

McLean CONNECTION Being Earnest Still Important

NEWS, PAGE 12

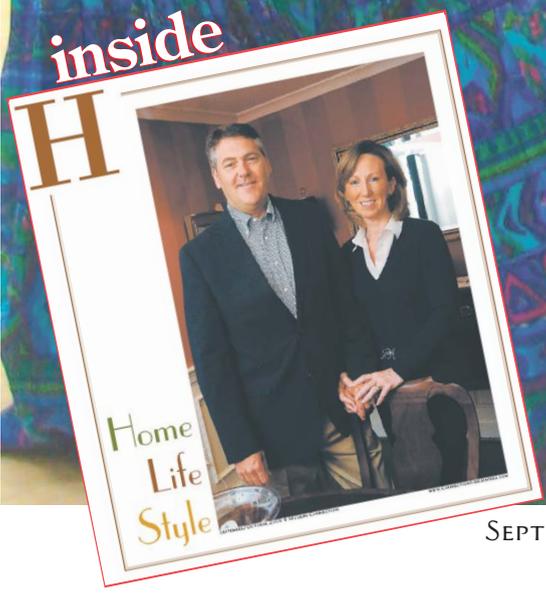


At a rehearsal for the McLean Community Players' upcoming production of 'The Importance of Being Earnest,' Lady Bracknell, played by Columba Hoban, discusses protocol for marriage engagement with Matthew Scarborough's Jack Worthing, as Gwendolyn Fairfax, played by Heather Benjamin, looks on.

Few Attend Meeting on Toll Hike

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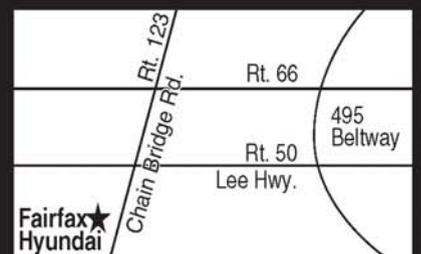


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Few Attend Meeting on Toll Hike

Some criticize the format and timing of the meeting.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

There were over a hundred vehicles in the McLean High School parking lot on the evening of Sept. 3 but very few of their drivers bothered to stop by the public hearing on a potential Dulles Toll Road rate increase.

Instead, students were attending pre-season sports practice and families came to watch a practice run of the McLean marching band's routine. School teachers and administrators were preparing for the start of school last week.

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority seems poised to increase the fee to use the Dulles Toll Road by 100 percent at the road's main line plaza and 33 percent at the ramps over the next two and half years.

But only a handful of citizens — fewer than five residents during a 90-minute stretch in the middle of the hearing — showed up to the airports authority event in McLean, even though the organization had over 30 experts and staff members on hand to talk with concerned citizens.

"It is almost universally recognized that the worst time for public meetings is late August and early September," said Fairfax County Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).

UNDER THE CURRENT proposal, the main line plaza toll, which is currently 75 cents, would increase 25 cents every January through 2012, when it reaches \$1.50. The ramp tolls would also jump from the current fee of 50 cents to 75 cents in 2010.

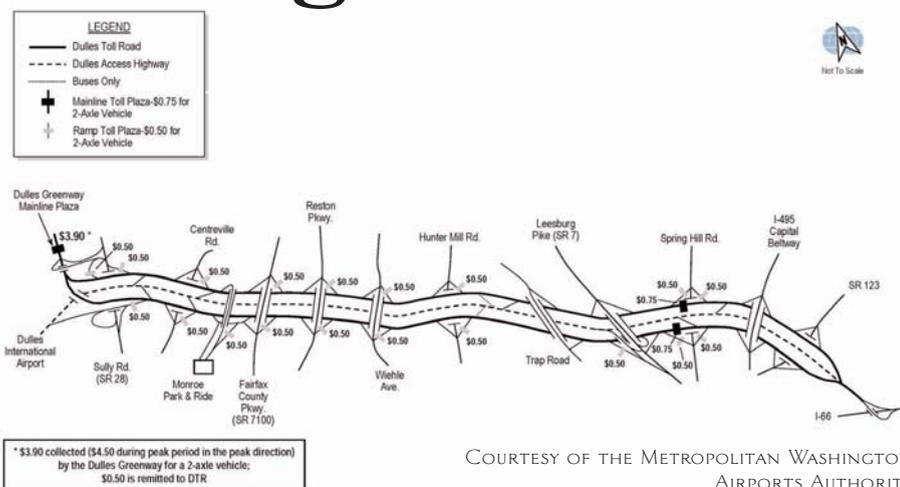
Revenue from the Dulles Toll Road will be used to cover a little over half of the cost of the \$5.25 billion Metrorail extension to Dulles International Airport and beyond in Loudoun County. Approximately \$120 million in collected fees will also be spent on upgrades to the toll road itself, according to the airports authority's presentation.

But in order to cover the debt service costs for the rail project, gross toll revenue will need to increase from \$65 million in 2008 to \$87 million in 2010 and \$220 million in 2020, according to the authority's own documents.

To meet those funding projection, the airports authority is likely to have to raise the toll again in 2013 and beyond, which will mean another set of public hearings in a few years.

Foust hopes future hearings are scheduled a more appropriate time when more people can participate.

"I haven't heard lots of complaints about



COURTESY OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIRPORTS AUTHORITY

McLean residents worry that Dulles Toll Road users will avoid rate hikes at the main plaza by getting on and off the highway at Route 7 and Spring Hill Road.

Dulles Toll Road Fee Increase Proposal

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority is considering the following rate hike on the Dulles Toll Road. The increase will help pay for improvement to the access road and the construction of the Dulles Metrorail extension into Loudoun County. Revenue from the Dulles Toll Road is expected to provide 52.6 percent of the funding for Metro's new silver line.

The airports authority will consider tolls increases for 2013 and beyond when they have better grasp of the revenue the road is producing.

The following tolls are only for those vehicles with two axles:

	Current	2010	2011	2012
Main Line Plaza Toll	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$1.50
Ramp Toll	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$0.75	\$0.75

the initial toll increase but I have heard complaints about these public meetings. They should not have been scheduled for late August and early September," said Foust, who represents McLean on the county board.

ACCORDING TO airports authority staff, just 44 people showed up to the first hearing on the toll increase held in Ashburn during the last week of August. There was a higher turnout at the third and final public hearing in Reston Sept. 9.

The airports spokesperson Tara Hamilton said the organization was forced to hold public hearings during late August and early September in order to give the authority's board of directors enough time to review citizen input and still vote on the rate hike proposal in November.

The airports board needs to decide on the increases by the end of 2009 so that staff can implement the first rate hike at the toll road gates in January.

But Foust found not only the time of year but also the time of day that the meeting was held to be problematic for capturing public input: All three hearings started at 5 p.m., when most residents are either en route from their office or still at work. Those lucky enough to already be home in the early evening tend not to want to get in their cars and fight rush hour traffic to attend a community meeting, he said.

Hamilton responded that the airports authority specifically started their hearings early and ended them rather late, at 8 p.m., in an effort to be as flexible as possible.

Some people might prefer to come to the meeting earlier in the evening and those who get home from work later could stop by closer to the end of the session, she said.

STILL, some citizens were also troubled by the format of the hearings.

Residents could talk to some of the airports authority staff and consultants individually as they walked through a comprehensive presentation of the project. After visiting all the stations, they were asked to fill comment cards with their thoughts on the toll increase.

But there was no opportunity for people to publicly share their opinion of the toll hike with a crowd or to listen to what other citizens had to say about the proposal.

"There is something about being able to step up to a microphone and share your perspective. People can listen to other people and there is a certain dynamic that develops," said Rob Jackson, president of the McLean Citizens Association.

