

# Local Sleuths Solve Murder

NEWS, PAGE 3

“Scarlet” super sleuths, from left, Don and Cathy Ziegler, Eileen and Marshall Curtis question suspect Glo N. Thadarke, the victim’s wife in “Murder at Mesa Verde” at Great Falls Library on Saturday, Oct. 4.

PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION SCHOOLS, PAGE 14 ♦ OPINION, PAGE 8 ♦ FAITH, PAGE 17 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 18 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 20

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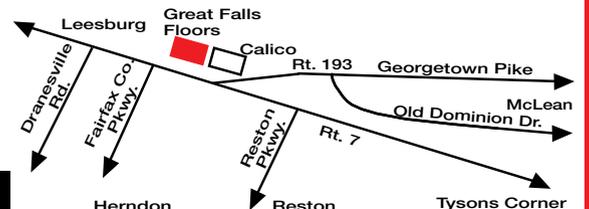
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Girl detective, Nancy Drawn, shares murder clues with party guests, charged with solving L. Austin Thadarke's murder.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Jeff Johnson, an alumni of McLean High School, takes his putt shot during the annual Alumni Golf Tournament.

## Reunion With Cause

Golf tournament in Herndon brings together old friends for military family support.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHC  
THE CONNECTION

It happened decades ago, but Brian Doherty and Joe Yohe still remember the play that led to the first of the three consecutive championships they won with their McLean Little League team. Doherty, a 1977 McLean High School graduate, and Yohe, a 1976 Bishop O'Connell grad, now share something entirely different: Each have a son in the United States military.

Yohe's 23-year-old son is a lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps and Doherty's 21-year-old son will be a lieutenant in the United States Army upon graduation from the Corps of Cadets at Virginia Tech.

"John [Yohe] interviewed with several defense contractors after graduating from VMI [Virginia Military Institute]," said Yohe about his son. "He had some nice job offers, but said, 'Dad, I had a calling to do this,'" Yohe said about his son's decision to pursue a commission in the Marines.

Doherty said when his son broke the news that he decided to pursue a commission with the Army, some of his family members and friends did not receive it well. "Because rich kids aren't supposed to do that," said Doherty about the reason for the reaction. Doherty added that people should not be bemused to see an economically well off young man join the military. "If an inner city kid from Detroit or Washington can do it, so can a rich kid," said Doherty.

SEE REUNION, PAGE 11

# Local Sleuths Solve Murder

Great Falls Library hosts interactive murder mystery.

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

Why would anyone want to kill philanthropist, rancher, and Sezhusezmi Indian cultural preservationist, L. Austin Thadarke? Turns out, a lot of people ... and all 10 suspects are corralled in the Common Room of the Sezhusezmi Historical and Cultural Archive, colloquially known as the Great Falls Community Library.

It's evening in Mesa Verde National Park, Colo. To celebrate the grand opening of the Sezhusezmi Historical and Cultural Archive, endowed by Thadarke, a party was planned. This special library boasts a rich collection of books, journals, documents, artifacts, and other items pertaining to the Sezhusezmi Indian Tribe, whose reservation borders the park. Scattered throughout Mesa Verde are ancient cliff dwellings, one of which is the renown Trapezoid Tower.

L. Austin Thadarke, guest of honor and honorary Sezhusezmi Indian, is coming to dedicate the new artifact and document repository. Guests are waiting for his arrival ....

The players of Murder Overdue, Fairfax County Public Library's Mystery Night Troupe, brought to life "Murder at Mesa Verde" at Great Falls Library on Oct. 4. Ten suspects, a detective, and a sight-unseen

body make up the central conceit of all the interactive murder mysteries created by Ted Kavich, branch manager at Kingstowne Library, and the play's author, producer, director, and cast member.

Kavich's interactive mysteries are light in tone, marked by a broad comic element. A diner owner is never without her apron, a junk dealer carries with him at all times the accoutrements of his trade, and a cattle rustler keeps her lasso by her side. And this is at a grand party.

Don and Cathy Ziegler of Great Falls are fans of vintage television murder mysteries, such as "Columbo," and "Murder, She Wrote." When they read about it, they signed up.

"We thought it'd be a fun evening. And it is," said Don Ziegler.

**WHEN L. AUSTIN THADARKE'S** battered, bloody body was found on the ground 32 feet below his room in the Trapezoid Tower, 10 party guests were immediately identified as suspects. Forty-two innocent bystanders, charged with solving the crime, became amateur sleuths, divided into color-coded groups. Nibbling on treats, they mingled with the suspects, who freely implicated one another while building their own alibis. Intrepid detective Nancy Drawn shared "clues" that were found strewn about the tribal grounds.

Could Louis D. Kace, the inept, bumbling lawyer, have tried to win his first case the easy way? Was diner owner, Pattie Meltz, cooking up something besides berry cob-

bler? Is Pow Ursurv, tennis-tour pro and Sezhusezmi, serving justice to encroacher Thadarke? Has alien-abductee and Star Schlep fan, Hugh Faux, been out-in-space one too many times? And Scrappy Meddle, junk dealer ... what's with the free-cheese fixation?

**"We do it for a love of mysteries and for entertaining."**

—Michael "Ted" Kavich

Great Falls residents Marshall and Eileen Curtis participated in an interactive murder mystery once before, several years ago, Eileen Curtis said. After reading about Murder at Mesa Verde in the newspaper, she thought it sounded like "quite a lot of fun."

Even Vienna-ites made the trip in to Great Falls for the murder.

"I thought this was great, a lot of fun," said Michael Wesbecher of Vienna. "All the people here were friendly, and the actors were very good. I thought they had a professional quality about them."

Carl Anderson of Vienna doesn't miss any of the Murder Overdue productions. His interest is personal; Beth Lee, aka "Glo N. Thadarke," is Anderson's daughter.

**FRIENDS OF GREAT FALLS LIBRARY** provided the refreshments, including "free cheese," and library staff volunteered their services, hosting and serving.

Kavich and all actors of Murder Overdue dedicate their own personal time to the productions because, as Kavich said, "we do it for a love of mysteries and for entertaining."

"Mardi Gras Murder" is coming up in November at Oakton Library.

# Compassionate Conservative

Activists says Wolf fights for the voiceless at home and abroad.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

This is the second in a series of articles about Virginia's 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> congressional district candidates. An article about 11<sup>th</sup> district Republican candidate Keith Fimian appeared last week. Articles about 11<sup>th</sup> congressional district candidate Gerry Connolly and 10<sup>th</sup> congressional district candidate Judy Feder will also appear.

In the backcountry of war-torn southern Sudan, Africa specialist Ted Dagney once found a picture of U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R) stuck to a post. The message attached to it read: "This is Frank Wolf's road."

"This is in a very remote area. There is nothing out there," said Dagney who works for the nonpartisan congressional research service.

Wolf has fought tirelessly to stop the human rights abuses and genocide in Sudan since the 1980s, long before problems in Darfur gained mainstream media attention. His efforts gained him widespread recognition and appreciation from the southern part of the African country.

"He was there when no one else was there when it comes to the Sudan issue. He never shied away. He never said 'I don't have time for this.' He always has time for issues like this," said Dagney.

**WOLF**, a 28-year incumbent, faces Democrat and health care expert Judy Feder in an election for Virginia's 10th congressional district seat Nov. 4.

Many people consider the Republican a leader on human rights issues in the U.S. Congress. He is co-chair of the congressional human rights caucus and has taken a proactive role on human rights and religious freedom issues in China, Burma, Tibet, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Balkans region, Egypt, Romania, Pakistan, Korea and Afghanistan — to name a few.

"We count on him all the time. He is one of the few leaders we run up to when we need something. ... He gives voice to the voiceless and he is well known around the world because of that," said T. Kumar, Amnesty International's advocacy director for Asia.

Wolf has sponsored anti-genocide resolutions in the U.S. Congress and established the Helping to Enhance the Livelihood of People around the Globe (HELP) commission, aimed at enhancing the leverage and efficiency of U.S. foreign aid.

As the ranking member of the foreign relations operations subcommittee, he has restricted assistance to abusive military dictatorships and pressured foreign governments to give up political prisoners, said Kumar.

The congressman does much of this work, despite the fact that it offers very little in



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

**U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) spoke at a Veterans for McCain rally in Ashburn's Lansdowne Town Center Oct. 4.**

the way of political gain or fanfare, said those involved in human rights causes.

"He doesn't get involved just because an issue is in the papers. He is involved even when an issue becomes unpopular or forgotten," said Dagney.

**INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS** wasn't always such a priority for Wolf. After two unsuccessful campaigns, the Republican was finally elected to Congress in 1980, the year Ronald Reagan won the presidency.

At the time, Wolf represented Fairfax County north of Route 50 and Arlington County. A former Nixon appointee to the Department of Interior, Wolf focused on domestic and local issues. He successfully lobbied to shift control of local airports to a regional authority, a talking point he brought up along the 1980 campaign trail.

But in the mid-1980s, Wolf took two trips that he calls "life-changing experiences."

He visited Ethiopia and stayed at a feeding camp during the height of famine in 1984. The next year, he went to Romania, where he said the then-government was bulldozing churches and synagogues.

