

On Monday afternoon, phone lines remain tangled with trees weighed down by snow along Walker Road.

Snowed In

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Fire Destroys Great Falls House

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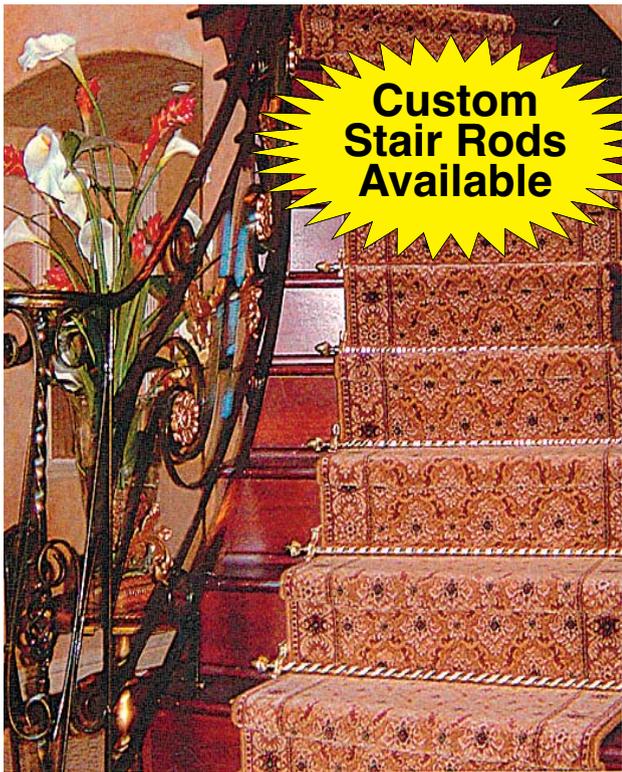
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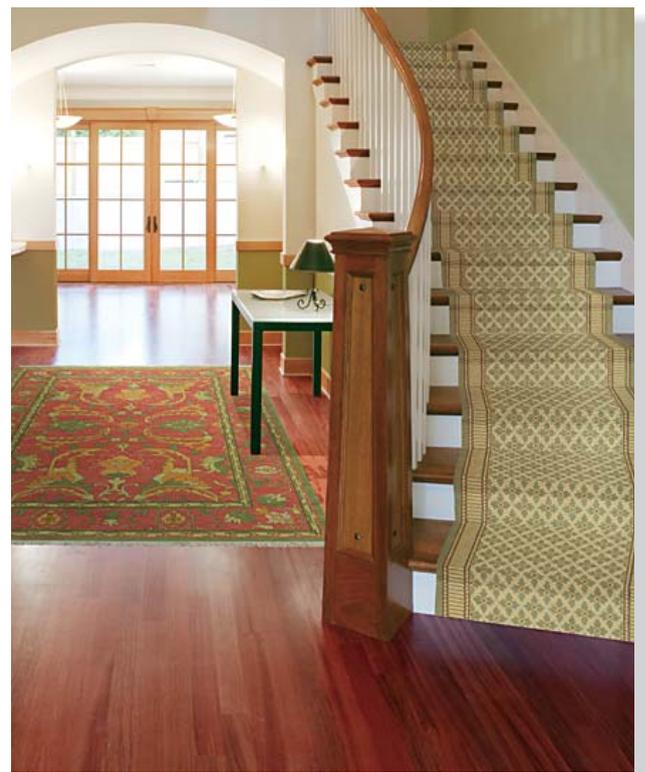
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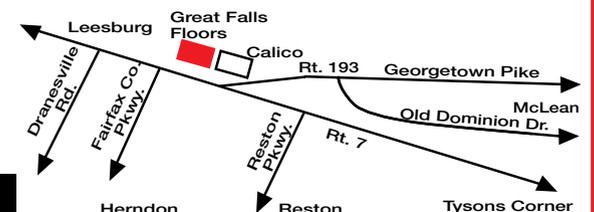
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Snowed In

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

The Virginia Department of Transportation expected to remove 500,000 tons of snow from Northern Virginia roads this week, and that was before weather teams started calling for a second storm to hit the region this week.

Parts of Fairfax County received as much as 34 inches of snow during the initial storm that started Friday, Feb. 5. A few days later, local emergency responders were bracing for a second wave of winter weather, expected to bring as much as 10 to 20 inches of additional snow on Tuesday, Feb. 9.

A few Fairfax neighborhoods had not recovered from the first storm, let alone been able to prepare for second wave of harsh conditions. Parts of West Springfield, McLean, Great Falls, Clifton and Kings Park West remained totally unplowed and, in some cases, without power four days after first storm and less than 24 hours before the second storm was scheduled to arrive, according to local elected officials.

"If we get [another] 20 inches of snow, that is going to be a huge problem. I think the next couple of days are going to be harder than the last couple of days," said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), whose neighborhood street in McLean still had not been plowed on Feb. 8.

DOMINION POWER, the largest local utility company, expected to restore service to all their Fairfax customers by the 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 9. As of Monday afternoon, approximately 100 households in the county served by Dominion still had no electricity, said company spokesperson Daisy Pridgen.

A few of the more isolated parts of Great Falls and some older West Springfield developments were still without electricity on the eve of the second storm, according to local elected officials.

"The people without power are my biggest concern. We have seniors without power who are likely at risk," said Supervisor Patrick Herrity (R-Springfield.)

The level of electricity service that had been restored by Feb. 8 was an improvement over the prior two days, when thousands of Fairfax residents were without power, according to Fairfax County spokesperson Merni Fitzgerald.

"It went off all across the district. We had huge patches of Great Falls and McLean without power. Dominion has made very significant progress with getting them back online," said Foust.

In the Springfield and Herndon areas, the highest concentrations of residents were without electricity for long periods of time.

The county opened two emergency shelters at the Robert E. Lee Center in Franconia and Oak Marr Recreation Center in Oakton after the storm, partly to respond to the



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

The field off Walker Road offers plenty of space for sledding Monday afternoon.

needs of those communities without electricity, said Fitzgerald. No one showed up at the Franconia location and only two families went to the Oakton location before the county shut both shelters down Feb. 8.

At the Oakton location, one family took hot showers and left immediately. Another family spent several hours there and went home around midnight once they found out their power had been restored, said Fitzgerald.

"The shelters were very well promoted but people found other ways to deal with the lack of electricity," said Fitzgerald.

Fairfax will consider opening the shelters again if they needed after the second snow storm, she added.

THOUGH THE POWER had come back on in most Fairfax houses, dozens of subdivisions scattered throughout the county had yet to see a snowplow less with than 24 hours to go before the second storm was expected to hit.

The commonwealth of Virginia, not Fairfax County, is responsible for plowing the vast majority of local roads. Transportation officials said they aimed to make "at least one pass" with a snow plow on every street in Fairfax by Tuesday night, Feb. 9, though the flakes were expected to start falling again in the middle of that afternoon.

