

Heartbreaking Choices

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writes a diary on her
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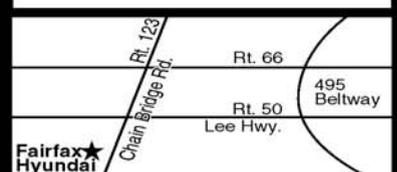
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VIEWPOINTS

Chairman's Race Comes to Great Falls

Bulova, Herrity make their cases before Great Falls Citizens Association.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

It wasn't exactly a debate, but county chairman candidates Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock) and Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) faced off for a half hour or so before members of the Great Falls Citizens Association last Wednesday, Jan. 14, each offering a pitch for their election.

For the most part, Bulova, a 21-year veteran of the Board of Supervisors, touted the board's long-standing priorities and accomplishments, which she has supported, while Herrity, who was elected last year, argued that the county was veering in the wrong direction, particularly with regard to spending and bureaucracy.

AS CHAIR of the board's budget committee for the last 17 years, Bulova told the 30 or so people assembled, she had become familiar with all parts of the county while working with the other supervisors to hash out budgets, "making sure that we're identifying the priorities and needs and concerns of each district." She said the work had also made her a skilled consensus builder.

Among her and the board's top priorities, she said, were education, safety and environmental protection. Though less than one-fourth of the county's households have children in school, more than 50 percent of the budget goes toward education, because a strong school system creates the by-products of community safety, a draw for businesses and a constituency capable of giving back to the county, Bulova said. "Education is what makes everything else shake out."

Also, she said, the county is the nation's safest jurisdiction of its size while it spends the least per capita on public safety. And the board has made a priority of upgrading the county's older infrastructure to bring it in line with progressive environmental policy.

Bulova also said she supported the Rail to Dulles, as well as changes to Tysons Corner to make the area more pedestrian friendly, transit-oriented and environmentally friendly. Of the Metrorail extension, she said, "It is absolutely a critical project and it is a priority that it is done right."

Asked whether she supported tunneling the rail under Tysons Corner, Bulova said, "If we could make that happen, I would be supportive of it. I think it would be preferable." However, she said pushing for a tunnel could set the project back considerably. "I think the federal funding would not wait for us," she said. "I think it would cost us a great amount of time."



Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock) extols the county's long-standing priorities.

"I think we have a lot to lose if we move in a different direction."

— Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D-Braddock)

Resident Susan Blakely reminded the group that Bulova had pushed for the construction of the Great Falls Library in the late 1990s, when the library's funding was in jeopardy.

Herrity said he had come to know Fairfax County by growing up here, doing business here and listening to his father, former county Chairman John "Jack" Herrity, at the kitchen table.

AS A MEMBER of the board of the Occoquan Watershed Coalition, he said he had worked to keep a low-density, riverside area similar to Great Falls in pristine condition. Also, he noted that he had won three awards for fiscal management as the chief financial officer of a number of local contractors.

"Your property taxes have doubled in the last five to seven years," Herrity said, adding that the county was nonetheless facing a significant budget shortfall. The problem, he said, was too much spending. While the county government was becoming one of the county's largest landlords in order to subsidize housing for people making as much as \$99,000 per year, teacher salaries had dropped from the highest in the region to the sixth highest, he said. And the school system was discussing the purchase of a new administrative center.

"With all the good going on, we've got some very serious problems," Herrity said. "We've got a serious spending problem." When it comes to spending, he said, "I know how to say no. I've had to make the tough



Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield) criticizes county spending.

"I've had to make the tough decisions. I've had to prioritize spending."

— Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield)

decisions. I've had to prioritize spending."

Herrity, too, was asked whether he would support a tunnel under Tysons Corner. In 2002, he said, he sued the state and the county because he thought the project should have been competitively bid. If it had been, he said, the tunnel option could have been seriously considered earlier on. Later, as a supervisor, he said, he voted against a letter of support for the rail because he wanted to know what impact any cost overruns would have on taxpayers. "I think the tunnel's the right way to go," he concluded.

ASKED how he would protect students from the budget shortfall, Herrity said he wanted to see more competitive salaries for teachers coupled with cutbacks in administrative costs such as school cluster administration and rising expenditures in the human resources department.

As for affordable housing, he said he supported real estate tax relief for nonprofits who help get those in need back on their feet, density bonuses for developers who include affordable dwelling units in their projects and other incentives for the private sector. He noted that Arlington County had provided affordable housing without the government owning any of it.

He also said he wanted to reverse the trend of a declining commercial real estate tax base.

In closing, Herrity said he "largely gave up a very successful business career" because he thought the county was not head

Residents Reflect on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Obama Inauguration

— MIKE DICICCO



Brendan Langel

"It means change and fulfillment of the nation and the bringing together of all people."



Monica Thompson

"It's even more special because of the connection between [King] and Obama."



Ron Wilkins

"It's really special. My mother is turning 88 Jan. 20, and Martin Luther King, of course, had a dream, and this is the fulfillment of the dream, with Barack Obama becoming the 44th president. So it has a special numerical meaning with Barack being the 44th president and my mom turning 88."



Alma Wilkins

"We're just ecstatic to see the first black man inaugurated as president of the United States and for it to culminate at this time of Martin Luther King Day."



Charles Williams, Word-Beat

"This one in particular is very meaningful because in two days the first Afro-Euro-American is getting sworn in as president. I just heard portions of the 'I Have a Dream' speech and it's especially meaningful because it was made in the '60s and all these years later it's still being fulfilled. But progress has been made."



Tom Teasley, Word-Beat

"It's the progress from the culmination of 40 years of work, and I look forward to what the next 40 years will bring."

SEE CHANGE, PAGE 9

NEWS

Great Falls Studios Recognized

Artists' network receives 'certificate of recognition' in 2008 Governor's Arts Award.

Great Falls Studios, a network of 78 artists based in Great Falls, has won a "certificate of recognition" as a nominee for the 2008 Governor's Arts Awards. The awards program, which takes place every three years, recognizes outstanding achievement and excellence in the arts in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The nomination application outlined the history of the arts movement in Great Falls, which began with a small group of local artists who started Great Falls Studios as a way to support their own artistic endeavors. According to the nomination application, "...the story of this band of artists has become an object lesson for how other small villages with little history in the arts can transform themselves into creative communities, with artists themselves becoming the catalyst for change."

IN ALL, there were 345 nominations statewide for the awards in a process presided over by Jeannie P. Baliles, former First Lady of Virginia. The "certificate of recognition" honoring Great Falls Studios was awarded Jan. 15 at the annual meeting of the Arts Council of



This "Certificate of Recognition" was awarded to Great Falls Studios as part of the 2008 Governor's Arts Awards.

Fairfax County, held at the McLean Community Center, where other arts groups in Fairfax County were similarly recognized. Laura Nichols, president of Great Falls Studios, accepted on behalf of Great Falls Studios.

The nominating papers outlined the accomplishments of Great Falls Studios and chronicled its rapid membership growth. From its small beginnings, the group now has artist members in more than 1 percent of the households in

Great Falls. Three years ago, this growth, along with related accomplishments and service to the community, lead the Great Falls Connection and McLean Connection newspapers to name the emergence of Great Falls Studios as one of the ten most important news stories of the year for Great Falls and McLean.