"The squalid conditions of the feeding camps and the faces of the individual Ethiopians who begged for help are unforgettable," wrote Wolf in his newsletter in 1985.

Wolf has also taken it upon himself to visit people and places around the world that he supports.

Wolf visited the Russian Gulag, has been to the Chinese prisons where those arrested in the Tiananmen Square protests are kept and gone "undercover" to Tibet when it was closed territory.

"He has done some amazing things at his own risk to understand what is really happening," said Kumar, of Amnesty International.

"If you visit a place and spend a night or

several days, that is a life-changing experience. To feel it, touch it, smell it, hear it. That is different than reading about it or watching a movie," said Wolf.

**WOLF BRINGS** the same approach to local issues that he has to international problems.

The congressman often gets involved when he perceives there is an injustice or suffering.

"Frank is kind of hard to define politically. ... He takes on some little-noticed causes," said U.S. Rep. Tom Davis (R-11).

He has railed against toll increases on the Dulles Greenway Toll Road in Loudoun County. Wolf also pushed for an investigation into the way Lyme Disease is diagnosed after a few constituents complained that they were having trouble getting proper medical attention for the illness.

In some cases, Wolf has gone up against powerful special interests on behalf of constituents.

Wolf publicly criticized Purdue Pharma company for aggressively marketing oxycontin when addiction to the prescription painkiller became a serious problem in the western part of his district. The congressman is also fighting Dominion Power — one of the top donors to Virginia elected officials — and their efforts to install high-voltage power lines in Loudoun County.

"He is truly one of the most decent people in politics. Nothing has ever gone to his head. He just keeps working hard, no matter what the issue is," said Fairfax County Supervisor Mike Frey (R-Sully), whose district overlaps with Wolf's.

**THE REPUBLICAN** has also been out in front on some key issues for the region over the years, said elected officials.

SEE PRAISE, PAGE 5

## Free Lunch or Dinner for Area Veterans

Veterans will receive a free lunch or dinner entrée at McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurants and M&S Grill restaurants Sunday, Nov. 9 in tribute to Veterans Day. Veterans should show proper identification (VA card, VFW card, veterans ID, discharge papers, etc.)

Reservations strongly encouraged.

Participating McCormick & Schmick's Seafood, M&S Grill Restaurants in the area include:

Mccormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurants in Reston Town Center, 703-481-6600, opens at 11:30 a.m.; 8484 Westpark Drive, McLean/Tysons, 703-848-8000, opens at 5 p.m., as well as M&S Grill Restaurant at Reston Town Center, 703-787-7766, opens at 11:30 a.m.

For more information visit [www.McCormickandSchmicks.com](http://www.McCormickandSchmicks.com)

## Fairgrade Overview At Langley High

On Thursday, Oct. 16 at 7:30 p.m. Langley High School will be hosting a presentation on the FAIRGRADE proposal in Fairfax County. FAIRGRADE advocates major revisions to the current grading policy in Fairfax County Public Schools. Presenters will be offer an overview of the proposal as well as an update of the progress made to date. The presentation is open to the public.

For more information or questions contact Insun Hofgard at 703-759-7877 or at [JHOFGARD@aol.com](mailto:JHOFGARD@aol.com) or visit [www.FAIRGRADE.org](http://www.FAIRGRADE.org).

## Conscious Bean to Host Presentation

Ever thought of going for a year without buying anything new? As a small, but growing numbers of people re-think what — and how much — they buy, one can get a feel for how it goes (short of trying it oneself) from Jim Dieter and Helene Shore, residents of Vienna, who spent 2007 foregoing purchases of anything new, save toiletries, food, restaurant meals, and wine.

All are invited to join EcoStewards Alliance for "Not Buying It" presentation on Sunday, Oct. 26 at 1 p.m. at the Conscious Bean Coffee House, 10123 Colvin Run Road, Unit C, in Great Falls. To learn more, go to [www.ecostewardsalliance.org](http://www.ecostewardsalliance.org) or call Maureen Becker at 571-323-2386.

# Praise, Questioning on Dulles Rail

FROM PAGE 4

Through an earmark, Wolf has acquired federal funding for the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force, which is credited with reducing local crime.

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Gerry Connolly (D) often points to it as one of the Fairfax County's most successful initiatives. Loudoun County Supervisor Eugene Delgaudio (R-Sterling) said the task force "has made a big dent in gang warfare."

Delgaudio added that Wolf has also been instrumental in getting federal officials to work on the gang issue.

"I needed help from the FBI. I discovered no one on the board [of supervisors] knew what MS-13 was. ... The FBI briefed the board privately but they would not have come had it not been for Congressman Wolf's help," said Delgaudio.

Others said Wolf is responsible for the federal backing of the Dulles rail extension project.

Wolf "has done more than either [Rep. Tom Davis] or I or even John Warner to get us where we are today," on Dulles rail, said U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8), while

speaking at a rail rally in the spring of 2007.

Wolf is on the House of Representatives' transportation appropriation subcommittee and "every year [Wolf] could, he got an appropriation for this, to keep this project alive," said Moran at the same rally.

**BUT WOLF'S CRITICS** wonder why, as member of the transportation appropriations subcommittee, the congressman cannot secure more funding to address the region's transportation problems.

The federal government has not signed off on the Dulles rail extension yet and, as recently as this year, members of George W. Bush's administration made serious threats to yank funding from the project entirely.

Wolf, a 28-year incumbent, should have been able to do more to get the project funded and started earlier, said his critics.

"If Frank Wolf had any influence, to get this rail to Dulles, it would be a piece of cake," said Scott Surovell, head of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee.

Wolf's opponent, Feder, said the voters are also looking for a "change" on Capitol Hill.

"Mr. Wolf has been a member of congress for 28 years and I, along with many others, appreciate his service. ...[but] I don't think Mr. Wolf can be a force for change and I am running to bring that change," said Feder.

**STILL, OTHERS** appreciate what Wolf has done over the years. The Good Shepherd Alliance and LINK food bank — which serve homeless people in Loudoun County — said Wolf has been instrumental in getting federal funding for their efforts.

The congressman has also helped the organization solicit private funding. In 2002, Wolf sent out approximately 200 letters to Loudoun County businesses and faith communities on behalf of the Good Shepherd Alliance.

"There is no more tireless fighter, in our view, for the cause of the indigent and homeless in Loudoun County than Frank Wolf," said Nicholas Graham, volunteer spokesperson for the Good Shepherd Alliance.

## Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department

### Open House

October 11, 2008, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

The Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department will be hosting its annual Open House, Saturday, October 11th, from 10am-4pm at 9916 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066.

This year's theme is "Prevent House Fires!" We 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 your local fire fighters and enjoy a day of fun for the whole family!



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PHOTO BY WALTER LAWRENCE

Discussing the beautification of Great Falls in the upcoming Oct. 21 meeting, GFCA will ask residents: What improvements they would like to see in the village center?

# How To Beautify Great Falls?

## GFCA to discuss beautification on Oct. 21.

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY  
SPECIAL TO GREAT FALLS CONNECTION

Most of us chose to live in Great Falls because of its unique setting (as reported in the 2020 survey) — its semi-rural character, its small-town village or country feel, and its natural setting in the middle of the woods, with open spaces, abundant wildlife, etc. A second basis for our choice is the quality of life available to us — that is, the excellent school system, the sense of community and family values, and the general safety of the community.

We residents of Great Falls have our own sense of “beauty.” We are able to “discern” the intrinsic value of “semi-rural” and the exquisite beauty of an “untouched natural setting.” We know the treasure that these features hold, and we appreciate the opportunity to live in such a special place. We share this appreciation in common. 85 percent of us agree that “preserving the semi-rural character of Great Falls” is the anchor of our 2020 vision.

Yet when we drive up to our village center, we are confused. (I will leave it to you to describe the sources of the confusion ....) If we compare our ideal picture of our village center in the year 2020 with the way things are today, what would you say is in alignment with our vision, and where do you think improvements need to be made? And what improvements would you suggest?

The Long-Range Planning Committee is holding a Village Beautification “launch” meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 21 at the Great Falls Library Meeting Room from 5 - 7 p.m. to discuss our impressions of Great Falls’ “beauty”

today and what initiatives we might launch to effect the “beautification” of Great Falls over the next eight months. This meeting is being held at an early hour so that teens who may be looking for a community service or scouting project may also join in and propose a project that they would like to work on. We also invite neighborhood associations to join in and propose a beautification project for their neighborhood — or perhaps your neighborhood might want to take on a small project to beautify the village center.

As a “thought-jogger,” here are the ways in which “beautification” has been interpreted by other communities:

❖ **“Beautification” as Visual Touches:** Some communities think of beautification as adding visual touches to the community to create a sense of unity. In an approach similar to Georgetown in Washington, D.C., North Wilton Village added village banners, period street lighting, hanging flower baskets, neighborhood entry signs and gardens, neighborhood accents (benches, trash receptacles, bicycle lock stands, etc.).