"We are trying to get the plows to every street — it's a major challenge," said Joan Morris, Virginia transportation spokesperson.

Virginia's Transportation department does not have adequate snow removal equipment for a storm of this size. Hundreds of smaller four-wheel drive trucks that the transportation department typically relies on for plowing have been all but useless in re-

Emergency personnel work around the clock to respond to large snowfall.

8, the guard transported an 88 year-old dialysis patient who was snowed in to a medical appointment.

"Our mission here is medical transports, employee transports, helping out police and fire squads, and medical assistance," said Specialist Jeremy Anderson, who was stationed at the National Guard's emergency operations center, set up in the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center in Fairfax.

Fairfax officials also said regular citizens have been of great assistance in the storm. Some county residents have been volunteering their four-wheel drive vehicles to transport other people to medical centers and doctor appointments.

In a few cases, regular citizens have also picked up and driven county employees — such a fire and rescue workers — to a job site, said Fitzgerald.

"A lot of the people staffing the shelters were picked up by volunteers and brought here," she said.

INOVA HOSPITALS have seen fewer snow-related injuries during this storm than the mid-December storm, said Tony Raker, the health system's spokesperson.

"We believe the reason is the difference between a 6-inch and 26-inch storm. The larger amount of snow has had a paralyzing effect on activity while the smaller amount has a tendency to generate a bit of over confidence, causing folks not to exercise as much caution in the elements as they should," said Raker.

Some county supervisors have received calls from people in sensitive conditions.

In the Braddock District, one woman worried about getting her son to the hospital later this week, when he is scheduled to have surgery. Another woman is nine months pregnant and worried about going into labor and not being able to get to the hospital, said Cook.

"It is the people who have an emergency, those are the ones that we are really concerned about," said Cook.

The second storm may have posed a new set of problems.

Virginia could have run out of the salt before the end of the second snow fall.

"Salt could be a challenge during the next storm — we've been replenishing but the domes aren't full," said Morris.

A few county officials also wonder where all the plowed snow will go once it is cleared, as the shoulders of major roads and large parking lots run out of space.

The transportation department typically hauls snow from the Capital Beltway and Interstate 95/395 to an area under the Woodrow Wilson Bridge near the City of Alexandria.

"Not running out of space [there] yet ... You can check again later," said Morris, in response to a question about snow storage.

Reporter Mike DiCicco contributed to this article.



ENGAGEMENTS Christopher Trimble and Alicia Buchwalter

Christopher Trimble and Alicia Buchwalter

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Buchwalter, of Bridgewater, N.J., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Alicia, to Christopher Koenig Trimble, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Harvey Trimble Jr. of Great Falls.

Alicia Buchwalter is a graduate of The Pingry School in Martinsville, N.J., and received her bachelor of science degree from Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. She received her medical degree from New York University School of Medicine and did her residency in internal medicine at the University of California

San Francisco. She is currently employed by Unity Health Care, Inc. in Washington, D.C.

Christopher Trimble is a graduate of Gonzaga College High School in Washington, D.C. He received his bachelor of science degree from the University of Virginia McIntyre School of Commerce, his masters in management information systems from the University of Virginia and his masters in business administration from Georgetown University. He is currently employed by Booz, Allen, Hamilton.

An October 2010 wedding is planned.

Cultural Care Au Pairs Join Valentine's Day Traditions

It has been said that love is the international language. For a group of local Cultural Care Au Pairs, who are in the United States for one year providing childcare to American host families, this year's Valentine's Day celebration will be an opportunity to prove just that. At their monthly au pair meeting, led by local childcare coordinator Anne DiFronzo, the au pairs are handcrafting valentines for their host children and families with an international twist.

"The au pairs live with these local families for one to two years, and they become very important family members," said Anne DiFronzo, local childcare coordinator for Cul-



Anne DiFronzo

tural Care Au Pair. "This is a great opportunity for them to not only experience the American traditions for Valentine's Day and share their customs, but it is also just a good excuse to tell the children and host families with whom they live and care for that they love and appreciate them."

NEWS

New School Focuses On Movement, Motivation

Great Falls residents co-found The Newton School in Sterling.

Allison Abraham and Sonja Lopez opened The Newton School in Sterling, last Sept. 8 for children in grades K-6 who may not be able to reach their full potential in a traditional school environment and need small class sizes (eight students per class with two teachers), therapeutic movement integrated into the school day and an emphasis on social development.

Newton School students have average to above average intellectual abilities but may have a learning challenge such as ADHD, Asperger's Syndrome or a language delay. Some may have a level of anxiety that prevents them from learning in a public school or, they may simply need individualized attention and movement throughout the day to help keep them engaged and learning.

"Our belief is that integrating movement into the school day enhances academic performance, increases confidence and keeps children engaged and learning throughout the day," said Allison Abraham of Great Falls, co-founder, The Newton School. "After watching our son Dan (who is in second grade at The Newton School), it became very clear that he is much more capable than he has been able to demonstrate in the public school."

ACADEMICALLY, The Newton School follows the Virginia Standards of Learning. Reading, math,



The centerpiece of the school is the 6,000 square foot gym.

oral expression and writing are core subjects, with science and social studies taught primarily through hands-on activities and field trips. The school also has a full-time music teacher, a speech and language professional, an occupational therapist and students take classes in art, Tae Kwon Do and swimming as a regular part of the curriculum.

The centerpiece of the school is its 6,000 square foot indoor gym with a 23 foot by 16 foot foam pit with cargo net, 30 foot tumble track, a ball pit with more than 22,000 balls, large trampolines, swings, bungees, trapezes, rings, balance beams, climbing equipment and many other activities to keep students moving. Students start the day with a staff-designed obstacle course that changes every day. Academics, language, organization, social skills and more are taught and reinforced through activities occurring in the gyms, alternating with classroom lessons.

Abraham, Lopez and staff also work to reinforce positive student

experiences at school. For example, at the end of each school day, all students do "Daily Reflections."

EACH CLASS watches and discusses a short movie of a positive, successful moment from their day at school, perhaps something funny that happened at lunch, breaking a board in Tae Kwon Do or an enjoyable moment from a field trip. This helps encode the positive memory of school every day before students go home, and helps students be more motivated to come to school the next day.

The Newton School is currently accepting new applications for the 2010-11 school year, which are due by March 1.

The school also offers programs after school and on Saturdays. The school will also offer a 2010 summer program that will run from July 5 to Aug. 13.

To learn more about The Newton School, visit www.thenewtonschool.org.

— ANNE BENTLEY

Seventh Graders Raise \$2,000 for Haiti

Great Falls' seventh graders Wynne Treco, Meg Kirby, Nikki Pope and Kailee Sibley (not pictured) from Kilmer Middle School conducted a bake sale outside of the Giant in Reston to raise money for the victims of the Haiti earthquake. The group of four students raised \$2,000 for the American Red Cross. The girls organized the bake sale on Saturday, Jan 29 at the home of Nikki Pope and baked most of the day to prepare for the sale the following day. On Sunday, the group of seventh graders set up their table outside of Giant and were amazed at the support and encouragement they were given and the generosity shown by everyone.



