

McLean CONNECTION

Vanessa Bretas and Michael Robinson play the star-crossed title characters in a dress rehearsal of McLean High School's upcoming production of "Romeo and Juliet."

PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

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Medical Conditions May Be Difficult

CONVERSATIONS ABOUT
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Tunnel Hope Revived

Advocates of underground Metrorail route look to new administration for solutions.

BY MIRZA KURSPAHIC
THE CONNECTION

Tunnel supporters for the Metrorail extension through Tysons Corner have not given up yet, even as preparatory work for the aerial route for the "Silver Line" to Dulles Airport and beyond continues. They hope the next presidential administration will listen to their concerns and reconsider the way forward in connecting the nation's capital with its international airport by rail.

"The presidential election kind of shuffled the deck," Scott Monett, president of Tysons Tunnel Inc., the organization leading the charge for the underground alignment through the commercial center, said. He said the incoming U.S. secretary of transportation will be "sitting in a very nice spot to help us" reconsider the rail alignment.

"Everybody knows it's the right thing to do," Monett said about the tunnel. He said the most common term he hears about it is that it is a "no-brainer." Monett believes the incoming Democratic administration will focus on job creation and building new infrastructure. "There is a heavy union component to the Democratic Party and unions want jobs for their members," Monett said. He said the rail extension would serve as a huge job generator for the region.

The U.S. secretary of transportation may have a large role to play in the determination of how the project proceeds. Accord-



More than 200 people came to the Tysons Corner Sheraton in support of the tunnel option for the Metrorail extension to Dulles Airport.

ing to McLean resident Bill Coleman, a transportation secretary in President Gerald Ford's administration, a federal statute established the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA), which took over the rail extension project. "It is therefore a federal entity," Coleman said. "You need to demand that the secretary of transportation take another look at it," Coleman said about the project and the current contracts driving it.

State Sen. Chap Petersen (D-34) said the contracts signed to date do not necessarily bind the public in the future, especially as the new president comes to Washington, D.C., and a gubernatorial race takes place in Virginia next year. "I don't believe we are bound by that till kingdom come," Petersen said.

Both Petersen and Monett said U.S. Rep. Jim Oberstar (D-Minn.), chairman of the

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, had stated that the issue of the rail alignment, above or underground, is up to the Commonwealth of Virginia. Petersen said he wished to clarify a misconception that the federal share of the funding for the extension, \$900 million, depends on the alignment. "The \$900 million is not contingent upon over ground or underground," Petersen said.

MORE THAN 200 tunnel supporters gathered at the Tysons Corner Sheraton Wednesday night, Nov. 12, to discuss the hope for the tunnel through Tysons Corner. All of the speakers at Wednesday's forums said they are supporters of rail to Dulles, but not of the aerial alignment through Tysons Corner. Jay Donahue, former Town of Herndon

SEE TUNNEL, PAGE 30

Eminent Domain Initiated

Park Authority attempts to acquire property for McLean Central Park.

The county Park Authority board voted last week to begin the eminent domain process to annex two acres of land into McLean Central Park. Only two of the 12 board members opposed the move.

At the meeting last Wednesday, Nov. 12, at-large member Marie Reinsdorf told the board she was voting against the proposal because she agreed with much of the public input against the use of eminent domain to acquire the property. Springfield representative Harold Pyon also voted against the measure, but he said his vote was a "friendly no," cast so that Reinsdorf wouldn't be alone on her side of the issue.

The property comprises four lots near the intersection of Dolley Madison Boulevard and Ingleside Avenue and is owned by John Birge and Susan Fadoul. Birge lives in one of the three houses on the property. The owners have said they plan to develop the land with up to six high-end houses.

There was little discussion of the matter at last week's meeting, but Dranesville representative Kevin Fay has said the Park Authority has been interested for some time in acquiring the property in order to prevent it from being redeveloped. He has said turning the property, which is surrounded on three sides by McLean Central Park, into parkland would create a more natural boundary for the park, help to protect the Dead Run watershed and possibly allow for a better park entrance.

Reinsdorf said she appreciated the work that had already been put into the acquisition, but was concerned with the public perception of such a move. "It's a very strong action to take," she said. She said the Park Authority had only received about 12 written comments on the matter, but none of them had favored the use of eminent domain and many had expressed apprehension at the idea that the county would hire an independent appraiser, rather than the property's official assessment, to determine the value of the land.

Park Authority spokeswoman Judy Pedersen said the decision did not mean the county would necessarily acquire the property. "These things can often be seen as a negotiation tool," she said. "I don't think the board is committed to anything yet."

— MIKE DICICCO

Citrus Sale to Help Charities

It is citrus season and The American Legion in McLean is selling tangerines, oranges and grapefruits. All of the profits go to its charitable giving in the area. The American Legion is a nonprofit group of men and women veterans from the Navy, Marine Corps, Army, Air Force and Coast Guard. Post 270, located on Balls Hill Road, donates the proceeds of its fund-raisers to organizations like Angels of Mercy, which serves injured soldiers in their times of need. To order fruit for future pick-up go to the Web site, <http://www.mcleanpost270.org>.

— DANIELLE LANDAU



From left, Barney Holmes, Tom Lukas, Jay Edwards and John Bowman, all veterans and McLean residents, volunteer selling citrus last weekend.



Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock)



Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield)

Officer-Involved Shooting

Patrol officers were involved in a shooting Saturday afternoon at the Tysons Galleria. Around 12:40 p.m. police were called for a disorderly man who reportedly had a gun on the mall property. Responding officers located the man outside on the upper-level parking deck and confronted him. The man failed to comply with the officers' commands and made a movement toward a gun in his waistband. One officer discharged one round and the suspect was shot in the lower body. He was transported by ground to Inova Fairfax Hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

Detectives from the Crime Scene Section, Criminal Investigations Bureau and Internal Affairs responded to the scene. This investigation is ongoing.

Police Investigate Armed Robbery

A 60-year-old man from Washington, D.C., was robbed Saturday, Nov. 15, shortly before 10 p.m. The man walked to his car in the lot of the Westpark Hotel at 8401 Westpark Drive. As he opened the driver's door, a man approached from behind, displayed a handgun and demanded money. The victim handed over an undisclosed amount of cash and was not injured. The suspect left on foot in an unknown direction.

The suspect was described as black, in his 30s, about 5 feet 9 inches tall, weighing 160 to 180 pounds. He was wearing a long sleeve, black shirt and black pants.

Incident Under Investigation

Police are investigating a report of an 8-year-old McLean boy that was approached and touched by a naked man in the locker room of the Spring Hill Recreation Center at 8:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 10.

The child had gone to change after swimming, when a man allegedly approached him and touched him in a sexual manner. The child reported the incident to his parents later that evening. The victim was not injured.

The suspect is described as approximately 6 feet tall, slender, in his late 30s with a tanned or olive-toned complexion.

Anyone with information about these three incidents is asked to contact Crime Solvers by phone at 1-866-411-TIPS/8477, e-mail www.fairfaxcrimesolvers.org or text "TIP187" plus your message to CRIMES/274637 or call Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131.

Bulova, Herrity To Run For Chairman

County anticipates early February election.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly won his new position in the U.S. Congress last week on Nov. 4, but two of his colleagues on the Board of Supervisors have been preparing for his departure for months.

Braddock District Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D) and Springfield District Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R) made little secret of their interest in chairman's position this fall, especially since Connolly was the favorite to take Virginia's 11th Congressional District.

Even before Connolly made his election night victory speech this month, Bulova shared plans for her county chairman campaign kick off Nov. 12.

Herrity, who is Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Arrowhead Global Solutions, a local technology company, has been shaking hands at events like the Vienna Fourth of July festival and others miles outside his district for months. He officially announced his candidacy Nov. 13.

The countywide race to succeed Connolly is likely to be short and fast. The chairman will step down in early January and county officials expect a special election to replace him will occur in early February, about one month later. The new chairman would serve out the rest of Connolly's term and has the chance to stand re-election in 2011.

BOTH Bulova and Herrity said the economic downturn and Fairfax County's budget shortfall would be their top priorities as chairman.

If the real estate tax rate is kept at the same level, Fairfax is facing a projected \$500 million shortfall in the county's \$3.4 billion general fund during next fiscal year. Fairfax has already had to wrestle with a \$65 million budget shortfall in the current fiscal year, which started July 1. The county

Sharon Bulova (D)

Age: 60
Current Home: The Cloisters of Fairfax, Fairfax County resident since 1996
Hometown/Grew Up In: Pikesville, Md.
Education: University of Virginia (classes via Fort Belvoir extension campus), Northern Virginia Community College, business management (1977)
Family: husband Lou DeFalaise, two adult children, three grandchildren
Professional experience: book keeper, sales and office manager
Political experience: Braddock District Supervisor (1987-present), former aide to Annandale District Supervisor Audrey Moore (1984-1987)
Civic experience: founding member of Virginia Railway Express Operations Board (1989 - present), Governors Commission on Rail Enhancement for the 21st Century (2004 - present)

executive required county agencies to make mid-year cuts.

If the supervisors had to wrestle with just a \$400 million budget shortfall next year, they would be looking at cutting roughly 12 percent of Fairfax's total operating budget. According to county staff, \$400 million is equivalent to what the county sets aside for public works, courts, community development, parks and recreation, libraries, administrative and support services, county transit and Metro funding combined.

Budget staff predicts that the tight fiscal situation would continue beyond next year and that the county could take several budget cycles to recover from the current downturn.

Bulova, 60, who has sat on the board since 1987, said she is the most qualified person to steer the county through tough financial times. She has served as the supervisors' budget committee chairman for all but four of the past 20 years. Former county chairman Tom Davis headed the committee in the early 1990s.

Bulova said she played a pivotal role in guiding the county out of its last fiscal crisis in the mid-1990s.

"I was the budget chairman when we took action to address the last downturn and we emerged from that recession in better shape than we had been in when the downturn began," she said.

Patrick Herrity (R)

Age: 48
Current Home: Clifton/Centreville
Hometown/Grew Up In: Springfield, Va.
Education: Virginia Tech., B.S. in Accounting (1982)
Family: Wife Nancy and two high school children
Professional experience: chief financial officer at Arrowhead Global Solutions, government contractor (2005-present)
Political experience: Springfield District Supervisor (2008-present)
Civic experience: former executive committee of Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, former board member of Northern Virginia Technology Council, youth athletics coach

The county found new and better ways to partner with the non-profit and faith communities to deliver services. As a result of the last recession, the supervisors also created a revenue stabilization fund, which the county is tapping right now, to provide "rainy day" money for the county if it ever faced a mid-year budget shortfall, she said.

"Looking ahead, I want to find those same opportunities to pull out of this current recession in a sound and improved manner," said Bulova.

As chairman, Bulova wants to focus on "getting us back on our fiscal feet so we can emerge from the recession better than ever."

STILL, Herrity, 48, said it might be time for a new perspective and blames Bulova, in part, for the county's current financial crisis.

"Basically, she was the budget chair that got us into a lot of this mess. I don't think the county can afford three more years of the same," he said.

Fairfax should have been better prepared for an economic downturn, particularly the slowing down of the real estate market, said Herrity, who joined the board in January. While Herrity is in his first year on the county board, he could bring name recognition to the race. His father, Jack Herrity, served 16 years on the Board of Supervisors, including 12 years as chairman.

Residents' home values have more than

SEE CHAIRMAN, PAGE 15

NEWS

35-Day Sentence

A Fairfax Circuit Court jury convicted teenager Garrett Scott McNamara on Nov. 10, 2008 of felony possession of burglarious tools and misdemeanor possession of a weapon on school grounds, according to Assistant State's Attorney Marc J. Birnbaum.

Judge Jane Marum Roush imposed the jury's recommended sentence of 30 days in jail for the felony, five days for the misdemeanor, and \$2,500 fines for each offense, said Birnbaum.

McNamara, 18, of McLean, was initially arrested Nov. 29, 2007 for arson and creating a bomb or explosive after the Fairfax County Fire Marshall's Office investigated a McLean house fire caused by a Molotov cocktail two weeks earlier. Prosecutors dropped these two felony charges at McNamara's preliminary hearing in February after fingerprints on evidence collected in the case revealed they were from a different person.

