Coalition for Smarter Growth

It's hard to pinpoint just one aspect, but just the general overall community development is definitely important. By offering homes, restaurants, jobs, the Metro, and daily services, it will create a better living situation.



**Kate O'Donnell**, Tysons Tomorrow

I think it's most important that there is an actual plan — that there is smart growth in the area, rather than just build. The people need to have a voice in the growth.



**Chris Orvin**, Coalition for Smarter Growth

Traffic reduction is a primary goal. We need to encourage biking, the Metro, walking. All this will benefit the area and create a closer community.

— ANDREW JOHNSON

The Tysons of the future should be a place where people can work, live and entertain themselves – all without getting into a car. The task force stressed the importance of attracting more people to live in Tysons. According to a recent George Mason University study, there are about 103,000 jobs in Tysons Corner but only about 16,000 residents.

“Fixing the housing and jobs imbalance is key,” said Tyler.

Like the downtown of city, most people in this new Tysons would walk, bike or take public transportation. Despite an increase in the number of people working and living in the area, traffic would actually improve and the number of parking spaces in Tysons would no longer outnumber residents, said Tyler.

“I was astounded to find out that Tysons had 40 million square feet of parking,” he added when presenting the task force's recommendations.

The task force emphasized creating a new, environmentally friendly Tysons Corner. The members recommended an aggressive plan to make Tysons Corner “carbon neutral” and suggested offering density bonuses to landowners who constructed green buildings. If the county implemented the recommendations of the task force, that would reduce Tysons Corner's greenhouse gas emissions by 2.5 billion pounds – the equivalent of eliminating half a large coal-fired power plant, said Connolly.

The task force also suggested Fairfax offer a density bonus to those developers willing to build affordable housing.

**SOME** from surrounding communities are worried about the development density the task force has recommended.

“We can't let what happens in Tysons have an adverse impact on the surrounding communities,” said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), who represents several of the communities that abut Tysons Corner.

A few residents living in McLean, Vienna and the Merrifield area have formed the Greater Tysons Citizens Coalition, which advocates for a tempered approach to the business district's redevelopment.

The coalition is very concerned about the square footage of Tysons Corner development recommended by the task force. Several coalition members said the task force has proposed a new Tysons development cap of 220 million square feet – nearly twice what county planning staff and consultants have studied or recommended for the business district.

Tyler refuted this, saying the task force has never recommended 220 million square feet of development for Tysons Corner.

“Those are people who don't want to see anything happen. ... I have no idea where they would get such a figure. It certainly did not come from the task force and it did not come from staff,” said Tyler.

No business district like Tysons reaches SEE NUMBERS, PAGE 7

# Turning Pain into Prevention

**Community backs Birdie Invitational, bringing infant drowning prevention to region.**

By MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

**I**t didn't take long for Brad and Amy Davis to find someone who shared their goal. "My objective is to see to it that drowning, for children, is as rare as polio — in my lifetime," Harvey Barnett said Saturday at the second annual Birdie Invitational golf tournament, named for the 2-year-old son the Davises lost to a swimming-pool drowning a little more than two years ago. He said drowning is currently the leading cause of death among children under 4.

Barnett, who traveled from Florida to be at the event, is the creator of the Infant Swimming Resource (ISR) program, which teaches children between the ages of 6 months and 6 years how to survive in the water. Proceeds from the golf tournament, organized by the Davises and their friends, pay for instructors to be trained in the program.

"We knew as soon as we saw this, this is what we're doing," Brad Davis said of the ISR program, also called Safe Start USA.

**SUPPORT** for the Great Falls couple's effort has been strong, particularly in the Great Falls community. More than a dozen Great Falls businesses helped to sponsor the tournament, which sold out again this year with 144 golfers.

Mindy Spaid knew the Davises through a dinner group of nine couples, all of whom chipped in to help the bereft parents in their fund-raising efforts, she said. Spaid is one of the heads of the tournament committee. She said the Great Falls chapter of Mothers First had also been "very supportive," and many husbands of Mothers First members were playing in the tournament.

She also had her daughter, then 3, trained by an ISR instructor. Drowning is of particular concern in an area like Great Falls, where backyard pools are common, Spaid said. She added that young children generally drown swiftly and silently, falling into the pool, inhaling water and sinking. "And they just go straight to the bottom and you never hear it and you never see it," she said.

That was what happened at a pool party on June 10, 2006, when Amy Davis was sitting poolside with her youngest son, Trevor, nicknamed "Birdie." She turned to talk to friends for a minute, and when she turned back around, the boy was no longer next to her. He was at the bottom of the deep end, next to a pair of sunglasses. There were at least 20 adults in the vicinity and numerous children, but no one had seen him fall

into the pool.

The next month, she and her husband started the Trevor "Birdie" Davis Water Safety Foundation to help prevent what had happened to their family from happening to others. In January of this year, the foundation began paying to have ISR instructors trained in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Three have been trained, and two are already teaching, Amy Davis said, noting that it costs \$12,500 to train each instructor. "It's more than a swim class. Way more," she said.

Over the summer, one instructor trained 30 Great Falls children, and Amy Davis estimated that a total of about 80 children had been taught since April by the two practicing instructors trained through her foundation.

Barnett said instructors undergo a "very intensive" six-week, hands-on training, accompanied by "a tremendous amount" of academic study and preparation, extensive follow-up work and mandatory annual recertification. The results are teachers who can safely teach six-month-old infants to get to the surface, roll over on their backs and float while fully clothed. Children are not finished with the class until they can perform the maneuvers in a full winter outfit and have learned to pull the jacket hood away from their faces when necessary. "I've taught 8,000 kids. I still can't believe a baby can do this," Barnett said.

He said infants that young are entirely sensory-motor learners and have to be taught as such. The one advantage, he said, is that without language, there is no risk of miscommunication.

**AMY DAVIS** said it was important to train children early. "The minute they're able to crawl, they're in danger of falling into the pool," she said.

Children one year old and older are taught to swim to safety, stopping when necessary to roll over and breathe while floating. The parents are also students, learning to work with their children to reinforce what was taught and to vigilantly



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

**Shap Bashar of Great Falls gets ready to take a practice swing at the Birdie Invitational golf tournament.**

supervise their children.

Barnett began experimenting with teaching young children to swim in 1966, after seeing a neighbor's drowned baby pulled from a Florida canal. He was 18. He started with 5-year-olds and worked his way down to younger children, keeping copious notes and data on each student. A documentary film major at the University of Florida, he was noticed by members of the psychology department, who saw him teaching and convinced him to change his major. Medical professors let him sit in on their classes, and he pumped all his teachers for knowledge. "A lot of people, they take the class for the grade," he said. "I was taking courses because I had a vital reason to learn the information."

As of last Friday, 177,665 children had been trained through the ISR program. There have been 788 documented cases in which students used skills taught by the program to save themselves, and no student has ever drowned. Currently, 370 instructors are teaching the course, 10 of them outside the U.S., and Barnett said he planned to expand the program far beyond its present size.

In that ambition, he and Brad and Amy Davis are of the same mind.

## WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

### Newcomers Hosts Member Coffee

On Friday, Oct. 3 at 9:30 a.m. Newcomers of Great Falls is hosting a coffee for new and prospective members. Newcomers welcomes individuals who are new to Great Falls as well as long-standing residents interested in its activities and in meeting new people.

Newcomers has been a part of the Great Falls community since its founding in 1982. Activities for members include monthly luncheons, usually with speakers, and cultural tours throughout D.C., Northern Virginia, and Maryland. The club's special interest groups include Active Women/Sports, All Kinds of Needles, Book Discussion, Bridge, Cookbook Cooking, Dancing, Dinner Club, Garden Club, Moms and Tots, Nature Walking, Wine Tasting, and "A Bit of Everything."

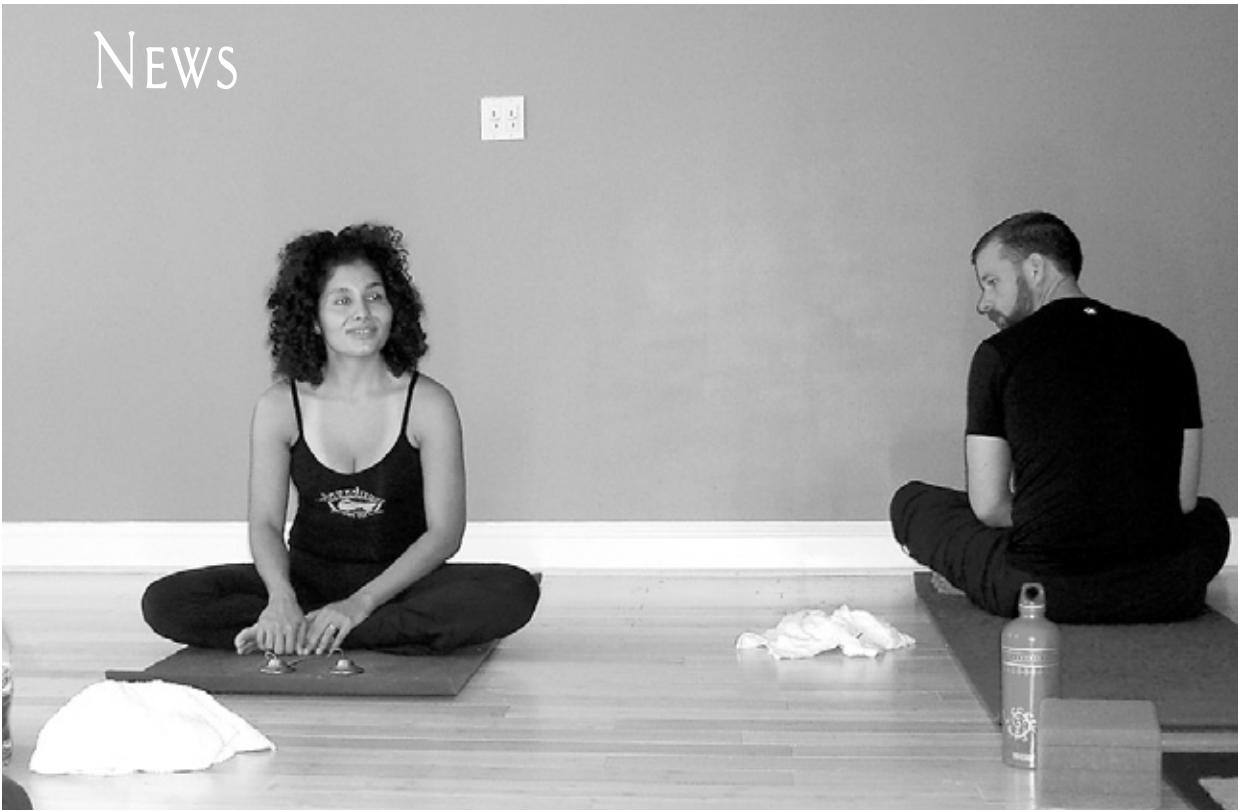
Newcomers is also active in numerous Great Falls community activities. The organization runs the Baby Parade at the town's 4th of July Celebration, and also builds and runs the Great Falls Haunted House for Halloween. Newcomers also has an active presence at the Great Falls Spring Festival and the community's Concerts on the Green.

