

# Madrigal Feaste

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Women's Chamber Choir pictured at the Langley High Madrigal Feaste. Top row, from left, Jenni Bloodworth, Eunhie Kim, Chelsea Lee, Meg Honigberg, Katie Scalia, Jackie Dinarte, YooRhee Kwon; middle row, Leah Stein, Kim Pilka, Paulina Drucker, Rebecca Card; bottom row, Virginia Lee, Kaelin Fraley and Brittany Johnson.

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## One Down, One Sustained

Senior living proposal withdrawn, environmental language approved at APR Task Force meeting.

BY MIKE DICICCO  
THE CONNECTION

**A** proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment to explore the construction of an independent living facility for seniors along Leesburg Pike was withdrawn at the most recent meeting of the Dranesville District Area Plan Review (APR) Task Force, and an amendment to bring up to date the plan's language regarding environmental stewardship for the area was approved, but not without some debate over geography.

Marta Roy, who submitted the proposal that language be added to the Comprehensive Plan to open the door for a possible independent living facility on a 36-acre plot now occupied by one house and Hill's Nursery, conceded with staff's objection to the plan, but said she hoped to keep the search for an appropriate site going.

Because Piney Run, surrounded by an environmental quality corridor and a resource protection area, bisects the property, and because some of the land is steeply sloped, only about 15 acres of it would be developable, Aaron Klibaner of the county's Planning Division said at the meeting, held Tuesday, Dec. 16. Furthermore, he said, the stream would force development to the front or back of the property, possibly necessitating access via the residential neighborhood to the north. The individual plots would have to be so small that providing septic fields would be problematic, he added.

Roy, co-chair of the Great Falls Citizens Association's (GFCA) Land Use and Zoning Committee, had proposed a cluster of 50 small dwelling units on the property, although she said she was not wedded to the number. However, she said she recognized the importance of protecting an ecologically fragile corridor. "So, we are in acceptance of retaining the current plan," she said.

The current plan could support up to 18 houses on the property, although the fact that it is an agricultural-forestal district, coupled with the need for buffers along Piney Branch, would make it challenging to develop.

"We need to start finding developers who would be interested in doing very small-type facilities that would be in accordance with the zoning," Roy said, noting that zoning in Great Falls would not allow for large development.

**SEPARATE TALKS** are underway about developing an independent living facility on land near the Great Falls Village Centre.



**A proposal to explore the possibility of building an independent living community on the site of Hill's Nursery was withdrawn at the Dec. 16 APR Task Force meeting.**

Stella Koch, co-chair of the GFCA's Environment Committee, said she had proposed her plan amendment on environmental stewardship because she was "astonished at how exceptionally out-of-date that information was" in the existing Comprehensive Plan.

The language in question was an overview of environmental policy for the Upper Potomac Planning District, which runs south to Route 50, well beyond the Dranesville District.

The APR Task Forces for the Sully and Hunter Mill districts will review the proposal in the next couple of months.

County planner Clara Quintero Johnson, who is leading the team of county staff that is working with the task force, said staff did not approve of the amendment's language as it was written, but appreciated its intent. Staff had written an alternate amendment.

Both staff and Koch agreed that the existing plan language did not accurately represent today's county policy. All variations focus on stream protection, but the current plan does not mention the county's watershed management plans or the resource protection areas (RPAs) now mandated by the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance, and it calls for the creation of the environmental quality corridor (EQC) system that has now been established.

Staff's proposal added some detail to Koch's submission as far as what was to be protected and mentioned more streams and areas outside of Great Falls. But it also turned some "shalls" into "shoulds" and eliminated many of the specifics as to how stream preservation was to be achieved, such as the vegetative buffers, minimal impervious surfaces and reforestation mentioned in Koch's version.

**TASK FORCE** member Darren Ewing, also a member of the McLean Citizens Association's (MCA) executive board, said he felt the mention of areas outside of Great

Falls constituted a broadening of the reach of the amendment, which he had thought was originally intended to modify only the language regarding Great Falls.

Also, Ewing said, while he thought stream preservation was important, some of the language seemed overly broad and could have unforeseen consequences on property owners wishing to redevelop. Noting that Great Falls and the Upper Planning District overlap with the McLean Community Center's special tax district, Ewing asked that a decision be deferred until the MCA had a chance to draft a resolution on it.

Mark Zetts, also of the MCA, had appeared as a member of the public and also pushed for a chance for the association to weigh in.

"The reality is, what I wrote is what's going to be going on," Koch said, noting that the proposal would do nothing more than bring the wording in-line with county policy.

Task force member Jack Wilbern said he didn't think it was a broadening of the amendment, since it still applied to the same planning area, as delineated on the map submitted with both proposals. "Map's a map. It's got the same lines," Wilbern said. He also noted that any interested parties would have a chance to weigh in at the public hearings before the county Planning Commission, which will vet all proposals before forwarding them to the Board of Supervisors.

Task force member Beth Chung, a member of the MCA's Environment, Parks and Recreation Committee, said the committee's co-chair, Frank Crandall, had worked on the proposal with Koch and, if anything, would want stronger language than was being proposed.

The task force overwhelmingly approved the amendment, with chairman John Ulfelder requesting that county staff make sure the modification did not constitute an expansion of the original amendment's intent.

## Shell Changes Hands

New owner, landlord unable to reach rate agreement.

**A**fter 18 years in the hands of Myron Boncarosky, the Shell station at Great Falls Shopping Center will come under new ownership at the beginning of the year.

"It will still be a Shell station. It will still have service bays," said Alan Gersh, vice president of leasing for Saul Centers Inc., which purchased the shopping center in the spring. "For all practical purposes, you would never even know there was a change."

He said the service center would be shut down briefly, while Boncarosky moved his equipment out and the new owner moved in.

With the station operator's lease up in the first week of January, Saul Centers had worked to negotiate a rate change for some time, Gersh said. "We tried to the best of our ability to reach an agreement and we just couldn't," he said, adding, "There is nobody that runs a better service station than Mr. Boncarosky."

Gersh said a number of other station operators had expressed interest in the property and were willing to pay more than Boncarosky.

Boncarosky said he had been willing to offer \$210,000 a year, which was what the last owner, Freeman Companies, had wanted to raise his rate to. "And that's a lot of money for that property," he said, noting that the rent was only paid on the land, while he owned the buildings. Saul had asked for \$325,000 to \$350,000, a number Boncarosky said was prohibitive. "It just doesn't work. It's mathematically impossible," he said.

He noted that he paid considerably less for the land to support a larger station in nearby Cascades, one of several businesses he owns.

"We just hate to leave the neighborhood," he said.