❖ **“Beautification” as Business Façade Revitalization:** Some communities launch a more substantial revitalization effort by providing subsidized funding to businesses to modify the exterior of their buildings. At the same time, they increase the commitment of residents to the revitalization efforts by increasing the number of residents who buy local, and attend local events. (Old East Village, London, Ontario, Canada)

❖ **“Beautification” as Gardening:** Other communities look at beautification as largely a “gardening” initiative. “If something grows out of the soil, it is covered by the Beautification Committee” in Amberley Village. Trees, shrubs, flowers, rain gardens, etc. are included in making the village more beautiful.

❖ **“Beautification” as Traffic Calming**

**and Pedestrian Friendliness:** The village of Lisle includes traffic calming and creating a safer, more pedestrian-friendly environment as part of their beautification project.

❖ **“Beautification” as Environmental Conservation:** “Beautification” is not a new idea. The Beautification Act of 1965 was passed by Lyndon Johnson as a gift to his wife — and is considered to have introduced environmentalism as a top priority in the U.S. On her 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday in 1982, Mrs. Johnson founded the National Wildflower Research Center dedicated to the preservation and re-establishment of native plants in natural and planned landscapes.

Lady Bird Johnson feared that the term beautification was cosmetic and trivial. She emphasized that it meant much more — “clean water, clean air, clean roadsides, safe waste disposal and preservation of valued old landmarks as well as great parks and wilderness areas.” Although the first plantings of pansies, azaleas and dogwood were placed around the nation’s capital, Mrs. Johnson emphasized that she was concerned with pollution, urban decay, recreation, mental health, etc. (She believed that a beautiful place to walk or a bench to sit on in a beautiful place was vital for good mental health.) At the White House Conference on Natural Beauty (May 1966) she opened with a question: “Can a great democratic society generate the drive to plan, and having planned, execute projects of great natural beauty?”

Join us on Tuesday, Oct. 21 to determine if our community has the will to plan and the willingness to implement a beautification project this year. Let’s begin by brainstorming about the most appropriate meaning of “beautification” for Great Falls. All are welcome.

*Kathleen Murphy is the GFCA Chair, Long-Range Planning, Development and Outreach Committee.*

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# OPINION

## Signs of Life

Time to count our blessings in Northern Virginia; real estate market alive at both ends of the spectrum.

While the economic news is enough to ruin your breakfast (and lunch, and dinner), there are signs of life and resilience here in Northern Virginia.

While unemployment climbs in other parts of the country, employment is stronger here than almost anywhere. Proximity to the federal government in general, and to the Pentagon in particular, continues to boost our economy and employment.

We can look forward to new federal jobs created to support oversight of \$700 billion in federal investment in mortgage-related debt.

The Treasury, along with Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, should waste no time in fixing some of the problems at the root of the current housing and mortgage crisis. Adjustable rate mortgages should be rewritten or refinanced for a fixed rate of 6 percent for 30 years. Pre-payment penalties should be abol-

ished and banned. Every effort should be made to keep current homeowners in their current homes, and rescue them from the threat of foreclosure if they are able to make payments on the actual value of their homes at a reasonable and fixed interest rate. These steps will go a long way towards restoring a sense of confidence in the value of most families' primary investment. It's critical to let would-be homebuyers know that the end is in sight for prices dropping due to foreclosures.

On the home front, August home sales showed signs of life here, even during a month notorious even in good times for low sales activity.

In communities that are served by the Connection Newspapers, in the month of August, more than 120 homes sold for more than \$1 million.

To give a sense of the variety of sales, the home that sold for the most money in the area in August was a four-bedroom, four-and-a-half bath condo in Arlington,

which sold for \$5.3 million.

A three-bedroom, three-and-a-half bath home on an acre in Alexandria sold for \$3.875 million. Two homes in McLean and one in Great Falls each sold for more than \$3 million.

A dozen more condos and townhouses in Arlington and Alexandria sold for between \$1.09 million and \$2.325 million.

A four-bedroom home in Vienna sold for \$1.6 million on Aug. 27. A four-bedroom home in Oakton sold for \$1.45 million on Aug. 29. Ten more homes in Vienna and Oakton sold in August for more than \$1 million each.

A five-bedroom, six-bath home on more than five acres in Clifton sold on Aug. 1 for \$2.388 million. A seven-bedroom home on five acres in Fairfax Station sold on Aug. 25.

Several homes with Lorton addresses topped \$1 million, along with at least one in Springfield and one in Centreville.

A home on a little less than an acre on Broad Creek Place in Herndon sold for \$1.275 million

on Aug. 21.

A six-bedroom home on half an acre in Ashburn sold for \$1.845 million on Aug. 6.

At the other end of the spectrum is a glimpse of affordability that we haven't dreamed of in this area in nearly a decade.

Some examples:

In Arlington, 10 condos sold in August for less than \$200,000, six of those for under \$150,000.

In Reston, 14 homes — condos and townhouses — sold for under \$200,000, with another 16 selling between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

In Herndon, more than 40 homes, mostly townhouses, sold in August for less than \$200,000, 15 of those under \$150,000. More than 20 more sold for between \$200,000 and \$300,000.

Even in McLean, more than a dozen condos sold for less than \$300,000.

With homes at the top of the market selling, and new opportunities opening up at the affordable end of the market, our area's real estate market and home values should be reassuring.

### EDITORIAL

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Doctors Appeal For Disclosure

To the Editor:

In America, it is expected that the public be apprised of the state of health of the President. It is even more important that the public be fully aware of the state of health of a potential President.

In May of this year the McCain campaign released details of his medical records in a peculiarly restrictive manner, permitting review of 1,173 pages to a selected group of reporters for only three hours, with photocopying of material prohibited. There are valid medical questions about Sen. McCain's prognosis that have not been satisfactorily answered by that session.

In 2000 presidential candidate John McCain was diagnosed with a particularly serious cancer, an invasive malignant melanoma. Sen. McCain's doctors have represented his 2000 tumor as Stage IIA, which has an 80 percent five-year survival rate and a 60 percent 10-year survival rate. But reporters' notes from the released records raise concern that this staging may be overly optimistic regarding a potentially lethal cancer, Stage III, in which the 10-year survival is more like 30 percent.

There are those who observe that it has been eight years since this tumor was removed and there has been no recurrence. But it is important to note that late recurrences are not uncommon in melanoma, and that remission is not a cure.

On Friday, Oct. 3, The New York Times pub-

lished a statement calling for full disclosure of John McCain's medical records. This request was signed by 2,817 physicians, including myself.

The American people are entitled to a full understanding of the health risks to Mr. McCain. Lack of candor fuels speculation that there is something to hide.

It is imperative that the McCain campaign put an end to fear and speculation about the seriousness of the Senator's invasive melanoma by releasing all records from the original diagnosis, treatment and subsequent evaluations. The American people deserve no less.

**Nancy V. Bruckner**  
MD, dermatologist  
McLean

## Voting for Area 'Renaissance Man'

To the Editor:

In a congressional campaign, some things need sunshine — and Frank Wolf is no exception. What on earth has Frank accomplished for us, his constituents, over the years?

We hear he's traveled to countries that practice abusive human rights, but hey, what has he done for us lately?

❖ Frank Wolf traveled to Darfur and pressed for aid, also traveled to Russia and China;

❖ Frank Wolf exposes foreign abuses against political prisoners and women;

❖ Frank Wolf warned about youth gangs in Virginia, got federal funds to get rid of them;

❖ Frank Wolf excels at bringing leadership to the table to solve problems with constitu-

ents;

❖ Frank Wolf strongly supports the surge in Iraq;

❖ Frank Wolf warned for months that we are \$9 trillion in debt that flows to China;

❖ Frank Wolf warned about \$54 trillion of unfunded liabilities backed by U.S. government;

❖ Frank Wolf warns the U.S. will lose its AAA bond rating in 2012;

❖ Frank Wolf has consistently pressed for improved transportation infrastructure in NoVa;

❖ Frank Wolf obtained the funds improving the George Washington Parkway;

❖ Frank Wolf, along with John Warner, led the fight for Federal dollars for rail to Dulles;

❖ Frank Wolf supported the Iraq Study Group headed by Lee Hamilton and Jim Baker and worked for bi-partisan implementation of their findings;

❖ Frank Wolf warns that China is pulsating with infrastructure development, Shanghai is unbelievably advanced while our infrastructure, bridges, roads, crumble;

❖ Frank Wolf reports in 2006 China and India graduated 900,000 engineers. The U.S. graduated 40,000 and 40 percent were from foreign countries;

❖ Frank Wolf reminds us U.S. students rank 24th on the list of countries around the world.

I'm voting for this Renaissance Man. I'm voting for Frank Wolf Tuesday, Nov. 4. How about you?

**Olivia Jenney**  
McLean

## THE CONNECTION

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# COMMUNITY



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Stephanie and Gene Gately of Great Falls walk around the McLean Central Park while looking at a variety of art during the MPA Artfest on Oct. 5.

## Artfest Attracts Thousands

Under bright, sunny skies Sunday, Oct. 5 more than 4,500 art enthusiasts from McLean and surrounding communities attended the second annual McLean Project of the Arts MPAartfest, a juried art show and sale.

Nearly 40 regional and local artists showcased their works in mini-galleries setup throughout McLean Central Park. The artworks included paintings, drawings, watercolor photography, ceramics, fine jewelry and more that MPAartfest attendees purchased during the event.