From a philanthropic perspective, Newcomers supports other non-profit organizations in the area. In recent years the club has raised funds for organizations such as Lift Me Up!, the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department, Suited for Change, the Embry Rucker Shelter, and the Women's Center in Vienna.

For information on the New Member Coffee, contact Allison Gradstedt at 703-344-4820 or granstedt@verizon.net. For information about joining Newcomers, contact Laura, Newcomers Membership Chair, at 703-421-1135 or visit [www.greatfallsnewcomers.com](http://www.greatfallsnewcomers.com).

### Firefighters Host Open House

The Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting its annual Open House, Saturday, Oct. 11, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 9916 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. This year's theme is "Prevent House Fires!" The department will be showcasing the past, present, and future of the station, featuring interactive displays, apparatus tours, games such as a smoke crawl and children's fire hose spray, as well as demonstrations such as a fire fighter dress up, and more. Free hot dogs and drinks provided. Meet local fire fighters and enjoy a day of fun for the whole family.



Odisa and Bryan Walker make yoga a family affair.

## Finding One's Breath

### Beloved Yoga expands to Great Falls.

By SUSANNA TISA  
THE CONNECTION

**H**ard core fitness buffs may think that yoga is just a form of easy stretching, but once they take a class at Beloved Yoga, they will have to think again. Ninety minutes of posing, a practice which consists of holding and moving slowly between balancing positions (called "asanas"), is enough to find hidden unworked muscles and create a warm damp glow.

Odisa Walker and her partner Maryam Ovissi just celebrated the third anniversary of opening Beloved Yoga in Reston. They recently purchased the Great Falls Yoga Institute and, along with partner Ladan Judge, intend to bring a vision to the new studio

that builds on their experience and success.

Walker has lived in Great Falls for seven years, with her husband Bryan and four children ranging in age from 8 to 12 years old. "My in-laws live close by, my husband went to high school in Great Falls, and now I own a business doing what I love, right close to home," said Walker. "My partners and I are very excited about this venture and we want to get the word out to our community that we are here and ready to go."

**BUSINESS OWNERS** in Great Falls like to support each other's enterprises. Ana Burgess runs the Great Falls Language Academy out of her home in Great Falls. She has attended yoga classes at the Beloved studio in Reston and was invited by the former owner of Great Falls Yoga Institute to check out Beloved's new home. "This is my first time to this location and I really like it. I enjoy doing Dance Yoga with Nia, the instructor in Reston, so I hope that this class

will be offered here as well," she said.

Gabriela Daniels lives off Seneca Road in Great Falls. She operates a recruiting business specializing in the placement of attorneys. "I grew up in California and was a 20-year runner — I was in good physical condition but I couldn't even touch my toes," she said. "Yoga is something you do one millimeter at a time. It elongates the muscles, it wraps your limbs around your body, and it wrings the toxins out of your organs."

Walker stresses that yoga is not just a form of exercise. "It is beyond physical. I teach it so that students can get past the physical into mental and spiritual realms," she said. "What you do on your mat is a reflection of your life. You can be competitive or get past blockages, access deeper feelings or take care of yourself. What you experience transfers from the mat back into your life."

**THE STUDIO** is open every day of the week and offers a range of

### Open House Invitation

Beloved Yoga of Great Falls, located at 1137 Walker Road (at the intersection with Colvin Run) will host an open house featuring free yoga classes all day on Saturday, Oct. 11. For more information and a schedule of classes and programs, call 703-860-9642 or visit [www.BelovedYoga.com](http://www.BelovedYoga.com).



PHOTOS BY SUSANNA TISA/  
THE CONNECTION

**Gabriela Daniels and Odisa Walker hold a pose.**

**"The body is your temple. Keep it pure and clean for the soul to reside in it."**

— BKS Iyengar,  
Yogacharya (yoga master)

classes that appeal to different needs and levels of experience. "We have Hatha 1, which is very gentle yoga. Then we have Vinyasa Fundamentals, which introduces beginners to poses and sequences, so they know what comes next," Walker said. "The great thing

SEE BELOVED YOGA, PAGE 9



### Walk Like MADD 2008 Saturday, November 1, 2008

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**What:** 5k non-competitive walk  
**When:** Saturday, November 1, 2008 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.  
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## PEOPLE



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From left, Deb Insel and Alisha Scruggs accept a donation for Reach for College's Saturday Academy from Joda Coolidge, membership director of the Great Falls Optimist Club.

## Great Falls Optimist Club Supports Reach for College

The Great Falls Optimist Club recently donated \$3,500 to Reach for College so that 18 local high school students could attend its Saturday Academy. Called "one of the best small charities in the Greater Washington region" by the 2007-2008 Catalogue for Philanthropy, Reach for College established the Saturday Academy to give students opportunities to venture outside their neighborhoods, learn about the historical and cultural highlights in D.C., and expand their horizons.

"We were so impressed by the enormous impact

Reach for College has on local high school students, and by the way it motivates young people to attend college who would otherwise not consider it, that we decided the club would support the organization's innovative Saturday Academy program," said Joda Coolidge, Optimist Club's director of membership.

The local nonprofit is dedicated to promoting equity by increasing and supporting the number of traditionally disadvantaged students who pursue and complete post-secondary education. The Saturday Academy was added to its regular school-year program to help prepare students for college by expanding their experiences through "homegrown tourist" trips to mu-

seums, through walking tours of historic areas and buildings, attending plays and volunteering with the Earth Conservation Corps. Participants complete assignments and required reading about each experience.

"We are delighted that the Great Falls Optimist Club decided to support our Academy program," said Co-Director Deb Insel.

"Those funds will allow us to enroll 18 students from D.C. schools for one semester beginning this September."

It costs \$200 per student to run the Academy program and \$160

per student to provide the in-school Reach for College! program. "To us, this translates into an incredible bang for the buck," Coolidge said. "For every \$160-200 someone's life is changed for the better."

The Great Falls Optimist Club is a child-centered non-profit organization that focuses on supporting, encouraging and challenging children to reach greater heights. A voluntary organization, the club is always interested in welcoming new members and volunteers. Among the many annual family-oriented events sponsored or assisted by the club are the Spring Festival and Egg Hunt, the Fall Spooktacular at Halloween, and the Fourth of July celebration in Great Falls.

### More Information

If interested in joining the Great Falls Optimist Club or volunteering at specific events, contact President Lisa Jackson at 703-421-7125 ([LJackson@fsinc.com](mailto:LJackson@fsinc.com)) or Membership Chair Joda Coolidge at [sandjcoolidge@verizon.net](mailto:sandjcoolidge@verizon.net).

Contributions can be mailed to P.O. Box 233, Great Falls, VA 22066. For more information about the club, visit [www.greatfallsoptimist.org](http://www.greatfallsoptimist.org).

## Photographer Presents Underwater Explorations

Great Falls resident Dennis Liberson abandoned a 20-year corporate career to launch a new career as an underwater photographer. His work is now being featured in an exhibition, "Underwater Explorations: Underwater Photography by Dennis Liberson," at the Muscarelle Museum of Art at the College of William and Mary.

A graduate of the College of William and Mary, Dennis Liberson had a 23-year career in corporate real estate and human resources before giving up the corporate world for a career as a deep-sea diver and an underwater photographer. His travels to locales such as Indonesia, South Africa, South Australia and the offshore islands in the Red Sea has brought him close to great white sharks, humpback whales, whale sharks, and giant mantas.

The exhibition began Sept. 6 and runs through Nov. 2.



Dennis Liberson

CONTRIBUTED



PHOTO BY DENNIS LIBERSON

Liberson's photo of a great white shark has been on display at his exhibit at the Muscarelle Museum of Art at the College of William and Mary.

## Moon on the River Concert at Riverbend Park

The Jim & Ashley Cash Band, a husband and wife team, will be performing in the second annual Moon on the River Concert at Riverbend Park in Great Falls on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 5-7 p.m. Jim Cash is the son of the owners of Gilette's Coffee, a once popular spot in Great Falls.

Jim and Ashley Cash blend their talents to form a synergy of eclectic original music interspersed with elements of folk, rock, and alternative. Their studio recordings are available to sample and download at [www.jimandashleycash.com](http://www.jimandashleycash.com)

Bring you blankets, a picnic, flashlights and bug spray. There is lawn seating in front of the visitor center. Tickets will be on sale for \$10 at the entrance of the park beginning at 4 p.m. on the day of the performance.



The Jim & Ashley Cash Band will be performing in the second annual Moon on the River Concert at Riverbend Park in Great Falls on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 5-7 p.m.

CONTRIBUTED

NEWS



The Tysons Corner Land Use Task Force recommends that landowners closest to the Metro stations should have the greatest amount of density.

## Numbers Under Scrutiny

FROM PAGE 3

the full build-out and such large figures are only used to scare other residents, said Tyler and Connolly.

**BUT COALITION MEMBERS** said development of just 114 million square feet – a build out which staff has examined – would cause traffic congestion to grow significantly worse. They also said such development would put stress on county infrastructure – such as the sewer system – and the parks and schools of adjacent communities.

"We don't want that development to come faster than the infrastructure," said Ted Alexander, a McLean resident who is one of the leaders of the Greater Tysons Citizens Coalition.