— MIKE DICICCO

**"For all practical purposes, you would never even know there was a change."**

**— Alan Gersh, vice president of leasing, Saul Centers**



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

Families and their dogs came early to the Langley Shopping Center on Saturday morning, Dec. 6 for the annual Reindog parade and competition.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

State Del. Margi Vanderhye (D-34) and Chamber president Matthew Wallace.

## 'Best Friends' Parade in McLean



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

Ailen Hermansen describes to Santa (courtesy of the Fairfax County Fire Department) something special that she would like to see this year at Christmas.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Kelly Martins and her Golden Retriever, Daisy, prepare for the Reindog Parade.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

Mickey goes on stage with Maddie Smith and Brook Beall to receive prizes from Peggy Fox and Chamber president Matthew Wallace. Caroline Beall and Natalie Kemps also helped with the Reindog costume.



PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Area residents participate in and watch the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual McLean Reindog Parade sponsored by the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce.



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

The Chen's Australian Cattle dog Bella dressed for the occasion.



CONTRIBUTED

The entire Loebig Chiropractic office has been working with Reston Interfaith to help generate food donations in the Northern Virginia area.

## Loebig Chiropractic Holds Food Drive

Loebig Chiropractic had a plan to help all needy families this holiday season. The entire office has been working with Reston Interfaith to help generate food donations in the Northern Virginia area.

Through the months of November and December Loebig Chiropractic asked new patients to donate eight or more canned goods

or nonperishable items in exchange for first day services — including exam, history, consultation, X-rays and adjustment — a \$220 value, absolutely free. Many existing patients also donated large quantities of food.

Anyone who wants to contribute can contact Loebig Chiropractic to find out how they can help with this and other good causes.

## School of Art Schedules Winter Classes

School serves residents with interest in creative arts.

Great Falls Foundation for the Arts Inc., known as “GFFFTA,” announce Great Falls School of Art classes and workshops for the winter term, including a special workshop by nationally known artist, Robert Liberace. For the winter term, beginning as early as Jan. 9, Great Falls School of Art adds new classes, workshops and instructors to its offering. The line-up of courses includes instruction on oil and watercolor painting, visual journaling, jewelry-making, digital photography, developing an art career and more. Classes are offered for artists of all levels, from the beginning to advanced student, in a variety of media. Registration begins immediately and class size is limited.

The school’s 2009 winter term adds new painting courses and workshops — still life, watercolor and classic figure — and continues with classes in portrait painting and painting from photos. In another new class, students can

learn how to create a visual journal to think and explore ideas visually. Photographers have five crash course workshops to choose from including introductions to digital photography and Photoshop Elements. Two jewelry making and a course on “Mastering the Business of Art” round out the workshop choices.

New instructors join the faculty while the current faculty adds new classes. New to the school: guest instructor and renowned artist Robert Liberace teaches a two-day workshop “The Classic Figure: a Modern Approach to Alla Prima Figure Painting;” painter Linda Jones teaches watercolor; artist Donna Barnako leads workshops in jewelry making; and Michela Mansuino offers her course “Visual Thinking Through Media: Creating a Visual Journal.” Returning faculty include Jill Banks teaching classes in still life and portrait painting; Adrienne Kralick, offering her class in “Oil Painting from Photos You Love” on two different days; and Heidi Mraz, with five different workshops on digital photography and Photoshop Elements. Jill Banks will also be teaching the workshop on “Mastering the Business of Art.”

For more information on classes and registration go to the GFFFTA

Web site, <http://www.greatfallsfoundationforarts.org/> and link to “GFFFTA School of Art,” where you will find the School Bulletin and registration form, or contact Jill Baker, education registrar, at [jsnodelman@aol.com](mailto:jsnodelman@aol.com) or cell phone 703-759-1640. For the Robert Liberace workshop only, contact Mary Orr, at [mary.orr@mac.com](mailto:mary.orr@mac.com) or cell 703-298-1176. For more information about the courses and instructors see the School Bulletin. The classes will be held at the GFFFTA facility, 1144 Walker Road, Suite G, near Dante Ristorante in the Colvin Run commercial area of Great Falls.

“The Great Falls School of Art is a wonderful resource for Great Falls and local community residents interested in the creative arts,” said Mollie Vardell, president of GFFFTA. “Our goal is a top quality art school located right here in Great Falls.”

Plans for GFFFTA’s Great Falls School of Art include offering classes for both adults and children in fine and applied visual arts on an ongoing basis. Those expansion plans require locating an adequate teaching facility and raising funds to support the school. The school currently shares space with the Artists’ Atelier, working studios for 14 artists.

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# OPINION

## Happy Holidays

Much cause for optimism, but also many reasons to help others.

**W**e wish our readers a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukah, and an exciting New Year. There is much to fuel optimism here, despite the drumbeat of dismal economic news.

While Northern Virginia is certainly feeling some of the effects of the economic crisis, this is probably the best place in the nation to weather the storm. Employment is strong here, with unemployment still below 4 percent.

This region's economy will get a boost from the January change in administration. Events and visitors for the inauguration itself will bring an infusion, the movement of officials in and out of the region will create economic activity.

And the sheer optimism and enthusiasm for change, and for this particular change, will lift spirits and boats.

Close-in real estate, inside the Beltway, is holding its value. At the bottom end of the real estate spectrum, some condos, townhouses and even some single family detached homes have reached levels of affordability not seen in many moons, and that should bring out first-time home buyers. When first time homebuyers enter the market, this can kick off a kind of domino effect, allowing owners of the houses they buy to move up.

At the same time, we'll all feel the effects of budget cuts in local government, from reduced library hours and other services to the possibility of larger class sizes. There are many more families in Northern Virginia feeling the pain of the recession, with thousands of foreclosures and, while unemployment is low, the loss of some jobs.

This has dramatically increased demand on groups that provide emergency help for food, housing, utilities and more.

Even groups that help animals are seeing a

huge surge in trouble. Some owners are giving up beloved pets when they face foreclosure, while others say they can no longer afford to feed their pets. The Humane Society of Fairfax County, for example, has started a PET food pantry to help people keep their pets.

Enjoy the holidays, and remember to give locally.

For a list of local charities in need, see "Give Locally," <http://connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=322554&paper=68&cat=110>

## January Is for Fun

**T**his is the last "regular" edition of the Connection for 2008. The edition that will be delivered after Christmas is our annual Children's Connection, featuring the writing and art of area students.

Our first publication date in January will appear on Jan. 7, kicking off a four-part series on fun, with more than 100 ideas for fun local activities in each of our 17 weekly papers. This will no doubt add up to more than 1,101 ways to have fun near home. We'll include tips on free fun, outdoor fun, indoor fun, arts, music, theater, fun at home, food fun and more.

If you have an idea that you think we should include, please let us know.

The Jan. 7 issue will also be our chance to catch up on news and events that happen between Dec. 18 and the beginning of the New Year.