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11:30 a.m. at the Maplewood Grill, 132 Branch Road, Vienna. 703-281-1333 or www.vtrcc.org.

TUESDAY/FEB. 16

VTRCC Monthly Mixer. 5:30 p.m. at the Lebanese Taverna, Tysons Galleria, 1840G International Drive, McLean. 703-281-1333 or www.vtrcc.org.

FRIDAY/FEB. 19

VTRCC Brown Bag University. 12 p.m. at the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority, 8300 Boone Blvd. #450, Vienna. 703-281-1333 or www.vtrcc.org.

Republican Club of Greater Reston Annual Lincoln-Reagan Dinner. Hidden Creek County Club, Reston. 703-406-9740.

SATURDAY/FEB. 20

McLean Branch of the American Association of University Women Monthly Meeting. 9:30 a.m. at the McLean Community

Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The program will focus on being a Muslim woman in Northern Virginia, with speaker Wafika Albani, Fairfax County Public Schools Translator and Parent Liaison. The community is welcome. 703-830-6503 or www.mcleanaauw.org.

SUNDAY/FEB. 21

NAACP Fairfax County Youth Council Meeting. 4 p.m. at the George Mason University Johnson Center, Robeson Room, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Meetings are open to youth ages 10-20. restonbell7@gmail.com.

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OPINION

Surviving the Blizzard as a Community

Connected neighbors save the day; time to check contingency plans, emergency supplies.

More than 48 hours after more than two feet of snow stopped accumulating, after two nights of single digit temperatures in many areas, there are still tens of thousands of households without power.

During this blizzard, random and not-so-random acts of kindness have made all the difference for stranded families in the cold and dark.

A little preparation to “shelter in place” also helped.

EDITORIAL In neighborhoods around the region, families with power offered help to those without. Consider a few examples of list-serve messages, all sent with addresses and phone contact information, and instructions to spread the word:

“If any neighborhood residents still need a place to stay, you are welcome to come over. You can hang out for just a while to watch the game or stay overnight. We have lots of room and can accommodate a family with kids and pets — we have a large dog who would love to have a playmate for a while.”

“We have hot coffee, food and beds to sleep in. We also have a 4-wheel drive and if my husband can help with driving please let us know. Happy to help!”

“We have a warm house and food and beds. Anyone in need is most welcome. We are unplowed, so we can’t drive out ourselves.”

Consider one family’s experience: an elderly mother who lives alone in the suburbs while her children live in other states. Stranded by two-feet of snow, and out of power for the second day, her children lost phone contact with her. While friends tried to get to her by 4-wheel drive, an appeal via list-serve brought multiple offers from “strangers” to hike through the snow to check on her, and offers to provide a place to stay. The friend of the family was able to reach her, and found indoor temperatures of 31 degrees before getting her to a warm, safe place. But another 24 hours in that house could have been disastrous.

It’s hard to fathom the combination of no power, bitter temperatures and no way to get

out of the house or the neighborhood.

By the time you read this, written on Monday in the respite between the blizzard and Tuesday’s predicted storm, we may already be dealing with the next round of snow in this record-breaking winter.

It’s a great time to think about emergency contingencies. Do you know who on your block might need some extra thread in the safety net? Elderly, or lives alone, or any other special circumstance? Do you have a way to reach your family members during a power outage? Do you have food and water for a few days without power?

Here are two links to Ready.gov, explaining the basics of an emergency kit and the required elements of an emergency plan.

<http://www.ready.gov/america/getakit/index.html>

<http://www.ready.gov/america/makeaplan/index.html>

We welcome your snow stories, snow tips and snow pictures. Do you know of a random act of kindness to share? Please let us know. Email the editor at kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

— MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Children Need Full-Day School

To the Editor:

Having attended meetings with our county, School Board and elected state officials and reading news reports during recent weeks, I think it’s worth clarifying the real concern about losing full-day kindergarten. It’s not about providing childcare to help parents. It’s about providing children with the superior education that begins with full-day kindergarten and not retreating from Fairfax County’s commitment to provide full-day instruction to all students.

For the past five years, I’ve been a stay-at-home mom after having taught in county elementary schools for five years before that. I now face the kindergarten conundrum as I get ready to return to teaching and my daughter readies for kindergarten this fall. I empathize with parents facing the logistical and financial uncertainty of childcare next September for their rising kindergartners. School Aged Child Care in many schools already faces waiting lists, even without the influx of additional kindergartners. I’m hopeful, though, that many parents, families and schools will be able to work around this.

What concerns me more is being able to address the academic

impact that losing full-day kindergarten would have. My oldest child was part of the first year of full-day kindergarten class at our neighborhood elementary school three years ago. I saw him blossom from a preschooler to an elementary school student. Full-day kindergarten provided my oldest child and his teachers with time for full blocks of math, science, social studies and language arts. Teachers also used the time for reading remediation, extra reading instruction and foreign language practice to develop their language skills. Full-day kindergarten students also had twice the opportunities for the full breadth of school activities — P.E., music,

art, library and computer lab. Even school lunch with peers provides kindergartners with social opportunities they might not otherwise get. Full-day kindergarten gets these kids ready for the demands of first grade, Virginia Standards of Learning assessments, No Child Left Behind Act requirements, and beyond.

Many Fairfax County schools still do not have full-day kindergarten. Their half-day kindergarten teachers do an excellent job providing instruction during the shortened school day. But I’ve directly experienced how full-day kindergarten benefits children. It would be a shame to cut full-day kindergarten in schools that have

already successfully implemented it. Children don’t need another year of pre-school. They’re ready for kindergarten and Fairfax County should not retreat from the important goal of providing full-day kindergarten for all its students.

Rebecca McNaull
Vienna

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MONDAY/FEB. 22

Haven of Northern Virginia Six-

Week Suicide Bereavement Support Group. 7:30 p.m. at 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Free. Registration required at 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org, or e-mail havenofnova@verizon.net.

SATURDAY/FEB. 27

Vienna-Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce Casino Night & Taste of the Town. 7pm-12 a.m. at Westwood Country Club, 800 Maple Ave., E., Vienna. Samples from area eateries, cash bar, live auction, casino games and more. Prizes include trips, gift certificates, gift baskets, jewelry and more. \$75 in advance, \$85 at the door. 703-281-1333 or www.vtrcc.org.

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WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

Fire Destroys Great Falls House

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department units responded to a house fire Saturday, Feb. 6, at approximately 7:50 p.m., in the Great Falls area of Fairfax County. The single-family home is located at 11208 West Montpelier Road.