In response, Tyler reiterated that Tysons is expected to develop over several decades and the county should have sufficient time to gauge what infrastructure will be needed.

"We are not going to turn this thing into downtown Copenhagen in a week," he said.

According to Tyler, the task force has recommended at least 160 acres in parks. Fairfax County Public Schools is also looking to convert some of its current administrative buildings back into schools in anticipation of Tysons Corner's redevelopment.

**TYSONS' NEIGHBORS** who are nervous about redevelopment may also find solace in George Ma-

son University's recent population and job forecasts for the area.

Mason academics Stephen Fuller and John McClain's development projections for Tysons Corner in 2050 was under one of the final estimates examined by the task force. The Mason "intermediate" projection anticipates Tysons Corner will have about 105 million square feet of new development by 2050.

"[My estimate] is not as high as some of the numbers in your materials," said McLain to the task force Sept. 15.

McLain, who does regional projections for the Metropolitan Council of Governments, added that it could also difficult to attract people to live in the downtown urban setting.

"D.C. tried for 30 to 40 years to create a living downtown and they are only just getting it," said McLain.

But the analyst also acknowledged that the "paradigm" of what people seek in housing in the Washington D.C. area – a move from suburban to urban living – could shake the fundamentals of his estimates.

Stewart Schwartz, from the Coalition for Smarter Growth, said he considers McLain analysis "conservative" and expect that more people would want to live in Tysons should it develop as the task force recommends.

"Retirees and younger people want a convenient lifestyle," like the one a redeveloped Tysons will offer, said Schwartz.

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# Freddie Mac Troubles Affect Charities

**Dozens of Northern Virginia non-profits rely on funds from Freddie Mac.**

BY DAVID SCHULTZ  
THE CONNECTION

**E**arlier this month, the U.S. Treasury took over Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two mortgage lending giants that had been financially imperiled by the subprime lending crisis. Government control of these two institutions sent shockwaves throughout the country's financial system and foreshadowed several weeks of meltdowns on Wall Street.

But the fallout from the collapse of these two companies poses a serious threat to many local organizations.

Freddie Mac's philanthropic arm, the Freddie Mac Foundation, is the largest corporate funder of non-profit organizations in the Washington D.C. region. Last year, the foundation gave approximately \$25 million to local non-profits. Now, many of those organizations are facing uncertainty.

"At this point, I don't know," Diane Charles responded when asked if her group, Stop Child Abuse Now, or SCAN, would continue to receive funding from Freddie Mac. "I don't think anybody does."

Shawn Flaherty, a Freddie Mac Foundation spokesperson, said that all of the foundation's charitable donations are currently under review by the organization's director, James Lockhart. No decisions have been made yet about whether funding will be cut, she said, and there was no timeline for when these decisions will be made. "We really don't know at this point," she said. "It's under review and we haven't made a

**"We're nervous.  
Whenever there's an  
economic downturn a  
lot of non-profits suffer."**

— Elizabeth Page, Falls Church-McLean Children's Center

more than a decade, Charles, the group's executive director, said. In that time, they have contributed between \$25,000 and \$50,000 to SCAN per year, funding that represents approximately five percent of their annual budget.

Charles said that if Freddie Mac cut off its funding to SCAN, it would be very difficult for her organization to find the funding elsewhere. "That's an important piece of what [Freddie Mac has] done in the community ... That kind of funding allows us to leverage lots of other funding and volunteers."

**ELIZABETH PAGE** is the director of the Falls Church-McLean Children's Center, a group that provides childcare to low-income families. For the last decade, the Freddie Mac Foundation has given Page's group \$25,000 a year, one-eighth of their annual

## Freddie Mac headquarters in McLean.

decision yet."

**A NONPROFIT** child abuse prevention group based out of Alexandria, SCAN has had a relationship with the Freddie Mac Foundation for

operating budget.

"We're nervous," Page said. "Not just with Freddie Mac but with the whole environment these days. Whenever there's an economic downturn a lot of non-profits suffer."

The Falls Church-McLean Children's Center received its funding from Freddie Mac in July, Page said, so they are covered for this fiscal year. "I'm hoping by April when we reapply [for funding] things will be clearer," she said. But Page said that if the funding from Freddie Mac doesn't come through, they would most likely have to layoff one of their teaching assistants.

**LOUDOUN** County-based INMED Partnerships for Children is another local non-profit organization that relies heavily on funding from Freddie Mac. Thirty five percent of their annual budget — \$175,000 per year for a trio human services programs — comes from the Freddie Mac Foundation.

Linda Pfeiffer, INMED's President and CEO, said that her organization has been in close contact with Freddie Mac representatives since their recent financial changes and that "there is no indication" that their funding is in jeopardy.

But Pfeiffer said that the loss of funding from Freddie Mac would force INMED to

## COUNTY NOTEBOOK

### Supervisors Decline On 2nd School Headquarters

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors declined to vote on the purchase of a second administrative building for Fairfax County Public Schools. Five days earlier, the school board voted overwhelmingly to go forward with the building acquisition.

The supervisors met behind closed doors with Fairfax County Public Schools to discuss the land deal Sept. 22.

The building purchase, which would have allowed school system to locate its central administration staff all in one Merrifield office park, would have cost \$130 million but would have eventually paid for itself, according to school board and staff reports.

If the deal had gone through, the school system would

have been able to move out of leased and rented space and into the new building at 8115 Gatehouse Road, adjacent to its current administrative center.

But supervisors said last week that they were suspicious of any deal to purchase an administrative building as the county faces a \$430 million budget shortfall next year.

"I remain skeptical," said Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly (D) in an interview Sept. 19.

"I think the whole idea is dumb. ... It is the wrong type of thing to do in this economic environment. They need to concentrate on moving kids out of trailers," said Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee).

The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce and the Fairfax County Federation of Civic Associations had endorsed the school system's plan but several community groups with closer ties to public education had declined to give their support.

## Nonprofits

The non-profit organizations featured in this story are always in need of donations and volunteers. The following is information on how you can help out these groups:

### FALLS CHURCH-MCLEAN CHILDREN'S CENTER

7230 Idylwood Road  
Falls Church, VA 22043  
703-534-4907  
fcmccl@aol.org

### NORTHERN VIRGINIA FAMILY SERVICE

10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100  
Oakton, VA 22124  
703-385-3267  
info@nvfs.org

"cut down on our services dramatically" because the loss of the Freddie Mac funds could trigger a chain reaction.

"It's something that's always been crucial for leveraging other funding," she said. "All funders like to see that their funds are being matched by other funding. Freddie Mac has always been wonderful to provide the upfront money that we can use to get state money and county money."

BU-GATA is an Arlington-based group that since 1998 has run a youth program for Buckingham teens that was funded with a \$40,000 annual contribution from Freddie Mac. If the Freddie Mac funds were cut off, BU-GATA would have to lay off the program's full-time coordinator, said Lois Athey, the group's executive director.

Northern Virginia Family Service has an annual budget of more than \$20 million, \$400,000 from Freddie Mac. But the organization would have to make layoffs if their Freddie Mac funding was cut off, the organization's President and CEO Mary Agee said. But a lack of funding wouldn't be the only thing that local non-profits would lose.

"[Freddie Mac goes] above and beyond just the financial giving," Agee said. "Their staff is involved in working in the community to help build the systems that will improve people's lives. They are in the community rolling up their sleeves side by side with all of us to resolve community issues. We need that. We need their perspectives. It sets them apart from a lot of other foundations."

The Fairfax County Council of PTAs also said they did not have enough information about the administration building purchase. They had asked the school board to postpone voting on the issue until the school board could hold public hearings.

But school board members insisted last week that the purchase of a second administrative building would free up money in the operating budget for other costs. The school board voted eight to one on Sept. 18 to support the building purchase, with At-large school board member Ilryong Moon dissenting.

"The money we are using [to pay rent and leases] is money we are diverting from students," said school board member Tessie Wilson (Braddock).

In his dissenting vote, Moon also asked the school board to consider delaying the building purchase for three to six months.



PHOTO BY DAVID SCHULTZ/THE CONNECTION

# Beloved Yoga Opens in Great Falls

FROM PAGE 5

about a yoga class is that people can move at their own pace. If a pose is challenging or the muscles are tired, the student can move into a relaxation position for a few moments and then rejoin the sequence. For those who are more advanced, they can do complex poses without disrupting the flow." There is a pre-natal yoga class instructed by Ovissi at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Daniels started coming to yoga at Beloved about two years ago, after she had her first child at the age of 40. Daniels is trim and toned, sporting taut stomach muscles that show no signs of pregnancy after-effects. "I don't even run anymore," said Daniels. "All of my tone and strength comes from doing yoga."

Odisha and her team offer top notch classes with techniques that are comparable to the most renowned studios in California." Daniels held a head stand for several minutes while the rest of the class moved in unison around her, a clear demonstration of her strength and balance.

Shree Ayengar is a teacher who



PHOTO BY SUSANNA TISA/THE CONNECTION

## The studio is spacious and bright.

comes all the way from Aldie to serve her Great Falls students. "The people who attend here are very passionate about yoga. I see the spark in their eyes and how dedicated they are. Yoga is about heart, smile and breath — and we smile a lot in my class." Ayengar was hit by an 18-wheeler a num-

ber of years ago and had degenerative discs in her back and neck. She credits yoga with her full recuperation, pointing out the Spinal Rejuvenation Wall that is used to gently stretch and strengthen bones and muscles, to reverse degeneration without the need for surgery.