In the meantime, we encourage you to check our Web site to read hundreds of stories from Northern Virginia. See [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com).

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### LETTERS

## Bus Takes 'Wrong Turn'

To the Editor:

The Fairfax County Transit System has proposed eliminating Fairfax County Connector Route 595 rush-hour service from the Wiehle Park and Ride in Reston to the Pentagon as a cost-cutting measure. (Source: [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/lobs/agency\\_lob\\_presentations/100.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/lobs/agency_lob_presentations/100.pdf)) While I understand the need for budgetary adjustments given the current economic situation, eliminating a well-used bus route in the busy Dulles Corridor at a time when Fairfax County and the country are focused on getting people out of their cars makes no sense. The rationale seems to be that there is duplicative service available through bus and rail service via West Falls Church. The recommendation ignores the much longer travel time that

would require. Do county officials really want to take our men and women who work for the defense of our country away from their families for even longer periods of time? With transfers at West Falls Church and Rosslyn, the 35-minute current bus trip would take well over an hour. That means that many Pentagon employees, who already work long hours, will take to their cars, potentially adding up to 67,000 additional car trips on Fairfax County roads each year. I've heard many passengers on the bus say they don't know how they will get to work.

The recommendation also discounts that average ridership/trip on Route 595 of 25.3 exceeds the system average trip ridership of 20, and Route 595's average passengers/revenue hour rate of 32.8 exceeds the system average of 23.

If the current schedule cannot be maintained in full, perhaps there is at least an option to eliminate only some of the times. I know the latest inbound and outbound routes are the least used, but most others are often standing room only. Alternatively, the fare for that route could be raised to help offset any shortfall. However, keeping this service running is a no-brainer even in these tough times.

**Brent Byers**  
Great Falls

### BULLETIN BOARD

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

#### SATURDAY/JAN. 3

**Community meeting with Delegate James M. Scott, Delegate Margi Vanderhye and State Senator Janet Howell**, 10 a.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Karol Straub, 703-938-1414.

#### MONDAY/JAN. 5

**School Board Meeting and Work Session**, 7:30 p.m. at the City Hall Annex, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. 703-385-7935.

#### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 7

**Community Revitalization and Reinvestment Advisory Group**, 3 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, Board Conference Room, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. 703-246-6504.

**Del. Scott Lingamfelter's Wine & Cigars Event**, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at The Palm Tysons Corner, 1750 Tysons Boulevard, McLean. 703-201-7776.

#### THURSDAY/JAN. 8

**Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board**, 4 p.m. at the Department of Housing and Community Development Main Offices, HCD Center, 3700 Pender Drive, Fairfax. 703-246-5164, TTY 703-385-3578.

**Speaker Bill Howell's Business Leaders Reception**, 6-8 p.m. at JR's Stockyards Inn, 8130 Watson Street, McLean. 703-201-7776.

#### MONDAY/JAN. 12

**Board of Supervisors Meeting**, 9:30 a.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, Board Auditorium, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903.

**Fairfax Area Disability Services Board**, 7:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 2/3, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. 703-324-5868, TTY 703-449-1186.

#### TUESDAY/JAN. 13

**Executive Committee Meeting Visit Fairfax**, 3 p.m. at 100 South Wing, 7927 Jones Branch Drive 7927 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. 703-752-9506.

**Mayor Jane Seeman and "Vienna at Your Service,"** 7:30-9 p.m. at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Learn more about local government operations. 703-255-6360.

#### THURSDAY/JAN. 15

**Chapter 227, Vietnam Veterans of America Inc.** meeting at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna, at 7:30 p.m. Col. Ward B. Nickisch, U.S. Army (Retired) will give a presentation of the current process to recover and identify the remains of unaccounted service members from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. The general public is invited. Admission is free. Call Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or visit [www/vva227.org](http://www/vva227.org).

### Write

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Newspaper of  
Great Falls

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

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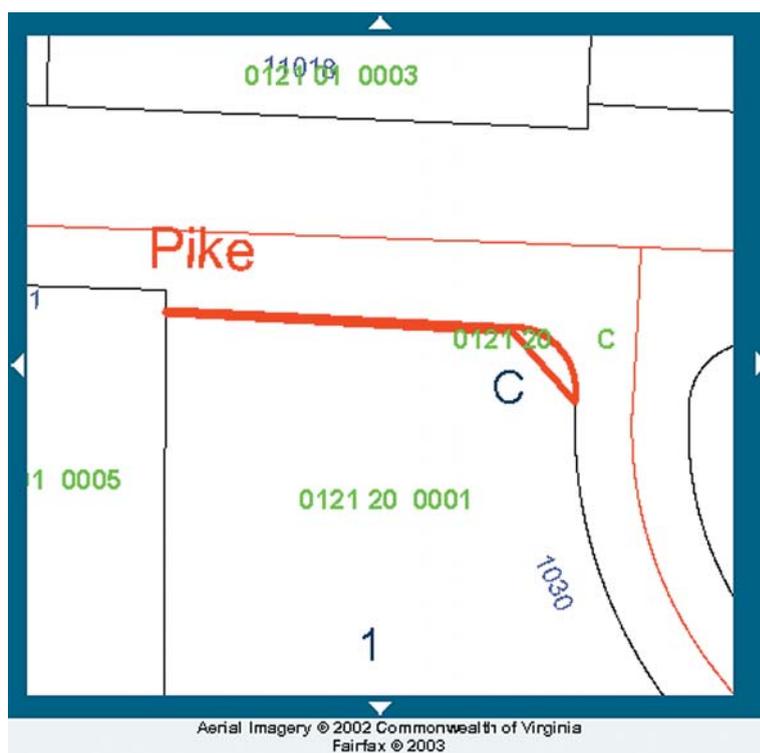
# House Avoids Setback Rule

**Technicality allows home to encroach on Georgetown Pike.**

County staff have determined that the house at 1030 Aziza Court, abutting Georgetown Pike, is not in violation of the required 50-foot setback from the scenic byway, even though it comes considerably closer to the road than 50 feet, Joe Gibson told the Dranesville District Area Plan Review (APR) Task Force at its last meeting.

The task force had recently passed an amendment, inspired by the house on Aziza Court, regarding setbacks along Georgetown Pike.

Gibson, aide to Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), said a narrow lot had been carved along the edge of the property abutting the road, making the lot on which the house stands, technically, not a corner lot and therefore not subject to the setback rules. He said this was not the only instance of such a situation in the county.



**The lot separating Georgetown Pike and 1030 Aziza Court is so narrow that most of it appears only as a red line on the county's tax map.**

The lot along the Pike is so narrow that most of it appears as a single red line on the county's tax map. It is described on the county Web site as 328 square feet of non-buildable, private open space. According to the Web site, the lot was

sold to the Putnam Farm Estates Homeowners Association in March of 2006 for \$0. The seller is not listed. The owner of the adjacent lot where the house is located is listed only as "M and A LC."