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PHOTOS BY MATTHEW SWIFT/THE CONNECTION

Mason Du Vin owner Hiek Vital and manager Anson Anderson offer wine samples from their temperature-controlled dispenser.



Customer Eric Wells examines one of the many wines Mason Du Vin has to offer.

# Great Falls Enjoys New Wine Shop

## Mason du Vin opens at Village Center.

BY MATTHEW SWIFT  
THE CONNECTION



Ron Faucher is pleased with the store's selection of French wines.

Wine enthusiasts have something to smile about as Mason Du Vin celebrated its grand opening on Saturday, Oct. 4. Inside and outside, customers were holding glasses filled with the new shop's various wines. Owner Vital Hiek greeted customers and recommended bottles as they perused the nearly 800 options Hiek and his staff had hand selected.

"We hope to bring a nice, warm, and cozy place where people can come together and relax," said Hiek of his wine shop. "They can find wines that they can't find typically in bigger stores ... here there are very high-quality and low-production wines."

Customers seemed to enjoy the complimentary wine tasting which is something that makes the new shop stand out. Instead of having weekly wine tastings like many wine shops have, Mason Du Vin has complimentary wine tastings all day, every day. At all times, up to 16 different wines will be available for sampling from temperature-controlled machines that dispense an assortment of brands. One machine is already in place and a second one will be added soon. The free samples, along with the variety of wines and the addition of a new business in the community had customers buzzing.

"We believe in supporting our local businessmen," said Ron Faucher, who was impressed with the selection of French wines. "They're carrying a lot of products that you just can't find any other place. I'm familiar with some of

the prices and they're very competitive."

Hiek brought together a staff of experts to help ensure his promise of offering only the best to his customers. Among his staff are a former White House wine consultant, a winemaker, and the former manager of the high-end City Tavern Club in Georgetown. Each wine is tasted and must be approved by all of the testers to be considered for sale in the shop located in the Great Falls Village Center.

"What we want is a fine wine store in Great Falls that focuses on hand-selected, limited-production and boutique wines," said manager Anson Anderson. "We've had a tremendous response. People have been coming in and they are impressed with the selection."

In the near future the store will feature a wine kiosk where customers can get information on the wines before they purchase that Hiek hopes will add to the store's uniqueness. Even without the kiosk in place, the store was full of wine lovers who had come from all over the area to enjoy some wine.

"We love the Village and we love wine," said customer Kolyma Huot on the reason for coming to the grand opening. "Let's do something we really enjoy!"

Connection reporter Donna Manz contributed to this article.

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# Supporting Those Who Serve

FROM PAGE 3

**FOR THE LAST FIVE** years Doherty and Yohe have come together with other alumni from McLean, O'Connell and Langley High School for a golf tournament at Herndon's Centennial Golf Course. Jackie and Jeff Johnson, owners of Herndon Centennial's JJ Deli and 1980 and 1977 McLean High graduates, respectively, hold the tournament for two reasons. One is to bring together old friends. "It's a great way to get together and not be rivals any more," said Jackie Johnson. She said that even though participants went to three different high schools in the McLean area in the 1970s, they all knew each other well, a sentiment echoed by Yohe and Doherty.

"All the guys know each other, no matter if you went to McLean, Langley or O'Connell," said Doherty. "You know if you come here once a year you will run into all of them."

**THE OTHER REASON** JJ Deli has sponsored the alumni tournament for the last five years is to support the injured soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and their families staying at the Fisher House. The Johnsons, now Herndon residents, thought of the annual fund-raiser after Jackie Johnson went to Walter Reed for a regular medical appointment in 2003, the first year of the Iraq War. While eating at the center's cafeteria and pondering what charity to support with their holiday drive, the Johnsons saw an injured soldier walk by. Jeff Johnson, retired from the Army after 20 years of service, and his wife knew the soldiers faced extended stays at Walter Reed, as did their families staying at



**Jeff Johnson and Dale Evans discuss how to approach their next hole while playing in the annual Alumni Golf Tournament for alumni of McLean, Langley and Bishop O'Connell High Schools.**

Fisher House. Five years later, Jackie Johnson said, "We're still in war and it's important for everyone to get together and support them."

Yohe said participating in the fund-raiser for injured soldiers and families is an honor. "Words can't express how you feel about something like that," he said.

The Johnsons will also host their annual Spirit of Giving open house with a date to be announced in December. Community support for the event has outgrown their house, so it has been held at JJ Deli the last few years. Monetary donations and gifts for injured soldiers and their families will be collected during the holiday drive at JJ Deli. To see a list of desired items, or to learn more about the needs, visit [www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org).

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### 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).

#### THURSDAY/OCT. 9

**The Influence**, Atomic Tom, The Wellingtons and Mitch Hood. Pop/rock. 7:30 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**Go Native!** 7:15 p.m. Learn how and why to garden with native plants from Cheval Force, columnist for Washington Gardener Magazine. Adults. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. 703-242-4020.

#### FRIDAY/OCT. 10

**Kate Campbell**. Americana/acoustic. 7:30 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227



**The Riverbend Park Second Annual Moon on the River Concert, with the Jim & Ashley Cash Band, will be on Saturday, Oct. 11.**

Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Noel "Paul" Stookey** from Peter, Paul and Mary. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts | 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**Juniper Lane and The Dance Party**. Rock. 10 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

#### SATURDAY/OCTOBER 11

**Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department Annual Open House**. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. This year's theme is "Prevent House Fires!", showcasing the past, present, and future of the station. Interactive displays, apparatus tours, games such as a smoke crawl and children's fire hose spray, fire fighter dress up and more. Free hot dogs and drinks. 9916 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

**Bach to Rock**. The Bach to Rock Music School presents a rock band. 4-6 p.m. at Palladium Civic Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Call 703-288-9505.

**The Iguanas**. 7:30 p.m. Zydeco and Latin rock fusion at The Barns. Tickets \$20. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts | 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**Riverbend Park Second Annual Moon on the River Concert**, with the Jim & Ashley Cash Band. 5-7 p.m. \$10. Bring blankets and a picnic. Riverbend Park. 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. 703-421-7210.

#### SUNDAY/OCT. 12

**Saffire -The Uppity Blues Women**. 7:30 p.m. Post feminist traditional blues at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts | 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society** presents a sneak preview to the 2008 Annual Show, and demonstrate simple techniques on how to improve the appearance of mums and garden flowers for home or show presentations. Entries will be received from 2-3 p.m. at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church. Open to the public. Free admission. Jim Dunne, 703-560-8776.

#### MONDAY/OCT. 13

**Val Emmich and Adam Swink**. Pop/rock. 7 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

#### TUESDAY/OCT. 14

**Laya Pesulima's Love Jukebox**. Rock. 7 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Tea Tasting**. 10 a.m. Black Teas from India \$20. Cathy's Corner in the Village Centre, Great Falls. 703-757-6209 or [www.greatfallsteagarden.com](http://www.greatfallsteagarden.com).

# From Face Paint to Acrylics

## KISS singer Paul Stanley appears with his art at the Wentworth Gallery at Tysons Corner.

By Mike DiCicco  
THE CONNECTION

Following a European tour with his seminal arena rock band KISS, front man Paul Stanley is coming to the area on a different kind of tour. The venue for his upcoming show: the Wentworth Gallery at Tysons Galleria, where Stanley will appear with a collection of his acrylic paintings on Saturday, Oct. 11, 12 noon-3 p.m.

Like his band, Stanley's largely abstract art is big and bold, with bright colors on large canvases. "I love art that's vibrant and has a lot of color," Stanley said. "I think life is vibrant. On its worst day, life's always a miracle." This is why, no matter his mood, his palette is never somber, he said. "In a warped way, depression is as vibrant as anything else."

Stanley said he was interested in art from a young age, and he graduated from the High School of Music and Art in Manhattan. "I was originally, according to a lot of people, a young talented artist," he said. However, he added, "I found I wasn't fond of people telling me what to do or how to do it." So he found an outlet for his artistic knack in the creation of a rock band that is as famous for its visual impact as its music.

**STANLEY'S HAND** was behind the makeup and costumes that helped make KISS world-famous, as well as some of its set designs, album covers and apparel. "I always had a very clear vision for the band and what I wanted it to be," he said. He created the KISS logo sitting at a table in his parents' house while he lived there. "That's why the two S's are not completely parallel," he said, adding that when the band's design team offered to straighten them, he declined.

He didn't start painting again

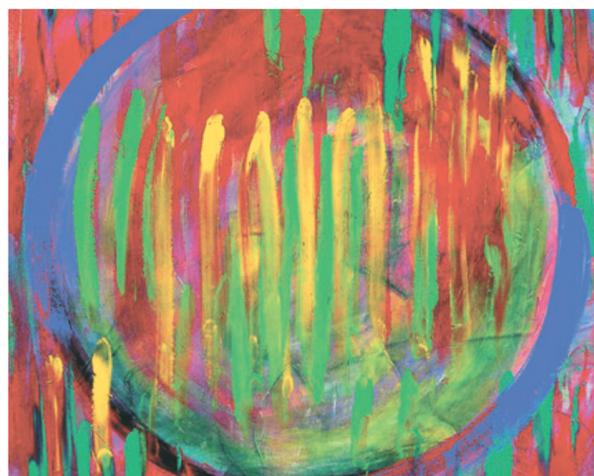
#### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 15

**W. Dudley Oakes, organist** and choirmaster at Saint John Episcopal Church in Georgetown who also teaches at several Virginia and Washington DC universities. 1 p.m. Free lunchtime recital. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-356-0670 or [www.musicinmclean.org](http://www.musicinmclean.org).