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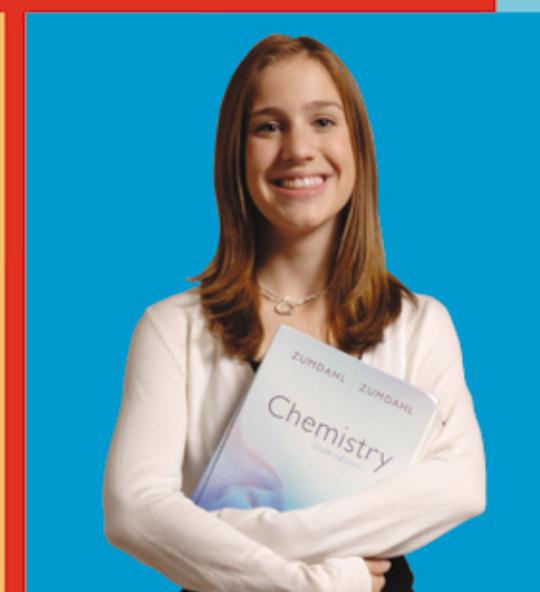
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# OPINION

# Are You Prepared to Vote on Nov. 4?

BY OLGA HERNANDEZ  
PRESIDENT, LWV OF VIRGINIA

The question is not about whom you'll vote for in the Presidential election, but are you ready to do so. This year in Virginia the interest in the general election is great, almost 300,000 new voters are on the rolls and the sheer numbers can overwhelm the process.

In Fairfax County you'll have the choice to vote a paper ballot that can be scanned or vote using the computerized Direct Recording Equipment that have been used for several years. Did you know that a parks bond issue is also on the ballot? We also have a U.S. Senate race to fill an open seat and Congressional races.

Go to the League of Women Voters Web site [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org) for more nonpartisan information on what is on your ballot.

**FIRST ORDER** of business is to make sure you are registered to vote. Check your status at [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org). If you are registered but have a change of information such as a name, address, you have until Oct. 6 to update your records. You may have submitted your info at DMV or a voter registration drive but you should check that the paperwork went through the system.

The Office of Election tells us that about 10 percent of registration forms are incomplete and thus rejected. They do send a letter to advise of the rejection but it's up to the voter to follow-up. You should receive a registration card but as the date gets closer that card may not arrive in time to correct errors. Don't wait, do it now.

The Fairfax County registrar's phone num-

## Voter 101 and Beyond

The League of Women Voters provides non-partisan election information for the public. We are a volunteer membership organization concerned with good government policy.

The League Voters Guide will appear in this newspaper a couple of weeks before the election, it will also be posted on the League Web site.

We are offering Voter 101 classes for new and not so new voters in October at the following dates and times:

- Oct. 5, Voter 101 Class: Fairfax Regional Library, 2 p.m.
- Oct. 8, Voter 101 Class: Chantilly Reg. Library, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 12, Voter 101 Class: Sherwood Reg. Library 2 p.m.
- Oct. 15, Voter 101 Class: Reston Reg. Library, 7:30 p.m.

ber is 703-222-0776.

**SECOND**, consider voting absentee if you qualify for any of the reasons allowed. All absentee ballots are counted the evening of Election Day. Absentee in person voting opened Sept. 19 at the Fairfax Government center. The lines on Nov. 4 are going to be long. Weather in November can range from freezing to rain to beautiful. Polls open at 6 a.m. and close at 7 p.m., no exceptions. (If you are in line before the polls close, you will still be able to vote.)

Third, make sure you know where your polling place is. Sounds simple but people show up to the wrong precinct all the time. It is heartbreaking for election officers to turn someone away because they showed up in the wrong place at 6:55 p.m. and they have no time to get to the correct precinct.

Fourth, bring a picture ID. Even though you can legally sign an affirmation of identity, in some circumstances that is not possible. Know your rights and don't be intimidated, but bringing your ID will expedite the process and move the lines.

Fifth, bring your patience. Election officers are there to help you, please don't abuse them. They will work for 15 plus hours on Election Day to make democracy work with less than minimum wage compensation. They get set compensation no matter the hours or workload. Be courteous, be prepared and we can all get this done.

**IF EVERYONE** is prepared the day should flow smoothly. Thousands of people have worked hard for a number of years to make it all look simple but it's a very complex system and voters can help by being prepared and knowing their rights. Provisional ballots are available if prob-

## Register, Verify

### IN FAIRFAX COUNTY:

Fairfax County Office of Elections  
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323  
Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0081  
703-222-0776 phone  
703-324-2205 fax  
703-324-4700 for 24-hour recorded information  
League of Women Voters, Fairfax area: <http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/>

lems can't be resolved on Election Day but some of those don't get counted for various reasons. It's best to do it right the first time. Bring a friend and or family member to vote with you.

An excellent study of the election process and laws in Virginia can be found on the Fairfax League website at <http://www.lwv-fairfax.org/Sept08VoterFinal%28rev%29.pdf>

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Safe the Pike For Safer Traffic

To the Editor:

In his letter ["Hazardous Driving On Georgetown Pike", Great Falls Connection, Sept. 10-16] Mr. Turonis of Great Falls recounts his recent encounter with a tractor trailer on the Pike and the actions he has pursued in response. First, we are sorry for the trauma he suffered and are glad that he is here to tell the story. Unfortunately, the scenario he described is not uncommon and is not restricted to semi-tractors. If citizens are concerned about this or other issues related to Georgetown Pike, we encourage them to read and sign the "SAFE the PIKE" petition at [www.gfca.org](http://www.gfca.org). We commend Mr. Turonis for taking the steps he did to contact the police and VDOT as well as local officials and encourage all residents to do the same when they encounter violations or unsafe conditions. He also called for additional assistance in remediying the situation he en-

countered. The Great Falls Citizens Association and the McLean Citizens Association both have Transportation Committees that do just that. We invite all residents of our communities to contact us on specific matters such as this and to participate in our efforts to improve traffic and transportation.

Specifically regarding trucks on Georgetown Pike, a "no through trucks" restriction was recently posted for the area between the Beltway and Route 7. Although the signs are posted, not all maps, etc. that truckers consult have been updated yet. We will request VDOT and others to expedite that process. Because this restriction does not prohibit tractor trailers travelling to local destinations in McLean and Great Falls, we will also request that the "tractor trailers not recommended" designation be retained. Further, we will identify and pursue other measures that may be appropriate to increase the safety of travelling this road, such as length restrictions and lower speed limits for local trucks. We invite sug-

gestions from the community in that regard.

The efforts to date have been the result of input of citizens, the support of our Dranesville District supervisor and other officials, and subsequent action by VDOT and Fairfax transportation staff. These efforts will continue and demonstrate that action is in fact being taken in contrast to what may have been implied in the reply from VDOT that Mr. Turonis related in his letter. Among the many treasured roads of Great Falls and McLean, Georgetown Pike is a road with special status. It is Virginia's first Scenic and Historic Byway and is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As our citizens expressed in their response to our 2020 Vision survey, we are committed to save the Pike's historic character and to be able travel it safely.

**Joan Barnes and Eric Knudsen**

Co-chairs of the GFCA Transportation committee

### Action Taken On Pike Safety

To the Editor:

In response to the letter ["Hazardous Driving on Georgetown Pike," Sept. 10-16] readers will be glad to know that, since May 2008, through-trucks have been banned from the 9.4-mile stretch of Georgetown Pike between Route 7 and I-495. The ban is directed at tractor trailers and semi-trailer combinations, not pickup or panel trucks.

Following the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors request for a truck restriction in October 2006, VDOT studied traffic volumes and speeds, analyzed alternate truck routes and gathered public comment. After getting approval from the Commonwealth Transportation Board in May 2008, VDOT erected through-truck restriction signs at the Route 7 and I-495 entrances to Georgetown Pike. Fairfax County Police are continuing to enforce the restriction, but

SEE LETTERS, PAGE II

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Special Assistant for Operations

## LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

trucks on legitimate business on Georgetown Pike are still allowed to access the road. We thank Mr. Turonis for his concerns, and let him know that the county and VDOT have taken action to make this road safer.

**Hari K. Sripathi, P.E.**  
Regional Traffic Engineer  
VDOT-Northern Region Operations

## Knowledge Vs. Wisdom

To the Editor:

In your Sept. 3-9 McLean Connection, an article stated that the 10<sup>th</sup> District candidates, Frank Wolf and Judy Feder, were close financially.

The top contributors of each were listed. Frank Wolf had various businesses and industries listed. Judy Feder had a Democratic PAC and four universities.

I am not trying to minimize education, but there is a difference between knowledge and wisdom. Knowledge can come through education and experience. Wisdom is the ability to discern inner qualities and relationships with insight, good judgement and good sense.

Too often our institutions of higher learning produce people that are arrogant and lacking in humility and experience in the real world.

I plan to vote for Frank Wolf who has served our district faithfully for many years.

**Katherine Sodergren**  
McLean

## Misleading Slogans

To the Editor:

A deceptive sign is sprouting up like mushrooms around our neighborhoods. This green sign reads "Drill Now! Pay Less! Vote GOP!"

Some facts from the Department of Energy:

❖ Drilling "Now" is not a possibility in any newly opened areas. Drilling could not occur for years and notable production would not occur until the 2020s.

❖ Pay Less might occur, cutting prices 1.2 cents per gallon decades from now. New offshore drilling would add about 200,000 barrels per day to the world supply ... in 2030. (Note that, in the past year, US consumption has dropped almost 1,000,000 barrels per day

due to increased energy efficiency and conservation moves.)

And, I'm sure readers can see the subtle deception of coloring a pro-drilling, pro-fossil fuel sign green.

The only honest element here: encouraging votes for the Grand Oil Party illustrated with a gas pump dripping away fuel wastefully.

We need real solutions to problems, not empty and misleading slogans.

**Adam Siegel**  
McLean

## Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue.

The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.

Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
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Call: 703-917-6444.  
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"This year the tour is a milestone."

—Laura Nichols, president of Great Falls Studios



PHOTOS BY AL REITAN

Lit by a bright window in her studio, Donna Barnako designs and makes jewelry pieces in preparation for the tour. She is one of four jewelry designers on the tour, each with distinctive designs. All artists will offer their work for sale.



At work in her garden in a photo taken last spring, Yiyang Huang puts finishing touches on one of her paintings. In addition to landscapes and scenes from her native China, she paints portraits on commission. Of 12 portrait painters in the Great Falls Studios group, eight will be showing work during the tour.

