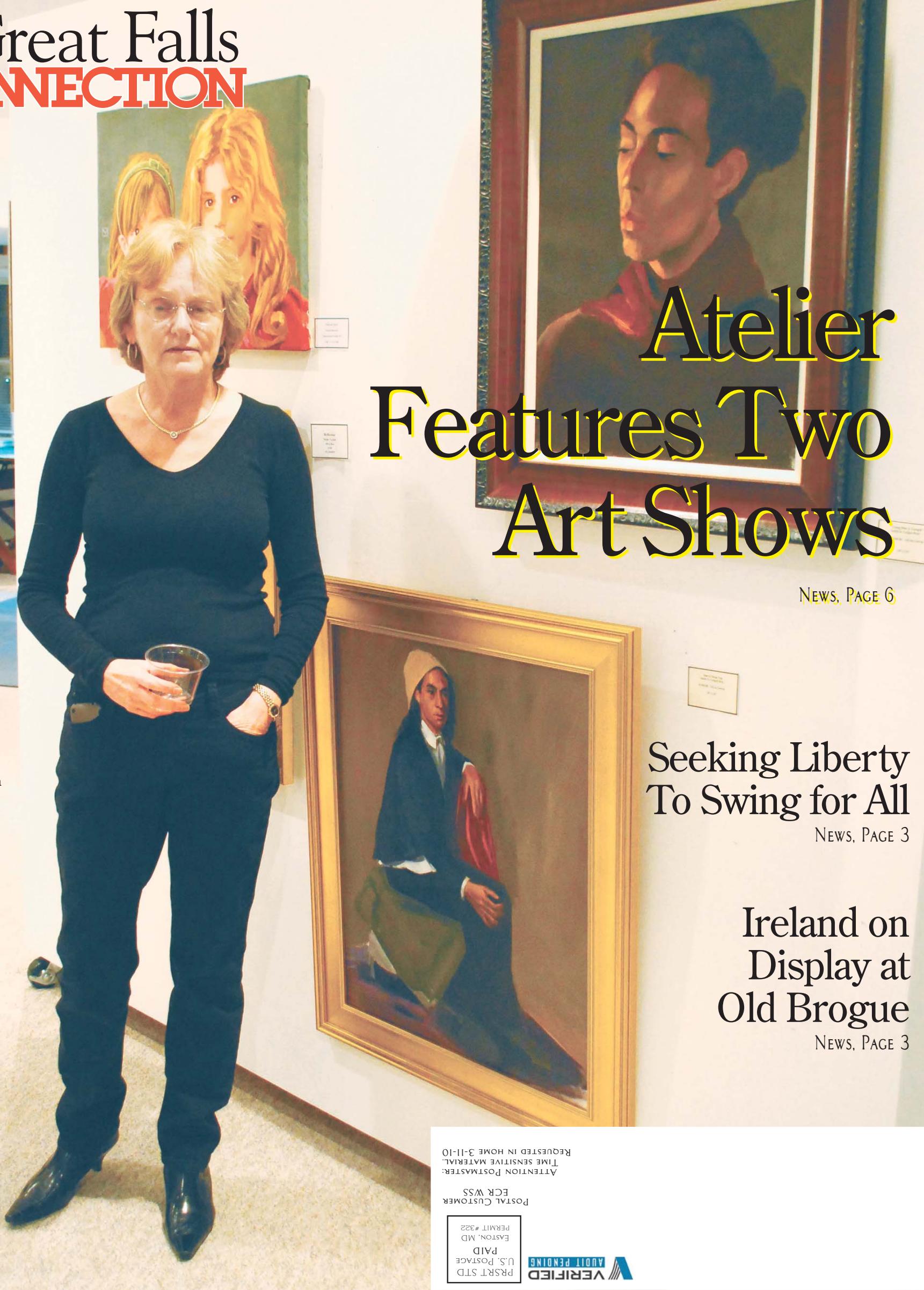


Great Falls CONNECTION



PHOTO BY JENNA PUIGRANT/THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 8 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 16 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 17

Painter Judith St. Ledger-Roty, who currently has a collection on display at The Brogue, is one of the 15 artists who work in the Artists' Atelier.