— MIKE DICICCO



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Sharon Godfrey  
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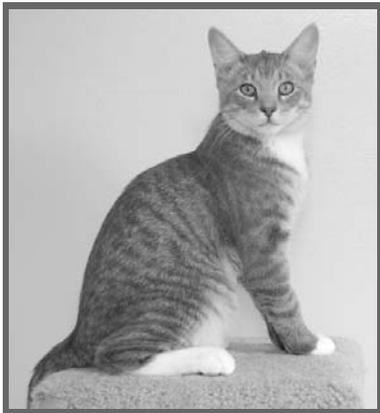
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PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Director Mike Hayden of the Central Intelligence Agency presents U.S. Marines Staff Sgt. Lawrence Sanchez, Staff Sgt. Sheila Miles, Staff Sgt. Michael Matuszak and Sgt. Larry Clevinger with toys for the Toys for Tots program Dec. 16 that CIA employees have donated.

## CIA Donates Toys for Tots



Staff Sgt. Michael Matuszak of the Marines helps to load a cart of toys that have been donated to the U.S. Marines Toys for Tots program from the CIA Dec. 16.

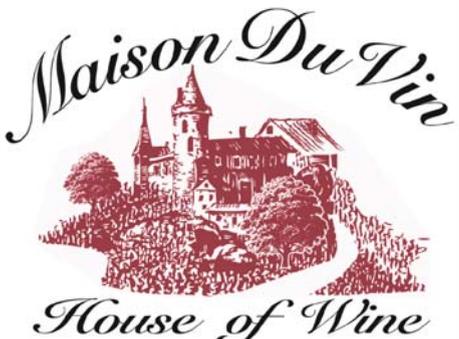


Sgt. Larry Clevinger of the U.S. Marines loads a truck of toys with donations from employees of the Central Intelligence Agency, Dec. 16, at the CIA headquarters.



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Happy New Year

# Route 7 Businesses Suffer

**Shops see fewer, mostly disgruntled customers.**

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

**P**erformance Bicycle on Leesburg Pike may be one of the only bike stores that typically does a lot of business in the middle of a week-day.

Many of the bike shop's customers work in Tysons Corner, where the store is located, and used to stop in during their lunch breaks. But construction along Route 7 directly outside of their shopping center, Pike 7 Plaza, has caused business to drop off dramatically.

"We used to have a lot of lunchtime traffic. Now the store is empty," Brandon Simcox, one of the store's managers, said.

**PLASTIC ORANGE** fencing, dirt and earthmovers now surround the strip mall, which is anchored by a Starbucks, Panera Bread and DSW. From some angles, the center even appears to be closed, said people who work in it.

The "Pike 7 Plaza" sign that faced

Leesburg Pike has been taken down. And the shopping mall is located down a hill and behind a large parking lot so the individual store signs can be hard to see from cars driving on the busy thoroughfare.

Construction has also blocked many of the mall's main entrances, including most of those along Leesburg Pike.

Stores had been assured that three entrances to the shopping center would be open at all times, but two of the three egresses they have kept open are located within 10 feet of each other. In the middle of the day, it can take more than quarter of an hour to enter the shopping mall's parking lot.

"If you have an hour lunch break and it takes 20 minutes to get in the parking lot and 20 minutes to get out of the parking lot, you aren't going to come here," Simcox said.

"It's not the economy. It's not. It is the parking lot," he added about the store's decline in sales.

**THOSE PEOPLE** who continue to visit the Pike 7 Plaza are also typically in a bad mood by the time they arrive at the store, said several people working in the shopping center.

"The customers complain that they have a hard time getting in and out of the park-

ing lot. They ask me when the construction is going to be finished. I try to compensate them by telling them how to get out of here faster," Nat Kitt, who works at Thai Pulin restaurant, said.

The construction has even changed Kitt's own travel patterns. He leaves the restaurant earlier these days to pick up his children at the day care across the street.

"Customers have mentioned the construction almost every day," Christopher Kotsakis, who works at Robeks, a juice and smoothie outlet, in a small shopping center located next to the Pike 7 Plaza, said.

The front entrance to Kotsakis' parking lot has been completely blocked and his customers must use an entrance for another shopping center and drive around the back of the Robeks' strip mall to get to his door.

"I don't really think it has been business friendly. New customers are much less prone to try us out," Kotsakis, whose shop has been open since last spring, said.

**THE DULLES RAIL** project and related  
SEE CONSTRUCTION, PAGE 19



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

**Some Tysons Corners businesses have seen a drop off since construction began on Route 7.**

**"To say that nobody is going to notice \$5 billion worth of construction taking place is foolish."**

**— Bill Lecos, Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce president**

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Rachael Bumsted fastens her necklace in the mirror.



The Serving Wenches from Treble Choir, from left, Jenny George, Paige Pizel, Isabel Hefner, Kate Alexander, Mia Engelhardt and Lucy Alexander wait to be called into the Great Hall.



Pages: Amber Bennett, Alanna Dent, Jackie Hugger, Karmi Koen, Sonya Zell and Alina Zufall.

# Langley High Presents Madrigal Feaste

The Langley High School Choral Department held its annual Madrigal Feaste, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12-13, celebrating the ancient holiday traditions of Merrie Olde England in authentic style. Nearly 200 guests attended each of the sold out performances on both nights at Capital Church in Vienna. The guests were treated to an evening of traditional 16th-century entertainment while being served a Renaissance-style dinner by choral students in period costumes. In total, 112 costumed performers, all Langley choral department students, participated in the two evening programs.

The featured performers were the 22 members of the Langley High School Madrigals, an award-winning vocal ensemble that performs mostly Renaissance music under the direction of Mac L. Lambert Jr. The madrigal songs, some of the most complex pieces of music performed by high-school students in Fairfax County, were performed a cappella. Lambert introduced the Madrigal Feaste tradition seven years ago when he became director of choral activities at Langley High School.

The Madrigal ensemble wore elaborate Renaissance costumes and headpieces, many of which were either created or embellished by Cristi Goldberg, an LHS parent volunteer. Goldberg, who oversees the entire wardrobe for the event, is the wardrobe mistress for the Langley Choral Guild, the choral department's parent volunteer organization.

The guests were greeted at the doors of Capital Church by the 16-member Women's Chamber Choir, also costumed in Renaissance-style dresses.

The choir sang carols as guests arrived and serenaded the tables during the main course. Six pages announced guests into the banquet hall on arrival and four jesters roamed the hall providing entertainment. About 40 other choral students acted as serving wenches and fellows throughout the evening.

More than 80 parent volunteers were involved in coordinating reservations, decorating the hall, purchasing and preparing the food, costuming the students and stage managing the evenings. The use of the church facility was donated by Capital Church.