**Bryan Greenberg**. Acoustic. 7:30 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

#### THURSDAY/OCT. 16

**Tyrone Wells and Jason Reeves**. Pop/rock. 8 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).  
**Riders in the Sky**. 8 p.m. Cowboy/western at The Barns. Tickets \$30. Wolf Trap Foundation for the



"Tokyo Rain" is one of several of Stanley's paintings based on the circle.

until about eight years ago, when he was going through a divorce and a friend suggested he resume the hobby. "It became a very interesting way of confronting a lot of things that were going on, and it turned out to be a journey I'm still on," he said. Stanley said he'd had no intention of showing his art, but when he hung one of his paintings in his house, visitors wanted to know whose work it was.

So he did a few small shows about four years ago. He has now done 18 shows in the last year and a half, "and it's been successful beyond anything I could have imagined," he said. "If money is a measure of success, I'm told my art generated \$2 million last year, so I guess it's not too bad." He said he appreciated the commercial success because it meant people connected with his work. "The idea that I might be a starving artist—that wasn't going to happen."

**THE SIMILARITY** between his

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**Senior Financial Seminar**, 1:30-3 p.m., at the American Legion Post 180, Patriot Hall, 330 Center St. N., Vienna. Elder law, retirement planning, reverse mortgages. Free. Refreshments will be served. Janet Renner, 703-625-5736.

**D for Dinosaurs**. 10:30 a.m. Alphabet adventures with the Letter D. Age 2-5 with adult. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. 703-356-0770.

**Book Discussion Group**. 7:15 p.m. Call for the book title. Adults. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. 703-356-0770.

#### FRIDAY/OCT. 17

**Choralis, directed by Gretchen Kuhrmann, presents "German Romantics"**. Beethoven's Choral Fantasy, Rheinberger's Cantus Missae, and music by Mendelssohn, Brahms, Schumann, Schubert, and Wolff. 8

p.m., at The Falls Church, 115 E. Fairfax St., Falls Church. Tickets \$5-\$25. [www.choralis.org](http://www.choralis.org) or 703-237-2499.  
**Eroica Trio**. 8 p.m. Chamber music at The Barns. Tickets \$35. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts | 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**Redeemer Lutheran Preschool semi-annual consignment sale**. 7-9 p.m. Clothes, books, toys, equipment and accessories for babies, children and soon-to-be-moms. Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Rd, McLean. 703-356-3567 or [rlpsale@redeemermclean.org](mailto:rlpsale@redeemermclean.org).

**Pierce Pettis**. Acoustic. 7:30 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Rude Buddha**. Rock. 9:30 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. Call 703-255-1566 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Paul Stanley gives the guitar a rest.

"I think that when you approach something to please yourself, you can't go wrong."

— Paul Stanley

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## SCHOOL NOTES

Send School Notes to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

**Forestville Elementary** teacher Kristen Sloan's alter ego, Perfectly Perplexed Priscilla, appears on the school's afternoon news program on Mondays to present problems that require students to use critical thinking and problem solving skills. Students have until the end of their lunch period on Wednesday to solve the problem; Priscilla appears on the show on Thursday to credit the students who answered the problem correctly and to explain the answer. Separate questions are posed for the primary and elementary grades. Along with the weekly questions are quarterly competitions. For the first quarter of the 2008-09 school year, teams of students are challenged to design and construct an aluminum foil boat, no larger than 6 x 6 inches, which will then compete against other boats to see which boat can hold the most paper clips.

**The Reston Community Players Teen Ensemble** class registration is open through Oct. 15, for classes beginning Saturday, Nov. 8. [www.restonplayers.org](http://www.restonplayers.org) or 703-435-2707.

**The Washington International Chorus** is looking for experienced singers with least intermediate sight-reading abilities who can blend well with other singers and can quickly learn music. Traditional works, folk and indigenous tunes, new works and more. Rehearsal on Thursdays from 7-9

p.m. at George Mason High School, 7124 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. 202-739-9620 or [www.washingtoninternationalchorus.com](http://www.washingtoninternationalchorus.com).

Several Fairfax County Public Schools students have received certificates for superior writing in the 2008 Achievement Awards in Writing by the National Council of Teachers of English. Each participant submitted a sample of his or her best writing in any form or genre as well as an impromptu essay on a predetermined subject. For 2008, 1,789 juniors submitted portfolios; of that group, 525 were selected for the Achievement Awards. The local winners are:

**Michael Poandl** of Chantilly High School.

**Kenneth Burchfiel** and **Chelsea Sparta** of McLean High School.

**Matthew Johnson** of Oakton High School.

**Sarah Applegate**, **Carolyn McCallister** and **Emma Pierson** of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

**Friends of Vale Schoolhouse Annual Fall Fair** on Oct. 18, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., on the corner of Vale and Fox Mill Roads in Oakton. Children's games, moonbounce, pony rides, shopping, used books and toys, food, drinks and a bake sale. All proceeds benefit the upkeep of the historic schoolhouse. Free admission and parking. Friends of Vale Schoolhouse monthly meeting on Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. [www.valeschoolhouse.org](http://www.valeschoolhouse.org).

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UPPER SCHOOL ONLY Thursday, September 25, 2008 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	UPPER SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL Sunday October 19, 2008
PARENTS & STUDENTS WELCOME R.S.V.P. to Admissions at (301) 365-0955 or <a href="mailto:skopit@holychild.org">skopit@holychild.org</a>	MIDDLE SCHOOL 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  UPPER SCHOOL 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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# SCHOOLS

## Children Write Classroom Constitution

**C**elebrating the 221<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Constitution, preschoolers and kindergartners participated in "We're Writing our Classroom Constitution" event at Village Green Day School at Great Falls. Students as delegates convened the first week of school in Classroom Conventions to decide on the articles or rules that they wanted to include in their Classroom Constitutions. Teachers engaged their students in a shared writing activity that resulted in large and very visual "We the Classes ..." posters. This activity introduced students to the idea of rights and responsibilities, and the freedoms enjoyed in the United States. "This is an especially important lesson in the democratic process this election year," said Paula Shapiro, curriculum coordinator for the school.

On the morning of Sept. 17, after voting and acceptance, students, teachers and administrators assembled on school grounds to publicly read and sign their Classroom Constitutions using quills and ink. A majority of the classroom rules focused on being kind and caring. Three-year olds voted "Eat applesauce with a spoon" as the most important class rule. The 4's classes featured rules of "Listen to the teacher" and "No Pushing or Hitting." Kindergartners recited a poem honoring the Constitution. A reading of the preamble of the US Constitution by the teachers and staff, along with the singing of The National Anthem, concluded the celebration. Students returned to their classrooms with rousing cheers of "USA! USA!"

*A community-based, non-sectarian preschool and kindergarten, Village Green Day School prepares young students with an academic foundation for success in public and private school programs through a Core Knowledge curriculum. For more information call Paula Shapiro 703-759-4049.*



PHOTOS BY SYLVIA GHORBANI/ VILLAGE GREEN DAY SCHOOL  
**Leap Frogs class of 3 year olds.**



**Panda Bears class of Kindergartners.**



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Tues., Nov. 11 9 AM  
Sun., Dec. 7 1 PM  
Tues., Jan. 6 9 AM



**ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSE**  
Sunday, November 2 - 2-4 p.m.

**ONE-HOUR INFORMATION SESSIONS**  
Thursday, October 16 - 9-10 a.m.  
Thursday, December 11 - 9-10 a.m.

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## Stone Ridge Open Houses

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[www.stoneridge.org](http://www.stoneridge.org)

**Sunday, October 18, 2008**  
1:00-4:00 PM • (grades 9-12)

**Saturday, November 8, 2008**  
9:00-11:30 AM • (grades JK-8)

**Tuesday, December 9, 2008**  
8:30 AM • (grades JK-12)

**Thursday, January 8, 2009**  
8:30 AM • (grades JK-12)

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11401 Jordan Ln	\$900,000	Sun 1-4	Dianne Van Volkenburg	Weichert	703-759-6300
10941 Woodland Falls Dr	\$1,470,000	Sun 12-4	Susan McFalls	Weichert	703-760-8880
10612 Allenwood Ln	\$1,600,000	Friday 5-8pm	Leslie Hutchison	RE/MAX	703-821-1840
721 Ellsworth Ave	\$1,921,000	Sun 1-4	Karen Martins	McEearney	703-790-9090