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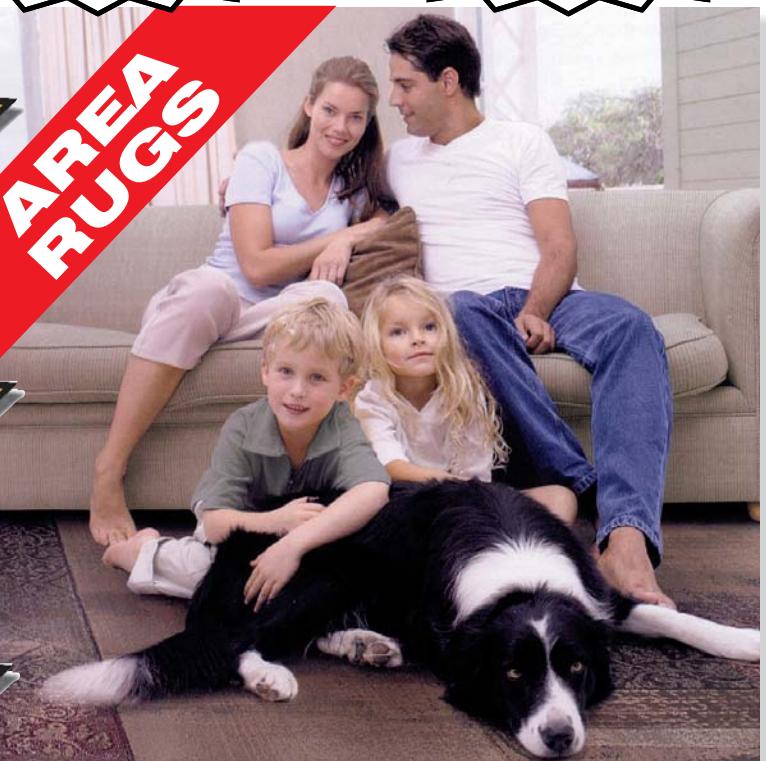
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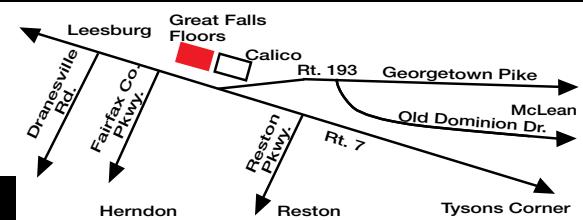
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NEWS



PHOTO COURTESY FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK FOUNDATION

Clemyjontri Park in McLean is one of the only parks in the nation designed to allow children with and without disabilities to play side by side. However, maintenance and construction is expensive.

Seeking Liberty to Swing for All

Park Foundation seeks donations to install wheelchair-accessible swing at Clemyjontri.

The Fairfax County Park Foundation is raising money for maintenance and upgrades at McLean's Clemyjontri Park, and especially for the installation of a new Liberty Swing designed for wheelchair-bound children.

Clemyjontri opened in 2006 as one of the only parks in the country designed to allow disabled and non-disabled children to play side by side, and Park Authority spokeswoman Judy Pedersen said use of the park has exceeded all expectations. "It's phenomenal," she said, noting that the facility receives about 200,000 visitors per year. In the wake of Clemyjontri's success, a fully accessible tree house is being built at Lee District Park in the Franconia area, she said. "We know that there's a need throughout the county that we've only just started to meet."

The resulting wear and tear on the park requires maintenance and repairs that are difficult to fund in a time of continuing budget cuts, she said. And the new park still represents an unfunded capital project that is planned for increased parking, more picnic areas and other construction, such as the Liberty Swing.

Since November, the Park Foundation has raised

\$27,000 for the swing, enough to buy it, and it is already on its way from Australia, where it was invented, said Park Foundation Executive Director Paul Baldino. However, he said the real expense would be installing the swing, which is heavy and large enough to accommodate a wheelchair. The cost estimate for installation is \$78,000, although he said he thought actual costs would come in lower.