Investigation into the Molotov cocktail case led fire officials to a search of McNamara's car at his high school. Officials found a machete, double-sided knives, Duct tape, matches, lighters, a lock-pick set and master keys.

Prosecutors were prohibited

from revealing anything to do with a fire incident during last week's trial, said Birnbaum. Investigation is continuing, he said.

— KEN MOORE

Defrauding One He Served

Brandon J. Cook, a registered investment broker at Legg Mason in McLean, defrauded one of his clients of \$602,500, according to Dana J. Boente, acting U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Cook, 36 of Chantilly, pleaded guilty to wire fraud in August in federal court in Alexandria.

From March 2002 through June 2005, Cook forged his client's signature on transfer authorization letters as well as forging checks drawn on his client's account, according to Boente. U.S. District Court Judge James C. Cacheris sentenced Cook to 36 months incarceration and ordered that he pay \$542,500 in restitution.

The FBI and Postal Inspection Service investigated the case, prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen Learned and Special Assistant U.S. Attorney Mary F. Walters.

— KEN MOORE

CRIME

Activities reported by the McLean district of the Fairfax County police department through Nov. 14.

ABDUCTION/ROBBERY

8300 block of Leesburg Pike. A

36-year-old Arlington woman was abducted at gunpoint, driven to her bank and forced to withdraw and hand over an undisclosed amount of money. The victim had just gotten inside her car around 1:45 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 6 in the Pike 7 Plaza, 8389 Leesburg Pike when she suddenly saw a man standing in between her and the car door. He produced a gun and told her to exit the car. The victim complied and a second suspect approached them. Both men told her to follow them and then ordered her to get into a gold-colored sedan, bearing Michigan license plates, parked nearby. When the victim told the suspects she did not have any money, they drove to a Wachovia Bank, at 8117 Leesburg Pike and told her to withdraw money using a credit card. The transaction took place between 2:30 and 3 p.m. The victim left the bank and ran back to the area where she had parked her car. She was not injured. The suspects were described as black, between 45 and 50 years old. One suspect was 5 feet inches, around 140 pounds and wore a black long coat, a gray hat and black pants and shoes. The other suspect was described as between 6 feet and 6 feet 3 inches tall, heavy-set and wore a long black jacket

SEE CRIME, PAGE 27

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PEOPLE

Times and Tickets

Performances will be at 2 and 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 29 and at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 30 at the Madeira School, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Tickets cost \$23 for adults, \$20 for students and senior citizens and \$16 for children under 12. To order tickets or for more information, call the studio at 703-759-3366.

PEOPLE IN NEWS



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFT/CONNECTION



Rev. Paul Gysan, representing Christ the King Lutheran Church, was recognized at a recent Great Falls Pack 673 Cub Scouts meeting and presented a framed copy of the charter, which will be displayed in the church. Pictured from left, are Eric Raudenbush, Todd Walmsley, the Rev. Paul Gysan and Bruce O'Cain.

Thirteen years ago, the church agreed to sponsor the organization, but the relationship has taken on increased importance this year, as Great Falls Elementary undergoes renovation. Christ the King Church immediately agreed to provide meeting space for the Cub Scouts.

The Rev. Paul Gysan has attended numerous Arrow of Light ceremonies, where Cub Scouts "cross over" and become Boy Scouts. For many of these ceremonies he has composed and sung a song unique for the event.

Gysan told the 50 boys in attendance at the chartering recognition that the church continues to give them support because they believe in the Boy Scout's mission "to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law."

'Nutcracker' Returns

Haddad dance studio's annual, lavish production appeals to all ages.

The upcoming production of "The Nutcracker" by Great Falls' Margaret Haddad Studio of Classical Ballet aims to offer something for everyone, from young children to more sophisticated dance aficionados.

"Little children love it because they see children dancing," Haddad said. "We have the tiny little 5-year-olds as the mice." Meanwhile, the cast of 101 dancers will also include graduates of the dance school, guest artists and Russian male dancers.

This is the 17th year the school has put on the show and, as usual, no expense has been spared, with more than 700 pieces of costume and an extravagant set that includes falling snow and a tree that grows from scene to scene.

Although the basic setting and choreography remain about the same, Haddad said, "We enlarge it every year and make a

few changes."

In spite of the imported dancers, Haddad said the production is very much a community effort. "More than 80 percent of the cast comes from our area," she said, although she noted that a few were former local residents now attending college elsewhere. One has made a four-hour trip from Allentown, Pa. for each rehearsal. Also, she said, "The parents have been absolutely amazing helping with the costumes and the scenery"

She said the show was a way to "start off the season in a happy way. The children know that when they're struggling to learn the steps, that it's going to bring pleasure to a lot of people."

Three performances are scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 29 and 30 at the Madeira School in McLean.

— MIKE DICICCO



Rebecah Shepherd adjusts trumpeter Anna Hurley's cap.



The Dolls: Raegan Long, Sophie Fouldi, Mason Glembocki, Emma Norris and Sabrina Luz.



Margaret Haddad adjusts the costumes of her grandchildren Julianna and Anthony. This is Haddad's 22nd year of teaching in Great Falls.

Adeler Jewelers of

Great Falls was approved for firm membership in the American Gem Society (AGS). Valentina Adeler, pictured, possesses the registered jeweler title that finalized the qualifying credentials for membership. This accreditation is achieved by only 1.5 percent of jewelers nationwide.



Mark Moeller, president of the society said, "I want to congratulate Ms. Adeler on bringing in the firm of Adeler Jewelers. AGS titleholders and member firms offer a varied selection of jewelry merchandise, expert gemological skills (as they must have a Graduate Gemologist and Gemological Laboratory on site) and a high regard for ethical business practices."

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Move-Ins Begin at Reserve at Tysons

The Reserve at Tysons Corner, a brand-new luxury apartment community in Tysons Corner, has opened an onsite Welcome Center just off of Gallows Road at Science Applications Court, where prospective residents can obtain leasing information and begin their personal tours. The community is now leasing Phase I of its 574 new one- and two-bedroom apartment homes with monthly rental rates beginning at \$1,599.

Located just one mile south of Tysons Galleria, The Reserve at Tysons Corner provides easy access to Tysons Corner Center and The Galleria as well as the Dunn Loring Metro station, employment centers, and the Capital Beltway.

Phase I amenities at The Reserve at Tysons Corner include a hotel-style lobby with contemporary seating areas; a resident lounge with a plasma screen television, fitness lounge, and free Wi-Fi; and controlled-access entry along with garage parking. Outdoor amenities include a pool with sundeck, garden courtyard with intimate seating, and a children's "fun park."



The Reserve at Tysons Corner is now leasing Phase I apartments.

Residents can choose from a variety of granite and cabinet finishes to customize their new homes. Each apartment features high-tech wiring, two-tone paint, custom plantation blinds, wide-planked hardwood flooring, crown molding, chair rails, and upgraded contemporary lighting. State-of-the-art kitchens feature granite countertops, stainless steel GE ap-

pliances, gas cooking, and side-by-side refrigerators with programmable icemakers and water dispensers. Sumptuous bathrooms include wood cabinets and granite countertops, imported ceramic tile floors and tub/shower surrounds, deep soaking tubs, and contemporary fixtures.

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Call for Student Connection

Looking for writing and artwork by local students.

Every year, over the winter holidays, the Connection turns the pages of one entire issue over to the contributions of local students.

As with previous years' issues, we will feature artwork of many kinds, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories, reflections and more. Artwork can include paintings, drawings or any media; photos of sculpture, ceramics or other works too large to submit are also encouraged.

We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled. Past contributions have come from children from nursery schools through those preparing to graduate

EDITORIALS from high school. Sometimes an art or English teacher will assign a project and submit the work of an entire class, but individual submissions from any young person in the commu-

nity are also welcome. We prefer digital submissions.

Please be sure to include the name of the artist or author, and include age, school attended and name of the hometown, along with a phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

Mail, e-mail or deliver submissions to the Connection by Dec. 5. Our address is 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102. E-mail to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com, or call 703-821-5050 with questions.

Here's a Stimulus Plan

Build rail to Dulles, and other infrastructure projects.

Many localities are calling for their share of the federal bailout. It's not unreasonable, given that the economic slowdown means less revenue for localities at the very moment local citizens turn to their local governments for more help.

For a stimulus plan that would create jobs, give localities a boost and provide lasting benefits, the next phase of stimulus spending should involve dispensing funds to localities that have major projects, like rail to Dulles or

school building and renovations, ready to go.

Rail to Dulles is not the only major (and sorely needed) transit project that has been languishing in a parsimonious and convoluted federal process waiting for funding. Let's spend \$150 billion paying for projects around the country that will put people to work right away, stimulate the economy via jobs and demand for goods and services, take cars off the roads.

Think what a boost it would be to the local economy to have most of the cost of such a

project taken care of by the feds.

Do we have anything to show for the \$150 billion in stimulus checks mailed out to consumers a few hundred dollars at a time?

The federal government is spending inconceivable sums of money to help stabilize the economy. Let's spend some of it on something that will last.

— MARY KIMM,

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Election 2008 Shows Democracy Alive, Well

To the Editor:

There will be many memorable images from election 2008, but perhaps none is more heartening than that of Americans voting in staggering numbers at the polls. It is an affirmation that our democracy is alive and well. Voters deserve to be congratulated for their deep commitment to voting and for their patience and perseverance. They showed real dedication by voting early, standing in long lines when necessary and making sure their voices were heard.

In Fairfax County, 78.7 percent of the 665,674 registered voters voted for president/vice president. Election Day went smoothly and after the early morning rush, there was little waiting to vote at most precincts. Voters were greeted with the option of using the "old" WinVote computer or the new optical scanning paper ballot. The paper ballot option sped up voting and seemed to be well received by those who chose to use it.

Democracy got a big boost this election with such enthusiastic participation from voters, especially younger voters ages

18-29, but there is always more to be done to make it work well for all Americans. The challenges we face will require our continued participation in this democratic process. The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area works year-round to inform our community about candidates and advocate on issues that affect our daily lives. We were immensely gratified to see so many people engaged in the political process this year and were proud to be a part of the process in various ways such as producing our Voters Guide and registering voters.

As president of the Fairfax Area League of Women Voters, I invite others in the community to maintain their commitment to civic improvement by joining the league and helping us continue the good work. Together we can keep our community strong, healthy and vibrant. For more information, call 703-658-9150 or go to our Web site, www.lwv-fairfax.org.

Sherry W. Zachry, president
League of Women Voters of
the Fairfax Area

Hidden Cause of Asthma

Could common foods be making you sick?

BY MARY ANN LASTOVA

Every time a commercial for asthma drugs spins its web on TV I cringe. That is because after years of doctors' visits, allergy shots, and sleepless nights I know a hidden cause that is being missed.

My oldest son Stephen developed severe asthma and became so sick we decided to homeschool him. Regularly, Stephen's colds would progress to a sinus infection or bronchitis with severe asthma exacerbations. We had an excellent local doctor who would promptly get him back on his feet. But, after antibiotics and more asthma drugs he'd recover only to return to school and catch another cold. His immune system seemed frail, his asthma relentless.

We hopped specialists only to be given more drugs. Then, a friend of mine mentioned that she knew several celiac kids that eliminated their asthma by going off gluten (the protein in wheat and other grains). Celiac is a common autoimmune disease where the body develops antibodies to the lining

of the digestive tract. Those antibodies disappear when gluten is eliminated from the diet.

MY SON did not have significant digestive issues, so I was hesitant to think that could be the problem. But, one weekend I saw the connection. Stephen had had a lot of wheat products and developed severe asthma. I called his allergist and asked if we could run a celiac panel. She faxed an order to the lab. The results showed significantly elevated levels of a certain antibody to gluten/gliadin. That doctor told us to eliminate wheat/gluten and make an appointment with a gastroenterologist.

We took the celiac panel to a top gastroenterologist who told us Stephen "did not have celiac." The antibodies were because Stephen had recently eaten wheat, and he could continue to do so. Unfortunately, that poor counsel kept my son very sick.

The following fall Stephen developed an upper respiratory infection and asthma that would not clear. After four rounds of antibiotics with no improvement, I realized that Stephen was in trouble. I am not a crier, but, I broke down sharing my concern with a dear friend. She arranged an appointment with Dr. Norton Fishman, an

SEE TRIGGER, PAGE 27



PHOTO BY RANDY WYANT/I DO PHOTOGRAPHY INC.

