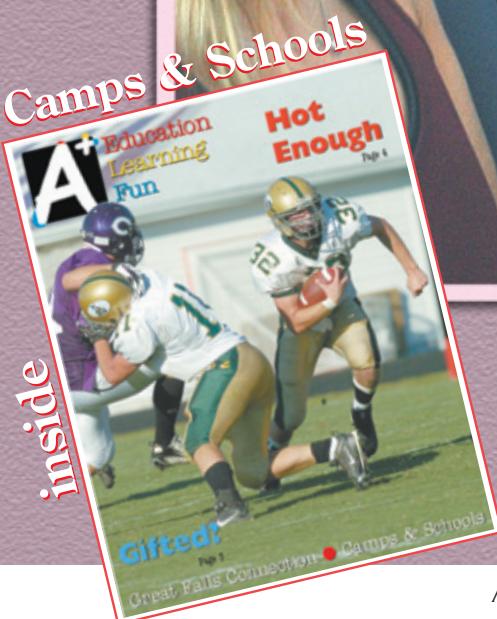


Great Falls CONNECTION

Donating
By Dining
NEWS, PAGE 3

Reaching
Out Around
The Globe

BACK TO SCHOOL,
PAGE 4



Julie Bauer, Lawand Swope, Katie and Lindsay Simmons and Brendan Hickey enjoy the last in this year's Summer Concerts on the Green series last Sunday at the Village Centre.

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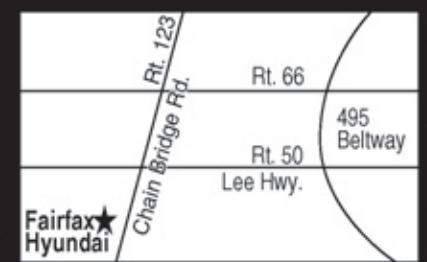


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NEWS



Eric Kozlowski takes a stroll around the green with his daughter.

Summer Concerts End on High Note

Extended concerts series comes to an end.



Dan and Francie Burke enjoy the music with Asthar and Lajevardi Fouladri.



Marge Barrazotto enjoys a birthday dance at the concert.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFT/
CONNECTION



Townspeople brought children and friends, blankets, chairs and picnics to enjoy the last concert of the season in the Great Falls Village Centre last Sunday.



Concert sponsors: Wayne Foley of Foley Homes, Katie Simmons of Sun Trust Mortgage and Benny Potter of Western Electric, traditional country music band.

GREAT FALLS CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC
9414 OR GREATFALLS@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Donating by Dining

Great Falls resident's Charity Tuesday at Old Brogue will benefit military children.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Bob Nelson is hoping to make this month's Charity Tuesday at the Old Brogue in Great Falls the biggest yet. With increased sponsorship and a featured charity that he expects to prove popular, the longtime Great Falls resident said he thought the Aug. 25 event could double any previous Charity Tuesday take, raising \$1,500 to \$2,000. "It's a charity that I think people will come out in droves to support," he said.



Bob Nelson

That organization is the McLean-based Our Military Kids, which provides stipends to cover the costs of extracurricular activities for the children of deployed reservists and National Guard members, as well as those of wounded soldiers. "The kids of our military certainly deserve the support we can give them," Nelson said.

Nelson started the monthly Charity Tuesdays with Old Brogue owner Mike Kearney about six months ago. Each of them matched 10 percent of the money spent at the restaurant for the evening and gave it to the charity Nelson had selected. He picks a different organization each time. This month, Nelson has enough sponsors that 70 percent of guests' dinner bills will go to Our Military Kids.

However, he said, few of the sponsors are long-term. "Each month, I sort of am out there trying to find new sponsors."

"It was Bob's idea, and he started off having six, 10, 12 people," Kearney said, noting that the event had grown to the point that last month's Charity Tuesday, benefiting Golf Pros Beating Cancer, drew so many people that there was a wait to get in at one point. No one had made reservations, and many showed up around the same time.

Our Military Kids co-founder and executive director Linda Davidson said her own charitable effort had exploded similarly. The group set up shop on Elm Street in late 2004 with the idea that it would be a small organization to help Virginia fami

SEE CHARITY, PAGE 5

WEEK IN GREAT FALLS



CONTRIBUTED

Woman's Club Plans New Activities

Great Falls Woman's Club officers for 2009-10 celebrate their induction. Over the next few weeks, they will be planning many new events and activities.

Armed Robbery at 7-Eleven Store

A 26-year-old Great Falls-area woman working at the 7-Eleven store, 10508 Leesburg Pike, was robbed at gunpoint on Tuesday, Aug. 11 around 2:30 a.m. Two men entered the store; one produced a handgun and demanded money. The victim complied, while the second suspect grabbed cigarettes and other items. Both men fled; no one was injured.

Both suspects were described as Hispanic and around 5 feet 6 inches tall. Both men were wearing solid black clothing and bandanas covering their faces and hair.

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

Area Students Win NWFCU Scholarships

The Northwest Federal Credit Union Foundation (NWFCU Foundation) awarded more than \$87,000 in scholarships at its annual scholarship awards ceremony and luncheon, honoring the 2009 scholarship winners. Fifteen students were recipients of the \$5,000 Ben DeFelice Scholarship and included Gyan Das of Langley High School and Aleksandr Vandalov of James Madison High School. Additionally, five students received the \$2,500 Central Intelligence Retirees CIRA Scholarship-sponsored by the Central Intelligence Retirees Association.

The criteria for the Ben DeFelice Scholarship, named for Northwest Federal Credit Union's longest serving volunteer Board Member and the CIRA scholarship focused on leadership, dedication and commitment at home, school and in the community. There were 286 applications this year with the competition stronger than ever.

