

Workers use a “cut-and-cover” method to build a rail tunnel under the interchange of routes 7 and 123 in Tysons Corner. Snow has presented some challenges, but according to last week’s construction update, work remains on-target.

Childhelp
Hosts
Fashion Show
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PHOTOS COURTESY DULLES CORRIDOR METRO RAIL PROJECT



Utilities are being relocated and retaining walls built along Route 7 in Tysons Corner, as workers prepare to widen the roadbed. This intersection is where the Tysons Central 7 Station will be built.

Rail Construction Keeps Pace

Caissons, piers and pilings multiply; another long-term lane closure announced.

“Up to Feb. 1, I think we were pretty much on time and on budget,” said Charles “Sam” Carnaggio, as he gave an update on Metrorail construction to the Committee for Dulles last week. After the presentation, though, he said that although heavy snows had presented some challenges to construction, even keeping workers from getting to project sites on a couple of days, the record-breaking winter weather would not have a substantive impact on the construction timetable.

“We work with the contractor to mitigate that and make up for it,” said Carnaggio, who is the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority’s (MWAA) project director for Rail to Dulles. “It’s more of an inconvenience than anything, but that’s part of building a complex project like this.”

A “DESIGN-BUILD” PROJECT, plans for some parts of the rail line are still being drawn up while others are under construction, but Carnaggio told the nearly 200 people who attended the Committee for Dulles’ luncheon at the Sheraton Reston on Thursday, Feb. 18 that roughly 85 percent of the design work for the 23-mile rail and its 11 stations had been completed.

Construction on the first phase of the line, which will run through Tysons Corner and out to Wiehle Avenue, has been underway since last spring, and Carnaggio showed pictures of the work being done on various overpasses along the route, as well as the first five stations. Much of the construction thus far consists of installing caissons and bridge piers, as well as continuing utility relocation and the widening of Route 7 in Tysons Corner.



The right turn lane between Scotts Crossing Road and the Beltway on southbound Route 123 closed Monday and will remain closed for two years in order to accommodate the construction of the Tysons East Station.

Near the interchange of the Dulles Connector Road and Interstate 66, a tunnel will connect the line to the West Falls Church Metro Yard, and two tunnels are already under construction beneath the interchange of routes 7 and 123 in Tysons Corner. “They’re pretty far in now,” Carnaggio said, noting that the westbound tunnel was excavated as far as the Marriott Courtyard Hotel, while the tunnel that would carry eastbound trains was about three-fourths of the way under International Drive. This area had been of greatest concern to planners because, had anything gone wrong, much of Tysons Corner could have been disrupted.

On Route 7, workers are building the other ends of the tunnels using a “cut-and-cover” method, with deep trenches being dug and covered over. Some of the most disruptive work is being done along the stretch of Route 7 between Route 123 and the toll road, as the service roads are shut down and workers prepare to widen the road. “There’s more utility relocation taking place here than anywhere else,” Carnaggio said, adding that retaining walls were also being built there to create a broad, level roadbed.

SEE LANE, PAGE 18



PHOTOS BY KIM MORAN

Churchill Road’s fourth grade teacher Sarah Finger interviews Susan Merten, wife of the U.S. ambassador to Haiti.

Experiencing Haiti

Churchill Road Elementary students hear first-hand accounts on Haiti, raise \$6,384.31 to help.

Just before the blizzards of 2010, Churchill Road Elementary School’s Student Council, sponsored by CRS staff members Jason Mastaler and Katie Griffith, conducted a coin drive to raise funds for the people of Haiti. As of the end of the weeklong coin drive, the children and families of Churchill Road had donated \$6,384.31.

CRS’s fourth grade teacher Sarah Finger had the opportunity in May 2009 to visit the Port-au-Prince suburb of Croix-de-Bouquet. Along with nine other volunteers, she spent five days working with the non-

profit Lazarus Project, which supports three institutions in Haiti. During her weeklong visit, Finger worked with a school, an orphanage and a home for disabled children and adults. She shared her first-hand knowledge of Haiti with students, beginning with an insightful presentation about Haiti to the entire SCA, then followed by five days of sharing information about Haiti on the school’s morning news broadcasts. Churchill Road students viewed photographs, learned basic facts about Haiti’s

SEE HAITI, PAGE 18



Pictured are Marlen McKinney; Don Hutzel, CRS principal; Frank McKinney, director Caring House Foundation; Sarah Finger, fourth grade teacher; Jason Mastaler, SCA sponsor. Front row: John Krause-Steinrauf, Maggie, J.J. and Katie Bellaschi; Linda Diaz; Boris Topalov and Ellie Leffler.

Great Falls Resident Named JMU Ambassador

Tommy Maselli of Great Falls, a freshman and honor student at James Madison University, was recently named a student ambassador to the university. The Student Ambassador Program is one of the largest organizations on campus, an organization dedicated to serving James Madison students of the past, present and future. Student Ambassadors is a service organization working to promote the university, and membership is competitive. This year, the program received close to 400 paper applications. After a series of group and individual interviews, 25 freshmen were selected out of the 65 new members. With the new members, there are about 180 student ambassadors in total.



Tommy Maselli

Community service is not new to Maselli, a 2009 graduate of Langley High School. While at Langley, he served as school treasurer and dedicated his time to serving the commu-

nity coaching youth sports, in particular, the Reston Challenger Baseball League for mentally and physically challenged young athletes.

For more information about the JMU Student Ambassadors Program check out their Web site at <http://orgs.jmu.edu/ambassadors/index.html>.

Registration Opens for TPE Summer Camp

Traveling Players Ensemble (TPE) has opened registration for its 2010 Summer Theatre Camp at the Madeira School.

TPE is a professional theatre offering summer day camps for rising sixth through 12th graders, where they work in small ensembles (up to 13 performers) to rehearse a play under the direction of experienced theatre professionals.

The campers spend most of their days outdoors, camping out once a week. Intensive training in Shakespeare, Molière and commedia dell'arte, combined with outdoor skills, low ropes and Leave-No-Trace camping ethics, creates an experience that is unique in the world of theatre programs.

In the final week of each session, the teens tour their show to venues throughout Maryland, Washington, D.C. and Virginia, giving them the experience of wandering entertainers who carry their dinner, tent and props in their trusty pack.

Camp begins on June 21 and runs through Aug. 20. A regular session at TPE is four weeks long. The camp also offers one-week intensives, and advanced troupes with sessions up to seven weeks long.

The camper-to-counselor ratio is 4:1. Need-based scholarships are available for all pro-

grams.

This summer's ensembles will perform Molière's "The Learned Ladies" and "The Forced Marriage," Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Love's Labour's Lost" and Flaminio Scala's "The Fake Madwoman."

The camp is in residence at The Madeira School in McLean. TPE's signature purple buses provide daily transportation throughout the D.C. Metro area.

Founded in 2003, TPE has been invited to perform at the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage, Colonial Williamsburg, Shenandoah National Park, Reston's Multicultural Festival, and the International Children's Festival at Wolf Trap.

In 2007, TPE was selected by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) as one of 25 of the nation's "Summer School in the Arts."

Registration is also open for TPE's 2010 Spring Classes for middle and high schoolers. The classes are taught at Cooper Middle School in McLean through the Rent-Free Program, a cooperative program between the Arts Council of Fairfax County and Fairfax County Public Schools.

For more information, visit www.travelingplayers.org or call 703-987-1712.



Jane Lewis and Jean Garbias, both residents of McLean, enjoying the silent auction.



PHOTOS BY STEPHANIE KNAPP

Vocalist Angelique Ashworth singing 'Send It On' to start the show.

Childhelp Hosts Fashion Show

Organization helps deal with child abuse.

Friends of all ages gathered at the Sheraton Premier on Saturday to attend the Fifth Annual Childhelp Fashion Show and Luncheon.