**Vienna**

2665 Manhattan Pl #103	\$410,000	Sun 1-4	Kathy Vaughan	Ryan Taylor	800-540-3579
2665 Manhattan Pl #110	\$414,900	Sun 1-4	Susan Gassman	Long & Foster	703-873-3500
1020 Moorefield Hill Pl SW	\$510,000	Sun 1-5	Irene Lambert	Long & Foster	703-726-3412
9510 Liberty Tree Lane	\$699,000	Sun 1-4	Carol Dilks	Weichert	703-623-4646

**LATER THIS MONTH**

**Falls church**

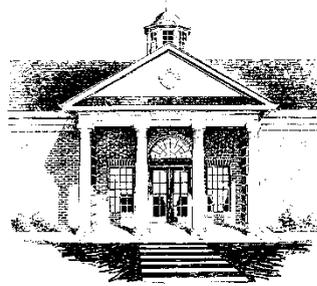
2716 Westford Ct	\$739,000	10/19 1-4	Laura Davis	Samson	703-896-5834
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**McLean**

1636 Westwind Way #164	\$319,000	10/19 1-4	Frances Rudd	ERA Elite	703-359-7800
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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  
In Vienna, Don, 703-917-6466, or donpark@connectionnewspapers.com  
In McLean, Lauri, 703-917-6460, or lauri@connectionnewspapers.com

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REGISTRATION & VIEWING AT 1PM

**OPEN HOUSE: OCT. 4TH, 11TH & 12TH. 3-4 PM**

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HEALTH NOTES

Health notes are for support groups, exercise classes, blood drives and similar events open to the public at no or minimal cost. Send information to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

**Great Falls Parkinson's Disease Support Group** meets on the **fourth Tuesday** of each month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike. The Parkinson Foundation welcomes PD patients and family members. They are dedicated to mutual self-help and the enhancement of coping skills for those with Parkinson's Disease. There is no fee. Call Glenn Lawrence at 703-406-2732.

**Meals on Wheels volunteers** are needed for 3rd Mondays and 4th Fridays on the Vienna/Oakton/Dunn-Loring route. This volunteer opportunity involves picking up meals from Marshall High School and delivering to local residents. Meal deliveries are Monday-Friday and take about two hours. Volunteers can deliver on a weekly, biweekly, monthly, or substitute basis. Other volunteer opportunities with Fairfax Area Agency on Aging include providing transportation to and from medical appointments or the grocery store, making friendly visits, helping with light household tasks, and making social calls. Contact the Fairfax Area Agency on Aging's Volunteer Intake Line, 703-324-5406 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/aaa.

**Acupuncturists Without Borders** volunteers Nancy Miller and Sharon Crowell, licensed acupuncturists, will demonstrate the use of acupuncture for healing stress and trauma on Nov. 10, at the Dominican Retreat House, 7103 Old Dominion Drive in McLean, from 7-8:15 p.m. Suggested donation \$15. All donations will be used to continue AWB's Veterans Project, which offers free acupuncture treatments to veterans and their families. www.acuwithoutborders.org.

**Lyme Disease support group** meeting Thursday, Oct. 9, 1-2:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Patients and caregivers welcome. natcaplyme@natcaplyme.org.

**Vienna Weight Watchers.** Meetings at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna are **every Tuesday** from noon-1:15 p.m. Cost is \$150 for 12 weekly luncheon sessions, payable in advance. To register call 703-255-6350.

**Vienna Community Center** has **open gym for ages 17 and under**, 3:30-5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Call ahead to check on availability.

**Heart and Sole.** Persons with Parkinson's Disease are invited to join an exercise class that meets weekly on **Fridays and Tuesdays** at 12:30 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Care partners and family members are welcome to come and assist the PD patient. For session dates, fees and information, call Cheryl Bartholomew at 703-281-1560. To register, call 703-255-6360 and specify the "Heart and Sole" class.

**Body and Soul fitness classes** recently began. Contact instructor for more information on individual classes; visit www.bodyandsoul.org for more classes. New students receive 15 percent discount. At McLean Bible Church, 8925 Leesburg Pike, McLean, on **Mondays and Fridays**, 9:45-11:15 a.m., free childcare, call Mary Ward at 703-754-3722.

# FAITH

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

**Dr. Max L. Stackhouse** will speak on Saturday, Oct. 25, at 9:30 a.m. about "Civil Society and Public Theology in a Global Era" Dr. Stackhouse is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and a theological ethicist with wide ranging interests that include economic ethics, public theology, global missions and the encounter of world religions. **Immanuel Presbyterian Church**, 1125 Savile Lane, McLean. Contact Dan Thomas at 703-356-3042 or [dthomas@ipcmclean.org](mailto:dthomas@ipcmclean.org).

**Robyn Muncy, U.S. historian from the University of Maryland**, will analyze the Progressive Party of 1912 in relation to today's politics. In that first modern presidential election, Teddy Roosevelt and Progressives called for an activist government to "humanize" capitalism: to defend the interest of workers and consumers against the power of corporations. What lessons do yesterday's Progressives have for us today? Admission is free. Sunday, Oct. 26, at 11 a.m., at the **Northern Virginia Ethical Society**, 225 Nutley St. N.W., Vienna. [www.esnv.org](http://www.esnv.org) or 703 437 3161.

**All Souls Day Concert** on Sunday, Nov. 2, at 4 p.m. Saint Luke Festival Choir, Paul Skevington, artistic director, and Cheryl Branham, conductor, perform the Rutter Requiem and Barber's Adagio for Strings. The program features choir, organ, cello, oboe, flute, and harp. Adults \$15, seniors and students \$15. **Saint Luke Catholic Church**, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-356-0670 or [www.musicinmclean.org](http://www.musicinmclean.org).

**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).

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**, 8991 Brook Road, McLean, will hold a Pumpkin Sale from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, October 12-31. Proceeds benefit the church's Outreach Program. 703-442-0330.

**Intensive Centering Prayer Retreat**, from Tuesday, Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.-Sunday, Nov. 2 at 11 a.m. Fr. Bill Sheehan will speak on Centering Prayer and some follow-up practices that support prayer in secret, e.g. Forgiveness Practice, Welcoming Prayer, Lectio Divina and how they help awaken within the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit. Fr. Sheehan and the Sisters will be available for private conversations throughout the retreat. Introductory sessions on the practice of Centering Prayer will not be offered; it is required that you have a well-established centering prayer practice for more than 6 months, and preferably at least a year. Cost for the 6-day retreat is \$425 with a \$100 deposit. Call Michele Litton at 703-669-6255 or [mglitton@aol.com](mailto:mglitton@aol.com). The **Dominican Retreat House**, 7103 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. 703-356-4243.

**Western Fairfax Christian Ministries is looking for volunteers to provide food baskets** at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Western Fairfax Ministries will provide information about a family in need, and the volunteer will deliver the basket(s) directly to the sponsored family. Contact Pam Ryan at 703-988-9656 or [volunteer@wfcvma.org](mailto:volunteer@wfcvma.org).

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<p><b>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA</b></p> <p>450 ORCHARD STREET VIENNA, VA 703-938-8525 <a href="mailto:fbcvoffice@verizon.net">fbcvoffice@verizon.net</a> <a href="http://www.fbcv.org">www.fbcv.org</a></p> <p><b>Dr. KENNY SMITH,</b> <b>PASTOR</b></p>  <p>SUNDAY WORSHIP, 7:45 AM &amp; 11:00 AM MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Church of the Brethren</b> Oakton Church of the Brethren ... 703-281-4411</p>	<p><b>Catholic</b> Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877 Our Lady of Good Counsel ... 703-938-2828 St. Athanasius Catholic Church ... 703-759-4555 St. Mark's Catholic Church ... 703-281-9100</p>	<p><b>Methodist</b> 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</p>
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<p><b>Episcopal</b> Church of the Holy Comforter ... 703-938-6521 Church of the Holy Cross ... 703-698-6991 St. Francis Episcopal ... 703-759-2082</p>	<p><b>Disciples of Christ</b> Antioch Christian Church ... 703-938-6753</p>	<p><b>Presbyterian</b> Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church ... 703-560-6336 Korean Central Presbyterian ... 703-698-5577 Vienna Presbyterian ... 703-938-9050</p>	<p><b>Quaker</b> Langley Hills Friends...703-442-8394</p>
<p><b>Jehovah's Witness</b> Jehovah's Witnesses ... 703-759-1579</p>	<p><b>Seventh-Day Adventist</b> Northern Virginia Christian Fellowship ... 703-242-9001 Vienna Seventh Day Adventists ... 703-938-8383</p>	<p><b>Unitarian Universalist</b> Congregation of Fairfax ... 703-281-4230</p>	<p><b>Unity</b> Unity of Fairfax ... 703-281-1767</p>

**To Highlight Your Faith Community**  
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# SPORTS

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/  
THE CONNECTION

**Maggie Kovacs, pictured here sweeping a ball Monday night in a 3-0 loss at Woodson, has also given Langley a lift.**

**"It's a different year for us this year."**

**—Jennifer Robb**



## An Uphill Climb

**With 13 players gone from last season's 19-2, Langley field hockey must rebuild.**

BY JASON MACKAY  
THE CONNECTION

**I**t was a familiar scene in color only. Sure, the green uniforms with "Saxons" glowing across the front in gold lettering evoked memories of last year's Liberty District final against Woodson as the Cavaliers donned their white and blue tinged with red.

