McLean Connection

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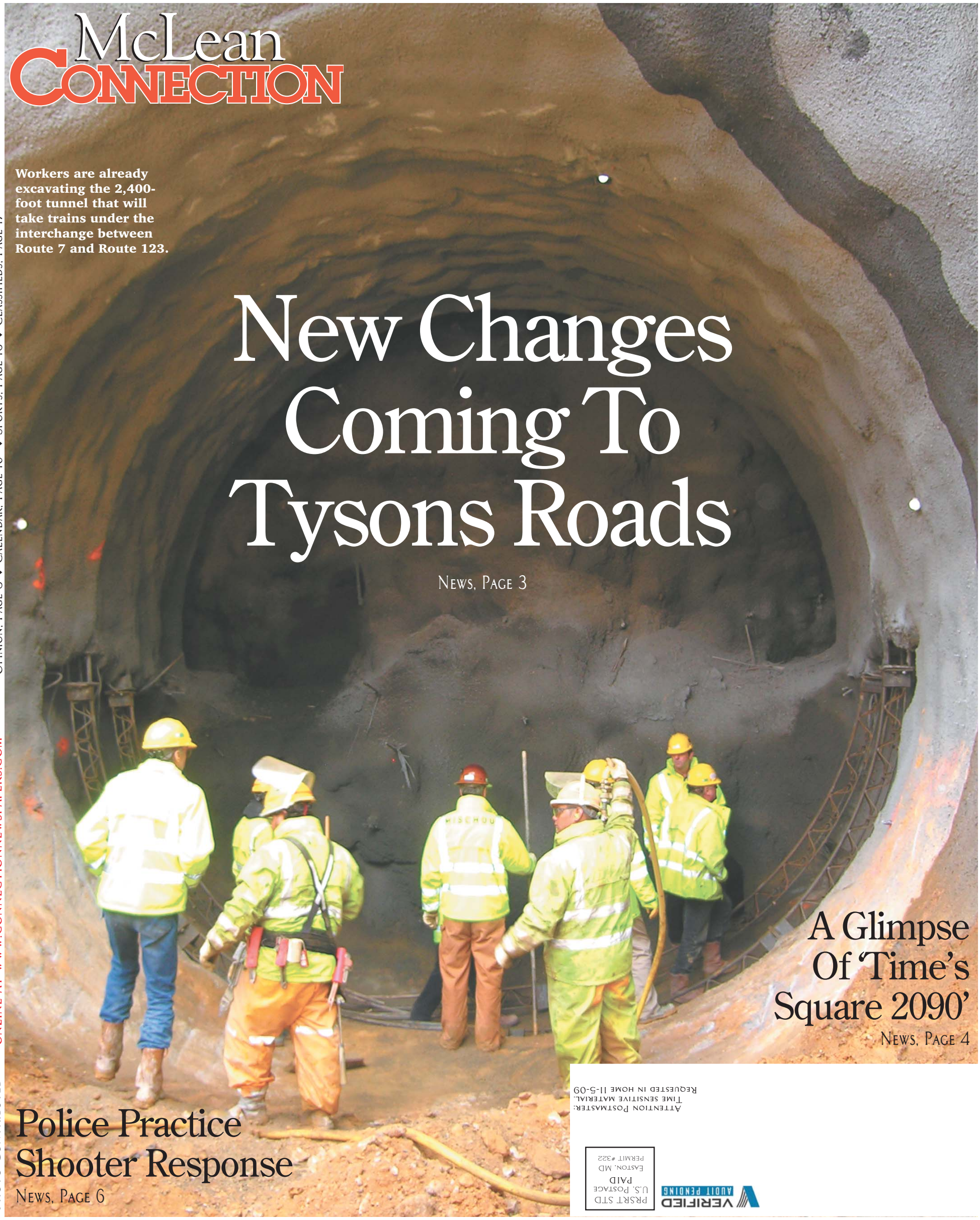

Workers are already excavating the 2,400-foot tunnel that will take trains under the interchange between Route 7 and Route 123.

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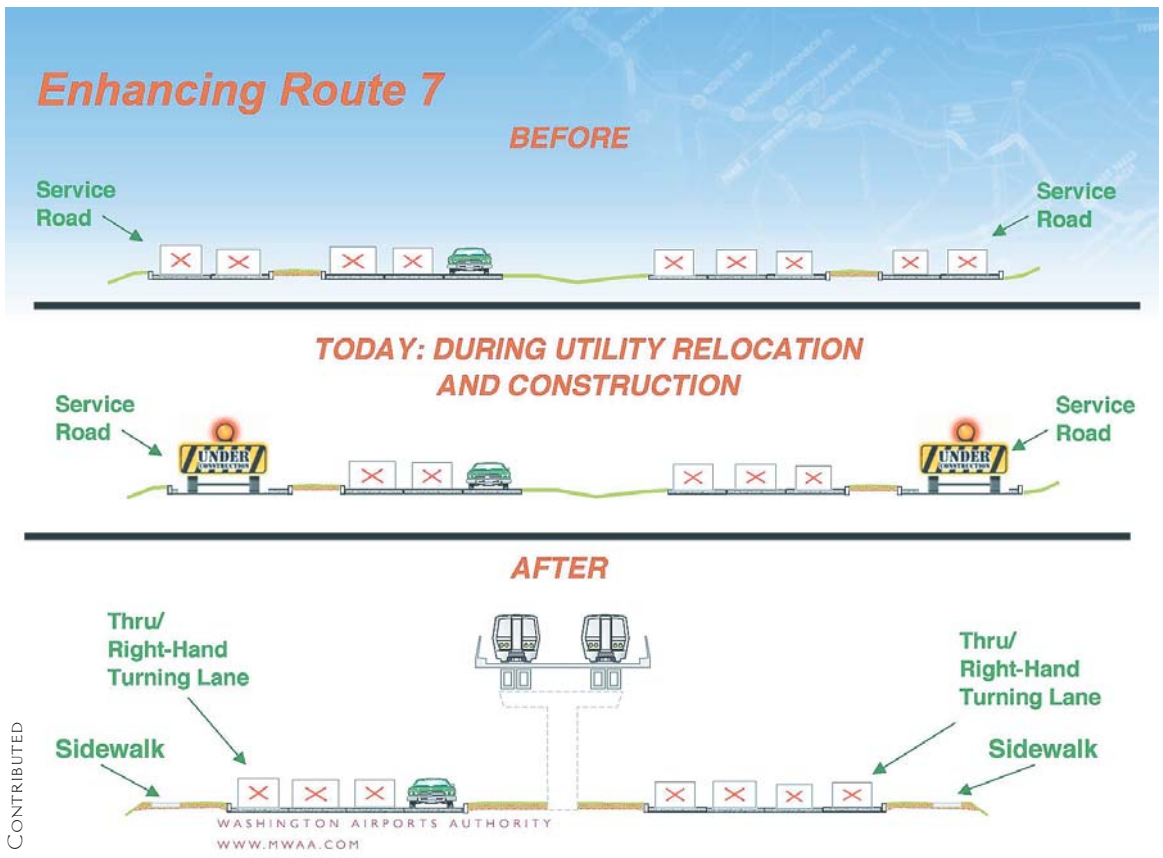

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Route 7 then, now and as it will be.

Changes Coming to Tysons Roads

Service roads to close, buses coming to rescue.

With lanes shifting, turns closing down and ramps moving, in addition to daily scattered lane closures, drivers in Tysons Corner have seen a lot of changes, particularly along Route 7, since Metrorail construction started in the spring. More is yet to come.

Soon, service roads along Route 7 will be closed down permanently, as will any remaining midblock left turns, Howard Menaker of Dulles Transit Partners told a crowd of Tysons Corner business owners and representatives at the group's headquarters Monday afternoon, Oct. 26. Three such meetings took place that day, so they would be accessible to business people of varying schedules.

From Koon's Chevrolet past Pike 7 Plaza, Route 7 is about to expand to make room for construction of rail down its median, Menaker said. Along the eastbound side, retaining walls will be used to raise areas now occupied by service roads to street level. "This work will begin very shortly, probably in the next few weeks," Menaker said, noting that the lanes would then be shifted late this year.

That work will run through the spring. Then, in the middle of next year, the stretch of road to the west will be expanded, past Tyco Road. In the fall of 2010, work will shift back east, to the westbound lanes near the SAIC building. "The good news is, it doesn't happen all at once," Menaker said.

When construction is completed, Route 7 in Tysons Corner will have four lanes running in each direction, as opposed to the current three, with sidewalks on each side and elevated rail running down the middle.

> "The good news is, it doesn't happen all at once."
>
> **— Howard Menaker, Dulles Transit Partners spokesman**

Menaker said the lanes would all be in place by the end of next year or early 2011, although the final curb and gutter work would not be done until shortly before the project is completed in 2013.

ON ROUTE 123, foundations are already being laid for the Metro stations and elevated rail. There, the rail will run next to the northwest side of the road, "so the traffic impact is a lot less on 123," Menaker said. "Our work predominantly is to the side."

And on Oct. 12, workers began excavating the tunnel that will take trains under the interchange between Route 7 and Route 123. Sometime next week, construction is to begin on the Tysons East station, located next to Route 123 near the interchange with the Beltway. For the most part, the stations will all be built simultaneously.

Dulles Transit Partners spokesman Marcia McAllister said the agency was also launching programs to meet the condition for federal funding that it mitigate the transportation impacts of construction. An express bus line to and from Prince William County was recently put in place, and another will travel back and forth between Tysons Corner and Loudoun next year. On Nov. 23, the Tysons Connector will begin circulating in the area, with free buses running every 10 minutes from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The lunchtime connector is to run until the rail project is completed, but McAllister said she hoped it would prove popular enough to stay in place afterward.

McAllister also said Dulles Transit Partners was making experts available to talk to businesses about telework, the Guaranteed Ride Home program and other options that could help reduce traffic.

— Mike DiCicco

Photo by Mike DiCicco/The Connection

Both paper and touch-screen ballots were available this year, as the state is trying to shift back to paper. But while poll workers tried to encourage paper ballots, voters at Spring Hill Elementary preferred to line up for the touch-screen machines.

All Races Contested In McLean

ELECTION 2009

The McLean Connection went to print before the polls closed on Nov.3. For the latest local election coverage, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com

At least one McLean election officer said he had noticed a slight increase in voter participation at the polls this year.