Because of the swing's size, it will require an 850-square-foot concrete base, which will need to be covered in the same rubber surface as the rest of the park. It also needs fencing, considerable clearance beneath it and a ramp for entry, and trees will need to be removed in order to locate it near existing swings, Baldino said.

When the park was designed, it was known that one missing element would be a swing for children who could not transfer out of a wheelchair, he said.

Such contraptions are common in Australia and New Zealand, but there are only a handful in the United States, with the closest being in Knoxville and Long Island. "It's just an obvious missing piece to Clemyjontri and we'd like to put it in there for the kids," Baldino said.

"We'd love to have it in this summer, and it really just depends on the donations," he said. "There are kids waiting."

For more information or to make a donation, call Paul Baldino at 703-324-8581 or visit www.fxparks.org and click on "Clemyjontri Park" or "Liberty Swing" under the "Our Projects" link.

— MIKE DiCICCO

GREAT FALLS CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC
703-778-9414 OR GREATFALLS@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Judith St. Ledger-Roty poses with some of the paintings she currently has on display at the Old Brogue.

Ireland on Display At Old Brogue

Great Falls artist reconnects with heritage to produce exhibit.

For St. Patrick's Day and the entire month of March, the Katie's Coffee House area of the Old Brogue has on display an exhibit of original oil paintings, called "Mostly Ireland," by Great Falls artist Judith St. Ledger-Roty.

St. Ledger-Roty traveled to Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic last summer to paint the Emerald Isle and walk along the shore of her own Irish heritage, she being the youngest daughter of an O'Conner on her mother's side. With red hair and a rosy complexion, she said she "immediately connected to the land and the people" she met.

Paintings she has included in the show are two seascapes of the North Atlantic shoreline, a

painting of a sea captain who she met while staying in a small village by the sea and a still life of a highbrow pub display of water and wine. Old Brogue owner Mike Kearney and the Great Falls Studios group gave St. Ledger-Roty the opportunity to have her work on display, and visitors are also welcome to drop in on her studio space at the Artists' Atelier of Great Falls, at 1144 Walker Road, Suite G.

The Old Brogue is also celebrating March with the continuation of its winter Celtic concert series on March 14, as well as Irish meals and traditional Irish beers and live music all day on St. Patrick's Day.



The rooftops of an Irish village are the subject of one of St. Ledger-Roty's paintings.

WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

Fatal Crash in Great Falls Area

Shaun Farokhzad, 19, of 9817 Mill Run Drive, Great Falls, a passenger in a Toyota minivan died Sunday, March 7, and the 18-year-old driver is in life-threatening condition at Inova Fairfax Hospital, after a crash that occurred around 4:25 a.m. Two men were traveling westbound on Walker Road, near Akhtamar Drive, when the driver apparently ran off the road to the right, overcorrected, drove off the road to the left and struck a tree.

A passerby found the wreck.

Crash Reconstruction Detectives investigating the scene believed that speed may have been a factor in the crash.

Moledina Sentenced In Fraud Scheme

Hanif Hassan Moledina, 46, formerly of Great Falls, was sentenced to 90 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release, for carrying out a fraud scheme that resulted in illegal gross proceeds exceeding \$16 million. He was also ordered to pay \$6,617,220 in restitution and to forfeit \$8,339,428.

Since Moledina is not a U.S. citizen, he will be turned over to immigration authorities upon his release from prison for deportation proceedings.

According to a statement of facts filed with his plea agreement, Moledina was the majority owner and operator of Bean East Corporation, a coffee roasting company located in Luray, Va. Beginning in 2004, Moledina began operating a Ponzi scheme, borrowing large sums of money at exceptionally high rates of interest from friends and associates and telling them that he had contracts to purchase coffee beans from suppliers in Colombia and a contract to supply beans to the Folgers Coffee Company. Over the next five years, Moledina borrowed more than \$8.3 million from approximately 26 persons. In fact, no such contracts existed, and Moledina used the money for personal expenses as well as to make interest payments to some of the borrowers.