Firefighters encountered heavy fire and smoke coming from all sides of the two-story home upon arrival. Firefighters needed several snow plows to assist them in getting access to the home. Firefighters dealt with approximately 30 inches of snow as they made their way by foot up the more than 2,000 foot unplowed driveway to search for occupants. A water tanker task force of several tankers, including Loudoun County Fire & Rescue was used in fighting the fire. It took firefighters over an hour to extinguish the fire. Two adult occupants escaped the fire unharmed. There were no injuries. Red Cross was requested, but declined.

The home was total loss. According to fire investigators, the fire is under investigation.

A Man Convicted In Cocaine Smuggling

A 39-year-old man of Marshall, Va., was convicted by a federal jury in Alexandria of conspiring to traffic cocaine in Great Falls.

The man was convicted of conspiring to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine and faces a mandatory minimum penalty of five years in prison and a maximum of 40 years in prison when he is sentenced on April 23, 2010.

According to court documents and evidence at trial, he was part of a drug trafficking conspiracy that transports cocaine across the Mexican border into the United States, including into Virginia. On Sept. 3, 2009, he and three co-conspirators transported a kilogram of cocaine from Fauquier County to Fairfax County, where they were arrested.

In addition, evidence at trial showed that after his arrest, he attempted to threaten and intimidate potential witnesses to prevent them from cooperating with law enforcement and to prevent them from testifying at trial.

Facing Challenges, Artfully

Artwork helps students with disabilities.

BY JENNA PUGRANT
THE CONNECTION

The painting hanging in the hallway of The Kilmer Center looks exactly like the painting by Jamaican artist Bernard Stanley Hoyes. The painting, however, is not an original, but was painted by the students of Classroom 4 with the help of their classroom volunteers and teachers.

The Kilmer Center is a Fairfax County Public School for students ages 5 to 21 with severe disabilities and autism. Classroom 4 has five students who are cared for by the help of the classroom teacher Betsy Calvert and other classroom workers and volunteers. Approximately five years ago, Calvert and her classroom aid Hye Chae started using painting as a method to help educate their students about art while working on their physical mobility. "The initial painting we did was an experiment," said Calvert. "We were trying to find an activity that would satisfy the volunteer as well as help the students." Chae takes a work of art that the classroom wanted to paint and sketch out the picture onto a full sized sheet of paper. Afterwards, Hye helps guide the students as they filled in the lines of the painting, slowly recreating the work of the artists.

Classroom 4 recreates a painting almost every month with an artist or subject matter that pertains to something they are learning. For example, in the past, they have painted artwork by Jonathan Warmday in honor of Native American Heritage month and artwork by Janet Fish in honor of Women's History month. The classroom started with a painting by Georgia O'Keefe and have covered the work of masters such as Monet since the start of their projects.

The students are currently working on the painting "The Lake Anney," an 1896 work by Paul Cezanne. In every painting they replicate, the classroom aids work to educate the students about the work they are painting. For Cezanne, the students watched videos on Cezanne's painting and the classroom always completes write-ups to hang in the hall-



PHOTO BY JENNA PUGRANT/THE CONNECTION

In Classroom 4 of the Kilmer Center, classroom aids Hye Chae of Fairfax, Betsy Calvert of The Plains, and volunteer Adiya Taylor of The Madeira School in McLean, help student Rahaf, 14, work on recreating Paul Cezanne's painting 'The Lake Anney.' Students of Classroom 4 are intellectually disabled and the classroom uses painting as a way to educate the students about art and improve their hand mobility.

ways with picture symbols using a program called Boardmaker. "We paint and identify colors, subject matter, and shapes in the painting," said Calvert. The paintings also help the students with their limited mobility and eyesight. "We use a tactile color system so they can feel and see the colors at the same time," said Calvert. "It gives them the experience of using their hands in a way they would not have otherwise. The students can create something that they are really proud of."



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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 11

McLean Historical Society: George Washington's Mind or, A General's Genius. 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. McLean. William M. Ferraro demonstrates the potency of Washington's mind and the centrality of Washington's intellect to his achievements through an analysis of Washington's correspondence, especially his Revolutionary War letters. Ferraro is an assistant professor and assistant editor with the Papers of George Washington at the University of Virginia. Free, the public is invited. 703-442-9370 or www.mcleancenter.org.

Swing Dance with JP McDermott and Western Bop. 7:30 at The Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-424-1745 or www.headoverheelsdance.com.

Cracker (acoustic) and Michael McDermott. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$20. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Dan Dietz's 'tempODYSSEY.' 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater in the Performing Arts Building, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$6, \$3 for students and seniors. Tickets may be purchased at the door or by phone at 703-993-8888.

Shemekia Copeland. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$22. 703-938-2404 or wolftrap.org.



Matt and Shannon Heaton perform at The Old Brogue Irish Pub in Great Falls on Sunday, Feb. 14, 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

FRIDAY/FEB. 12

Benefit Chocolate Festival. 6-9 p.m. at Epiphany United Methodist Church, 1014 Country Club Drive N.E., Vienna. All proceeds to benefit Doctors Without Borders. Dinner served from 6-7 p.m., including pasta, salad, bread and beverage; desserts and coffee served until 9 p.m. The cost for dinner is \$5 per person, \$20 maximum per family; 50¢ tickets will be sold to purchase desserts and treats at the Chocolate Shop. A Craft Station will be available to make Valentines. 703-938-3494 or office@epiphanyumc.com.

Philadanco. 8 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. 703-790-0123. **By The Bog of Cats.** 8 p.m. at 1st

Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. 1st Stage, Fairfax County's non-profit professional theatre, presents a loose retelling of Euripides' Medea, set in rural Ireland. Tickets \$25 adults, \$15 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1stStageTysons.org/cats.

Mercury in Summer CD Release. 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Marco Benevento Trio and Nathan Moore. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$15. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Dan Dietz's 'tempODYSSEY.' 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater in the Performing Arts Building, 4400 University Drive,

Vienna Artist Exhibits at 1st Stage Theatre

Vienna resident, Cheryl Patton Wu, is exhibiting her two- and three-dimensional art during the month of February in "The Gallery" at 1st Stage Theatre. 1st Stage (www.1ststagespringhill.org) is located in an industrial office park off of Spring Hill Road in Tysons Corner.

The show, entitled Cheryl Patton Wu - A Personal Duality, runs through the 28th. "The Gallery" is open during performance times.

There will be an Artist's Reception on Saturday, Feb. 13, 6-7:30 p.m.



Artist Cheryl Patton Wu with oil pastel collage entitled Doorway

Fairfax. \$6, \$3 for students and seniors. Tickets may be purchased at the door or by phone at 703-993-8888.

The Discovery Series: Berlin Philharmonic Wind Quintet. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$35. 703-938-2404 or wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 13

McLean Orchestra Concert: Sweet Sorrows. 8 p.m. at Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Romeo and Juliet Program including music of Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev and Berlioz. 703-893-8646 or www.mclean-orchestra.org.