"There seems to be a lot of enthusiasm, compared to last time," said Kris Murthy, who oversees the voting precinct at Spring Hill Elementary School the morning of Nov. 3.

This year, every political race listed on a McLean ballot was contested by two major party candidates, the first time such a thing has happened in several election cycles.

Contested elections tend to increase turnout among voters, which can be crucial in "off year" elections, like the 2009 gubernatorial cycle, according to political activists.

Still, voter turnout is usually high in McLean. For example, every McLean precinct, with the exception of Tysons Corner, had higher than average voter turnout during the last governor's race four years ago.

Across Virginia and in Fairfax County, approximately 45 percent of voters showed up to cast a ballot in the 2005 general election. But in McLean, 10 out of 12 precincts reported voter turnout above 50 percent.

McLean's two ZIP codes, 22101 and 22102, are also among the most generous when it comes to campaign donations to candidates from both political parties.

Republican governor candidate Bob McDonnell has received $535,277 in donations over the last four years from McLean households and businesses. Democratic governor candidate Creigh Deeds has received $384,791 in campaign donations from McLean during the same time period, according to the Virginia Public Access Project.

McLean has heavily favored Democrats in recent years. In 2005, every McLean precinct voted for Deeds over McDonnell, who ran against each other in the Virginia attorney general race, by at least nine percentage points.

Lt. Gov. Bill Bolling (R), who faces re-election against Democrat Jody Wagner, lost every McLean precinct to another female candidate, former U.S. Rep. Leslie Byrne, in 2005.

And with the exception of one polling place at the Spring Hill Recreation Center, Vanderhye won every McLean precinct located in the 34th Delegate District over Republican Dave Hunt in 2007.

Last year, President Barack Obama won 11 out of 13 McLean precincts over Republican John McCain.

But McLean residents do not appear to be totally averse to voting for a Republican. U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) won every McLean precinct in his re-election campaign last year despite Obama and popular U.S. Sen. Mark Warner (D) being on the ballot for the opposition.

— Julia O'Donoghue and Mike Dicicco

Week in McLean

Veteran's Day BBQ and Picnic at Turkey Run

The Quality of Life Plus (QL+) Program will host a Veteran's Day BBQ and Picnic on Sunday, Nov. 8, 4-8 p.m., at The Pavilions at Turkey Run at the Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike in McLean.

The event has a host of activities for supporters of all ages. Admission to the farm is free for those attending the event. The Pavilions are heated in the event of cold weather.

A barbecue picnic feast will be cooked on site by JR's Steakhouse Catering. Limitless popcorn, snow cones, lemonade, soft drinks, beer and wine will be served. Burgers, hotdogs, grilled chicken and trimmings begin at 6 p.m., followed by soft serve ice cream.

The Quality of Life Plus (QL+) Program has funded a new state-of-the-art laboratory at one of this nation's preeminent schools of engineering. The QL+ Lab is encouraging students to use multiple engineering disciplines to develop assistive technologies tailored for injured veterans.

Adults are $50, children under 18 are free, and veterans are half price.

Advance tickets and contributions can be made on the Web: www.qlplus.org/festival, or by check payable to Quality of Life Plus and sent to: 6748 Old McLean Village Drive, McLean VA 22101. Admission is 100 percent tax deductible.

Chamber To Host Non-Profit Forum

The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with Fairfax County Office of Partnerships and M&T Bank, will conduct its third annual Non-Profit Forum hosted and sponsored by Gannett Co. Inc. The topic of this year's forum is "Managing for Today's Economy." The forum is Tuesday, Nov. 10, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Gannett/USA Today Headquarters located at 7950 Jones Branch Road, McLean. This event is complementary to all non-profits and includes lunch.

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) and George Mason University professor Dr. Stephen Fuller will be keynote speakers. Bryan Spoon from U.S. Rep. Jim Moran's (D-8) office will speak on federal stimulus fund opportunities. Lunch will be followed by a panel discussion covering the topics of community grants and best practices for partnerships.

Call the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce at 703-356-5424, or e-mail lbowes@mcleanchamber.org.

Membership, Food Drive

Beta Sigma Phi International, a non-academic sorority with 16 chapters in the Northern Virginia area and members ranging in age from late teens to women in their 80s, is recruiting new members. The Greek letters of its name represent "Life, Learning and Friendship," which is the organization's motto. The chapter will be conducting several food drives at local grocery stores during November and December to help stock some of the local food banks and is preparing shoeboxes for "Operation Christmas Child." which is part of Samaritan's Purse International Relief. For more information on local chapter, Preceptor Gamma Phi, contact preceptorgammaphi@yahoo.com or visit www.betasigmaphi.org

Planning Under Way for WinterFest Parade

A diverse group of local organizations are well into planning of the second annual community holiday parade, McLean WinterFest. The parade is scheduled Sunday, Dec. 6, at 4 p.m., and will take place in the 1300 block of Chain Bridge Road, starting at the Sun Trust Bank and proceeding to the traffic island at Rocco's Family Restaurant, where the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce will light the community holiday tree, as it has for more than 10 years.

See Week, Page 5

McLean Rotary President Paul Frank, left, Saxon Stage Director Phyliss Jaffe, center, Langley High Principal Matt Ragone, right, and the cast of 'Time's Square 2090.'

Photos by Christy Steele/The Connection

A Glimpse of 'Time's Square 2090'

McLean Roratians preview Langley High School's upcoming musical.

By Christy Steele
The Connection

Rael, played by Justin McKay, and Lily, played by Chelsea Raitor, get to know each other better in this scene. Wes Brandt, the writer and director, plays the keyboard, left.

Cast members of the upcoming Langley High School musical "Time's Square 2090" spoke and performed for the Rotary Club of McLean on Tuesday, Oct. 27. Phyliss Jaffe, Saxon stage director, and Matt Ragone, Langley principal, accompanied the students to the lunch event. The meeting opened with "America the Beautiful" led by Langley students Chelsea Raitor and Justin McKay. After announcements and lunch, the cast members performed three different scenes from the musical.

"TIME'S SQUARE 2090" is the first ever student written musical to be performed at Langley High School. Wes Brandt, Langley High School senior, wrote the script, music and lyrics and is also the director of the performance. He has acted in previous productions at Langley, but this is his first time directing.

"I give Mrs. Jaffe a lot of credit now," said Brandt. "I realize in the directing position that it's a really big hassle if you don't know your lines. It's just little things like that that I have been learning as a director."

In the futuristic dystopia portrayed by the musical, Time's Square is the new capital of the country and the U.S. government has complete control over its citizens. The music includes many styles ranging from a big band number, a blues song, techno, rock and even some rapping.

> "I am just floored by these kids."
> —Langley High Principal Matt Ragone

"What's interesting about this is that it's a really different type of musical in terms of the kind of music that [Brandt] has added in," said Paul Goldberg, who plays President Julius in the musical. "It gets me out of my comfort zone with the rap. There is just a totally different feel and everything is so fluid and interesting."

McKay, who plays Rael in the production, said that his favorite part of being in the production is that "because it is student written, we are doing all of the music for the first time. It's not something where we can take a CD home and listen to it to know how it was done on Broadway, or watch a movie and see how they did it on stage. We can do it the way that we want and that Wes wants and it's open to interpretation."

AFTER WATCHING the students, Ragone said, "I am just floored by these kids. That was the first time I have gotten a glimpse of what they are going to do. I think it's going to be a great show and I am really proud of them."

"Time's Square 2090" will run Nov.12-14 at 7:30 p.m. and tickets can be purchased at langelydrama.com.

Crime

Activities reported by the McLean District of the Fairfax County Police Department through Oct. 30.

UPDATE: ROBBERY

1900 block of Chain Bridge Road. Police have released video of the robbery that occurred on Monday, October 19 at the Movado store at Tysons Corner Center, located at 1961 Chain Bridge Road. The suspects entered the Movado store on Monday, October 19 around 8:20 p.m., displayed a crowbar, pushed store employees out of the way and smashed a glass case. They grabbed fistfuls of diamond jewelry, stuffed them in a bag and fled through the Mall. One store employee was treated on scene for non life threatening injuries. Suspects were both described as black, around 5 feet 11 inches tall, and 230 pounds. They wore blue, hooded jackets and ball caps. One suspect wore tan boots and the other had a mustache. The video can be viewed at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/newsreleases/2009/video/Movado-Video.avi. Anyone with additional 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.

See Crime, Page 7

Week in McLean

From Page 4

This year, the steering committee intends to include a tent on the parade route to serve donated refreshments and provide a degree of warmth to parade onlookers. This year's parade will also have a reviewing stand for financial sponsors and elected officials.

In addition to Clyde Clark and Homer Johns from the McLean Volunteer Fire Department and Diana Villarreal of Creativa Concepts, Inc., Steering Committee members include: Lynn Gulick, Cardinal Bank; Trish Butler, Sage Communications and McLean Community Foundation; Sheri Sylvester, Adzig Promotions; Maureen Scholz, McLean Insurance Agency; Helen Stephan, McLean High School; Marcia Twomey and Leigh Bowes from the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce; and Vance Zavela, Fairfax County Office of Public Private Partnerships. Residents or groups who wish to learn more about marching in the parade can contact any member of the Steering Committee or e-mail Clyde Clark at clark10131@ verizon.net. Businesses that wish to discuss sponsorship opportunities can contact Trish Butler [tbutler@sagecommunications.net] or Lynn Gulick [lynn.gulick@cardinalbank.com] or visit www.mcleanwinterfest.org for more information.

PET BLESSING

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Every year between Christmas and New Year's, the McLean Connection turns its pages over to the contributions of local students. We are seeking artwork, photography, poetry, opinions, short stories and reflections. We welcome contributions from public schools, private schools and students who are home schooled.

E-mail to: PhotoM@connectionnewspapers.com, or mail or deliver contributions by Dec. 4, to 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314. Please be sure to include the student's name, age, grade, school and town of residence along with each submission. For information, call 703-778-9410.

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VDOT Virginia Department of Transportation

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Fairfax County
Information Meeting

Tuesday, November 10, 2009, 7 – 9 p.m.
George C. Marshall High School
7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043

Find out about proposed design modifications to ramps at the Capital Beltway interchange with the Dulles Toll Road and Dulles Airport Access Road. The proposed design change would give motorists heading to or from Dulles Airport a direct connection to/from the Dulles Access Road. Currently, motorists heading to or from the Airport must weave across several lanes of the Dulles Toll Road to enter/exit the Dulles Access Road. These proposed design modifications are part of the I-495 Beltway HOT Lanes project.