Brenda Solomon speaks at the groundbreaking ceremony with husband, Lon, behind. They have led the effort to build Jill's House for children with special needs in the area.



PHOTO BY DANIELLE LANDAU
THE CONNECTION

Stu Mendelsohn presented the Jill's House project to the Chamber members.

Supporting Jill's House

"Supporting Jill's House is one of the ways the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce is helping to meet the civic, business and residential needs of the community," Matthew Wallace, chamber president, said last week at an event at J. Gilbert's in McLean. The business breakfast, which took place Wednesday, Nov. 12, included remarks from Jill's House board member Stu Mendelsohn.

Mendelsohn spoke about the goals and progress of the project, which was started by Lon and Brenda Solomon, parents of Jill who developed a seizure disorder

at a young age.

A Christ-centered, nonprofit organization established in February of 2003, Jill's House will provide care and support to children with special needs and their families through overnight respite and therapy programs without respect to race, gender, creed or religious preference. Mendelsohn said, "Everyone deserves a break sometimes and both parents and siblings of special needs children are denied relief for even one night a month."

Denny Harris, chairman of the board for Jill's House, hopes that

the special-needs center "will not have issues with a family's ability to pay. We are optimistic in hoping that we will be able to help everyone. As the word gets out, more people will donate and allow Jill's house to grow."

Set to open in 2010, Jill's House depends heavily on donations from the community and volunteer participation. To get involved, visit the project's Web site at www.jillshouse.org. For more information on the McLean Chamber of Commerce visit its Web site at www.mcleanchamber.org.

— DANIELLE LANDAU

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Antique Treasures in McLean

More than 55 quality antique dealers offered a variety of antique treasures at the McLean Community Center's (MCC) 32nd Annual McLean Antiques Show and Sale, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 8-9.

Show proceeds will benefit the Alden Theatre's James C. Macdonald Arts Scholarship Fund.

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More Unlicensed Than Drunk Drivers at Checkpoints

When the Fairfax County police set up a checkpoint over a weekend night, they are more likely to find people driving without a license than people driving under the influence, according to county executive Tony Griffin.

"Each police station has controlled stops in the district and they tend to arrest more people for not having an operator's license [than drunk driving]," said Griffin at the Board of Supervisors legislative meeting Nov. 14.

Fairfax County officers wrote about 5,440 tickets for driving without a license from October 2007 through September 2008. Of the eight precincts, the Mount Vernon police district garnered the most offenders in this area last year, with about 1,120 tickets issued for this problem.

Some elected officials suspect that some of the people caught driving without a license are undocumented workers because illegal immigrants are prohibited from acquiring driver's licenses in Virginia.

"Hundreds of people are getting pulled over and arrested for not having a driver's license. ...These are hundreds and hundreds of people who have never had a license, never had training" said Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust (D).

Foust suggested Fairfax County look into a state legislative initiative backed by the Town of Herndon, which has taken several aggressive steps to crackdown on illegal immigrants. The town government proposed a measure that would allow police officers to impound a citizen's vehicle if that person was caught driving with no license for a second time.

Some Fairfax County supervisors had reservations about the measure, partly because it was part of a Herndon legislative package focused on illegal immigrants that the county generally did not support.

Most supervisors wanted more information from the Fairfax County police about the problem before they backed a solution.

"I think this is a bit ominous. The owner and operator of the vehicle may not be the same," said Hunter Mill Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D).

In an interview this week, Springfield Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R) said something should be done to address the issue.

Herrity said one of the problems is the fines for driving without a license are not high enough to deter people, until someone is caught for the third time. Since many people regularly driving without a license use aliases with the police, the offenders rarely rack up the three charges that trigger a harsher fine and penalty, according to Griffin.

Herrity would like the police to run a background check on all people pulled over for driving without a license. But the supervisor is not sure the checks, which are time consuming for police, should take priority over other law enforcement duties.

"Do you want to pull police officers off the street to do this?" said Herrity.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Police encounter more people driving without licenses than driving under the influence, according to a report this week. In the Mount Vernon police district alone, police issued 1,120 tickets for driving without a driver's license last year.

Put 'County Checkbook' Online?

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors backed away from an initiative to provide more transparency by itemizing county expenditures online when board members put together the county's 2009 state legislative package Nov. 14.

State Senators Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) and Chap Petersen (D-35) have already submitted a bill for next session that could require the creation of a searchable, detailed database of its budget and expenditures.

The measure is similar to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, which set up a free publicly searchable Web site for all federal contracts and grants over \$25,000.

President-elect Barack Obama and Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Ok.) were leaders on the open government legislation. Former presidential candidate John McCain (R) was also one of its initial sponsors in the U.S. Senate.

After the federal law passed, several states followed with their own transparency laws, including Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin (R) who posted her state's check register online.

"Other states have done this. We will monitor it and see how it has gone there," said county attorney David Bobzien.

Some county staff said they could think of examples where government would want to keep some of its payments "out of the public record."

"There are some downsides to doing this. We need to examine it. We need better answers," said county chairman Gerry Connolly (D).

But Springfield Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R)— who is running to replace Connolly — said he felt the county was dragging its feet on the issue. "For us not to be doing that is ridiculous. It has been done in a bi-

partisan fashion across the country," said Herrity.

Connolly Favors Bail Out for Localities

U.S. Representative-elect and current Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly (D) indicated that he would advocate adopting an additional Economic Stabilization Act to give federal assistance to local governments.

"When you are looking at bailing out GM, Ford and Chrysler, how about bailing out us? There has to be aid to localities for the purpose of stimulus," said Connolly at a county board legislative committee meeting Nov. 14.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors also backed a resolution adopted by the Virginia Association of Counties that requested the federal government give money directly to localities and not only to state governments.

Fairfax Students Report Depression

The percentage of Fairfax County Public School students reporting depression has fallen in the last seven years but still remains higher than the national average, according to the county's 2008 Youth Survey released Nov. 14.

Approximately 31 percent of the eighth, 10th and 12th grade students in Fairfax County who participated in the survey said they had felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for weeks that they had stopped participating in some regular activities. The national average is for their peers reporting depression is 28.5 percent.

The number of Fairfax County students who say they have experienced depression has consistently dropped since 2001, when 35 percent of those surveyed said they felt the same symptoms.

The percentage of Fairfax students who have considered attempting suicide, about 14.5 percent, is around the national average, 14.7 percent, and has also dropped from its 2001 figure, 18.5 percent.

Those students who report a suicide attempt, about 3.5 percent, is approximately half of the nationwide figure of 7 percent.

About 35 percent of girls reported feeling sad and lonely to just 26 percent of boys. Approximately 18 percent of girls to just 11 percent of boys said they had considered suicide and the percentage of female students who said they attempted suicide, 4.7, was more than twice than of the boys, which hovered around two percent.

In terms of ethnic groups, Hispanic or Latinos appeared more prone to feeling depressed, 39 percent.

White students were the least likely to report depressive symptoms, according to the report.

Since 2001, all student ethnic groups in Fairfax County had seen a decline in feelings of depression, according to the survey.

But Dranesville District School Board member Janie Strauss cautioned people not to be too optimistic about the statistics.

The a nationwide drop in attempted and "successful" suicides among teenagers but the incidents of cutting — self-mutilation to relieve stress — have increased, she said.

Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly said he would like to see Fairfax County Public Schools train classroom teachers to spot early warning signs of depression or suicide in their students.

"My candid opinion is that we don't do this well. ... And there is a still a tremendous stigma attached to suicide," said Connolly. "A teacher who is trained a little bit could be a pivotal figure."

Help is available for anyone who depressed or considering suicide by calling CrisisLink at 703-527-4077, or 1-800-SUICIDE.

Panel Recommends New Utility Fee

Fairfax County's Environmental Quality Advisory Council proposed a new storm water management impact fee during a Board of Supervisors meeting Nov. 17.

The county currently pays for storm water management through its general fund. The supervisors dedicate one penny of Fairfax's real estate tax rate, 92 cents per \$100 of assessed value, to the cause, which would amount to about \$21 million annually.

Due to budget constraints, the county has been using more of the funding from the storm water-dedicated penny to cover staffing and equipment, resulting in a 38 percent reduction in funding going to actual infrastructure upgrades.

The environmental advisory council would like to see a steadier stream of funding for storm water management, particularly in light of the county's projected \$500 million budget shortfall next year.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE



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SCHOOLS



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Matt Parent's Tybalt bristles when he sees Romeo, a hated Montague, at a party thrown by his Capulet family.

High Drama at McLean High

Students pour their passion into classic teen tragedy of "Romeo and Juliet."

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

When the McLean High School drama students were searching for a visual theme for their upcoming performances of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet," they wanted something to set their production of the classic play apart.

They settled on French Impressionist painting, and particularly Vincent Van Gogh's "Starry Night," because the style fit with the play's themes of misunderstanding and a rushed sense of time, said junior Julia Katz, the theater department's head of publicity. "You know, they get married and die within five days," she pointed out. Also, she said, "Starry Night" invokes the play's famous nighttime balcony scene.

Junior Nikki Becher, the stage manager and set designer, said the paintings reflected the play's romanticism and sense of fate.

Such as the idea of star-crossed lovers, theater instructor and director Denise Perrino interjected.

A design similar to the Van Gogh painting already runs along the front of the school's stage in preparation for this weekend's shows, and paintings will be projected onto the back of the set during the performance.

The set is also somewhat abstract, constructed from large wooden boxes that will glow from the inside through screens.

Katz said it was one way of dealing with the fact that the play has many different settings. "It's efficient and it works emotionally for all of the scenes," she said.

Becher said she had come up with the idea to have the set glow after the group saw a production of "Romeo and Juliet" that used glowing orbs.

THE PLAY will also be set in France in the late 19th century, the time when Van Gogh was painting, rather than Shakespeare's setting of Renaissance-era Verona, Italy.

But what senior Michael Robinson said he thought audiences would enjoy most about the production was "seeing teenagers do Shakespeare right." He said he was pleased with the performances of his fellow cast members. While the florid, old-English dialogue is complicated and challenging, Robinson said, "Every single person knows what they're saying, and they're performing it as if it were just text."

When his class went over the play in ninth grade, Robinson read the part of Romeo. Now, he is playing the character onstage. "It's like a dream come true, really," he said.

One thing he enjoyed about the play was that his character, like many of the play's leads, was his own age. "It's really nice to fit into a character without having to bend yourself," he said, noting that it can be difficult for a teenager to get into the mindset of a 45-year-old.

Junior Vanessa Bretas said she was enjoying the role of Juliet, her first leading part. "She's very emotional and dramatic, so I get to

just let myself go," she said. Bretas said she thought the stage combat would be impressive to audiences, especially since someone from the Shakespeare Theater had helped to choreograph it. "And it's just a high-energy show," she said, adding that the cast was excited about performing it. "So, hopefully, we'll be able to convey that energy."

After 30 years of directing, this will be the first time Perrino has worked on "Romeo and Juliet." "It's a classic, and we wanted something challenging," she said.

Perrino said one other reason "Romeo and Juliet" had been chosen was that it was a play the group hoped a lot of people would want to see, since ticket sales will help fund the group's trip to Scotland for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The McLean High School drama students were selected to go to the festival in the spring and are raising money for their trip in August.

Times and Tickets

"Romeo and Juliet" is playing at 7:30 p.m. this Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 20 to 22 at McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$7 for students. For ticket information, call 703-714-5821.

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Chairman Race Heats Up

FROM PAGE 4

doubled, resulting in significantly higher taxes and more revenue for county government. Supervisors should have been more conservative about spending the additional money and adding new county programs, said Herrity.

The Springfield District supervisor also implied that Bulova and Connolly had not focused new revenue on the county's most critical needs. As the local economy boomed, traffic got worse and the locality, which is looking at cutting public safety funding, saw a spike in crime this year, he said.

In his short time on the board, the Springfield supervisor has also been an advocate for more community involvement in Fairfax's budget process and supported the board's decision to hold community dialogues about county budget priorities this fall.

"[In recent years], we haven't had outside input into the budget process other than public hearings," said Herry.