Gerrianne Burks, president/CEO of Northwest Federal Credit Union and Chairman of the NWFCU Foundation's Board, spoke to the recipients at the award ceremony, remarking that "judging the caliber of individuals receiving this award today, there is nothing wrong with the youth of today. You make us all proud and our future will certainly be brighter because of each of you."

The NWFCU Foundation awarded \$239,000 since the scholarship program's first recipients were honored in 2005.

NEWS

Reaching Out Around the Globe

At Cooper Middle: Opening half an hour later.

Cooper Middle School serves about 850 students from the McLean/Great Falls area. This year, those students will be going to school a little later, as school opening time has changed from 7:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. Principal Arlene Randall also mentioned another change. "We're getting newly refaced lockers," she said. "The 50-year-old lockers, they'll be 50 in 2012, are being refaced. The insides are old but the outsides are brand new." For new students, the school will be hosting a back-to-school fair on Sept. 1.

Randall takes pride in programs at the school. "We have phenom-



PHOTO BY HANNA HOWARD/THE CONNECTION

Cooper Middle School Principal Arlene Randall

enal plays," she said. "We have a terrific drama program. The acting is so incredible by seventh and eighth graders."

Cooper students also spread their community around the globe. Journalism students write letters to soldiers in Iraq, and all of the seventh graders write stories that are turned into hardcover picture books and sent to schools in Uganda. Randall, who has been at Cooper for 12 years, had nothing but good things to say about the school staff. "I've been in five other middle schools and this is the most spectacular faculty," she said.

— HANNA HOWARD

Half an Hour for 'Saxon Time'

At Langley High: Homecoming promises 'a lot more' than before.

Approximately 2,100 students from Great Falls and McLean will file into Langley High School on Sept. 8. One of the changes that will go into effect at the onset of this school year is the implementation of Saxon Time. Every day except for Wednesday, when school starts a half-hour later, a half-hour period will be dedicated to getting students on track academically.

"The kids get time where they can do what they need to do academically," said Principal Matt Ragone. "There will be more



PHOTO BY HANNA HOWARD/THE CONNECTION

Langley High School Principal Matt Ragone

structure for kids not doing well and less structure for kids who are doing well. The more kids do well, the more freedom they have."

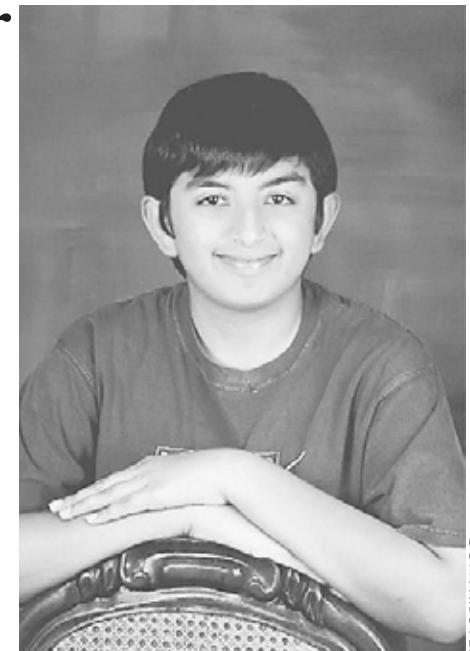
This year will also mark a big change in school tradition – no more Color Day. "It was basically school-sponsored hazing," said Ragone. "Last year, Homecoming was basically just Color Day, a pep rally and the dance. This year, there will be a lot more. I've told them they have a blank check, as long as it doesn't damage property and hurt kids. They're talking about having a carnival, floats, a better halftime show."

Great Falls Kabir Brar Wins NASA Contest

Kabir Brar of Great Falls, a 7th grader at Kilmer Middle School, participated in a National Essay Contest conducted by NASA on June 16, titled "Cassini Scientist For A Day." There were three targets — Diome, Prometheus and Saturn's Rings and Epimetheus and Janus. Participants needed to choose one and write an essay explaining why they think that particular target should be chosen for probe Cassini (presently orbiting Saturn) to orbit in the next year. There were three categories for contest — elementary, middle and high school. Brar chose to write on the Target # 3 — Epimetheus and Janus. The semifinalists had a teleconference with the Cassini scientists on the mission. That was followed by the final results.

Brar won the first place at National level in the category of 7th-8th grade (Middle School). The winners have been posted on NASA Web site at

<http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov/education/scientistforaday7thedition/scientistforaday7thview/>



CONTRIBUTED

Kabir Brar

NEWS

Charity Tuesday for Military Kids

FROM PAGE 3

lies. "It's grown dramatically over the last five years," she said. After receiving calls from all over the country, the charity went national in 2006. In 2008, it tripled its volume over the previous year, and Davidson said the caseload was on track to triple again this year.

To date, the organization has made about \$4.25 million in contributions to 10,700 children.

Davidson, a McLean resident and former IBM employee, has no relatives in the military. She said she was inspired to do the work when she was helping someone set up a business under an Army contract. The work brought her into contact with military spouses and she learned how difficult it could be for a family that wasn't prepared to be a military family to have a parent deployed.

Until the 9-11 attacks, the National Guard didn't get sent overseas, so those families were unprepared to deal with their new lifestyle, she said. Also, reservists, National Guard members and recovering wounded soldiers generally do not live on military installations, so they don't have access to many of the programs available to other military families.

Our Military Kids offers stipends averaging about \$400 to cover the cost of sports activities, fine arts lessons such as dance classes and tutoring for families that may be cutting such costs out of their budget "at a time when children need that activity even more to cope with the stress," Davidson said. She added that she also wanted to recognize the sacri-

fice the children are making "by sharing their parent with the country."