Stop by anytime between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the proposed design modifications. Virginia Department of Transportation representatives will be available to answer your questions.

Give your written or oral comments at the meeting or submit them by **November 24, 2009** to Ronaldo T. Nicholson, P.E., Regional Transportation Program Director, 6363 Walker Lane, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22310. You may also e-mail your comments to Meeting_Comments@VDOT.Virginia.gov. Please reference "I-495/DTR Interchange" in the subject line.

For more information please call 1-877-9595-222 or visit our Web site at www.VAmegaprojects.com.

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State Project: 0267-029-145, P101 UPC: 94611

Mclean police officers finish their day of training and wait to receive evaluations of how they performed.

Photos by Christy Steele/ The Connection

Police Practice Shooter Response

Nearly 400 people involved in McLean, Falls Church police officers' training.

Sabrina Delgado, a member of the Police Explorers, pretends to have been shot during the simulation.

Officer Sam Brim, PFC Louis Marty and PFC Bruce Blackwell discuss their day of training.

By Christy Steele
The Connection

The Mason District Police Station conducted its Active Shooter Response Training on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 18 at Falls Church High School.

Officials began arriving at 5 a.m. to secure the school, create checkpoints and prepare to instruct volunteers. Shortly before 1 p.m., the simulation began with a call to the police department by a school resource officer, reporting a vehicle in the parking lot with a driver slumped over the wheel.

Upon arrival, the officers investigated the car before hearing simulated gunshots ring out from inside the school. Not having been instructed of the details of the training event, they proceeded to react to the diverse stimuli provided, including an ambush, an unidentified suspicious package in the school, multiple shooters and simulated deaths of officers and students. The officers proceeded to secure the school, apprehend the shooters, and attend to volunteers acting as injured and dead students.

Designed to give police officers hands-on, experiential training to prepare them for a real-life challenge, the simulation required putting knowledge and skills into practice. It involved many surprises that Capt. Ted Arnn, commander of the Mason District Station, hoped would force participating officers to "think outside of the box."

Nearly 400 people were involved in Sunday's training, including police officers from the McLean and Mason stations, medical response personnel, S.W.A.T. team members and student volunteers. The emergency response drill will be evaluated by Fairfax Fire and Police officials and by federal agencies, including the CIA.

"Really it's not a right or a wrong, it's going to be seeing what we can do better," said Deputy Chief Michael Reilly of Fairfax Fire and Rescue.

Crime

From Page 5

GRAND LARCENY/

LARCENY WITH THE INTENT TO SELL/

POSSESSION OF COCAINE/ARREST

1900 block of Chain Bridge Road. Officers apprehended and charged two men for stealing electronic items from the Apple Computer Store, located inside Tysons Corner Center at 1961 Chain Bridge Road, on Saturday, Oct. 24. The two men entered the store around 5:15 p.m. and allegedly concealed various merchandise inside their clothing. After one of the suspects exited the store, officers stopped him and arrested him. They located the second suspect still inside the Apple store and also arrested him. A 42-year-old male of Capitol Heights, MD. and a 53-year-old male of Washington, D.C. were transported to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center. The 42-yearold was charged with grand larceny, larceny with the intent to sell and possession of cocaine. The 53-year-old was charged with felony concealment of merchandise.

LARCENIES

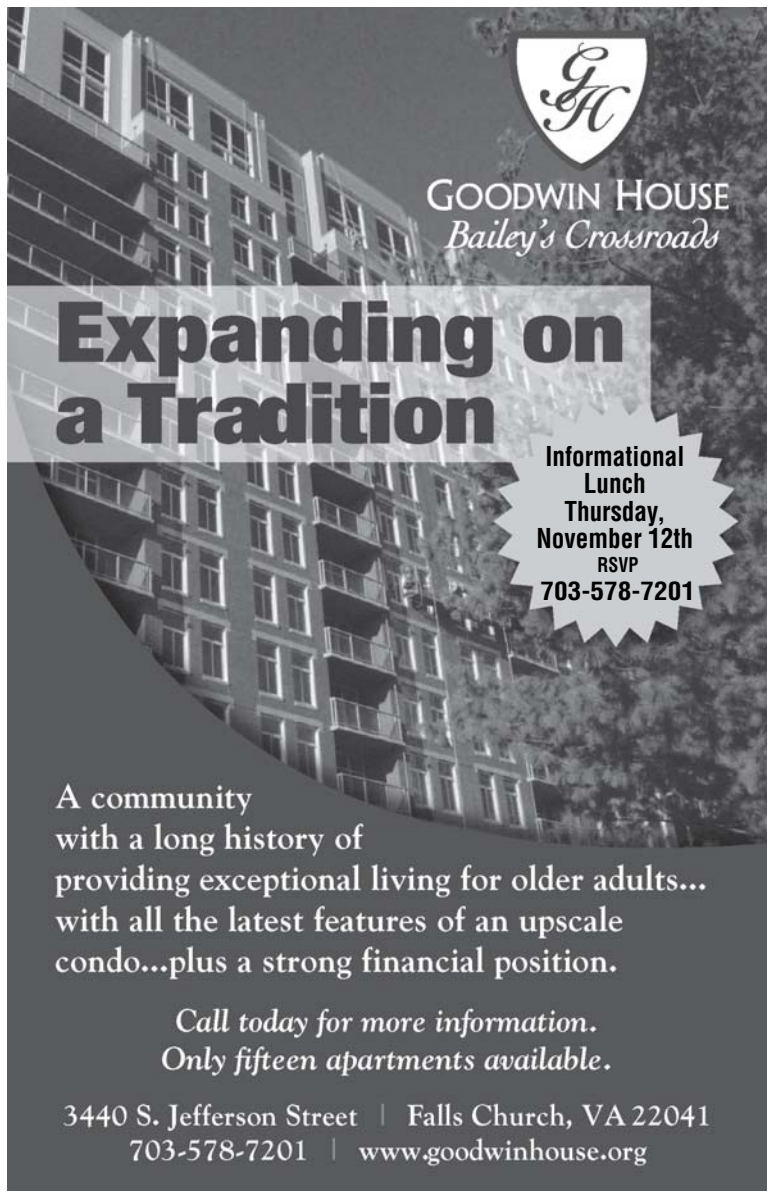
1400 block of Balls Hill Road. Bag stolen from vehicle.

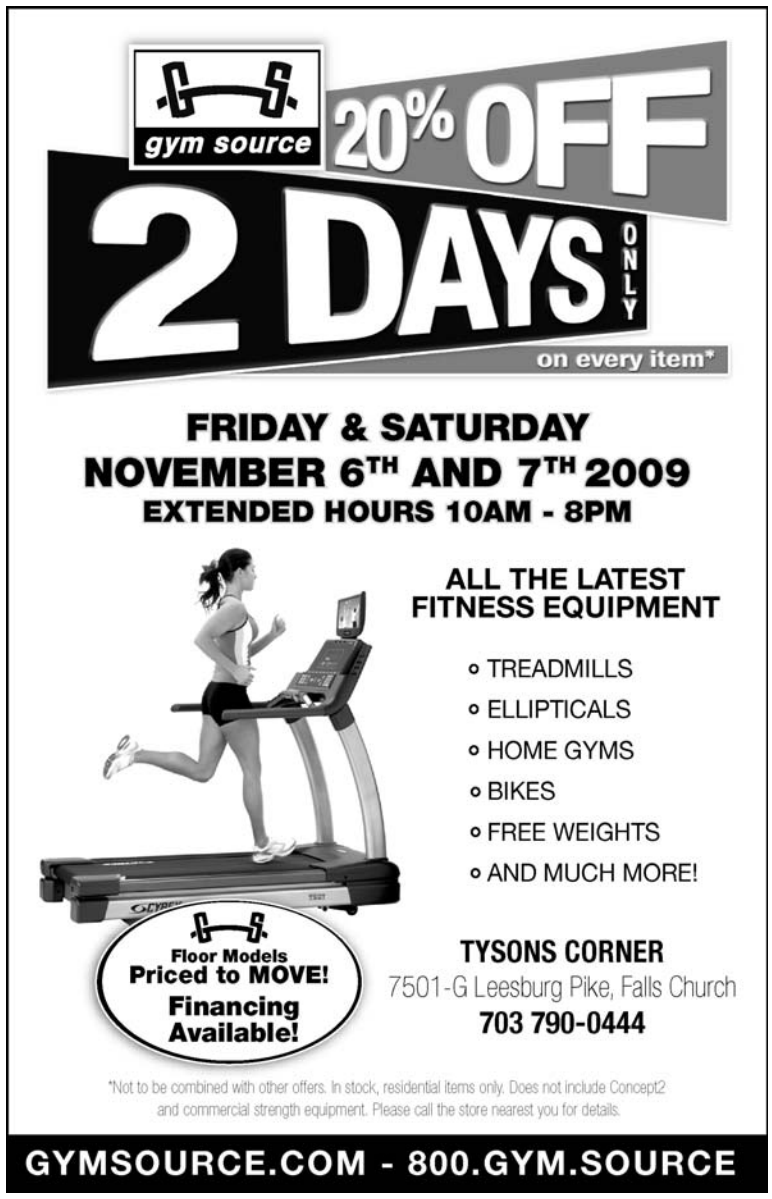
1900 block of Chain Bridge Road. Gas stolen from business.

2700 block of Gallows Road. Briefcase stolen from vehicle.

2900 block of Gallows Road. Purse stolen from business.

1400 block of Grady Randall Court. Diamond ring stolen from residence.





Opinion

Time To Get Serious

Opportunity to use science to clean up the Chesapeake Bay, Potomac River.

Editorial

The Potomac River provides a beautiful backdrop to so much of Northern Virginia, from the rugged areas of the Potomac Gorge from above Great Falls down into Arlington to the broad tidal Potomac from Alexandria, then meandering down to the Chesapeake Bay.

The river and the bay are an important part of our local identity, part of our local heritage and a remarkable environmental and recreational resource.