All proceeds from the event went to Childhelp, a group founded by Sara O'Meara and Yvonne Fedderson, whose mission is to help children affected by any form of abuse find a happier life. Money raised at this event is used to buying supplies for children living at one of the Childhelp-supported facilities, including bikes and helmets, or throwing a birthday party for children that may have never had one. It also goes to keeping the hotline up and running where people can report acts of abuse.

The event started with a silent auction, followed by a lunch, during which there was a performance by vocalist Angelique Ashworth, and speeches by co-



Nancy Power and granddaughter Morgan Pence of Great Falls pictured before the fashion show.

chair of the event Natalie Lambert and Rebecca Cooper. Then there was a live auction and the fashion show.

Connie Benedetto, 2010's "Champion for Children" was also recognized at this event. She told her tale of her own childhood abuse and how Childhelp was there to help her through the difficult time.

"Connie also serves as a stellar example to all those who have endured the same tortures, but yet have managed to grasp the gift of life, prevail, and be a better parent than the ones that they have been given," said Washington, D.C. area Childhelp President Christin Klaff.

Childhelp is always looking for more volunteers to help out. For more information, visit www.childhelpdc.org



Connie Benedetto, left, received the 2010 Champion for Children award, accompanied by her four children.

— STEPHANIE KNAPP

NEWS



Northern Virginia au pairs will host their party Feb. 28, at the Tysons Corner Center Build-A-Bear Workshop.

Area Au Pairs Host Charity Party

AuPairCare, located online at www.aupaircare.com, is teaming up with Build-A-Bear Workshop stores nationwide to hold their Share-A-Bear campaign which invites au pairs to give back to their local communities by making a bear and donating it to a local children's charity.

Northern Virginia au pairs will have their party Feb. 28, at the Tysons Corner Center Build-A-Bear

Workshop. Led by AuPairCare Area Director, Kim Chenen, more than 30 au pairs from 14 different countries will stuff and name teddy bears while also creating individual cards wishing the recipient of their bear good wishes in their own language. These international bears will then be donated to the Children's Inn at NIH (National Institutes of Health). <http://www.childrensinn.org>

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/FEB. 25

Keeping Pace with Kids' Internet and Digital Technology Use: Empowering Parents, 7:30 p.m. at Cooper Middle School, 977 Balls Hill Road, McLean.

Find out how parents can help protect children's digital reputations, which are put at risk by their use of Facebook, MySpace, online gaming, emailing, texting, sexting, and other cyber-bullying. Speaker: Iris Beckwith, President of ConnectED4safety LLC. Sponsored by Safe Community Coalition with funding from Verizon. (Snow Date is Tuesday, March 2 at 7:30.)

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.

TUESDAY/MARCH 2

McLean Citizens Association Meeting on Redevelopment of Tysons Corner. 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Planning Commissioners Walter Alcorn (At-Large and Chair of the Tysons Committee) and Jay Donahue (Dranesville) with the final Fairfax County staff recommendation for Tysons Corner and about the schedule

for county review of that proposal. MCA.President@mcleancitizens.org or 703-556-9160.

SUNDAY/MARCH 7

Ostomy Support Group of Northern Virginia LLC Monthly Meeting. 1:30 p.m. at Physicians Conference Center, INOVA Fairfax Hospital, 3300 Gallows Road, Falls Church. 703-802-3457 or www.ostomysupportofnova.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 9

Tysons Corner Kiwanis Club Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at George C. Marshall High School, Room 229A 7731, Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Meeting is open to public and individuals looking to volunteer in the community. www.tysonscornerkiwanis.org.

League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area. 7:30 p.m. at Patrick Henry Public Library, 101 Maple Ave., Vienna. Discussion of the impact of early Monday closings for elementary schools. www.lwv-fairfax.org.

National Association Active and Retired Federal Employees Monthly Meeting. 1:30 p.m. at the Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. Virginia Federation of Chapters Service Officers Dr. Constance T. Bails, Ph.D. and John D. Bails, CWO3 USN/Ret. will provide help regarding annuitant and survivor benefits. 703-698-1838 or shirleykeyes@aol.com.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 10

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group. 7 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. A group for anyone with multiple sclerosis and/or their family and friends. Sponsored by the National Capital Chapter of the MS Society. Free. 703-768-4841.

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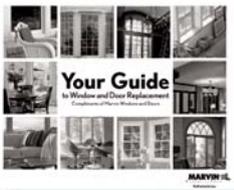



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PEOPLE



Chorus Director Deb Rudd and Jackie Hochberg remember the sixth grade song.



PHOTOS BY GAY MASSARSKY

Lisa Bliss, left, and Jackie Hochberg, right, with Orchestra Director Ruth Donahue, their former teacher.

Students Return as Teachers

Former students work with their former teachers at Spring Hill Elementary.

BY SUSAN E. CHAIT

What is it like to return to elementary school as an adult, but this time as a teacher? Imagine working at the same elementary school for many years and seeing students return as adults and become fellow teachers. In the transient area of Northern Virginia, does this even happen anymore?

Spring Hill Elementary School in McLean not only has three former students who have returned as teachers, but also four long-term staff members who remember these teachers as their former students.

Nancy Kenefick remembers her colleague Jackie Hochberg as “a conscientious, hard working, well rounded and happy little girl in my third grade class many years ago.”

“She was a pleasure to teach and now I am honored to have the opportunity to teach with her this school year on our third grade team,” said Kenefick.

When asked what has kept her at Spring Hill for so many years, Kenefick said, “The faculty, staff and community work well together as a team. It is also a joy to teach the siblings of students in my class and a blast to hear from and see students who were in my class 20 plus years ago.”

“Jackie was always quiet, soft-spoken and focused,” said kindergarten teacher Arlene Connolly. “Our second grade teacher Lisa Bliss was a bright, talkative girl who always knew what she wanted and where she was going. I knew Amy McFarlin, our school based technology specialist and first grade resource teacher, as a neighborhood kid from a wonderful family.”

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RICK TRITLE remembers McFarlin just like she is today. “She

had a grin from ear to ear,” Tritle said. “She was a positive and happy child, an excellent student and a pleasant, likeable person.”

“Some of my fondest memories are the things that we do with,” said Connolly. “Our fall festival parades keep our Americana traditions alive. Also our holiday sing a long when we sing to the children. I decided to stay at Spring Hill because of my colleagues and the Spring Hill families.”

Chorus Director Deb Rudd cherishes the “smiles and gratitude from the students when they feel good about their accomplishments in music class or during a performance. The students are the reason I keep coming back. If I have helped students feel good about them and taught them things they can use in other subjects or to make life easier, I have accomplished my goal.”

“As a young violinist, Miss Bliss was exactly as she is now: responsible, methodical, bold and organized,” said Orchestra Director Ruth Donahue. “Jackie Hochberg was quiet, sweet, friendly and thoughtful. I have stayed at Spring Hill for these 22 years completely by choice.

Donahue cherishes the notes that students give her, as well as the memories of her performances. “You made me love music; I never thought I could be good on an instrument but I am,” she said. “The thrills of playing at The President’s Park next to the White House and the children’s pride at receiving letters from the president; performances for the School Board. Kids especially like seeing School Board Member Dan Storck, whom they call ‘Abe Lincoln,’ hearing pieces which sounded bad at first sound beautiful by concert time and the joy of playing for any audience.”

Rick Tritle’s most striking memory during his years at Spring Hill is the year he was deployed to Andrews Air Force Base

for possible further deployment to Desert Storm with the Air National Guard. It was in February just before Valentine’s Day, and there were strong emotions in the children and community, feeling they were separating from their well-liked teacher in the middle of the school year.

Tritle said he remembers the fear in their eyes when they thought of him going to war. The students, staff and community conveyed constant worry and emotion. Channel 7 came to interview Tritle. It was difficult for the substitute teacher because he remained at Andrews AFB and students had trouble separating from him, continued to contact him and still considered him their teacher. He returned from deployment in June before school ended, and his class gave him a homecoming party.



Amy McFarlin and Rick Tritle



Jackie Hochberg and the tile she painted as a child in the hallway at Spring Hill.