Though still two weeks away, district tournament time is fast approaching and that's generally a cue for those colors to clash, for Langley and Woodson to renew a field hockey rivalry.

But, with a significant amount of losses from that 2007 Langley team which reached the district final and Northern Region semifinals, only the uniforms remained static when these two met at Woodson High School on Monday night.

"It's a different year for us this year," said Saxons coach Jennifer Robb, following a 3-0 loss that dropped her team's record to 3-10 overall, 0-4 in the Liberty District. "We lost 13 kids off of last year's team, which is a whole lot of talent to lose, but we have a lot of great kids and we've lost a lot of close games."

**NOT THAT THE** losses have curtailed Robb's enthusiasm. Never one to silently pace up and down the sideline, Robb jumped up and down frequently on Monday, encouraging clear attempts and bemoaning missed opportunities.

At one point, comically, Robb even made a mid-game stop at the scorer's table to figure out exactly how many shots her team had surrendered. With an opening half full of offensive pressure from Woodson, Robb figured there'd be some gaudy number staring back at her, but, really, it wasn't all that



**Langley's Katy Wingo has been one of three senior leaders for coach Jennifer Robb this season. Wingo scored two goals and saw significant time on the Saxons' 19-2 team a year ago.**

bad. It was certainly less than Robb expected.

"I was surprised by the shots because I felt like they had [the ball] down in our circle a lot," said Robb, whose team surrendered eight shots, eight penalty corners and three goals in the opening half. "It felt like we were constantly in [our] circle during the first 20 minutes of the game, but they

definitely had offensive possessions in the circle that were quite difficult for us to defend against."

Robb has turned to a different batch of players this season. Her three senior captains, Katy Wingo, Cate Wilson and Maggie Kovacs, have all done a more-than-admirable job of shouldering the load. Kovacs

SEE SAXONS, PAGE 19

### ROUNDUPS

**The three-day pickleball competition**, held from Sept. 30 through Oct. 2 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center in Arlington, was the final event in the 2008 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics (NVSO). Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded to seniors in four age groups: 50-59, 60-69, 70-79 and 80-89. A Gold medal in men's doubles went to David Sandidge (60-69 age group) of Vienna.

Over 500 seniors, 50 years of age and over, competed in this year's NVSO, which was sponsored by the cities of Alexandria, Falls Church and Fairfax and the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William. Gold Patron sponsors were Goodwin House Incorporated, Greenspring Village, Sunrise Senior Living, Humana, BB&T and Verizon Wireless; silver patrons were Realtor Debbie Miller, McEneaney & Associates and Ruxton Health of Alexandria. For more information, call 703-228-4721 or check the website at [www.novaseniorolympics.com](http://www.novaseniorolympics.com).

More Senior Olympics Notes: Tennis and diving competitions in the 2008 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics were held at Wakefield Park, Annandale and Lee District Park, Franconia. A gold medal in diving was awarded to Muraji Nakazawa (age group 50-54) of Herndon. At Wakefield Park, a gold medal winner in tennis singles went to Jean Barsaloux (women 60-69) of Leesburg. In women's doubles, Jean Barsaloux and Harriet Middlebrook (women's 60-69 doubles) of Leesburg earned a gold. In mixed doubles, Gordon Shingleton of Sterling and Fern Walmer of Potomac Falls earned a gold in the 80-89 division.

The swimming competition was held Sept. 26 at Lee District Park in Franconia. Gold medals in breaststroke were awarded to James Chang (men 70-74) of Oakton; Bruce Herbert (men 75-79) of McLean; and J.R. Cassidy (90-94) of McLean. In backstroke, Dan Elliott (men 55-59) of Great Falls earned a gold. Gold medals in freestyle were awarded to Muraji Nakazawa (men 50-54) of Herndon and Daniel Elliot (men 55-59) of Great Falls. In the half mile race, a gold medal went to James Chang (men 70-74) of Oakton.

The 26th annual Northern Virginia Senior Olympics drew a record number of new participants with 186 new athletes registered to compete for the first time. A total of over 500 adults registered and competed in more than 25 events held at eight different venues in Alexandria, Arlington, Annandale, Fairfax and Franconia.

**The Langley Saxons and McLean Highlanders** are two of more than 20 local high school and

SEE ROUNDUP, PAGE 19

# Madison Edges Saxons in Football

**Warhawks storm back in second half to garner Liberty win.**

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

The Madison High football team continued its winning ways last Friday night with an 18-14 come-from-behind win over Langley. The Liberty District game took place at Langley.

Madison (4-2) won its fourth game in a row since an 0-2 start. The Warhawks, a younger squad compared to last year's successful Div. 5 playoff team, will look to make it five straight wins when they play at W.T. Woodson this Friday night.

Langley (3-3) lost its second straight since beginning the season 3-1. Two weeks ago, the Saxons lost to unbeaten Oakton, 42-3. They were looking to get the bad taste of that defeat out of their mouths when they hosted Madison.

The Saxons opened up the



**Langley running back Derek Eklund (32) and the Saxons will be at Stone Bridge this Friday night.**

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

game's scoring with a four-yard touchdown run by David Helmer (29 carries, 164 yards) in the first quarter. Madison's James Devens kicked a 44-yard field goal in the second quarter to get the Warhawks within 7-3 at halftime.

Langley took a 14-3 lead in the third quarter on another four yard TD run by Helmer, but Madison scored the game's final 15 points. Warhawk running back Sasha Vandalov (19 carries, 106 yards) scored on running plays of one and

two yards out, and Devens nailed a 34 yard field goal to complete the game's scoring.

Langley will be on the road this Friday night to take on unbeaten Stone Bridge, which will be celebrating its Homecoming.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/  
THE CONNECTION

**Langley High girls' cross country runner Carolyn Shaw (right) races at the Monroe Parker meet several weeks ago. Madison's Brigid Byrne (left) is also competing. The Liberty District Championships are scheduled to take place Oct. 22 at Burke Lake Park.**

FROM PAGE 18

college volleyball teams participating in "Digging Pink" throughout October. Both of the local teams will dedicate upcoming matches to cancer awareness and raising funds for research toward better understanding of the disease. The Saxons will "Dig Pink" when they meet visiting Robinson on Oct. 7. The Highlanders, meanwhile, will "Dig Pink" in their Oct. 14 match against Langley at McLean.

Organized by The Side-Out Foundation, "Dig Pink" is quickly becoming the largest high school and college volleyball event dedicated to raising funds for breast cancer. October 2008 marks the inception of the "Dig Pink" rally, and organizers have established a goal of raising \$350,000.

## Saxons Count on Postseason

FROM PAGE 18

totalled two goals and four assists last season, while Wilson finished with five goals and two assists. Wingo chipped in with two goals and an assist.

Still, because of last year's talent, Langley's depth and experience beyond those three was uneven.

"[The postseason experience] was great, but unfortunately I don't have that many kids on my team that have experience against

Woodson," Robb said. "I have six seniors on my team and only three of them ever saw any time on the field last year. I don't have a lot of kids that have that experience."

**IN LAST YEAR'S** Liberty District final, Woodson avenged a regular season loss to the Saxons and notched a 2-1 win, courtesy of Shelly Montgomery's goal with 14 seconds left in the second overtime period. For Langley, the loss snapped a 17-game winning streak.

But in the region tournament, Langley appeared to bounce back behind efforts from midfielder Faith Adams, forward Katie Knapp and goalkeeper Kelly German — three players who were lost to graduation — and the Saxons reeled off two straight wins.

An eventual loss to Oakton ended Langley's season and has even served as a motto: Even though the losses might come early, there's always the postseason.

"We know that it comes down to the district tournament and the regional tournament and that nothing is over," said Robb, whose team squared off with South Lakes on Tuesday night, which ended after The Connection went to press.

"That's the great thing about field hockey is that we still have our opportunities to make our place known, and hopefully we'll come out here in a week or two and we'll play better."