In addition, Moledina admitted to conducting several other fraudulent ventures during this period. In 2006, Moledina obtained a \$2.3 million mortgage on a building in Luray from BB&T, without disclosing to the bank or the building's co-owner that he had moved tenants from that building into one that he solely owned. Later, in a successful effort to sell the second building, he presented forged tenant leases to the intended purchaser to create the illusion that the building had a guaranteed income stream. In the meantime, over a period of three years, Moledina withdrew more than \$800,000 from a corporate account set up for the first building without his co-owner's knowledge and for purposes unrelated to the operation or maintenance of the building.

Moledina also admitted that in January 2007, he drafted and forged signatures on fictitious leases to assure a potential purchaser that a building, which Moledina owned, had a guaranteed income stream. The purchaser later bought the building from Moledina for \$3.4 million.

Finally, in 2007 and 2008, Moledina admitted that he presented fraudulent Bean East financial statements to Washington First Bank in support of three loans totaling approximately \$1.2 million.

Amadeus Concerts Present Amadeus Harmonie

On Sunday, March 21, 4 p.m., at the St. Francis Episcopal Church in Great Falls, the Amadeus Concerts will present a concert by the Amadeus Harmonie. In the streets and salons of 18th century Vienna, the "harmonie" (woodwind ensemble) was a source of delight and pride. Mozart's "Serenade in E-flat, K. 375" provided pleasing entertainment, and he arranged music from "Don Giovanni" so that his melodies would make a lasting impression on everyday listeners. One hundred years later, Dvorak wrote his "Serenade for Winds" as a nostalgic tribute to this Vienna tradition. Meet the musicians at a reception following the concert.

Admission is \$25. Tickets may be purchased at the event or online at www.amadeusconcerts.com. Students 17 and under are always admitted free of charge.

NEWS



From left, GFCA Land Use and Zoning Committee co-chairs Marta Roy and Dianne Van Volkenburg and past chair John Ulfelder listen as D.C. Water and Sewer Authority project manager Barry Lucas discusses the odor treatment facility to be located past the end of River Park Lane.

PHOTO BY MIKE DiCICCO/THE CONNECTION

D.C. Agency Plans Work on Potomac Interceptor Sewer

Hundreds of truck trips to repair, upgrade wastewater line along Potomac concern Great Falls residents.

BY MIKE DiCICCO
THE CONNECTION

Lee Morse lives at a sharp bend in River Park Lane, and he said he had doubts as to whether a trailer truck would be able to take the turn, let alone make hundreds of trips without damaging his lawn. "More often than not, trucks do not successfully negotiate that turn," he told officials from the Washington, D.C. Water and Sewer Authority (DCWASA) at a meeting last Thursday, March 4.

The Water and Sewer Authority is getting ready to start repairing and upgrading the Potomac Interceptor, a pipeline that carries sewage from Dulles International Airport to the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant in D.C., and much of the work will be carried out just past the end of River Park Lane. The agency has an easement that allows it to transport equipment up Deepwoods Drive to Yarnick Road, then cutting through to River Park Lane.

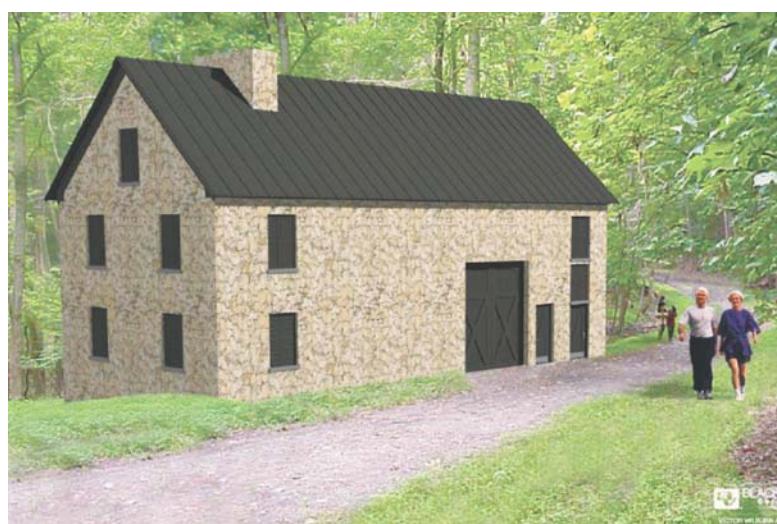
"When the Interceptor was built, the roads weren't configured that way," Jim Sillers, a consultant for DCWASA, said at the meeting of the Great Falls Citizens Association's (GFCA) Land Use and Zoning Committee in the Great Falls Library.

