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ATTENTION: POSTMASTER  
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Peeled red roses anchor this  
holiday centerpiece at  
Karin's Florist.

PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION  
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## Treasures Of Vienna

GIFT GUIDE, PAGE 12

Tunnel Hope Revived

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Vienna Honors  
Veterans

NEWS, PAGE 3



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**World War II veteran, Larry Rentrop, retired, Army Air Corp, entered the service in 1944 and served his country in the military for 20 years. Mike Berger, a Vietnam veteran and retired colonel, served in the army for 30 years, and, today, is editor of the Post 180 "Post Times."**



**Veterans gathered at American Legion Post 180 to honor the sacrifice of those who served their country in wartime.**



PHOTO BY MIRZA KURSPAHCIC/THE CONNECTION

**Scott Monett has been leading the charge for the tunnel advocates.**

## Tunnel Hope Revived

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

BY MIRZA KURSPAHCIC  
THE CONNECTION

**T**unnel 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

SEE TUNNEL, PAGE 14

# Vienna Honors Veterans

## American Legion Post 180 ceremony marks Veterans Day.

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n Nov. 11, veterans and their families gathered at American Legion Post 180 to honor the sacrifice of those who served their country in wartime. From the men and women who fought in the World War II, who came home to cheers and parades, to the servicemen whose homecoming from Vietnam was unheralded, Veterans Day is dedicated to their courage and will.

"Out of blood and sweat we learned of purpose, sacrifice, tolerance, bravery and discipline," Acting Commander, Bob Renner said from the podium. "These are solid foundation stones upon which a great nation is built. In our continuing quest for an honorable world peace, we must cultivate these virtues."

Guest speaker, veteran, Dan Dellinger, reminded listeners that "bravery is contagious," and Third Officer, Ronald Patterson, alluded to the lesson of "voluntary obedience to the decisions of the majority."

The commonality shared by the veterans of the World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf wars and the conflicts raging today was commitment to their country and pride in their service.

"Those people who learn about our history get an understanding of what our armed forces have done for our country," Vietnam veteran, retired Col. Mike Berger, said.



**Speaker, Post 180 veteran, Dan Dellinger, reminds veterans and their families that "heroism becomes contagious."**

Larry Rentrop's brothers called him this morning from Louisiana to thank him for his service during World War II. His daughter-in-law called him, too. He felt "proud" last Tuesday.

Carolyn Fix uses a walker now to get around, but in 1942 she was making machine guns for the war effort. She served in the Women's Army Corps from 1943 to 1948 and after the war, got two degrees and was a Fullbright scholar.

Russ Simpson was onboard the U.S.S. Philadelphia when German aircraft dropped

an early "smart" bomb at the ship. The bomb missed, but just barely. In 1946, the Secretary of the Navy awarded the Navy Unit Commendation to the U.S.S. Philadelphia for "outstanding heroism displayed by her crew in action in the Mediterranean Theater" from July 9 to Sept. 19, 1943. Each crewmember was awarded a Navy Unit Commendation ribbon to wear on his uniform. Master Chief Radioman Russ Simpson wears one.

"**TODAY**, I'd like to thank every man and woman who's served our country," Dellinger said. "Any time we put the lives of men and women in harm's way, it's a war.

"It's up to you and me to perpetuate Veterans Day."

Veterans Day has its roots in the Nov. 11, 1918, Armistice, marking the end of "the war to end all wars." With the peace that followed yet another "great" war and the Korean conflict, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954 to honor all American veterans.

"I think America, in its heart, honors our veterans," Vietnam veteran and Town Council member, George Lovelace, said.

"Looking at the type of conflict Vietnam was, you sense that not enough attention was given to the armed forces. When I came home, on a commercial aircraft, I was in uniform and I was just another passenger.

"There's more appreciation and expression of gratitude for the Iraq troops. On aircraft now, troops are applauded and are thanked when they get home.

"Overall, we could do a better job on a regular basis of honoring our veterans and soldiers."



Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock)



Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield)

## Woman Abducted, Robbed

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. According to the police report, the victim had just gotten inside her car around 1:45 p.m., 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 p.m. 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 8 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 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.

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

## Support Troops

American Legion Auxiliary Junior Unit 180 is sending boxes of goodies for the holidays to an American unit it has adopted, the 506th Expeditionary Medical Support Squadron (506 EMEDS), deployed to Iraq in September. The Junior Unit is collecting decorations, cards, music, toiletries and other items that troops do not have ready access to at their posts.

The American Legion Auxiliary Junior Unit 180 is looking for sponsors to provide financial support for this campaign. Any businesses or individuals who contribute to the program will have their names printed on unit shirts that are worn at American Legion fund-raising events, legion functions and community service.

To lend support to an American soldier, contact Mackenzie Duffy by Nov. 22 at 703-600-9766 or by e-mail at [k\\_duff1228@yahoo.com](mailto:k_duff1228@yahoo.com)

# 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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

# CRIME REPORT

Incidents reported by the Town of Vienna police Department through Nov. 14.

## ARREST

**100 Block Patrick St., S.E.** Nov. 7, 9:43 p.m. Officer Ruddy observed a male subject stumbling towards an apartment entrance. The individual was arrested for Drunk in Public and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. Arrested: a 25 year old male of Patrick Street in Vienna.

**Vienna Rexall, 150 Maple Ave., West.** Nov. 10, 5:10 p.m. Officer Maiorana responded to the Vienna Rexall for a shoplifter that was being detained by a store employee. The subject had concealed some prophylactics in his pocket and was observed doing so by a store employee. After his arrival, Officer Maiorana also determined that the subject was intoxicated. The individual, a 43 year old male of Cedar Lane in Vienna was arrested and charged with Concealment and Drunk in Public. He was then transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center.

**Neighbor's Restaurant, 262 Cedar Lane, S.E.** Nov. 12, 11:37 p.m. Officer Vazquez responded to Neighbor's Restaurant for a disorderly subject. After making contact with the management, Officer Vazquez interviewed the disorderly male. After being told to leave the restaurant, the individual began taunting Officer Vazquez and pulled a can of beer out of his pocket, opened it, and began shouting at Officer Vazquez. Officer Vazquez then placed a 39 year old male of Patrick Street in Vienna under arrest for Drunk in Public. A search incident

to arrest revealed a container of suspected marijuana. The suspect was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and formally charged with Possession of Marijuana and Drunk in Public. A \$750 bond was set.

## ARREST UPDATES

**Original case information:** On Oct. 25 at 4:30 p.m. officers responded to the El Punto Restaurant for a reported assault. After their arrival, officers located a 34 year old Hispanic male victim that had a large cut across his face. The victim stated he had been struck with a broken beer bottle. Further investigation revealed that the victim was inside the restaurant and was blindly struck with the bottle by an unknown assailant. Witness statements provided several leads which will receive follow up attention from Officer Ruddy. The victim sustained non-life threatening wounds and was able to communicate with officers through an interpreter. He was transported to Inova Fairfax Hospital for treatment by Fairfax County EMS. **Update:** On Nov. 9 Officer Ruddy completed her investigation and arrested the assailant in the above case. The arrestee, a 28 year old male of Battle Street in Vienna, was arrested at his home and transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. There he was formally charged with Malicious Wounding and is being held on \$2500 bond.

**Original case information:** 200 Block Cedar Lane, S.E. Oct. 22 between 9 a.m.-5 p.m. A citizen reported that another individual used his name to try and obtain an apartment at the Cedar Park

Apartments. **Update:** On Nov. 10 a 24 year old female of Parkway Drive in Greenbelt, Maryland was arrested at Vienna Police Headquarters. She turned herself in as a result of a warrant which had been obtained by Detective Leroux. Detective Leroux investigated the case and secured the warrant. The suspect was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. There she was formally charged with Identity Fraud and released on her signature as well as a \$1000 unsecured bond.

## ASSAULT

**400 Block Center St., South.** Nov. 8, 1:50 p.m. A citizen came to Vienna Police Headquarters to report an assault which had occurred involving her son. The citizen reported that an adult male subject working at a craft fair at the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department had grabbed her 8 year old son. The adult male then belittled the child verbally and ushered him over to the complainant by the arm. PFC Shaw investigated the complaint and identified the adult male. PFC Shaw was able to successfully remedy the situation and the subject apologized for his actions. The complainant chose not to obtain warrants for the offense.