SEE COMING BACK, PAGE 7



Spring Hill Teachers Arlene Connolly, Lisa Bliss, Ruth Donahue, Nancy Kenefick and Jackie Hochberg.

PEOPLE

Coming Back to Spring Hill

FROM PAGE 6

He receives visits, letters and e-mails from students years later who thank him for believing in them. "Hearing one time that you have helped a student, can charge your batteries for years," said Tritle.

When the former students are asked about their experiences, they have similar familial feelings about Spring Hill. Amy McFarlin said she knew she wanted to be a teacher at Spring Hill ever since she was age three. "My fondest memory is probably our fifth grade camping trip to Camp Highroads," she said. "I remember the feeling I felt whenever I would walk through the doors at Spring Hill. I felt accepted, important, safe, and happy. I still feel that way. Rick Tritle was one of my favorite teachers. It wasn't so much what I learned from him, but the feeling that I felt when I was in his class. He was and still is the kind of person that listens and really cares. I always knew that he wanted us to succeed and he brought the best out of his students. It is no wonder why he has so many students that return year after year to visit him."

McFarlin completed her student teaching at Spring Hill and has taught there for 10 years. More than 17 years of her life has been spent here. "Spring Hill is an incredible school that continues to help me learn and grow into a better person," she said.

Jackie Hochberg fondly remembers the sixth grade experience. "We created a sixth grade song in Mrs. Rudd's class, and I still remember the lyrics," she said. "In sixth grade, we went to orchestra competitions where we won medals. We even performed a couple of the same songs that the orchestra still plays today. I remember my 'Rock Project,' where we collected rocks from nearby parks and researched and identified them. I might still even have it. Some of the rocks and minerals books in my classroom library are actually books that I had from when I was in third grade.

"I always knew that I wanted to return to Spring Hill to teach," Hochberg said. "I have the most magnificent memories and I want to help create these experiences for the current students.

"I was here when Spring Hill had

a renovation, so all of the students painted the tiles that line our hallways. I painted a number '9' tile that is to the left of the birthday board, and I also painted a tile with a bridge and trees that is near the art room," said Hochberg.

"My former kindergarten teacher, Nancy Stansberry, who is now retired, welcomed me as a student teacher the same way I entered her classroom 20 years before, with open arms and a great big hug," said second grade teacher Lisa Bliss said.

"Fourteen years after I had left, teachers, and now former teachers who had become substitutes, were still at Spring Hill School. They remembered my brothers and my parents and asked about them all, remembered my face and were always happy to see me. That spoke volumes to me. It also instilled in me a desire to be another teacher who found happiness, family, and longevity teaching at Spring Hill. They were a family that I wanted to be a part of. I can tell my students, 'I went to the same elementary school that you did.' They think that's pretty neat, and so do I," Bliss said.

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OPINION

Consider the Long-Term Costs

Virginia's budget proposals might balance on paper right now, but future costs will soar.

Virginia, like many states, is slashing the budget in response to record decreases in revenue. Tax collections are far below expected levels because of lost jobs, lost income and consumer restraint.

The cuts, as they translate locally and personally, will range from devastating to gut-wrenching to sad.

Across the country, such budget cutting at the state level will hurt the fledgling recovery, costing hundreds of thousands of jobs. One national economist said that state budget cuts "will be a serious drag on the economy at just the wrong time."

The Federal response to the economic meltdown might well have prevented a global economic catastrophe, but it also fell short by mostly abandoning the consumer and state and local governments.

Gov. Bob McDonnell, while creating a positive image by visiting homeless shelters, food pantries and soup kitchens, has shepherded budget reductions cut disproportionately from people who are most in need. The visits gave the appearance of a man who understood the dire needs of his fellow human beings in times of crisis, but his comments were a preview. He said essentially, he was glad there were faith-based and private organizations caring for the needy, because government can't.

Many of these cuts might appear to help balance the budget right now, but will lead to

higher costs.

Cutting health services to an estimated 28,000 poor children and pregnant women in Virginia will result in more expensive crisis care, more babies born with expensive and in some cases life-long special needs, as one example.

Cuts in funds that allow people with disabilities to get the supports they need to live in the community will force some into nursing homes and other institutions, where the costs will be enormously higher, and the

EDITORIALS

Using Available School Choices

While we agree with President Obama and Gov. McDonnell in encouraging more charter schools, it's also important to recognize that our schools do offer some significant options for students and families.

In Fairfax County, the public schools' high school career academies will hold open houses for students who are interested in academy courses for the next school year.

Students and their parents are invited to attend to meet academy faculty, tour classrooms, and learn about industry certifications, college credit, internships, apprenticeships, and other opportunities available to students who take academy courses. For more information about each academy's course offerings, visit the

results the opposite of what is desired.

In Northern Virginia, more than 700 people who are on waiting lists to receive services so they can have the supports they need to live in the community now know that help will not be forthcoming this year. On the waiting list, many identified as "urgent," 55 in Arlington, 12 in Alexandria, 587 in Fairfax and Falls Church, 134 in Loudoun. But the cuts go far beyond, probably taking away funding for people who currently are living in the community, and forcing some of them into institutions.

These are just two examples of proposed cuts that will hurt vulnerable people in devastating ways, but also will likely end up costing more in the not-too-distant future.

academy's Web pages or call.

Here are a few examples:

❖ Edison Academy — Engineering and Scientific Technology; Tuesday, March 2, 6 to 7:30 p.m., www.fcps.edu/EdisonAcademy, 703-924-1800

❖ Fairfax Academy — Communications and the Arts, Thursday, March 4, 7:30 to 9 p.m., www.fcps.edu/FairfaxAcademy, 703-219-2226

❖ Falls Church Academy — Health and Human Services, individual visits are welcome, www.fcps.edu/FallsChurchHS/academy/index.html, 703-207-4011

❖ West Potomac Academy — Communications and the Arts, Health and Human Services, individual visits are welcome, www.fcps.edu/WestPotomacAcademy, 703-718-2500

Assembly Focuses on Job Creation

Delegate shares mid-session update.

BY BARBARA COMSTOCK
STATE DELEGATE, R-34



RICHMOND
REPORT

This past week, we reached the midway mark in the 2010 Legislative Session, also known as "crossover" and our legislative agenda has so far been very successful. I wanted to give you an overview of where we stand at mid-session on some key issues.

I am pleased to report that the governor and a bipartisan majority of the House of Delegates have made job creation our number one priority and our progress in the legislature reflects that priority. Of course, transportation and education are very much intertwined with our job environment. Details and highlights of a number of our advances on our key

agenda items on jobs, transportation, education and other core services can be found on our Web site at: <http://www.comstockfordelegate.com/blog/read.aspx?id=101>.

The "Jobs and Opportunity" agenda that is developing at mid-session includes the passage of such measures as a bill to exempt new businesses from capital gains taxes, a bill providing that any royalties from offshore drilling are dedicated to transportation (80 percent), a bill to promote small business investment in Virginia and bills providing tax credits for green jobs, movie production and

our wine industry, among other job enhancing measures.

I also am pleased to report on the progress on the Local Composite Index (LCI) Education funding formula issue. As you may know, Gov. Tim Kaine (D) had proposed an unprecedented and arbitrary freeze of the LCI, which is used to determine our share of state education funds and is recalculated and updated every two years. To reverse decades of practice was simply bad public policy, fundamentally unfair, and would have cost Fairfax County, alone, over \$60 million in order to save the state \$29 million.

The Northern Virginia delegation was united in opposition to this misguided proposal. This was a top priority issue that occupied many of us in the first weeks of the legislature. We all worked with our PTAs, parents, and local business community to reverse this action. Our high quality schools are integral to attracting top busi-

nesses. We also wrote a joint letter to Gov. Robert McDonnell (R) urging him to back the move to unfreeze the LCI and supported budget amendments to undo this proposal. I personally spoke with the governor, lieutenant governor, members of his cabinet and staff about this issue, as I know many of my constituents did.