Episcopal Church Women Lace &

Grace Tea. 2 p.m. at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Hudson Hall, 8991 Brook Road, McLean. Live music and a variety of tea delicacies and sweets. A portion of the proceeds will benefit local women served by Alternative House in Vienna. \$30 per person. Reserve at 703-442-0330; group sales welcome. 703-272-7796 or mollieregans@verizon.net.

Further Winter Tour 2009 with Phil Lesh and Bob Weir. 8 p.m. at The George Mason University Patriot Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$53.50 at www.ticketmaster.com or via Phonecharge at 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available for patrons with disabilities at 703-993-3035. www.phillesh.net or www.patricenter.com.

Moscow State Radio Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Under the direction of Alexei Kormienko, with pianist Alexander Sinchuk and cellist Julian Schwarz in a program that includes Rimsky-Korsakov's 'The Tsar's Bride' Overture and 'Scheherazade,' Symphonie Suite for Orchestra, Op. 35, Rachmaninoff's 'Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini,' Op. 43 and 'Variations on a Rocooco Theme in A for Cello and Orchestra,' Op. 33. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets are \$28-\$56, available at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

Chinese New Year 2010. At Peking Imperial Restaurant, 6827 Redmond

Drive, McLean. With a traditional lion dance show. 703-785-6495. **By The Bog of Cats.** 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. Tickets \$25 adults, \$15 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1stStageTysons.org/cats.

Deborah Owens: A Purse of Your Own. 12 p.m. Barnes & Noble Books, 7851L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. crm2236@bn.com.

Chinese Lunar New Year Festival: The Year of the Tiger. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Opening ceremony, 2:30 p.m. Live performances, New Year's Parade, children's games, Chinese language and cooking workshop, a variety of Asian food, and a Lantern Gate and Dragon mold will be created. Free admission. Hosted by the Asian Community Service Center. www.ChineseNewYearFestival.org or www.AsianServiceCenter.org.

The Vienna Choral Society: The Disney Princesses. 4 p.m. at the Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road S.W., Vienna. Music from the classic Disney fairy tales, featuring youth soloists and multilingual narration. Adults \$18, seniors and students \$14, under 8 free. Tickets available at www.viennachoralsociety.org or 703-255-5508.

Deanna Bogart Band Reunion-essque Show. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$17 advance, \$20 day of show. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Punch Drunk Poets, Brainfang and The Resistance. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Dan Dietz's 'tempODYSSEY.' 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at George Mason

University's Black Box Theater in the Performing Arts Building, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$6, \$3 for students and seniors. Tickets may be purchased at the door or by phone at 703-993-8888.

A Tribute to Neil Finn/Crowded House. 7:30 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25. 703-938-2404 or wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/FEB. 14

The Acting Company in Romeo and Juliet. 4 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4500 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets are \$18-\$36. Charge at 888-945-2468 or www.gmu.edu/cfa.

By The Bog of Cats. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. Tickets \$25 adults, \$15 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1stStageTysons.org/cats.

Chinese Lunar New Year Festival: The Year of the Tiger. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Free admission. www.ChineseNewYearFestival.org or www.AsianServiceCenter.org.

Matt and Shannon Heaton: bouzouki, guitar and accordion. 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. at The Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. \$15. Reserve at 703-759-3309. www.oldbrogue.com.

Dancers Todd Borzych and Migle Gineityte. 12:30 p.m. at Border's Bookstore, 8027 Leesburg Pike, Tysons Corner. How to keep fit with dance. 703-556-7766 or www.ctabois.com/events.php.

What A Night!, Light Up The Sky, Sub-Radio Standard and The

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

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SCHOOLS

Langley Drama Performs at District Festival

Langley High School's Hayley Mueller, Brian Patterson and Becca Allen pull guns on both of their enemies in the 'The Tarantino Variation' play at the Liberty District Theatre Festival at Marshall High.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE KNAPP/THE CONNECTION

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Fashion students 'Rock the Moon Walk.' Langley High School Advanced Fashion will hold a fashion show at the Langley High School Auditorium, Saturday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. Tickets \$10. This event is a practical approach to learning the core elements of marketing, special event planning, public relations, and visual merchandising. The students' creativity, hard work, and devotion have made it one of the best attended school functions year after year. For more information contact Tricia Poythress at tricia.poythress@fcps.edu

Andrew Paulson of Great Falls has been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Westminster Choir College of Rider

SEE SCHOOL NOTES, PAGE 11

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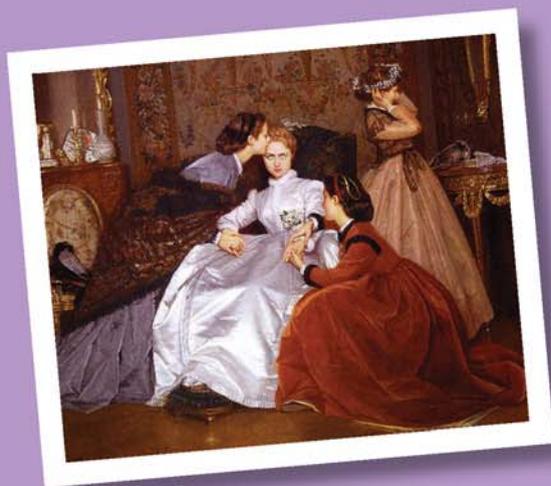
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FAITH

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

Episcopal Church Women of St. Thomas Episcopal Church Lace & Grace Tea, 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13. With a variety of tea delicacies and sweets, and live music by local instrumentalists, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Hudson Hall, 8991 Brook Road, McLean. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Alternative House in Vienna. \$30 per person. Reserve tickets at 703-442-0330. Group sales welcome. 703-272-7796 or mollieregan@verizon.net.

McLean Bible Church, 8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, will host LifeWay Women's Going Beyond with Priscilla Shirer, at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 26 and 9 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27. Shirer encourages women to go beyond everyday life to walk with Christ. Tickets are the two-day event are \$45. Register at www.lifeway.com/goingbeyond or 800-254-2022.

Maggie Page of Vienna is beginning a one-year service assignment with Mennonite Central Committee in Europe as a teacher's assistant. Page has a bachelor's in studio art from St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn. She is associated with Emmanuel Mennonite Church, Shoreview, Minn. Page is serving through MCC's Serving and Learning Together program for young adults. MCC is a relief and development organization of Mennonite and Brethren in Christ churches in Canada and the U.S. mcc.org.

Antioch Christian Church Youth will collect one-dollar donations in large

soup pots for the **Souper Bowl of Caring**, at the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, Feb. 7, at Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road, Vienna. Each group gives their donation directly to the charity of their choice; no money is sent to Souper Bowl of Caring headquarters. Organizers simply ask that groups report their collection amount so a national total can be determined. www.antiochdoc.org.