Great Falls Studios sponsors an annual tour of Great Falls art studios, oversees hanging of exhibitions throughout the community, runs two annual art festivals and has established a successful website (www.GreatFallsStudios.com) to promote Great Falls artists, among other projects. It also established studio space for local artists to work and promotes art education opportunities in the home studios of members who teach art.

IN 2007 as part of its community service efforts, Great Falls Studios founded the Great Falls Foundation for the Arts, a non-profit organization to promote local arts. The foundation operates independently of Great Falls Studios but works cooperatively with it.

"We are very pleased to receive this recognition of our local art movement," said Laura Nichols.



PHOTO BY MOLLIE VARDELL

Robert Liberace instructs student Wei Lu during the three-day painting workshop. The workshop was held in the Artists' Atelier working studios on Walker Road.

Liberace Holds Workshop in Great Falls

A three-day oil painting workshop taught by Robert Liberace was held in Great Falls. The event started with a demo, along with wine and cheese, on Friday evening, Jan. 9. The following two days were spent learning methods of drawing, paint manipulation and color arrangement utilizing the modern method of alla prima painting. Using an array of contemporary colors students were instructed on a step-by-step method, which allowed them to compose a figure painting with the look and finish of classic Renaissance paintings. The workshop, which was held at Great Falls Foundation for the Arts' Artists' Atelier facility on Walker Road was organized and administered by Mary Orr, an artist member. The

workshop was filled to capacity with a wait list of 10. In addition to local artists, participants came from as far away as California, North Carolina and Texas to participate in the workshop. A spring 2009 workshop featuring Liberace is in the planning stages.

Liberace is a contemporary classicist, equally accomplished in drawing, painting and sculpture. Liberace received his B.F.A. and M.F.A. from George Washington University. He teaches painting, drawing and anatomy at The Art League of Virginia as well as workshops throughout the United States and abroad. He is represented by the Arcadia Gallery in New York City, the John Pence Gallery in San Francisco, and the M Gallery in Sarasota, Fla.

Party Animals 2009 Calendar Launched

Just in time for the inauguration and the new year, McLean resident Leslie Mason has released Party Animals 2009-Presidential Pets and their First Families, a calendar featuring our presidents, their families and pets. Mason said Party Animals 2009 was created in the most environmental, social and fiscal friendly manner: a bipartisan calendar for everyone, made and printed in America by an eco-friendly printer and available at a reasonable cost, at less than 5 cents a day.

The idea came to Mason several years ago when she was working for the U.S. Congress. Her office, like many offices in the Congress, was extremely pet friendly. "I would see Leader, Senator Dole's dog, a darling little Schnauzer and Congressman Lantos' poodle almost daily and on occasion, when working late, I would bring my dog to work as would some of my co-workers, which always made



McLean resident Leslie Mason with her Cairn terrier, T.S. "Elliott" Ness and Lucy, her tuxedo cat.

for a more conducive work environment for everyone.

Party Animals 2009 is available at The Newseum and Trover's Book Store in Washington, D.C., at The Artisans, For the Wild Birds and McLean Hardware in McLean and online at www.partyanimals2009.com and Amazon.com.

Celebrating Chinese New Year

Lion Dance ritual, Chinese treats on display at Peking Restaurant.

It has been more than a decade since the Chinese drum, gong and cymbals were played to ring in Chinese New Year at Peking Imperial Restaurant in downtown McLean. The ancient Chinese Lion Dance ritual will be rekindled for this year's Chinese New Year Eve's celebration to welcome in the Year of the Ox (Lunar Year 4707) on Sunday, Jan. 25. Peking Imperial will feature a special Chinese New Year four-course menu and reservations are strongly recommended as previous celebrations have led to a full house.

David Lo, co-founder and co-owner of Peking Imperial for the last 27 years, hopes that the Chinese Lion Dance performed by the Wong People Kung Fu Association, the Official Lion Dance Team for the 2009 Presidential Inaugural Parade, will help drive away the



This year's Chinese New Year celebration welcomes the Year of the Ox (Lunar Year 4707).

bad luck and bring in good fortune for everyone.

Since Peking Imperial's opening in 1982, Lion Dance performances to celebrate the Chinese New Year were a yearly tradition for more than a decade. The combination of the Lion Dance and positive chi

of everyone involved, martial artists, musicians, restaurant staff, and diners, will create a haven for all to get their luck renewed.

FESTIVITIES will start at 5:30 p.m., seating by 5:15 p.m., on Sunday at the Peking Imperial parking lot with synchronized lion dancing, loud music, and fire-crackers to scare off the evil spirits then move into the restaurant.

Reservations are being taken for the Sunday, Jan. 25 event. The evening performance and four-course menu featuring Chinese New Year specialties — soup, appetizer, entree, and dessert — will cost \$19.95 per person. Call 703-448-0928 to make reservations.

PEKING IMPERIAL RESTAURANT is located at 6827 Redmond Drive, McLean, and is around the corner from the Giant Food store in downtown McLean. The Pub will also be offering drink specials in celebration of Chinese New Year.

NEWS

Cookies For Troupes

Local scouts sell cookies for U.S. soldiers in Middle East.

Thanks to local Girl Scout troops and the Neighbors International Foundation, a stream of cookies has been flowing from Great Falls and McLean to U.S. soldiers stationed in the Middle East.

What began with one Great Falls troop more than three years ago has spread through a number of troops in the Girl Scouts service group that encompasses scouts in McLean and Great Falls.

"Part of Girl Scouts is doing service projects," explained Pam Gilbert, whose daughter, Natalie, is in Troop 2659, which meets at Great Falls United Methodist Church. "One of the girls in the group had a brother who was in Iraq, so they decided to send cookies to troops in Iraq."

Girls from the troop asked customers if they would be interested in buying extra cookies to send overseas. In the 2005-2006 cookie season, they sold 2,000 such boxes.

But they relied on the Great Falls-based nonprofit Neighbors International, which has long been sending packages to the troops, to find recipients and ship the cookies overseas. It was Natalie who approached the organization to request a partnership when she was 9 years old, Gilbert said. Neighbors agreed to send out any cookies that could be collected.