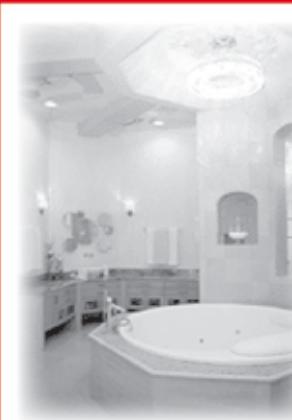
The National Guard provides some funding for the program, and the organization tries to match any federal funding with donations from individuals and corporations, she said. "So it's a challenge." But it appears to be the only group providing this service. "We always look to see if there are other organizations to share the burden and there isn't another organization like Our Military Kids," Davidson said.

"It's really an awesome group," Nelson said. Noting that he had only learned of the organization a couple of months ago from a radio ad, he said raising awareness of certain charities, as well as raising money, was a goal of his monthly events. Next month's fund raiser will benefit Operation Second Chance, which supports disabled veterans.

The events also include door prizes, and attendees can buy extra chances of winning by making donations.

"Now that I'm making a good living as a Realtor, it gives me a chance to give back some," said Nelson, who is retired from the Foreign Service. He said he had set a goal for himself to raise \$1 million for charity, and he estimated that he was probably at about \$15,000 so far.

Kearney said patrons enjoyed the event because they were getting to donate to a good cause simply by eating out. "I think it's good for the community, it's good for the nonprofits and it's good for us," he said, noting that the events brought exposure to the restaurant. "It's a win-win for everybody."



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OPINION

Public Options

While private options of this amenity are plentiful, they are so expensive that they are out of reach for many even in our affluent area.

So government has jumped in to offer the opportunity at greatly reduced prices, making it available to almost everyone. It's not clear what the impact of the public option has been on the private businesses involved.

We're talking, of course, about golf courses.

Joining a private country club can cost tens of thousands of dollars in original membership fees, plus thousands in annual fees.

But around Northern Virginia, there are many public options for golf, some nationally acclaimed, where one can swing the clubs around 18 holes for under \$30.

Offering access to recreational facilities at cost well below private options is a common activity for local governments. Water parks, indoor and outdoor pools, indoor and outdoor

tennis are all available in our area at reduced prices via government involvement. Recreation centers provide an affordable alternative to health clubs.

Localities offer summer day camps of many varieties, all at a fraction of the cost of private camps.

Public colleges and universities offer lower cost tuition than private colleges and universities.

Publicly owned historic sites and park facilities compete with restaurants and banquet halls to host weddings and other events.

Do these public options hold down the prices at private camps, private colleges, private country clubs? That's unknown, but what we do know is that the public options make many things affordable and accessible to people who would not be able to afford them otherwise.

Meanwhile people continue to pay a premium for the amenities, services and added value and availability of the private options, keeping those businesses in business.

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Author Offers No Real Solutions

To the Editor:

In her article [“Let’s Get Virginia Moving,” Connection, Aug. 12-18, 2009] Barbara Comstock mentions the increase in traffic problems over the past years in Northern Virginia. We all understand that, and her comment that “Richmond is broken” is one we have heard for years. Yet she is seeking to represent the 34th District in the House of Delegates as a member of the same party that previously held that seat for decades without achieving any success in gaining a fair share of transportation funding for Northern Virginia. She needs to explain how her approach is different from those in the past.

However, in her article, she offers no real solutions. Suggesting that stimulus money designated by Congress for weatherizing homes should be diverted to transportation is not a solution. In this period of increased vigilance of government spending, Ms. Comstock should know that states cannot unilaterally reprogram stimulus funds. More importantly, robbing Peter to pay Paul is not a way to a sustainable funding stream for transportation in Northern Virginia.

Again, she mentions royalties from offshore oil leases as a source of funding. This is another pie in the sky solution. Oil lease revenues are paid to the U.S. government and even if the funds were avail-

able to Virginia, it would be many years if not a decade or more before any money would reach Richmond.

She supports public-private partnerships which can be part of the solution. However, she does not mention that we have such partnerships underway in Virginia including the Beltway HOT Lanes, which we all see as we drive the Beltway.

Unfortunately, the plans Ms. Comstock puts forth in her article “Let’s Get Virginia Moving” does not show her willingness to confront the legislative and fiscal realities we face. She proposes a commission to study the issue. This issue has been studied to death. We need knowledgeable legislators who can reach across party lines and hammer out practical solutions.

J. Jay Volkert Ph.D.
Vienna

Equitable Access To Education

To the Editor:

We appreciate the Connection offering parents’ insights into “gifted” options [“More Families Choose Local ‘Gifted’ Classes,” Great Falls Connection, Aug. 12-18, 2009]. Your article offered good news for more choice and those you interviewed made excellent points. As our children are “sorted” into “Cannots” and “Cans” (Jay Mathews, author), I hope we keep our focus on teaching, learning and resources.

Government jumps into business for a variety of reasons.

Local ‘Public Options’

For public recreational opportunities, see:

- ❖ Northern Virginia Park Authority, <http://www.nvrpa.org/>
- ❖ Fairfax County Park Authority, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/>

Governments are also offering a private option for many things that previously have been strictly free public goods. One example is roads.

A private company is widening the Beltway, 495, from the Virginia side of American Legion Bridge to the Springfield Mixing Bowl. When it’s finished, drivers will have the option to pay a significant toll to the company to ride in the “High Occupancy Toll” lanes to avoid the crowded but free lanes. Vehicles with at least three occupants will be able to ride in the new lanes for free.

— MARY KIMM,
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

eat and sell. It is an age-old tradition of dominance and exploitation.

The hens seem to want to be free, loose on the land, being chickens. I allow this frequently, but only when I am there to prevent the fox from attacking. So long as I am there, in the field, the fox will not attack.

For their protection and well-being, I have built fences, high and strong. But over time, the hens learn how to fly or climb out and the fox learns how to dig, climb or jump in.

If only the hens would be a little more cooperative, a little smarter about what we are trying to do here. Perhaps they would even be grateful for the care and security I offer. Without me, they would have a terrible life.