## Great Falls Artists Gear Up for Tour

**Art Studios Tour planned for Oct. 18 and 19.**

Thirty-eight artists across Great Falls are manipulating paint brushes, manhandling clay, snipping paper, building frames, sawing wood strips, shooting photos, sewing fabric and otherwise preparing for the Fifth Annual Great Falls Art Studios Tour, to be held

### CALENDAR

Send announcements to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@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/SEPT. 24

**Old School Freight Train.** Acoustic/Americana, 7:30 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**McLean Project for the Arts, Evening at the Gallery.** 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the MPAC Gallery in the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The event features information about MPAC's current exhibit and programs, cocktails, appetizers and raffles. Call 703-56-5424 or email [kryan@mcleanchamber.org](mailto:kryan@mcleanchamber.org).

**Caring for Aging Parents.** 7:9 p.m. Ann E. O'Neil, RN, MSN, CS, Care Options and Susan Stone, B.S.W., Alzheimer's Family Day Center. \$45 registration fee; \$35 members. The Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Go to [www.thewomenscenter.org](http://www.thewomenscenter.org) or call 703-281-2657.

**The Teddy Bear Band.** 12:30 p.m. Free Jammin' Juniors Fall Concert Series. Alden Theatre at the McLean Central

Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 18 and 19, throughout the community.

The tour, which is free, will take Great Falls residents and many hundreds of visitors from outside the community to the home art studios of members of Great Falls Studios, a network of artists based in Great Falls. Visitors travel the back roads of the village to meet the artists and watch them create in an event that celebrates the creative process. Last year, tour takers made more than 2,500 visits to Great

VISITORS TO THE TOUR can SEE LOCAL ART. PAGE 14

255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Jeffry D. Wert will discuss and sign "Cavalryman of the Lost Cause."** 7:30 p.m. at Borders Tyson's Corner. Call 703-556-7766.

"Cavalryman of the Lost Cause" is the first major biography in decades of Confederate general J. E. B. Stuart, and is based on research in manuscript collections, personal memoirs and reminiscences, and regimental histories.

**Titans Breakfast Series.** Registration

7 a.m., Program 8:9-15 a.m. Learn

what cutting edge technologies will

be in demand and what to know that

will affect and benefit business.

Hilton McLean, 7920 Jones Branch

Drive, McLean. NVT members \$65,

non-members \$85; <http://www.nvtc.org/events/geteventinfo>.

**Coping Emotionally with**

**Separation and Divorce.** 7:30

p.m. Hilary Casaretto, LCSW,

Women's Center Therapist. \$245

registration fee, \$225 members. The

Women's Center, 127 Park St. NE,

Vienna. [www.thewomenscenter.org](http://www.thewomenscenter.org) or

703-281-2657.

**THURSDAY/SEPT. 25**

**Family Fishing by Boat.** 6-7:30 p.m.

Follow the naturalist to hidden fishing

spots for bass, sunfish and the

occasional catfish. \$20 per boat;

maximum three people per boat.

Prepaid reservations required.

Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills

St., Great Falls. 703-759-9018.

**The Teddy Bear Band.** 12:30 p.m. Free

Jammin' Juniors Fall Concert Series.

Alden Theatre at the McLean Central

carpenter Steven Whittle. Adults \$10;

ages 6 to 12, \$3; ages 5 and under,

free. Dulles Expo Center, 4368

Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly.

[www.dullesexpo.com](http://www.dullesexpo.com) or

[www.capitalhomeshow.com](http://www.capitalhomeshow.com).

**Divorce and Retirement Benefits.**

10 a.m. Leslie S. Fenton, Esquire,

Odin, Feldman & Pittelman. \$45

registration fee, \$35 members. The

Women's Center, 127 Park St. NE,

Vienna. [www.thewomenscenter.org](http://www.thewomenscenter.org) or

703-281-2657.

**FRIDAY/SEPT. 26**

**Just Friends,** a local five-piece combo

playing songs from the 20s through the

60s. 7:30 p.m. Free. Great Falls Library

**SATURDAY/SEPTEMBER 27**

**The Claude Moore Colonial Farm**

Autumn Book and Garage Sale.

**SUNDAY/SEPT. 28**

**Dead Men's Hollow.** Roots. 1:30 p.m.

[www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



Painter Jill Banks has created dozens of portraits, still life studies, and other paintings, mostly in oil, to display at her studio space during the Fifth Annual Great Falls Art Studios Tour, Oct. 18 and 19.



With her kiln behind her, potter Barbara Gatterdam displays one of her pitchers. She has been firing pots, cups and various other ceramic pieces continuously for the Studio Tour. Three other potters also on the tour are similarly busy.

### FAITH NOTES

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

**Multicultural Dialogue and Ramadan Iftar Dinner.** Free. Family and Community Traditions will be the theme of the 9th McLean Community Connections community dialogue and dinner at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Drive, McLean on Thursday, Sept. 25. Registration at 6:15 p.m. Dinner at 6:45 p.m. RSVP required 703 324 3453.

Interested in learning or reviewing the history and meaning of the Christian Faith as practiced by Methodists? Come and learn who we are. Sundays through Nov. 23, 9:45-10:30 a.m. **Oakton United Methodist Church**, 2951 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, at the intersection of Rt. 123 and Hunter Mill Road. Visit [www.oaktonumc.org](http://www.oaktonumc.org) or call 703-938-1234.

**Smith Chapel concert,** "Songs for Danny." Sept. 27 at 4 p.m. Free food and music. Bring chairs or blankets. Smith Chapel, 11321 Beach Mill Road, Great Falls. 703-404-1767.

**Dr. Larry Hurtado,** Head of the School of Divinity and Professor of New Testament Language, Literature and Theology at New College, University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Sermon series beginning Sept. 28, 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Video and discussion beginning September 29, 6:30 p.m. **Trinity United Methodist Church**, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. McLean. 703-356-3312

**Soul Walk,** sponsored by Faith At Work. Join kindred spirits to notice the sacred space all around us, watch the river flowing, leaves falling, herons and hawks hunting. Feed your soul and enjoy community on a 3 mile moderate hike near Great Falls. 3-6 p.m. Free. For directions and reservations, 703-237-3426 or [co.clickandpledge.com/advanced/default.aspx](http://co.clickandpledge.com/advanced/default.aspx).

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# Local Art on Display

FROM PAGE 12

drive to as many as 19 venues, many located in historic buildings, colorful outbuildings or unusual houses. Free brochures, with maps and directions, are available at all the venues, including the Great Falls Community Library and RE/MAX Gateway across from Dante Restaurant in the Colvin Run area. A brochure, with map, is also available online and can be downloaded from the organization's Web site: [www.GreatFallsStudios.com](http://www.GreatFallsStudios.com). The tour is from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

The RE/MAX Gateway site is of special interest because it houses a new all-member exhibit of the Great Falls Studios group. Many visitors use the exhibit to preview the tour and to select which studios to see. On Saturday there will be a drawing there for three door prizes for certificates that can be used to purchase art on the tour. Each prize has a value of \$100.

The expansion of the Art Tour each year has coincided with the growth of an arts movement in Great Falls that has transformed the village into a center for the arts in northern Fairfax County and a go-to place to purchase art. In all, there are now 78 artist members of Great Falls Studios. These painters, jewelry makers, sculptors, potters, quilters, photographers and other artists all live or work in Great Falls. Initially, they banded together to support each other and nurture their professional growth as artists. Now they also serve the community as a civic group working to "make Great Falls more artful."

Last year the artists started a non-profit arts organization called the Great Falls Foundation for the Arts.

The new group has its own board of directors and functions independently of the artists to find ways to bring the arts to the community. It is currently expanding a new non-profit art school for adults and children. This year the Great Falls Studios artists are donating 10 percent of sales of their work to the Foundation, which means that art buyers are not only getting original art "Made in Great Falls" but supporting the arts movement directly.

**ON FRIDAY EVENING**, the Foundation, also known as GFFFTA, is sponsoring a kickoff party for the tour — to include a raffle for various art-related prizes. The party is from 7 to 9 p.m. at the headquarters of the Foundation: 1144 Walker Road, Suite G, in the Colvin Run area of town. It is free to anyone interested.

Visitors to the tour on Saturday and Sunday can purchase a variety of art pieces, from quilts to pots, watercolors to oils.

This year the tour is supported by three state, regional and local arts organizations: the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the Arts Council of Fairfax County, and the Great Falls Foundation for the Arts. It is also supported by the Great Falls Business and Professional Association, made up of local businesses, which is particularly interested in the idea of buying locally.

"Although the event is a draw for people across the Metro area, we particularly want to invite residents of Great Falls," said Laura Nichols. "This is our home community, and we'd like our friends and neighbors to experience our 'creative economy' first hand — and also to have a little fun in the process."

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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 13

**appraiser/consultant** Francine Proulx hosts an appraisal class at the McLean Community Center from 7:30-9 p.m. Learn the difference between an expert's verbal opinion and a written legal document and its impact on insurance coverage and estate planning; when formal appraisals are needed; what to look for in an independent appraiser, and what questions to ask. The course costs \$30 for McLean residents; \$41 for non-residents. To register call 703-790-0123, ext. 225 or visit [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

## WEDNESDAY/OCT. 1

**Yosi and the Superdads.** 12:30 p.m. Free Jammin' Juniors Fall Concert Series. Alden Theatre at the McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., at the intersection of Route 123 and Old Dominion Drive. 703-790-0123 or [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

## Introduction to Mindful Meditation.

7 p.m. Dr. Celia Im, Lighting the Creative Spark, LLC. \$45 registration fee, \$35 members. The Women's Center, 127 Park St., N.E., Vienna. [www.thewomenscenter.org](http://www.thewomenscenter.org) or 703-281-2657.

**An Evening Under the Stars,** with the McLean Orchestra and Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation. 6:30 p.m. Champagne and confections with entertainment by members of the McLean Orchestra. On the back lawn of Vinson Hall, 6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Call 703-538-2318 to reserve.

## THURSDAY/OCT. 2

**Ten Things Every Executor Should Know,** from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Attorney David Hoffman will discuss preparing probate papers, filing tax returns, prudent investing, taking a commission, and basic fiduciary accounting. Free, no advance registration is required. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E. Call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department at 703-255-6360 or visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

## SATURDAY/OCT. 4

### St. Francis Episcopal Church

**Annual Country Fair.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission, open to the public. Quilt show, raffle of a hand-sewn, queen-size quilt. Children's games, moonbounce, hayrides, arts and crafts. Pony rides from 10-11 a.m. Musical performances by the Difficult Run Jazz Band at 10 a.m. Puppet show at 12 p.m. Artisans crafts, artwork, jewelry, and glass creations. Silent auction, with tickets to sporting events, restaurant gift certificates, spa services, and more. Treasure Trove flea market and book sale. Old-fashioned tombola booth. Plant sale, bake sale, food tent. St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls. [www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org](http://www.stfrancisgreatfalls.org) or 703-759-2082.