**700 Block Nutley St., S.W.** Nov. 9, 2:30 a.m. A citizen reported that after paying a cab fare, the cab driver became verbally abusive towards him because of the amount of the fare and tip. The warrant obtainment process was explained to the complainant by PFC Lewis.

## BURGLARY

**100 Block Casmar St., S.E.** Nov. 13  
SEE CRIME, PAGE 11

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The July 7, 1941, Life magazine called itself the “defense issue.” Five months later, Pearl Harbor was attacked.



Medals, a German phrase book, a newspaper headline announcing war with Germany are among the displays at the World War II exhibit at Freeman Museum.

# Vienna Remembers World War II

New exhibit opens at Freeman Museum honoring Vienna-area veterans.

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

Sounds of the 1940s swing era drifted through Freeman Store and Museum Nov. 11, and an antique military Jeep sat out front. A swarm of people, many of them men and women in their 80s and 90s, climbed the steep stairs to the museum. “Vienna Remembers World War II,” an exhibit dedicated to the men and women who fought for freedom under the American flag during World War II, officially opened.

Created by Historic Vienna Inc. (HVI), in cooperation with American Legion Post 180 of Vienna, the year-long exhibit features a photo wall, glass cases protecting original newspapers, medals, insignia, pieces of daily life in wartime. Eerily, someone saved a July 1941 Life magazine, before Pearl Harbor was bombed, identified as the “Defense Issue.”

“The past informs our future,” Laine Hyde, Historic Vienna Inc. president, said. “We have to honor our past, particularly in this case. We’re telling their stories. This is a way to recognize our veterans and honor their service.”

“A lot of family members are hearing these stories of the war for the first time,” Hyde said. Veterans brought in photos, artifacts and personal mementos. On behalf of veterans who have died, family members contributed something to recognize their veteran.

**U.S. NAVY RADIOMAN**, Russ Simpson, was onboard the U.S.S. Philadelphia when German aircraft attacked the ship with a “remotely-piloted bomb.” The bomb missed, but just barely. The light cruiser held its ground under enemy fire in the Mediterranean and in a tribute to the crew’s heroics, the Secretary of the Navy awarded the U.S.S. Philadelphia the Navy Unit Commen-



**U.S. Navy veteran, Russ Simpson, wears the Navy Unit Commendation ribbon. His ship, the U.S.S. Philadelphia, was attacked by an early “smart bomb.” The bomb missed, barely.**



**For veteran Larry Rentrop, this exhibit is all about pride in their service to country.**



**Sam Savia joined the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department at 15 years old, while his brother was away at war. Three years later, Sam Savia joined the Army, too. The brothers’ photos hang together on the “photo wall.” Phillip Savia’s photo is second from left, Sam Savia’s, the third from left. Far left is Savia’s friend, Roger Wood.**



**Rose Mulville, chair of the Historic Vienna Inc. museum committee, says the response from veterans and their families was “overwhelming.”**

## Vienna Remembers World War II

Freeman Store and Museum hours are Wednesday-Saturday, noon-4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.; 131 Church St. N.E., in Vienna. Call 703-200-7806 for more information or visit [historicviennainc.org](http://historicviennainc.org). Free.

dation. Simpson wears the Navy Unit Commendation ribbon.

Setting aside his cane, Simpson flips open a folder full of original photographs and documents. He sorts through the papers and pulls out some photocopies to hand out. One is a photo of a teenager in uniform, another, a copy of the letter sent out by the Secretary of the Navy.

“You have to go to the Air and Space museum at Dulles,” he said. “They’ve got a ‘smart’ bomb on display there.”

“**THIS EXHIBIT** is about pride,” Larry Rentrop, who entered the service in 1944 and served his country for 20 years, said. “You see people’s pictures up here and you see they took pride in their service.”

Rentrop hopes that other people will come to see what the people who served

SEE EXHIBIT, PAGE 9

**BULLETIN BOARD**

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [vienna@connection-newspapers.com](mailto:vienna@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, SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 13

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# More Unlicensed Than Drunk Drivers at Checkpoints

**W**hen 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, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 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

# PEOPLE

## Exhibit Features Local Veterans' Memorabilia

FROM PAGE 6

their country during World War II were like, the veterans who served to make life better for all Americans who came after.

"Two of my brothers called me this morning from Louisiana to thank me. My daughter-in-law called me just before I came here."

**ALDO BECCI RECALLS** the Christmas dinner just before he was shipped out. His father, a WW I veteran, invited three of Becci's buddies over for dinner with the Italian family. "You know how Italian families are.

"When my sisters sent me packages, I'd share them with my buddies. It was a long time later, at a reunion, I found out my sisters were sending my buddies packages, too, but they weren't telling me." Becci laughs at the recollection and shares his thoughts about the exhibit honoring people like him and his buddies and the many others.

"It makes vets feel proud of their history of bringing freedom

to the world."

**ROSE MULVILLE**, HVI board member and chair of the museum committee credits fellow board colleague, David Shelby, with the inspiration for the World War II veterans exhibit. "We were thinking of what we wanted to do next and David thought of the veterans," Mulville said.

Shelby collected many of the items in the exhibit.

"It feels great for them to know that people remember their sacrifices for this country," Shelby said.

To reach the veteran community, HVI contacted Post 180. Mike Berger of Post 180 produced a list of American Legion members for use by HVI, who sent cards to the members asking them to contact organization. HVI also alerted the media and distributed flyers around town.

Mulville feels the exhibit and the work behind it has brought the community in and together, an ob

SEE FREEMAN, PAGE 23

### Ask

#### Dr. Casey

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*Dr. Todd Casey is a general dentist whose practice is geared towards cosmetics and overall family care. He is in practice with his father, Dr. George Casey, and they have been serving the greater Oakton/Vienna area for the last 35 years. If there are any questions you may have about dentistry, you may contact their office at 703-938-7773 or visit [www.caseyfamilydentistry.com](http://www.caseyfamilydentistry.com).*

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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 sub-

mit 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 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](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com), or call 703-917-6428 with questions.

EDITORIALS

## Here's a Stimulus Plan

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

## Build rail to Dulles, and other infrastructure projects.

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,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM),  
703-917-6416

# Of Budgets and Buses

## How everyone wins with better school start times.

BY SANDY EVANS, PHYLLIS PAYNE AND TERRY TULEY

As the budget crisis looms over all Fairfax County school issues, it's important to remember that changed bell schedules can both improve student health and learning while also saving money.

Benefits of having the right schedules for our students and buses include: Students who are awake during class, reduced absentee, tardy, and drop-out rates, less depression, and improved performance in class, sports and behind the wheel. There are multiple health and academic benefits to all our students, both elementary and adolescents, to having them in school when they are most ready to learn.

Implementing healthy start times for our children can be a win-win for the students and the budget. Thanks to recommendations from the school board-appointed Transportation Task Force, the FCPS

transportation department has updated routing maps and found many efficiencies. Compared with previous estimates to fix a broken transportation system, the most recent proposal would actually save about \$16 million (so far).

**ESPECIALLY IN TIMES** of tight budgets, we must look to providing our students with the essentials. One of these essentials, as outlined in FCPS's Strategic Governance Goal 6.7 is to provide a "healthful learning environment" for our children. Sleep researchers point to early school start times as a major culprit in our adolescents' chronic and harmful level of sleep deprivation. Jurisdictions that have a start time of 8:30 to 9 a.m. show that teens do sleep longer with these start times. They fall asleep at about the same time (close to 11 p.m.) and use the extra time in the morning to sleep.

Research indicates that after a complete night's sleep, memory is consolidated and test performance improves. Interrupted or incomplete sleep disrupts this process and impairs cognition. Not all sleep is equal. The deepest sleep, REM (rapid eye movement) is concentrated in the last hours of the

normal sleep cycle. So when sleep is cut off, some of its most important functions suffer. The body will demand the sleep it needs in one form or another. Some students will fall asleep in class, while others will experience "mini-REM's" that make them miss a few seconds of instruction at a time.

At the International Conference on Sleep and Learning, held in Washington D.C. in March 2008, neuroscientists agreed:

- ❖ Adequate sleep helps you learn, retain and fully understand new material.

- ❖ Changes in sleep and circadian rhythm in adolescence are inconsistent with optimal learning when morning start times are too early (before 8:30-9 a.m.).