BULOVA said she, Connolly and the other veterans on the board couldn't be blamed for the county's current financial problems.

"This is a worldwide economic downturn and Fairfax County is affected by it. I have done a very good job of steering the county through tough fiscal times before and I will again. Tom Davis was chairman of the board the last time we were affected by a recession and it certainly wasn't Tom's fault," she said.

Many of Bulova's Democratic colleagues have already expressed support for her and said her experience as budget chairman would

"I have done a very good job of steering the county through tough fiscal times before and I will again."

— Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock)

be a valuable asset.

"The main reason I am backing Sharon is we need someone who understands the budget backwards and forwards. There will be tough decisions and we need someone who understands the ramifications of those tough decisions," said Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee).

Others, mostly Republicans, have already come out for Herry.

"Sharon was chairman of the budget committee last year when they put off a lot of their decisions. They didn't do what they might have done because Gerry was running for Congress. They didn't make any of the tough decisions," said Davis.

HERRITY could face an uphill battle getting elected countywide as a Republican.

Fairfax has not had a Republican chairman since Davis left the post 13 years ago, and all but two of the nine district supervisors are Democrats. Michael Frey (Sully) is the only other Republican on the board.

The Nov. 4 election also wasn't encouraging. Sixty percent of Fairfax County voters chose President-elect Barack Obama, giving the Democrat over a 100,000-ballot victory over Republican John McCain in the locality.

Bulova also has a track record

"I don't think the county can afford three more years of the same."

— Supervisor Patrick Herry (R-Springfield)

of getting elected as a Democrat in one of the county's more moderate-to-conservative magisterial districts, said Scott Surovell, head of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee.

"Sharon has a long history of getting things done and the Braddock District voters have confirmed that five times now. She has held that seat for 21 years, which says a lot about her ability," said Surovell.

But Davis pointed out that his successor, Kate Hanley, won the county chairman seat in a similar, unfavorable climate for the Democrats in 1995.

Davis, who was then chairman, was one of over 50 Republicans to win new seats in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994. His move to Congress triggered a special election for county chairman in an era when Republicans had the advantage, but Hanley, a Democrat, still won the countywide seat.

"This is different set of issues, different turnout model and different people from the [Nov. 4] election," he said.

In some ways, the Democratic blow out on Nov. 4 could help Herry, according to Jim Hyland, head of the Fairfax County Republican Committee.

"I have no doubts that Republicans will be highly motivated given that election," he said.

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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



Squire Chase offers a selection of fine china, picture frames and other accessories to accent any residence.

Buying in Neighborhood Stores

Local shops offer personalized gifts, attention.

BY PAUL D. SHINKMAN
THE CONNECTION

Those looking to add that subtle touch of panache to the home need look no further than Squire Chase, located at 1319 Chain Bridge Road in the Langley Shopping Center. Here buyers can find a broad selection of fine china, picture frames and other accessories to elegantly accent any residence.

"We specialize in Herend Porcelain from Hungary," Fran Ryan, the store manager, said. "Not only is their porcelain the finest in the world, but it's also hand painted."

"The Chasers," as the staff calls themselves, stock a wide array of the Herend dinnerware and animal figurines, which range from \$140-\$1,000, colored in the

traditional and distinctive "fishnet" pattern. For more ideas on how to appropriately serve your dinner guests, look to the Moser glassware from the Czech Republic, starting with shot glasses at \$35 to the more extravagant pieces like vases around \$1,900.

For a more permanent fixture in the home, Squire Chase has a picture frame for any purpose. These range from the colorful, hand-painted frames by Melanie Rothschild, which sell for \$75-\$150, to the more ornate and elegant Jay Strongwater frames, priced from \$95-\$500.

To add a touch of whimsy to the holidays, be sure to check out the wide selection of Christopher Radko "old-timey" glass-blown ornaments, which range from \$30-\$90, or the very popular Mariposa highly polished aluminum cocktail napkins sets for around \$45. Christmas editions are soon to come.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



Herend hand-painted porcelain animal figurines, \$140 to \$1,000.

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



McLean Hardware provides presents for any level of hardware enthusiast.



Bird toys, \$7.99.

Gifts for Man Who Has Everything

What to get for the man who has everything? More tools. And nowhere in the area is there a better stock and service than McLean Hardware, located in the heart of McLean, at 1445 Chain Bridge Road, for heavy-duty power tools as serious gifts or smaller wrenches, socket sets and football paraphernalia as stocking stuffers. While looking for presents for any level of hardware enthusiast, be sure to also check out the other necessities for a successful holiday season like the array of decorative lights, faux Christmas trees, extension cords and Christmas tree stands.

Glen Wiggs of Frederick, Va., has owned

McLean Hardware for 25 years. Along with his knowledgeable and helpful staff, he has many ideas for holiday gifts.

"The Dremel power multitools are particularly popular," Wiggs said. "They can do all

"The Dremel power multitools are particularly popular."

— Glen Wiggs

kinds of things and have so many different uses." Starter kits range from \$89.99-\$99.99 and will accommodate the dozens of additional bits for different projects, which are \$3.99 each.

Wiggs also recommends the Black & Decker specialty sander at \$69.99 and the complete drill and screwdriver bit kit for \$59.99.

As a responsible member of the community environment, McLean Hardware also sells stuffed bird toys \$7.99, partial proceeds of which go to the Audubon Society.

Staffers Josie Latimer and John Crawford, both of McLean, also point out the wide range of charcoal and gas grilles, ranging from \$350 for more basic models up to \$2,600 for the top of the line.

"Don't forget the chainsaws and leaf blowers," Crawford said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

HOLIDAY EVENTS

THURSDAY/NOV. 20

Oakton Church of the Brethren's 15th Annual Christmas Craft Show, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. A variety of handmade items and craft supplies for purchase, a soup and sandwich lunch and bake sale. Free admission. All proceeds go to repayment of the church's handicapped access renovation project loans. 10025 Courthouse Rd., Vienna. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Silent Auction, 7-10 p.m. in the Flame Room, 400 Center St. S., Vienna. All proceeds and donated funds will help purchase a new ambulance for Fire Station 402, VVFD. A list of items up for auction is at www.vvfd.org. 703-827-5288.

FRIDAY/NOV. 21

Oakton Church of the Brethren's 15th Annual Christmas Craft Show, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Free admission. All proceeds go to repayment of the church's handicapped access renovation project loans. 10025 Courthouse Rd., Vienna. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 22

29th Annual Holiday Bazaar, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Water media, glass, knitting, jewelry and more. Mellarkins@verizon.net.

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Great Falls \$3,900,000
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Great Falls \$2,699,000
Beautiful views of the Blue Ridge Mountains from the gorgeous pool area. Lots of light. Unique appointments such as pocket doors to hidden bar on main level. Master suite on the main level. Lower level features media room, bar, temperature controlled wine storage, work out room, projects room. Beautiful suite over garage for inlaws/aupair.



Great Falls \$1,650,000
This home is move-in ready, well cared for and maintained by meticulous sellers. Gorgeous resort like setting features beautiful brick home with heated pool and very private landscaped backyard overlooking stream. Dramatic architecture, walls of windows, lots of light, a fabulous house. Pride of ownership abounds. Great LOCATION, close to village and major arteries.



Great Falls \$1,199,000
Professional landscaping frames this beautiful home within a private wooded oasis. Dynamite upgraded kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances. Hardwoods throughout, huge walk-in closets. Move-in ready. Walkable neighborhood. Walk to River Bend and Great Falls Parks.

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Great Falls

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Great Falls \$1,625,000

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Enjoy outstanding lifestyle in this exclusive custom built home on three luxurious levels with over 6400 sq. ft. 5 BR, 4.5 BA with an abundance of windows and natural daylight on all 3 levels. Pristine hardwood floors, moldings, trim and architectural appointments throughout. Rear two-tier deck and flagstone patio overlooking 1.75 private landscaped acres. Newly updated home with bright open floor plan - perfect for entertaining.



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Robin Hill



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Bob Nelson



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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Personalized 'Great Small Things'

Don't be afraid to brag about who you know at Name Droppers, located at 1349 Chain Bridge Road, which focuses on artistic merchandise that can easily be personalized.

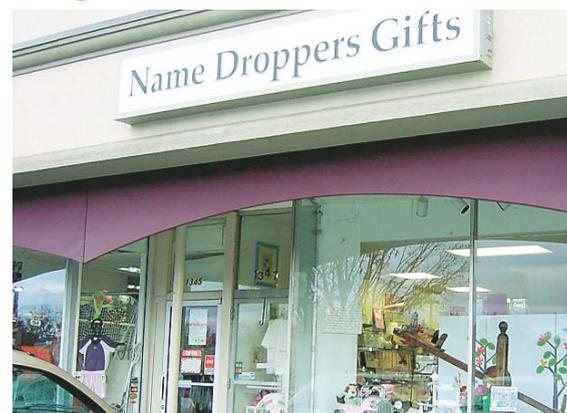
"The personalization is one of the best parts of our store," Kelly Harmon, manager and Great Falls resident, said. "And we can usually have it completed in a week or two."

One of the best sellers for the holiday season is the customized Christmas tree skirts, said owner Marie Myers of McLean. For \$129 the finely made skirt includes an embroidered family name and husband and wife's names. Any additional name can be added for \$12.

Those looking for something special for the children to use year-round can have a hand-painted name and design added to the piggy bank, \$17.95; wooden foot stools, \$49.95 or youngsters' rocking chairs, \$199.95, done by in-house artist Anj Murphy. Or, invest in a customized clay jewelry dish or valet by Clay Art of Arlington, which range from \$34.95-\$62.95.

"We come here for all the great small things, like purses and clutches," Katherine McGrady of McLean said, who came with her teenage daughter Elizabeth to peruse the variety of Vera Bradley accessories. "They have so many wonderful things for the house and it's local — not the mall."

Before entertaining this season, be sure to also check the colorful cheese board sets with six cocktail squares and cheese spreader for \$26.95 and the line of festive platters by Georgetown artist Soraya Jones, priced from \$80-\$98. And, for those restless times during the holidays, invest in "Bananagram" for \$16.95, a game very popular among the Name



Name Droppers focuses on artistic merchandise that can easily be personalized.



Platters by Georgetown artist Soraya Jones, \$80 to \$98.

Droppers staff, which they describe as "scrabble without the board."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

Artists Create 'Special Experience'

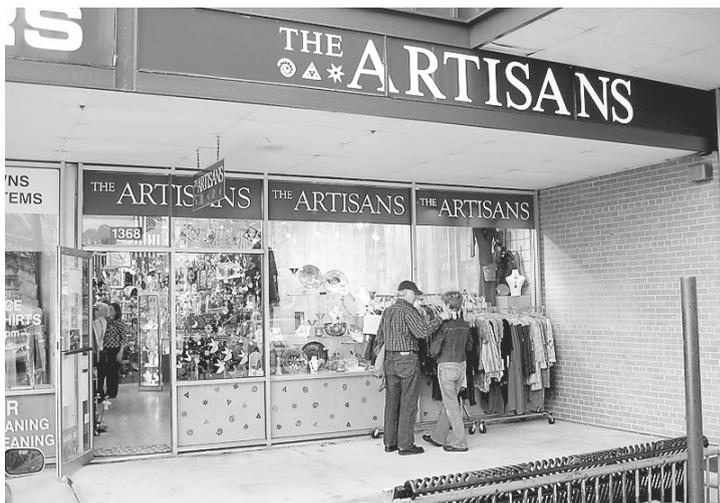
For slightly more bohemian and exotic gifts, be sure to stop by The Artisans at 1368 Chain Bridge Road. This store is full of clothing, art and jewelry by local artists and is attended by a knowledgeable staff to help buyers find the perfect piece.

"What's special about this shop is not just the unique products and wide range of prices," Ronnie Lowenstein of McLean said, "but the people who work here are loving and fun. It's a special experience every time I come."

Store manager Kristin Culan of Alexandria recommends jewelry by Carol Cavanaugh of Georgetown, priced from \$40-\$200, and Shannon Denny Price, who is also the owner, which start at \$20. She also particularly likes the selection of Japanese ikebana for \$32, a specialized dish for arranging and presenting floral displays.

"It's a unique shop," Culan says. "With so much from local artists you can't find this kind of shop anywhere else and we only buy one or two things in the same style."