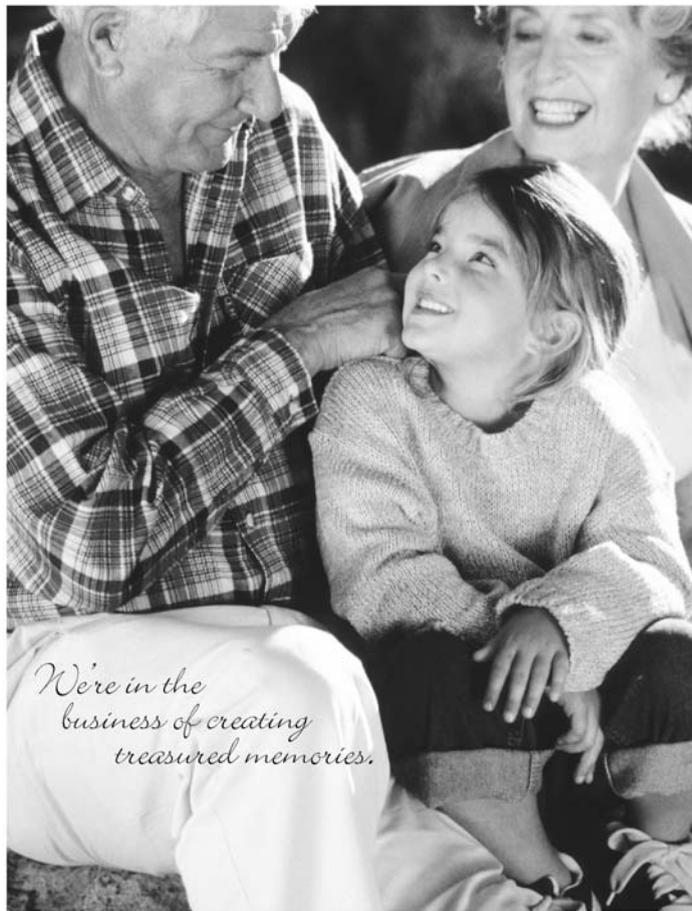
Word got out, and more Girl Scout troops in the area followed suit. The next year, 7,000 boxes were sold. And last winter, scouts collected 1,200 boxes to be sent out. Troops from Loudoun and Manassas have begun bringing boxes of cookies they collected. "They just show up with their hundreds of boxes of cookies and say, 'Here you go,'" Gilbert said.

However, she said sales have become more difficult this year.

SEE LETTERS PAGE 12

Get Involved

Anyone who buys cookies from a Girl Scout troop engaged in a different service activity, but still wants to ship a box or few overseas, can contact the Neighbors International Foundation at 703-759-2102 or info@nifoundation.org.



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Heartbreaking Choices

Personal reflections
on first week of
Assembly session.

BY JANET D. HOWELL
STATE SENATOR (D-32)

Sunday, Jan. 11: The Sunday before the session starts I am always filled with anxiety and anticipation. Not knowing what will happen is stressful, but I am eternally optimistic that we will be able to make Virginia even better.

The morning was spent packing. I pack every professional looking outfit I own. Then I throw the suitcases and a portable closet into the back of the car and head down I-95 to the hotel I have stayed in for more than 20 years.

During the drive I reminisced about the hundreds of people who waited hours to speak at the four public hearings I co-sponsored over the past week. The range of topics was extensive and the tone was even more intense than usual. Three billion dollars in additional budget cuts over the \$2 billion already taken will impact every aspect of state and local government.

Particularly heartbreaking are the proposed cuts to health and human resources. Virginia ranks 48th among the states in services for our sick, elderly and disabled. People are right to be alarmed. The haste with which we are going to have to implement the cuts is adding to the concern.

Environmental proposals were mentioned much more than previously. Since many proposals are revenue neutral, I am hopeful they will be successful.

I was surprised how silent the public education supporters have been at the hearings. We are looking at cutting K-12 education about half a billion dollars, yet fewer than 10 people addressed the subject. My position is that we should not make permanent changes to SOQ [Standards of Quality] requirements but should take one-time savings and give local school boards discretion on further cuts.

MONDAY, JAN. 12: This morning I intended to make sure my bills were introduced or ready to go. People were in and out of my office all morning. Advocates, lobbyists, administration officials — all had pressing, urgent business. I am going to burn the midnight oil tonight!

I am introducing more than 25 bills, which is frankly insane since I have so many other responsibilities. But I really believe in these pieces of legislation. This year I am introducing the 30-cent tobacco tax increase, no excuse in-person absentee voting, expansion of group life insurance and major mental-health law reform bills.

Two bills come from my constituents. Members of community suggested that a Parent Education Program be required as part of the DMV licensing process for teens. The other bill will strengthen the danger-



State Senator Janet D. Howell (D-32) on proposed budget: "Particularly heartbreaking are the proposed cuts to health and human resources."

PHOTO BY STEPHANIE POWER/CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

ous dog provisions of the code. Marauding pit bulls killed a local family's pet cat and terrified the neighborhood, which was very near an elementary school. That is unacceptable.

This afternoon the finance subcommittee on Health and Human Resources began its deliberations. The administration defended its plans. No one is happy. Unlike the federal government we are constitutionally required to have a balanced budget — so cut we must.

Crafting a budget is going to be very difficult this year. We do not know what our revenues will be because the economy is failing so rapidly and we do not know what help we will get from the federal government.

A lovely half-hour was spent at the unveiling of the portrait of John Chichester, a hero of mine because of his courageous stands as chairman of Senate Finance. There were lots of laughs when Senator Colgan said we were witnessing the "hanging of Sen. Chichester!"

I am part of quiet discussions going on with members of the minority party to see if we can work in a more positive manner this session. For years I was so proud of how the senators worked across party and regional lines. Somehow we lost that last year. The issues are too dire this year to engage in partisan bickering.

After a too fattening dinner, I am back at the office. At least I can concentrate!

TUESDAY, JAN. 13: At 8 a.m. the Senate Democratic Caucus had our fund-raising breakfast. A few years ago the room was almost empty. Today it was overflowing.

There was drama at the Crime Commission. Television cameras were everywhere as we discussed closing the gun-show loophole. Even with the families of victims of the Virginia Tech tragedy advocating, our side failed to win. I do not understand why the gun lobby is so afraid of requiring all purchasers to undergo background checks at gun shows. Do they really want felons, people subject to protective orders and

those who have been committed to mental-health treatment to purchase guns?

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14: Today the session started. I love the first day because of the traditions involved. It is quite formal and in the evening Governor Kaine will address us in joint session.

You never know when serious disagreements will break out. Today, for example, the Republicans in the House refused to follow the law and seat the newly elected member from Alexandria even though she was certified the winner. Soon thereafter the two courts committees met to interview five sitting judges for reappointment. Bitter debate arose over whether or not we should view the evaluations performed by the Supreme Court to help us as we reappoint judges. In the end, the five judges were sent home without their interviews. They were victims of other battles raging behind the scene.

Big news! Ken Plum of Reston was elected House Democratic Caucus chair. Ken is one of the smartest and most decent members of the House and a very close friend. He will do a great job.

Several hours were spent today in meetings to get ready for the committees I chair. With the ascendancy of the Democrats last year, I now have a lot of responsibility.

THURSDAY, JAN. 15: The Education and Health Committee met this morning. We actually recommended a few bills. The pace is about to pick up!

Several folks, including the president of Virginia Tech, stopped by to advocate for their budgets. A funny encounter happened when a group from Chesapeake Community College stopped by. I wondered why they wanted to see me since they are so far from NoVa. The minute they saw me, they realized their mistake. They wanted Del. Algie Howell, an African-American man! We had a great visit anyway.

I co-chaired an unusual joint meeting of the two Privileges and Elections Committees to review the 2008 elections. Given the numbers of voters and the fact Virginia was a battlefield state, I was very pleased with the job our state employees, election officials, registrars, volunteers and state police did. One big lesson was that Virginians are acting like we have early voting. More than 320,000 people voted in person absentee. I was very disheartened by House Republican comments at the meeting. They are going to oppose all early voting proposals, no matter how sensible.