According to Hamilton, the airports authority is using other methods to gauge public opinion. The group has made the public hearings' presentation available at its Web site and had allowed people to submit their comments electronically until Sept. 14.

BEYOND THE WAY the meetings were conducted, Jackson does have some concerns over the substance of the airports authority's toll increase proposal.

When the toll increases take effect, a cer

SEE MEETING, PAGE 7



Supervisor Linda Smyth (D-Providence), PRS President and CEO Wendy Gradison and Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville).

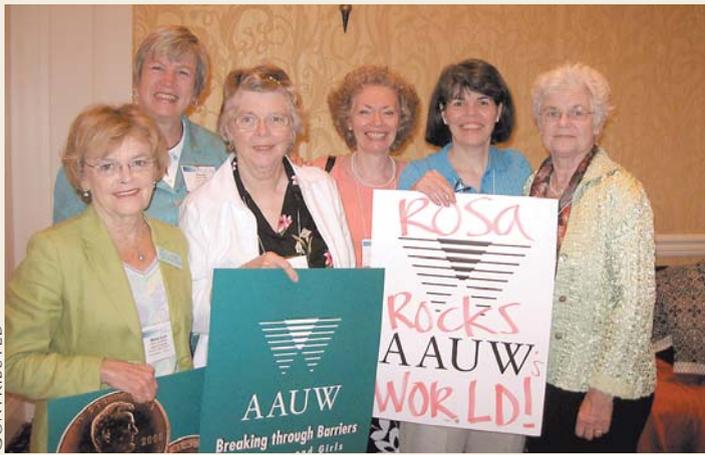
PRS Tysons Officially Opens

More than 150 people attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for PRS Tysons, formerly Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services, on Aug. 6 on Old Meadow Road in McLean. Fairfax County Supervisors Linda Smyth (D-Providence) and John Foust (D-Dranesville), State Del. Ken Plum (D-36) and PRS Chairman of the Board Richard Brewster helped PRS President and CEO Wendy Gradison cut the ribbon officially opening PRS Tysons.

PRS staff and clients were joined by friends and supporters who wanted to see, first hand, the new programs that emanate from PRS Tysons. The guests heard personal stories from two clients, one receiving services from the Day Program and the other from Employment and Mental Health Support Services. Lunch and facility tours were provided by the Day Program clients, and slide shows and videos about PRS' services and supports were running in various rooms for guests to watch.

PRS is a 501(c)(3) community-based organization that has been providing skills training and rehabilitation services since 1963 to Northern Virginia residents in recovery from serious mental illness. PRS Tysons is the new site consolidating two prior Day Programs, PRS Reston and PRS Falls Church. Services offered at PRS Tysons include Psychosocial Rehabilitation Day Programming, Supported Employment Services and individualized Mental Health Support Services provided in community locations.

For more information about PRS, visit Web site at www.prsinc.org.



AAUW Delegates Attend National Convention

Delegates from the McLean Branch AAUW attended the national convention in St. Louis. Pictured, from left, are Mary Lou Melley, Sandy Sieber, Ginger MacEwen, Rebecca Horahan, Jo Young and Peggy Stotz. Lilly Ledbetter and U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) were featured speakers. For information on the McLean Branch AAUW, visit www.mcleanaauw.org or attend the open house on Sunday, Sept. 27 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center.

Community Foundation Solicits Applications

The McLean Community Foundation — the new name for the McLean Citizens Foundation — is accepting grant applications for the October funding cycle. All applications must meet the criteria in the grants policy and use the application on the MCF Web site. Applications must be postmarked or delivered by Oct. 1.

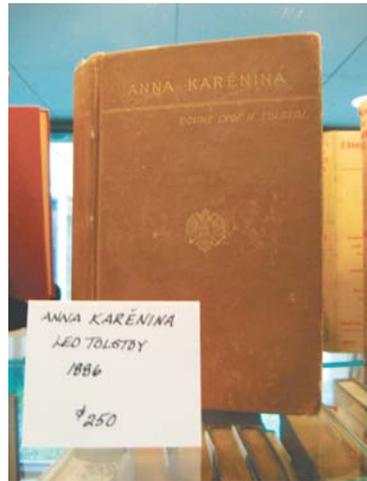
In the past 28 years, McLean's hometown foundation has donated almost \$1M to local non-profits for projects that benefit the citizens of the McLean area. Any questions, contact Adrienne Whyte at 703-241-1095.

Registration Open For MPA Art Classes

Registration is open for Art Classes at the McLean Project for the Arts with a variety of art classes available for children, teens and adults taught by instructors from the Corcoran College of Art + Design.

For the complete list of classes and to register, visit the MPA Web site at www.mpaart.org

McLean Project for the Arts is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Phone 703-790-1953. Hours are Tuesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 1-5 p.m.



A printing of Leo Tolstoy's 'Anna Karenina' from 1866, possibly a first edition, was one of the most valuable treasures to be found at the book sale.

Bargains of All Sizes

Annual AAUW book sale brings cheap paperbacks, rare finds.

All of the 40,000 or so books available at the McLean American Association of University Women's (AAUW) annual book sale last weekend were priced at bargain rates, even though one sold for \$400. That was a second-edition copy of Charles Darwin's "The Origin of the Species," worth considerably more than its sale price.

Most of the books for sale were priced at \$1 or \$2, but an entire room was dedicated to higher-priced "treasures," while another housed children's books.

"This is our 40th year doing this and some of us work very hard all



Friday and Saturday, hundreds of residents of McLean, the surrounding area and beyond descended on a collection of about 40,000 used books in the McLean Community Center.



Unkyung Shin and her son, Brian, 7, browse the children's room.

summer long sorting these books, as you can imagine," said Bettie Clark, a past president of the McLean chapter of the AAUW and one of the event chairs for the sale, which drew hundreds of people to the McLean Community Center Friday and Saturday.

The event was to raise money for the national AAUW Educational Foundation, which provides grants to graduate women, and also to fund three local scholarships. Those scholarships are for George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College and the School of Professional

Studies at Trinity University in Washington, D.C. Two are for women returning to college and one is for a graduate of Pimmit Hills High School, the alternative school where the chapter has a tutoring program. Proceeds from the sale will also go to the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund, which supports women challenging sex discrimination in higher education.

The books were amassed in May and July during six collection days in McLean, Vienna, Falls Church and Arlington.

— MIKE DICICCO

Scout Improves Volunteers' Safety

Walkway at Share Inc. headquarters allows safer deliveries.

Volunteers at Share Inc. now have a safer, easier way to bring deliveries into their headquarters at McLean Baptist Church as a result of recent efforts by McLean resident Holden Gibson. For his Eagle Scout project, Gibson coordinated and oversaw the construction of a concrete walkway from the parking

lot, where delivery trucks arrive, to the organization's storage facility.

Previously, volunteers for Share, a nonprofit organization that provides goods and services to the area's needy, had to carry goods to and from delivery trucks across a dirt embankment, limiting their ability to use carts and creating a

safety hazard during rainy or snowy weather. Thanks to Gibson's project, volunteers can now walk safely up and down the path and can carry larger loads to and from storage using carts.

The concrete walkway that McLean resident Holden Gibson built allows volunteers for the charitable organization Share Inc. to safely bring deliveries to and from their headquarters in McLean Baptist Church.



Beltway to Close Late-Night

On the morning of Sept. 25, all lanes of the Beltway at Chain Bridge Road will be shut down several times between midnight and 5 a.m. for up to 30 minutes at a time, according to the Virginia Department of Transportation. The closure includes the beltway ramps to and from Route 123.

The closure will allow Dominion Virginia Power to relocate overhead power lines for the Dulles Corridor Metrorail project. For details, visit www.vamegaprojects.com/news/featured-headlines/total-beltway-closure-at-route-123-Friday.