I wonder whether the Departments of State or Defense could offer some advice.

Laura Nichols
Great Falls

Write
The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
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To have community events listed in the Connection, send to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

SATURDAY, AUG. 22

SHARE Collects Food, Donations.

Many local families and individuals need food and other basics. SHARE Inc. in McLean continues to address this problem by distributing donated food and additional provisions. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. volunteers will be stationed at the Pimmit Hills Safeway to collect food and other donations to replenish the SHARE distribution center. Please come by and make a donation.

TUESDAY/AUG. 25

Town Hall Meeting with Rep. Jim Moran and former Vermont governor Howard Dean, M.D. 7 p.m. at South Lakes High School, 11400 South Lakes Drive, Reston. The meeting will discuss current efforts in Congress to reform the nation's health care system. Free. 202-225-4376 or moran.house.gov/index.shtml.

ViennaTysons Regional Chamber of Commerce Non-Profit Mixer. 5:30 p.m. at the Courtyard by the Marriott, 8028 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. 703-281-1333 or www.vtrcc.org

SUNDAY/AUG. 30

Northern Virginia Grassroots Rally for Bob McDonnell for Governor. 1-4 p.m. at Burke Lake Park. Sponsored by the Republican Womens Clubs of the 8th, 10th and 11th Congressional Districts. 703-591-7368. or NorthernVirginiaGOP.com.

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Here's What's Happening ABOUT TOWN

Community Events:

- Saturdays thru November 21st – Great Falls Farmers Market 9:00 A.M.- 1:00 P.M., Great Falls Village Center; gcharities@aol.com



Member's Events:

- Thursdays Ongoing – Guided Wine Tastings 5:30 – 7:30 PM, Maison du Vin (info@maison-duvin.com)
- October 17th & 18th – 6th Annual Art Studios Tour, Great Falls Studios (www.greatfallsstudios.com)

Meet our GFBPA Member

Profile of C. Russell Rowzie
Mr. Rowzie is a co-owner and President of Trimark Corporation. Trimark is a full-service commercial real estate services that operates in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Trimark provides professional services such as property management, acquisition analysis, sales and leasing, and facilities maintenance. Trimark's offices are located in Falls Church, Virginia and Trimark currently employs over thirty people. Trimark is an Accredited Management Organization (AMO), as designated by the Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM). Fewer than 700 out of more than 10,000 real estate management companies nationwide have met the strict requirements for this designation. Mr. Rowzie has been exclusively involved in managing, acquiring, leasing and selling commercial real estate for the past nineteen years. Mr. Rowzie has consummated hundreds of commercial real estate transactions, has served as property manager for a portfolio consisting of over forty commercial properties and has served as a principal and managing partner of numerous commercial real estate ventures. Mr. Rowzie holds a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy from Villanova University, a Masters in Business Administration from George Mason University and holds the industry designation of Certified Property Manager (CPM). He is a member of the Institute of Real Estate Management (IREM), and the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International. Mr. Rowzie is from Fairfax County and is a lifelong resident of Northern Virginia. He currently resides in Clifton, Virginia with his wife and seven children.



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Great Falls Business & Professional Association

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GFBPA Activities:

- Thursday, August 27th – GFBPA Barbeque
- Wednesday, September 16th – GFBPA Breakfast Meeting Featuring C. Russell Rowzie, President of Trimark Corp., – 7:30-9:00 AM, Executive Suites at Great Falls

Future Events: GFBPA Board Meeting Wednesday, October 21st, All members welcome • GFBPA Breakfast Wednesday, November 18th • GFBPA Holiday Party, December

FOOD, WINE, NETWORKING, BIG ANNOUNCEMENTS!

GFBPA Members You're Invited to a 

Thursday, August 27th
5:30-8:00 PM
305 Seneca Road, Great Falls

GFBPA president Ralph Lazaro is opening his home to all GFPBA members for an evening of food, libations & camaraderie, plus a preview of our exciting "Shop Great Falls" campaign for the fall selling season. The GFBPA is partnering with Great Falls merchants, community organizations and local media to encourage everyone in the community to Think Locally, Act Locally and Shop Great Falls. Come hear what we're planning and most importantly, what's in it for YOU.
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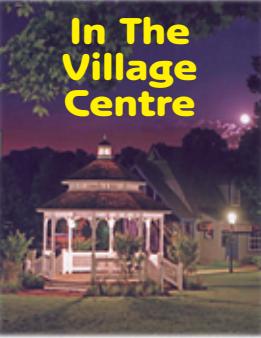
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- Crab Ladies ~ Crabcakes
- HiddenCroft Vineyards ~ Virginia Wines
- Old House Vineyards ~ Virginia Wines
- Baguette Republic ~ Fresh Breads and Baked Goods
- Jennifer's Pastries ~ Fresh Pies and Baked Goods
- The Organic Butcher of McLean ~ Seafood and Organic Meats and Lamb
- Baker Hog Farm ~ Hams, Sausages, Bacon, Ribs and BBQ
- Ole Pioneer's Kitchen ~ Bacon, Sausages and Meatballs
- Neighbors Network ~ Local artisans and community information
- Great Falls Citizen Association ~ Community information

The Market will be held Weekly on Saturday mornings from 9 A.M.-1 P.M. through November 21.

The Great Falls Farmers Market is operated by The Great Falls Charitable Foundation. For more information, contact us at GFCHARITIES@AOL.COM. Great Falls Charitable Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) corporation.



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PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

COMMUNITY



Susan Cooper's recently completed octagonal house will be one of three homes on the Woman's Club of McLean's Holiday Homes Tour.

OPEN HOUSES

Saturday & Sunday, August 22nd & 23rd



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

Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.