NOW, the agency is seeking right of entry from residents who live along the privately owned stretch of River Park Lane that is not under its easement, so that it can truck pipe sections and other equipment to the site via River Park Drive and River Park Lane.

The work includes replacing an existing manhole and vent with an odor treatment unit, as well as relining about a mile of sewer pipe, with the pipe lining being delivered by truck. The odor treatment facility construction is expected to generate up to 50 truck trips and the pipe lining work could create up to 19 truck trips a day for a week to deliver the pipe, 17 dump trucks per day for about three weeks, 40 concrete truck deliveries and an additional 25 truck deliveries. However, Jim Sillers, a consultant for WASA, said some of those trips could be reduced, depending on how much material the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority allows workers to store onsite. "This is a worst-case scenario," he said of the numbers.

Since it was built in the early 1960s, the sewer line's pipes have corroded to the point that the reinforcing rebar is exposed in some areas, and John

SEE WORK SITE, PAGE 7



The D.C. Water and Sewer Authority worked with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority to come up with a design for the building that will house the new odor treatment unit, shown in this artist's rendering.

PHOTO COURTESY D.C. WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Fairfax Holds Snow Summit

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors transportation committee will host a "Snow Summit" at the Fairfax County Government Center March 16 at 3:30 p.m. to assess what did and did not work well during the region's two major snow storms.

The summit will be a public meeting but members of the public will not be given an opportunity to testify during the meeting. Instead, Fairfax County and the Virginia Department of Transportation are soliciting comments and stories about the snow storms in advance of the meeting.

County officials encourage people to provide input at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/snowsummit/> by March 15 at 8 a.m. The summit will be broadcast live on channel 16 in Fairfax County.

— Julia O'Donoghue

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/MARCH 11

Supervisor Foust Town Hall Meetings on Budget. 7 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The proposed FY 2011 Advertised Budget Plan. 703-356-0551, TTY 711 or Dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov.

FRIDAY/MARCH 12

VTRCC Annual Youth and Education Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. at Tysons Corner Marriott, 8028 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. To showcase the accomplishments of students in the Vienna and Tysons Corner area and highlights opportunities for schools and businesses to partner. Speaker, Dr. Jack Dale, Superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools. info@vtrcc.org.

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ART

"It's critical to have a group artists to work with in order to have your art prosper and grow."

— Judith St. Ledger-Roty

Artist H. Jenna Klimchak, a painter from South Korea, is one of the artists of the Artists' Atelier whose work is featured in the current 'Figurative' works exhibit.



PHOTOS BY JENNA PUGRANT/THE CONNECTION

Atelier Features Two Art Shows

Still Life and Figurative Works exhibited at Artists' Atelier.

BY JENNA PUGRANT
THE CONNECTION

Throughout the month of March, the Great Falls Foundation for the Arts Gallery will be exhibiting two art shows as opposed to their usual one. Every month, the 15 artists who are permanently based in the Artists' Atelier near Colvin Run host a themed art exhibit to which every artist in the Atelier contributes pieces. February's show, however, was disrupted by the snowstorms in the beginning of the month, thus causing the artists to continue last month's show through March. The Artists' Atelier's current shows are "Still Life" works and "Figurative" works, curated by H. Jenna Kilmchak and Walt Lawrence.

The Great Falls Foundation for the Arts was founded in 2007 and used to be located in The Village Center until they moved to their new location at 1114 Walker Road. The Artists' Atelier is located in the upper loft of the suite and the GFFFTA's School of Art is located on the lower level. Each of the artists, all of whom either live or work in Great Falls, have a specific assigned workspace and can come in anytime to work on their pieces. The studio hosts a different exhibit each month and often invites other artists not in the Atelier to contribute to their show. The studio is open every Saturday from 12-4 p.m. for the general public to view

or by appointment.