One of my favorite receptions was tonight given by the Asian Pacific American coalition. Great folks, great food.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16: This morning I chaired the public safety subcommittee of Finance. We oversee \$3.5 billion of taxpayer money. Our biggest responsibilities are the Departments of Corrections, Juvenile Justice and State Police. Cuts will decimate the pro

SEE JOB I LOVE, PAGE 7

NEWS

Job I Love

FROM PAGE 6

grams. Already we are closing prisons. But I truly view the shortfall as an opportunity to modernize and reform what we do in public safety, especially corrections. I am extremely fortunate with the members of my subcommittee. We are Democrats and Republicans from across Virginia, but we are all team players and share a similar vision on the direction we want to go.

This afternoon was spent working with my "Docket Committee." As chairman of Privileges and Elections I set the agenda for each meeting and refer bills to various subcommittees. My policy is to hear every bill. That sounds obvious, but many chairmen in the House do not do it.

As I drive home, I will mentally prepare for tomorrow. The last of my town meetings will be in Herndon. Then I will be celebrating the inauguration at the Denim to Diamonds Ball — since I don't have diamonds, I'll wear denim!

Thanks for sharing my week. And thanks for electing me to this job that I love!



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The House of Delegates and the Senate of Virginia will offer live streaming video of the 2009 Legislative Session, broadcasting from each chamber every day of the session.

The daily broadcasts will begin when each body convenes.

The 2009 legislative session Virginia General Assembly convened on Jan. 14, and will run 45 days.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Tax Increase Is Wrong Response

To the Editor:

I shook my head in disbelief when I read that both political parties running for the Fairfax County chairman's position are considering a real estate tax rate increase ["Candidates Look at Raising Tax Rate," Great Falls Connection, Jan. 14-20, 2009]. Maybe these people haven't noticed the local real estate classified ads listing hundreds of foreclosed homes in the area. No doubt, any tax increase will only exacerbate the

situation.

The Fairfax County budget has benefited greatly in the last few years from the grossly and artificially inflated property values brought on by cheap credit, speculation and fraud. Phony tax assessments only legitimized the situation.

For example, the Fairfax County school budget will be \$2.2 billion to educate about 180,00 students. I think I see a little wiggle room there.

Arno Winter
Great Falls

Change Antiquated Grading System

To Members of the Fairfax County School Board:

I witnessed via television the meeting last week where citizens spoke on behalf of "Fair Grade." I am a taxpayer whose children are now in the business world. Two of the four are graduates of Fairfax County schools. Now my grandchildren are in the same school system.

I have yet to understand why our students are treated unfairly in the current grading system. At the time our children attended Fairfax County schools maybe there were universities who knew about Fairfax County schools. Not so anymore. Colleges are interested in the test scores and GPA. Fairfax County grades are not considered any differently than those coming from Union County, Ill. How long must our students suffer before you get this bit of rocket science. Can any one of you on the board give a justifiable reason why this

antiquated system is still being used? Other than Mr. Gibson's appeal to tradition.

Now to a slightly different subject. Have you ever watched yourselves on television? At this meeting you appeared like kings looking down on their subjects — those parents and children dressed in white. Was it really necessary to go on and on complimenting each other on your outstanding service while hundreds of parents and children were held as a captive audience? I understand the necessity of electing the chairman and co-chairman, but the endless kudos were embarrassing. Your attitudes seemed to suggest the people in the audience were interfering with your important agenda. Am I wrong? Don't you work for the citizens of the county?

Lois Scholz
Vienna

Go to <http://legis.state.va.us/>. Links for streaming video and also an audio only option, are appropriately front and center.

EDITORIAL

More than one-third of all legislation proposed in the Virginia General Assembly dies in subcommittee. And in previous years, the votes of the subcommittee members were not recorded. There was no accountability for legislators who "tabled" proposals that were important to Virginians.

This year, subcommittee votes will be recorded and available on the General Assembly's Web site. It's an important step.

TIME FOR SMOKING RESTRICTIONS

Gov. Tim Kaine (D) is promoting legislation that would ban smoking in restaurants in Virginia. We support his efforts.

Secondhand smoke kills 1,700 Virginians per year, according to the Virginia Department of Health. Levels of secondhand smoke are up to five times higher in restaurants than in homes with smokers, according to the American Lung Association.

If the General Assembly doesn't pass legislation banning smoking in restaurants, it should at least allow localities the power to restrict smoking within their borders.

CONSTITUENT VIEWPOINTS

The House of Delegates and Senate of Virginia operate a toll-free message center to accept calls from citizens who want to express an opinion on legislation. The messages are relayed to the members' offices as requested. Call the Constituent Viewpoint line at 800-889-0229.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to 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

FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Great Falls United Methodist Church is at 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-759-3705.

❖ **All Things New**, an ecumenical worship service every

Wednesday at 6 p.m. Based on the Beatitudes of Jesus, for people affected by anger, fear, stress, dealing with rejection, credit abuse, drug/alcohol abuse, physical/sexual addiction or eating disorders.

The "Third Wednesday at One" recital series with organist Charles Miller, on Wednesday, Jan. 21 at 1 p.m. at Saint Luke Catho-

& 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.

lic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Free admission. 703-356-0670 or www.musicinmclean.org.

Torture and the New Administration, Jan. 15, 2009, 10 a.m. at the Northern Virginia Ethical Society, 225 Nutley St., NW, Vienna. Linda Gustitus will speak about ending torture and brutal prisoner treatment. Gustitus is president of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture. www.esnv.org, or 703-437-3161.

McLean Women's Bible Study Thursday Bible Study, 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.

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Great Falls

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ADVERTISING:

To place an advertisement, call the ad department between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

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NEWS

Change or Stay the Course?

FROM PAGE 3

ing in the right direction and he wanted it to remain a suitable place to raise his children.

"I think the board is moving in the right direction," Bulova said in her closing remarks. "I think we have a lot to lose if we move in a different direction."

She said subsidized housing for \$99,000 incomes were rare in the county and would only apply to couples with a net income around that amount. Also, she said, if the private sector was solving the problem of affordable housing, "we wouldn't have the challenge that we're trying to deal with right now."

Bulova noted that the county had been rated as the nation's best-managed district of its size. "To me, that is moving in the right direction."

The election for chairman will be held Tuesday, Feb. 3.

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More Ways to Have Fun



Part three in series of ways to have fun in and around Great Falls.

GOOD EATS

Eat Some Small Plates with Your Wine

Evo Bistro
1313 Old Chain Bridge Road, McLean
703-288-4422
This wine bar serves tapas with a Moroccan or French twist. The restaurant is intended for groups who are interested in sharing food and can seat approximately 60 people. A wine sampling machine dispenses 36 varieties and 18 more are available by bottle or glass. Hours vary. Visit www.evobistro.com.

Sate Your Taste Buds with Local Thai Food

Neisha Thai Cuisine
7924 Tysons Corner Center, McLean
703-883-3588
or
Thai Piliin
8385 Leesburg Pike, Vienna
703-556-9191
These locally owned restaurants pack a lot of taste into dishes and are great for vegetarians and meat eaters alike. Neisha Thai, which is located outside Tysons Corner Center, received high praise for its drunken noodles. Thai Piliin's owner recommends the restaurant's shrimp panang curry and spicy crispy catfish. Visit www.neisha.net or call either restaurant.