While over the past decade, federal and local governments plus environmental groups and activists have devoted much energy and attention to the health of the Chesapeake Bay, we have been losing ground. This is despite a clear understanding of the pollution problems and the exact limits that would be required to make the bay healthy. There are three major sources of pollution in the bay, sewage treatment plants, agriculture and stormwater runoff from roads, driveways and parking lots. The resulting growing influx of "nutrients" from these sources causes an unnatural growth of aquatic plants in the bay, absorbing oxygen and then dying off, creating massive, floating dead zones where no life can survive.

Now, new legislation, the Chesapeake Clean Water and Ecosystem Restoration Act of 2009, proposed in both the House and the Senate, has a chance to make all the difference for the bay — and also much of the Potomac River from Arlington and Alexandria on down.

While the bills would ensure that the six states in the bay watershed and the District of Columbia develop and implement detailed plans to reduce pollution sufficiently to achieve the Bay-wide reduction targets for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment by 2025, it also has national implications as a blueprint for improving the health of other wetlands and waterways around the county.

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly, an original cosponsor of legislation to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay program, successfully urged the inclusion of language that will limit runoff into the bay from impervious surfaces, the one source of pollution that has continued to grow dramatically along with population growth around the bay watershed. Connolly's capacity to relate complex problems to solutions that would work in local government land use and stormwater regulation is invaluable in this. U.S. Rep. Jim Moran and U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen are also cosponsors of the bill in the House. U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin (D-Md) is author of the bill in the Senate; Virginia's U.S. Senators Mark Warner (D) and Jim Webb (D) should get on board as well.

The legislation proposed would connect the scientific understanding of the pollution levels with incentives, penalties (withholding of federal money if standards aren't met) and flexibility (interstate nutrient trading provisions) to achieve the necessary levels.

While this legislation is aimed at the Chesapeake Bay, local streams and rivers will also benefit in the process.

— Mary Kimm,
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Both Sides of 'Reading Fast'

Teen Perspective

By Devon Maloney
Marshall High School

Remember reading those tedious books for your English class? Those endless classics like "Lord of the Flies" and "Pride & Prejudice?" English teachers to this day assign the very same novels for their classes, but their demographic has changed.

On Sparknotes' Wiki page, it says that many parents and teachers claim that their children and students are using the sites "as a replacement for reading assignment or to cheat during tests … using cell phones with Internet access."

Easy, legal and fast new Internet sites like Sparknotes, Wikipedia, Book Rag and other book summary sites have now popped up online with everything over-committed teens need. These sites have every option, from plots summaries and essay writing help to character relationships and individual chapter quick reads. Image all of Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales finished in 10 minutes.

Talley Murphy, a Great Falls 14-year-old Marshall freshman, remembers what happened in a friend's eighth grade English class and how the students used the Internet to do it the easy way. "To Kill a Mockingbird" had been assigned to the class with an easy homework of jotting down notes while they read. Leaving their novels in their lockers, "a good half the class" looked up the summery on Spark Notes and just used the site's notes as their own.

Talley described as her teacher began checking their assignment, then stopping and announcing to the students that he in fact had written the Sparknotes page on "To Kill a Mockingbird." While it's hard to know whether the teacher really wrote the notes, or simply knew how to make the guilty students confess, it shows how many teachers feel about the use of those sites.

The idea of summing up a book fast is hardly new. Cliff Notes, those yellow pamphlets that say things like: "Read less," "Only the important stuff," or "Make a long story short," have been around since 1958. While many people use the summaries "to help … understand complex works" or even as a study guide, there are many critics who dislike the concept of an easy way out saying "they let students avoid even reading them," Cliff Note's Wiki page says.

The writer is a 14-year-old Vienna ninth grader at Marshall High School

Letters to the Editor

Rise in Child Deaths

To the Editor:

Last week, a new report by the advocacy group Every Child Matters focused on the disturbing rise of child deaths in the United States due to maltreatment. Local reports earlier in the year also pointed to an increase in family violence across Northern Virginia as well.

What readers need to know is that the majority of children who die from maltreatment had no prior contact with child protective services. We need to understand that each one of us is responsible for the children in our community — not just child protective services — and that we each have the power to prevent these tragedies.

Another grim statistic? Over 75 percent of the children who die from maltreatment are under the age of 4. We must provide new parents in our community with support, including parenting classes and support groups, early childhood home visitation and universal access to affordable health and mental health services.

The report (released on Capitol Hill) calls for more federal funding — which is certainly critical as governments on every level face tough budget cuts. But this report should also be a wake-up call to the individual community member. When we see a sign of abuse and neglect right here in our own neighborhood, are we pausing for that child long enough to report it to Child Protective Services? When we know a new parent struggling with the stress of young children, are we pausing long enough to offer support or suggest they contact one of the many organizations in Northern Virginia offering parenting resources?

Perhaps while the federal government figures out the funding for this issue affecting millions of children and parents across the country, we each could be having an impact on just one right here in our own community.

Diane Charles
Executive Director, SCAN of Northern Virginia

To report child abuse or neglect in Fairfax County , call 703-324-7400. Or call the 24-Hour Virginia Helpline/Hotline at 1-800-552-7096. If a child is in immediate danger, call 911.

The Connection

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McLean

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Faith

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

Pet Blessing at Trinity United Methodist Church, Sunday, Nov. 8, 4 p.m. All pets are welcome: dogs on leashes and cats and other critters in carriers. Help us publicize this event. Invite others: neighbors, friends, folks you see at the dog park, along the bike trail, at your veterinarian's. Questions-call 703-356-3312.

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. www.umtrinity.org

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.

SALT (Social Action Linking Together) announces its annual Fall Training Conference—Renew your commitment to Social & Economic Justice with keynote by Michael Cassidy, Executive Director of the Commonwealth Institute, Sunday, Nov. 15, 2:30 -4:30 p.m. at the Providence Presbyterian located at 9019 Little River Turnpike in Fairfax. Learn first hand what social justice issues are on the agenda for advocacy in the upcoming 2010 Virginia General Assembly, and learn how to respond. There is no charge. Bring a friend. For more information visit the SALT web site at www.S-A-L-T.org or contact SALT Coordinator, John Horejsi, jhorejsi@cox.net. For directions call Providence Presbyterian at (703) 978-3934.

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-Garden Room	-Unit 3: 1 BR, 1 BA
-Service Bar	-Unit 4: 2 BR, 1 BA, Wet Bar
-Full Cook's Kitchen	

SALE #2: The Jefferson House
113 - 115 N Jefferson Street

-Building Size: 2,598 sf	-2 Story Frame, 4 Units
-Lot Size: 0.092 acres	-All Units include: 1 Bedroom, 1 Bath, Parlor/Sitting Room & Wet Bar
-Tax Assessed Value: **$318,750.00**	

SALE #3: The Guest House
117 N Jefferson Street

-Building Size: 1,366 sf	-2 Story Frame
-Lot Size: 0.05 acres	-Kitchen
-Tax Assessed Value: **$112,470.00**	-Living Room -3 Bedrooms -2 Baths

SALE #4: The Hideaway House
121 N Jefferson Street

-Building Size: 1,260 sf	-2 Story Frame
-Lot Size: 0.05 acres	-Kitchen
-Tax Assessed Value: **$111,820.00**	-Living Room -2 Bedrooms -2 Baths

SALE #5: The Hilltop House
127 N Jefferson Street

-Building Size: 1,972 sf	-2 Story Frame/Duplex
-Lot Size: 0.067 acres	-Unit 1: Kitchen, Living Room, 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath
-Tax Assessed Value: **$159,350.00**	-Unit 2: Kitchen, Living Room, 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath

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Calendar

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

THURSDAY/NOV. 5

Habatat Gallery Fundraising Event. 7-10 p.m. at Habatat Gallery, 8020 Towers Crescent Drive, Tysons Corner. Help to raise money for a service dog for Henna, who suffered brain damage after being abused by her biological father at 2 years of age. $25 at the door. Music by Walk O'Shame, cocktails and wine, raffle for a trip to a Four Season Resort and more. 703-989-7110 or infoVA@habatatgalleries.com.

Willy Porter and Luke Doucet. 8 p.m. at the Barns, Wolftrap Foundation for the Performing Arts. $20. 703-938-2404 or Wolftrap.org.

Chatham County Line. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. $12. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 6

Chad and Jeremy. 8 p.m. at the Barns, Wolftrap Foundation for the Performing Arts. $25. 703-938-2404 or Wolftrap.org.

The King's Singers. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets are $22-$44. Pre-Performance Discussion held 45 minutes prior to the performance. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

John McCutcheon, folk music. 8 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. $28, $23 district residents. 703-790-0123.

Ellis Paul and Meg Hutchinson. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. $20. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

Coleman's Cross will perform on Sunday, Nov. 8. at 5 and 7 p.m. at The Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Reservations required. $15. 703-759-3309.

SATURDAY/NOV. 7

The Smart Split: Legal Aspects You Need to Know About Separation and Divorce. 7 p.m. at the Mclean Government Center, 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Jeffrey Sprowls, Esquire. $35 non-members, $25 members. www.thewomenscenter.org or 703-281-2657.

Our Daily Bread Holiday Food Drive. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. next to Safeway at Courthouse Plaza, 10376 Willard Way, Fairfax City. Proceeds to benefit SHARE. www.our-daily-bread.org.

Brooke and Keith Desserich. 7 p.m. at Borders Books & Music, 11054 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Discussion and signing of Notes Left Behind. 703-359-8420.

Janis Ian. 7 p.m. at the Barns, Wolftrap Foundation for the Performing Arts. $25. 703-938-2404 or Wolftrap.org.

Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets are $23-$46. Youth through grade 12 half price. Pre-Performance Discussion held 45 minutes prior to the performance. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Children's Flea Market. 2 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. 703-790-0123.

Silly Sounds with Simon. 8 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. $14, $10 district residents. 703-790-0123.

Kent Gardens Elementary School Fun Fête. 11a.m.-2 p.m. at Kent Gardens Elementary School in McLean. Games, activities, food, moonbounce/slide combo, spin art, field Games and more. Wristbands are $20 each, $15 for 3 or more.

Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department Annual Fall Vendor and Craft Fair. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Bingo Hall at 2148 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring. With representatives from Stampin' Up!, M & M Mobil Massage, Creative Memories, Mary Kay, Tastefully Simple, Lia Sophia, Usborne books, Silpada, as well as local artisans selling gourmet peanut brittle, greeting cards, drink coasters, painted gourds, Latin desserts and more. All proceeds will go to the Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. 703-200-2340, REEastman@dlvfrd.org, or www.facebook.com.