Great Falls (22066)

11833 Brockman Ln \$449,000 Sun 1-4 Charles E. Schauss Weichert 571-213-5306

Falls Church (22043)

7935 Shreve Rd \$1,199,900 Sun 1-4 Moira McCormick Long & Foster 571-244-6767

McLean (22101, 22102)

1173 Dolley Madison Blvd	\$100,000	8/23 & 8/30 1-3	William Fox	Fox Residential	410-484-8618
7307 Hooking Rd	\$1,198,000	Sun 1-4	Karen Chipman	Weichert	703-255-1585
7219 Churchill Rd	\$1,845,000	Sun 1-4	H. Cronin	Weichert	703-328-6722
1931 Birch Rd	\$2,495,000	Sun 1-4	Dean Yeonas	Yeonas Shafran Real Estate	703-216-8552

Vienna (22180, 22181, 22182)

8818 Olympia Fields Ln	\$649,000	Sun 1-4	Gina Tufano	Re/Max	703-973-0632
1841 Mamie Dyer Ln	\$1,349,900	Sat & Sun 12-5	Terry Belt	Keller Williams	703-242-3975

Oakton (22124)

2824 Thaxton Ln	\$639,900	Sun 12-2	Jason Wolin	Coldwell Banker	703-505-6886
2902 Dorian Dr	\$1,495,000	Sat & Sun 1-5	Rosemary Downey	Classic	703-217-3004
11215 Stuart Mill Rd	\$5,750,000	Sun 1-3	Jeffrey Stein	Tranzon Fox	703-626-7407

To add your FREE Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please contact:
In Great Falls, Salome, 703-778-9421, or salome@connectionnewspapers.com

In Vienna, Don, 703-778-9420, or donpark@connectionnewspapers.com

In McLean, Trisha, 703-778-9419, or thamilton@connectionnewspapers.com

All listings are due by Monday at 3 p.m.

Christmas in July for Woman's Club

Kickoff Tea gets members in the spirit for December's Holiday Homes Tour.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

The only rectangular room in Susan Cooper's recently completed house on Capitol View Court is the laundry room. This is because the house is octagonal. "I just dreamed it up. I

wanted to do something different," she said.

Arranged around a central atrium containing a glass elevator and capped by a windowed cupola, the house is one of three that will be featured on the Woman's Club of McLean's 43rd annual Holiday Homes Tour in December. To get into the spirit and draw

some attention to the coming tour, the club hosted a kickoff tea, complete with Christmas decorations, at Cooper's house on Thursday, Aug. 6.

"It's a beautiful house. It's made for parties," said club President Marianne Polito.

Also on the tour will be the homes of Charles and Sandra Sieber and Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) and Marilyn Jerome Foust. Club members will spend the three days before the tour decorating all of the houses.

ALL PROCEEDS will be donated to a variety of charities and non-profit organizations, such as Share Inc., Alternative House, the McLean Project for the Arts, Claude Moore Colonial Farm and the McLean Volunteer Fire Department, as well as global charities like Operation Smile and Heifer International.

"I think a lot of people think because we're in McLean there's no need, but Share is a good example," said club member Joan Morton.

The tour will also include a marketplace at Trinity United Methodist Church with 10 vendors, a silent auction, a bake sale and refreshments. One-fifth of all vendors' sales will also go to charity, and most of the merchants will be local. Jewelry, handbags and fashion accessories will be among the wares for sale.

"It will be much bigger than what we were able to have last year because we have more space," said tour committee co-chair Kathryn Mackensen, explaining that Trinity had been renovating last year.

Polito said the group had al-

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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

THURSDAY/AUG. 20

Todd Wright. 8 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Model Investment Club of Northern Virginia

Northern Virginia. 7 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. This group will meet on the third Thursday all year. Adults. 703-356-0770.

Nottoway Nights Concert with Springfield Exit

COUNTRY. 7:30 p.m. at Nottoway Park, 9601 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Bring a picnic dinner, blankets and lawn chairs. For information, directions and rain cancellation (after 6 p.m.) contact the Fairfax County Park Authority at 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ performances.

The Steve Miller Band. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25 lawn, \$45 in-house. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

FRIDAY/AUG. 21

The Splinters. Rock music at 6:30 p.m. at the Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave., E. Vienna. Free. Bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

Great Big Sea with Carbon Leaf. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25 lawn, \$32 in-house. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

REAL ESTATE

To have real estate information listed in the Connection, send to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Beth Putman was the top producer and the top listed at the Great Falls Long & Foster office. Michelina Queri was the agent with the most new listings (seven) and Ali Saghafi was the top seller.

Bruce Green, regional vice president of Weichert, Realtors® MCLean/Old Dominion office has announced that William S. Gaskins and the Weichert MCLean/Old Dominion Office have been recognized for regional accomplishments in July. Neighborhood Specialist Gaskins led the Weichert region in new home dollar volume. The entire MCLean/Old Dominion sales team, under the leadership of branch manager Steve Gaskins, led the region in new home dollar volume and resales. The region consists of nearly 25 offices in Northern Virginia.

These real estate professionals can be reached at Weichert's Weichert's MCLean/Old Dominion Office, 703-821-8300, located at 6257 Old Dominion Dr.

Green previously announced that J.D. Callander and Penny Yerks and the Weichert MCLean/Dolley Madison Office were recognized for regional accomplishments in June.

Patricia Estryn, Sales Associate with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in McLean, has earned the "Energy Smart Real Estate Specialist" designation from Energy Smart Real Estate Professionals Company in Alexandria. Estryn is specially trained to guide buyers and sellers through the process of making their homes more energy efficient, which can increase home values, save on monthly utility bills and positively affect the environment.

SATURDAY/AUG. 22

LEGO BrickFair. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Sheraton Premiere Hotel, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. \$10 adults, \$7 age 10 and under. LEGO trains, Great Ball Contraption, castle and pirates, fighting robots, spaceships, Stay-n-Play room for kids and more. 240-481-7998 or 2Todd@ToddWebb.com.