**IT IS MORE** important than ever to make sure that our tax dollars are

### BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.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.

wisely invested and that our teachers are providing instruction during a time when students are best able to learn. The right school schedule confers huge benefits for students, families and our community.

With more than 8,400 signatures on our petition and agreement from 85 percent of the more than 6,000 parents who participated in an FCCPTA poll this summer, SLEEP calls on the School Board to enact and implement healthy school start times in 2009.

*Sandy Evans and Phyllis Payne are co-founders, and Terry Tuley is chair of SLEEP (Start Later for Excellence in Education Proposal). Go to [www.SLEEPinFairfax.org](http://www.SLEEPinFairfax.org) for links to research cited in this column.*

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 28

#### 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.

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# CRIME REPORT

FROM PAGE 5

between 9:45 a.m.-5:40 p.m. A citizen returned home to find her house in disarray. The citizen quickly exited the home and called police. PFC Shaver and MPO Williams searched the residence but found no suspects. Forensic evidence was discovered at the scene and collected. Jewelry and computers appeared to have been taken. This case is still being investigated.

## FOUND PROPERTY

**127 Center St., South.** Nov. 3, 9:15 a.m. A handcuff key was found at Vienna Town Hall. The key was

retrieved by MPO Williams and placed in to storage for retrieval by its owner.

## FRAUD

**Outback Steakhouse, 315 Maple Ave., East.** Nov. 5 between 10-11 p.m. A citizen reported that there was a fraudulent charge made at the Outback Steakhouse which had appeared on her statement. This case is still being investigated. Update: Detective Leroux investigated this case and determined that the entry was made in error and it was not a criminal offense. The complainant asked that the case be closed.  
**500 Block Orchard St., N.W.**

Between Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 11 at 3:01 p.m. A citizen reported that a known subject had used his identity and fraudulently opened numerous credit accounts. This case is still being investigated.

## GRAND LARCENY

**Brooke Rental, 300 Block Mill St., N.E.** March 21, 9 a.m. A business owner reported that an individual had rented a generator on March 21. As of this writing the equipment has yet to be returned. Attempts to contact the subject have been fruitless. Update: Detective Gary Lose investigated the case. After his investigation the equipment was returned and the business owner

declined to prosecute the individual.  
**400 Block West St., N.W.** Between Nov. 6 at 7 a.m. and Nov. 10 at 7:35 p.m. A citizen reported that during the listed times an unknown subject removed a college ring from his bedroom. This case is still being investigated.

**100 Block Patrick St., S.E.** Nov. 11 between 1-9 a.m. A car stereo, GPS unit, and amplifier were removed from a parked vehicle during the listed times. Forensic evidence was recovered at the scene. This case is still being investigated.

**1100 Block Fairway Drive, N.E.** Between Nov. 11 at 10 p.m. and Nov. 12 at 3:45 p.m. A citizen reported that a large amount of cash had been

stolen from his residence. The complainant believes it may have been taken during a poker game he hosted at the home. This case is still being investigated.

## PETIT LARCENY

**900 Block Meadow Lane, S.W.** Nov. 5 between 12-5 p.m. Two packages which had been delivered on Nov. 5 were taken from the front door stoop of a citizen's home.  
**400 Block Marshall Road, S.W.** Nov. 11, 10:56 a.m. A citizen reported that an unknown male subject went into his shed and removed his gas can. When the citizen confronted the man, he relinquished the gas can and left.

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**The man who is prepared  
has his battle half fought.**

—Miguel de Cervantes

# HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

## Treasures of Vienna

Local shops offer specialty stock.

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

Vienna, small-town Vienna, glows during the holidays. Church Street beckons with an old-fashioned ambiance, the town tree casts a kaleidoscope of vivid colors, Freeman House and Store recalls its 19th century past and the small, locally-owned shops outdo the megastores with their unique products and personalized attention.

Here's a sampling of Vienna treasures.

**STEP INTO FREEMAN STORE** and step back into time. A time of candy sold by the piece, of whimsical mechanical cast iron banks, hand-dipped candles from Virginia, authentic Virginia peanuts and pure Virginia jellies and preserves. An old-fashioned wood-burning stove stands, unlit, commanding attention. And shelves

are lined with collectible hand-painted wood ornaments, signed books by local authors, hand-thrown Vienna logo pottery, afghans and towels depicting the town and Virginia-focused puzzles.

Add a dash of Historic Vienna Inc. holiday cards, Freeman House in a December snowfall, and you've got a recipe for a sweet holiday confection.

"We've got a lot of things that you can only buy at Freeman Store," Sarah Jane Brady, Freeman Store and House administrator, said. "The holiday cards, the Rachael Peden collectible ornaments. Nobody else has the mechanical banks, either."

Hand-thrown stone pottery ranges in price from \$16-\$26. Old-fashioned mechanical cast iron

**"We've got a lot of things that you can only buy at Freeman Store."**

—Sarah Jane Brady



Freeman Store carries Virginia peanuts, Virginia preserves and jellies, Virginia candles and logo Vienna mugs, afghans, and hand towels.

banks sell for \$16-\$25. Put in a coin and watch the movement as the coin is catapulted into the bank.

Hand-dipped tapered candles, made in Virginia, are \$3 for two. Small Virginia soy candles sell for \$6.50, while the larger ones sell for \$10.

Signed Rachael Peden hand-painted Vienna collectible ornaments are \$19.50. Vienna holiday cards — Freeman House in a December snowfall — created by shopkeeper, Alla Fiore, are \$8.50 for a box of 10.

"Because we think it's going to be a cold winter, we stocked up on a wide selection of puzzles for the family," Brady said. "They have large interlocking pieces." One thousand-piece puzzles, many focusing on Virginia, sell between \$15 and \$20.

Freeman Store and House will be decorated for the holiday season in late November. Ayr Hill Garden Club creates traditional green arrangements in tune with a theme. This year, Brady said, Freeman House is looking at some-

thing "along the lines of 'Home for the Holidays,'" a nod to the museum's "Vienna Remembers World War II" exhibit.

Freeman Store, Freeman House and Freeman Museum operate under the umbrella of Historic Vienna Inc. in the white-clad building on Church Street. The Freeman Store and House is located at 131 Church St., NE. Store hours are Wednesday-Saturday, noon-4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

SEE GIFT GUIDE, PAGE 18



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

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**BULLETIN BOARD**

FROM PAGE 7

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.

**WEDNESDAY/DEC. 3**

**University of Virginia Education Programs Information Night**, 5-7:30 pm at 7054 Haycock Rd., Falls Church. Graduate degree and endorsement programs in reading, special education, school library media, ESL and more. 703-536-1105 or www.seps.virginia.edu/northern/infonight.

**THURSDAY/DEC. 4**

**School Board Work Session/Linkage**, 4 p.m. Work Session/Forum, 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. 703-204-8100.

**Vienna Police Chief's Advisory Committee meeting**, 7 p.m. at Town Hall. For agenda information, call 703-255-6366.

**SATURDAY/DEC. 6**

**Vienna Recycling Day**. Used motor oil, antifreeze and car batteries from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill St., N.E. For more information, call 703-255-6381. This service is for in-town residents only.

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P082011 11/01/2008

# Tunnel Supporters Argue Their Case

FROM PAGE 3

"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. According 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 Planning Commissioner and candidate for the House of Delegates, said the tunnel is still very much alive, "particularly with a change in the administration." He said the tunnel is clearly a better way to proceed with the construction of the rail extension.

Although he is a Herndon resident, Donahue said he has great interest in how the project proceeds. "All Northern Virginians and Fairfax County residents should care," Donahue said. He said Tysons Corner is the region's economic engine and a lot of people from Herndon and other communities work and shop at Tysons Corner.

Fairfax County Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), who acted as the moderator for the forum, said the rail alignment through Tysons Corner is "one of the most important issues that has faced our region since I've lived here."

"We cannot afford to make this mistake," State Del. Dave Marsden (D-41) said about



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

the aerial alignment. Although his district does not touch the proposed rail extension, Marsden said he cares about the alignment issue as a Fairfax County citizen and representative.

"It has to be underground," Coleman said, adding that the tunnel would be operational six years sooner than the elevated track and cost \$157 million less. In addition to the schedule and the cost benefits, the tunnel would cause fewer disruptions above ground and prove to be environmentally sound.