THE GROUP OF ARTISTS that works in the Atelier often find that having other artists around them helps improve their work. "It's critical to have a group artists to work with in order to have your art prosper and grow," said Judith St. Ledger-Roty, an artist of the Atelier whose collection titled "Mostly Ireland" is currently being displayed at The Brogue. "A few of the artists here work together to critique each other's work. It's been helpful tool that has improved my painting."

While each of the artists of the Atelier have distinct stylistic differences, every artist tends to gravitate toward realistic work and stays away from more abstract pieces, which according to St. Ledger-Roty, helps make all of the work in the show cohesive.

"If I moved to another city, I don't think I would be able to paint as well unless I found a community full of as many supportive artists as Great Falls has," said Mollie Vardell, vice president of the GFFFTA. "It has really helped me become a better artist."

Producing a different type of piece every month to contribute to the show is on occasion a challenging pace for the artists and sometimes requires them to work outside of their specific style of work. "When I heard we were going to have a figurative show I knew it would be a challenge," said H.



As an artist contributor to the current 'Figurative' and 'Still Life' works exhibits, Jennifer Duncan, pictured here, was one of the artists present at the opening reception for the Artists' Atelier March exhibit.

Jenna Klimchak, an Atelier artist from Korea. "That is part of the reason why I enjoy being a part of this group, because it pushes me to do work outside of my normal style in a good environment."

IN APRIL, the Artists' Atelier will have an exhibit with works of landscapes and in May, an exhibit will feature the work of the teachers and student artists from the GFFFTA School of Art. Also, on

Saturday, March 13, the Great Falls School of Art will be sponsoring two educational programs. From 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., children ages 5-10 can come to school and learn printmaking. From 2:30-4:30 p.m., a drawing session is offered with a live model for teens and adults, who bring own drawing materials. The school is located at 1114 Walker Road and both events are free of charge and open to the public.



Ted Garber

St. Patrick's Day Music Marathon at the Old Brogue

Ted Garber, the "Blues Americana Rock" singer-songwriter, will be performing at The Old Brogue in Great Falls on March 12 and 13 at 9 p.m. and March 17. The March 17 show is a St. Patrick's Day special. Garber will be performing a 12-hour music marathon session from 12 noon until midnight. Garber has just released his new album "American Rail," a collection of songs steeped in American tradition with an international twist.

Langley High Drama Presents 'Deadwood Dick'

Langley High School and Saxon Stage (Phyllis Jaffe, Theatre Arts Chair) presents "Deadwood Dick or The Game of Gold," on March 18, 19 and 20, at 7:30 p.m., in the Langley High School Auditorium. "Deadwood Dick or The Game of Gold" by Tom Taggart is based on the Dime Novels of Edward L. Wheeler.

The play, based on the serialized novels from 1890s, features a Robin Hood of the West, Deadwood Dick. Taking the most exciting situations, the more colorful characters and the most amusing dialogue from these novels, Taggart has fashioned a blood and thunder melodrama. Long lost daughters, stolen gold mines, kidnapped heroines and hairbreadth escapes abound. Add to that the saloon girls, cowhands and other outlaws.

NEWS

Work Site Traffic Worries Neighbors

FROM PAGE 4

Mattingly, the Potomac Interceptor manager, said the pipes needed to be re-lined in order to protect them and keep them from eventually collapsing and dumping sewage into local tributaries. And the odor treatment facility would help to stem odor problems all along the pipeline, including at the current site of the vent at that location.

Members of the citizens association's board raised some concerns about trailer trucks negotiating the many narrow, winding roads in the community, but Morse was primarily concerned with his yard, which he said tends to get run over when large vehicles come through. "We're just asking for some reasonable assurance that truck drivers will be discouraged from using our property," he said.

"If they can make the turn, we can get that assurance. If not, we've got to make other arrangements," said J.D. Benoit, another consultant for DCWASA, who is in charge of designing the odor treatment unit.