As you may know by now, our voices were heard. Gov. McDonnell reversed this proposal saying, "The Local Composite Index must be applied to all localities, at all times, in the same objective and fair manner by which it has always been utilized." The Republican House leadership also has embraced Gov. McDonnell's decision. While we still will have many budget challenges, and the actual index itself has historically been disadvantageous for Northern Virginia, we at least have a united front in removing the LCI

SEE RICHMOND, PAGE 13

THE CONNECTION

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NEWS

U.S. Navy Lt. Jennifer Dreiling, Nuristan Provincial Reconstruction Team senior medical officer from McLean, examines a young girl during a child medical civic action program, Jan. 16-17. The PRT visited a remote village in eastern Nuristan province, Afghanistan, and conducted a child medical civic action program and personal hygiene training.



Helping Afghan Children

U.S. Navy Lt. Jennifer Dreiling, PRT senior medical officer and doctor of McLean, treats children in a war zone.

BY 2ND LT. NATASSIA CHERNE

Nuristan Provincial Reconstruction Team Female Engagement Team visited a remote village in the area of eastern Nuristan province, Afghanistan, and conducted a child medical civic action program, Jan. 16-17.

Four female service members from the PRT offered medical care and personal hygiene training.

U.S. Navy Lt. Jennifer Dreiling, PRT senior medical officer and doctor, provided medical treatment to over 50 children. Most

children had common cold symptoms, body aches, skin rashes and gastrointestinal complaints.

"I think it was very successful. It was nice to treat children for once, we don't see that population very often," the native of McLean said.

One little girl came to the MEDCAP to receive a referral for her arm, which was severely burned when she was young. The scar tissue on the burn was preventing her from moving her arm. Dreiling referred her to Indira Ghandi children's hospital, which will treat children and give family members a place to stay for free.

The young girl's brother said he had heard the announcement of the MEDCAP on the radio station. He knew she needed special treatment and brought her in.

Another part of the MEDCAP was personal hygiene lessons. The classes taught the children how to brush their teeth, tips when they have a sore throat and the importance of washing their hands.

U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Kathleen Leach, operations specialist and native of Smithfield, R.I., taught the personal hygiene classes to the boys, while another member of the team taught the girls class.

"This was the most rewarding mission I've done. I feel like we positively affected the local populace and it was nice to teach the children health and sanitation," said Leach. "We were able to give back to the community."

The female engagement team plans to do many more missions for young girls and women.

Pictured from left, front row, Daniel Kim, Mikael Nguyen, Tyler Donohue, Joshua DeFilipps, Henry Swartz and Luke Micale; and, back row, Den Leader Matt Swartz, Michael Spitzenberger, Adit Kumar, Ryan Bond, Arul Nigam, John Mealey, Jacob Hochstein and David Defilipps.



CONTRIBUTED

Spring Hill E.S. Scouts Take Top Honors at Pinewood Derby

The spirit of friendly competition filled the air at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church on Jan. 23, as Pack 1144 of the Cub Scouts gathered for the Annual Pinewood Car Derby.

Cub Scouts raced their pinewood cars down a four-lane aluminum track. Cub Scouts

proudly displaying their badges cheered with sheer delight.

Den 12 from Spring Hill Elementary School McLean had 12 participants. Taking top honors in the derby were Tyler Donohue (First Place), Arul Nigam (Second Place) and Luke Micale (Third Place). The

handcrafted cars were also judged for design. Winners were Henry Swartz (most creative design) and Luke Micale (most car-like design). All involved in the derby, from the planners to the participants, stayed true to the Cub Scout motto, "Do Your Best".

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Many different styles of clothing were modeled.

'Rock the Moonwalk' at Langley High

Students present fashion 'somewhat ahead of fashion here on Earth.'

Glitter, glam, and glow sticks could all be seen at Langley High School's fashion show entitled, "Stellar Style, Rock the Moonwalk" on Saturday, Feb. 20. Set on a planet far away, the fashion on display was somewhat ahead of fashion here on Earth. Many different styles of clothing were modeled, including metallic, plaid, the little black dress, leather, and of course formal wear.

One special part of the show was a section devoted entirely to fashion designed by Langley High School students in advanced fashion classes. These designers stood on stage as their creations were modeled by fellow students.

— STEPHANIE KNAPP



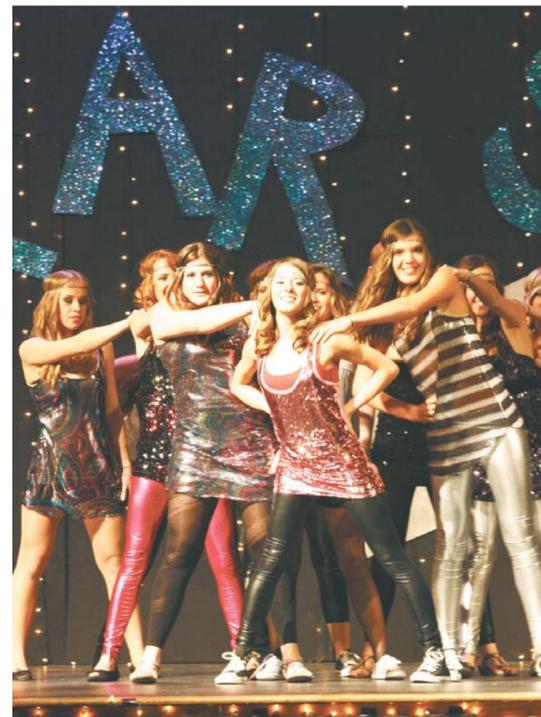
Megan Link modeling a student designed dress.



Holly Dodd, also in a student designed dress, posing for the audience.



Part of the show was dedicated solely to designs by Langley High School fashion students.



PHOTOS BY
STEPHANIE KNAPP/
THE CONNECTION



These students mixed their leather with some hot pink to show off unique styles.

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/FEB. 25

Trevor Hall and Jer Coons. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$12. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

George C. Marshall High School International Night and Silent Auction. 5:30 p.m. at Marshall HS, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Sponsored by the Marshall PTSA. 703-336-2134.

Lavay Smith. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$60-\$177. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/FEB. 26

The Virginia Opera presents Mozart's Don Giovanni. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com.

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

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.

Jammin' Java's Mid-Atlantic Band Battle II Finals. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

McLean Art Society with watercolorist Judy Wengrovitz. 10 a.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Wengrovitz's talk will focus on the use of sketch books to capture scenes for further use in paintings. Guests welcome. 703-790-0123.

'The Wizard of Oz.' 7:30 p.m. at Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. \$10 adult, \$5 student. 703-790-5450 or www.oakcrest.org.

SATURDAY/FEB. 27

Black History Celebration. 3-5 p.m. at Historic Pleasant Grove Church, 8641 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Voices of Worship community choir to present a musical journey through African-American history, including a sing-along with the audience. Free admission. Refreshments served, and museum viewing available. 703-893-9075 or www.historicpleasantgrove.org.

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

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.

Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy: Masters of the Fiddle. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$22-\$44. Youth through grade 12, half price. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

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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Actress Casie Platt plays the part of Sara Jane, as well as the part of Linnie, Sara Jane's twin sister in the Hub Theatre production of 'Dear Sara Jane' opening on Friday, Feb. 26 at the Sundry in Vienna, 316 Dominion Road.

Civil War Author Book Mart. 12-4 p.m. at The Civil War Interpretive Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Local and regional Civil War authors and film directors will discuss, sell, and sign their fiction and non-fiction books and film productions. Sales include a 20% donation to the preservation of Historic Blenheim. Cash or checks only. Light refreshments served. 703-591-0560.

'The Wizard of Oz.' 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. \$10 adult, \$5 student. Talk-back with the cast and crew after the 11 a.m. show. 703-790-5450 or www.oakcrest.org.

SUNDAY/FEB. 28

The Virginia Opera presents Mozart's Don Giovanni. 2 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or www.tickets.com.