Peter and Paul: Celebrate Mary & Five Decades of Friendship. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$40 in-house, \$22 lawn. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Martinez & Guthrie. Acoustic music. 6 p.m. at the Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

SUNDAY/AUG. 23

LEGO BrickFair. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Sheraton Premiere Hotel, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. \$10 adults, \$7 age 10 and under. 240-481-7998 or 2Todd@ToddWebb.com.

Alexa Ray Joel. 8 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

The Beach Boys. 2 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$38 in-house, \$25 lawn. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

MONDAY/AUG. 24

The Scene Aesthetic, The Color Fred, The Ready Set, Steven Jerzak and Tyler Williams. 6 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/AUG. 25

Adrian Belew Power Trio. 8 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 26

Loggins & Messina with Gabe Dixon. 8 p.m. \$42 in-house, \$30 lawn. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

THURSDAY/AUG. 27

McLean Project for the Arts 'Coloring and Cocktails.' 7 p.m. at the Emerson Gallery in the McLean Community Center. Participants will decorate 18-inch-by-24-inch drawings of the MPAfest logo. 703-760-7007 or agreisamer@communications-resources.com.

Thursday Night Glow. 8 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Ice Cream Social. 2 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Celebrate the closing days of Summer Reading Program 2009 with an ice cream social for SRP finishers. Age 3-17. 703-757-8560.

FRIDAY/AUG. 28

The Lord of the Rings, The Two Towers - Live Orchestra and Film. 7:30 p.m. at the Filene Center. \$25 - \$55. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.



McLean Community Center

Work Session on Draft FY2011 Budget

(July 1, 2010-June 30, 2011)

Thursday, Sept. 10, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center

Public Hearing on Proposed FY2011 Budget

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center
The current fiscal year has a tax rate of 2.4 cents per \$100 of real estate assessment.

Residents who wish to speak are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers' list. Details of the proposed budget will be available at the Center and on the Center's Web site beginning Sept. 1, 2009.



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

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Washington Christian Church...703-938-7720
Cristo Es Mi Refugio...703-938-7727

Baha'i

Baha'i Faith for Northern Virginia ... 703-821-3345
Baptist

Global Mission Church ... 703-757-0877
Peace Baptist Church ... 703-560-8462
Bethel Primitive Baptist Church ... 703-757-8134

Cartersville Baptist Church

703-255-7075
Fellowship Baptist Church ... 703-385-8516
First Baptist Church ... 703-938-8525

Catholic

The Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877

Vineyard Baptist Church ... 703-281-4400

New Union Baptist Church...703-281-2556

St. Athanasius Catholic Church ... 703-759-4555

St. Mark's Catholic Church ... 703-281-9100

Church of the Brethren

Oakton Church of the Brethren ... 703-281-4411

Catholic

Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877

Our Lady of Good Counsel ... 703-938-2828

St. Athanasius Catholic Church ... 703-759-4555

St. Mark's Catholic Church ... 703-281-9100

Charismatic

Christian Assembly ... 703-698-9777

Church of Christ

Berea Church of Christ ... 703-893-7040

Disciples of Christ

Antioch Christian Church ... 703-938-6753

Episcopal

Church of the Holy Comforter ... 703-938-6521

Church of the Holy Cross ... 703-698-6991

St. Francis Episcopal ... 703-759-2082

Jehovah's Witness

Jehovah's Witnesses ... 703-759-1579

Lutheran

Emmanuel Lutheran Church...703-938-2119

St. Athanasius Lutheran Church ... 703-455-4003

Methodist

Andrew Chapel United Methodist ... 703-759-3509

Church of the Good Shepherd ... 703-281-3987

Dunn Loring United Methodist ... 703-573-5386

Ephiphany United Methodist ... 703-938-3494

Great Falls United Methodist ... 703-59-3705

Oakton United Methodist ... 703-938-1233

Quaker

Langley Hills Friends...703-442-8394

Seventh-Day Adventist

Northern Virginia Christian Fellowship ... 703-242-9001

Vienna Seventh Day Adventists ... 703-938-8386

Unitarian Universalist

Congregation of Fairfax ... 703-281-4230

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Unity of Fairfax ... 703-281-1767



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SPORTS



PHOTOS BY KATHLEEN BACH



Game 2 on July 31 at Estadio Cibao in Santiago. Connor Bach, Nate Favero, Nick Amano-Dolan, Nate Slater and Sean Murphy (holding the Dominican flag) greet the Dominican players before the game.

Game 6 on Aug. 5 at Cabarete Field in Cabarete. Connor Bach about to throw to Joey Zarella to pick a runner off first in the bottom of the seventh.

Team Virginia Sweeps Series in Dominican Republic

Area team wins all six games.

A team of Northern Virginia high school baseball players recently visited the Dominican Republic on a goodwill tour playing local teams and experiencing the Dominican culture. Teams from other parts of the U.S. have made similar trips with mixed results on the field. Team Virginia swept all six of its games but more importantly came away with a greater appreciation for the opportunities and comforts of growing up in America.

The squad was led by area high school coaches Mark "Pudge" Gjormand, Morgan Spencer and Justin Counts and included 15 players who played for eight Washington area public and private high schools last Spring. The players were: Ryan Ashoo, Connor Bach, Chris Campbell, Nick Amano-Dolan, Eli Facenda, Nate Favero, Jonny Graham, Matt Moore, Sean Murphy, Mike Norton, Kevin Pence, Daniel Shill, Nathan Slater, Josh Smith and Joey Zarella.