For the holiday season be sure to check out the hand-made ornaments with imported glass beads by Judith Leavy Harkins for \$18.



The Artisans offer selection of clothing, art and jewelry by local artists.



Carol Cavanaugh of Georgetown jewelry, \$40 to \$200.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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The McLean Community Center

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26th Annual McLean Holiday Crafts Show

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Friday, 11 a.m.- 6 p.m.
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Admission: \$2 adults
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Good all three days!

Take \$1 off adult admission with this ad.

A McLean tradition, our show features a wide variety of unique handmade, one-of-a-kind gifts. You're sure to find those special gifts to give during the holiday season, or all year 'round. Food Service by la Madeleine French Bakery & Restaurant.



Holiday Homes of Baltimore

Tuesday, Dec. 9 • 8:45 a.m.-5 p.m.
\$133 per person/\$128 McLean district residents
Activity No. 7022.280
Visit two spectacular museum homes in Baltimore for the holiday season—Evergreen Mansion and Homewood Museum. The homes featured will be beautifully decorated for the holiday season.

Holiday Gingerbread Houses

Thursday, Dec. 11
6:30-8 p.m.
1 1.5-hr. workshop, cost includes one house
\$44/\$36 McLean district residents
Activity No. 1243.280
For families. Families work together assembling and decorating their own gingerbread houses. Decorating supplies and candies are included.
Note: Products may contain peanuts.



No Frills New York

Saturday, Dec. 13 • 6:45 a.m.-11 p.m.
\$96 per person/\$91 McLean district residents
Activity No. 7024.280 What could be better than shopping and sightseeing in New York City in the weeks before Christmas? Shop, ice skate at Rockefeller Center, see the beautifully decorated windows of Fifth Avenue or visit the glorious Metropolitan Museum of Art.



Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, Dec. 13
9:30-11 a.m.
\$15 per person
\$10 McLean district residents
Advanced registration required; no walk-ins please.
Activity No. 4002.280

For ages 3-6. Bring your child for a light breakfast with Father Christmas, aka Kris Kringle, Old Saint Nick. Enjoy entertainment, face painting, crafts projects, music and more! A photographer will take your child's picture with Santa.

Hobey Ford's Golden Rod Puppets presents Tales of Light

Saturday, Dec. 13 • 2 p.m.
\$12/\$8 McLean district residents
For ages 5+. Through the use of shadow and rod puppets and his own special "foamies" style of puppetry, master puppeteer Hobey Ford will present three Native American tales. Raven Steals the Sun tells the story of Raven the Trickster's antics stealing back the sun, The Gift of Fire tells the cautionary tale of how man discovered fire and Little Grandmother Spider Woman is a Cherokee tale about false pride and boastfulness.



Shadow Puppet Workshop

Saturday, Dec. 13, at 3:30 p.m.
\$8 per child (ages 5+) with an adult
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To have community events listed in the Connection, send to mclean@connection-newspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 19

Vienna Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, 8 p.m. at Town Hall. For agenda information, call 703-255-6341.

THURSDAY/NOV. 20

Vienna Board of Architectural Review meeting, 8 p.m. at Town Hall. For agenda information, call 703-255-6341.

TUESDAY/NOV. 25

Transportation Safety

Commission meeting, 8 p.m. at Town Hall. For agenda information, call 703-255-6385.

FRIDAY/NOV. 28

Vienna Fall leaf collection: third of four passes through town. Begins on the north side of town. All leaves must be at the curbside prior to the first scheduled collection day for each pass through your area. Leaf collection crews may take several days to finish an area, but will only pass your address once during each collection period.

Call the Public Works Department at 703-255-6381.

Vienna Town Council meeting, 8

p.m. at Town Hall. For agenda information, call 703-255-6303.

TUESDAY/DEC. 2

Windover Heights Board of Review meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall. For agenda information, call 703-255-6341

Annual Meeting of Members and Holiday Party for the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Boone & Sons Jewelers, 1320 Old Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Vote for the 2009 Board of Directors and Officers. Katharine Ryan, 703-356-5424 or kryan@mcleanchamber.org. www.mcleanchamber.org.

At **Emmanuel Lutheran Church**, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, on **Wednesdays and Fridays**, 9:15-10:30 a.m. active for life/low impact, call Lynn Mosteller at 703-698-8624.

Support meetings for parents of children with AD/HD are held every **first Wednesday** of the month at 7:15 p.m. at the offices of Annette Spector, 6845 Elm St., Ste. 710, McLean. E-mail Aspector@DER-online.com, call 703-641-5451 or visit www.novachadd.org. Free.

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GIFT GUIDE



Smith's of Bermuda specializes in women's and men's accessories, women's clothing and "brightened accents for the home."



Mark Roberts' "Fairies" ornaments, \$35 to \$105.

Brightened Home Accents

For those who enjoy the finer things in life without necessarily spending an arm and leg, head to Smith's of Bermuda at 6651 Old Dominion Drive. The shop specializes in women's and men's accessories, women's clothing and what the staff describes as "brightened accents for the home."

The knowledgeable staff are particularly well suited to buyers who may not be sure what they are looking for specifically.

"You get great advice and personalized service here," Murna Morris of McLean, a frequent

patron, said. "You won't see anything here in a department store and the merchandise is always changing."

"You get great advice and personalized service here."

— Murna Morris

Smith's of Bermuda specializes in purses, handbags and accessories by Brighton of Texas, which range from \$40 for smaller pieces

to roughly \$340 and up, and also have a wide collection of fine Charles Albert sterling silver jewelry and accessories.

There are a few products for men, too, like the Royall Lyme of Bermuda colognes priced from \$28-45 and Josh Bach neckties for \$42.

In keeping with the holiday season, look for the varied collection of festive products in-line with the shop's theme, like red and green footstools and hooked pillows adorned with fur trees and Santa Clause for \$75 and Mark Roberts' "Fairies" ornaments ranging from \$35-\$105.

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“MADEIRA GIRLS have something to say”

My freshman year I took two semesters of black-and-white photography. I learned when you take a picture of something, it will never look exactly like that ever again. It's interesting to capture that one moment. It's frozen forever, the defining moment. That was one of our assignments in photography last year. We had to capture that one moment in time before everything changes. Just going through that exercise makes me look at life differently.

For my Co-Curriculum placement this year, I am helping teach children at an art center in Washington. I love my Wednesdays. I get to work with preschoolers in the morning on ceramics and drama. Then in the afternoon, I work with fifth graders in drama. They are so expressive. It's a great opportunity for them. For me, too. At the end of the day, I go to Starbucks with my fabulous supervisor. We get to talk about everything. It's amazing what you can learn about yourself through others.

”

Alyssa

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Picture Day with Santa

Saturday, December 6, 2008

8 am to 2 pm

Photos by Paws & Claws Photography

One 5x7 for \$15.00

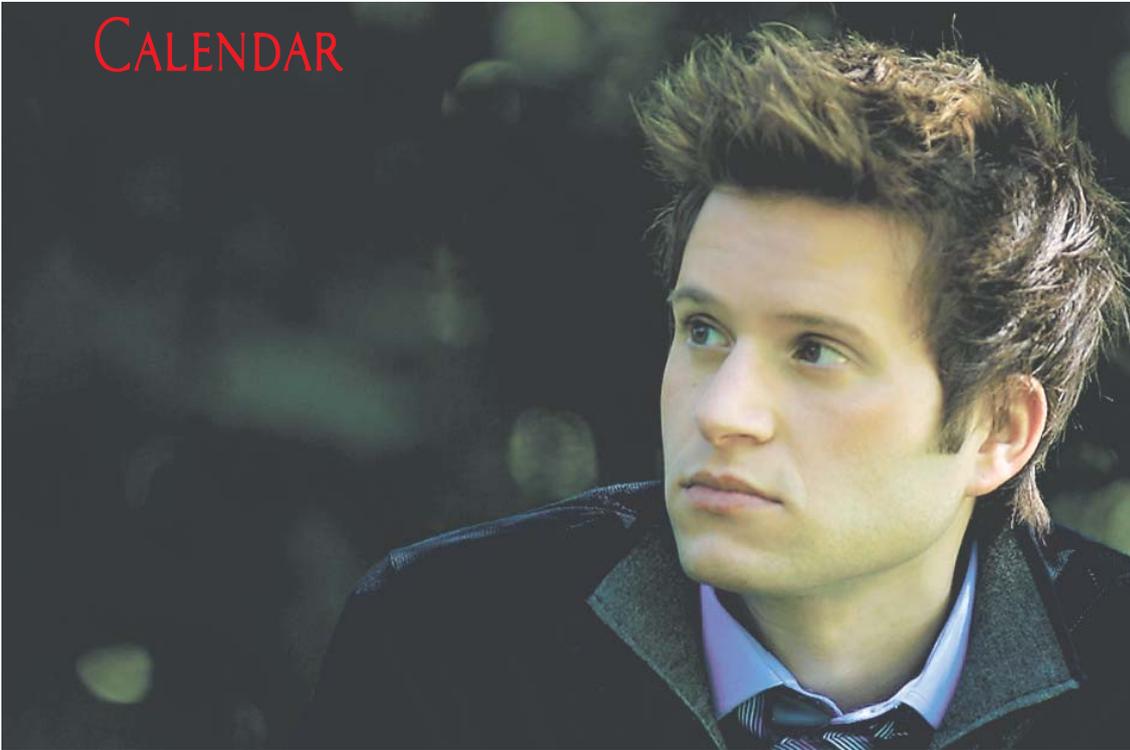
Two 5x7 for \$25.00

A portion of the proceeds is donated to local rescue groups.

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CALENDAR



Gavin Mikhail performs at Jammin' Java on Friday, Nov. 21.

Send announcements to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 19

Loudon Wainwright III. 8 p.m. Grammy-nominated singer and songwriter at The Barns. Tickets \$22. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Who's Hibernating? 10:30 a.m. Age 2-5 with adult. Chipmunks, ground squirrels and bats are just a few of the animals getting ready for hibernation. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak ridge Ave., McLean. 703-356-0770.

Organist Kimberly Hess. 1 p.m. at the Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Free. 703-356-0670 or www.musicianmclean.org.

Kismet, Euphonism and Capital Blend. 7:30 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/NOV. 20

Claude Moore Colonial Farm Winter Traditions Workshop. 6-8 p.m. at the Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Explore the customs of 18th century winter pastimes, including Wassail and Christmas celebrations. Singing, dancing, storytelling and more. Reservations required. \$5 non-members, \$3 Farm members and current volunteers. Workshops intended for adults and mature children. E-mail kcannon@1771.org to reserve.

Ari Hest and Luke Brindley Band. 8 p.m. Two rock acts at The Barns. Tickets \$16. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Tiny Tot Tales. 10:30 a.m. Age 13-23 months with adult. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak ridge Ave., McLean. 703-356-0770.

Cartoon Workshop. 3:30 p.m. Age 8-18. Create a cartoon strip. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-757-8560.

Jim Jeffries, comedian. 8 p.m. \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

"How to Find the Right College for your Child," with Nancy Rosenberg, M.A., M.Ed., 7:30 p.m. at James Madison High School, 2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna. 703-641-5451 or www.novachadd.org.

"Noises Off," 7:30 p.m. at Langley

High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-287-2700 or www.langleydrama.com.

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Silent Auction, 7-10 p.m. in the Flame Room, 400 Center St. S., Vienna. All proceeds and donated funds will help purchase a new ambulance for Fire Station 402, VVFD. A list of items up for auction is at www.vvfd.org. 703-827-5288.

FRIDAY/NOV. 21

A Tribute to Warren Zevon, featuring Jon Carroll, John Jennings, Patty Reese, The Cravin' Dogs, Little Pink, Janine Wilson, The Hanson Brothers, Mike Cotter, Billy Coulter, David Kitchen, GHZ, The Alexandria Klezmet, Bill Starks, Paper Umbrella, Rocky Roberts. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$20. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

"Madeline's Christmas," 7:30 p.m. at the Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Tickets are \$10 adult, \$5 student. 703-790-5450 or www.oakcrest.org.

Gavin Mikhail. Pop/rock. 7 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

"Noises Off," 7:30 p.m. at Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-287-2700 or www.langleydrama.com.