### Vienna-Tysons Chamber Oktoberfest Celebration.

12-6 p.m. on historic Church Street in Vienna. The event will feature a beer garden, food vendors, two stages with live entertainment, a festival marketplace and a children's activity area. The festival committee is seeking out additional food vendors and non-food vendors for the festival marketplace. Artists, crafters, business owners and civic organizations are welcome. For registration forms visit [www.vtrcc.org](http://www.vtrcc.org) or call 703-281-1333.

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## OPEN HOUSES SAT/SUN SEPT 27 & 28



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<b>Great Falls</b>					
10605 Good Spring Ave	\$699,000	Sat and Sun 1-4	Scarlet Lovell	RE/MAX	703-858-9108
1108 Morningwood Ln	\$945,000	Sun 1:30-5:00	Nancy Broyhill	Long & Foster	703-790-1990
702 Seneca Rd	\$1,250,000	Sun 1-4	Dianne Van Volkenburg	Weichert	703-759-6300
436 Springvale Rd	\$2,395,000	Sun 1-4	Marjaneh Adell	Long & Foster	703-759-9190

<b>Great Falls Next Month</b>					
721 Ellsworth Ave	\$1,921,000	10/12 1-4	Karen Martins	McEneaney	703-790-9090

<b>Falls Church</b>					
7506 Salem Rd	\$739,000	Sun 1-4	Giovanni Cesaratto	Yeonas & Shafran	703-867-7505

<b>McLean</b>					
1632 Morrill Ct	\$729,987	Sun 1-4	Cecelia Lofton	Weichert	703-821-8300
1630 Maddux Ln	\$949,999	Sun 1-4	Sandra Reavey	Weichert	703-821-8300
1015 Northwoods Trl	\$1,295,000	Sun 1-4	Theodora Metin	Weichert	202-256-2163

<b>Vienna</b>					
9490 Virginia Center Blvd #338	\$269,000	9/28 1-4	Donna Leeds-Shipe	Long & Foster	703-556-8600
2403 Beekay Ct	\$999,000	Sun 1-4	Anne Harrington	Long & Foster	703-938-4200
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To add your Realtor represented Open House

to these weekly listings, please contact:

In Great Falls, Salome, 703-917-6467, or

[salome@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:salome@connectionnewspapers.com)

In Vienna, Don, 703-917-6466, or

[donpark@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:donpark@connectionnewspapers.com)

In McLean, Lauri, 703-917-6460, or

[lauri@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:lauri@connectionnewspapers.com)

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**Terms:** 10% non-refundable deposit due on sale date with the remainder due at closing in thirty days. Auction day announcements take precedence over other printed or published statements. All information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. Property is subject to prior sale. Broker participation encouraged. 3% buyers' premium added to final bid to determine selling price. Successful bidder is offered an opportunity to purchase contents of the home.

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Send School Notes to vienna/mclean/greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

On Saturday, Sept. 27, student members of the **Model UN Club at Marshall High School** will host the fifth annual My First Model UN conference to train high school and middle school students from the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area on the essentials of international relations.

The single focus of the training conference will be global warming and climate change, issues that will be the subject of international action at the Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009.

Among the Fairfax County public schools that will participate in Marshall's My First Model UN training conference are Cooper Middle School, Edison High School, Glasgow Middle School, Lake Braddock Secondary School, Jackson Middle School, Madison High School, McLean High School, Robinson Secondary School, and Rocky Run Middle School.

**Katrina M. Gumbinner**, homeschooled in Great Falls, has been named as a 2009 National Merit scholarship semifinalist.

**William M. Brumas** and **Jennifer H. Suh**, both of Langley High School, have been named as 2009 National Merit scholarship semifinalists.

**Paul Capp, Anthony M. Charles, Zachary B. Charles, Adam N. Scott, Athreya J. Tata and Miles A. Zinni**, all of McLean High School, have been named as 2009 National Merit scholarship semifinalists.

**Rachel Lauren Brown** of Great Falls, a senior majoring in religious studies and history, has been named to the spring 2008 dean's list at the University of Rochester, Rochester N.Y. Brown is the daughter of Steven and Beth Brown.

**Erin Callahan** of McLean has been named to the spring 2008 dean's list and received a bachelor of fine arts degree from Ithaca College of Ithaca N.Y. Callahan is the daughter of Walter and Joan Callahan of McLean.

**Augustus Jackson Spivey**, a graduate of Langley High School, has enrolled at Hampden-Sydney College with the Class of 2012 as a Patrick Henry Scholar. Spivey is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gregory B. Spivey of Great Falls.

## BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

**School Board Regular Meeting.** 8 p.m. Work Session/Forum Immediately following, Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. 703-204-8100.

### MONDAY/SEPT. 8

**School Board Work Sessions.** 11 a.m. Gatehouse Administration Center I, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church. 571-423-1000.

**Northern Virginia Community College Board meeting.** 4-6 p.m. in Room 144 at the Loudoun Campus, 1000 Harry Flood Byrd Highway in Sterling. The agenda is available at <http://www.nvcc.edu/pip/board/>.

**Business & Professional Women (BPW)** of Greater Fairfax kick off new season of monthly dinner meetings at 6:30 p.m., at la Madeline Bakery & Café in Tysons Corner, with Kristina Bouweiri, president and CEO of Reston Limousine. RSVP to SANDY Amato at [samamoto@comcast.net](mailto:samamoto@comcast.net) or 703-405-2631 by Sep. 5.

### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 10

**Great Falls Friends Sept. meeting**, at 8 a.m. at the Great Falls Library. Light breakfast and speaker Doug Cobb. Call Candace Bouvee at 703-759-0375.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

**Back Pack Safety Program** for children, parents and teachers, presented by spine and wellness expert, Dr. Brandon Lemuel, owner of PalmerCare Chiropractic-Vienna. Did you know that over 7,000 children are taken to the emergency room every year for back pack-related spinal injuries? Most these injuries can be prevented. Plan an evening for your family to stop by Patrick Henry Library located at 101 Maple Avenue East in Vienna, from 7-8 p.m. Bring your back pack with you that evening and the books you carry in it. Free. 703) 319-1212 or contact [drbrandon@palmercare.com](mailto:drbrandon@palmercare.com).

### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 17

A Fairfax County Economic Development Authority (FCEDA) representative will be in Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust's office once a month to offer free on-site, one-on-one counseling to anyone who wants to start a business in Fairfax County, expand an existing business in the county, or learn about other business services. These sessions are scheduled for the third Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. at the McLean Governmental Center, 1437 Balls Hill Road in McLean. Contact Julie Ide at 703-356-0551 or visit [http://www.fairfaxcountyeda.org/services\\_and\\_resources.htm](http://www.fairfaxcountyeda.org/services_and_resources.htm), or Jatinder Kaur at 703-790-0600 or [jkaur@fceda.org](mailto:jkaur@fceda.org).

### THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

**School Board Regular Meeting.** 8 p.m. Work Session/Forum Immediately following, Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. 703-204-8100.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Fairfax County Government and Fairfax County Public Schools community dialogue sessions.** 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Register to participate in shaping the FY 2010 Budget. 703-324-9400 or 703-324-2391, TTY 711.  
❖ Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly.  
❖ Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston.

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Church of the Holy Cross ... 703-698-6991  
St. Francis Episcopal ... 703-759-2082

**Jehovah's Witness**  
Jehovah's Witnesses ... 703-759-1579

**Lutheran**

Emmanuel Lutheran Church... 703-938-2119  
St. Athanasius Lutheran Church... 703-455-4003

**Methodist**

Andrew Chapel United Methodist ... 703-759-3509  
Church of the Good Shepherd ... 703-281-3987  
Dunn Loring United Methodist ... 703-573-5386  
Ephiphany United Methodist ... 703-938-3494  
Great Falls United Methodist... 703-759-3705  
Oakton United Methodist ... 703-938-1233  
Vale United Methodist ... 703-620-2594  
Wesley United Methodist ... 703-938-8700  
Smith Chapel United Methodist ... 571-434-9680

**Non-Denominational**

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# SPORTS

## Oatlands Invitational: No Ordinary Meet

Langley boys and girls run well at Leesburg cross country event.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

Both the Langley High boys and girls cross country teams competed at the Fourth Annual Oatlands Invitational meet in Leesburg last weekend. The renowned event, considered the biggest high school cross country extravaganza in Virginia, consisted of over 100 schools from Virginia and beyond.

Both the Saxon varsity teams competed in the elite varsity 'A' races at the Leesburg meet. The Langley girls, in a field of 37 teams, finished 22nd overall. The Saxons' top three runners were seniors Lauren Shaw (57th overall), Carolyn Shaw (61st) and Amanda Steffy (67th). The entire field consisted of 260-plus runners.

The Langley boys finished 40th of 48 teams. The Saxons' top runner was freshman Michael Meyer (166th in a field of 320). The Saxons' next two finishers were juniors Tommy Bylund and Alex Colvard.

**THE TEAM CHAMPION** in the 48-schools' varsity boys' 'A' race at Oatlands was Oakton High School (133 points) out of the Northern Region. The Cougars finished ahead of runner-up Robinson (165 points, Northern Region) and third place Potomac Falls (216), out of Loudoun County. Clarke County (328, Berryville, Va.) was fourth and Gonzaga High (331, D.C.) was fifth. The individual 'A' race champion was Tyler Stutzman (15: 44) of Western Albemarle High (Crozet, Va.). The top Northern Virginia-area finisher was Jared Berman of Robinson.