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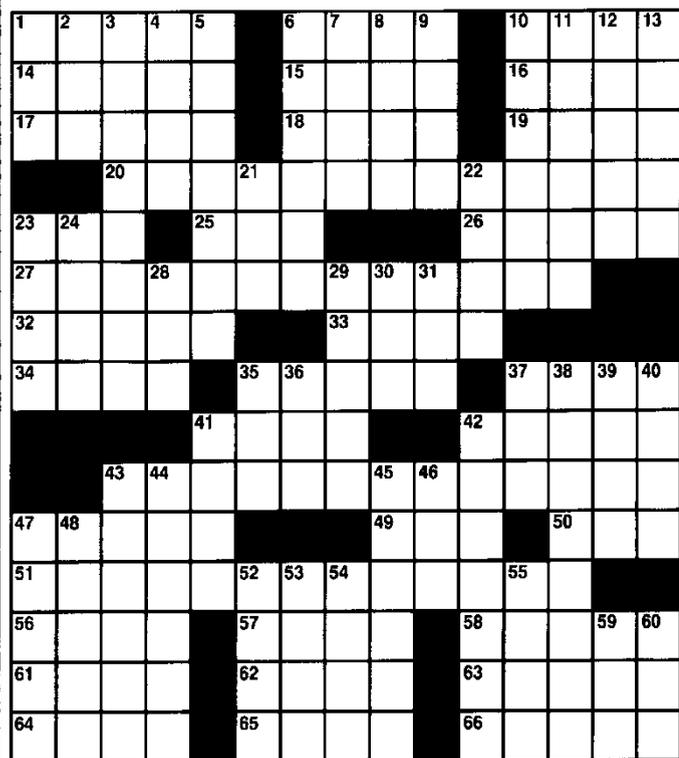
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# NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0401-6



Puzzle by Kelly Clark

- 28 Compose
- 29 Authority
- 30 Press for payment
- 31 Ginger \_\_\_\_\_
- 35 "\_\_\_\_\_ me?"
- 36 Band aid?
- 37 Air letters?
- 38 Making whole
- 39 Make known
- 40 Bear with us at night

## ACROSS

- 1 Cutoffs, maybe, before they were cutoffs
- 6 Sound of breaking up?
- 10 Masterpieces
- 14 Sylvia Plath book
- 15 Religious image
- 16 Baker's need
- 17 Oft-quoted Yogi
- 18 Old Spanish kingdom
- 19 Coin no longer being minted
- 20 What happens when Kansas City wins a World Series?
- 23 Sea's partner
- 25 Draw
- 26 Boston team, in brief
- 27 Why is the milk production survey so screwy?
- 32 Kind of wrench
- 33 Like a Burns acquaintance
- 34 Sharp
- 35 Detroit's county
- 37 Item in which to do a plié
- 41 Resistance units
- 42 Not just a franchisee

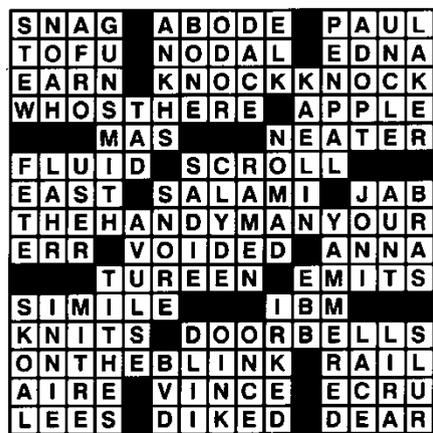
- 43 Why is the drought-plagued swim club bankrupt?
- 47 Film maker Frank
- 49 Playboy head, to friends
- 50 Lake Okechobee's state: Abbr.
- 51 What's the anagrammatic reason for these odd questions?
- 56 Kind of gin
- 57 Food for Fido
- 58 Songs "di sentimento"
- 61 High scores
- 62 1963 Liz Taylor role
- 63 Busybody
- 64 New England's locale
- 65 Fish locale
- 66 "Broca's Brain" author

## DOWN

- 1 Elbows do it
- 2 Before
- 3 BB gun, e.g.
- 4 Peter Lorre's role in "The Story of Mankind"

- 5 Mercury astronaut Deke
- 6 Noted Talmudic sage
- 7 Ones that may be high?
- 8 Tough
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ Domini
- 10 Green party?
- 11 In a bad way
- 12 Excellence
- 13 Says quickly
- 21 Be in a bad way
- 22 Kind of wit or test
- 23 Saturate
- 24 Curly cabbage
- 41 Voiced
- 42 Times when you're not at your peak
- 43 Pinafores
- 44 Thirstiest
- 45 "Hey, check that out!"
- 46 Guitarist Paul
- 47 Class
- 48 Cop \_\_\_\_\_
- 52 It's the truth
- 53 Spanish pot
- 54 Available
- 55 Vicinity
- 59 \_\_\_\_\_ standstill
- 60 Mateo or Miguel, e.g.

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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**You Make The Call**

By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

As a long-time customer server, I have had ample opportunities to do what I'm supposed to do; do what is right; and to do what is above and beyond, sometimes all together and sometimes independent of one another. As such, I feel somewhat qualified to discuss some of the customer service I receive and some of the customer service that I don't receive. And though \$4 per gallon gasoline and \$4.29 per gallon for home heating oil doesn't exactly put me in the best of moods, I'll try to be reasonable in my rant.

To quote the actor Peter Finch, in his role as "deranged ex-anchor," Howard Beale, from the 1977 release of the Oscar-winning movie, "Network," "I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore." And furthermore, I have decided that I am no longer going to confront the foot soldiers, those front-line customer-serverers with whom customers/consumers initially and most often engage, in their pursuit of truth, justice and what was once the American way, fairness. Henceforth, I am going to stop dealing with the infantry and follow Lt. Col. Sherman Potter's advice to Radar (from the long-running television show, M\*A\*S\*H): "Always go to the top, Radar." To which Radar responded, "You're closer to it than I am, sir."

Well, I'm not any closer to the top than Radar was, but I am as close to a telephone as anyone else is, and since I am extremely comfortable and capable speaking on it, I have decided to complain up. The lack of on-site accountability has forced my hand — and fingers. No longer will I mumble in disbelief when treated disrespectfully, no longer will I grin and bear it when "policy" gets in the way of courtesy and this customer's satisfaction, and no longer will I attempt to resolve disputes with in-house management while backing up a line of frustrated customers waiting impatiently. I will remain calm. In fact, it will be as if I'm Katie Winters from the Secret brand deodorant commercials from yesteryear, "I will be cool, calm and collected." I will simply ask for a phone number for someone in customer service/customer relations at the main office/regional/corporate level to whom I can speak at a more convenient time.

I have never been a squeaky wheel, but after years of getting greased and neglected, of being disagreed with and generally speaking, taken for granted, I am officially mad as hell and I am now going to start doing something different about it. Enough is enough!

It is too difficult, especially in this economy, to make the money I make, incur the expenses I do and pay the bills I must, simply to be treated as if there's plenty more where I came from. And there may very well be, but that fact doesn't feed or assuage this bulldog. I'm done, locally.

In the future (heck, make that the present), I will be communicating my dissatisfaction to those in a position of authority. I am not going to waste my breath or expend my energy complaining to the unempowered person standing in front of me. I am going to follow Sherman Potter's advice. I have tried the other way and it doesn't work. It's time to start at the top and work my way down. Wish me luck. I'll probably need it.

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

**Unrealistic Densities in Tysons Report**

To the Editor:

As a member of the Tysons Task Force, I am concerned about key aspects of the report submitted to the Fairfax Board of Supervisors on Sept. 22. I believe the Task Force lost credibility with the public in proposing densities far in excess of scenarios vetted with the public or even perceived in the outreach process.

The most glaring omission in the report is the lack of traffic analysis. It was our understanding that the density levels would go through the transportation and infrastructure analysis before any report was issued. The Task Force should not have appeared to endorse densities until the related analyses were completed and members were able to review and use them in forming recommendations. The Board of Supervisors instructed the Task Force to mitigate traffic impact of development, yet we moved ahead without the related traffic study, thus being in non-compliance with one of the most basic tasks we were assigned.

The report acknowledges the importance of adequate infrastructure to support the redevelopment of Tysons, the need for a financing plan for this infrastructure, and the phasing of development consistent with the availability of infrastructure. I strongly advocated these concepts, but the information in the report on public utilities is inadequate. The list of new public facilities required is based on County analysis of the impact of serving 100,000 residents and 200,000 jobs, and was based on an assumption of 114 million square feet of develop-

ment, not the increased densities projected in the report. Requirements for stormwater management, water supply, and wastewater management are vaguely stated, with no cost estimates provided, nor any indication of how much of the costs will be borne by taxpayers.

The report refers to a future of 100,000 residents, yet there is only cursory reference to schools. Original scenarios vetted with the public cited a shortage of some 86 elementary classrooms, 1/2 a middle school, and 1/2 a high school. The new density levels are so far beyond these scenarios that the school issue must be addressed.

The report cites the need for new urban standards for parks and recreational facilities, but the standards under consideration would both short-change Tysons residents and have a significant negative impact on recreational facilities in neighboring communities. The report is thus inconsistent with the Task Force goal of protecting surrounding communities.

The average absorption rate at Tysons has been roughly one million square feet per year. The proposed densities are far, far greater than realistically possible, and proposals that each station be at same density are faulty, particularly at the two malls.

I hope the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors will address these concerns as county staff begins to draft the new Comprehensive Plan.

**Amy Tozzi**

McLean

Member of the Tysons Task Force

**Putting Numbers in Perspective**

To the Editor,

In your last edition a simple typographical error creates a major misconception about the finances of the McLean Community Center. In the article "MCC Cuts Tax Rate" you state that the existing operating fund was "more than \$10 million" and the "total operating fund is expected to grow from \$10,825,476 to \$11,476,201 in the 2010 fiscal year."

The funding in question is really the end-of-year fund balance. This is the surplus made up largely of vaguely defined pots of

money resulting from the windfall in tax receipts created by the bubble in housing prices and the refusal of MCC Governing Boards to reduce the tax rates correspondingly. Even in FY 2010 the pot grows by \$959,424. I have proposed reducing this growth to zero, leading to a reduction in the tax rate to 1.83 cents (say 1.90, to give the MCC the benefit of the breakage).

**John B. Walsh**

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:

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