For project-related construction emergencies, call the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project Hotline at 1-877-585-6789. Information on the Dulles Rail project is available at www.dullesmetro.com or by calling 703-572-0506.

Langley School Hosts Technology Conference

Teachers at The Langley School will share their cutting-edge, technology-rich curriculum with fellow educators during a two-day technology conference this fall. "Creative Pursuits: Integrating Technology into 21st Century Classrooms" is an interactive conference for preschool through secondary school educators featuring nearly 30 workshops led by Langley faculty members and outside experts, many of which will be held in the classroom with Langley students for a truly authentic learning experience. The conference, which runs Oct. 8-9, at Langley's McLean campus, also features a "tech playground" with more than 20 stations which allow attendees to quickly browse various digital tools and a Q&A with a panel of Langley faculty, alumni and students.

"At Langley, technology is integrated into all aspects of the curriculum and our teachers are extremely savvy when it comes to using digital tools to enhance learning," said Dr. Lee Nelms, Langley's director of technology and communication and one of the conference organizers.

To learn more about the Creative Pursuits conference, or to register online, log on to www.langleyschool.org/creativepursuits.



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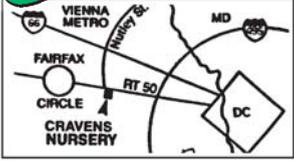
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NEWS

Body Found in Park Identified

Police say no sign of foul play.

The body found in Greenway Heights Park on Aug. 30 has been identified as Kevin Thomas Edwards, 50, of Tyndale Street in McLean, police spokesman Don Gotthardt said. He said the cause of death had not

yet been determined because the body was badly decomposed, but that there were no signs of foul play. "The working theory is that it was either natural causes or a suicide," Gotthardt said.

A man walking his dog discovered the body several hundred yards from the road. Gotthardt could not confirm reports that investigators found a knife nearby.

— MIKE DICICCO

CRIME

Activities reported by the McLean District of the Fairfax County Police Department through Sept. 11.

BURGLARY/ ASSAULT/ ARREST

2000 block of Leonard Road. Two men were arrested for burglary on Sunday, Sept. 6. Around 4:16 a.m., an 18-year-old man heard a knock on his door in the 2000 block of Leonard Road. When he answered the door, one of the men allegedly pushed him inside and assaulted him and the second suspect followed them inside the home. The victim resisted and after a brief struggle, both suspects fled on foot. An investigation determined at least one of the suspects lived nearby and officers apprehended both of them a short time later. A 20-year-old male of the 7700 block of Fisher Drive in Falls Church, and a 23-year-old male of the 1000 block of 1030 Gelston Circle in McLean, were transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention

Center and charged with burglary. The 23-year-old was additionally charged with assault. The victim did not require medical attention.

FILING A FALSE REPORT TO POLICE/

OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE/

RESISTING ARREST/ ARREST

8500 block of Cottage St. A 24-year-old woman was charged with filing a false police report on Sunday, Sept. 6. Around 1:47 a.m., the woman allegedly called police to report a burglary. Officers arrived and the woman was reportedly uncooperative as they were trying to obtain information about what happened. An investigation ultimately determined no burglary had occurred. As they attempted to take the woman into custody, she reportedly resisted but officers were able to detain her. The woman, of the 8500 block of Cottage St. in Vienna,

was transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center and charged with filing a false police report, obstruction of justice and resisting arrest.

LARCENIES

2900 block of Annandale Road. Cash stolen from business.
6500 block of Arlington Blvd. Air compressor, nail guns, circular saw and drill stolen from vehicle.
1900 block of Birch Road. iPhone stolen from vehicle.
1400 block of Chain Bridge Road. Cellular phone stolen from business.
1900 block of Chain Bridge Road. Cash stolen from business.
1900 block of Chain Bridge Road. Jacket stolen from business
Graham Road/Arlington Blvd. Bicycle stolen from business.
2800 block of Hyson Lane. Ring stolen from residence.

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NEWS

Meeting Timing Questioned

FROM PAGE 3

tain number of toll road drivers will decide to take an alternate route to work in order to avoid paying extra money, said Jackson. The McLean Citizens Association would like to have more data on how many of these drivers would use an alternate route and which corridors, like Georgetown Pike, could be negatively impacted.

"We want to know what is going to happen to traffic and what [the airports authority] is going to do about it," said Jackson.

Jackson is particularly concerned that several drivers will be motivated to circumvent the main toll plaza, where most of the fee increases will be implemented, by using the toll road's Route 7 access points. By getting on and off the toll road at the Route 7 ramp in Tysons Corner, vehicles could avoid going through the main plaza and paying most of the extra fee altogether, he said.



Hermitage design/gallery

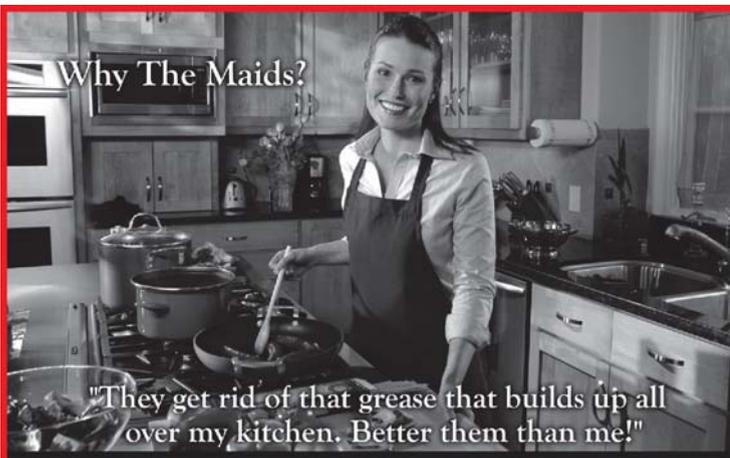
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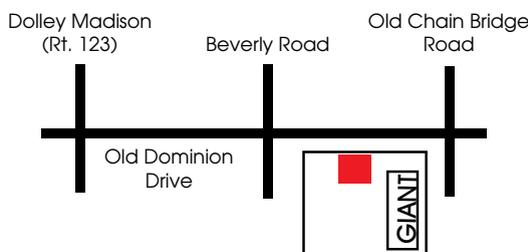
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OPINION

More Advanced Courses

More participation in upper level courses bodes well for students headed to college.

Fairfax County schools reported this week that about 20,000 students are taking at least one Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate course this fall, an increase of 700 over last year.

Students benefit from participating in advanced level coursework in many ways. Coping with even one class with higher-level expectations helps in preparation for college classes. Completing advanced courses in high school is a good indication of a student's ability to complete college level work. While that ability is just one element of college success — organization, time management, discipline and more are major factors

— the confidence that comes with the experience is key.

Many students who have taken a full AP or IB program report an easier time with the academics of their first year of college, although there are no doubt plenty of other adjustments to make.

Students who take a full complement of AP or IB coursework also lay the groundwork for getting more out of college, and possibly paying less.

A good score on AP or IB exams can be counted for credit in some colleges, so a student with many advanced credits from high school can move directly into upper levels of courses when they arrive in college. And with

credit, some students are able to graduate in three or three-and-a-half years, potentially saving tens of thousands of dollars in the meantime.

Parents and students in schools that offer International Baccalaureate instead of Advanced Placement should know that students who successfully complete an IB course are likely to perform well on the related AP exam, and would be well advised to register to take that AP test. While most colleges accept an AP score of 3 or more for either credit or placement, some colleges are still less consistent about how they handle IB test results. Having the AP test score can make the process in college much simpler. High schools offering IB should also be encouraging their students to take the AP exams.

— MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

EDITORIAL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Interview Reflects Choices to Make

To the Editor:

I read with interest your interviews with Margaret Vanderhye and Barbara Comstock, candidates for House of Delegates District 34 ["Battle for 34th District," Connection, Sept. 9-15, 2009]. While both seem to be honorable people, I was struck by how their answers mirror the different choices we are faced with at the national level.