Pick Up Local Produce

Cox Farm Market
2599 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna
703-281-0165
Cox Farms operates a 116-acre farm in Centreville and two farm markets, one in Vienna and the other on the farm in Centreville. The farm has 20 greenhouses for annuals and perennials and grows a few field vegetables including tomatoes and peppers for summer harvest and, of course, pumpkins in the fall. Visit www.coxfarms.com.

Apples, Peaches, Pears and Plums

Cox Farm Market
2599 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna
703-281-0165
Cox Farms operates a 116-acre farm in Centreville and two farm markets, one in Vienna and the other on the farm in Centreville. The farm has 20 greenhouses for annuals and perennials and grows a few field vegetables including tomatoes and peppers for summer harvest and, of course, pumpkins in the fall. Visit www.coxfarms.com.

ARTS AROUND

Drive to the Art Hive

Torpedo Factory Art Center
105 N. Union St., Alexandria
703-838-4565
This 1918 structure, built by the U.S. Navy to manufacture torpedo parts, now houses some 200 artists and artisans, as well as their studios and galleries. More than 800,000 visitors per year venture into this one-of-a-kind free art center on the Potomac River. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Day, Easter and July Fourth. Visit www.torpedofactory.org.

CENTERS FOR RECREATION

Get Fit at the Spring Hill RECenter

1239 Spring Hill Road, McLean
703-827-0989
The recreation center is 44,062 square feet complete with a swimming pool, a spa, locker rooms, a sauna, preschool/daycare programs, racquetball courts, volleyball courts, a fully equipped gym and a dance studio. The recreation center also has playing fields nearby where soccer games take place on the weekends. There is also a softball, Little League fields and football fields available. A top playground is adjacent to the center. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/shillrec.htm.

Learn To Cook

McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Drive, McLean
703-790-0123
Whether you are interested in mastering a soufflé or garlic mashed potatoes, the McLean Community Center probably has a cooking class for you. Individual sessions focus on topics from cooking fundamentals to the taste of Napa Valley. For schedule and pricing, visit www.mcleancenter.org/classes-trips/adultculinary.asp.

Make Your Pictures Perfect

Old Firehouse Teen Center
1440 Old Chain Bridge Road, McLean
703-790-0123
The McLean Community Center offers two different classes in basic digital still photography and home movie editing at this satellite location. Both are geared toward beginners with little to no experience. For schedule and pricing, visit www.mcleancenter.org/classes-trips/adultcomputer.asp.

Dance the Night Away

McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Drive, McLean



Take the Kids to Play Group

Children's Play Group at the McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean
703-790-0123
Preschool children and their parents and/or guardians are invited to participate in the McLean Community Center's Co-op Play Group. The center provides a free space for you and your preschooler to interact with other parents and children in the area on every Tuesday and Friday, from 9 to 11 a.m. Caregivers must accompany children, as no staff supervision is provided. There is no fee. Bring a toy to share. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

No Toll for this Bridge

McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean
703-790-0123
Each week, bridge games are open to McLean Community Center district residents and their guests. There is no fee, but residents will be required to sign in each time they participate, providing their names and addresses and the names of any guests. Room location and availability are subject to change without notification. Call to check with center staff each week before coming to participate. **Senior bridge** meets Mondays. Participants should arrive by 9:45 a.m. to be included in the rotation for games, which begin promptly at 10 a.m. Play will go for six, 30-minute rounds, with a lunch break. **Party bridge** meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. **Community bridge** meets Fridays at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.mcleancenter.org.

The band **Standing Room Only** performs at the Great Falls Optimist Club's third annual Barn Dance last November.

703-790-0123
Jazz and introduction to flamenco are both offered this spring. To see schedule, pricing and requirements, visit www.mcleancenter.org/classes-trips/adulthooddance.asp.

En Garde!

McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Drive, McLean
703-790-0123
Learn the fundamentals of fencing, including footwork, handwork and strategy. Fencing is open to both teens and adults this spring. For schedules and pricing, visit www.mcleancenter.org/classes-trips/adultfencing.asp.

Sculpt Your Body

McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Drive, McLean
703-790-0123
Sign up for several different yoga, pilates and other fitness classes that are designed to streamline your body. For schedules and pricing, visit www.mcleancenter.org/classes-trips/adultfitness.asp.

Feng Shui Your Home

McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Drive, McLean
703-790-0123
Learn to create comfortable living space in your home that will spur positive energy and remove the imprints of previous owners. For schedules and pricing, visit www.mcleancenter.org/classes-trips/adultpersonal.asp.

Light Up the Stage, Literally

McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Drive, McLean
703-790-0123
Alden Theatre is always looking for volunteers to help out with the "behind-the-scenes" side of their productions. Those who are interested in doing technical work on the productions must take one of two sessions on set construction, lighting and sound offered at the community center. For pricing and schedules, visit www.mcleancenter.org/classes-trips/adulttheater.asp.

Hang Out at the Old Firehouse

Old Firehouse Teen Center
1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean
703-448-8336
The Old Firehouse Teen Center, located next to the Giant Shopping Center, provides many activities to help guide teenagers away from trouble, providing a safe, alcohol-free atmosphere. Dances are held every Friday night. Party packages are also available. A membership fee is only \$25 per year for those who live in the district. Teens have access to table tennis, volleyball, pool and musical instruments.

Running for Fun

703-790-9223
Participate in the Old Firehouse Teen Center's 8K Fun Run held during McLean Day each year.

Check Out Vienna's Offerings

Vienna Community Center

120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna
703-255-6360

See what classes and trips are offered by the Vienna Community Center. Drop-in programs include basketball, volleyball, roller skating, pickleball, table tennis and tot play. A variety of classes and other activities are offered. Registration for spring activities begins Feb. 9 for out-of-town residents, who will also pay a bit more. Visit www.viennava.gov/Town_Departments/comctr.htm.

CATCH SOME TUNES

Enjoy a Cultural Evening

Amadeus Concerts
703-759-5334
Amadeus Concerts is a group of musicians that provides high-quality musical entertainment to the communities of McLean and Great Falls at low cost. In addition to performances by the Amadeus Orchestra, the group brings other renowned musicians to perform at St. Francis Church in Great Falls and Saint Luke Church in McLean. Remaining performances for this season include the Silver-Garburg Piano Duo, the National Symphony Orchestra Education Program, soloists from the Virginia Opera and The Amadeus Orchestra. Admission costs \$25 and is free for students under 18. Season tickets cost \$125. Visit www.amadeusconcerts.com to learn more.

Rockin' on the Green

Concerts on the Green
Great Falls
703-759-2485
Concerts on the Green is held Sunday evenings, from 6-8 p.m., at the Great Falls Village Centre, June through July. The concerts are sponsored by local merchants and admission is free. Feel free to bring a picnic basket and a bottle of wine. The series features a range of acts, including pop/rock,

country jazz and more.

Hoedown!

Optimist Club Annual Barn Dance
Every fall, the Great Falls Optimist Club throws a barn dance in a refurbished barn on Walker Road. The event includes live music, food and a cash bar. Cowboy boots are optional. Cost of admission is a \$50, tax-deductible donation to the club.