Speaking of the environment, Roger Dietrich, a representative of the 8,000-member Sierra Club in Northern Virginia, said the tunnel would prove more effective in getting people out of their cars and onto public transit to visit Tysons Corner. "We need to make it a quality place that attracts people and quality development," Dietrich said. He said that would be impossible to accomplish with the elevated alignment. "It flies in the face of everything you might want to do with smart growth and quality development," Dietrich said.

Rob Jackson, president of the McLean Citizens Association, said that while the public has different views on the benefits Metrorail would bring to surrounding communities, there is unanimity that the elevated track through Tysons Corner is "plain wrong." He said an elevated line would divide Tysons Corner. Jackson added that the solution is simple and involves getting elected officials to enable a bidding process on the project to serve the public good.

Carroll Carter, a retired publisher of Mass Transit magazine, said the tunnel would bring about a different landform for Tysons Corner. "What kills you here is that you are giving over so much land to a transportation system," Carter said.

**"THERE ARE A LOT** of small businesses that are going to suffer because of the aerial alignment," Matt Wallace, president of the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce, said. He said the "biggest transportation blunder" in our area is still preventable. "Get

Richmond and the federal government to understand that this is a decision that will affect our children and our children's children," Wallace said.

Roger Cryan, president of the Mantua Citizens Association, said Tysons Corner, if planned right, could transform into a great American city as the Washington-metropolitan area continues to grow. "To make this impossible, there is only one thing, an ugly, concrete, elevated metro line," Cryan said.

"We don't want a Tysons Mixing Bowl, we want a walkable Tysons," Hutch Douglas of the McLean Hamlet Citizens Inc, said. "It's inconceivable that Ballston and Rosslyn are underground and the current plan for Tysons calls for an elevated structure," Jack Mitchell, president of the Westbriar Civic Association, said.

"There are 15,000 residents in Vienna and we are very proud to be behind the tunnel," Vienna Mayor Jane Seeman said.

While Monett continues to fight for the tunnel option through Tysons Corner, he is pursuing a more balanced funding formula for the project. He wishes to see the federal share of the funding increase in order to limit the financial exposure of the Dulles Toll Road users whose contribution to the project is not capped. "Everyone has a cap on their financial exposure, except us locals," Monett said.

Reston resident Rob Whitfield said he agrees with Monett's wish, especially since the Toll Road users' share of the funding jumped from \$361 million to \$1.3 billion from January 2006 to May 2007. He said the Toll Road users are stuck with paying for half of the project already and the operating agency, MWAA, is not accountable to them. "How can you expect me to support this project anymore," Whitfield said. He added that the federal government should also contribute more since a large percentage, more than 40 percent, of the commuters in the Dulles Corridor during the rush hour are federal employees.

Coleman, the former U.S. secretary of transportation, said he has written letters to

## High Schools' Journalists Honored

Students from 19 Fairfax County public schools won awards for journalistic excellence from the Virginia High School League (VHSL) for publications produced during the 2007-08 school year.

In the magazine competition, winners included:

First place: Tartan, McLean High School, Joel Kane, advisor; Opus, Oakton High School, Susan Sullivan, advisor;

In the newspaper competition, winners included:

Trophy Class: The Saxon Scope, Langley High School, Mary Dolson, advisor; Rank and File, Marshall High School, Eston Melton, advisor; Highlander, McLean High School, Nicole Cimino, advisor; and The Wire, West Potomac High School, Kelcy Pierre, advisor.

First place: Oakton Outlook, Oakton High School, Chad Rummel, advisor;

Second place: The Hawk Talk, Madison High School, Catherine Ferrick, advisor.

In the yearbook competition, winners included:

Trophy Class: The Clan, McLean High School, Meghan Percival, advisor; Paragon, Oakton High School, Chad Rummel, advisor;

First place: Shire, Langley High School, Kelly Mulligan, advisor; Montpelier, Madison High School, Gina Glassman, advisor; Columbian, Marshall High School, Eston Melton, advisor;

In the writing-photography-design journalism contest, Group AAA Yearbook, the winner was:

Concept Packaging: first place, Oakton High School.

In the writing-photography-design journalism contest, Group AAA Newspaper, the winners were:

News: Straight News-News Feature-Sports News, first place, Chris Weil, Oakton High School.

Feature: In-Depth-Informative (Including Sports), first place, Matt Johnson and Erica Wohlleben, Oakton High School; second place, Erica Wohlleben, Oakton High school.

Editorials, first place, staff, McLean High School.

Bylined Personal Opinion-Column: first place, Bonnie Fishel, Madison High School; second place, Carolyn McAllister, TJHSST; third place, Dan Copans, Madison High School.

Review: first place, Hailey Arnold and Amelia Friedman, TJHSST; second place, Dan McEnrue and Ben Chun, Madison High School; third place, Hailey Arnold and Amelia Friedman, TJHSST; and honorable mention, Marguerite Schauer, McLean High School.

Photo-News-Feature: second place, Cranley Lockhart, McLean High School; third place, Tehrim Umar, Langley High School;

Photo-Sports: first place, Talia Roth, McLean High School; third place, Lisa Kong, TJHSST.

Front Page Layout: second place, Gloria Driessnack, Arvin Ahmadi, and Viola Li, TJHSST; third place, Annie Kim, Madison High School; honorable mention, Gloria Driessnack, Arvin Ahmadi, and Viola Li, TJHSST.

Advertising: honorable mention, Stephanie Browning, Langley High School.

the current transportation secretary. He also urged the attendants at Wednesday's forum to contact the incoming presidential administration and the incoming U.S. senator from Virginia, Mark Warner. Coleman said Tysons Corner is currently the 12th largest commercial area in the United States and if the tunnel is built it would rank as high as the eighth largest within the next 10 years.

# NEWS

## 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 Herrity.

**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 be a valuable asset.

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

"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 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.

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.

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



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PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**Designer Kelly Haines arranges holiday merchandise at Karin's Florist. Gold-toned jingle bells start at \$7.50. The toy soldier is \$375.**

FROM PAGE 12

## Flowers of the World

**KARIN'S FLORIST** turned into a winter wonderland for the holidays and everything in the shop, from \$7.50 calla lilies bursting with warm, rich hues to gourmet sweets and treats, wines of the world and floral masterpieces, is for sale.

"We carry flowers from all over the world. Whatever your vision, our designers can make it happen," Maris Angolia, vice president of family-owned Karin's Florist, a Vienna fixture for many years, said. "Not many stores carry tropicals year round."

The 10 designers of Karin's Florist do "phenomenal" work Angolia said, citing their expertise and range of experience and focus. They come from all over the world, and one, who has been with Karin's for 35 years, was, at one time, floral designer to the king and queen of Denmark.

"We have all price points and different occasions call for different kinds of gifts," Angolia said. "We have a lot of beautiful and unique hostess gifts that people can pick up on their way to a party. A floral and fruit accent basket, created with Gerber daisies and chili peppers is tied with a grass handle and sells for \$15."

If tropical plants aren't enough to transport someone to the islands, the Tortuga line of Caribbean coffee and rum cakes just may do it. A bag of flavored coffee is \$9 for 8 ounces.

The gift baskets are designed in-house and explore varied themes. A "Loukoumi" baby basket, priced at \$125, includes two children's books autographed by the author, Nick Katsoris, a baby T-shirt and organic



**Santa is surrounded by an explosion of color at Karin's Florist. The shop's 10 designers come from all over the world. The intensely hued calla lilies sell for \$7.50 a stem. Anything a customer envisions, the staff can create, co-owner Maris Angolia said.**

Kiss Me in the Garden baby products. Angolia said the basket can be scaled up or down. "We know Nick well," Angolia said. "His books are something you can only get here or on his Web site."

Hostess baskets feature food, wine and fresh fruit and are priced in accord with inclusions, per customers' requests. A stock of pick-and-go baskets is available for on-the-spot purchase.

Florentine-style gift wrap decorates a box of Di Camillo cookies. A still life of Di Camillo Baba Limoncello, packed in an elegant 23-ounce jar sells for \$37.50. Stems of fiery torch ginger and wavy calla lilies sell for \$7.50. And a furry Gund penguin flaps his arms to Feliz Navidad; he's \$40. Jingle bells the size of grapefruit are \$7.50, larger ones go up to \$15.