Emmaus United Church of Christ will offer the lecture series "Nurturing the Body through Nutrition." Classes will be 7 p.m. in the parlor of Emmaus Church, 900 East Maple Avenue, Vienna. Free and open to the public. Contact Dana Krauskopf, 703-272-8675 or hamanasi@bellsouth.net, or Marsha Komandt, 703-938-1264 or mgkomandt@verizon.net.

❖ Monday, Feb. 22. Learning to Reconnect to Your Body in Healthy Ways: Energy Enhancement.

❖ Monday, March 8. Sugar: The Unsweet Truth.

❖ Monday, March 29. Food is Medicine.

Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Road in Vienna, will hold an Ash Wednesday prayer service, "In Desert or Flood: Standing Firm in the Lord," at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 17. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.

The United Methodist Church of the Good Shepherd, 2351 Hunters Mill Road in Vienna, will hold a 'Hearts Afire' contemporary service 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13. This month's mission will be to make Valentines to be delivered to the Sunrise Assisted Living Center after the service. www.goodshepherdva.com.

SCHOOL NOTES

FROM PAGE 10

University in Princeton, N.J. Paulson is majoring in voice performance.

Julie Benjamin of Great Falls was named to the fall 2009 dean's list for the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech, where she is an architecture major and Honors Program student. Benjamin is a graduate of Langley High School and the daughter of Thomas and Susan Benjamin.

Margherita Scott of Great Falls was accepted as a first-year student at Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y. Scott is a graduate of The Madeira School and the daughter of Thomas and Betsy Sue Scott.

Brian Benjamin of Great Falls was named to the fall 2009 dean's list for the College of Engineering at Virginia Tech, where he is a civil engineering major. Benjamin is a graduate of Langley High School and the son of Thomas and Susan Benjamin.

Jonathan Scanlon recently qualified to participate in the Johns Hopkins University Center For Talented Youth, a program that offers eligible students the opportunity to engage in academic work in humanities, math, and science. He is a second grader at the Nysmith School, and the son of Jon Scanlon and Rebecca Fish of Canterwood Lane in Great Falls.

Richard Pestell of Great Falls has been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Drew University in Madison, N.J.

Michelle Bovee of Great Falls has been accepted into the Honors Program at James Madison University. Bovee is a sophomore majoring in political science with a minor in political communications.

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In Indoor track districts, Langley boys take second.

BY RICH SANDERS

Both the Langley and McLean High girls' swim and dive teams put together impressive showings at the Northern Region Championships postseason event on Thursday, Feb. 4 at the Oak Marr Recreation Center in Oakton. The meet was shortened due to the snowstorm that hit the Northern Virginia and surrounding areas over last weekend. Thursday's preliminary events ended up counting as finals' scores. Originally, the region meet was scheduled to conclude on Saturday, Feb. 6.

The region boys' meet, other than diving, never got started. The make-up date for the boys' competition is set for Friday, Feb. 12 at Washington-Lee High's pool in Arlington. The meet will be shortened to one night with all of the races counting as finals. Girls' dive competition, meanwhile, is also scheduled to take place on Friday.

At the region girls' swim meet Thursday, Feb. 4, Langley's Jayme Katis, a junior, captured a first place finish in the 200-yard freestyle event, finishing ahead of Chantilly's Brenna Ferris. Katis was also third in the 100-yard freestyle race as well as being a part of two first place relay teams for the Saxons. Those relays were the 200-free relay, made up of Saxon swimmers Meghan Overend, Megan Howard, Katis and Abi Speers; and the 400-free relay, made up of Allie Zeidan, Speers, Overend and Katis.

Howard, a junior, had a solid meet, finishing third in both the 100-butterfly and 50-freestyle races. Other place finishers for the Langley girls were Speers (tied for fourth in the 50-free, fifth in the 100-free) and Overend (eighth in 100-fly).

A week earlier, the Langley girls had finished second place overall in the team standings at the Liberty District championships.

THE MCLEAN GIRLS, coming off a strong third place finish at districts, put together an impressive meet at regionals. Eva Greene, a junior, won the 100-yard freestyle event ahead of Robinson's Hannah Walden. She was first in the 100-backstroke race as well, besting runner-up Reanna Dona of West Potomac. Greene was a part of two successful Highlander relay teams, both of which were second place finishers. The 200-medley relay was made up of Greene, sophomore Ellie Springsteen, senior Margaret Harlow and junior Katie Yensen. And the 400-free relay was made up of Springsteen, Harlow, Yensen and Greene.

IN INDOOR TRACK, the Saxons excelled

on both the girls' and boys' sides at last week's championships, which wrapped up on Thursday, Feb. 4 at Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex in Landover, Md.

The Langley boys finished second overall at the seven-team postseason meet. The Saxons scored 113.50 points, behind champion South Lakes' winning total of 174. Fairfax (46) and McLean (45) finished third and fourth, respectively.

On the girls' side, the Saxons were third with 91 points, behind first place Jefferson (107) and second place McLean (98). Marshall (68) was fourth.

The Langley 4x800 girls' relay team finished first, ahead of second place Jefferson. Also, the Saxons' 4x200 girls' relay team was a district champion, besting second place McLean.

Saxon freshman Jessica Miles captured first place in the girls' 1,600 race, finishing ahead of Jefferson's Stephanie Marzen. She was also a fourth place finisher in the 1,000 race. In the girls' 500 race, Langley earned the top two spots with junior Sarah Woodford taking first place and teammate Maddison Abboud, a junior, getting second place. Woodward also was a sixth place finisher in the 300 race.

Langley had a champion in the 3,200 race as sophomore Mary Fouse finished first ahead of South Lakes' Valerie Moyer. Fouse was also a fourth place finisher in the 1,600.

Other place finishers for the Langley girls were: sophomore Meigan McManus, third in pole vault; junior Catherine Flessas, sixth in pole vault; junior Bridget Chesney, third in 1,000; freshman Elissa, sixth in the 1,000; and freshman Courteney West, third in 3,200.

For the Langley boys, junior Efoa Guobadia won the high jump event, finishing ahead of Sean Price of South Lakes. Also taking first in a field event was senior Stephen Browne, who won the pole vault, ahead of second place finisher Ivan Saucedo of McLean.

Langley seniors Alex Maybury and Peter Sanson finished first and second, respectively, in the 55-hurdles. Sanson was also a second place finisher in the long jump, while Maybury was fifth in that event.

Also winning a district title was junior Jake Peker, who was first in the 1,600.

Langley finished second through fourth in the triple jump behind big efforts from Maybury (second place), Guobadia (third) and junior Antonio Coulibaly (fourth). Langley seniors Andrew Matzke and Robert Bennett finished tied for fifth in the high jump.

Other place finishers for the Langley boys were: senior Mike Lillie (sixth in shot put); junior Lucas Grim (third pole vault); Sanson (tied for sixth in pole vault); senior Thomas Robinson (third in 500, fourth in 55 dash); and Maybury (fourth in 300).