Margaret Vanderhye's proposals and suggestions seem to be centered on spending money, creating bureaucracies and directing additional funds to favored programs. Barbara Comstock, on the other hand, seems more interested in helping people and businesses succeed on their own without excessive taxes or government regulations.

One example was Ms. Vanderhye's comment that her mission would be to get additional government funding for transportation programs. We all want solutions to the traffic problems in Fairfax County, but the answer isn't always to spend more money, especially with the budget crisis we're facing. Ms. Comstock's solution — changing the HOV lanes from three to two passengers — shows creativity in addressing problems without spending more taxpayers' money. Likewise, Ms. Comstock supports offshore drilling as a way to generate revenues from a source besides taxing Virginians.

Even their ideas on funding schools are at odds, with Ms.

Comstock pushing money directly to the classroom while Ms. Vanderhye talks about establishing new government "programs" and "partnerships."

I'm sure both candidates want to do their best for the community, but it seems Ms. Comstock is more focused on putting the power in the hands of the people, not the government.

Jon Pelson
Great Falls

Record Contradicts 'Campaign Resume'

To the Editor:

In the last week's Connection ["Battle for 34th District"], Barbara Comstock promotes her moderate credentials, invoking Frank Wolf's name in three out of four of her answers. Her work for Frank Wolf ended more than 14 years ago, but just last year she was a stridently conservative television pundit and cheerleader for Sarah Palin (and founding member of the Team Sarah Web site). In the last 10 years Comstock was a defense strategist for Tom Delay, spearheaded fundraising for J. "Scooter" Libby's defense fund, and was public affairs officer for the Department of Justice during John Ashcroft's tenure. Her 2004 article in the National Review labeled Al Gore "unhinged" and "comically absurd."

This highly partisan, "win at all costs" Republican strategist is go-

ing to great lengths to appeal to moderates but her words and video clips, easily found in the age of Google, contradict her "campaign resume." Her current high profile fundraisers include Karl Rove, Eric Cantor and Mitt Romney. Barbara Comstock may want voters to only focus on her work in Frank Wolf's office but we need to ask her — what has she done for Northern Virginia lately?

Cecile Glendening
McLean

Bob Hampton's Baseball Stories

To the Editor:

Thank you for your recent feature article on my friend and McLean icon, Bob Hampton ("From Ensign to Coach," McLean Connection, Aug. 26-Sept. 1, 2009). Bob and I have been friends for over 25 years when my children first began playing baseball and softball at McLean Little League.

About seven years ago, long after my own children were grown, I got the itch and decided to coach a new double A team of boys. When Bob, who was then 82, offered to assist me, I was delighted, figuring I would do the physical part and simply take advantage of Bob's years of baseball wisdom with pep talks to the team. What I didn't count on was his extraordinary vitality at such an advanced age. Bob was out on the field pitching batting practice, hitting balls to the outfielders and teaching base running skills. We even had a 40-yard dash and he amazingly finished

ahead of several of the 10-year-olds.

Bob is a delightful man who has been an asset to our community for over 40 years. If you get a chance to meet him, let him entertain you with his many baseball stories, including the time when he walked up unannounced to the home of Ted Williams and spent the next hour chatting with the all time greatest hitter in the comfort of Williams' living room.

Ray Evert
McLean

Book Sale A Success

To the Editor:

Thank you Connection Newspapers for your coverage of McLean AAUW's 40th annual book sale. We raised a record amount of money and we thank the community for its enthusiastic support. We also wish to thank the McLean Community Center staff for their assistance and for the generosity of the Sun Trust Bank in Vienna, which made the collection of books possible. McLean AAUW contributes to the AAUW Educational Foundation which distributed over 3 million dollars for grants and fellowships for the 2009-2010 academic year. McLean AAUW also awards local scholarships to women completing degrees at George Mason University, Trinity University School of Professional Studies in Washington, D.C. and to graduates of Pimmit Hills Alternative High School who are starting college studies.

Rebecca Horahan
On behalf of McLean AAUW

THE CONNECTION

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McLean

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SCHOOLS

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

Arlen Papazian of McLean attended the Cornell University Summer College program.

Brigid Donovan of McLean has been named to the third trimester honors list at Saint James School in St. James, Md. The tenth grader is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Donovan of McLean.

McLean residents **Lee Betancourt**, a senior, **Catharine Comstock**, a junior, and **Caitlin-Marie Ward**, a sophomore, have been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Villanova University in Villanova, Pa.

Cara Roddy of McLean has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Champlain College in Burlington, Vt. Roddy is the daughter of Diana and Timothy Roddy of McLean.

Erin Ellis of McLean has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Ct. Ellis is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mervyn I. Ellis of McLean.

Bennett Silverman of McLean has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Ct. Silverman is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Alan Silverman of McLean.

Anna Marie Altieri of McLean has received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Lynchburg College.

Christopher Braden Vernet has been selected by the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg for Honors Admission. Vernet is the son of Lindsey Stelluayen and Serge Vernet of McLean, and a graduate of McLean School of Maryland, where he received the Rensselaer Medal Award for outstanding academic achievement.

Eric Finland of Mclean has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at the Berklee College of Music in Boston, Ma.

McLean residents **Alexander Bollweg** and **William Tyler Beale** have graduated from Radford University in Radford, Va. Bollweg, son of Erika Bollweg, earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry. Beale, son of William Gordon Beale, earned a bachelor of business degree in accounting.

McLean residents **Trey DeGeorges**, a graduate of Gonzaga High School, and **Sean Flint**, a graduate of McLean High School, have been named to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. They were appointed to the academy by Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10th).

Christian Smith of McLean, a graduate of Georgetown Prep, has been named to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. He was appointed to the academy by Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10th).

Amy Buck of McLean has graduated with a bachelor of science degree from Ithaca College's Roy H. Park School of Communications. Buck is the daughter of Rodney and Patricia Buck of McLean.

SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE 13



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CALENDAR

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Astrobiology At Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. 7 p.m. Free. With Michael Summers, Department of Physics and Astronomy, George Mason University. Part of a series sponsored by the Analemma Society and the Great Falls Library to celebrate 2009, The International Year of Astronomy. 703-757-8560.

Ballyhoo!, Black White Radio, Monako and Prettier In Person. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

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

Model Investment Club of Northern Virginia. 7 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Adults. 703-356-0770.

Emerson Gallery Reception and Gallery Talk. 7-9 p.m. at the McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Featuring works by Allegra Marquart, Michael Janis and Tom Baker. 703-790-1953 or www.mpaart.org.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 18

Third Annual Birdie Davis Invitational. 1 p.m. at the Reston National Golf Course, 11875 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. To benefit the



CONTRIBUTED

Rocknoceros perform on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 12:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center Alden Theater, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean.

Trevor 'Birdie' Davis Water Safety Foundation. brad.davis@cbre.com or 703-734-4726.

Game of Love and Chance. 8 p.m. at First Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1stStageSpringHill.org.

The Hits of the Beatles. 6:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

Washington Saxophone Quartet. 3 p.m. at the Alden Theatre in the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. 703-790-0123.

Barrage. 7:30 p.m. Langley High School Orchestra Society in concert at the Langley High School Auditorium, featuring the band Barrage. Tickets \$20. kamla@kcbpartners.org

Northern Virginia Country Western

Dance Association, at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Line dance lessons at 7:30 p.m., couples specialty dances at 8 p.m. Open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. Members \$10, non-members \$12. 703-860-4941 or www.nvcwda.org.