Living hostess gifts are indoor potted plants, such as a Christmas cactus or cyclamen, starting at \$25.

Even the 5-foot-high toy soldier is looking for a good home; he's \$375.

Karin's Florist is at 527 Maple Ave., E.

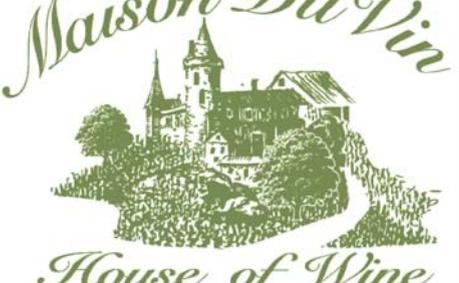
SEE GIFT GUIDE, PAGE 19



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**Christmas Events**

- Sun. Dec 14 - 11:00 am Chancel Choir presents choruses from Handel's "Messiah" with string quartet
- Sun. Dec 21 - 6:00 pm Outdoor Living Nativity Dramatization with live animals followed by refreshments
- Wed. Dec. 24 - 5:00 pm Children's Christmas Eve Service
- Wed. Dec. 24 - 7:30 pm Christmas Eve Service With Candles, Carols and Communion

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# HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

FROM PAGE 18

## Things Little Girls Dream Of

**ONCE UPON A TIME** is wood dollhouses and miniatures, Gotz and Heidi Ott dolls, Steiff stuffed animals, European-made Playmobil figures and magical worlds and lots more. Hard-to-find items, such as the wood dollhouses and Playmobil line of themed recreations, are the norm.

To satisfy a little girl's dream of her very own dollhouse, or to excite a grown-up girl who designs and decorates with miniatures, Real Good Toys makes real wood houses, from majestic, intricately detailed period pieces to farm and family houses. The houses come in kit form or may be purchased finished. Kits begin at \$169, while finished houses start at more than twice that price.

The 30-inch wide x 22-inch deep x 42 3/4-inch high, seven- to nine-room Painted Lady sells for \$300 in a kit and \$1,250 finished by the company.

The miniatures collection — furnishings, decorations and figures — is dazzling. Collectors into miniature design, and dreamy young girls, have hundreds of items to



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**Santa loaned one of his reindeer to Once Upon a Time. The Doug and Melissa 3-foot-tall stuffed animal sells for \$75.**

choose from.

Betty Ann Childress, an avid collector and shop staff member, said she works to support her "habit."

A living room, with sofa, chairs, chest and fireplace, can be put together for \$75.

Individual Playmobil figures start at \$3. The fairytale castle, complete with accoutrements, is \$149. There are play sets for children ages 1-1/2 years on up and prices in a wide range.

Cloth-bodied Gotz dolls, designed in Germany, have rooted



**The selection of kit and finished wood dollhouses and miniatures stretches the imagination. The 30-inch wide x 22-inch deep x 42 3/4-inch high Painted Lady sells for \$300 in a kit and more than \$1,200 finished. Other kits begin at \$169.**

hair that can be shampooed and blown dry. The dolls range in price from \$35-\$75.

A 3-foot-tall soft-skinned reindeer, by Doug and Melissa and on loan from Santa, sells for \$75.

Once Upon a Time, located at 120 Church St., NE, participates in the annual Church Street Holiday Stroll.

SEE GIFT GUIDE, PAGE 21

## No Drills! No Shots! No Pain!

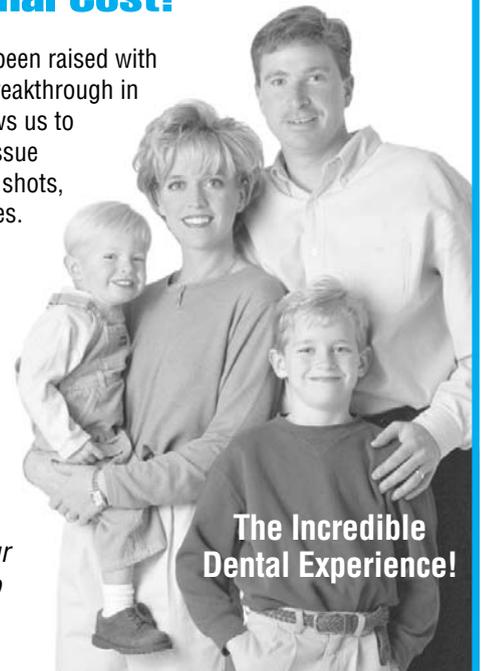
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**“MADEIRA GIRLS have something to say”**

*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

**The Madeira School**

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**Holiday Alternative Gift Market**

Saturday, December 6th, 10am - 4 pm  
Sunday December 7th, noon - 4pm

Make your holiday gift buying more meaningful by shopping the Church of the Holy Comforter's fair trade artisans' market and alternative gift festival!

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Alternative gifts such as livestock, mosquito nets or micro-loans can also be found at this unique market. Aid organizations Heifer International, Episcopal Relief and Development and Five Talents International will be on hand to assist with purchases of these alternative gifts.

Church of the Holy Comforter 543 Beulah Rd, Vienna, Virginia  
703-938-6521



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

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**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.

**Tiny Tots.** 10:30 a.m. Birth-3 with adult. Stories and activities. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-757-8560.

**Book discussion Group: "Three Cups of Tea"** by Greg Mortenson. 7:15 p.m. Adults. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. 703-242-4020.

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

[www.musicinmclean.org](http://www.musicinmclean.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](http://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](mailto: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.

**Third Thursday Art Night.** 5-8 p.m. Miniature works, jewelry, holiday cards and more. Ayr Hill Gallery, 141 Church St., Vienna. 703-938-3880 or [www.ayrhillgallery.com](http://www.ayrhillgallery.com).

**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 [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.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](http://www.novachadd.org).  
**"Noises Off,"** 7:30 p.m. at Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-287-2700 or [www.langleydrama.com](http://www.langleydrama.com).

**Oakton Church of the Brethren's 15th Annual Christmas Craft Show,** 10 a.m.-7 p.m. A variety of hand-made 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](http://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

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 23

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# HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION



**This memory quilt, made of up a daughter's T-shirts, commemorates 10 years of Coast Guard service. Memory quilts begin at \$150.**

The Vienna Quilt shop not only sells quilts, but also creates one-of-a-kind memory quilts and memory bears from cherished cloth and restores damaged quilts. Silver and porcelain pieces, as well as a Baby Boutique, fill out the 21-year-old Vienna shop.

FROM PAGE 19

## Gifts with Touch of History

**THE VIENNA QUILT SHOP** has made its home in Vienna for 21 years. But it's more than just a shop that sells handmade quilts.

The shop restores quilts, creates memory quilts and customized teddy bears from cherished cloth and produces miniature bears from gentlemen's ties, all in the

on-site atelier. Vienna's only baby boutique, specializing in hand-smocked clothes, occupies a corner of the shop.

Shortly after Sept. 11, 2001, a woman whose husband died in the Pentagon attack brought in her husband's grayish colored corduroy pants. From that fabric, owner Nancy Preston and her staff created a memory bear with leather button eyes. "It really was beautiful," Preston said. "The woman told me the bear is the last thing she sees at night and the first thing

she sees in the morning." The client then had made other memory bears for family. Mini-jointed memory bears made out of neckties are \$55 each.

Preston travels throughout the world, seeking out women creating things in their homes, supporting their families through their craft. She's visited a convent in Asia where the nuns teach the children handicrafts.

"Our atelier [workshop] is predominantly what makes us differ

SEE GIFT GUIDE, PAGE 27

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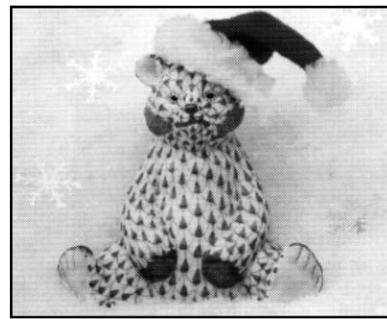
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# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 20

funds will help purchase a new ambulance for Fire Station 402, VVFD. A list of items up for auction is at [www.vvfd.org](http://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.

**Lunchtime with Miss Belle**. 1 p.m. Birth to age 5 with adult. Sing-along. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. 703-242-4020.