Steve Moakler and Honor By August. 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. $12. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/NOV. 8

National Symphony Chamber Ensemble. 3 p.m. at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. 703-790-0123.

Monte Carlo Night. 5:30-10 p.m. Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. $50 per person. Appetizers, casino games, music and dancing, door prizes, silent and live auctions and more. Sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Northern Virginia. Proceeds go to local educational and civic programs. 703-319-6930.

Quality of Life Plus Program Veteran's Day BBQ and Picnic. 4-8 p.m. at The Pavilions at Turkey Run at the Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Moon bounces, slides, an inflatable obstacle course, face painting and craft activities for children, volleyball courts, horseshoes and more. A short stroll will lead through the Claude Moore Colonial Farm. Admission to the farm is free for those attending the event. Popcorn, snow cones, lemonade, soft drinks, beer and wine. Burgers, hotdogs, grilled chicken and trimmings begin at 6 p.m., followed by soft serve ice cream. Adults $50, children under 18 free; Veterans half price. Proceeds support the Quality of Life Plus Program. Advance tickets and contributions can be made at www.qlplus.org/festival, or by check payable to Quality of Life Plus, 6748 Old McLean Village Drive, McLean VA 22101.

Claude Moore Colonial Farm Autumn Chores. 1-4 p.m. at the Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Help clear brush from the fields, stack wood for the hearth, repair old fencing, and perform other necessary farm tasks in preparation for the coming winter. Comfortable clothes and work gloves recommended. $3 adults, $2 children and senior citizens. 703-903-9330 or www.1771.org/directions.htm.

Circo Aereo, "Espresso" 4 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax.. $22-$44. Youth through grade 12 half price. Pre-Performance Discussion held 45 minutes prior to the performance. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Coleman's Cross, 5 and 7 p.m. at The Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Reservations required. $15. 703-759-3309.

Hike the Difficult Run Trail, from Colvin Run to Georgetown Pike. 2 p.m. Meet at the parking lot at the far south east end of Colvin Run Road across the street from The Mill. www.greatfallstrailblazers.org.

Harper Simon and Patrick Park. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. $12 advance/ $15 day of show. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/NOV. 9

Coleman's Cross. 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. at The Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Reservations required. $15. 703-759-3309.

The Vision Series: What Happens When Water is Cleaner? Tracking Transitions in Global Health. 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Speaker, Kathryn H. Jacobsen. Free. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Rock-a-Bye Baby. 10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Rhymes, stories, and songs. Birth-12 months with adult. 703-938-0405.

Benjy Davis Project, Curtis Peoples and Andrew Hoover. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. $10 advance/ $13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/NOV. 10

Rob Thomas Cradlesong Tour. 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. 703-993-3000.

Colvin Run Community Center Weekly Dance. 7 p.m. at Colvin Run Schoolhouse, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. $10. www.colvinrun.org.

DMZ to Delta Dance. 8-12 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn, 1900 N. Ft. Myer Drive, Arlington. Military camaraderie and dancing to the music of the Vietnam War era. Cash bar, veteran collectibles and a silent auction. Free parking. $30 per person, tickets can be purchased at the dance. Vietnam Veterans of America Inc., Chapter 227 is sponsoring the dance. Proceeds support the chapter's veterans and community programs. 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.

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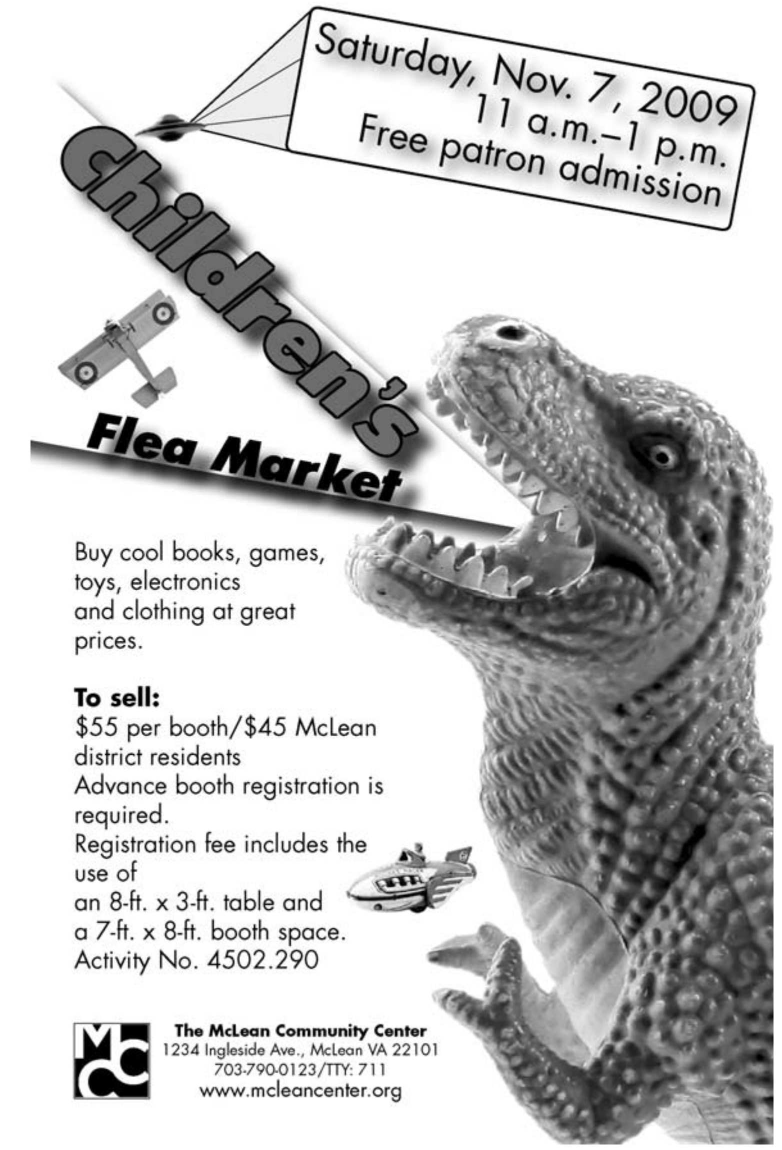

McLean Community Center
The Center of It All

Here's What's Happening at MCC

John McCutcheon in Concert
Friday, Nov. 6, 8 p.m.
$28/$23 district residents
Take a musical journey with folk music's John McCutcheon, the master of no fewer than 10 different instruments.

Children's Flea Market
Saturday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Free admission
Come get cool stuff at cool prices! A limited number of selling spaces are still available.

Al Simmons
Saturday, Nov. 7, 2 p.m.
$14/$10 district residents
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33rd Annual McLean Antique Show & Sale
Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 14-15
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Dancing under the Stars
Friday, Nov. 20, 8-11 p.m.
$25 per couple, $15 per person, district residents; $25 per person
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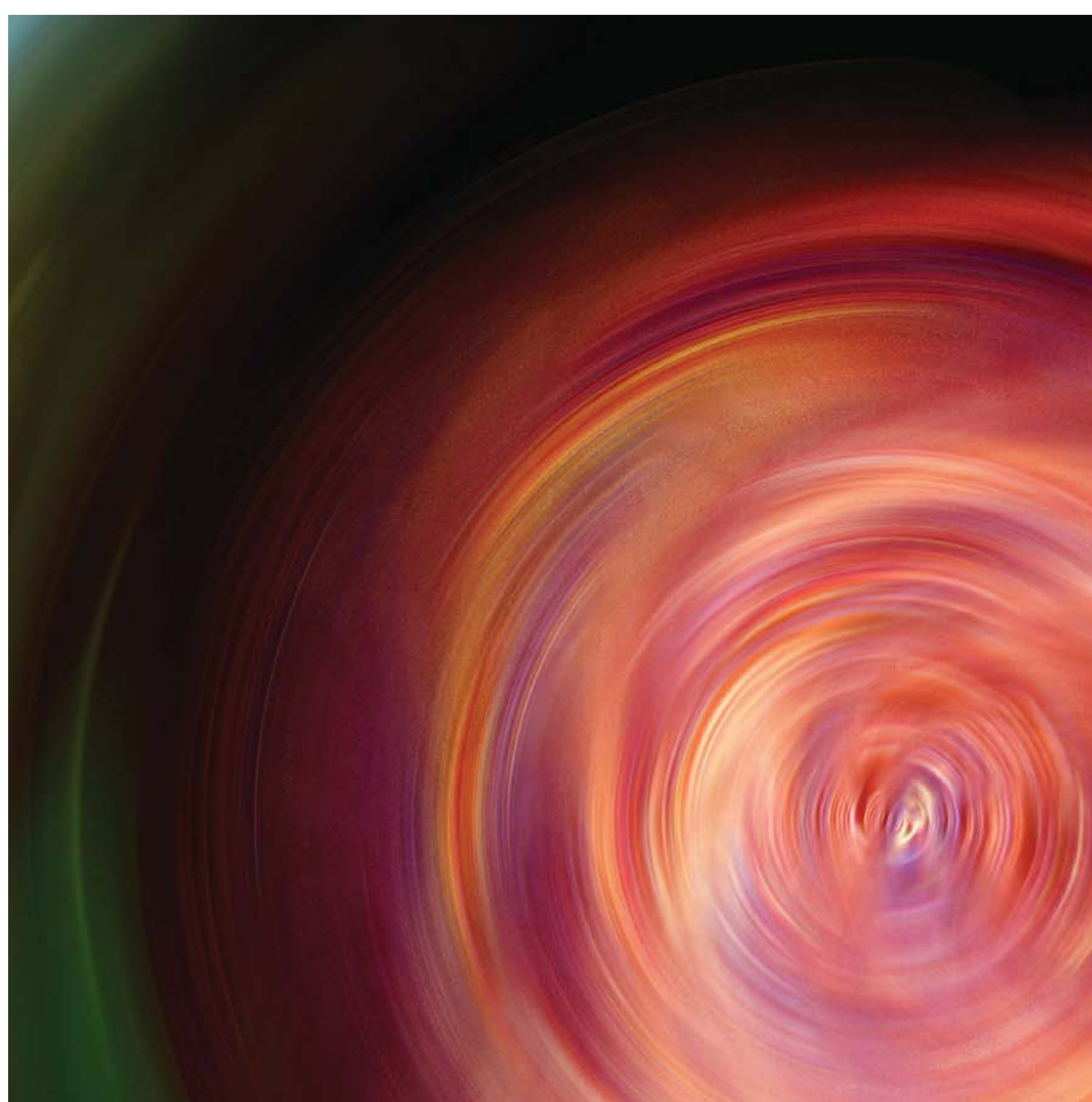