The 4th Annual Coldwell Banker Cares Foundation Fundraiser. 5-7 p.m., at Anita's, 521 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Food, silent auction, raffle prizes, sports tickets and more.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 20

The Pork Dukes, S.P.O.T.S., Jumpship (ex-Images) and Point Blank at 1 p.m. and **Tony Lucca, Jay Nash, Matt Duke and Christopher Williams** at 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Fall Concert on the Green, 6-8

proceeds to benefit HomesForOurTroops.org and CasaFairfax.org. \$25 age 14 and older, \$10 age 6-13, under 6 free. 703-938-5600.

William Henry Seward: Lincoln's Right Hand With Local Author John M. Taylor. 2 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Local author will discuss his book. View a documentary based on the book. Adults. 703-790-8088.

Redeemer Lutheran Church Fall Festival. 5-8 p.m. at the church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Free admission. Book sale and holiday bazaar, live music, moonbounce, magician, games and more. www.redeemerlutheran.org.

The Seekers. Soft rock. 4 p.m. at the Palladium Civic Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Free. 702-288-9505.

Game of Love and Chance. 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. at First Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1stStageSpringHill.org.

The Hits of the Beatles at 2 p.m., **Rocknoceros Family Happy Hour** at 7 p.m., and **Chainsaw Baby CD Release**, Trauma DeVille VA CD Release and Sore Eyes at 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

p.m., A Neil Young Tribute at the Great Falls Village Centre.

Washington Symphonic Brass, with 17 brass and percussion players. 4 p.m. at St. Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. \$25, including post-concert refreshments and a chance to meet the performers. Age 17 and under free. 703-759-5334 or www.amadeusconcerts.com.

Pete Francis (from Dispatch) and Jesse Ruben. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Dhoonya Dance Workshop. 11 a.m. at 1400 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. 703-678-8700 or www.dhoonyadance.com.

Game of Love and Chance. 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at First Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1stStageSpringHill.org.

Traveling Players Ensemble in Moliere's 'Imaginary Invalid', at Wolf Trap's International Children's Festival. 11 a.m. at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts. 703-987-1712 or www.travelingplayers.org.

MONDAY/SEPT. 21

Open Mic Showcase hosted by Ron Goad. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 22

DC Rocks for the Cure, Memphis 59, Trusfall and The Dialogue. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Pete Francis from Dispatch. 7:30 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Autumn Is for Apples. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Enjoy stories and activities for the season. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-356-0770.

Rocknoceros. 12:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center Alden Theater, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. www.mcleancenter.org.

Pete Francis (from Dispatch) and Jesse Ruben. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 24

Alzheimer's Family Day Center's 25th Anniversary Garden Party. 6-9 p.m. at The Atrium at Meadowlark Botanical Garden, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. \$25. Fine food and drink, live music and a silent auction. Visit the event website to see the list of auction items. All proceeds will benefit the center's therapeutic programming. 703-204-4664 or afdc@alzheimersfdc.org. www.alzheimersfdc.org/25th.htm.

High Tea and Passion for "ChariTea" Raffle. 2-4 p.m. at River Bend Golf and Country Club, 375 Walker Road, Great Falls. Auction proceeds will benefit the Artemis House, Happy Hugs, Camp Frasier, Lift Me Up, Volunteer Emergency Families for Children and more. \$28. Send checks made out to GFWC to Debby Bailine, 9901 Blackmore Vale Way, Great Falls, VA 22066. 703-757-2244 or 703-759-2077.

Dean Fields, The Brilliant Inventions, Cletus & Lori and Ellen Cherry. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 23

Pete Francis from Dispatch. 7:30 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 25

Game of Love and Chance. 8 p.m. at First Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1stStageSpringHill.org.

The Beach Boys - Twisted! at 6:30 p.m. and **BetaRaz Presents: Powerhouse** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

Derek Webb with Sandra McCracken, 6 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Game of Love and Chance. 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. at First Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1stStageSpringHill.org.

The Beach Boys - Twisted! at 1:30 p.m., **Derek Webb CD Release and Sandra McCracken** at 6 p.m. and **Allmanact** at 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 27

Derek Webb with Sandra McCracken, 7 p.m. At Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Game of Love and Chance. 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at First Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1stStageSpringHill.org.

Derek Webb CD Release and Sandra McCracken. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

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THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

McLean Connection • SEPTEMBER 16-22, 2009

Being Earnest Still Important

McLean Community Players bring "timeless" playwright to community center stage.

BY MIKE DiCICCO
THE CONNECTION

Jenna Allen, who will play Cecily Cardew next week in the McLean Community Players' production of "The Importance of Being Earnest" said she thought the play was as funny today as when it premiered in 1895. "It's great to do [Oscar Wilde's] plays because he's just timeless," she said.

Much of the script's humor is derived from poking fun at the Victorian upper class of the era in which it was written, but Adam Downs, who plays Algernon Moncrieff, agreed with Allen. "It's nearly 110 years old and still funny and relevant," he said. "A lot of the jokes are about marriage and the theme of husbands and wives, and that never gets old. Good taste never goes out of fashion. Snobs never get old."

"It's a great combination of high-



Lady Bracknell, played by Columba Hoban, examines the social possibilities of the facial profile of Jenna Allen's Cecily Cardew, as Gwendolyn Fairfax, played by Heather Benjamin, looks on.

brow and extreme silliness," said Heather Benjamin, who plays Gwendolyn Fairfax.



Algernon Moncrieff, played by Adam Downs, and Cecily Cardew, played by Jenna Allen, enjoy their newfound love for each other.

lous," revolves around a lost baby, cases of mistaken identity and girls who won't marry a suitor whose name isn't Ernest.

"They're so rich they have to come up with their own scrapes so they're not bored," Benjamin

Times and Tickets

"The Importance of Being Earnest" will show at the Alden Theater in the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., at 8 p.m. on Sept. 25 and 26 and Oct. 2, 3, 9 and 10 and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 27 and Saturday, Oct. 3. There will be a pre-show lecture by George Mason University theater professor Rick Davis at 1 p.m. at the Oct. 3 showing. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$13 for students and seniors and can be purchased at the box office, by phone at 703-790-9223 or through Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT (7328) or www.ticketmaster.com. For more information, visit www.mcleanplayers.org.

said of the characters.

"I love this show. How could you not love it?" asked Columba Hoban, who plays Lady Bracknell, adding that the script contained "some of the best lines in English literature." She said her character had some of the choicest of those lines, quoting, "To lose one parent, Mr. Worthing, may be regarded as a misfortune; to lose both looks like carelessness." It was not the first time she had played the character, and a number of other cast members had acted in the play before, albeit in different roles. Burns had even played Lady Bracknell at his boys' school in

SEE PLAYERS, PAGE 19

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SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE 9

Sarah Leavitt of McLean interned for the non-profit A Wider Circle in Bethesda, Md, through Connecticut College's Career Enhancing Life Skills (CELS) program.

Alexander M. Nance of McLean has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, and has graduated from the Army ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Leader's Training Course at Fort Knox, Ky. He is the son of Jayne Peterson Nance and David S. Nance.

George Mahaney-Walter of McLean has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at the University of Rochester. Mahaney-Walter is the son of Mary Claire Mahaney and Herb Walter of McLean, and a 2006 graduate of Langley High School.

Jessica Neelsen Lillard of McLean has graduated from Miami University of Oxford, Ohio, with a bachelor of arts.

Laura Marie Woodson of McLean has graduated from Miami University of Oxford, Ohio with a bachelor of science.

McLean residents **Kelly MacKenzie Phelan** and **Camille Marie Devlin** have been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

Rashmi Agarwal of McLean has graduated cum laude from Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H. Agarwal majored in biology and minored in mathematics and chemistry. She is the daughter of Sarvendra P. and Madhulika J. Agarwal.

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COMMUNITY



CONTRIBUTED

Janet Auerbach with Ed Shahin of the McLean Rotary Foundation Board.