Water and Sewer Authority officials said the existing easement was problematic because Deepwoods Drive was so narrow and because it would involve a sharp left turn to cross from Yarnick Road to River Park Lane. This would necessitate heavier tree trimming, said Sillers. Also, he said, gravel would have to be laid on the grassy area between the two roads and the spot was still likely to get muddy. If residents grant the agency permission to use all of River Park Lane, it will repair any damage to the road resulting from the project and will also repave the entire stretch that is privately owned. "We think that's a win-win for everybody," Sillers said.

To Morse, he said, "We can put it in the contract and safeguard your property."

MUCH OF THE EQUIPMENT, including the pipes, would be brought in on 53-foot trailer trucks, although the Water and Sewer Authority officials said it might be preferable to carry the pipes up River Park Lane one at a time on smaller trucks.

Eric Knudsen, co-chairman of the GFCA's Transportation Committee, wanted to know if anyone had tried making the drive in a

trailer truck, including the rest of the Great Falls roads that trucks would have to travel. Sillers said he thought the other roads would be passable, but he agreed to call for a trial run.

Morse suggested bringing supplies in via barge or helicopter, but Benoit said he did not expect the Park Authority to approve of building a road from the Potomac River to the site to carry the materials from a barge, and Sillers said he didn't think a helicopter would be cost-effective.

Wade Norris, one of Morse's neighbors, said he hoped the agency would negotiate further with the Park Authority to gain additional storage space onsite and cut down on truck trips. "That's what we'd like to do, and we'd like to get you involved in that also," Sillers said.

The odor treatment facility is to be built not far from the existing sewer vent and will be housed in a stone building with a standing seam metal roof and a chimney. Barry Lucas, who is managing the project for DCWASA, said the agency had worked with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority to come up with the historical-looking design. Electrical lines are to be buried along River Park Lane and up to the site in order to power the machinery.

Neither project has gone out to bid yet, and Benoit said DCWASA hoped to award a contract for the odor treatment facility's construction in July, begin work in September and finish about a year from now. It may not be until after the odor treatment unit is complete that work begins on the pipe relining, he said.

Sillers said space at the site was limited, and having two companies working there at once could slow the process. He said all the work should be done by fall of 2013, if not sooner.

Neighbors will be notified as to when heavy truck traffic can be expected.

In response to concerns about on-street parking and potential security issues caused by a large number of itinerant laborers traveling in and out, the Water and Sewer Authority representatives said they would try to work out a system whereby workers' vehicles were parked at a nearby facility, such as River Bend Country Club, and the workers were shuttled on and off the site all at once.

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- **Running 201** is offered for intermediate and advanced runners and/or as a step up from Running 101. It is tailored to the runner seeking to improve his/her performance.

Evening Running 101 sessions begin the week of March 15 at a variety of locations. Running 201 will be offered in Reston starting in March with more locations coming this year. =PR= Training Programs also offers a Distance Training Program, designed for runners preparing for race distances of 10 miles or longer. This program will begin at three DC area sites in June. Tailored, individualized training is also available. For details on session dates and location offered, please visit www.prtrainingprograms.com.

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OPINION

No Way

While most states are working on ways in increase revenues during the recession, which cost states across the country more than \$80 million in just 12 months in 2009, Virginia's governor appears to be looking for a way to give away future state revenue.

Virginia already has a public-private transportation act, which paved the way for the ongoing construction of "High Occupancy Toll" Lanes on the Beltway for example.

Public-private partnerships have their place.

But a last minute proposal in the Virginia General Assembly would not only allow the private entity to collect direct revenue from a project, like tolls, but would also allow agreements that would pay the private company a portion of increases in tax revenues that might result from the project.

If this were in place when the HOT-Lanes agreement was written, for example, the Commonwealth of Virginia might be paying the private company in this public-private partnership quarterly payments equal to as much as 50 percent of income taxes paid by construction workers and engineers working on the project, plus a similar proportion of sales taxes paid on equipment and materials purchased for the project, plus "multiplier or spin-off economic activity," and so on, in addition to the agreement that allows the company to collect

EDITORIAL

the tolls on the road for more than half a century.

CONSIDER: The bill, HB 1395, allows for the state to pay grants to a private entity out of a "portion of the growth in state taxes attributable to the development of the project."