Disney Live Rockin' Road Show. 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. At the George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. \$22-\$55. Tickets available by Phonecharge at 703-573-SEAT or online at www.ticketmaster.com.

Dear Sara Jane. 2 p.m. At The Sundry, 316 Dominion Road, Vienna. www.sundry.net

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.

Beth Patterson: Celtic-Cajun traditional and original songs. 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.

Beth Rinaldo, Scott Holland & Friends CD Release and The Honey Dewdrops. 2 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$8. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Amadeus Concerts: Sivan Silver and Gil Garburg Piano Duo. 4 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. \$25. Tickets may be purchased at the door or at www.amadeusconcerts.com.

The Washington Area Music Association 24th Wammies Award Show. 8 p.m. at the State Theatre, 220 North Washington St., Falls Church. \$35 non-members, \$20

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

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1217 VINITA LN	5	4	0	MCLEAN	\$1,000,000	Detached	0.65	WOODHAVEN
8115 BIRNAM WOOD DR	4	4	1	MC LEAN	\$1,000,000	Detached	0.36	MC LEAN HAMLET
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6120 LONG MEADOW RD	5	3	0	MCLEAN	\$903,000	Detached	0.58	CLEARVIEW MANOR
7222 FARM MEADOW CT #101	2	2	1	MCLEAN	\$900,000	Garden 1-4 Floors	EVANS FARM
1332 TIMBERLY LN	4	3	1	MCLEAN	\$900,000	Detached	0.46	TIMBERLY SOUTH
1249 BEVERLY RD	5	3	1	MCLEAN	\$890,000	Detached	0.14	BEVERLY MANOR
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6818 ROSEMONT DR	4	2	1	MCLEAN	\$745,000	Detached	0.25	ROSEMONT
6624 BEACON LN	4	3	0	FALLS CHURCH	\$742,500	Detached	0.66	BEACON HILL
2025 GRIFITH RD	5	3	1	FALLS CHURCH	\$730,000	Detached	0.24	PIMMIT HILLS
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7406 PAXTON RD	3	1	0	FALLS CHURCH	\$335,000	Detached	0.26	PIMMIT HILLS
8360 GREENSBORO DR #614	2	2	0	MCLEAN	\$330,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors	ROTONDA
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7702 FISHER DR	3	1	0	FALLS CHURCH	\$320,000	Detached	0.25	PIMMIT HILLS
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REAL ESTATE

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

Bruce Green, regional vice president of Weichert, Realtors announced Joyce Becker of the McLean-Old Dominion office was recognized for industry success in December. A neighborhood specialist, Becker led the region for new home dollar volume. The region comprises offices located throughout Virginia. Weichert, Realtors' neighborhood specialists can be reached in Weichert's McLean-Old Dominion office at (703) 821-8300 at 6257 Old Dominion Drive.

Green also announced J.D. Callander of the McLean/Dolley Madison office was recognized for industry successes in December. A neighborhood specialist, Callander led the region for resale dollar volume. The region is comprised of offices located throughout Virginia. Weichert, Realtors' McLean/Dolley Madison branch specialists can be reached at (703) 760-8880, located at 1313 Dolley Madison Boulevard.

Karen Briscoe with the Huckaby Briscoe Group, Keller Williams Realty in McLean has earned the Certified Luxury



Becker

Callander

Home Marketing Specialist designation in recognition of her experience, knowledge and expertise in the luxury home market. "Karen is an example of a real estate professional who has worked to develop market knowledge and the special skills and competencies necessary to provide exceptional service in the fine homes and estates marketplace," said Institute President Laurie Moore-Moore, upon announcing Briscoe's designation.

Briscoe is an award-winning real estate professional who has gone through special training and met performance standards in the upper tier market. She has been in real estate since 1983. She specializes in the McLean, Great Falls, Arlington, Falls Church, Vienna, and

Alexandria markets.

For current information on the local market, contact Karen Briscoe at the Huckaby Briscoe Group at (703) 734-0192 or e-mail Homes@HBGroup.us.

Lizzy Walker Conroy, Lead Associate Agent for the Huckaby Briscoe Group, Keller Williams Realty is hosting a fundraising event to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society on Wednesday, March 10 from 6 - 8 p.m. at Restaurant 3 in Arlington. This happy hour will feature hors d'oeuvres and wines of Barboursville Vineyards, complements of Richard Moroscak, 1st Commonwealth Bank of Virginia and Helen Krause, Dominion Title Corporation. To attend the happy hour, R.S.V.P by Monday, March 8, to Lizzy Conroy by email to lizzy@hbgroup.us, or by phone to 202-441-3630. A \$10 donation to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society at the door is suggested.

McLean -based RE/MAX Allegiance, the world's #1 RE/MAX brokerage, has entered into an exclusive partnership with the Fort Lauderdale-based Foreclosure Response Team (FRT) to serve as the exclusive Broker Affiliate representing the Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. areas.

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Richmond Report

FROM PAGE 8

freeze from the budget. In the coming days and final weeks of the session, we face a historic budget shortfall in the Commonwealth. The proposed budget introduced by Gov. Kaine unfortunately only addressed half of the \$4 billion shortfall. Gov. Kaine's plan to close the remaining \$2 billion through massive new tax increases in the middle of a recession was already unanimously rejected (97-0) by the House of Delegates. We will be working in the coming weeks to finalize the spending reductions that will enable us to balance the budget, while maintaining core services and respecting the difficulties facing our hard working taxpayers. Many of these cuts will not be easy, and most of them will require sacrifice, but we will continue to work together to make those tough decisions today so that the Commonwealth will be in a stronger position as the economy recovers.

By focusing on job growth and getting our economy moving again and not further burdening our stretched businesses and families,

Virginia can continue to be better positioned to weather the tough economic times we are facing.

Finally, I wanted to thank so many of you who reached out to us throughout the recent unprecedented snowstorms in our area. Your updates and information were helpful in helping us inform VDOT, Dominion and other government officials about the situation on the ground throughout the storms. It was also encouraging to hear of all of the help that neighbors were providing neighbors through the difficulties. I have spoken with our local Dranesville supervisor, John Foust (D), and we plan on scheduling an "After Action" town hall meeting to bring together everybody to further address the issues that arose during the storms.

It is a privilege to serve as your delegate. Please feel free to contact me whenever you have concerns. Also sign up online for our updates on the Web site [www.delegatecomstock.com] and keep in touch with us and let us know of concerns you have, events you want to let us know about, or other matters of interest.

Supporting EPA

To the Editor:

I hate to see Virginia aligned with two of the most environmentally backward states, Alabama and Texas, in filing lawsuits that threaten to block the EPA's endangerment finding, and therefore attempting to block the EPA's authority to take action on climate change.

Most other states are already taking action in accordance with the EPA's ruling. The Environmental Protection Agency's efforts to reduce global warming pollution represents years of careful and considered analysis by career scientists and takes tens of thousands of public comments in account.

Because of the bad economy, Virginia is having trouble balancing the state budget and so is cutting important services statewide. We shouldn't waste valuable funds filing an outlandish lawsuit.

Deborah Chassman
McLean

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

WAMA members, \$15 nominees.
www.wamad.com or 703-368-3300.

MONDAY/MARCH 1

British alternative rock band Muse with Silversun Pickups. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$55, available online at www.ticketmaster.com or via Phonecharge at 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available for patrons with disabilities by calling 703-993-3035. www.muse.mu or www.patriotcenter.com.

TUESDAY/MARCH 2

The Woman's Club of McLean. 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Roger Mudd, CBS newsman, will discuss his book "The Place to be: Washington, CBS, and the Glory Days of Television News". All are invited. Bring a donation of food for SHARE, Inc., as admission. pnkburn@verizon.net.

THURSDAY/MARCH 4

The Guggenheim Grotto and Tiger Cooke. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$12. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.
Tennessee Williams' 'Orpheus Descending.' 8 p.m. at George Mason University TheatreSpace, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$12. 703-993-8888.