In the varsity boys' 'B' race, Thomas Jefferson High (Alexandria) was the team champion with 29 points. Saratoga Springs (N.Y.) was second with 117 points. Top local team finishers in the 59-team race were Herndon High (5th place, 261 points) and Briar Woods (8th place, 356). The individual champion was Demetri Goutos (16:35) of Saratoga Springs, who finished ahead of Thomas Jefferson runners Alex Witko (2nd, 16:49) and Logan Gates (3rd, 16:56). Also for Jefferson, Timmy Galvin was fifth overall and James Wu was seventh. Westfield High's Jack Canatsey was sixth.

**ON THE GIRLS' SIDE**, Saratoga Springs was the 'A' race team champion with 33 points, finishing ahead of second place Brentsville (Nokesville) with 206 points and third place Oakton (218). Other area teams finishing in the top 10 of the 37-team race



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION  
**The Langley boys competed at the Monroe Parker Invitational earlier last week at Burke Lake Park.**



**Langley's Joe Young (right) competes at the Monroe Parker.**

were fourth place Osbourn Park (Manassas) and 10th place Potomac Falls.

Jefferson High, meanwhile, was the varsity girls' 'B' team champion with 52 points. Other area teams to finish in the top 10 in the 47 school race were Westfield (fourth place), Briar Woods (fifth), Yorktown High (seventh) and Centreville (10th). Rachel Grochowski of Chantilly High was the indi-

SEE RACES, PAGE 19

## Highlanders Land Rotary Cup

BY NICK CAFFERY  
SPECIAL TO THE CONNECTION

**A**t the beginning of the season, McLean High girls' field hockey coach Summer Hardman and her players put together a list of seven goals that they felt they could accomplish this season. One of the goals on top of that list was to reclaim the Rotary Cup from local rival Langley. On Friday, the Highlanders did just that by defeating their rivals 2-0 at home.

From the very first whistle of the game, it was obvious that McLean was the better team as it controlled the ball and set the tempo early. Langley's defense held tough throughout the first half, but had a difficult time clearing the ball.

"Our midfield line has such good communication skills and has such a knack for finding the ball and they really know how to pass. They are good at working the ball to the forwards and advancing the ball up field," said Coach Hardman.

Despite Langley's inability to go on the offense, the defense was holding firm, including stopping McLean from scoring on two early penalty corners. However, with 13 minutes left in the half, senior Carolyn Postol was able to punch one in amidst a scrum in front of the goal following a penalty corner. Junior Olivia Applewhite would score again in the second half to give the Highlanders a cushion, but that's

all they needed to give Coach Hardman her first Rotary Cup.

"Scoring was my main goal today especially because we thought we could keep them from scoring," Postol said.

**FOR LANGLEY**, this is their first loss in four years to McLean in what looks like a rebuilding year. With three sophomores and eight juniors on the roster, this is one of the younger teams head coach Jennifer Robb has had.

"As a young team, we are still working through some kinks, but they are making strides every day and are getting more opportunities to score," Coach Robb said.

Since the Rotary Cup was installed 14 years ago, the field hockey rivalry has been the best of any sport. After losing three years in a row, the Highlanders' win ties the series at 7-7.

"We have wanted this win for so long, but we haven't been able to beat them. Last year we lost awfully, so this year we felt like we needed to win this one," Postol said.

If Mclean is going to accomplish their top goal of a district championship, the next three weeks are vital, as they enter district play. Before the end of the regular season they will have to play Woodson, Marshall, South Lakes, Thomas Jefferson, and Madison all before the district tournament.

## SPORTS



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Langley, under coach John Howerton (center), is on a three-game win streak in football following its home win over Marshall last week. This Friday night, the Saxons travel to unbeaten Oakton.**

**The Langley High football team** won its third straight game last Friday night with a 35-12 home win over Marshall. It was the Saxons' Liberty District opener.

Since beginning the season with a tough loss at Chantilly, Langley has won three straight games to improve to 3-1. The victories have come over Jefferson, Herndon and now the Statesmen (1-3).

In Friday's win, senior running back David Helmer had a huge night, rushing for 191 yards on 27 carries and four touchdowns. The Saxons trailed 6-0 in the first quarter, but Langley scored touchdowns in both the first and second quarters, both on Helmer runs, to take a 14-6 lead into halftime. The Statesmen got to within 14-12 in the third quarter, but Langley scored the game's final three touchdowns, the latter coming on a one-yard run by senior fullback Derek Eklund in the final quarter.

Langley will face a stiff test this Friday night when it travels to 4-0 Oakton. The Cougars are coming off a 38-7 win at Fairfax. Their previous three wins came over Madison, Annandale and T.C. Williams.

**The 2008 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics** (NVSO) opened Sept. 20 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center in Arlington. Opening ceremonies included a flag ceremony by the George Mason University Police Honor Guard. Emcee and NVSO chairman, Steve Mandes, introduced dignitaries, including Barbara Karro, Manager of the Arlington Office of Senior Adult Programs, and Debra Williams, Loudoun County Senior Center program manager.

**In track and field competition**, gold medal winners included: Reston's John

Cordyack (men's age 65-69 bracket) in the 800-meter walk; Oakton's James W.C. Chang (men's 70-74) in the 1,600-meter walk; Vienna's Karl Blake (men ages 55-59) in the 800-meter run; McLean's Jeff Young (men 60-64) in the 60 dash an

d 200 dash; Ashburn's Richard Enrico (men 75-79) in both the 60-meters dash and 200-meters dash; and McLean's Dana Hodgdon (men 85-89) in the 60 dash.

**In field events**, gold metals went to: Herndon's Charles James (men 50-54) in the shotput; McLean's Jeff Young (men 60-64) in shotput and running long jump; McLean's Sheila Gildea (women 75-79) in shotput and discuss; Herndon's Charles James (men 50-54) in the discus; Sterling's V. Thuraisamy (women 75-79) in running long jump; Reston's John Cordyack (men 60-64) in standing long jump; and Ashburn's Richard Enrico (men 75-79) in the standing long jump.

The Olympics continue through Oct. 2 at different venues with events in line dancing, bowling, golf, tennis, table tennis, eight ball pool, horseshoes, swimming, diving, scrabble, chess, duplicate bridge, backgammon, bunco, shuffleboard, miniature golf, frisbee throw, basketball free throws, racquetball, bait casting, cribbage, yo yo tricks and pickleball. Additional information may be obtained by checking the website at [www.novaseniorolympics.org](http://www.novaseniorolympics.org) or calling 703-228-4721.

**Great Falls winter basketball registration** is now open for boys and girls in grades one through 10. Referees, coaches and volunteers are also needed. To register

and for more information please visit [www.greatfallsbasketball.com](http://www.greatfallsbasketball.com). Register before Sept. 30 to avoid late fees. Late registration ends Oct. 7th (late fees apply).

**The Reston Raiders Ice Hockey Club's Learn-to-Play-Hockey program** will be taking place on Sundays from Oct. 5, 2008 through Feb. 22, 2009 at the Reston SkateQuest Olympic Rink.

The 16 on-ice sessions, designed to introduce youngsters to the game of hockey, will be for boys and girls born between 1995 through 2004. Session times will be as follows: 1:40 to 2:50 p.m. for younger beginners, and 2:50 to 4 p.m. for older beginners. Along with learning the basics of the game, students will have fun, get exercise, and improve both their balance and hand-eye coordination. Cost is \$295, the best deal for ice-time instruction anywhere around. Sticks will be distributed for free, and loaner sets of hockey equipment will be available for free. Skates are needed, but a few pairs may be obtained for free as available. An orientation session will be held on Sept. 28 at 2:00 p.m. in the Mezzanine of the Reston SkateQuest Rink.

The Reston Raiders Ice Hockey Club's Learn-to-Play-Hockey program draws from all of Northern Virginia, especially Fairfax, Loudoun, and Arlington Counties. For more information, contact Aloysius Hogan, Director of the Reston Raiders Ice Hockey Club, at 202-957-9400. Or visit the Reston Raiders website and select "Register Online" from the main menu.

**The Madison High girls' field hockey team**, under coach Meghan Punaro, defeated Langley, 2-1, on Sept. 17 for its first Liberty District win of the sea-

## Races Attract Thousands

FROM PAGE 18

vidual champion with a time of 19:43. Jefferson runners Stephanie Marzen, Sarah Stites and Katherine Sheridan finished second, third and ninth, respectively, while Briar Woods' Giana Leone (eighth) and Yorktown's Lindsey Hunt (10th) were also in the top 10.

**IT WAS A PICTURESQUE**, autumn day at Oatlands on Saturday. Thousands of spectators attended the event, which began at 9 a.m. Four JV races were held in the morning, two boys and two girls. Later in the morning, the four varsity races began, carrying into the afternoon. The 'A' races, for the most part, consisted of the higher caliber runners. Following all eight races (JV and varsity combined), a brief awards presentation took place at around 2:30 p.m. Top 25 finishers in each of the races earned medals.

There were 101 teams (compared to 73 last year) and 4,300 runners on-hand for the meet, which has become known as the second leg of the triple crown of Northern Virginia area high school cross country. The Oatlands extravaganza is considered the largest high school meet in Virginia and one of the largest on the East coast. Most of the meets' teams were from Virginia, but guest schools from New York, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, West Virginia, Colorado, Maryland and Washington, D.C. were also participants.

The host schools for the Oatland Invitational were Loudoun County and Freedom (South Riding) High Schools of the Dulles District. The meet organizers were Matt Oblas of Freedom and Derek Farry of Loudoun County.

The mostly grass running course, a 5K layout on the grounds of the historic Leesburg site, was a challenge for most all of the runners. There are several excruciating hills following the first, relatively easy mile. The near picture perfect course setting includes some wood trails and a couple of creek crossings.

son. In the hard fought game, Langley got on the scoreboard first with a goal from Cate Wingo less than 10 minutes into the game. But the Warhawks answered back. Hallie Dominick scored both of Madison's goals with one in each half, assisted by Lindsay Weber. Madison, with the win, improved to 3-3 overall and 1-0 in the district.

The upcoming Liberty District tournament semifinals and finals, slated to take place Oct. 20 and 21, will be hosted by Madison for the second straight year. First round games will be played at the home site of the top seeds.