Get Enamored with the McLean Symphony

1350 Beverly Road, Suite 115-172, McLean
703-734-1960
Music director Dingwall Fleary has directed elite musical performances since 1972 and the symphony has more than 70 members. All are professional-level musicians. The symphony performs everywhere from the Alden Theater to outdoor concerts for the community. Upcoming shows include a Latin Valentine's Day tribute by pianist Polly Ferman, a spring family concert by pianist Carlos Alberto and comedian-juggler Jonathan Austin, and a classical, romantic piano concert by director Fleary and Jiji Park. Call 703-421-8593 or visit www.mclean-symphony.org.

Listen to the Classics

McLean Orchestra/McLean Youth Orchestra
703-893-8646
The McLean Orchestra began with 15 musicians in 1971 and now there are more than 80 members from the Greater Washington, D.C., area. The performers present live orchestral performances throughout the year at several set locations, along with community outreach programs and services. The McLean Youth Orchestra offers serious music students, ages 12-18 years old, the opportunity to engage in cultural exchanges with other young musicians while developing their musical skills. Visit www.mclean-orchestra.org.

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NEWS

Letters of Gratitude

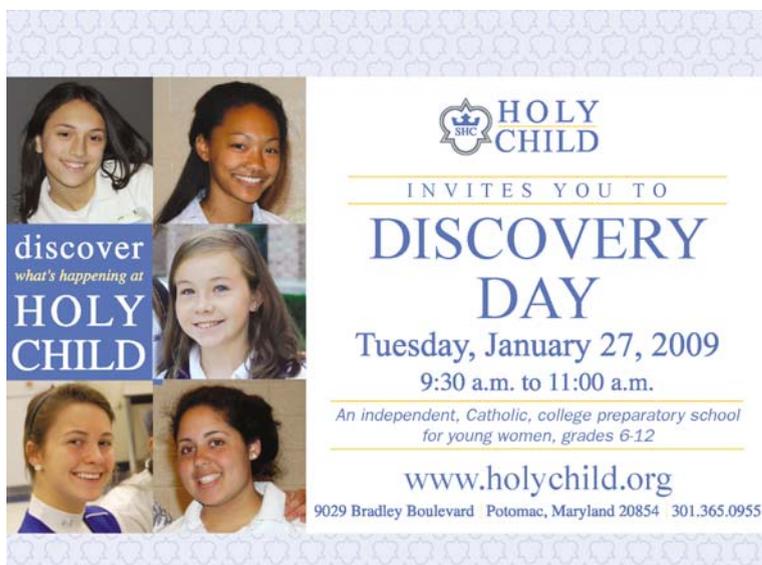
FROM PAGE 5

Troop 2659 still manages the project and sets up the packing parties with Neighbors. And it's not just cookies they're sending out. "In these cases that we send, we include letters telling them, 'Hey, you're not forgotten. Thank you for your service,' and stuff like that," Gilbert said. "It gives them a five-minute break from battle to have a five-minute 'people-at-home-love-me.'"

A couple of marines from Great Falls, as well as their units, are frequent recipients, but the scouts and Neighbors also take names and contact information from people whose loved ones are serving overseas.

Door-to-door cookie sales will wrap up this Saturday, Jan. 24, but sales at grocery stores on Friday evenings and weekends will start in February and continue through late March. Anyone who buys cookies and wants to send them overseas can contact Neighbors International.

— MIKE DICICCO



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RSVP – admission@madeira.org
703.556.8273

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10104 COTTESMORE CT	6	6	2	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$2,000,000	Detached	2.57		FALCON RIDGE
11308 HEARTH CT	6	6	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$1,900,000	Detached	1.76		CASCADES ESTATES
712 SENECA RD	5	5	2	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$1,762,500	Detached	1.84		SENECA RIDGE
11164 RICH MEADOW DR	6	5	0	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$1,150,000	Detached	1.73		RICHLAND MEADOWS
900 WINSTEAD ST	6	4	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$1,070,000	Detached	0.88		HICKORY CREEK ESTATES
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1028 CUP LEAF HOLLY CT	5	4	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$800,000	Detached	0.52		HOLLY KNOLL
9713 FRINGE TREE RD	3	4	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$790,000	Detached	2.29		TAYLOR SPENCER
918 HOLLY CREEK DR	5	3	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$660,000	Detached	0.20		HOLLY KNOLL
10805 MONTICELLO DR	4	3	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$517,000	Detached	0.25		GREAT FALLS FOREST
650 WALKER RD	3	1	0	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$380,000	Detached	0.50		FIELDS

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HEALTH NOTES

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

Yoga for Body and Spirit, beginning Wednesday, Jan. 7 from 9:15-10:30 a.m. at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 1125 Savile Lane, McLean. The first class is free, each subsequent class is \$15 or 6 classes for \$75. Bring a yoga mat. www.ipcmclean.org.

Northern Virginia Stuttering Support Group, a support group for people who stutter meets the **third Tuesday** of the month at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, at 7:30 p.m. Call 703-319-8382 or e-mail virginia.nsa@earthlink.net.

The Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region of the **American Red Cross** is seeking volunteers to assist its blood collections staff at blood drives and blood donor centers. This position is offered to people who are 14 years of age or older. Training is provided. To register for training, call the American Red Cross Volunteer Office at 1-800-272-0094, ext. 1, or e-mail karloff@usa.redcross.org.

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

Peer support group for survivors of clergy abuse and others affected by the abuse, on the **last Wednesday** of every month at 7 p.m., in the downstairs meeting room at the Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Road, McLean. Meetings are sponsored by Voice of the Faithful-Northern Virginia affiliate. Contact Ellen Radday at 703-538-6128.

Body and Soul Strength Training Class through mid-August on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30 - 1:15 pm in the **McLean Presbyterian Church** Multipurpose Room, 1020 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Exercise at your own level to positive music with ACE certified instructor Dana Elsnick. Contact Dana at 703-847-9814 or great314dane@yahoo.com. Other area classes can be found by going to www.bodyandsoul.org.

Living with Epilepsy Support Group for parents meets the 2nd Sunday of each month. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. at

McLean Bible Church, Room 1410, 8925 Leesburg Pike. Call to register, 703-770-2942 or jackiemillsfernauld@mcleanbible.org.

The Jewish Social Services Agency offers a variety of programs and support groups meeting at 3018 Javier Road, Fairfax. Call 703-204-9100 for more information.

◆ **An Anxiety Management Group**, for children ages 8-10.

◆ **Teen Talk: An Adolescent Adoption Series**, for adoptees ages 13-18.

◆ **Understanding Your Adopted Teen**, for parents raising adopted teens.

◆ **Support Group for parents of young adults with Asperger's Syndrome and related disorders.**

◆ **Social Club for Young Adults with Asperger's Syndrome**, a social

club for young adults diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome or related disorders.

◆ **Get Connected: Adult Social Skills**, for men and women ages 19-35 who may have Asperger's syndrome.

◆ **You and Your Aging Parents**. Coping with illness, managing difficult emotions, identifying appropriate resources to support an aging parent and develop a care plan.