FRIDAY/MARCH 5

Dear Sara Jane. 7:30 p.m. At The Sundry, 316 Dominion Road,

Vienna. www.sundry.net
Chase Coy. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

That 1 Guy 'Packs a Wallop' Tour. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. \$12 advance, \$15 day of show. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Opening reception for 'Figurative Works' at the GFFFTA Gallery. 7 p.m. 1144-D and 1144-G Walker Road, Great Falls. Works by the 16 members of the Artists' Atelier. Exhibit continues through March, and is open 12-4 p.m. Saturdays or by appointment. www.greatfallsfoundationforarts.org or 571-214-6784.

Ryan McCoy: Intersections of Meaning Opening Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Red Caboose Gallery, 138 Church St. N.E., Vienna. McCoy structures memories and experiences to create what he calls Intersections of meaning and association. The exhibit will run through April 4. 703-349-7178

Tennessee Williams' 'Orpheus Descending.' 8 p.m. at George Mason University TheatreSpace, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$12. 703-993-8888.

SATURDAY/MARCH 6

Indoor Flea Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at City of Fairfax Senior Center, Green Acres Center Cafeteria, 4401 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Lunch available for nominal cost. Booth proceeds benefit the Senior Center. 703-359-2487 or jormesher@fairfaxva.gov.

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SPORTS

McLean Girls, Boys Head To Region Basketball Playoffs

Wilson, Bouchard lead respective Highlander teams to first round Liberty District playoff wins.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

For the third straight year, the McLean High boys' basketball team is headed for the 16-team Northern Region playoffs.

The Highlanders clinched a seeding in the region field by upsetting Stone Bridge in overtime, 70-67, in a first round Liberty District tournament game played Thursday evening, Feb. 18, in Ashburn. McLean, the No. 6-seed of the eight-team district tournament, went on to lose to No. 2 Marshall, 57-39, the following night at South Lakes High School. Stone Bridge, the No. 3 seed, saw its season end with the loss to McLean.

McLean (10-12) was set to meet Concorde District opponent Chantilly or Oakton in a first-round region playoff game on Wednesday, Jan. 24 of this week. It marks the first time since the early 1990s that the Highlanders have qualified for regionals in three straight years.

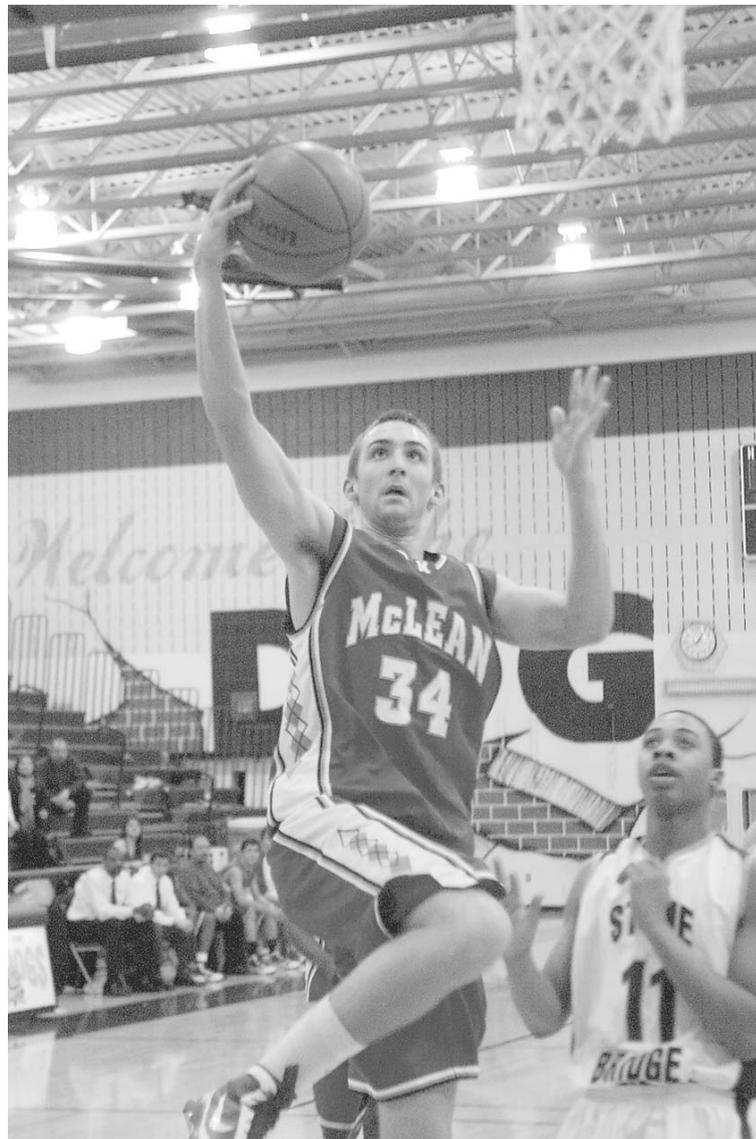
Marshall, which was set to meet top seed Langley for the district title game earlier this week on Monday, converted eight, 3-point shots in its semifinals victory over McLean. The Statesmen led by just six points at halftime before pulling away in the third quarter behind four, long range 3-point conversions. It was Marshall's third win over McLean in three meetings this season.

"We could never get ahead, although we got close," said McLean coach Kevin Roller, of his team's playoff setback to Marshall. "We didn't shoot the ball well. But we haven't been a great perimeter shooting team all year."

But in the first round district playoff win over Stone Bridge, McLean had success shooting the ball from long range as it converted five three-point shots in the victory. Jake Pierce, a junior forward, made all five of the Highlanders' treys on way to a 15-point night. McLean's leading scorer in the win was senior forward Phil Bouchard, who scored 18 points. Other big games for McLean came from senior guard Sean Fitzgerald and sophomore guard Gordon Rogo, who both tallied 11 points, and sophomore guard Sango Amolo (8 points). Thomas Van Wazer, a sophomore forward, added five points.

Bouchard scored 15 points in the loss to Marshall following his 18-point effort in the win over the Bulldogs.

"Phil's been our best player all year," said Roller.

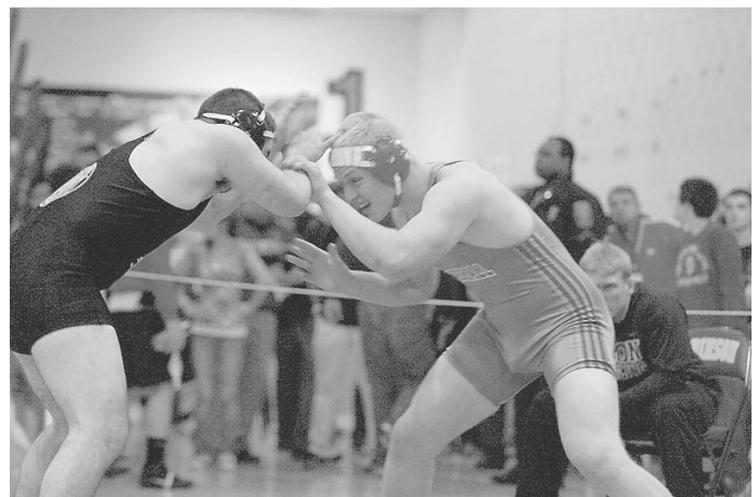


McLean High's Phil Bouchard goes up for a basket in the Highlanders' first round Liberty District boys' basketball playoff win at Stone Bridge last week.

THE MCLEAN GIRLS also earned a trip to this week's regionals as a result of reaching the semifinals of the Liberty District tournament. The No. 5 seeded Highlanders, coached by Mike O'Brien, defeated cross-town rival Langley, 47-38, in quarterfinals round district tournament action Thursday evening, Feb. 18, at Langley. The Highlanders were led by Melissa Wilson's 18 points in the win. Andie Romness was also in double figures with 14 points.