McLean Rotary Honors Jan Auerbach

The Rotary Club of McLean inducted community leader Janet Auerbach as a Paul Harris Fellow at its meeting last week.

“Jan is honored as a Paul Harris Fellow in special appreciation for the ways in which her life and her actions exemplify the humanitarian values and educational objectives of the Rotary International Foundation,” said McLean Rotary Club President Paul A. Frank while presenting the honor to Auerbach. “This honor recognizes Jan for her extraordinary contributions to the McLean community and the exemplary way her actions epitomize Rotary International’s motto of Service Above Self.”

In 1996 Auerbach began serving on the McLean Community Center’s Governing Board. She has

served three three-year terms as a member of the board as well as three years as board chairman.

“In the process she has earned the admiration of her peers and colleagues through her dedication to the community,” said Rick Neldon, the McLean Club’s treasurer and the former chairman of the Rotary Club of McLean Foundation Board. “Her leadership has increased the standing of the Community Center among McLean residents and has gifted McLean with a place where all its citizens can celebrate the arts in many different and exciting ways.”

Recognition as a Paul Harris Fellow is one of the highest honors a Rotary club can bestow upon an individual. Paul Harris, along with three friends, founded Rotary in 1905.

Artfest To Be Held Oct. 4

The third annual McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) artfest will be held Oct. 4 beginning at 10 a.m. in McLean Central Park, which is located at the corner of Dolley Madison Boulevard and Old Dominion Drive in McLean.

Forty juried artists and fine craftsmen from the mid-Atlantic region will showcase their works at MPAartfest, turning McLean Central Park into a landscape of mini-galleries. Works will include paintings, drawings, watercolor photography, ceramics, fine jewelry and more. Organizers expect attendance to surpass the 4,500 people who attended last year’s event.

Other MPAartfest highlights will include the Children’s ArtWalk and live entertainment by local performers. The Children’s ArtWalk, sponsored by McLean Community Foundation, will feature artwork created by elementary school children from Northern Virginia-area public and private schools.

Their creations will line the walkway from Dolley Madison Library to McLean Central Park, creating an attractive entryway to MPAartfest. Children will be able to create their own masterpieces at the Children’s Art Tent coordinated by the New Dominion Women’s Club.

MPAartfest is a free event, although a \$5 donation to help support MPAartfest and MPA programs will be appreciated. There will be free parking at the McLean Community Center and satellite parking, with free and frequent bus service to the McLean Central Park, at the Cardinal Bank located at 1313 Dolley Madison Boulevard in McLean. Local restaurants and community groups will be offering refreshments for sale.



More than 60 freshman students from George Washington University participated in a day of community service at Vinson Hall Retirement Community in McLean.

Day of Service at Vinson Hall

On the eighth anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, more than 60 freshman students from George Washington University came together in remembrance and participated in a day of community service at Vinson Hall Retirement Community in McLean.

The First Freshman Day of Service provided opportunities for students to serve the men and women who have served their country in the armed forces. Student volunteers provided a range of support for residents and Vinson Hall staff. In addition to assisting in maintaining the grounds and apartments, volunteers had the opportunity to engage in social activities with Vinson Hall residents such as gardening, playing Wii and other board games, and partici-

pating in round-table discussion groups.

“This event was a great opportunity to continue the development of an intergenerational program at Vinson Hall that fosters a sense of community and interaction among two diverse generations,” said Philip DuBois, volunteer coordinator at Vinson Hall.

Sept. 11 was officially recognized as a National Day of Service and Remembrance when the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act was signed into law earlier this year. The First Freshman Day of Service is sponsored by George Washington University and coordinated by the GW Office of Community Service in conjunction with initiatives set forth by Serve America. United Service Organizations (USO), GW Vets and GW Housing Programs also sponsored the event.

McLean Boy Scout Troop Receives Honor Troop Award

Boy Scout Troop 1130, sponsored by Charles Wesley United Methodist Church in McLean, earned the Honor Troop Award at summer camp the week of July 19-25 at Camp Rodney in North East, Md. In achieving the award, the troop received the highest marks for a clean, safe campsite, they won the campwide volleyball tournament, and they participated in the Camp Rodney triathlon, the mountain biking competition, and the closing campfire show. Thirty-one Boy Scouts, led by Life Scouts John Lewers and Neil Stechschulte, attended camp and obtained 90 merit badges including archery, basketry, camping, canoeing, climbing, environmental science, kayaking, mountain biking, rifle shooting, shotgun, sailing, space exploration, swimming, nature, and wood carving.

Thirteen first-year Boy Scouts completed a program introducing them to the basic skills required



Thirty-one Boy Scouts, led by Life Scouts John Lewers and Neil Stechschulte, attended camp and obtained 90 merit badges.

for safety in the outdoors. Jake Ahlgrimm completed the Iron Man competition, a triathlon consisting of kayak, mountain bike, and running. Peter Steele completed the 20-mile mountain bike competition through Elk Neck State Park. Tyler Clark completed the Rodney outdoor challenge which consisted of high adventure activities like flying an airplane and earning scuba qualifications. Aaron Ahlgrimm com-

pleted the mile swim event. Thanks to the residents of McLean and Falls Church for their donations and patronage of the Troop’s spring mulch sale, many of the scouts were able to attend summer camp.

If interested in joining scouting, contact the Troop 1130 Scoutmaster, Jim Ahlgrimm at 703-848-0793 or Ahlgrimm_Jim@yahoo.com for information.

Sport&Health Expands

Local health and fitness company receives \$25 million for expansion.

BY KENNETH BURCHFIEL
THE CONNECTION

Sport&Health Clubs, based in McLean, received \$25 million in mezzanine capital for senior debt payment and an extensive renovations and expansions program.

According to Mark Fisher, president and chief operating officer of Sport&Health, the company is "ready for a growth spurt." Fisher said that the financing, which comes from PNC Mezzanine Capital and CMS Mezzanine Fund, arrived at a beneficial point.

Sport&Health operates 23 fitness clubs and spas, many of which are in the Washington metropolitan area. It is the largest health and fitness provider in the D.C. area, according to Fisher.

When Sport&Health first opened in 1973, chief executive officer Jonathan Adler said, family businesses made up the area's health and fitness sector. Since then, companies based elsewhere have opened up clubs, though Fisher said that such businesses are "really not in touch" with the local consumers they serve.

Sport&Health has been locally owned for 36 years, which "gives us a big strength," said Nancy Terry, senior vice president of marketing.

THE COMPANY has a number of expansion and renovation plans in store for the coming years. Sport&Health plans to build and acquire a total of nine clubs in the next three years, according to Adler. At the same time, the company will renovate and expand a number of its existing locations. Adler said that both Regency Sport&Health and Tysons Sport&Health, two of the club's McLean locations, "are going through major renovations."

At Regency, the company has expanded the fitness floor, resurfaced the outdoor tennis courts and plans to renovate the locker rooms there. At Tysons Sport&Health, meanwhile, renovations to the front desk and hallway are planned. The company will also expand its strength and cardio fitness areas, add a climate-controlled mind and body room and relocate equipment. Two million dollars has already been invested in the center's locker rooms.

"We're hoping for substantial improvement," McLean resident William Poster said at the club.



PHOTO BY KENNETH BURCHFIEL/THE CONNECTION

As part of its expansion and renovation plans, Sport&Health will add machine weights to this room at Tysons Sport&Health and relocate cardio equipment.



CONTRIBUTED

Sport&Health executives Mark Fisher, on left, and Jonathan Adler are in the process of renovating and expanding a number of their company's clubs.

"People would like to see the technology enhanced." Poster, who joined the club because of its range of activities, hopes to see equipment updates at the Tysons facility.

THE \$25 MILLION deal took place during troubled economic times, but Adler said that the company is "doing as well as last year," and that "our members are using the club more often now."