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

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CALENDAR

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

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 21

Book Discussion Group, 7:30 p.m. Call for title. Adults. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-757-8560

THURSDAY/JAN. 22

Celtic Crossroads. 8 p.m. Traditional bluegrass, gypsy, and jazz at The Barns. Tickets \$25. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Brenda the Parrot Lady and her parrots will entertain children with bird trivia, tricks and songs. 10 a.m. Katie's Coffee House at 760 Walker Road in the Great Falls Village Centre. 703-759-2759 or www.mrskip.com.

FRIDAY/JAN. 23

Chicago City Limits: Myspace or Yours? Comedy. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$22. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

George Mason University's Potomac Arts Academy, 2009 High School Honor Band Festival, 8 p.m. at the George Mason Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. High school band students will perform with the United States Navy Band. Free admission. jkilken1@gmu.edu or 703-993-1607.

Art Appetizers, 6:30 p.m., McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. See "Cellular Perspectives: Paintings by Betsy Stewart and Patrick Craig" in the gallery and enjoy wine and appetizers. \$20/person. RSVP by e-mail at info@mpaart.org.

SATURDAY/JAN. 24

Chicago City Limits: Myspace or Yours? Comedy. 7:30 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$22.

Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Fiction Family featuring Jon Foreman of Switchfoot and Sean Watkins of Nickel Creek. 10 p.m. \$20. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. N.E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

One-Act Festival. 10 a.m., George C. Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. The entire Liberty District, comprised of eight high schools, will compete for the title at the Theater One-Act Festival with the two top schools advancing to the Regional Tournament to be held at Lake Braddock High School Jan. 31. Free.

SUNDAY/JAN. 25

International Guitar Night, featuring Pierre Bensusan, Benjamin Verdery, Cecilia Zabala, and Brian Gore Sunday. 7:30 p.m. A celebration of acoustic guitar at The Barns. Tickets \$24. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

MONDAY/JAN. 26

Ladysmith Black Mambazo. Traditional South African music. 8 p.m. at The Barns. Tickets \$35. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Stormin' Bob Swanson, The Singing Weatherman, 4 p.m. Learn about the weather in a fun-filled performance. Ages 6-12. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-757-8560

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 28

Sing Along with Miss Belle, 10:30 a.m. Songs and hugs with Miss Belle. All ages. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 703-757-8560

Clergy Abuse Peer Support Group, 7-8:30 p.m., Tysons-Pimmit Hills Regional Library, 7684 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. The monthly peer support group for survivors of clergy abuse and others affected by the abuse meets on the last Wednesday of every month. Free. Confidential. No registration required. Contact Ellen Radday at 703-538-6128.

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SPORTS

Saxons Find the Fourth Quarter Range

Langley surges back to defeat Liberty foe Woodson.

BY NICK CAFFERKY
THE CONNECTION

The Langley High boys basketball team hadn't started the New Year well, losing their first three Liberty District games. However, the Saxons' season might have been revived during the fourth quarter of last Friday night's district home game against W.T. Woodson, thanks to the shooting of their guards.

Despite being down by double digits to district foe Woodson, the Saxons fought back and won in dramatic fashion, 52-50, in front of their home crowd.

FROM THE opening tip all the way to just about the end of the third quarter, the Woodson Cavaliers dominated Langley (9-5). After extending a one-point lead to a 39-29 lead with 30 seconds left in the third quarter, things looked dark for the reigning district champions.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Langley High senior guard Barrett Hunter (12) scored six points in the Saxons' close win over visiting Woodson last Friday night.

However, following a timeout, senior guard Jack McLindon hit a three-point shot at the third-quarter buzzer to cut the Cavaliers' lead to seven. It was just the spark the Saxons needed to revive their offense.

"We had been really reeling on offense lately, so we needed to get going heading into the fourth quarter," McLindon, who finished with 12 points on the night, said. "I got a good look because we ran a good set and nailed it."

"I've never seen us shoot like that. We were as fired up as I've seen us this year."

—Jack McLindon,
Langley senior guard

That momentum carried over into the fourth quarter and the Saxons continued to drain shots from beyond the arc. After McLindon and senior guard Thomas Kody both hit long-range treys to get Langley within one, Woodson finally broke the scoreless run on a pair of free throws.

However, Langley couldn't be stopped. Following what seemed to be the only missed three-point attempt by the Saxons in the fourth quarter, senior center Aaron Justus got the rebound and kicked it out to star guard Derek Baker (18 points), who hit his fourth 3-pointer of the game to tie the score for the first time in the second half. After a turnover on the Cavaliers' ensuing possession, a fast break layup by Kody gave the Saxons their first lead of the game at 43-41.

"I've never seen us shoot like that," said McLindon, of the team's fourth quarter performance. "We were as fired up as I've seen us this year."

WITH A MINUTE LEFT, Langley seemed content on trying to run out the clock or at least wait for Woodson to foul them and send someone to the foul line. However, with 15 seconds left, Langley turned the ball over to give Woodson one final opportunity to tie the game up or possibly win it.

Woodson called a timeout to draw up a play for its last possession, but when the ball was inbounded, the Langley defense held strong as it has all four years under head coach Travis Hess.

The win not only put the Saxons back in district contention at 2-3, but it marked Hess' first victory against Woodson since becoming Langley's coach.

"I think this was a step in the right direction," Hess said. "We lost a couple games that we probably shouldn't have, but they still count as losses. Hopefully this will get us back to executing on offense and playing great defense."

Langley (9-5 overall record) was scheduled to play district games this week at Marshall on Wednesday and at home against arch rival McLean this Friday night.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The **McLean High** boys and girls swim teams both were victorious in last Friday night's swim meet action against Marshall. The Highlander boys won by a score of 188-123, while the McLean girls won, 216-98. Triple-event winners for the McLean boys were Ed Lee and Charlie Putnam. Jung Min Park was a double winner. For the Highlander girls, Margaret Harlow was a quadruple winner, Sarah Wilcox was a triple winner and Eva Greene, Alex Yensen and Jamie Bugel were double winners. Martin Brown won the boys diving competition with a score of 229. Ian Clark came in second (170.55). For the McLean girls, Lydia Mendelson placed second in diving (157.1).

The McLean High **girls basketball** team (9-5 overall, 4-2 in the Liberty District) won both of its games last week. On Jan. 13, the Highlanders defeated

host Stone Bridge in overtime, 49-40. McLean led at halftime, 20-16, then built a 10-point lead in the second half. But the Bulldogs rallied to tie the game at 39 with two seconds remaining in regulation.

The game went into overtime where McLean took control on way to the district win. Andy Romness led all scorers with 18 points. Caity Flint and Caitlin Baker each contributed seven points, while Melissa Wilson scored six. Sophomore Erin Mundy (four points) played well off the bench for the Highlanders.

Then, last Friday night, McLean defeated district opponent Marshall, 37-28. McLean played a solid game as it took an 18-15 half-time lead on way to the triumph. Flint led the winners with 14 points, while Wilson tallied nine. Baker and Lauren Sutherland each contributed four points.