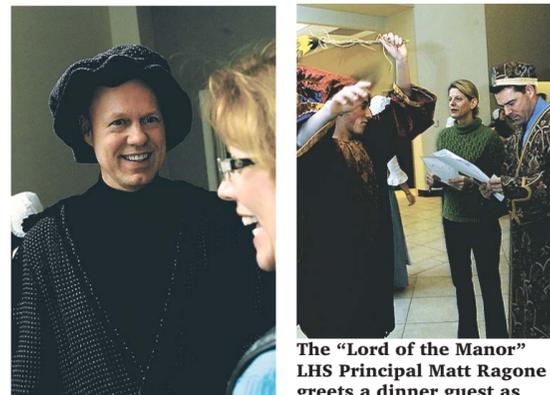
The concert begins as dinner is served.

PHOTOS BY  
LOUISE KRAFFT  
THE CONNECTION

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Madrigal singer Sara Rainey.



Choral director Mac Lambert.

The "Lord of the Manor" LHS Principal Matt Ragone greets a dinner guest as jester Sasha Guerin dances through.

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Chamber choir members sing greetings to the dinner guests as they enter the hall. Pictured are Rebecca Card, Brittany Johnson and Leah Stein.

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## CALENDAR



Commonwealth Cat Rescue will have a Kitten and Cat Adoption Extravaganza on Saturday, Jan. 3, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Oakton Library.

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

### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 24

**Jewmongous.** 7 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).

**Songs and Hugs with Miss Belle.** 10:30 a.m. Classic children's songs. All ages. Great Fall Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-757-8560.

### FRIDAY/DEC. 26

**The Bigger Lights, The Friday Night Boys and Mercy Mercedes.** 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. \$15. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### SATURDAY/DEC. 27

**The Pat Sommers Project,** 6 p.m. at Ned Devines Irish Village, 21800 Town Center Plaza, Sterling. 703-444-7873 or [irishvillage.neddevines.com](http://irishvillage.neddevines.com).

**Above the Ashes, Not Liable, Shrine of The Silver Monkey, Cab Ride Home and Guardians of Iridescence.** Rock. 4:30 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### SUNDAY/DEC. 28

**Tom O'Connor and Brent Shuttleworth.** Pop/rock. 2 p.m. \$8. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Jonasay Reunion Show and Trustfall.** 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).

### MONDAY/DEC. 29

**Winter Break Camp for Children at the McLean Community Center,** 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, from Monday, Dec. 29 through Friday, Jan. 2. Games, arts and crafts, music and special events. Registration forms at the Old Firehouse Teen Center. Half-Day Camp, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. for ages 4-6; \$55 non-residents, \$45 district residents. Full-Day Camp, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for ages 5-9; \$85 non-residents, \$75 district residents. 703-448-TEEN.

**Open Mic Hosted by David Cotton.** 7 p.m. Free. Jammin' Java, 227

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

**Rock-a-Bye Baby.** 10:30 p.m. at the Patrick Henry Library. Rhymes, stories, and songs. Birth-1 year with adult. 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. 703-938-0405.

**Joey Page,** 3 p.m. at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. \$10 advance, \$15 at the door. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

**"Robbie-noceros" New Years Eve Party for Kids:** Robbie Schaefer and Rocknoceros ring in the New Year. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. \$12. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Virginia Coalition.** New Years Eve Celebration. 8 p.m. \$75 plus \$25 optional bar package. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### FRIDAY/JAN. 2

**Jeff Dunham 'Spark of Insanity' tour.** 8 p.m. Ventriloquism with his featured character puppets. Tickets \$49.50, at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or 703-573-SEAT. Visit [www.jeffdunham.com](http://www.jeffdunham.com). George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. 703-993-3000 or [www.patriotcenter.com](http://www.patriotcenter.com).

**Melodime and Louis Fabrizi.** Rock/blues/country. 7:30 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**PJtheVIKING, Young Enough, The Grenade** and more. 10 p.m. \$5. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### SATURDAY/JAN. 3

**Kitten and Cat Adoption Extravaganza,** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. All of the cats and kittens are fully socialized, vaccinated and de-wormed. All of the kittens and cats can be selected on the adoption site, and many may be able to be taken home the same day. Chris C. Haslam, Commonwealth Cat Rescue, Inc. 703-568-3600.

**Ammar Malik, The OK Corral and Pretzcoat.** Pop/acoustic. 7:30 p.m. \$8 advance, \$10 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Hike With a Naturalist,** 8:30-11 a.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Scan for waterfowl and raptors. Free, but reservations required. 703-759-9018.

**Sky Watching and Meteor Shower,** 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the Cub Run RECenter, 4630 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly. \$2 adults, \$4 children; reservations required. 703-817-9407.

### SUNDAY/JAN. 4

**Twelfth Night Tea,** 1-3 p.m. at the Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. \$20 per person, includes house tour. 703-437-1794.

**Acoustic Jam,** 1-4 p.m. at Frying Pan Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Fairfax. Free drop-in music session. 703-437-9101.

**Ghosts of Pluto, Priceless Enuendo, McTwist, Merredith and Orange Marmalade.** Rock. 6 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### MONDAY/JAN. 5

**Family Skate Nights,** 6:30-8 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center. \$1 per skater; bring your own skates and safety equipment.

**Open Mic Night with Ron Goad.** 7-10 p.m. \$2. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### TUESDAY/JAN. 6

**Storytime for Tots,** 10:30 a.m. Short stories, music and fingerplay activities. Birth-3 with adult. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-757-8560

### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 7

**Edwin McCain.** 8 p.m. Soulful acoustics at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

**Vienna area 6th, 7th and 8th graders can play "Jeopardy"** at 4 p.m. at Club Phoenix Teen Center, located in the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E. Free. 703-255-6360 or [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

**Monkey Business,** 10:30 a.m. Five little monkey stories and activities. Age 2-5 with adult. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. 703-356-0770.

### THURSDAY/JAN. 8

**Altan.** Irish jigs and ballads. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$24. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

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

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## FAITH

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

**Christ the King Lutheran Church will have three Christmas Eve services** on Dec. 24 at 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, and a Christmas Day service on Dec. 25 at 11 a.m. Nursery provided for the 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. services. [www.Christ-The-King-Lutheran.org](http://www.Christ-The-King-Lutheran.org).

♦ **Children's service** at 5 p.m. with Cherubs, King's Kids, and Chimers Choirs.

♦ **Family Candlelight Service** at 7 p.m. with King's Orchestra and King's Choir.

♦ **Festival Candlelight Service** at 11 p.m. with the Bell Team.

**Vienna Assemblies of God Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**, Wednesday Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. at located at 100 Ayr Hill Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-938-7736 or [www.viennaag.com](http://www.viennaag.com).