"We're hoping for substantial improvement. People would like to see the technology enhanced."
— McLean resident William Poster

The economic downturn has also made acquisitions of struggling fitness companies possible. Sport&Health has received calls from related businesses on that subject.

The company's \$25 million financing and expansion plans will have an impact on the clubs themselves. As an added benefit for Sport&Health, though, such initiatives might also reduce the competition that the company will have to face.

"The better we make our clubs," Fisher said, the less motivation other companies would have to compete.

When they do enter the market, he said, "We're going to be very aggressive."

MILITARY NOTES

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

Susan Reynolds of Oakton.

Air Force Lt. Col. Nicholas E. Russo participated in Proud Shield II/Giant Sword II, a bombing, navigation, weapons loading, and security forces competition conducted by the Eighth Air Force to demonstrate the military's readiness and ability to project airpower around the world, set up a strategic deterrent to threats to American interests, and meet national defense objectives. Russo is director of operations assigned to the 2nd Bomb Wing at Barksdale Air Force Base, Bossier City, La., and has served in the military for 16 years. He is the son of Vincent and Reeta Russo of McLean; his brothers are Brian Russo and Mark Russo, also of McLean. Russo received a bachelor's degree in 1993 from Davidson College, N.C., and earned a master's degree in 2002 from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical College, Bossier City.

Keith A. Tooley has been commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army after successfully completing the Army ROTC program and graduating with a bachelor's degree from West Virginia University. Tooley is the son of Jean D. Reimers of Donmore Drive, Great Falls and is a 2004 graduate of Langley High School.

Army Pfc. **Eric Z. Reynolds**, a 2007 graduate of Oakton High School, has graduated from the Infantryman One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. He is the son of James and

Michael Thompson, of Vienna is among 10 James Madison University students that trained for three days with Special Forces soldiers at Fort Bragg, N.C., as part of the Army ROTC Ranger Group.

Coast Guard Seaman **Nicholas C. Pfautz**, son of Terry Pfautz of Warrenton and Richard Pfautz of McLean, recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N. J.

Army 2nd Lt. Roman A. Terehoff has graduated from the Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. He is the son of Alex G. and Irina P. Terehoff of Borge St., Oakton, Va. Terehoff graduated in 2001 from Oakton High School, and received a bachelor's degree in 2008 from George Mason University.

Jennifer E. Fulco has graduated from the Army ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Leader's Training Course at Fort Knox, Ky. Fulco is a student at George Mason University, and a 2007 graduate of James Madison High School. She is the daughter of Bruce R. and Judy A. Fulco of Podium Drive, Vienna.

Air Force Airman **Kimberly J. Werman** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. She is the daughter of Frank Werman of Silverstone Court in Oakton, and sister of Kyle Werman of Plum Run Court in Fairfax. Werman is a 2005 graduate of James Madison High School.



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SPORTS

QB Ozycz Leads Hornets Past Improved McLean

Senior QB tosses two second half TD's, runs for game-winner in 28-21 football win.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Opponents who underestimate the McLean High football team this season might be in for a not so pleasant surprise. The Highlanders went 0-10 last year under then-first year head coach Jim Patrick. But this year's team is physically stronger following an offseason of extensive weight room work. It is also more versed in coach Patrick's style and schemes and hungry to win some games following the winless 2008 campaign.

McLean opened the new season two weeks ago with a lopsided, breakthrough 44-14 win over Washington-Lee. This past Friday night, the Highlanders had their eyes set on sneaking up on a Herndon High team that qualified for the postseason last year and has an outstanding group of skill position talent this season.

But while the Highlanders gave Herndon a scare, it was the Hornets, behind a big game from quarterback Zach Ozycz, who came out with a hard-fought, 28-21, come-from-behind victory at home.

"Their offensive line did a better job than I was expecting," said Herndon coach Joe Sheaffer, of a McLean line that was the backbone for an offense that netted close to 350 yards.

HERNDON ALSO got a first-hand look at one of the Northern Region's top players in running back Riley Beiro, who scored all three of his team's touchdowns and finished the night with 176 yards rushing on 41 carries.

"We knew about him," said Sheaffer, of the Highlanders' outstanding senior who had a sensational first half to the '08 season before injuries forced him to miss the second half. "It's hard to duplicate [a runner like that] in practice. But it wasn't a surprise to us. Number one, the kid is a good football player and a hard runner. He's fast enough and plays hard. The kid never wore down."

Beiro scored on runs of three and 14 yards in the opening quarter. Later in the game, his 35-yard touchdown run, followed by a Drew Hunt point-after kick, allowed the guests to tie the game at 21 with eight minutes remaining in the final quarter.

But in the end the game's biggest hero was probably Ozycz, the Hornets' third-year starting QB who tossed two third quarter touchdowns and ran for what proved to be the game-winning score in the fourth quarter.

Herndon, which had trailed 14-7 at halftime before surging ahead, 21-14, with two third quarter touchdowns, found itself on the cusp of being upset following Beiro's long fourth quarter scoring run, in which he broke off the left side into open field be-

fore blowing through some arm tackles at around the 15 and going on into the end zone.

But Herndon, on its next possession, came right back with the go-ahead touchdown, marching 54 yards over eight plays. On the final play of the drive, Ozycz, on a first-and-goal from the McLean 10, dropped back to pass. But he was flushed out of the pocket by a heavy pass rush. He barely eluded one defenseman then bolted right and towards the end zone. The senior dove towards the end zone hash mark and barely got in for the score with five minutes, 59 seconds remaining. Following Alex Stopa's fourth extra point kick of the night, the Hornets led 28-21.

"Honestly, I did not think I got over," said Ozycz, of the touchdown play. "I just gave it 110 percent on the play. I was coming around the corner and saw my tightend, but he wasn't open. But he threw a nice block and I scored."

Sheaffer said the touchdown run was a typical play by his signal caller, who escaped a possible sack and found a way to get into the end zone.

"That's just Zack," said Sheaffer. "He's a lot like the Beiro kid. He's just a football player. He's so valuable to us at quarterback."

McLean, following the Herndon score, moved the ball from its 34-yard line to the Herndon 36 in seven plays. But on a fourth-and-two play, quarterback Will Hecht's long pass down the right side was just off the fingertips of receiver John Fremermen. After that, Herndon effectively ran out the final three-plus minutes of the clock.

EARLIER IN THE SECOND HALF it was Ozycz's throwing arm that accounted for a couple of touchdowns. On the first one, his high, deep throw down the right side of the field found the waiting arms of senior wide receiver Nick Impellizzeri, who caught the ball at around the five before going on into the end zone to get his team within 14-13 with 3:30 left in the third quarter.

A short while later, on Herndon's next possession, Ozycz (13-of-19, 160 yards, 2 TDs), on a first down play from the McLean 33, dropped back and tossed a long pass down the left side of the field. Herndon senior Devon Thompson, with a defender right on him, caught the ball at the one yard line before stepping into the end zone for the score that came with 32 seconds left in the third quarter.

"Our wide receivers Devon and Nick made nice moves," said Ozycz, of the two touchdown plays. "Our line did a tremendous job of protecting me on those plays."

While the McLean defense was prone to giving up the big play during the game, the Highlanders, overall defensively, are much more aggressive and hard-hitting than the unit of a year ago. Highlander defensive coordinator Greg Sullivan is slowly making



McLean defensive coordinator Greg Sullivan is pleased with his unit's improved play this season.

PHOTO BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION



PHOTO BY RICH SANDERS/THE CONNECTION

McLean High girls cross country coach Melissa Ferry

Highlander Runners Open Up Season

McLean girls', boys' teams put together solid cross country showing at showcase event.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The McLean High girls' cross country team was not at full strength last Saturday for the season opening Monroe Invitational showcase event, held on the gorgeous, 2.98-mile course at Burke Lake Park. But the Highlanders still put together a solid showing.