McLean Youth Soccer spring 2009 registration has begun on the league Web site at

www.mcleansoccer.org for all returning and new families. MYS offers various programs for children ages 4-19, including house/recreation, travel and McLean premier soccer travel, U5 for prekindergarten players and TOP Soccer for children with special needs. The season will begin March 30 and run through June 14. Register no later than January 31 to take advantage of the early discounted registration fees. For more information, contact the MYS administrator at admin@mcleansoccer.org or call the MYS Office at 703-506-8068.

McLean Little League baseball and softball walk-in registration will be held Saturday, Jan. 24, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration will be held at the McLean Little League Administration Building, located at 1840 Westmoreland St. in McLean. Players registering for T-ball and baseball must be between the ages of 5-12 by April 30, 2009. Girls registering for softball

must be between the ages of 7-16 by Dec. 31, 2008. Any questions e-mail miadewitt@mcleanll.com.

The **Northern Virginia U.S. Tennis Association** Super Duper (over 70) Men's Doubles Tennis League is open for registration for the season scheduled to begin in March. Play will be at the Regency Sport and Health Club, McLean, on Old Meadow Road, exit 46-B off the Beltway. For further information, contact league coordinator Edward Bernier at EdwardBernier@aol.com.

The **Premier AC 93 Ice** is holding tryouts for boys born between Aug. 1, 1993-July 31, 1994. The Ice is a U15 travel soccer team set to compete in NCSL this spring. They practice in Falls Church and Tysons Corner. For more information about the team and tryouts, go to www.mcleanice.com.

The **Golden Girls Senior Softball Association** is looking

for female slow-pitch softball players for league and travel tournament teams. All skill levels welcome. For more information, visit www.goldengirls.org or call Donna 703-938-0387.

Mary Linnell, McLean resident, and **Arial Coronel**, Oakton resident, are both members of the Jefferson High gymnastics team that finished first in a seven-team meet at Edison High School Jan. 7. Participating teams were Jefferson, Mount Vernon, West Potomac, Madison, West Springfield, Lee and host Edison. Jefferson remained undefeated for the year with a first place score of 137.4. Linnell, a Jefferson senior, placed fifth on beam (8.0), sixth on bars (7.7) and sixth in all around (32.5). Jefferson finished first in the team standings with 137.4 points. Edison (125.9) finished second and Madison (119.15.7) was third.

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Nothing Ventured, Nothing Gained



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Due to the debilitating emotional effect of my mother's two-month decline into pain-ending death on Dec. 6, 2008, combined with the official announcement made by my wife, Dina's, long time employer, Tivoli's, in Rosslyn (nearly 25 years employed) that they were closing their restaurant and lounge on Dec. 20 after 27 years (thus unemploying Dina), neither Dina or I were in the mood this past Christmas to do unto others (heck, we were barely able to do unto ourselves). In fact, the first — and only — time we went shopping was Sat. night, Dec. 27th — after Christmas. And that trip was not to bargain hunt, it was to buy a 2009 golden retriever calendar for Bailey (our second golden) and of course for ourselves, so that we could hang it in its usual place of honor in our kitchen (time marches on, however slowly).

And so for us, 2008 was the year that Christmas came and went, and never really was (Thanksgiving wasn't a whole lot better, either). Oh, we saw it on the calendar and heard about it as usual and Dina even decorated the lounge at Tivoli, but in a year in which two extremely significant things were taken from us, we just couldn't muster the spirit to give. Perhaps, had we given, it would have lightened our load somehow and balanced our respective burdens. But finding the energy and the intestinal fortitude to fight the fight was simply too much for us. I just figured that it was a losing battle, emotionally, and in a way, almost disrespectful to my mother's memory and to the importance of Tivoli's in Dina's life that we go on about our regular, albeit seasonally-motivated business.

New Year's Eve (and the actual new year on the calendar) didn't come soon enough for us. 2008 is over, thank God! Whether we will both be able to return to a reasonably normal and familiar routine, I can't know for sure. Dina needs to find a new job and my brother and I need to settle my mother's estate.

It's hard to imagine, and even harder to say, but perhaps the change will do us both some good. Stranger things have happened, I suppose.

On the face of it, "losing" your mother and in effect becoming an "orphan," for me, and Dina being out of work for the first time in more than 30 years (although for Dina, the work at Tivoli's was the least of it; the most of it was the friendships and social activities that it spawned), hardly seem like the kind of occurrences to jump-start your life in a new and positive direction, however. Maybe the arrival of a new year will help to spin us both forward a little bit. Who knows? Certainly not me.

Hopefully, 2009 will be a year worth remembering, not one, like 2008, that on two very key levels we'd both like to forget. Eventually I'm sure, we'll get to the point where remembering 2008 will bring smiles and fond memories. At present, it's still a bit early for either one of us to feel those kinds of feelings. We're still not quite adjusted to our new lives and still hurting and still mourning. Perhaps hanging that 2009 golden retriever calendar on our kitchen wall, a tradition going back nearly 30 years (Brandy, our last golden lived to age 15; Bailey, our current golden is 13 1/2) will begin our emotional rescue. Pets are good that way. They help with the healing.

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

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**TRUSTEE'S SALE
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In execution of a Deed of Trust from Jairo O. Solano and Lina V. Rincon, dated August 10, 2007, and recorded August 20, 2007, in Deed Book 4127 at page 2597 among the Land Records of Arlington County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Arlington County, at 1425 N. Courthouse Road, Arlington, Virginia, on

Monday, February 2, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Unit 2, Fairfax North Arms Condominium, in accordance with the declaration and exhibits attached thereto recorded in Deed Book 4120 at page 334, among the Land Records of Arlington County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 1735 Fairfax Drive #2, Arlington, Virginia 22209.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$40,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 6.50 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, of or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY
Substitute Trustee

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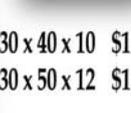
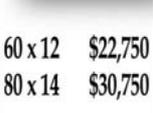
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Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality to limit air pollution emitted by a facility in Fairfax County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: January 22, 2009 to February 20, 2009

PERMIT NAME: State Operating Permit to Operate Issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Air Pollution Control Board

NAME, ADDRESS AND REGISTRATION NUMBER OF PROPOSED PERMIT HOLDER: Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) 7990 Science Applications Court, Vienna, Virginia 22182; Registration Number: 71804

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: SAIC has applied for a State Operating Permit for their Vienna, Virginia facility. The facility is an information services company and the emission units are comprised of eight emergency generators that are also used for peak shaving with Dominion-Virginia Power. The facility is classified as a synthetic minor source of air pollution. The proposed permit would allow the facility to rebuild and operate one diesel driven electric generator, and operate the other seven as previously permitted. The pollutant of concern is Nitrogen Oxides (NOx). The facility has a permitted limit of 24.4 tons per year of NOx.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by the DEQ within the comment period. The public may request a public hearing. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named below. The draft permit is also available on the DEQ web site at www.deq.virginia.gov. To request a public hearing, written comments must include: 1) the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the requester and of all people represented by the requester. 2) The reason a hearing is requested, including associated air quality concerns. 3) A brief, informational statement regarding the extent of the interest of the requester, including how the operation of the facility affects the requester.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENTS, REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Thomas M. Valentour, Environmental Engineer, Sr. Northern Regional Office, Department of Environmental Quality, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193, phone: 703-583-3800, email: tmvalentour@deq.virginia.gov

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