**"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](http://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](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**"Noises Off,"** 7:30 p.m. at Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-287-2700 or [www.langleydrama.com](http://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](http://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, [greatfallsfoundationforarts.org](http://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](http://www.oaktonbrethren.org).

## SATURDAY/NOV. 22

**Celebrate Reading!** 10:30 a.m. Age 6-7. Reading program for first and second grade boys who need extra help. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. 703-242-4020.

**"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](http://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](mailto:Mellarkins@verizon.net).

**Plymouth Rock and Roll Thanksgiving Show: Rockoceros 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**"Noises Off,"** 7:30 p.m. at Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. 703-287-2700 or [www.langleydrama.com](http://www.langleydrama.com).

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## 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## MONDAY/NOV. 24

**Giving Thanks**. 2 p.m. Age 3-5 with adult. Stories and activities. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-757-8560.

**Oakton Kids Read: Listen to This!** 2:30 p.m. Age 6-12. Audiobooks for traveling. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. 703-242-4020.

## 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](http://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. 703-281-1333.

**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 [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.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](http://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](http://www.nvhg.org).

**Fastball, Shane Hines and the Trance and MHR**. Pop/rock. 7:30 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## FRIDAY/NOV. 28

**Warrenton Author Susan Crites** will be reading and signing her children's book "I Love You More Than Rainbows," 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Tyson's Corner Borders, 8027 Leesburg Pike Suite 100, Vienna. 703-556-7766 or [susancrites.com](mailto:susancrites.com).

## SATURDAY/NOV. 29

**John Eaton**. 7:30 p.m. Classic songs at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**Enter the Haggis**. Celtic rock. 8 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**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. [www.nvhg.org](http://www.nvhg.org).

## SUNDAY/NOV. 30

**Songwriters Circle featuring Anthony Fiocco, Shane Hines and Todd Wright**. 7 p.m. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Jody Marshall**, 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Reservations required. \$15. Call 703-759-3309.

**Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild Thanksgiving Arts and Crafts Showcase**, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Admission \$3. [www.nvhg.org](http://www.nvhg.org).



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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.

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## Freeman Museum Exhibit Inspires

FROM PAGE 9

jective important to HVI. "We got an overwhelming response," Mulville said. "We have things we haven't taken out, yet. Numerous veterans donated the medals. A young woman came by and donated the newspapers. The Purple Heart belonged to my uncle. He went down in the Atlantic in 1943."

Everything in the exhibit is on loan and the in-

ventory will be rotated over the course of the year.

Shelby said that he was inspired by the people he met, "It was an honor to talk to these veterans, to get their stories."

**THE FREEMAN STORE** and Museum is located at 131 Church St. N.E., in Vienna. Hours for this free exhibit are Wednesday-Saturday, noon-4 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Call 703-200-7806 for more information or visit [historicviennainc.org](http://historicviennainc.org).

# SPORTS

## Oakton Outlasts West Springfield, 49-43

Now the Cougars are set to host Chantilly for the region Div. 6 title.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

In the end, the Oakton High defense made the stops when it had to in the Cougars' 49-43 scoring feast postseason football win over West Springfield last Friday night.

The Div. 6 Northern Region semifinals playoff contest took place in foggy, light drizzling conditions at Oakton High School.

Oakton (12-0) was on the verge of seeing a second half, 27-point lead evaporate. The Cougars' perfect season was in danger of ending after the Spartans, behind sensational, UNC-bound quarterback Bryn Renner, closed to within 49-43 following a 47-yard scoring hook-up from Renner to Fabrice Kambinga with eight minutes, 30 seconds left in the final quarter.

But thereafter, the Oakton defense was up to the challenge the remainder of the game as it held the high-powered West Springfield offensive attack on its final two possessions after the Spartans had cut the deficit to six.

"West Springfield's an unbelievable team," said Oakton senior running back and tri-captain Trey Watts, who caught two touchdown passes in his team's win. "They showed a lot of heart near the end in making a comeback."

Next up for Oakton is the Div. 6 region title game this Saturday afternoon at 1 against Chantilly, which defeated Westfield in its semifinals game. Meanwhile, West Springfield, with the loss to Oakton, sees

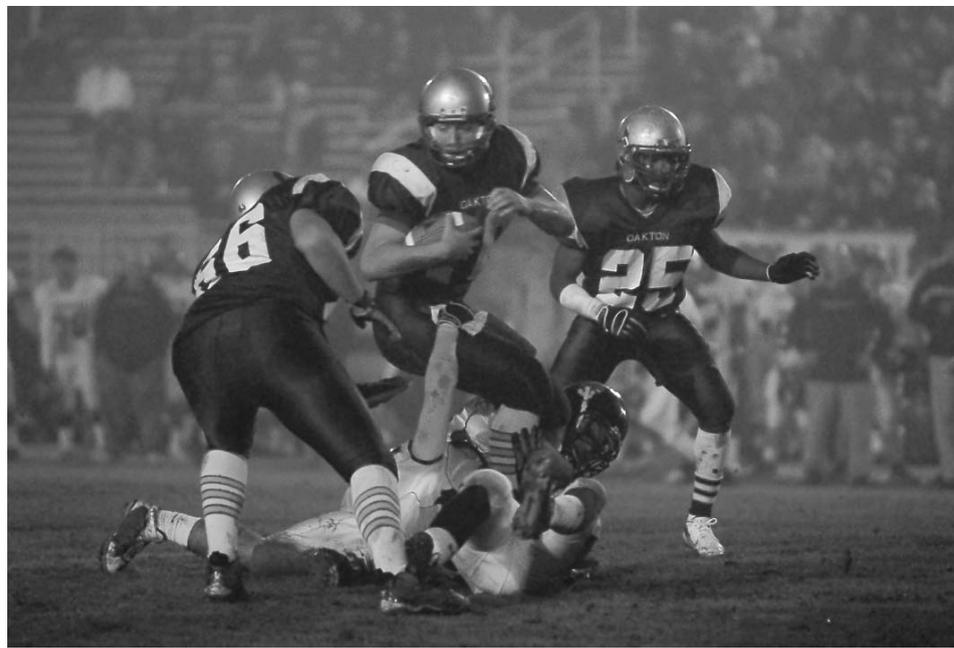


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Oakton quarterback Chris Coyer looks to break a tackle during last Friday's game against West Springfield. Coyer ran for two long touchdowns in the win. No. 25 for Oakton is Jonathan Meadows.**

its season end at 8-4 overall.

**OAKTON'S DEFENSE** was certainly challenged down the stretch after a turnover gave West Springfield the ball at its own 20 with 6:33 remaining. The Spartans, trailing by the 49-43 score, moved the ball into Oakton territory on a Renner (25-of-48, 427 yards, 4 TDs) completion of 16 yards to the Oakton 49.

But Oakton junior lineman Daniel Aevermann came up with a huge sack, for a loss of eight yards, on the next play. Over the next few plays after that, West Springfield hurt itself with a penalty and two dropped passes, including an incompletion on a fourth down play that ended the drive.

Later, West Springfield began its final

possession of the game from its own 30 with 1:21 left to play. The Spartans, with Renner running the offense, still had a chance. But the Spartans could not get a single first down. On a fourth-and-six at the 34, Spartan running back Brandon Bailey picked up five yards. A measurement confirmed that the Spartans were a yard short of the first down. That set off a huge, victorious roar from the Oakton side of the stadium.

Oakton, with the ball back in its possession with just 54 seconds left, ran out the remainder of the clock to conclude the pressure-packed, high scoring affair.

Watts believed Oakton's defense would step up over the Spartans' final two possessions.

"We knew we could stop them at the end,"

he said. "It came down to who was more [mentally tough]. I think we were the tougher team."

Afterwards, Oakton coach Joe Thompson described the game as "emotionally draining."

Thompson had seen his defense try to hold down the potent West Springfield attack throughout the game. But often, Renner's offensive line gave him plenty of time to set up in the pocket and throw. And when he didn't throw, the 6-foot-4 inch, 195-pound QB would often scramble out of trouble with large chunks of yardage. On 17 carries, Renner ran for 99 yards.

"I felt like we had the formula to stop them, we just had to get them out of their rhythm," said Thompson. "Their team scored 72 [in a playoff win over Woodson] last week, so holding them to 43 [was not embarrassing]."