Because of student ACT testing, several runners throughout the Northern Region were not on hand for the celebratory, early season meet, which took place on a pleasant, cool day. There were early morning freshmen races, followed by the JV races. Then, just before noon, the varsity races took place - first the girls' competition, and then the boys' run.

"We didn't have a full varsity team because of the ACT's," said McLean girls' coach Melissa Ferry. "But the girls here really

stepped up to the challenge."

McLean was led by senior Kristin Wulff, who finished 76th place overall in a field of 181 varsity runners. Highlander juniors Laura Baker (80th) and Katerina Cronmiller (83rd) also had good showings.

Ferry said Cronmiller and Baker ran a strong race together.

"Katerina had a big improvement in the race from last year," said Ferry. "She and Laura Baker really helped each other along."

McLean's three senior leaders this season are Wulff, Mary Covington and Nicki Davido.

The girls' varsity team champion was Lake Braddock with 77 points. Finishing second was West Potomac (95), followed by third place West Springfield (108), fourth place Jefferson (126) and fifth place Robinson (154). The top three teams received team trophies during early afternoon awards presentations.



Demby Danbury, middle, was recently recognized for her 20 years of service to McLean High School as a former teacher, coach and assistant athletic director. Here, she is with Dr. Deborah Jackson, far left, the principal of McLean High School, and Tom Herman, the McLean athletic director. During ceremonies, the newly developed 'Volunteer Garden' was dedicated to Danbury's service.

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

Awards Gala. 6:30 p.m. at the McLean Hilton, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. 703-786-3999. or NorthernVirginiaGOP.com.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

Gubernatorial Debate. Sponsored by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce. At Capital One, Tysons Corner. NorthernVirginiaGOP.com.

Bull Run Republican Women's Club Meeting. 7:30 p.m. 703-754-7862 or NorthernVirginiaGOP.com.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 18

VTRCC Brown Bag University. 12-1 p.m. at the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, 8300 Boone Blvd., Suite 450, Vienna. "Teamwork: Learn How to Get Your Business Working for You" with David MacGillivray, Certified Business and Executive Coach and CPA. Info@vtrcc.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

Filipino American Republicans of Virginia

SUNDAY/SEPT. 20

Comstock for Delegate Fundraising Reception with Gov. Mitt Romney, at the home of Theodore B. Olson in Great Falls. Contact gretchen@gretchenmoss.com or sean@comstockfordelegate.com.

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 23

The Literacy Council of Northern Virginia Back to School Night for Volunteer Recruitment. 6-9 p.m. Adults are invited to learn about available volunteer opportunities, including tutoring, teaching, student testing, registration assistance, special events, and more. 703-237-0866 ext. 111 or volunteers@lcnv.org.

VTRCC Speed Networking Breakfast, with Central Fairfax Chamber. 7:30-9 a.m. at McCormick & Schmick's, 8484 Westpark Drive, Suite 130 McLean. Bring business cards to exchange. Info@VTRCC.org.

FAITH NOTES

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

The Community Rabbi Foundation Services for the High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur will be at the Baha'i Community Center, 21415 Cardinal Glen Circle, Sterling. Free; those who attend are asked to contribute to a charity of their choice. www.communityrabbi.com or 571-277-2611.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church Pumpkin Sale. Oct. 11 through Halloween at the church, near the corner of Rt. 7 and Lewinsville Road, McLean. All proceeds benefit local charities.

Players Present 'Funniest Play Ever'

FROM PAGE 12

Scotland. Cheryl Sinsabaugh, who has also played Lady Bracknell, said she was now having fun playing the governess Miss Prism. "I'm making her as prissy and as stupid as I can," she said.

"I think the best thing is trying to keep a straight face while doing this show with this cast," said Matthew Scarborough, who plays Jack Worthing.

"It's fun to work on the funniest play ever," Downs agreed.

This is not to say that the performance is not without its challenges, as several of the actors said they had found the frequently lengthy and ornate lines of dialogue to be daunting. Allen said the sentence structures and abundance of adjectives posed a difficulty.

"A lot of the characters, including my character, like to hear themselves speak, so there's a lot of flowery language," Downs said.

THE FOUR cast members from the United Kingdom said they had less difficulty with the language, and four speech coaches helped the rest with the cast's accents.

Eighty actors did a total of 121 reads for the nine parts in the play, including 25 young women trying out for the role of Cecily, said director Carol Strachan. "We have the most wonderful cast," she said.

"I think the turnout speaks to the quality of the play itself," said stage manager Doug "Douglas F." Yriart, adding that actors seemed to consider the show "an opportu-

nity to really showcase their talents."

Strachan and Yriart put on the play together once before, in Alexandria, and each of them has also worked on the play independently. Yriart managed the stage for a McLean production in 1992.

He said Strachan, constrained by the McLean Community Center's requirement that stage sets be able to be struck after each performance, had come up with three creative imitation box sets that took advantage of the stage space without using large pieces. "This play was written for a box set and the beauty of 'Earnest' is that you can do it many ways," he said, noting that his last McLean production of the play was performed "in the round," meaning the audience surrounded the stage.

Strachan said she had also added some unscripted motion to the play, which is fairly static, with actors often sitting and engaging in witty debate.

Yriart noted that there was at least one action scene in the show, when Jack tries to take his cigarette case back from Algernon.

"They chase each other around the sofa," Strachan said.

"In a very gentlemanly way," Yriart added.

"The Importance of Being Earnest" is the second production of the McLean Community Players' newly instated MasterWorks series. As such, one of its afternoon showings, on Saturday, Oct. 3, will be preceded by a talk about Oscar Wilde by George Mason University theater professor Rick Davis, who also gave a talk at the company's first MasterWorks play, May's production of Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie."

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The public information meetings will focus on the transportation alternatives under study, including new bus services such as Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), express bus service and commuter choices such as carpooling, vanpooling and park and ride lots.

Each meeting will include a continuous open house with study representatives available to provide information. Presentations will be given at 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. with an opportunity for questions and answers afterwards.

Meeting Dates and Locations

<p>Wednesday, September 23, 2009 Arlington County Board Room-3rd Floor 2100 Clarendon Boulevard Arlington, VA 22201</p>	<p>Wednesday, September 30, 2009 Oakton High School Cafeteria 2900 Sutton Road Vienna, VA 22181</p>
<p>Thursday, September 24, 2009 Battlefield High School Auditorium 15000 Graduation Drive Haymarket, VA 20169</p>	<p>Schedule for all Meetings: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. – Open House 7:00 p.m. – Presentation and Q&A 8:00 p.m. – Presentation and Q&A</p>

For more information on the study, visit www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/I66study.aspx.

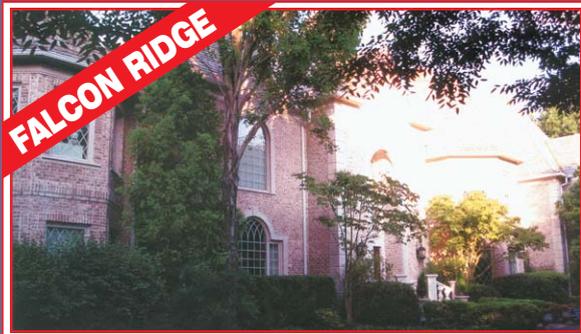
If you are unable to attend a meeting, comments on the study may be sent to Public Information Office, DRPT, 600 E. Main St., Suite 2102, Richmond, VA 23219, or DRPTPR@DRPT.Virginia.gov. Comments will be accepted until October 9, 2009.

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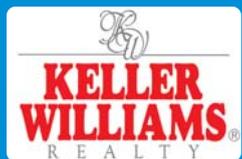


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