Grange Hall Concert for Environmental Change, with the Jim & Ashley Cash Band. 8 p.m. at the 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Tickets \$10. 703-421-7210 or www.jimandashleycash.com.

Great Falls School of Art Silent Auction, 7 p.m. at 1144 Walker Road, Great Falls. All proceeds will assist the Great Falls School of Art locate, equip and manage a teaching facility in Great Falls. Reservations required, www.greatfallsfoundationforarts.org.

Oakton Church of the Brethren's 15th Annual Christmas Craft Show, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Free admission. All proceeds go to repayment of the church's handicapped access renovation project loans. 10025 Courthouse Rd., Vienna. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.

SATURDAY/NOV. 22

"Madeline's Christmas," 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Tickets for 11 a.m. are \$5 per person, \$20 per family. Tickets for 7:30 p.m. are \$10 adult, \$5 student. 703-790-5450

or www.oakcrest.org.

29th Annual Holiday Bazaar, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill road, Oakton. Water media, glass, knitting, jewelry and more. Mellarkins@verizon.net.

Plymouth Rock and Roll Thanksgiving Show: Rocknoceros Gives Thanks for YOU! Music for kids. 11 a.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Tracy Grammer. Acoustic/folk. 7 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

The Dreamscapes Project and Zelos. Acoustic rock. 9:30 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

"Noises Off," 7:30 p.m. at Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-287-2700 or www.langleydrama.com.

Oakton Church of the Brethren's 15th Annual Christmas Craft Show, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission. All proceeds go to repayment of the church's handicapped access renovation project loans. 10025 Courthouse Rd., Vienna. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.

SUNDAY/NOV. 23

Iona performs pan-Celtic music 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. at The Snuggery of the Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Reservations required. \$15. 703-759-3309. Visit www.IonaMusic.com.

29th Annual Holiday Bazaar, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Mellarkins@verizon.net.

Pete and J, Garrison Starr and Taylor Carson. Roots/pop. 7:30 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/NOV. 25

Tea Tasting. 10 a.m. Green Teas. \$20. Cathy's Corner in the Village Centre, Great Falls. 703-757-6209 or www.greatfallsteagarden.com.

VTRCC Chamber 101. 4:30-5:30 p.m. at Lofty Salon & Wellness Center, 354 Maple Ave. West, Vienna. How to maximize Chamber membership; prospective members learn how membership can benefit. Free. 703-

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 26

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THANKSGIVING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH

Featuring a Traditional Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings
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www.McCORMICKANDSCHMICKS.COM/DC

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION ONLINE TODAY

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 25

281-1333.

VTRCC Holiday Mixer. 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Lofty Salon & Wellness Center, 354 Maple Ave. West, Vienna. Mona Harb, owner of Lofty Salon will host a VTRCC holiday event. \$10 members, \$15 non-members. 703-281-1333.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 26

Turkey Trot. 10:30 a.m. Age 2-5 with adult.

Stories and activities. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak ridge Ave., McLean. 703-356-0770.

Reggae Night with The Iternals and The One Band. 8 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/NOV. 27

The Feast: Bo Jankans, Sleepy Hollow, Blackbox Entertainment and Trekot. Hip-hop. 9 p.m. \$10. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 28

The Grandsons. 8 p.m. Roots rock at The Barns. Tickets \$16. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild Thanksgiving Arts and Crafts Showcase, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Admission \$3. A wide range of unique art and craft items. Visit www.nvhg.org.



The McLean Art Society Meeting will feature colored pencil artist Nancy Garcia from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21 at the Mclean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Guests are welcome. 703 790-0123.

GALLERIES

McLean Project for the Arts, through Dec. 20 at the McLean Community Center: the Emerson Gallery will have Georgia Goldberg: Seeing the Unseen-Light, Shadow and Air, The Atrium Gallery presents Aimee Helen Koch: Undressed, and The Ramp Gallery will display Photograms by Michael C. Mendez.

THURSDAY/NOV. 20

Third Thursday Art Night, 5-8 p.m. Miniature works by exhibiting artists for sale, stylish jewelry and more. Ayr Hill Gallery, 141 Church St. N.W., Vienna. 703-938-3880 or info@ayrhillgallery.com

FRIDAY/NOV. 21

Vienna Arts Society 39th Annual Treasury of Art Show, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna.

SATURDAY/NOV. 22

Multi-craft Showcase at Lofty Salon & Wellness Center, 354 West Maple Ave., Vienna, from 9 a.m. -5 p.m. Jewelry, accessories, ceramics and specialty food items available. 703-242-0609 or loftysalon.info@yahoo.com

Vienna Arts Society 39th Annual Treasury of Art Show, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna.

The TaBois-Bonhomme Galerie d'Art at Regency at McLean, 1800 Old Meadow Road, Suite 113, Tel.: (703) 442-7588in will celebrate it's First Anniversary with An Enchanted Evening of art, music, dance, and conversation beginning at 7:30 p.m. Black-tie, cocktail, or stylish attire is preferred in keeping with the evening's planned festivities that will include an Argentine Tango performance by Todd Borzych and MigleGineityte. This evening will close the gallery's current exhibition, Distinctive Impression II: Paintings by Bill Firestone and Peter Haiklis/ Sculpture by Stephanie (Haikalis) Firestone. This exhibition is a family affair, with husband, wife, and father displaying their distinctive artistic talent in unison. For more information visit <http://www.ctabois.com/events.php>.

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

Holiday Art Soirée & Charity Fundraiser. Ayr Hill Gallery, 141 Church St. N.W., Vienna. 703-938-3880 or info@ayrhillgallery.com
Vienna Arts Society 39th Annual Treasury of Art Show, 12-4 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna.



THE Enchanted Forest

Featuring the
Children's Science Center
The Sheraton Reston
November 22-23, 2008
Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

A Holiday Extravaganza for the Entire Family!

Stroll through a whimsical forest of theme-decorated trees and gingerbread homes, available for silent auction. Be one of the first people to learn about the Children's Science Center's arrival to Reston in 2009. A wide variety of vendors also offer ample opportunity to get a head start on your holiday shopping.

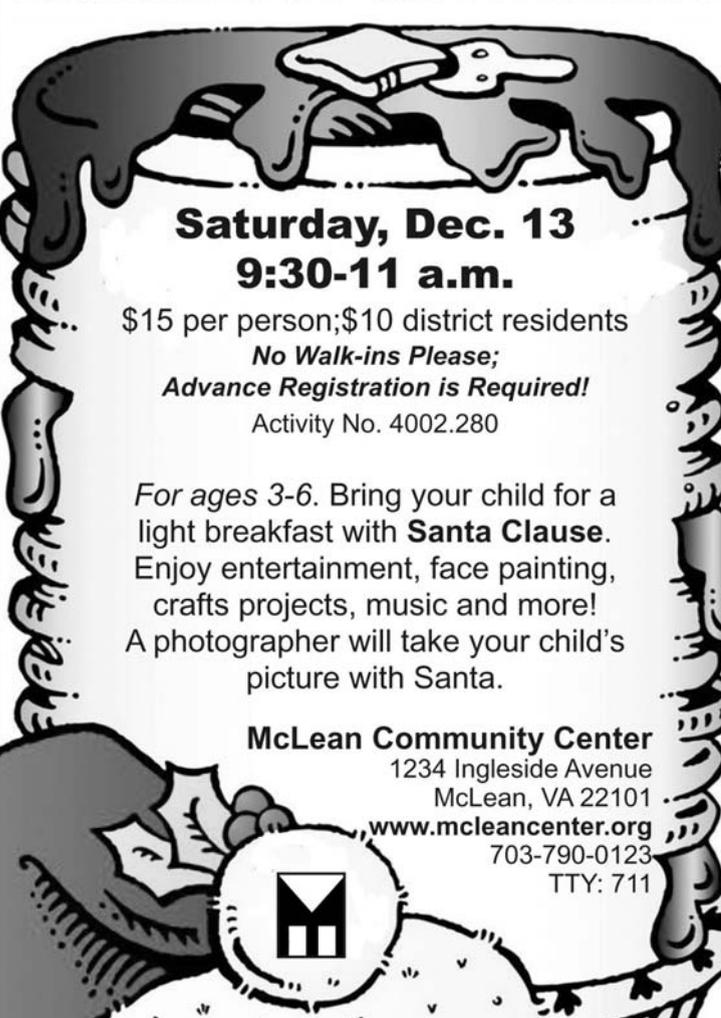
Meet Norm Davis as seen on the Food Network.

General admission tickets (\$12 per child, \$7 per adult) include access to the forest and a wide variety of entertainers and events, including face painters, magicians, Polar Express Train and crafts.

For event information, ticket sales or reservations to premium events, e-mail tef@jlnv.org or visit www.jlnv.org/theenchantedforest

All proceeds benefit the mission of the Junior League of Northern Virginia, a nonprofit tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



Saturday, Dec. 13
9:30-11 a.m.

\$15 per person; \$10 district residents
No Walk-ins Please;
Advance Registration is Required!
Activity No. 4002.280

For ages 3-6. Bring your child for a light breakfast with **Santa Clause**. Enjoy entertainment, face painting, crafts projects, music and more! A photographer will take your child's picture with Santa.

McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue
McLean, VA 22101
www.mcleancenter.org
703-790-0123
TTY: 711

OPINION

Trigger Ignored?

FROM PAGE 8

internist with a specialty in nutrition. At the time Dr. Fishman was only seeing adults, but, hearing Stephen's case, was willing to take a look. Dr. Fishman reviewed the celiac panel and said that whether you call it celiac or not, Stephen could not eat gluten. He ran other tests that showed milk and eggs also produced antibodies in Stephen. His correct diagnosis enabled Stephen to stop all medication unless he mistakenly eats an offending food. Today, Stephen is a senior at McLean High only because a very good doctor found something most allergists miss. Here is my understanding of the problem. Allergists run tests looking for IgE antibodies to foods, pollens, etc. Those are immediate response antibodies. We ran those several times, but, they revealed little regarding foods. You can also or alternatively have other antibodies to foods. Stephen had IgG antibodies. Those are delayed (and ignored) by most doctors. Big mistake. Likewise, you can develop IgA antibodies to foods (which I have).

YESTERDAY, a friend called me and recounted her family's heal-

ing. We became friends when a neighbor suggested that we meet so that I could share what I had learned about food sensitivities. Her daughter was very sick and on 20 mg. of Zyrtec as well as other drugs. If she missed her medication, hives would surface. I shared the importance of IgG and IgA testing, and a few weeks later mom called to tell me her daughter tested very high for milk antibodies; literally, her score was off the charts. Yet, traditional allergy testing never revealed that sensitivity. Today, she is healthy and off all drugs, but, not consuming dairy. Her sister had asthma and when tested came back positive for milk as well. Off milk, her asthma is gone.

Here are some other interesting facts. On average, it takes 12 years to diagnose celiac. Would my son have celiac and 12 years of damage if we did not remove gluten from his diet? Are IgG/IgA antibodies to gluten/gliadin the beginning stages of celiac? According to NIH about 1 percent of the population is celiac. That is huge and doesn't begin to include those that are just IgG positive.

IgG and IgA antibodies to proteins do not belong in your blood.

Those proteins should have been broken down into amino acids in the digestive tract. Why are we ignoring this? One reason doctors won't look at delayed antibodies is because they are so common. The more I have read about gluten sensitivity the more I have been unsettled. Gluten intolerance is linked to a vast variety of diseases, not just asthma or sinus infections.

Funny, my younger son developed asthma, and I asked his allergist to run the IgG panel because it cured my older son. She would not consider it. I found a way to run the panel, and off gluten and eggs his asthma is gone as well. Even sadder, at an annual allergy appointment for my oldest son, I explained that Stephen's asthma only surfaced when he ate certain foods. The allergist clearly did not believe me. Later in the appointment he told me Stephen had outgrown his asthma. I didn't bother to argue, but walked away heartbroken knowing that other kids would continue to take strong drugs and be very sick because allergists close their eyes to an important trigger.

The author lives in McLean.