Of Renner, Thompson said, "The kid's amazing, a great warrior with great accuracy."

**WHILE RENNER** was sensational for West Springfield, Oakton quarterback Chris Coyer was equally as valuable to his team. The senior tri-captain ran for two long touchdowns runs (65 and 49 yards) in the first half. He also hurt the Spartans through the air, tossing four touchdown passes and passing for 214 yards. Watts caught two scoring passes, as did senior wide receiver Jay Young.

Oakton's special team contributed a huge play in the win, accounting for the Cougars' final touchdown and giving the home team what appeared to be an insurmountable 49-22 lead in the third quarter. The scoring play occurred on a West Springfield squib kick-off that backfired. Oakton senior Derek Gleich fielded the ball and bolted down the left sideline for the improbable score.

### SPORTS NOTES

The Northern Virginia Football Officials Association (NVFOA) is seeking new members for who can become on-field game officials and electronic clock operators for games at the youth, middle school, and high school levels throughout the Metropolitan area. NVFOA is the sole supplier of football officials to all high schools in the Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Prince William, Loudoun, and Fauquier. It also supplies officials to numerous private schools in Northern Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. For those who have the time to commit, NVFOA has the resources to teach and develop football officials. NVFOA seeks men and women who have reached the age of 18 and who have a desire to be a part of the most exciting and popular scholastic game in America. Information and application forms are available by contacting commissioner Dennis Hall by phone at 540-837-1316 or by email at commissioner@nvfoa.com.



PHOTO COURTESY/STEELERS

**The Vienna Steelers anklebiters' football team, a member of the Vienna Youth Incorporated (VYI), finished their season 9-0 and beat the Chantilly Eagles, 27-0, in the 2008 Fairfax County Youth League championship game on Nov. 8. The team finished the season with 279 total points scored, while only allowing 36. The Steelers were coached by Todd Casey, George Casey, David Freidman, Joel Friedman, David Buckingham, Paul Campo, Michael DeChristopher, Mike Godwin, and Mike Turner. The players on the squad were Jimmy Glenn, Paul Campo, Matthew Ziegelbauer, Isaiah Turner, Nicholas DeChristopher, Kevin Lanzas, Patrick Casey, Nick Evan, Joseph Schaffer, Bennett Jackins, Jack Felgar, Ethan Robertson, Tucker Mitchell, Mark Godwin and Vincent Pizzano.**



PHOTO COURTESY/VYS

**The Vienna Youth Soccer (VYS) U-13 girls held their season championship game on Sunday, Nov. 2 at Cap One Field in McLean. The winning Vienna team was coached by Leslie Chappell and Serena Leogue. Pictured are the Vienna U-13 team members: front row - Catherine Arendt, Cheyanne Megonigal, Aoife Leogue, Ana-Clara Caldwell, Maggie Chappell, Chelsea Yun and Katie Juliana. Back row - Leslie Chappell (head coach), Martha Byrne, Emma Hastings, Laura Stange, Emma Carolan, Gabi Namdar and Serena Leogue (assistant coach).**

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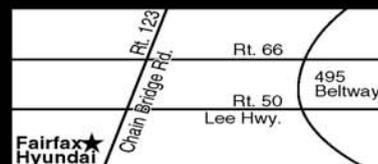
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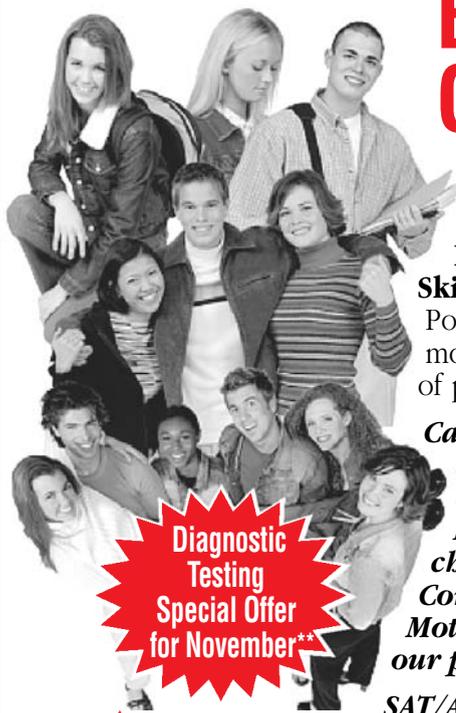
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PHOTO BY JULIE FEENEY

**Principal Beverly Worek welcomes the students and guests.**



PHOTO BY JACK FEENEY

**Maj. Gen. Robert Murray addresses the audience.**

## Oakton Elementary Honors Veterans

Oakton Elementary students celebrated Veterans Day with a morning assembly that paid tribute to America's veterans and active duty personnel. The assembly was organized by counselor Kathleen Marshall and her Character Education Committee students. The honored guests of the assembly were 20 veterans and active duty personnel, including one World War II veteran.

After Principal Beverly Worek welcomed the students and honored guests, the Character Education Committee students presented the American Flag and PFC Jerome Pastor, a WWII Bronze Star recipient, led everyone in the

Pledge of Allegiance. The Alexandria Harmonizers then wowed the crowd with an a cappella medley of armed forces anthems.

The guest speaker, Maj. Gen. Robert Murray, spoke to the assembled students about the courage and honor that are exemplified by America's veterans. He ended his remarks by quoting from a note he received from a fourth-grade Oakton Elementary School student following last year's Veterans Day assembly. This student had written to thank Murray for speaking at the school's assembly and for his service to our country. The student went on to say that because of heroes like Murray, he

felt safe and protected when he went to sleep at night. Murray then reminded the students that the simple act of recognizing a service person's service to America by thanking him or her means so much to a veteran because it demonstrates that their service and sacrifice are appreciated. After the Alexandria Harmonizers sang several patriot songs, Kevin McGrath performed "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes and a moment of silence was observed to honor all of our country's veterans, those missing in action and heroes. The assembly was concluded with everyone joining together in singing "God Bless America."

## St. Mark Catholic School Students Salute Veterans

**St. Mark Catholic School students honored veterans at a special ceremony held at the St. Mark flagpole. Students from grades preschool through eight stood at solemn attention while service men and women from St. Mark parish raised the American flag. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by social studies teacher Gordon Ruff, followed by Principal Helen Brewer, who spoke about the honor owed to the veterans and the price they have paid for our freedom. All in attendance sang "God Bless America" to end the service.**



CONTRIBUTED

### SCHOOL NOTES

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

**Oakton High School Dance Team Clinic**, Dec. 15-18, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna. Open to students in grades 7-12. Pre-clinic registration \$90, registration at the door \$100. Contact Missy Isakowitz at [isakowitz5@gmail.com](mailto:isakowitz5@gmail.com) or Coach Rowley at [Karen.Rowley@fcps.edu](mailto:Karen.Rowley@fcps.edu).

**Nia A. Roberson** of Oakton High School in Vienna has been named a semifinalist in the 2009 National Achievement Program.

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# FAITH

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

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

Learning the history and meaning of the Christian Faith as practiced at **Oakton United Methodist Church**, Sundays through Nov. 23, 9:45-10:30 a.m. 2951 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, at the intersection of Rt. 123 and Hunter Mill Road. 703-938-1234.

**Rabbi Lia Bass**, on "Living a Life of Torah," 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 23. Rabbi Bass, the first woman from Brazil to be ordained as a Rabbi, will address the challenges facing modern Jews who wish to integrate tradition with modernity. Congregation Beth Emeth, 12523 Lawyers Road, Herndon. \$18 for members of Beth Emeth and Etz Hayim, \$25 for non-members. 703-860-4515, ext. 127.

**Tenth Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 25. Hosted by St. Mark's Catholic Church, 9970 Vale Road, Vienna. Clergy will lead the service with prayers for peace and thanksgiving. Choirs from various congregations in our community will join together to provide an evening of inspir-

ing music. An offering will be collected for Our Daily Bread and the Committee Helping Others (CHO). Call the Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna at 703-281-0538.

**Epiphany United Methodist Church Annual Christmas Bazaar**, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6. Silent auction, crafts, Poinsettias, wreaths and centerpieces for sale; baked goods and lunch also available. Located at 1014 Country Club Drive N.E., Vienna. 703-938-3494.