**Chanukah Wonderland at Tysons Corner**, 8100 Oak St., just off Gallows Road in Vienna, through Friday, Dec. 26. Sunday-Thursday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Free admission. Meet Judah Maccabee, tour the Chanukah House, make candles, build a giant Lego menorah, design cards for Israeli soldiers. Arts and crafts, games, olive oil show and olive press, Chanukah Superstore and café, Chanukah Mad Science, Katie Balloons and comedy and magic shows. 703-821-7770 or [www.chabadtysons.com](http://www.chabadtysons.com).

**Oakton Church of the Brethren Christmas Eve service** with candle lighting and communion will be Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. Childcare is available. 10025 Courthouse Road in Vienna. 703 281-4411 or [www.oaktonbrethren.org](http://www.oaktonbrethren.org).

**Providence Baptist Church Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** will be Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. at 8980 Brook Road in McLean. 703-893-5330 or [Providencetoday.org](http://Providencetoday.org).

**St. Mark Catholic Church's 24th Annual International Crèche Exhibit**, on Saturday Jan. 3 from 5-7:30 p.m., and Sunday Jan. 4 from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Crèches from many nations will be shared by the parishioners of St. Mark. Free admission. 9970 Vale Road, Vienna. 703-938-4355.

**McLean Women's Bible Study Thursday Bible Study** begins Jan. 8 at 9:15 a.m. The Book of Proverbs will be the focus for the next 12 weeks. All are welcome. Contact Martha Wiles at 703-448-2020 or [MarthaWiles@msn.com](mailto:MarthaWiles@msn.com).

**Great Falls United Methodist Church Celebrate Recovery Ministry** begins Wednesday, Jan. 14 at 6 p.m. A 45-minute contemporary-style service with music, prayer, and biblically-based messages, followed by coffee fellowship. 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-759-3705.

**The "Third Wednesday at One" recital series with organist Charles Miller**, on Wednesday, Jan. 21 at 1 p.m. at Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Free admission. 703-356-0670 or [www.musicinmclean.org](http://www.musicinmclean.org).

**Vajrayogini Buddhist Center** offers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or [www.meditation-dc.org](http://www.meditation-dc.org).

**The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax**, at 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton chorale, a 60-voice adult choir, welcomes new members any time and meets Thursdays, 7:15 p.m. The Circle of Music Makers meets the first Monday of the month, for those who can share a vocal or instrumental solo. Contact Judy Harrison at 703-281-4230, ext. 26, or [jharrison@uucf.org](mailto:jharrison@uucf.org). Joint Activities in Music at Sunrise is for preschoolers, kindergarteners, parents and residents of Hunter Mill Sunrise Assisted Living Center, on Wednesdays, 1-1:30 p.m. Contact Marsha Giusti at 703-425-1902 or [giustim@juno.com](mailto:giustim@juno.com).

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10907 BEACH MILL RD	6	5	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$1,275,000	Detached	5.00		GARNIER MILL ESTATES
10612 ALLENWOOD LN	5	4	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$1,220,000	Detached	2.83		NONE
10917 BELGRAVIA CT	6	5	2	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$1,100,000	Detached	2.22		GREAT FALLS MEADOWS
9219 HIDDEN CREEK DR	4	3	2	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$877,900	Detached	0.73		GLEN HAVEN FARMS
9706 BEACH MILL RD	4	2	0	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$815,000	Detached	1.90		SHAFER ESTATES
930 WAR ADMIRAL ST	4	3	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$700,000	Detached	0.58		LEXINGTON ESTATES

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## REAL ESTATE NOTES

To have real estate information listed in the Connection, send to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com) or 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean, VA 22102. Deadline is Friday.

**J.D. Callander** led the Weichert, Realtors' McLean/Old Dominion office in sales, total units, and total volume. Callander is a member of Weichert's Chairman of the Board Premiere sales club. **William Gaskins** led the office in listings, and is a member of the Chairman of the Board Premiere sales club.

Tying in listings was **Kesh Tayal, Jacqueline Romero, and Karen Briscoe**. Top sales leader was **Nita Neri**. Chairman's Club member Karen Briscoe led the office in total volume. **Janet Hewitt** of the McLean/Dolly Madison office announced that **Penny Yerks** led the region in resale listings. **Kathleen Quintarelli** led the region in resale dollar volume. Quintarelli is a member of Weichert's Chairman of the Board Premiere Club. **Pat Stack** led the office in listings and total volume. **Marilyn Fisher** led the office in sales.

Stack and Fisher tied in production for the month.

**Dave Stevenson** has joined Coldwell Banker as a sales associate. Stevenson attained his real estate license in 1999. He grew up in a Navy family in Virginia and obtained a degree in Civil Engineering. In addition to his real estate career, he spent a decade in the Navy and 16 years as a contractor for the Naval Sea Systems Command. Stevenson is involved with McLean Youth Athletics.

## BUSINESS NOTES

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

**Ron Wheaton Custom Kitchens, Inc.** is celebrating its 20th anniversary. With over 30 years in the kitchen remodeling business by designing kitchens to fit customer's lifestyle and budget,

Ron Wheaton invites customers to come to their 213 Mill Street N.E. studio in Vienna to help celebrate anniversary.

**Sotheby's International Realty** has opened its first Northern Virginia office in McLean. TTR Sotheby's International Realty has been the exclusive affiliate for the Washington, DC metropolitan area since 2006. The firm currently has two offices and 78 agents in the District of Columbia, with the

third McLean office expected to house an additional 25 agents.

**Thomas Hessler of Vienna**, a van operator with Security Storage Company of Washington, has been honored by United Van Lines as a Van Operator of the Month for August 2008, Household Goods Division. The recognition acknowledges excellent performance in the areas of operational proficiency, cargo claims prevention, customer service and safety.

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'North, South, East and West,' a collection of black and white landscape photographs by Great Falls photographer Jan Bender, will be on display Jan. 4 through Feb. 8 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston. There will be an opening reception on Sunday, Jan. 4 at 12:30-2:30 p.m. The exhibit will be open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 703-430-9566.

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# SPORTS

## High Expectations for Langley Wrestling

### Belyea's team making cross-country trips over the holidays.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

The past two years, the Langley High wrestling team has made holiday time trips to the Minneapolis area to compete in high-level tournaments consisting of some of the better high-school teams in the nation. This season, Saxons coach John Belyea elected to change things up a bit. Instead of going to the twin cities, Langley was scheduled to make a trip to Kansas City, Dec. 18-21.

There, Langley will take part in the Cliff

Keen Wrestling Classic, another renowned holiday time tournament made up of some of the better teams nationally. There were scheduled to be at least 35 teams there, according to Belyea.

The successful coach, who over the years has built Langley wrestling into a Northern Region power, said his teams benefited greatly from competing at the Minnesota Christmas Classic the past two years, but that the Saxons were looking for something different this season.