THE TEAM opened the trip with two games in Santiago at a modern stadium that is home to the premier team in the Dominican winter professional league. Then, they traveled to Santo Domingo for three games at Centro Olímpico, a once grand multi-sport facility that has fallen into disrepair. The tour concluded with a game on a neighborhood field in the small town of Cabarete that was Norman Rockwell in the Caribbean. As the quality of the fields diminished, the venue itself took on more character and the home fans became more animated.

Team Virginia won its opening game 2-0 behind a combined no hitter from Connor Bach and Ryan Ashoo. Mike Norton drove in the game's first run and Bach stole home for the second run. Bach and Chris Campbell had two hits apiece.

In a rematch the next day, the U.S. romped to a 15-3 victory. Daniel Shill and Eli Facenda combined on a four hitter. Josh



Game 6 on Aug. 5 at Cabarete Field in Cabarete. Team Virginia surrounded by the Cabarete team after the game. The Americans later gave their hats and jerseys to their Dominican opponents.

Team Virginia

Team Virginia players who participated in a trip include: Madison High School students Nate Favero, Eli Facenda, Jonny Graham and Matt Moore; Centerville High School's Ryan Ashoo, Connor Bach and Chris Campbell; Langley High School's Nick Amano-Dolan and Joey Zarella, both of Great Falls; Herndon High School's Kevin Pence and Daniel Shill, both of Reston; as well as Nate Slater, Robert E Lee High, of Springfield; Sean Murphy, Gonzaga High, of Vienna; Mike Norton, Georgetown Prep, of Great Falls, and Josh Smith, St. Stephens/St. Agnes High, of Great Falls.

Smith had three hits and Kevin Pence collected a pair. Smith, Jonny Graham and Sean Murphy drove in three runs apiece.

Games 3 and 4 were rain-shortened. Team Virginia was leading 3-1 when a downpour ended Game 3 in the third inning. Joey Zarella did the pitching. Zarella, Eli Facenda and Nathan Slater each drove in a run.

Rather than resuming the game, the opposing coach opted for a rematch the next day. Once again the U.S. was ahead 7-3 when rain ended the contest in the fourth inning. Facenda and Bach took care of the pitching. Bach and Slater both scored a pair of runs.

Game 5 was played later that day with Team Virginia winning 7-1. Matt Moore and Ashoo pitched three innings apiece and Shill closed the game. Ashoo recorded 8 of 9 outs on strikeouts. Slater had two hits including the only USA home run of the trip.

THE CLIMACTIC GAME of the trip was also the most thrilling. Nick Amano-Dolan singled home a run in the sixth to give the U.S. a 1-0 lead. Zarella pitched brilliantly, but defensive lapses allowed the home team to score three unearned runs in the bottom of the sixth. Bach came in to finish the sixth which ended dramatically when right fielder Moore gunned down a runner at the plate for the second time in the game.

Zarella started the seventh with a single and after three walks and two outs produced one run, Pence drove in the tying and go ahead runs with a bad hop single over the second baseman's head. Bach closed the game out picking a runner off first and striking out the last two hitters. The confident Dominicans were stunned as Team Virginia snatched victory from the jaws of defeat. After the game, the victors gave their USA hats and jerseys to the Dominican players.



Game 5 on Aug. 2 at Fedobe Field in Centro Olímpico, Santo Domingo. Connor Bach chases a ball during warm ups down the right field line.

Some Americans even gave away their spikes, bats and gloves. All were received gratefully by the home team.

"The Dominican Republic is one of the top baseball countries in the world," said Gjormand. "We didn't know what to expect, and when we took the field in a pro stadium in Santiago, there were a lot of nerves. We knew it was still the same game though, and we played with discipline and fundamentals throughout the trip. In Santo Domingo, we entered the arena, the heart of Dominican baseball. The finale in Cabarete was the craziest, coolest environment I've ever coached in. Coming back from a 3-1 deficit was like winning the state championship. Literally giving them the shirts off our backs after the game was a terrific gesture by our players. I'm real proud of the effort our guys gave and the way they carried themselves. They were a credit to their families, Northern Virginia and the USA."

— DAVE GRAHAM

Infuse to Lose

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Your hair. Your appetite. Your energy. Your sense of taste. Your sense of immortality. Your sense of order. Your boyish figure. But you can never lose hope or your dignity, and you especially can't lose the battle with your emotions. Moreover, you absolutely can't lose your sense of humor. If I've heard it from one health care professional, I've heard it from many; if I've heard it from one friend and/or acquaintance touched by cancer, I've heard it from many: staying positive about this incredibly negative set of health circumstances in which I find myself immersed, is the best way to fight.

What's the alternative, really? Be a dismal Jimmy? A gloomy Gus? A stick in the mud (to quote one of my wife, Dina's, favorite Kenny-characterizations)? Hardly. Where's the fun in any of that? Or rather, what's the point in feeling sorry for yourself? From what I've seen and read and heard from friends, family members and readers (thank you all very, very much), there are already plenty of people feeling sorry for me; sending and remembering me in their prayers, encouraging and supporting me in my hours of need, offering assistance and information, all of which I definitely need and appreciate.

However, moving forward, I am not going negative nor am I feeling hopeless. An unexpected outpouring of emotional back-stopping will do that. Life goes on, although when I look in the mirror, I do see Uncle Fester (Jackie Coogan) from The Addams Family staring back at me (a chemo moment, you might say). In this incarnation, Fester is not wearing that black tunic thing with the Elizabethan-type collar he always wore; he is bald, though, with no eyebrows, minimal facial hair and eyes with no lashes. As a result of this stark – and somewhat self-conscious – appearance, I am often seen wearing a Boston Red Sox baseball cap (unlike Fester), forever supportive of my hometown team.