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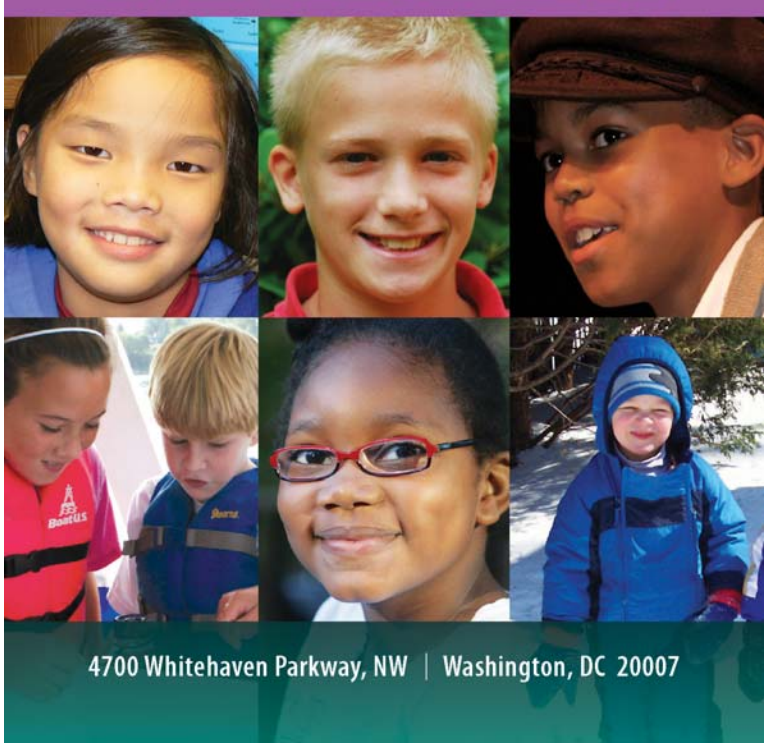

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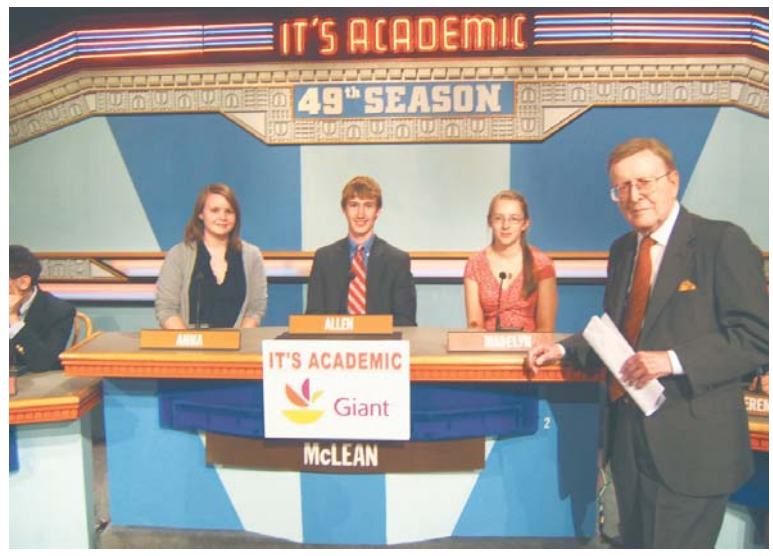

McLean High Team Competes on 'It's Academic'

A McLean High School team competed with teams from Quince Orchard High School of Gaithersburg and Walt Whitman High School of Bethesda on 'It's Academic,' the nation's foremost high school quiz program. The program will air Saturday, Nov. 14, at 11 a.m. on NBC4, Channel 4. The McLean team consists of captain Allen Krieg, Anna Glendening and Madelyn Paquette, pictured with the long-time 'It's Academic' host Mac McGarry. Their faculty coach is Jeffrey Jones. 'It's Academic' has been recognized by the Guinness Book of Records as 'the world's longest-running television quiz program.'

Marshall High Ensemble Meets Governor

Ten George C. Marshall High School students performed as a Brass Ensemble at the Fairfax Education Foundation's Luncheon on the State of Education last week at the McLean Hilton hotel. Gov. Tim Kaine (D), the keynote speaker for the lunch, posed with band members after the luncheon. Pictured, are, front row, Nick Peck, Emma Baleck, Lizzie Culbertson, Michelle Flores (co-drum major) and Nick Kemp; back row, Jordan Rennert (co-drum major), Joe Franke, Eric Reinhart, Kaine, Andrew Robinson and Ben Looker.

Calendar

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National Association Active and Retired Federal Employees Monthly Meeting. 1:30 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. SE, Vienna. Speaker: Susan Stone, Outreach Coordinator from the Alzheimer's Family Day Center on Old Lee Highway. 703-205-9041.

GMU Symphonic Band Concert and GMU Percussion Ensemble. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. $15 adult, $10 students and seniors. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

NRA Free Shoot for Military Veterans. 6-9 p.m. at the National Rifle Association, 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax. Space is limited, e-mail Sylvia Schneider at nrarangeadmin@nrahq.org to reserve. Casual dinner, firearms and ammo provided. The program features an exclusive display from the NRA National Firearms Museum. Senior curators Phil Schreier and Doug Wicklund will be available to answer questions. Military personnel and veterans will be asked to take a short range test if they have not shot at the NRA's range prior to the event. Free. 703-267-1402 or nrarangeadmin@nrahq.org.

Generation Awareness: Creating Synergy through Understanding. 8:30 p.m. at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, LLC, 1650 Tyson's Blvd., 10th Floor, McLean. With author MIsi Burnmeister. 703-281-2657 or www.thewomenscenter.org.

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.

Bobby Long. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. $15. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/NOV. 11

Great Falls Veteran's Day Observance will be held at 11 a.m. at Freedom Plaza on Georgetown Pike next to the library in Great Falls. The Observance will remember and honor all those who have served in the armed forces. Moderator: Lynne Roots with the Great Falls school children, with music by the Langley High School Madrigals.

Bob Dylan. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets are $57.50, available at all Ticketmaster locations. 703-993-3000 or www.patriotcenter.com.

Line Dancing Classes for Active Seniors. 11 a.m. at the Vinson Dominion Hall, 6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Join a new community program designed for age 55 and over. Free. Wear low heels and comfortable shoes. Registration required. 703-442-9075, TTY 711.

Works Progress Administration with Spring Standards. Bluegrass. 8 p.m. at the Barns at Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts.

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Calendar

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$20. Wolftrap.org.

An Evening with Ian McLagan. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. $15 advance/ $18 day of show. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/NOV. 12

Mike Lupica. 6 p.m. at Borders Books & Music, 11054 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Signing of Million-Dollar Throw. 703-359-8420.

The Pink Panther Strikes Again. 7 p.m. at Paul VI Catholic High School, 10675 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. Tickets at the door are $5 for students and seniors, $10 for adults. PVIProducers@yahoo.com.

Mason Dance Company Fall Concert. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. $15 adult, $10 students and seniors. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Mountain Heart, Tim Finch & The Eastman String Band. Bluegrass. 8 p.m. at the Barns at Wolf Trap. $22. Wolftrap.org.

Sarah Borges and the Broken Singles with Eilen Jewell. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. $12 advance/ $15 day of show. 703-255-1566 or jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 13

Taste of the Vine Fundraiser. 6-9 p.m. at the Historic Blenheim Civil War Interpretive Center, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Wine tasting, hors d'ouvres and raffle prizes. $50 in advance, $55 at the door. Proceeds benefit Historic Fairfax City Inc. 703-591-5305 or hilcarn31@aol.com.

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"They keep improving this and they've been continually improving it."

— Mark Zetts,
MCA Planning and Zoning Committee co-chair

Photo Contributed

This is one of the latest iterations of the exterior design proposed for McLean Personal Storage.

Storage Facility Wins Support

MCA, MPC voice approval of designs for downtown project.

Last week, the Planning and Zoning Committee of the McLean Citizens Association voted to support a design for a personal storage building planned for downtown McLean. County approval for the project, which is to be located on what is now a parking lot on Beverly Road, next to the Madison Building and behind McLean Animal Hospital, appears likely.

Committee co-chair Mark Zetts said county staff had expressed some concern that earlier designs did not meet the requirement of resembling an office building, and changes were made accordingly. "I think it's looking pretty good," he said. "They keep improving this and they've been continually improving it."

The citizens association supported a plan change that allowed a storage facility on the site in 2004 and also backed a countywide amendment to the zoning ordinance to permit such businesses in areas zoned for a planned commercial development, with this project specifically in mind. The amendment passed in the spring. "That zoning ordinance was really the last stumbling block to getting this storage put in there," Zetts said.

On Tuesday, Oct. 27, Zetts' committee approved of a design option that was preferred by the McLean Planning Committee (MPC), which oversees development in the downtown area. Maya Huber, who chairs the MPC subcommittee examining the storage facility proposal, said the design, while office-like, also had a residential look, with dormers on a mansard roof. She said this was appropriate, with residential communities so close to the property. Huber said the proposed design would also make the building appear shorter than it is and would fit with the character of Beverly Road, with brick edifices and heavy landscaping. "I think this was tweaked until it's about right," she said, although some minor changes are still being made.

She said the project would also support the current push to make the downtown more pedestrian-friendly, as it will include a mid-block walkway from McLean House Condominiums and Ashby's Apartments to the Safeway parking lot.

While the MPC opposed the earlier plan change that allowed a storage facility on the site, preferring a retail use, Huber said she felt it was the committee's job to implement the plan as it now stood.

Zetts said the facility would have little impact on the surrounding area while providing a valuable service. He said some neighbors had expressed concern about noise, but all loading and unloading would take place partially underground, minimizing noise and keeping activity out of sight.

The board of the McLean Citizens Association will make a decision on the proposal tonight and the Fairfax County Planning Commission is scheduled to conduct a public hearing on the matter on Dec. 2.