The Langley boys' 4x200 relay team finished second.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The Langley High boys' basketball team, under coach Travis Hess, pictured, improved to 16-3 overall with a convincing 60-24 Liberty District home win over Marshall on Feb. 2. Three Saxon players scored in double figures in the win — Colin Jones (16 points), Abe Yi (12) and Joey Kiffe (11). Weather permitting, Langley will close out the regular season this Friday night at home against South Lakes.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The Madeira girls' swim and dive team was a 97-83 winner over visiting Oakcrest in a private school meet that took place on Jan. 26. Madeira, coached by Rod Montrie, improved to 5-1 with the victory. Madeira sophomore Brittney Jansen won both the 200-yard individual medley and the 100-yard breaststroke events. Other event winners for the locals were senior Hanna Bartram (200-freestyle), junior Rachel Tang (100-freestyle) and junior Christa Ann Saunders (100-backstroke). Senior Tessa Newland won the diving event.

Notable swims for Madeira were turned in by sophomores Pomme-Pomme Jenlapwattanukul, Lydia Parker and Kat Pfleeger. Seniors Taylor Davis and Frances Ruppe had outstanding individual and relay performances.

"This meet gave us an opportunity to swim some of our less experienced girls in harder events," said Montrie. "Our rookies really stepped up and their hard training paid off."

Four days earlier, Madeira defeated Stone Ridge, 103-82, on Jan. 22. Double winners for Madeira in the individual events were freshman Grace Johnson (200-yard freestyle, 100-butterfly) and sophomore Brittney Jansen (50-freestyle, 100-freestyle). Single event winners were freshman Maddie Alagia (200-individual medley) senior Carsen Anderson (100-backstroke) and sophomore Ann Griffin

(100-breaststroke). Senior Tessa Newland won the diving competition, and freshman Grace Callendar placed third.

Madeira won two of the three relays. Junior Christa Ann Saunders, Griffin, Jansen and Alagia swam in the winning 200-yard medley relay and set a new Stone Ridge Pool Record. Jansen, Johnson, Alagia and Saunders swam in the winning 400-freestyle relay.

"Stone Ridge gave us a great meet with a lot of close races," said coach Montrie. "Our girls really stepped up to the challenge, especially the 'B' and 'C' lane swimmers."

Denis Buckley, a senior member of the McLean High baseball team, has verbally committed to play the sport at Charleston Southern University (Charleston, S.C.) next school year.

"Everybody involved with our program is thrilled to see Denis get an opportunity like the one he's going to get at CSU," McLean coach John Thomas wrote in an e-mail. "It's hard to overstate how valuable he's been to our program at McLean since his freshman year and I am confident he'll be able to contribute to CSU's program however they need him."

Recruited as both a pitcher and a catcher by the NCAA Div. 1 Big South Conference School, Buckley made his verbal commitment this past Saturday. Last spring, Buckley, as a McLean junior, batted .345

with a home run and 21 RBI. At catcher, he threw out 13 of 21 runners attempting to steal. On the mound, Buckley went 5-2 with a 2.79 ERA. In 45 innings pitched, he struck out 52 batters and walked 17. Buckley's outstanding season helped the Highlanders win the Liberty District title.

Buckley's career batting average at McLean is .333. He has 65 career hits with 57 RBI. On the hill, he has a career mark of 12-6 with a 2.61 ERA and 101 strikeouts.

Buckley has earned All-Liberty District accolades in all three of his previous varsity seasons. As a freshman in 2007 he was named honorable mention all-district as a designated hitter. In each of the following two years (2008 and 2009), he made first team all-district as a pitcher.

"He's worked very, very hard to earn a chance to play D-1 baseball and I think he's going to prove to be a great pickup for them," said Thomas.

The McLean High varsity ice hockey team earned a spot in the NVSHL playoffs with a 7-1 victory over Mountain View High (Stafford) last week. McLean, with the win, improved to 6-2 with two regular season games remaining. In the triumph over Mountain View, McLean received stellar games from Connor Gilmartin (two goals, one assist), Julian Kell (two goals), Nick Baker (one goal, one assist), Maury Winter (one goal, one assist), Matt Stewart (one goal) and Paul Forest (one assist).

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Lindsay Greer McCullough, having filed a complaint for judgment changing Lindsay Greer McCullough name to Lindsay Greer and having applied to the Court for an order of publication of the notice required by law in such cases, it is by the Court, this 27 day of January, 2010, ORDERED that all persons concerned show cause, if any there be, on or before the 3 day of March, 2010, why the prayers of said complaint should not be granted: PROVIDED that a copy of this order be published once a week for three consecutive weeks before said day in the Arlington Connection.
"Judge Eilperin"

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Really?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

"No turn on red when pedestrians are present." That's what the sign says; many of them say it (print it, actually) throughout Old Town Alexandria (maybe other jurisdictions, too, but I've not noticed them elsewhere). And it's a good thing that it is said, and said/printed so clearly and placed so prominently (on the right side of the road on which I'm idling, staring at the aforementioned red light while contemplating a right-hand turn) because otherwise, I might not react as carefully to the sight of pedestrians walking directly in front of me and my car.

I have to believe that, given the increasing numbers of licensed (and unlicensed) practical drivers out there, a percentage of whom might not read and write English as their primary language, it never hurts to offer refresher-type signage stating the fairly obvious. I mean, drivers have a lot more going on inside their cars (and perhaps even inside their heads) than maybe they used to just a few short years ago.

Cell phones, leap to mind, especially when they're set on ring, are distracting; more so when there's an ongoing conversation, whether hand-holding or hands free. Either way, there's more information in-car (and in-ear) than drivers have previously ever had to assimilate. And of course, this doesn't even take into consideration the demands/activities of any passengers, who we'll assume (for the sake of this column) are not so much interested in, or demanding of, the driver, given their likely involvement within their own hand-held devices (cell-phonng, texting, gaming, video) as in the past.

Speaking of cell phones and distractions, one cannot address the demands on drivers without mentioning the scourge of texting, a silent assassin, if there ever was one. Created presumably to enhance and assure the lines of communication, their use and abuse; anytime, all the time, without regard to time and place, has created an alternative to speaking that unfortunately has led drivers to additional distractions; requiring drivers who decide to reply, something else to do in-car with BOTH HANDS instead of/in addition to HOLDING THE WHEEL AND STEERING.

And lest we not forget the absolute newest distraction to drivers: G.P.S-type navigation systems, the search-and-hopefully-not-destroy-the-driver, computerized rescue devices that will direct drivers to their destination, so long as they manually enter the correct information into the device (most likely also while in the car and driving), and then actually listen to its calm, reassuring voice advising you where to turn, and/or looking at the pop-up navigation screen for further "directionality." A helpful device for sure, but one often strategically placed out of your line of sight for convenient viewing no doubt, but a location which draws the driver's eyes away from watching ahead (or into the rear- or side-view mirrors) to watching down a bit and to the side. Nevertheless, this is information which has provided countless motorists; verbally, visually, digitally and repeatedly, happy endings to an otherwise potentially harrowing journey. Still, this kind of real-time-type streaming data is imposing itself on drivers in a frequency and duration never before imagined and certainly not one for which there has been any training or driver education.