The hat/head cover has been my only concession/acceptance of the cancer. I just can't go around bald; having had a full head of thick, curly black hair my whole life; seeing myself without a strand would have been too much to bare. I don't mind feeling the fear, living the life and walking the walk (one of the side effects from one of the chemo drugs makes it hard to run), but looking the part is a bit more than I can take. In my mind, so long as I don't look like I feel, I won't feel like I look, lousy. I suppose it's sort of like mental gymnastics, a kind of mind-over-what-really-matters. However, when the going gets tough, it's tough not to react in ways unforeseen and maybe even unanticipated. Finding ways (or rationalizations) to hold your head up high and reinforce whatever positive vibe you can emotionally embrace helps to defeat the demons.

As Herman Edwards, former head football coach of The New York Jets and most recently, The Kansas City Chiefs, is famous for saying: "You play to win the game!" And that's exactly what I'm trying to do. Except this is no game of football, this is the game of life.

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



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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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Northern Virginia Family Service, is soliciting bids for play ground work in Arlington (601 Vermont St) and Manassas (9444 Taney Rd), for Early Head Start children age zero to two. For detailed bid information please contact Daniel Lindsay (703-219-2143; dlindsay@nvfs.org). You may bid on one site or both. Sites will be available to review directly. All bids must be in compliance with Davis Bacon Act, CPSC Handbook Public Playground Safety, State and county child care regulations. All sealed bids are due by 4:00 PM on 8/24 to: Karen Allen, Vice President/Early Childhood Division, NVFS, 10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22134. Work must be completed before September 30, 2009.

For questions about the ad please contact Dan Lindsay at 703-219-2143. For payment please contact Irene LaBranche at 703-219-2109.



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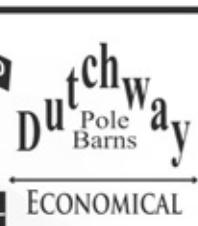
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COMMUNITY

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Bashir B. El-Khoury has graduated from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md. He received a medical degree and was commissioned as a captain in the U.S. Air Force. El-Khoury, son of Charbel and Germaine El-Khoury of Golden Arrow St. in Great Falls, has served in the military for four years. He is a 2001 graduate of Langley High School, and received a bachelor's degree in 2005 from the University of Virginia at Charlottesville.

Susanne Giattina of Great Falls was presented the Toby Award and the Richard W. and Marie F. Venable Award at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine in Blacksburg, Va. The Toby Award is given to a student who shows special compassion for lost, abandoned, or homeless dogs, and who has a demonstrated aptitude for treating canine gastrointestinal diseases.

Philicia Kennedy-Flamer of Great Falls has graduated with a bachelor of arts degree from Ithaca College's School of Humanities and Sciences. Kennedy-Flamer is the daughter of Bettie Kennedy of Great Falls and Philip Flamer of Herndon.

William Monica of Great Falls has received a bachelor of science degree from The College of Saint Rose in Albany, N.Y.

Nicholas Adagio of Great Falls, a graduate of Gonzaga High School, has been named to the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Co. He was appointed to the academy by Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10th).

Great Falls residents **Alexander Michael Gregory** and **Natasha Sheibani** have graduated from Radford University in Radford, Va. Gregory, son of Andrew Michael Gregory, earned a bachelor of business degree in marketing. Sheibani earned a bachelor of science degree in communication.

Scott William Dulany of Great Falls has graduated with a bachelor of arts, and was also named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

Michael Edward Humenansky of Great Falls has graduated with a B.S. in business, and was also named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

Adrienne Marie De Santis of Great Falls has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

Homes Tour to Benefit Charities

FROM PAGE 10

ready been working on the event since February, when calls to advertise in the tour brochure were issued. "It's been harder this year just because of the economy, but the merchants in this area are fabulous," she said. "They come through."

The group is also looking for restaurants to donate food for the event and "gently used treasures" for the Grandma's Attic portion of the marketplace.

Cooper said club members had asked her about putting her house on the tour while it was still being built. The shape of the house is only one of its distinguishing features. For instance, an oversized breezeway connects the house to the garage, topped by a 16- by 16-foot skylight. "This is my love," Cooper said. "I've had 30 people seated for dinner on the porch."

Twenty more can be seated in the dining room, where three French doors offer a view of the terraced garden. Off the kitchen are a windowed walk-in pantry and a private office. On the second floor, an octagonal balcony circles the atrium, connecting two guest rooms, the laundry room and the master bedroom. A third guest room is located in the basement, and each has its own bathroom and walk-in closet.

The closet and bathroom in the master bedroom, though, are not only larger but also more personalized. The closet, which Cooper called "embarrassingly large," includes a three-way mirror and built-in

dresser. In the bathroom, two sinks face each other, separated by a mirror. Behind a spacious, glass-block and tile shower is a Jacuzzi-style tub adorned with a rubber ducky collection that Cooper said her boyfriend suggested. Altogether, the master suite wraps around about half of the upstairs.

Much of the basement is taken up by a sizeable family room. There is a very small room as well, a lit and carpeted "secret room" off the utility room, for Cooper's grandchildren to play in. Also for the grandchildren — and, presumably, for the more adventurous house tourist — is a secret passage between the closet in the guest room and the closet under the stairs, also lit and carpeted.

Outside, a covered porch encircles the house. "I designed that so my grandchildren could ride their tricycles in the rain," Cooper said.

SHE HAS CHOSEN all of her own color schemes and decorations, including the living room's trompe l'oeil painting of Renoir's "The Luncheon of the Boating Party," in which each of the faces is one of her family members.

"I built this house to live in, to entertain in and to make people comfortable in, not to be ostentatious," she said.

Tickets for the tour will cost \$20 and will be available Oct. 17 through the Woman's Club of McLean Web site and at select retailers.

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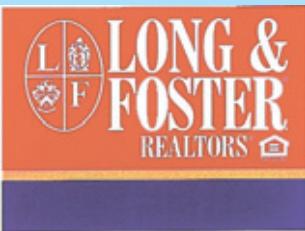
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