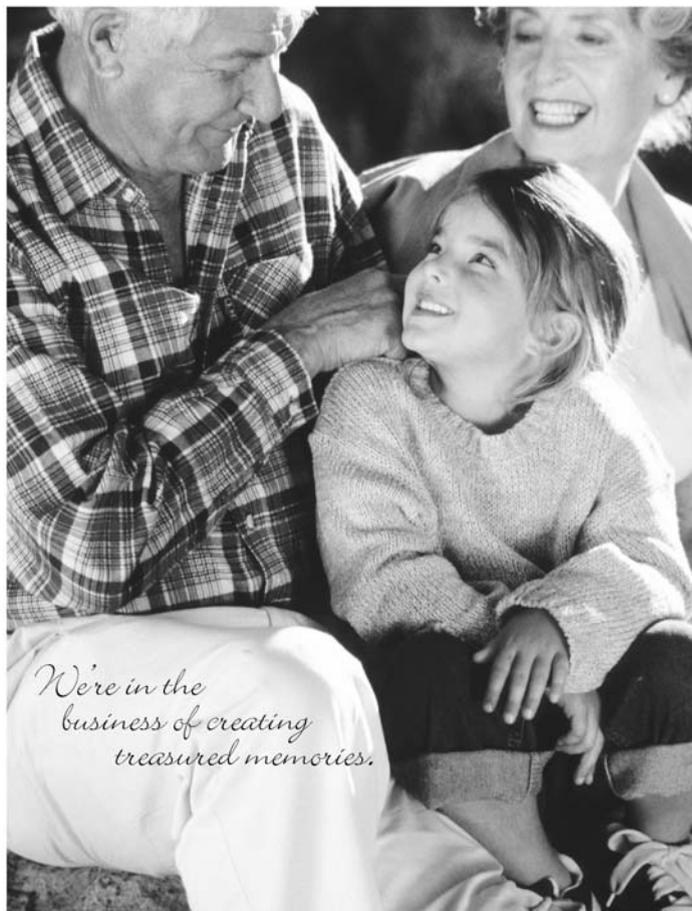
CRIME REPORT

FROM PAGE 5

with black pants and a black ball cap. He wore gold pinkie rings on both hands. Also, the men reportedly spoke to each other in a language other than English.

LARCENIES

- 7200 block of Arlington Blvd.**
License plates stolen from vehicle.
- 1400 block of Chain Bridge Road.**
Cellular phone stolen from business.
- 1900 block of Chain Bridge Road.**
Women's underwear stolen from business.
- 1900 block of Chain Bridge Road.**
Laptop computer stolen from business.
- 1900 block of Chain Bridge Road.**
Jackets stolen from business.
- 1900 block of Chain Bridge Road.**
License plates stolen from vehicle.
- 8100 block of Gatehouse Road.**
GPS unit stolen from vehicle.
- 6500 block of Georgetown Pike.**
iPod stolen from school.
- 2000 block of Grace Manor Court.**
Car key stolen from vehicle.
- 1600 block of International Drive.**
License plates stolen from vehicle.
- 7300 block of Lee Highway.** Wallet stolen from residence.
- 7700 block of Lee Highway.** CD player and purse stolen from vehicle.
- 7700 block of Leesburg Pike.**
Laptop computer stolen from vehicle.
- 3000 block of Nutley St.** Political sign stolen from residence.
- 8100 block of Porter Road.** iPod stolen from vehicle.
- 8800 block of Royal Doulton Lane.**
Political sign stolen from residence.
- 2400 block of Wieland Place.**
Political sign stolen from residence.
- VEHICLE THEFTS**
- Lee Highway/Hartland Road.** 1994 Ford Explorer.
- 5600 block of Leesburg Pike.** 1998 Ford Mustang.



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"As seen on This Old House"

OPEN HOUSES

Saturday/Sunday November 22 & 23

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, click the Real Estate links on the right side.

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

McLean					
1781 Chain Bridge Rd #202	\$585,000	Sat 12-5	Maureen Simpson	Christopher	703-356-6035
1781 Chain Bridge Rd #401	\$649,990	Sat 12-6	Maureen Simpson	Christopher	703-356-6035
1781 Chain Bridge Rd #108	\$880,000	Sat 12-5	Maureen Simpson	Christopher	703-356-6035
5934 Frazier Ln	\$899,000	Sun 1-4	Cecelia Lofton	Weichert	703-821-8300
1575 Maddux Ln	\$2,199,900	Sun 12-4	Lilian Jorgenson	Long & Foster	703-790-1990

Great Falls					
11539 Tralee Dr	\$1,790,000	Sun 1-4	Rosalie Sarson	Weichert	703-934-0400939
721 Ellsworth Ave	\$1,921,000	Sun 1-4	Karen Martins	McEearney	703-790-
9090Seneca Rd	\$1,950,000	Sun 1-4	Aaron Seekford	Realty Corp 9	203-836-6116

Vienna					
9510 Liberty Tree Lane	\$699,000	Sun 1-4	Carol Dilks	Weichert	703-623-4646
2510 Fernwood Dr	\$749,000	Sun 1-4	Elizabeth Slucher	Long & Foster	703-220-5235
7992 Reserve Way	\$759,000	Sun 1-4	Farooq Akram	Jobin	571-437-1711
1320 Schuman Ct	\$849,000	Sun 1-4	Michael Schmidle	Real Estate by Owner	703-212-9506
9478 Deramus Farm Ct	\$1,150,000	Sun 1-4	Nancy Davis	Long & Foster	703-905-1100
9509 Francis Young Ln	\$1,459,320	Sun 12-4	Lilian Jorgenson	Long & Foster	703-790-1990

NEXT MONTH					
Great Falls					
721 Ellsworth Ave	\$1,921,000	12/14 1-4	Karen Martins	McEearney	703-790-9090

Vienna					
9509 Francis Young Ln	\$1,459,320	12/7 12-4	Lilian Jorgenson	Long & Foster	703-790-1990

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

MCLEAN CONNECTION ♦ NOVEMBER 19-25, 2008 ♦ 27

SCHOOLS

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

Starshine Theater of Great Falls is now enrolling student actors ages 4 through 12 for the play, "Peter Pan." Each student receives a dramatic character role, as well as singing and dance/action opportunities. Rehearsals begin Saturday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. at The School of Theatrical Dance in Great Falls.

Also enrolling: "Starshine Little Dancers" Workshop for ages 3 through 5 (pre-ballet & creative dance), and "Music 'n Motion for Mommy 'n Me" for ages 1 through 4 (singing, dance/action activities and dramatics).

Contact: Patricia Budwig, Creative Director, 703.790.9050, email: StarshineTheater@aol.com

Four McLean seniors, **Nabeel Bakhsh**, majoring in information technology, **Rania Beydoun**, majoring in biology, **Sandra Fard**, majoring in psychology, and **Adam Holoubek**, majoring in fashion merchandising, are among the Marymount University students who have been named to the 2008 "Who's Who Among Stu-

dents in American Colleges and Universities."

Four Falls Church seniors, **Claudia Aranibar**, majoring in biology, **Angelica Quant**, majoring in psychology, **Mary Seidel**, majoring in psychology, and **Alexandra Vera**, majoring in psychology, are among the Marymount University students who have been named to the 2008 "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities."

Patrick McCann of Great Falls, a graduate student pursuing a degree in statistics, is representing the graduate school at Virginia Tech as a student ambassador for the 2008-09 academic year. The graduate ambassadors program provides opportunities for graduate students to be actively involved in building and promoting a graduate community. The focus of the Graduate Ambassadors Program is to assist with graduate school information sessions and conduct special advising sessions. They also help with graduate school orientation, preview weekend and mentoring new graduate students.

Veterans Day Celebration at Franklin Sherman ES

On Tuesday, Nov. 11, the students of Franklin Sherman Elementary School learned what Veterans Day is all about. The tribute included the students singing all five military anthems, a photo slide show of local and related veterans and a "Wall of Valor" at the entrance to the school.

Many of parents attended and brought veterans with them of all ages and experiences, in and out of uniform. A long-term substitute music teacher, John Majette, and his friend Mary Dart played the piano; Nolan Mackness, Cub Scout master, helped to direct school's Cub Scouts who presented the colors and led the Pledge of Allegiance.



Sarah Elise Toman with her father Joshua Toman.

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SCHOOLS

Churchill Road ES First-Graders Mark Veterans Day

Churchill Road Elementary School first-graders were fortunate to have members of the armed services speak to them and answer their questions about Veterans Day. Craig Diffie, a U.S. Naval Academy graduate and husband of the school's first-grade teacher Libby Diffie, spoke to Libby Diffie's and Anna Corley's classes. Craig Diffie served for more than 20 years as a Navy helicopter pilot, during which time the Diffie family experienced living abroad and on several Naval bases in the U.S. Pictured, JJ Bellaschi, Alec Dempsey, Tess Browne and Maddy Rubin.

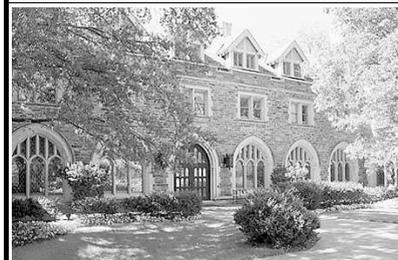


First-graders in Maggie Shamblin's and Robyn Fry's classes learned about the origin of Veterans Day from Robert Steinrauf, Churchill Road Elementary School parent. Steinrauf, a retired U.S. Army colonel with 26 years of service, captivated the children with anecdotal stories of veterans from World War I through the Gulf War. Pictured, from left, Elena Moy, Spencer Brooks, Matthias Nielsen, Heidi Yazdani and Col. Steinrauf.

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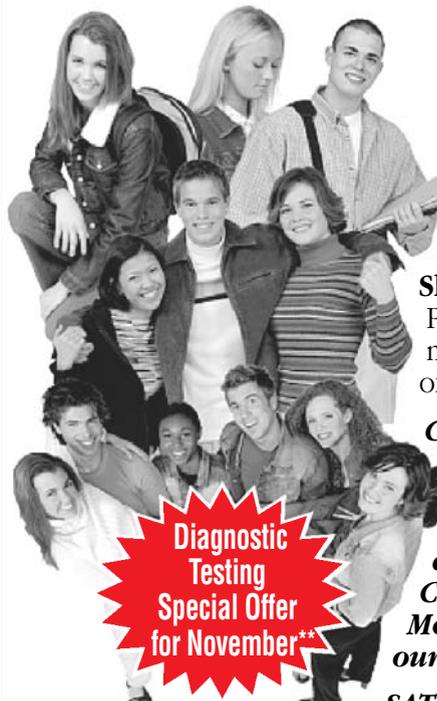
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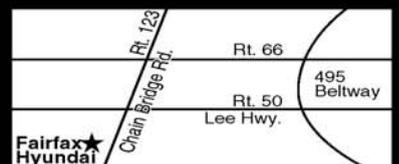
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SPORTS

Highlanders Putting the '08 Season Behind Them

Patrick's football squad determined to show improvement next year.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

It would be quite natural if members of the McLean High football program wanted nothing to do with the sport in the aftermath of the Highlanders' recent 0-10 season. But that has not been the case, according to McLean coach Jim Patrick, who said a good number of his players have already begun preparations for next year by hitting the weight room.

"Obviously, I'm disappointed about going 0-10, that's never going to be encouraging," said Patrick, who completed his first season at the helm of the program. "But going into the offseason, I feel we actually have momentum."

Patrick, who had a talented group of seasoned assistants surrounding him, said the Highlanders were not as physically strong as they needed to be and often were over-matched in games from a size and strength standpoint over the fall season. Thus he and his assistants have encouraged the large number of underclassmen expected to return in 2009 to hit the weights.

"At times we were outmanned," said Patrick, whose team concluded the recent season with a 42-7 loss at Liberty District and cross-town rival Langley on Halloween night. "We've had great attendance in the weight room [since the season ended]. The kids are fired up and vying to get better."

McLean's closest games were home losses to Washington-Lee, 21-14, on Sept. 19, South Lakes, 21-7, on Oct. 10, and Jefferson, 28-23, on Oct. 17. One of the team's hardest-to-swallow losses came at Stuart, 30-14, on Sept. 5. The win for the



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERITZEL/THE CONNECTION

McLean High football coach Jim Patrick (left) had a tough first season at the helm of the Highlanders.

Raiders, a perennially poor team, was their first in several seasons.