It's obvious, with so much that is new (technologically speaking, especially), that Alexandria has decided to go old school and offer its local drivers a reminder of one of their basic behind-the-wheel responsibilities: to respect their fellow non-drivers. It sounds/reads simple enough, "No turn on red when pedestrians are present," but considering all the cell-phonng, texting, gaming and navigating going on in the car, apparently it made sense to "sign in" while drivers were signing on.

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

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY ROUNDUP

Many Legislators Support Autism Coverage

Five state senators and eight delegates from Fairfax County signed on to support Sen. Janet Howell's (D-32) bill that would require health insurance companies to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of Autism spectrum disorder until a child turns 10. The bill was awaiting a vote in the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee Feb. 8.

Howell's proposal does allow some health care plans, such as those that cover individuals or small groups, to sidestep the provision. State health insurance would also not have to offer the benefits until 2015.

A similar bill that covered children until an older age died after being introduced last year. Advocates said they hoped a pared down proposal, with a lower cost, would stand a better chance of passing this year.

In addition to Howell's legislation, Del. Dave Albo (R-42) and Del. Jim LeMunyon (R-67) introduced bills to expand health insurance coverage of Autism spectrum disorder.

Albo's bill specifies that those insurance companies who cover "early intervention" of Autism cannot deny coverage for certain services, including speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, applied behavioral analysis or assistive technology. A house committee voted to table the bill for the 2010 session.

LeMunyon's bill would allow Virginians to purchase insurance plans from other states that covers Autism spectrum disorder diagnosis and treatment. This bill is awaiting a vote in a House of Delegates subcommittee.

In Divorce, 'Pleading the Fifth' Just Wouldn't Be The Same

In a 49 to 48 vote decision, the House of Delegates has approved a bill that could roll back the protections offered by "pleading the fifth" in divorce and marital separations.

Juries or judges overseeing court proceedings are not supposed to view a person's refusal to answer certain questions while under oath in a negative light, because of a constitutional protection against self-incrimination.

But the legislation that just cleared the House Courts of Justice committee would carve out an exception to that rule for divorce and separation proceedings that address spousal support, child custody or parental visitation rights.

If a person refuses to answer questions about adultery, sodomy, fornication or buggery outside of marriage on the grounds that he does not want to incriminate himself, the new bill would allow the court to draw a negative conclusion from the person's silence on the matter.

A few legislators who have private law practices said the change would be helpful because adultery can be difficult to prove independently.

When it comes to this legislation, the Fairfax delegation broke its support along political party lines.

Four Republican delegates – Barbara Comstock (R-34), Dave Albo (R-42), Jim LeMunyon (R-67) and Tim Hugo (R-40) — supported the bill. The majority of the delegation – and all Fairfax Democrats – voted against the measure.

Del. Tom Rust (R-86) did not vote on the bill.

House Kills Stronger Ban on Texting While Driving

Del. David Bulova's (D-37) attempt to make a ban on sending text messages while driving more enforceable has failed in a House of Delegates' Militia, Police and Public Safety subcommittee.

The legislation was killed through a subcommittee voice vote, meaning no official tally was recorded for the public record. No Fairfax County delegate sits on this subcommittee.

Texting while driving is already illegal in Virginia, but police officers are prohibited from using it as the primary reason for pulling over a driver on the road. The driver can only receive a citation for sending texts while driving if the police catch the driver texting while violating another law, like running a stop sign or speeding.

Several legislators argued that leaving the texting ban as a "secondary offense" waters down the law, making it ineffective.

Legislators against a stronger text and driving ban often say they are protecting residents from too much government interference.

Bulova had solid support for the stronger enforcement measure from many other Fairfax legislators, including Dels. Kaye Kory (D-38), Ken Plum (D-36), Jim Scott (D-53), Mark Sickles (D-43) and Vivian Watts (D-39) as well as senators Janet Howell (D-32), George Barker (D-39), Dave Marsden (D-37), Toddy Puller (D-36), Patricia Ticer (D-30) and Mary Margaret Whipple (D-31).

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

Miniature Bears. 2 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

All You Need Is Love Songwriters Circle: a tribute to The Beatles & love songs. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Getting your Rose Garden Ready for Spring. 2 p.m. at Merrifield Garden Center, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. With Joe Mirilovich, Rose Expert of the Arlington Rose Foundation. Free admission, door prizes, refreshments and an opportunity to order discount products for your rose garden. 703-371-9351.

JCC of Northern Virginia Teens in 'The Wizard of Oz.' 2 p.m. at JCCNV Chaiken Auditorium, 8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. \$10 adults, \$6 under age 12. Groups of 15 or more, \$8 per person. 703-323-0880.

Dan Dietz's 'tempODYSSEY.' 2 p.m. at George Mason University's Black Box Theater in the Performing Arts Building, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$6, \$3 for students and seniors. Tickets may be purchased at the door or by phone at 703-993-8888.

MONDAY/FEB. 15

Eric Lindell and Jamie McLean Band. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$20. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/FEB. 16

Book Discussion. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call branch for title. Adults. 703-757-8560.

Joe Firstman, The Kin and Ernie Halter. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Avoiding Divorce Court. 7 p.m. at The Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E., Vienna. \$40 non-members, \$30 members. www.thewomenscenter.org or 703-281-2657.

Reclaiming Your Financial Future. 7 p.m. at 10600 Arrowhead Drive #310, Fairfax \$45 non-

members, \$35 members. www.thewomenscenter.org or 703-281-2657.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 17

Book Discussion. 6:45 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call branch for title. Adults. 703-757-8560.

An Evening with Tony Trischka. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$20. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 18

Vienna Woman's Club. 1 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. With Roberta Huy of Guiding Eyes for the Blind and guide dog Fancy. 703-938-6632.

Sharon G. Flake: You Don't Even Know Me. 7 p.m. Barnes & Noble Books, 7851L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. crm2238@bn.com.

David Choi. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/FEB. 19

Dear Sara Jane. 7:30 p.m. At The Soundry, 316 Dominion Road, Vienna. www.soundry.net

The Bigger Lights, Sing Me Insomnia and Action Item. 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

The D.R.A.M.A Kings and The Blackjacks. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/FEB. 20

Dear Sara Jane. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. At The Soundry, 316 Dominion Road, Vienna. www.soundry.net

Third Annual Monopoly Tournament to Benefit Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia. 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Glory Days Grill, 9459 Lorton Market St., Lorton. \$25 entry fee includes breakfast and lunch with all proceeds benefiting Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia. Top prize \$500. Pre-registration required by Feb. 12. www.LortonMonopoly.com or 1-888-495-6207 ext. 9.

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