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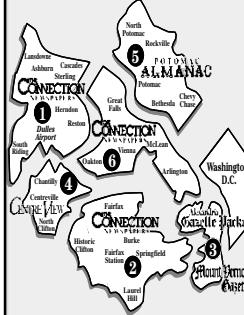
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## Juxtapose This



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Spending as much time as I do with my widowed mother, naturally I fall into her routine. After all, the visits are not about me, they're about her: arrive when expected — and on time, eat home when she wants, eat out when she prefers, telephone as per usual and watch programs on television she can tolerate. Most often we watch LMN, the Lifetime Movie Network, a channel available through her digital cable service from Comcast.

To say that many of the movies are bad would be an affront to all movies characterized as bad. To say the movies are time consuming would be totally accurate, however. And so my mother, house bound, sort of, but definitely still ambulatory, unable to hear but complete and competent in most every other way, especially where her faculties are concerned, patiently but predictably sits and watches channel 119 (LMN in Montgomery County), remote in hand, switching regularly, hoping to find programming to help pass the time. And when I visit, so too do I sit and watch television and together we marvel at the consistency of the quality of these movies (and I use that term loosely and of course, subjectively). For all I know, the movies shown are award-winning and focus-group approved).

And with respect to the content of these movies, there does seem to be a frequent theme. In general, I would call it heartbreak: rape, incest, infidelity, divorce, death, disease, disability, murder, kidnapping, miscellaneous abuse, etc; among many other similar heart-wrenching, life-changing and dysfunctional-type circumstances and addictions.

And given this kind of content, I find it particularly unseemly that one of the more frequent advertisers on this channel are dating services; flush with the bravado and self-satisfaction that comes with the elation and realization that one's life can be rekindled with new love, if only you'd complete the profile and pay your fee (although the fact that there's a cost associated with this service seems hardly worth mentioning, at least on the commercial).

The product placement seems odd, however. This channel regularly shows movies about how people's lives are torn apart by infidelity, divorce, physical and mental abuse, sexual addictions, etc., (a fair amount of it anyway, from my watching experience, which is rather substantial), yet during the commercial breaks, advertisements will appear directed at people looking for a date (many of whom, presumably, may be victims of the same terrible circumstances as the characters in the very movies they're watching) and/or if things work, perhaps even a mate. I can't decide if this movie-watching behavior is cathartic — and helpful — or if it's some kind of self-immolation.

It all feels manipulative, somehow, almost like entrapment. Drawing viewers in who might be able to relate and then offering solutions to the very problem/problems they're experiencing (generally presented by the end of the movie, although, having seen many ends of many of these movies, I have to tell you, the ends don't justify the beginnings). Unfortunately, these are serious problems and their solutions just aren't that simple. It requires more than two hours (the typical length of these movies) and a remote control.

Certainly I'm aware that knowing your market/audience is crucial to advertising but banking your company's/product's success on the failure — and difficulties — of others people's lives seems a bit crude. Not unusual for this channel, or these advertisers, but still inappropriate. I suppose we could change the channel, but what fun would that be?

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



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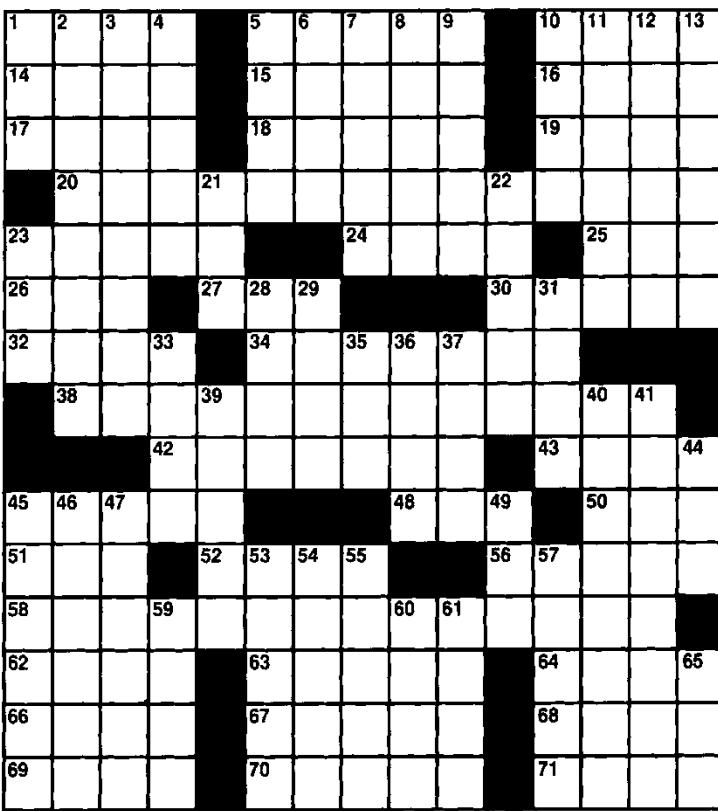
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# NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0330-6



Puzzle by Randy Sowell

### ACROSS

- 1 Armed forces females
- 5 Like a whip?
- 10 Play parts
- 14 Fiery gem
- 15 Synagogue scroll
- 16 Combustible pile
- 17 — Sabe
- 18 Actress Verdugo
- 19 Israeli statesman
- 20 Gizmos for couch potatoes
- 23 Ace, e.g.
- 24 "You Are My Destiny" singer, 1958
- 25 Classic car
- 26 The "A" in NATO: Abbr.
- 27 Poem of praise
- 30 Feline hybrid
- 32 Constitutional Amendment that abolished slavery
- 34 Just barely places
- 38 1949 Bing Crosby hit
- 42 Puget Sound city
- 43 Quotation notation
- 45 "Grand" piece of furniture
- 48 Dancer Charisse
- 50 "The — Divorcee"
- 51 Mag. staffers
- 52 Infamous Rudolf
- 56 Hardly award-winning writing
- 58 Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, e.g.
- 62 Together, musically
- 63 Jetés, e.g.
- 64 Family problem
- 66 Stew bean
- 67 "L.A. Law" lawyer
- 68 Mother of twins, in myth
- 69 Watch part
- 70 Bury
- 71 Once, once
- 43 Undo a dele
- 6 Lawn pest
- 7 Betel palm
- 8 Didn't stop
- 9 Do an Oscar winner's job
- 10 Mimic
- 11 Six Million Dollar Man, e.g.
- 12 Town in County Kerry
- 13 Electric eye, e.g.
- 21 Oklahoma Indian
- 22 Shire who had a "Rocky" career
- 23 Bellum's opposite
- 45 45-Across features
- 46 "Yippee!"
- 47 Take for granted
- 49 Sot's problem
- 53 Zhou —
- 54 Back of a boat
- 55 Meager
- 57 Ransack and rob
- 59 "Go, —!"
- 60 60's role for Ron Howard
- 61 Person with a PC
- 65 Lat. case

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



### DOWN

- 1 Stir-fry pan
- 2 Preprandial potable
- 3 Evergreen with roselike flowers
- 4 Kind of replay

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The winner of puzzle #0329-6 is:

## Shirley Carpenter

Note: Due to space limitations, the crossword may not appear from time to time. In that case, you may look on our Web site: [www.connectionnewspapers.com](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com) and click on the "Print Editions" button. It should appear in a newspaper from a different Classifieds zone.

# BUSINESS

To have business notes listed, send to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com) or 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102. Call 703-917-6449 with questions. Deadline is Friday.

**Herb Engert** has been named as Ernst & Young LLP's Mid-Atlantic Strategic Growth Markets Leader. A transaction advisory partner with more than 18 years of experience in both public and private sectors, Engert will be responsible for leveraging the synergies between private equity initiatives and strategic growth markets, and has led many types of transactions at Ernst & Young, including private and public debt and equity offerings, initial public offerings and mergers and acquisitions.

Engert is involved in his local community serving on the boards for Volunteer Fairfax, The Phillips Program and Bread for the City. He is also active in the Northern Virginia Technology Council. Engert is a graduate of St. John Fisher College in New York and resides in McLean.

**Marnette Myers**, Esq., CPA has rejoined Frank & Company, a McLean-based accounting firm. She is the firm's new Director of Tax Administration, and has returned to Frank & Company after six years with the IRS. She succeeds Sue Miller, CPA, as the head of the tax administration division. Since September 2002, Myers has worked as an attorney in the Office of the

Associate Chief Counsel (Income Tax & Accounting) for the IRS. Myers earned her B.S. in Accounting from Virginia Tech. She received her Juris Doctor, with honors, from George Washington University Law School, and is licensed to practice law and holds her CPA in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**Paula Birth** has been named Director of communications and media practice for Acumen Solutions, a business and technology consulting firm. Birth is responsible for market

expansion within the cable industry. Birth has more than twenty years of experience in telecommunications and media companies. Most recently, she was director of sales operations for Comcast Business Services where she was responsible for all sales infrastructures and operations across five regions in the eastern division. Birth received her bachelor of science in business administration from Alameda University in Idaho. She serves on an executive committee of the Cable Telecommunications Association for Marketing and is a member of Society of Cable and Telephony Engineers and Women in Cable.

Goodman & Company has announced the recent hire of **Khuyen Tran** as an associate in the Tysons Corner office. Tran is a recent graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting. Prior to joining Goodman & Company full-time, she worked as a summer intern in both 2007 and 2008. With over 80 partners and 500 professional staff, Goodman & Company is a regional certified public accounting and business advisory firm delivering quality accounting, tax and specialized services.

The firm is recognized as the fourth largest certified public accounting firms based in the mid-Atlantic and celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2007.

**Alion Science and Technology**, an employee-owned technology solutions provider, has been selected to manage the Defense Sustainment Consortium (DSC), an organization comprising government agency stakeholders, industry partners and representatives from academic institutions. The DSC provides a forum in which the government can present challenges facing aging weapons systems and obtain expert advice on how to extend a weapon platform's life. Alion was chosen to manage DSC through a memorandum of agreement that was signed in July.

Morgan Stanley's Global Wealth Management Group announced that **John Verfurth**, a Senior Vice President, Wealth Advisor, in the Tysons Corner office, has been named to Virginia Business Magazine's listing of "Top 50 Wealth Advisors." Among factors the survey takes into consideration are the overall size and success of practices, the quality of service provided to clients, adherence to high standards of industry regulatory compliance, and leadership in "best practices" of wealth management.

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