It did not help matters for McLean when its best all-around player, junior skill-position standout Riley Beiro, was lost to the Highlanders midway through the season with stress fracture injuries in both ankles.

In the five-plus games in which he played, the 5-foot-10 inch, 193-pound Beiro rushed for 680 yards and returned three kickoffs back for touchdowns. His final full game was in McLean's week five loss at Stone Bridge. The following week at Marshall, Riley played throughout much of the first half, scoring touchdowns on a kickoff and a run from scrimmage, before having to leave the game for good later during that first half. As it turned out, that was the end of the season for the youngster.

"I think the team had a good attitude about [Beiro's loss] and said, 'We have to step it up and play,'" said Patrick. "But looking back, we lost a lot of firepower."

Beiro, in just his half-plus season of play, earned Second Team All-District accolades as both a running back and kick returner.

MCLEAN had stability at quarterback where junior William Hecht started all 10 games for the Highlanders. His numbers were not great (6 TDs, 17 interceptions) but the 6-3 Hecht threw for over 1,000 yards. One of his primary receiving targets was senior Ethan Beckett (16 catches, 228 yards).

Patrick said Hecht struggled with overall consistency at the pivotal position. He said Hecht was hurt by his own struggles at the position, as well as dropped passes and the loss of Beiro.

"When Riley got hurt, people knew we couldn't run [the football] as effective and put more pressure on the quarterback," said Patrick.

Defensively, McLean made progress over the season under the watchful eye and stern

"They are holding each other accountable to get better. I think [the 0-10 season] lit a fire under them."

-McLean Football Coach Jim Patrick

approach of defensive coordinator Greg Sullivan, a long time coach in the Northern Region and the former T.C. Williams head coach.

"He knows the game and the kids have really responded to him," said Patrick, of Sullivan. "He demands a lot out of them. I feel really good about [the future of] the defensive unit."

Patrick's dad, former Mount Vernon High legendary head coach Bruce Patrick, was assistant head coach under his son and also coached the Highlander defensive line.

Jim Patrick said his dad brought a steady, experienced presence to both the team and its other coaching members.

A SILVER-LINING to McLean's season is that the Highlanders were young across the board. Nine of the team's defensive starters were underclassmen, and eight of its offensive starters were underclassmen. In all, the Highlanders had five starters who were sophomores. So, many of the team's players who saw quality playing time this fall are tabbed to be back in uniform next autumn.

Patrick said from the team's first game against Annandale, a 49-19 loss on Aug. 29, to the season-ending setback to Langley, the Highlanders never stopped giving their best effort despite what the standings stated.

"They really did," said Patrick, of his team's continuing to play hard even as the losses mounted. "They were playing as hard in the last game as they were in the first game, which was admirable. The one thing I have is a lot of respect for them. A lot of times they could have thrown in the towel, but didn't."

McLean, as a program, is taking a positive outlook on where it is currently at. The team can only get better next season and Patrick said his players are looking at things from that perspective.

"Our kids are upbeat, they really are," said the coach. "I'm upbeat."

Then, with a chuckle, Patrick said, "We can't get any worse. The [players] are holding each other accountable to get better. I think [the 0-10 season] lit a fire under them. They want to prove to the school and the [Liberty] District that they can play."

SPORTS NOTES



PHOTO COURTESY/96 FIRE BOYS SOCCER

The McLean under-12, 96 Fire boys soccer White Team won the championship at the recent Beach FC Columbus Day Tournament in Virginia Beach. The locals defeated a tough PWSI Courage team in penalty kicks in the finals.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERITZEL/THE CONNECTION

The high school fall sports season has just about wrapped up. The McLean High cross country teams competed hard throughout the autumn. Both the Highlander boys' and girls' teams finished sixth in their respective district championship races at Burke Lake Park on Oct. 22. Seniors Joe Thompson, 11th at districts in the boys' race, and Samantha Audet, 17th in the girls' race, were key members of coach John Jones' squads.

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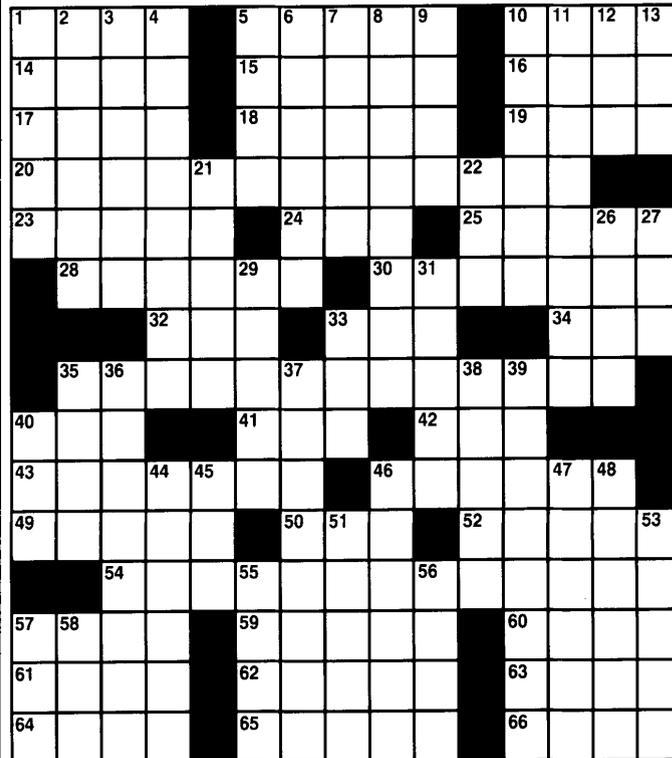
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Puzzle by David J. Kahn

ACROSS

- Orchestra alternative
- Comment around the deck?
- Terrible —
- Last words?
- Opposite of sur
- Four-letter word
- Architect Saarinen
- Company whose logo has a red "o"
- Cogitate
- Noted director who acted in 30-Across with 35-Across
- Bud of baseball
- Before, once
- Isle of Man residents
- Brought up
- See 20-Across
- Calif. neighbor
- Midpoint: Abbr.
- On a roll
- See 20-Across and 54-Across
- Big —
- Link
- Classified inits.

- See 54-Across
- Singer Mel and namesakes
- Napoléon led one
- "Forget it!"
- Park, N.J.
- Noted director who acted in 43-Across with 35-Across
- Drunk's tipoff
- Plant and animal life
- Andrews of "The Mod Squad"
- Money writer Marshall —
- "A house — a home"
- Bator
- The rich man in "Rich Man, Poor Man"
- Some guard dogs, for short
- Get better

- Spent
- Shady alcove
- Kind of heel
- Push, maybe
- Tabby's mate
- Wisconsin city
- Exciting times in the N.I.T.
- wolf
- Plume source
- Earlier
- Brave one
- Harden
- 1980 Tony winner

- Gluck's "— ed Euridice"
- 29-Down role
- Precious
- Not permeated (with)
- Silly
- 1938 Physics Nobel
- Campaign asset
- Support provider
- Nigh
- Terre's opposite
- A lonely place, so they say
- Store, as fodder
- Ad dressing?
- Let —
- Successively
- Power stats
- Tanks
- Certain camera, for short
- Baseball's Brock

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



DOWN

- Loamy deposit
- Good dog
- Slimming device
- Some English students
- "— Room" (Beach Boys hit)

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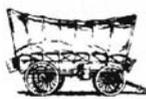
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AT&T intends to file an application to construct a cellular telecommunications tower at 2305 South Walter Reed Drive in Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Wireless" will consist of a 73-foot tall stealth flagpole slimline monopole that will contain telecommunications antenna within the flagpole. The telecommunications equipment will be placed within an 18-foot by 30-foot fenced compound. An ice bridge will extend from the flagpole to the equipment within the fenced compound and a backboard will be placed north of the fenced compound. Electric and telecommunication underground from the fenced compound and proposed backboard to a utility pole located north of the proposed compound and adjacent to South Four Mile Run Drive. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Louis Deal, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o markos9@atcassociates.com.

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A Banner Memory



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As I watched Paul Pierce and Ray Allen hoist the Boston Celtic's 17th NBA/World Championship banner to the rafters on TNT Tuesday evening, Oct. 28, the first ever in the "new" Boston Garden, (presently known as the TD Banknorth Garden), it reminded me, as sports often does, of my recently deceased father. (Dec. 2, 2008 will be the three-year anniversary of his death.)

As is the case between many parents and their children, sports was our bond. My father was the father who showed up to all his sons' little league, junior high school, high school and Babe Ruth-league games. He was the well-behaved model of parental involvement and decorum. Everyone knew him. He would encourage me before, during and after games, sometimes from his seat in the stands, and other times from even closer. Often, between innings, he would walk down to the team's bench, pat me on the back, and offer some words of wisdom: stop dragging my right leg, (I was a right-handed pitcher), keep my eye on the target, try to take a deep breath between pitches, etc. My father was the consummate professional (for lack of a better phrase) father; he was always there, always where he needed to be, and always what I expected and wanted him to be.

And while growing up, where my father, brother and I were every year around this time (the beginning of the NBA season), was in the old ("venerable" as it was so often described) Boston Garden for the first Sunday afternoon game of the season (my father's only off day). Typically, this game would be versus the Philadelphia 76ers, that meant Bill Russell against Wilt Chamberlain, with supporting casts of Hall of Famers and All Stars too numerous to mention. As a little boy, as a Boston sports fan, going to a Boston Celtic's game against our arch rivals, was as good as it could possibly be. How he got tickets, I'll never know.

I can still remember being on the court and walking underneath the Celtic's basket, holding my father's hand and tilting my head up to see Bill Russell, all six foot nine of him, his goatee unmistakable in the glare of the stadium's klieg lights; he seemed like he was 10 feet tall, just like my father always did.

Never more than when he was dying, slowly, the debilitating affects of multiple strokes and old age gradually taking their destructive toll. For the last few years of my father's life, physically, he was not the man he would have wanted to be; he suffered indignities not uncommon to people requiring 24-hour care. But through it all, he never lost his sense of humor and never stopped caring about my mother, my brother and myself; always asking how we were doing, in spite of how difficult it was for him to express his thoughts. And even though the family's focus was almost entirely on him (for the three years between his first stroke and his last day), he never made it about him. He did whatever he could, limited as he was by his circumstances, to make it about us, just as he had done all those many years ago when he would get tickets for the Celtic's first Sunday afternoon game of the season.

My father owned a jewelry store in downtown Boston. He worked Monday through Saturday and a few nights in between. He left after breakfast (the years when he wasn't driving the neighborhood kids to elementary school) and came home in time for dinner. Sundays were his only day of rest. However, what he did with one of the first Sundays in the fall was to take his two sons to the Boston Garden to see the perennial World Champion, Boston Celtics. It wasn't exactly a schlep, but neither was it a simple undertaking, and he did it for years; all the time, whenever he could, however he could; he'd arrange it, that was my father.

When I see those Championship banners hanging from the rafters at the TD Banknorth Garden, I see my father's face up there as well, because that's what he was, a World Champion dad.

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

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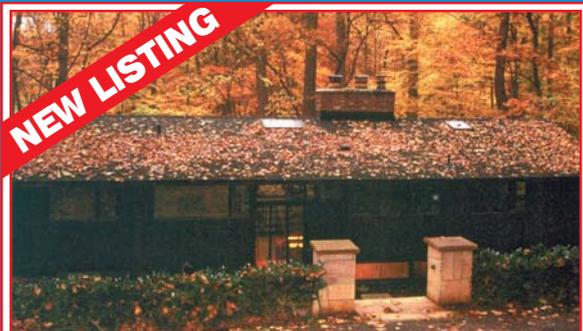
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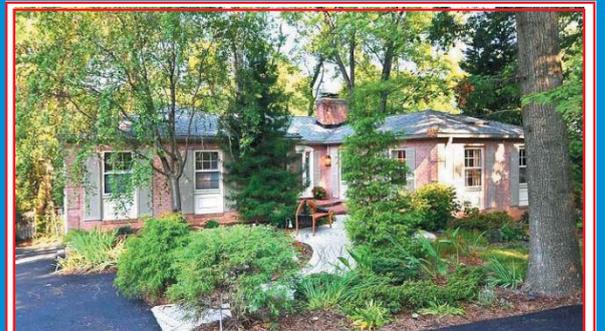
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