— Mike DiCicco

Photo Contributed

Stylist Rocio Perez applies extensions to Caroline Gray's (McLean High School) hair.

Salon Michel & Spa Hosts Pink Hair for Hope

Salon Michel & Spa in McLean hosted its second annual Pink Hair for Hope event. Joining in this fun way to raise awareness during Breast Cancer Awareness Month are Safeway's Beverly McCoy, McLean High School's Vice-Principal, Christie Taylor and faculty members and the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce's President, Marcia Twomey.

Raising over $1,300 last year, Salon Michel & Spa hopes to increase the proceeds earned during their year's Second Annual Pink Hair for Hope event. All of the proceeds are donated to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. This year's kick-off event was Tuesday, Oct. 6 at Salon Michel & Spa, 1400 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, but the salon continued to apply pink hair extensions all month long, said the owner Jennifer North.

By the end of the kick-off day, the salon raised $700 and by the end of the first week $1,400. People generally get anywhere from one to four extensions donating $10 for each.

Longfellow Students Join Drug Prevention Effort

The Longfellow Middle School 2009-10 Student Government Officers accepted a banner donated by the Safe Community Coalition with the help of Drug Free Community federal funds, secured by the Office of Student Safety and Wellness (FCPS). The banner was prepared for the start of Red Ribbon Week when schools throughout the county focus on drug prevention activities.

The Longfellow Middle School student government officers pictured with the banner include Suddy Sriram, president; Rachel Wiener, vice president; Elijah Levine, treasurer; Julianna Kang, secretary; and Jason Hu, media specialist. Gail Bigio, Longfellow's director of student services, is with the student government officers.

The Longfellow Middle School 2009-10 Student Government Officers pictured with a banner.

Contributed

Bulletin Board

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

THURSDAY/NOV. 5

The Safe Community Coalition hosts Community Dialogue at 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, featuring Ashley El Zein, Injury Prevention Coordinator for the INOVA Regional Trauma Center. She will be discussing the dangers of underage drinking and drug use, including the long term effects that early alcohol consumption can have on a developing teen. Free and open to public.

FRIDAY/NOV. 6

Conquer Cholesterol. 1 p.m. at the Inova Fairfax Diabetes Center, 2700 Prosperity Ave., Suite 100, Fairfax. Two two-hour classes, in which registered dietitians will explain how to reduce cholesterol levels through diet, exercise and weight management. $50. Registration required. 703-750-8800 or www.inova.org/healthclasses

SATURDAY/NOV. 7

Our Daily Bread Holiday Food Drive. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. next to Safeway at Courthouse Plaza, 10376 Willard Way, Fairfax City. Proceeds to benefit SHARE. www.our-daily-bread.org.

The Vision Series: What Happens When Water is Cleaner? Tracking Transitions in Global Health. 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Speaker, Kathryn H. Jacobsen. Free. 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

TUESDAY/NOV. 10

The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce, in conjunction with Fairfax County Office of Partnerships and M&T Bank, will hold the third annual Non-Profit Forum hosted and sponsored by Gannett Co. Inc. The topic of this year's forum is "Managing for Today's Economy." The forum is being held from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Gannett/USA Today Headquarters located at 7950 Jones Branch Road, McLean, VA 22102. This event is complimentary to all Non-Profits and includes lunch. Supervisor John Foust and George Mason University professor Dr. Stephen Fuller will be keynote speakers. Bryan Spoon from Congressman Jim Moran's office will speak on federal stimulus fund opportunities. Call the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce at 703-356-5424, or email lbowes@mcleanchamber.org.

Global Women's Issues. 7 p.m. at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Diane E. Kelly, State Department senior policy advisor for the Near East and North Africa in the Office of Global Women's Issues, will address U.S. policy efforts to address violence against women, empowerment through education and microenterprise, and maternal and child health. Sponsored by the Vienna and Reston-Herndon Branches of American Association of University Women. Free. 703-314-9609.

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

Sports

McLean's Football Defense — A Work in Progress

Far from perfect, Sullivan's unit has made big plays and improved from last year.

By Rich Sanders
The Connection

Photo by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

McLean High's Steven Bush prepares to bring down South Lakes running back Ja'Juan Bush.

The last two weeks have been tough ones for the McLean High football defense, but for the most past this season the Highlanders' "D," overseen by assistant coach and defensive coordinator Greg Sullivan, has been one of the great stories in the team's turnaround season.

"We don't have a lot of superstars, but they play hard and they play together," said Sullivan, who along with defensive line coach Steve Moll and linebackers coach Mike Noyes has helped the Highlanders play a more aggressive, physical brand of defensive football this season. "I don't know if we will have any kids who will make first team All-[Liberty] District, but they all work hard, communicate and play well together."

McLean is currently 5-4 under second year head coach Jim Patrick. While the team has lost two consecutive district games — a 55-17 road setback at improved Fairfax on Oct. 23 and a 38-21 home loss to defending Div. 5 Northern Region champion Stone Bridge last Friday night — the team's overall fall campaign has been a huge success following last year's 0-10 season.

Defense has been an integral part of the turnaround, although the breakdown in the loss to the Rebels two weeks ago was a setback.

"That was disappointing," said Sullivan, of the game with Fairfax.

Going into the Fairfax game, McLean had allowed an average of 19 points per game and allowed 14 points or less in wins over Washington-Lee (44-14 win), Wakefield (27-8) and Jefferson (38-0). Big plays allowed have hurt the Highlanders this season. But Sullivan's crew has also forced 27 turnovers over the first nine games, 23 fumble recoveries and four interceptions. Last year's McLean defense forced 13 turnovers.

Sullivan said he and his defensive assistants have stressed to his players the importance of trying to strip the ball away from opposing ball carriers this season.

"We didn't [teach that] as much last year," said Sullivan. "The first guy wraps up and the next guy comes in for the strip."

The result has been the numerous turnovers forced and an all-around better defense. The statistical numbers of points allowed and big plays allowed have hurt the Highlanders, but the unit has also made vast improvement from a year ago thanks to a swarm-the-ball mindset and hard-nosed tackling.

"We're not where we want to be yet, but we're in the process," said Sullivan, of the defense. "The kids work so hard and take directions real well. They don't make excuses and accept responsibility for their actions. They are smart kids."

McLean's defensive leaders are outside linebacker Bobby Ludwick and lineman Anthony Maestri, both seniors. Sullivan has been pleased with the play of both players. He also said a big year has come from senior defensive end Joe Smith, who has forced several fumbles over the course of the schedule. Smith created two fumbles, which led to touchdowns in McLean's 24-21 district win at Madison's homecoming on Sept. 25.

MCLEAN probably needs a win Friday night, Nov. 6, at home against cross-town and district rival Langley in order to assure itself of a seeding in next week's eight-team, Division 5 Northern Region playoffs. The Highlanders, with a victory in their final regular season game against the Saxons, would clinch a winning record at 6-4.

Langley, meanwhile, improved to 4-5 following a 24-21 district road win at South Lakes on Oct. 30. The Saxons were 0-4 at one point but have won four of five games since then. Langley is not likely to qualify for the Division 6 region playoffs, but a final week win over McLean would give the Saxons a .500 record at 5-5. Indeed, both the McLean and Langley teams have a lot on the line when they hit the field on Friday night.

Sports Roundups

The 13-under Potomac Travel Baseball team, the Generals, were tournament champions at the Columbus Day Classic that took place on the weekend of Oct. 10 at the Sports at the Beach Complex in Rehoboth, Del. The Generals are comprised of players from the McLean and Great Falls area, and are coached by Charlie Ayoub. The team won the tournament championship game, 3-1, over the Woodbridge Diamondbacks of New Jersey. The Generals entered Sunday's tournament round with a low seeding following lackluster pool play on Saturday. But they turned it around and won all four of their tournament games on Sunday, including a 7-4 victory over the top-seeded Long Island Prospects in a quarterfinal game. That victory avenged the only loss the Generals had suffered over the weekend, a 7-6 setback in their first game on Saturday.

The championship game win over Woodbridge was fueled by the dominant pitching of Billy Gerhardt, who allowed one run while striking out 16 in a complete game (seven innings) effort. Gerhardt was awarded the Tournament MVP trophy for his outing. The Generals also benefited from fine pitching performances over the weekend from Grant Newsome, Colin Morse, Cam Hester, Matt Spidi and Felix Propp. Big hits came off the bats of Caleb Beatty, Cam Hester, Grady Paine, Grant Newsome and Kennedy Dunn. Fine defense was provided behind the plate by Caleb Beatty and Grady Paine, and in the field from Colin Morse, Felix Propp, Mike Gannon, Grady Paine, Cam Hester, Grant Newsome, Alex Shapiro and Billy Gerhardt.

Westfield High will once again be hosting the Eighth Annual Bulldog Bash Holiday Basketball Tournament Dec. 28-30. The event will include both a boys and a girls tournament. Teams competing from the tournament will be from Northern Virginia, Roanoke and Pennsylvania.

The boys' field of teams will include Langley, Centreville, Flint Hill, Woodbridge, West Potomac, Freedom (Loudoun County), Patrick Henry (Roanoke) and defending tournament champion Westfield.

The girls' bracket will include James Madison, Potomac, Flint Hill, Centreville, Freedom (Loudoun County), St. Hubert's (Philadelphia), and last year's champion McDowell High of from Erie, Pa.

Admission for the Bulldog Bash will be $6 per day. A three-day tournament pass will be available for $15. Free admission will be granted to children under 6, adults over 60 and any travel or house youth basketball players wearing their uniform tops who are accompanied by a paying adult.

For more information on the tournament, check out the tournament Web site at www.bulldogbashtournament.com.

Courtesy Photo

The Great Falls Sharks girls' fastpitch softball team (12-under) took second place at the Oct. 3-4 Heartbreakers' Fall Classic, at Ballenger Creek Park in Frederick, Md. The Sharks competed with teams from Maryland and Virginia. After a tough first day that resulted in two losses and a tie, the Sharks came back on Sunday and pulled off an upset over the top-seeded Ashburn Shooting Stars, 15-4, and then went on to defeat the No. 4-seed LT Lazers before succumbing to the eventual tournament winners, the Germantown Titans. It was the Sharks' first tournament of the fall. This past weekend, they competed at a Halloween tournament in Sterling.