**Jone Johnson Lewis** discusses what people mean by "spiritual but not religious," at the Northern Virginia Ethical Society, 11:00 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 7. Free admission. Address: 225 Nutley St., NW, Vienna. 703-437-3161 or [www.esnv.org](http://www.esnv.org).

**Messiah Sing**, with soloists and orchestra, Saint Luke Festival Choir and chamber orchestra, Paul Skevington, artistic Director, and Cheryl Branham, conductor. 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 14. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Adults \$15, seniors and students \$12. 703-356-0670 or [www.musicinmclean.org](http://www.musicinmclean.org).

**Vienna Assemblies of God Motion for Missions Banquet**, following service on Sunday, Dec. 14 from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. 100 Ayr Hill Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-938-7736.

**Redeemer Lutheran Church Annual Living Nativity**, Dec. 18 and 19, 6:30-8:30 pm. Redeemer is located at 1585 Chain Bridge Road in McLean. 703-356-3346 or [www.redeemermclean.org](http://www.redeemermclean.org).

## HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

FROM PAGE 19

ent in this area," Preston said. "Quilts come in from all over the world for repair."

In back of the storefront, artisans match fabric pieces in-line with period and motif to restore damaged quilts. The staff buys old fabric, new fabric and accepts donated fabric, as well.

Preston's creativity gave birth to a design, which is patent pending. She calls it a quilt "palette," a "frame" of quilt on to which quilted blocks are sewn. The blocks can be clothing pieces or new designs. "The palette is my idea, my baby," Preston said. A 4-foot by 6-foot palette starts at \$129.

Memory quilts are constructed from pieces of cloth that have a personal history behind them. Prices start at \$150.

Restoration work is charged by the hour and complexity.

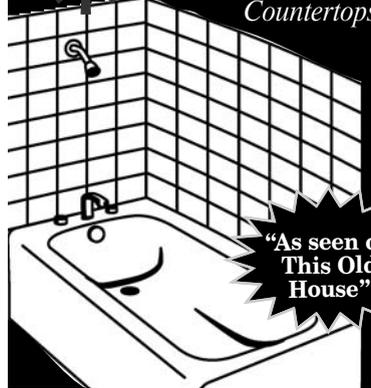
"Our famous baby things are Christening gowns," Preston said. The dresses, most smocked, some with seed pearls, start at \$90.

"You're not going to find any of this any place else," Preston said.

The Vienna Quilt Shop is located at 396 Maple Ave., E.

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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	McEneaney	703-790-
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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

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9509 Francis Young Ln	\$1,459,320	12/7 12-4	Lilian Jorgenson	Long & Foster	703-790-1990
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To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please contact: In Great Falls, Salome, 703-917-6467, or [salome@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:salome@connectionnewspapers.com) In Vienna, Don, 703-917-6466, or [donpark@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:donpark@connectionnewspapers.com) In McLean, Lauri, 703-917-6460, or [lauri@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:lauri@connectionnewspapers.com)

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## 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](http://www.lwv-fairfax.org).

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

### An Open Letter To Mayor Seeman

Dear Mayor Seeman:

I am writing to you with a sad heart. I found out yesterday when I went shopping at the Safeway Store on Maple Avenue, that the store will be closed to make way for a CVS Store. Vienna is losing a very, very unique grocery store. Most of the employees have been there long enough to see my kids grow from little babies to elementary-school kids. They recognize them and know them by name and I certainly have my favorite cashiers, gentle Mr. Elmer, fun-loving Ms. Alba, Dave is always helpful with the bags and Mr. Manyui out front is just a delight. I will be sad when they are no longer a part of my every day life and when grocery shopping will turn into an anonymous chore instead of pushing my cart through a store with friendly, familiar people who have grown close to my heart over the years.

But I will not only miss the people, of whom most seem to have been assigned to other Safeway stores in the area. Compared to most grocery stores in the immediate vicinity of Vienna, this Safeway store has a somewhat cozier size, I can find things

quickly, all every day household items are there, and shopping is a breeze. Only rarely have I made the trip to and through Giant where I am just overwhelmed by the sheer magnitude of the store and the endless selection of similar items.

What makes me really sad though is the hear-say that the store is leaving because the town denied the store's request to approve underground parking and the addition of a second story. Especially in a town that proudly claims to place priority on preserving, or in some parts establishing, a quaint, small-town character, underground parking would make so much sense. Get the cars out of sight and possibly turn unsightly asphalt lots into green areas or develop them with attractive buildings as was done successfully on Church Street. Other buildings in the immediate neighborhood already have two or even three stories, so why was the request to add another story denied for Safeway? When real estate is at a premium in the heart of a city, going upwards while maintaining small-town dimensions also makes a lot of sense to me and I would

support such a notion in a heartbeat. In this particular case, I feel that as a long-time citizen of Vienna I would have like to have seen a notice for a public hearing in the town newsletter and been given a chance to voice my opinion before the town makes a decision that has a significant impact on the local community and that forces a beloved store out of Vienna. Or did I simply miss the notice? I usually read the town newsletter diligently ...

I know that I am not the only who is sad to see the Safeway store leave, my kids are very, very sad as well and I surely am not the only one who is unhappy that the only downtown Vienna grocery store options will be a gigantic Giant and Whole Foods and a handful of small specialty stores. If at least Safeway could be replaced with a Trader Joe's store, the intimate character of small store grocery shopping with competitive pricing and a healthy corporate approach could be maintained and the store profile of Vienna would have been improved.

And since I am already writing this e-mail, I may as well express my bewilderment about the zoning decision, if there was one, to allow a third mattress store to move into a front-store position on Maple Avenue in plain view of two existing mattress discount stores. Is that the front-store image that the Town Council is interested in expanding while losing a beloved community store and denying changes to zoning regulations that seem in need of an overhaul to adapt to changes in life style, preferences and demographics?

**Friderike Butler**  
Vienna

### Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
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McLean, Va. 22102  
Call: 703-917-6444.  
By fax: 703-917-0991.

By e-mail: [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Packet Pick-up:	Tuesday, December 30, 2008 at Metro Run & Walk from 6:00-8:00 PM (7516 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA)
Race Day Registration:	GMU Concert Hall, Wednesday, December 31 <sup>st</sup> from 2:30 to 3:30 PM (& Packet Pick-up)

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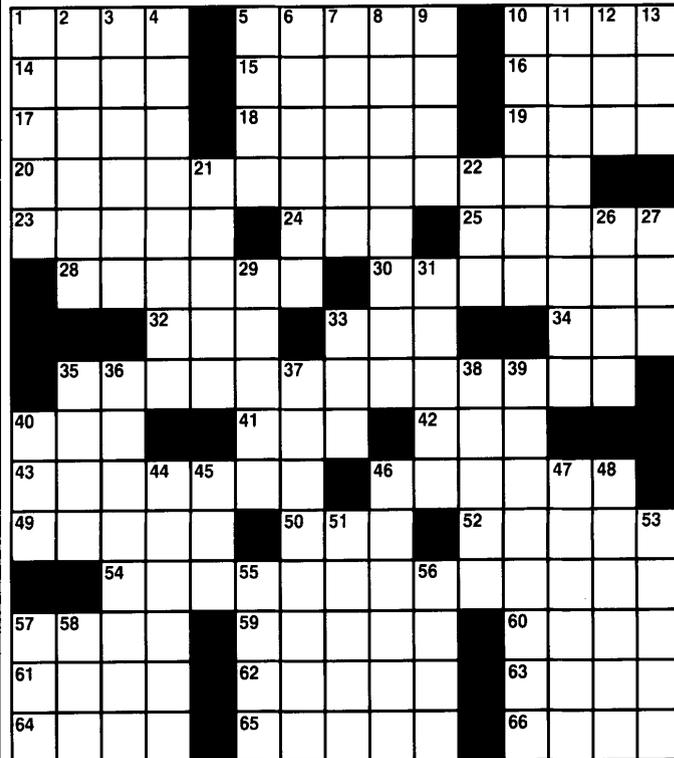
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# NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0408-6



Puzzle by David J. Kahn

## ACROSS

- Orchestra alternative
- 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
- Brought up
- See 20-Across
- Calif. neighbor
- Midpoint: Abbr.
- On a roll
- See 20-Across and 54-Across
- Big —
- Link
- Classified inits.

## DOWN

- 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



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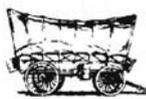
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#### LEGAL NOTICE

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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