For Langley, the No. 4 seed, Sarah Kleinknecht scored 12 points while teammate Brooke Gallagher added nine. Mary Riley Pembroke and Kristen Kody both scored six points and Alexis Doherty contributed five for the Saxons, who saw their season end with the first round loss.

The following night, on Friday, saw McLean (11-10) fall to defending district champion and top seed Madison in Vienna. Patricia Pascoe and Lauren Sutherland led the Highlanders with six points apiece in the low scoring affair. Madison was set to meet No. 2 South Lakes in the district title game this past Monday night.



Marshall's Andrew Embree, right, captured the Northern Region title at the 215-pound weight class.

Westfield Prevails at Region Wrestling Championships

Madison's Schultz, Marshall's Embree capture titles.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The Westfield High wrestling team captured the Northern Region championship last week. The annual postseason event took place Feb. 16-17 at Fairfax High School. The Bulldogs won the title with 345.50 points, finishing ahead of second place Robinson (286). Finishing third was Centerville High (126), followed by fourth place Woodson (123) and fifth place Langley (121.50). Other strong team showings at the 31-school meet came from Marshall (eighth place), Chantilly (10th), McLean (14th) and South Lakes (tied for 18th).

Westfield High had four wrestlers capture titles and four more finish second. Bulldog champs were: Kyle Arnold (140-pound weight class), Kevin Koch (152), Austin Fallon (189), and Tyler Deleon (heavyweight). Other local individual champions included Madison's Albert Schultz (125) and Marshall's Andrew Embree (215).

Madison's Schultz, at the 125-pound finals, was a 4-0 winner over Westfield's Dennon Carranza-Kee. At the 140-pound finals, Westfield's Arnold bested Robinson's Charlie Vannoy, 3-2. At 152 pounds, Koch defeated Robinson's Ben Stallings in overtime, 2-1.

Fallon, the Westfield 189-pound standout, defeated Marshall's Mark Bergenholtz, 7-2, in the championship match. In the 215-

pound finals, Embree of Marshall was a pin winner over Lee's Steven Lucynski. And at heavyweight, Deleon of Westfield was a 5-1 finals victor over West Potomac's Sami Ahmady.

Westfield's Brett Campbell finished second at 103-pound weight class, falling to Robinson's Dallas Smith, 1-0, in the finals. Other Bulldogs who finished second were: Stephen Aiello, who reached the 112-pound finals before falling to Annandale's Dane Harlowe by major decision; Beau Donahue, who lost to Robinson's Roman Perryman, 8-4, in the 135-pound finals; and Nick Grinups, who lost a tough 4-3 decision to Lake Braddock's Ross Renzi in the 160-pound finals.

Westfield's Harry Van Trees finished third at the 145-pound weight class, defeating Lee's Omar Ezzeddine, 4-2, in the consolation finals.

Other place finishers for Westfield were Dylan Doty (fourth at 171) and Karl Tanner (fourth at 119).

McLean High's Ethan Arkin finished fourth overall at the 130-pound weigh class. Also for the Highlanders, Billy Dvorkin finished fourth at 189.

Langley's Aaron Sahn finished third at heavyweight, winning by forfeit over Yorktown's Charles Whelden in the consolation finals.

From South Lakes, Ryan Forrest garnered a third place finish in the 135-pound weight class by defeating Centerville's Ricky Williams in

SEE ARKIN, PAGE 15

SPORTS

Langley Swimmers Shine at State

Boys, girls set new national records.

Langley High School sent 16 swimmers to the 2010 High School Championship in Virginia Beach. With multiple top eight finishes, state records and national records—the boys' team reached its highest place and the girls were able to secure a podium position also.

The boys' team started the meet with the 200-meter medley relay that not only broke the state record—but also a new national record with a time of 146.43. Swimming the relay were junior Chuck Katis, senior Chris Pivik, senior Stephen Richards and sophomore Ryan Natal. The boys finished first overall and broke the record again Saturday night at the finals with a time of 145.38.

The Langley boys continued to achieve with Chuck Katis placing second in the 200 breast and fourth in the 200 IM; Stephen Richards placing third in the 200 IM and fourth in the 100 free; and Ryan Natal placing third in the 100 butterfly. The boys' team of Conor Reiling, Alex Brumas, Chris Barnard and Pivik placed eighth in the 200 free relay and the 400 free relay placed third with David Case, Natal, Richards and Katis.

"This is huge," said Coach Ryan Jackson. "This maybe the best the boys have ever finished for Langley. The records only go back to the 90s, and I'm not sure how they did prior to that."

Graduating captain Richards could not get over how well his team did. "I could not be happier," he said. "I'm really looking forward to swimming for Brigham Young University, but I sure will miss these guys and this team."

The girls also produced results with the 200-meter medley relay, placing sixth with Megan Overend, Karen Schirm, Megan Howard and Torrie Zarella. Individual finishers were Jayme Katis placing fourth in the 200 freestyle and fourth in the 100 freestyle, Howard placing sixth in the 50 free and 11th in the 100 fly and Abi Speers placing fourth in



The boys' 200-meter medley relay team are, from left, junior Chuck Katis, senior Chris Pivik, senior Stephen Richards and sophomore Ryan Natal.

PHOTOS BY MARK OVEREND-KAZ



The girls' 200-meter freestyle relay team from Langley High School. Pictured, from left, are juniors Meghan Overend, Jayme Katis and Megan Howard and freshman Abi Speers.

the 50 free and 13th in the 100 free. The 200-meter freestyle relay with junior Overend, junior Jayme Katis, junior Howard and freshman Speers also finished first with not only a new state record but a new national record as well with a time of 148.94.

The girls 400 freestyle relay finished third with Allie Zeidan, Speers, Overend and Jayme Katis.

SPORTS NOTE

McLean Youth Athletics will conduct its annual meeting on Thursday, March 18, at 7 p.m., at the McLean Community Center. All MYA members are in-

vited to attend and address the board. Some board positions will stand for election and some amendments to the by-laws may be proposed.

McLean's Arkin Fourth Overall

FROM PAGE 14

the consolation finals.

Chantilly's Jack Carlson went all the way to the 145-pound finals before losing a close 5-4 decision to Robinson's Mickey Bennett.

For Centreville High, Martin Seneca made it to the 171-pound finals where he lost to Annandale's Stacey Anderson, 9-4. Centreville had two third place finishers: Jackson Islin, who pinned Mount Vernon's Dusty Floyd in the 140-

pound consolation finals; and Daniel Johnson, a 3-1 overtime winner over Westfield's Rapheal Bamezon in the 215-pound consolation finals. Also for the Wildcats, Ricky Williams finished fourth at 135-pound weight class.

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Mount Vernon's Operations and Maintenance Department is seeking a Lead Maintenance Technician to assist in the installation, maintenance and repair of electrical, heating, air conditioning, domestic water and various other systems. The position includes housing on the estate but relocation is not paid, and supervises a staff of 4 technicians.

Essential Functions: Assists in the installation, maintenance and repair of electrical systems, pumps, motors, valves, security and fire alarm equipment and HVAC equipment and controls; Various maintenance tasks including electrical and HVAC diagnostics, installing piping & electrical wiring, digging trenches, working with sewer tanks, drainage, and pumping equipment, assembling scaffolding/rigging, & setup and operation of audio/visual equipment; Conducts all work/orders & compiles a daily record; Operates, maintains & secures tools and equipment; Practices, maintains and enforces safety regulations and procedures; Performs preventive maintenance and repairs to all electrical systems.

Special Requirements: Requires standing/walking for long periods of time, entering dark, dusty and close spaces, using solvents, lubricants, adhesives and other hazardous materials, and exposure to all weather conditions; Weekend and holiday work and rotating 24 hour duty shift required; Classified as essential and requires participation in all emergencies, ice and snow removal and special events.

Qualifications: 7+ yrs. experience in electrical, emergency power systems, energy management, general repairs and fire safety; good understanding of MEP and architectural drawings; Good written & verbal communication skills and proficiency w./MS office suite; Knowledge of life safety codes preferred; valid driver's license required; Employment contingent upon successful drug test and criminal/background check.