A Non-Biting Commentary

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

For as long as I've been biting my nails (my entire life) and for all the unconfirmed underlying reasons, anxiety and nervousness must have, on some level, played a role. However, I was never counseled, never psychoanalyzed (by a professional, that is) and never broken of the habit. Until, extremely oddly enough, recently when I was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer at 54. You would think, that under these less than ideal circumstances, biting my nails would be all that I would be doing. But it's not, hardly at all. In fact, I even joked to my wife, Dina, that I might need to schedule a manicure appointment. (If I did, it would be a first.)

I wouldn't say I'm at peace over the diagnosis, though. I mean, it was totally unexpected. There's no cancer in my family, both my parents lived well into their 80s (in relatively good health) and I'm a lifelong non-smoker; never having smoked even one cigarette in my pre- and post-adolescent years. Yet, that's the jackpot in which I find myself immersed: tumors, chemotherapy, oncologists, diagnostic scans, lab work, diet and lifestyle restrictions/modifications, work issues, money issues, etc. ("So young, so handsome, well, so young, anyway," Curly Howard of The Three Stooges was looking in the mirror admiring himself, considering death, when he spoke these words, a sentiment I completely embrace, context notwithstanding.)

It's ironic when you think about it, though. If ever there was a time to exhibit a behavior born out of anxiety and nervousness, one would think a stage IV lung cancer diagnosis out of the blue would be it. My nails should be bitten down to the nub by now. Heck, they used to be when I was completely healthy (or clueless, depending on your perspective/assessment), but they're not. They appear almost normal. My nails now need to be trimmed regularly and my cuticles are not all torn up, swollen and bleeding. It's an incredible sight, really, for me and my fingers. I only wish my parents were alive to see it. (Oh, how they were frustrated by my constant gnawing of my fingers/nails/cuticles.) Although, given the fact that they would then also have the knowledge that their "baby" ("Some baby," as my father always joked) had been diagnosed with "incurable" lung cancer, I can't see how this juxtaposition of good and bad would have enhanced their golden years.)

Nevertheless, they would have offered me the kind of love and support and encouragement I no doubt would have benefited from. All things considered, they may not have lived to see me not biting my nails, but had they lived, the underlying reason for the change – my diagnosis, might have hastened their deaths, and doing anything that might have done so would not have been a preferred pursuit.

So, after 50-some-odd years, I am no longer a nail bitter. It took a cancer diagnosis to do it, but I suppose it's about time. Certainly I'm not crazy about the contributing factor to its cessation, but I am happy with the results. Whatever was in me, in my head, that caused me to constantly bite my nails, seems to be gone. (Some trade-off, now I have malignant tumors in my lungs instead.)

Not to worry. I can live with the change, Hopefully for a long time. However long I do live, though, I will no longer be biting my nails. And for that, I'm thankful. I'm not exactly clear why I stopped but, since we were all never clear why I started, I consider it a net positive. And considering my current health circumstances, I'm grateful – and happy, for anything that's a positive. No matter what!

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

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to operate snow removal equipment during the winter months. CDL required. Positions are located throughout Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Counties. Selected applicants must complete a pre-employment physical/drug screen, fingerprint based background check, references, work history and DMV records check prior to employment. For complete job description & to apply go to www.vdot.jobs and search for position # E9000 Transportation Operator II. TDD, 1-800-828-1120. EOE. Please also view our ad under On-Call Equipment Repair Technician.

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Assaggi Osteria,LLC trading as Assaggi Osteria, 6641 Old Dominion Drive, Mclean, VA 22101. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer on Premises; Mixed beverage on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Domenico Cornacchia, Managing Member

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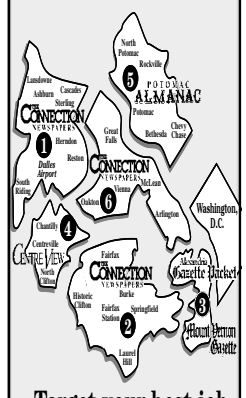

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Ashleigh C. Pepin, daughter of Andrew and Francine Pepin, graduated from Shenandoah University on Aug.15, with a doctorate in physical therapy and received her Board Certification in September. She is a 2002 graduate of Langley High School and a 2006 graduate of James Madison University. She is currently employed in an outpatient orthopedic setting in Northern Virginia.

Ashleigh C. Pepin

The annual Mclean High School Band Fruit Sale is currently underway. Boxes of fresh Florida oranges and grapefruits, fruit baskets, and jumbo pecan halves are on sale through Nov. 25. Visit http://mcleanband.org/annual-fruit-sale.html o place an order or to prepay via credit card (PayPal). Payment and pick up day is Saturday, Dec.12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Mclean High School. Payments on December 12th must be by cash or check.

Byron Van Nort Hughey of McLean has been awarded a bachelor of arts in English from Denison University of Granville, Ohio. Hughey received the Alumni Endowed Scholarship and studied abroad with the Goldsmiths program in England.

Duncan H. Hardock of McLean has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Colby College in Waterville, Maine. Hardock, a graduate of McLean High School, is the son of Randolf and Anne Hardock.

Rebecca Ellen Berenson and **Alaura Rose Maglio,** both of McLean, have been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at the University of Wisconsin College of Letters and Sciences.

Julia Christine Glasgow of McLean has graduated with a bachelor of arts degree from Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H. Glasgow is the daughter of James A. and Alice H. Glasgow.

Brendon Charles Ellis of McLean has been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va. Ellis is the son of Daniel L. Ellis and Colleen E. Sanford.

McLean residents **Jonathan Ende** and **Elizabeth Freeman** have been named to the spring 2009 dean's list at Washington University's College of Arts & Sciences in St. Louis, Mo. Both Ende and Freeman are graduates of Mclean High School.

Amy Attiliis attended the Governor's School for the Humanities and Visual and Performing Arts at Christopher Newport University this summer. She is a student at Masrshall High School.

Several Langley High School students have been named as Semifinalists in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program:
Michael P. Alexander, Christine E. Campbell, Hannah G. Haught, Hyunjun Kim, Ryan Lu, Joshua R. Pan and **Jonathan J. Park.**

Two Madeira School students, **Mary C. O'Donnell** and **Ana B. Olson,** have been named as Semifinalists in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program.

Several McLean High School students have been named as Semifinalists in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program:
Libi Baehr, David M. Berk, Annika L. Lichtenbaum, Natalie E. Mabile, Katherine E. Peck, Charles M. Tenney and Fifi Wang.

Several Potomac School students have been named as Semifinalists in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program:
Esfanayar Batmanghelidj, Clara Beyer, Katherine E. Chockley, Catherine A. Lipsher, Drew E. Morrison and Austin E. Ness.

Christian Schwantes, a senior at James Madison University and a Langley High School graduate, received second place this summer for presenting his research at an international competition in Switzerland. Schwantes, the only undergraduate student to present, won second place. He is a chemistry and math major.

Andrea Elizabeth King of McLean graduated from Radford University with a bachelor of science degree in communication. King is the daughter of David King of Youngblood St. in McLean.

Obituary

Harlan T. Hall, 95, Former McLean Resident, Dies

Harlan Taylor Hall, 95, of Elon, N.C., died at home on Saturday, Oct. 31, after a long and well lived life. Born June 5, 1914, he was the youngest son of three to the late Frank Eastwood and Hattie Roork Hall of Greenwich, N.J. After schooling, he moved to Northern Virginia in the 1930s, where he met and was married for 69 years to the love of his life Gladys "Susie" Ives. A WWII veteran, he served in the U.S. Navy as a combat medic with the 4th Beach Battalion in the European Theater. The couple settled in McLean, where they were residents for more than 60 years, and raised two sons and a daughter. Employed for 42 years with the Washington Gas Light Company, he enjoyed his retirement in 1979 and was very active with the Chesterbrook UMC. Moving further south in 1998 to Elon, N.C. he left behind many friends and family members to be closer to children and grandchildren. Harlan will be remembered for being a happy, optimistic, loving and faithful man that cherished his wife, family, and friends above all else. He had a great sense of humor, and enjoyed the outdoor life including fishing, hunting, and gardening. Preceded in death by his parents, his brothers John and Kenneth Hall and their wives Cuba and Dorothy, he is survived by his cherished wife Susie, children Harlan Taylor Hall Jr. and wife Kay, of Burlington, N.C., Douglas Ives Hall and wife Judy, of Watkinsville, Ga., and Betty Suzanne Hall Everett and husband Jim, of Greensboro, N.C.; grandchildren Krista and Debbie Hall, Parker Hall and wife Kim, Chad Hall and family, Brooke Reyna and her son Jack, Jody Hall and fiancé Sally Busby, and Dylan Taylor Everett. Great grandchildren include Gracie and Brody Hall. In addition, he leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews and other family and friends. The memorial service will be Saturday, Nov. 7, at 1 p.m., at the First United Methodist Church of Elon, 1630 Westbrook Ave., Elon, N.C., with the family receiving friends and celebrating his life at the home afterwards. The family wishes to thank all for the prayers, support, friendship and care giving that were shared so lovingly by church members, neighbors, friends, and Hospice. Internment will be at the Arlington National Cemetery at a later date. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, Hospice & Palliative Care Center of Alamance-Caswell and the First United Methodist Church of Elon.

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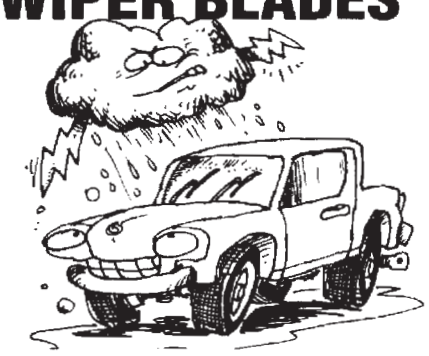

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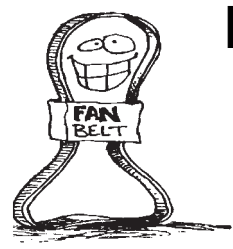

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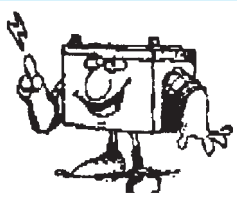

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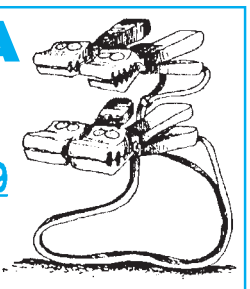

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