"We've gone to Minneapolis the last two years," he said. "We're trying [the Kansas City] tournament out [this time]. There are a lot of nationally ranked teams in there."

The squad, Belyea said, enjoys the cross-country travel. Following the Minneapolis trip, Langley also has plans to make team trips to Greenville, Del., Dec. 27-28 and Dallas, Jan. 2-3.

"We always have fun on the trips we take," Belyea said. "We make the wrestling a priority."

LANGLEY has a good mix of returning wrestlers and younger team members on its varsity squad this season. The Saxons are coming off a second-place finish in the region a year ago. Two years ago, the Saxons won the region.

Langley's two team captains this winter are seniors David Helmer (152-weight class) and Scott Jones (heavyweight).

Helmer is the defending state AAA champion at 152.

"He's a hard working kid and very tough," Belyea said. "He has refined his techniques the last four years and really become an all-around wrestler."

Jones won a Liberty District title at heavyweight last year before finishing fifth in the

region, barely missing out on a state bid.

"Scott's a great kid and has come a long way," Belyea said. "He's a great captain and leader, as is Davey. They are leaders by example and hard workers."

Langley's other returning district champion, along with Helmer and Jones, is junior Anthony Kotoriy (103-weight class). Sophomore Matt Wilson (119), meanwhile, is a returning district runner-up wrestler.

Belyea said the Langley squad, the defending Liberty District champion, will work hard to maintain its status as one of the region's elite teams.

"We've got a lot of new kids on the team and we have a lot of work to do to perform to our expectations," said Belyea, whose team finished fifth at states last year. "Our expectations every year are to win districts and regionals. We train to win in the postseason."

### SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The **Madeira girls basketball** team recently played its first conference opponent in an Independent School League (ISL) contest at rival Maret. While Madeira is young this season — no seniors and only two juniors — the group is athletic, fast and driven to succeed. Despite losing to Maret three times last year, each by 25-plus points, Madeira was determined to improve and do better in its first meeting with Maret this season. And while Madeira played a good game, it came out on the short end of a 46-37 loss.

Madeira's determination to compete hard was evident from the start and resulted in an early 9-8 lead at the end of the first quarter. Unfortunately, while the effort was there, Madeira's shots just would not drop in the second quarter, a problem that hurt the squad the remainder of the night. Madeira went into the half down by a 20-12 score.

The team came out strong in the second half and played Maret even the rest of the game, but the team's shooting woes continued and hindered its ability to close the gap. As a result, Maret went on to the nine-point win.

It was more than a respectable outcome for Madeira. The team worked hard on defense and is still learning. All 11 girls on the team played and contributed. A balanced scoring attack was led by Audrey Hughes' nine points and eight assists, and Imani Thompson's eight points.

The Madeira coaches were proud of the team's competitiveness and effort against a talented Maret squad.

In another recent private school girls' basketball game, Madeira traveled to ISL opponent Holton Arms, a strong, experienced team that possesses significant team speed, quickness and an overall aggressive style of basketball. Madeira had difficulty handling Holton's quickness and aggressive defense, particularly Holton's press during the second quarter and early into the third



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Langley High senior boys' basketball player Barrett Hunter and the Saxons will be at local rival McLean this Friday night. The evening will be a girls-boys basketball doubleheader between the Saxons and Highlanders.**

quarter, and lost the contest, 56-30.

Madeira showed a bit of rust in the game following a 10-day break. However, even in the loss, Madeira worked hard and competed the entire game. The team's goal is to regain the form it was developing before Thanksgiving.

The **Langley High swim and dive** teams defeated Jefferson in a recent season-opening Liberty District competition. The Saxon boys defeated the Colonials, 190-125, and the Langley girls also were victorious, 172-143.

The Jefferson girls winning 200-freestyle relay team included Leah Gonzalez (McLean resident) and Jae Sim (Reston).

McLean resident Kelsey Rainey, a member of the Jefferson team, was a top-three finisher in both the 200- and 500-freestyle events, while Sim was a place finisher in both the 50- and 100-freestyle races.

Jefferson's Matt Callahan (Vienna) won the boys backstroke event and was a place finisher in the 100 free. Stephen Seliskar (McLean) placed in the boys breaststroke.

Northern Region championship qualifying times were achieved by Callahan in his win, and by the Jefferson boys' medley relay team that included Callahan and Steven Howard (Oakton), and the boys 400-freestyle relay team that included Callahan.

At the recent **Northern Region Wrestling Classic** event, held at Fairfax High School, Dec. 5-6, Jefferson wrestlers Matt Becker (Herndon resident), Mike Howard (McLean) and Kevin Zigadlo (South Riding) were each place finishers in their respective weight classes, helping the Colonials to finish eighth overall at the 32-team event. Becker earned a third-place finish, Zigadlo a fourth place and Howard a fifth.

McLean High's Palmer Dickson, a Highlander team captain, won four of his six matches to earn a seventh-place finish at the Classic. McLean teammate Pavel Hovhannisyanyan did not place, but did go 3-2 in his first varsity tournament.

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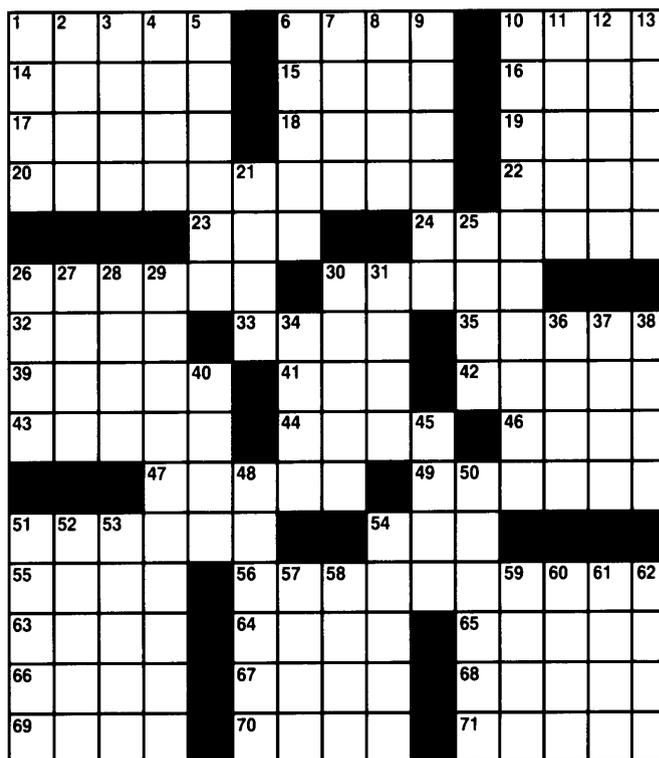
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NEWSPAPERS

# NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0413-6



Puzzle by Fred Piscop

### ACROSS

- 1 False witnesses  
6 Vocalizes like the Beastie Boys  
10 Parks in 1955 news  
14 Venezuela's — Falls  
15 Clairvoyant's start  
16 Has a tab  
17 Suffix with sea or moon  
18 Grocery vehicle  
19 College course division  
20 Production in a given period  
22 Trait determinant  
23 Pirouette point  
24 MacNeil's longtime partner  
26 Sombrero accompanier  
30 Transparent  
32 "—'Clock Jump"  
33 Classic soft drink  
35 Italian tourist center  
39 Third-stringer
- 41 Sharpshooter's gift  
42 Beat by a whisker  
43 Use weasel words  
44 Meat loaf serving  
46 "Holy moly!"  
47 Papa Doc ruled it  
49 Stats for a porous defense  
51 Battle site of 1916  
54 Gulped down  
55 Mideast bigwig  
56 Pro-slavery Northerners, before the Civil War  
63 Mission cancellation  
64 Folklore fiend  
65 Speechify  
66 Lone Star State sch.  
67 Chemicals giant  
68 Hertz — Car  
69 Slippery critters  
70 Sit a spell  
71 Alma —

### DOWN

- 1 In the cellar  
2 Rainfall measurement  
3 Lab gel  
4 Bank takeback  
5 Mr. Moto, e.g.  
6 Nouveau —  
7 "Hurry, please!"  
8 Pizarro conquest  
9 Avoid a trial  
10 Hero of 1898  
11 Dog tag datum  
12 Left Bank river  
13 Autumn bloomer  
21 Hoodlum  
25 Move carefully (into)

- 26 Swanky  
27 Years ago  
28 Uncool sort  
29 Cold comfort?  
30 Burger or dog topper  
31 Vegetable soup bean  
34 All-star game side, often  
36 Waffle brand  
37 Warm, so to speak  
38 States further  
40 Belle's man  
45 One of Alcott's "Little Women"  
48 Like some pools or paint  
50 — Judaism  
51 Stage or stadium, say  
52 Ham it up  
53 Star in Orion  
54 Insurance seller  
57 Look lustfully  
58 "QB VII" author  
59 Field of study  
60 Defeatist's word  
61 Politically incorrect suffix  
62 Mark with a branding iron

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

W	O	O	F	S	M	A	C	K	S	M	O	G		
H	U	G	O	T	A	H	O	E	H	O	U	R		
E	C	R	U	A	N	O	D	E	R	U	N	E		
T	H	E	L	I	T	T	L	E	P	R	I	N	C	E
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S	K	U	L	K	S				K	I	C	K		
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I	T	S	Y	B	I	T	S	Y	S	P	I	D	E	R
P	E	A		L	O	A	M	S		N	E	A	R	
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T	E	N	D		T	E	R	N	S		D	O	S	E

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# Construction Affects Route 7 Businesses

FROM PAGE 9

activity along Leesburg Pike is hardly the only construction project that will impact local business activity in the near future.

Tysons Corner is at the front end of several simultaneous construction projects expected to last several years — including four new Metrorail stops, the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes and private redevelopment efforts connected to the subway extension.

It is paramount that Virginia manage construction in a way that is convenient for Tysons Corner businesses, particularly retail stores and restaurants.

“Leesburg Pike is going to be the first place impacted, but it is not going to be the last. Hopefully, we learn the lessons that we need to,” Bill Lecos, president of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce, said.

Lecos said problems for businesses would arise no matter what the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and others put in place to mitigate traffic congestion.

“To say that nobody is going to notice \$5 billion worth of construction taking place is foolish. Tysons is going to be impacted. It is the nature of the beast,” he said.

**STILL, LECOS** said more should have been done to protect the businesses along Leesburg Pike impacted by the construction.

The Dulles Rail project managers should have laid out a more defined process for communicating with the public before the holiday season got underway. According to Lecos, VDOT should follow the same public engagement strategy used during the Springfield mixing bowl and Woodrow Wilson Bridge projects.

“They are going through tough times anyway. With this on top of it, it is really a very, very difficult situation,” Diane Poldy, president of the Vienna-Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce, said.

Poldy said her organization is trying to “spread the word” and asking its members to make a special effort to support businesses impacted by the construction.

**DULLES TRANSIT PARTNERS**, the construction project’s manager, said they have taken steps to mitigate the project’s impact on Leesburg Pike businesses.

The contractor has always ensured that at least one entrance was open for every business impacted. In the case of the Pike 7 Plaza, it was recently able to open one of the shopping mall’s blocked entrances earlier than expected, Howard Menacker, Dulles Transit Partners’ spokesperson, said.

“There is going to be a lot of construction going on over the next four years or more. We want to see businesses thrive, not just survive, particularly in this bad economy,” he said.

More construction is expected on Leesburg

Pike. Workers must move 21 different utilities located on, under or near the corridor before they even start installing the rail itself.

“Route 7 is really the one that will have the biggest impact all through our project, especially because we have to build down the middle of it,” Menacker, who expects the “height” of construction to take place next year, said. During that time, Dulles Transit Partners plan to run a mid-day shuttle bus system in Tysons to help people get around to shopping centers and restaurants, he said.

Virginia has also provided funding to assist private businesses with setting up telecommuting and carpools, Rick Stevens, who works on the Dulles Rail project for Fairfax County, said.

Road lane closures would not take place in Tysons during rush hour and contractors would try to do as much of their work at night — when traffic levels are much lower — as possible, he said.

“We do not want to disrupt normal life in Tysons Corner. We want to keep Tysons moving,” Stevens said.

**SOME PEOPLE** do believe the traffic situation would improve if the federal government was moving forward with a tunnel instead of an aerial configuration for Tysons Corner rail.

“The tunnel would have considerably less impact than the aerial. Now, the traffic mitigation budget is \$120 million to reroute traffic. For tunnel construction, it would be around \$25 million. It would have less than 20 percent of the disruption of the aerial route,” Scott Monett, of Tysons Tunnel, an organization that advocates for underground rail through Tysons Corner, said.

Monett added that having rail laid above ground would make the situation difficult for all businesses and people who have to come to Tysons, the state largest source of sales tax revenue.

“[Without the tunnel], the seven years of construction are going to make Tysons a living nightmare for anyone who wishes to conduct business there. [With the tunnel], it could be pretty close to the way it is operating now because the vast majority of construction would be contained underground,” Monett said.

But Menacker disagreed with Monett. Digging a four-mile tunnel under Tysons would require hundred of trucks everyday to haul dirt and debris away, he said.

The contractor would also have to move even more utilities — the reason for the current construction on Leesburg Pike — than it now.

“I really don’t think a tunnel would have made that big of difference in the traffic impact,” Menacker said.

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