Send application materials:

Via email- HRMail@MountVernon.org, or fax- 703.780.8320. Applications may be downloaded and printed from the website (under employment) at www.MountVernon.org

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I've Been Wondering...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Perhaps some of you regular readers have noticed of late, but recently – for the first time in six months or so of commentating – I have strayed occasionally from my cancer-related norm. And I suppose that's a good thing, a sign or an indication that no longer am I consumed, mentally, by the condition in which I find myself so heavily involved. Apparently, I have assimilated having cancer into my routine. Not so much coordinating my weekly labs, my every three-week chemotherapy infusion, every three-week appointment with my oncologist and miscellaneous other scans, procedures and evaluations into my daily/weekly/monthly/quarterly schedule, all of which becomes (or has become for me) second nature, despite their primary – and ongoing – importance; but more so into the activities of my daily living: reading, writing and 'rithmetic, etc.

Life goes on, believe it or not, even after receiving devastating news. And though I might not have imagined normalizing it (the diagnosis) as I have (especially after that first weekend at home after meeting with the oncologist the previous Thursday), but I have, and the evidence has been in my writing, specifically the non-cancer subject matter (that once again matters). Though the material is still as I see fit to write it, I seem to be a bit more fit than I have been and the proof is in the prose.

Don't get me wrong, the column is still about me, as it always has been. But it's less about the struggles of dealing with a cancer diagnosis, subsequent – and continuing – treatment, plus all the related effects not unique to me, as it has been since June. Obviously, I'm still very caught up and consumed by my health situation/status (and will continue to be), but subconsciously my brain has rewired itself a little bit and compartmentalized/segregated some (definitely not all) of the cancer thoughts thereby enabling me to mentally meander once again and literally lose my my mind in some more ordinary and mundane minutiae, the kind of which has characterized my column for the past 12 years.

And as I find myself writing about nonsense once again, I'm feeling empowered, sort of, by its appearance; I'm me again. I'm not Kenny-with-cancer; I'm just, Kenny, who happens to have cancer, who writes about it regularly but not exclusively. And deviating from this most recent 'ab-norm' of late has re-routed me. No longer am I on the cancer train. No longer am I on the road to God-help-me. I'm simply back on the same road as everybody else, back dealing with and managing the same myriad problems as everybody else (with one major exception, of course). But the cancer thing doesn't define me anymore (yeah, right?). Oh sure, it precedes me, it categorizes me, it may even be me, but no more does it control me.

My brain (and my body) has persevered through it all now: the initial testing, the shock of the diagnosis, the chemotherapy which followed, the regular medical activities/appointments/scans which continue and the lifestyle changes, have all been integrated into my/our routine. Onward we go. I feel like I'm myself again and since I've always liked myself, I'm happy to be back (heck, as a cancer patient, I'm happy to be anywhere). I'm not cured of anything, though; I'm just more comfortable (subject to change, of course).

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

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

Unit 2, Fairfax Arms North Condominium, together with an undivided percentage share in the common elements in accordance with the declaration of condominium and exhibits attached thereto recorded in Deed Book 4120 at page 334, among the Land Records of Arlington County, Virginia.

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

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$45,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 6.50 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part of or the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

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

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

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

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

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

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

DAVID N. PRENSKY
Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
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Superior Court of the District of Columbia Civil Division
Order of Publication - Change of Name
In RE:
Application of Lindsay Greer McCullough
Civil Action Number: 0000478-10
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 by, 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"



PHOTO BY KIM MORAN

Fourth grade teacher Sarah Finger goes over the plans for the morning show with students. Pictured are Finger, Patrick Mullery, Rachel Granovsky, JJ Ricchetti, Rosy Zhang and Susan Merton.

Haiti Remembered

FROM PAGE 3

geography, infrastructure and schools, and learned how the children of Haiti are similar to and different from children of McLean. Finger's experiences made the fund drive a meaningful experience for our students.

On the last day of the coin drive, Churchill Road welcomed a special guest on the morning news. The wife of the American Ambassador to Haiti, Susan Merten, came to the school, having been invited by the Assistant Principal Kathy Manoatl. Students working on the morning show taped her conversation with Finger. She shared personal stories of her life in Haiti and of the remarkable people she met there. Merton and her two daughters were airlifted out of

Haiti after the earthquake and her husband, Ambassador Kenneth Merten, is still in Port-au-Prince and is helping with other embassy team members to get aid to the Haitian people.

The funds from CRS's Coins for Haiti were donated to Caring House Project Foundation [http://frank-mckinney.com/caring_project.aspx]. Caring House founder and director Frank McKinney, uncle of CRS students Maggie, Katie and J.J. Bellaschi, stopped by Churchill Road on Feb. 16 to express his gratitude for the children's efforts. He said that because of the generosity of Churchill Road students, the Foundation was able to provide more than 60,000 meals to Haitians in the outlying villages around Port-au-Prince.

Lane Closes for Two Years

FROM PAGE 3

While foundations are being laid for the two stations that will lie on the north side of Route 123, as well as the Wiehle Avenue station, Route 7 has to be widened before construction can begin on the two stations that will be situated in its median.

BEYOND TYSONS CORNER, rail construction continues in the median of the Dulles Toll Road, while retaining ponds are being built behind the toll road's sound walls. "You might not see something there, but behind those walls, there's probably a lot of activity going on," Carnaggio said.

Where the toll road crosses the W&OD Trail, construction is being done with fiberglass rather than steel because of the overhead power lines. There, caissons and abutments have been built and pilings are being driven into the ground. "For those of you who live nearby, you probably won't appreciate that," Carnaggio said, noting that the work could be noisy.

The second phase of the rail, which will

run from Wiehle Avenue under Dulles Airport and out to Ashburn with six more stops, is just getting underway, and a consultant is in the process of doing a cost estimate, he said. "Hopefully, that project will be as successful as we are on Phase 1."

The first phase is expected to be operational in 2013, and the entire line is to be completed by 2016.

Another long-term road closure to accommodate rail construction was announced last week. The right-turn lane that runs along about a block and a half of southbound Route 123 between Scotts Crossing Road and the Beltway Inner Loop closed for two years, as of Monday. The lane served drivers turning right into the Capitol One building or onto the Beltway, said Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project spokesman Marcia McAllister.

The closure is to provide a safe workspace for crews building the Tysons East station. It was supposed to take place on Feb. 8 but was delayed due to the weather.

— MIKE DiCICCO

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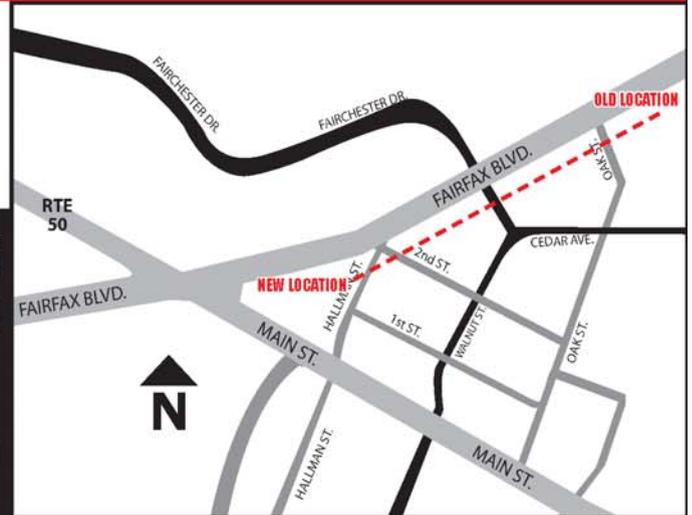
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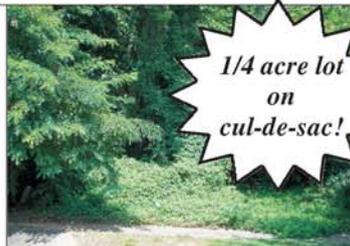


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