"State tax revenues attributable to such economic activity may include, but shall not be limited to, state tax revenues from (i) wages, salaries, and contract payments paid to persons in the development of the transportation facility; (ii) purchases of machinery, equipment, and materials in the development of the transportation facility; (iii) insurance premiums paid; (iv) the production of goods or services at business locations within a geographical area surrounding or adjacent to the transportation facility; and (v) multiplier or spin-off economic activity relating to the development of the transportation facility including, but not limited to, wages, salaries, and contract payments paid to multiplier or spin-off jobs."

The money would be paid out of the General Fund, money intended to pay for basics of education, public safety and a social safety net, all facing draconian cuts right now.

If that isn't scary enough, the bill would also allow localities and "authorities" to enter into such agreements.

MANY OTHER STATES that have entered

into public-private transportation projects have done so by having the private company pay huge up-front cash payments, billions of dollars, in exchange for "leasing" a toll road, that is collecting the tolls for some often very long period of time into the future. In the HOT Lanes example, the company is widening the Beltway and replacing and repairing bridges, etc., between approximately the American Legion Bridge and the Mixing Bowl, in exchange for being able to charge an as-yet-to-be determined toll to drive in a lane that will be kept free of congestion by raising the tolls, likely much higher than the \$4.15 each way currently charged on the Dulles Greenway. Vehicles with three or more occupants (high-occupancy) will ride in the congestion-free lanes without charge. Or that's the plan.

At the point that the state believes that it's appropriate to collect tolls approaching \$10 for a round trip on a portion of their commute, it makes sense to investigate the funds available to the state directly by issuing bonds based on that revenue stream.

It's not clear who is looking out for the best interests of the citizens of Virginia in these partnerships. Details of some proposals, like a proposal for HOT-Lanes on I-95 appear to build in many guarantees and protections for the private companies, but less for the Virginians who would be paying the tolls or who could be getting less benefit for their tax dollars.

COMMENTARY

BY BARBARA COMSTOCK
STATE DEL. (R-34)

This week we will finalize the budget in the General Assembly. Due to the weak economy, the projected state revenue for the next two years is about \$77 billion instead of the \$81 billion previously projected. The challenge for this session was to bridge that \$4 billion gap. Given this challenge, Northern Virginia and the 34th District did much better under the current House budget than the budget that outgoing Gov. Kaine (D) had proposed.

Gov. McDonnell (R) recently outlined some guiding principles in our budget this year: "First, new tools for job creation and economic development to foster future growth. Second, no job-killing tax increases. Third, generating a balanced budget on time that preserves our Triple-A bond rating and attractiveness to new private investment. Finally, protecting public safety and focusing reductions on those areas that had not



lican House of Delegates and the Democratic Senate both rejected tax increases, preserved car tax relief, included funding for job creation, reversed the freeze on the education funding formula that harmed Fairfax County schools (and could have cost us \$60m in school funds), and focused spending reductions in areas not cut significantly before.

We will avoid the crushing 17 percent statewide income tax hike proposed by Gov. Kaine in his outgoing budget proposal. This would have been the largest tax increase in the Commonwealth's history. The House voted 97-0 to reject this tax increase. Instead, the House of Delegates focused on job creation (with \$50 million

in targeted jobs creating efforts) and funding core services, includ-

ing a 15.4 percent increase for Fairfax County schools over the Kaine proposed budget for a total of approximately \$500 million to our schools. Fairfax County also will be able to reduce expenditures made in contributions to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS), which frees up an additional \$66 million in funding for local schools.

To reduce the effects on public education of scarce tax dollars, the House budget also gives local school divisions significantly greater flexibility in allocating the funds provided to them by the state. Under the House plan, portions of direct state aid will be distributed as a block grant and state mandates relaxed, easing the restrictions inherent in the existing Standards of Quality (SOQ). Recognizing that responding to challenging economic times is not aided by a "one-size-fits-all" approach, the House gives local schools the ability to make the most of available funds, allowing them to de-

termine where best to dedicate available resources.

We also were able to reject Gov. Kaine's recommended freezes to the home and community-based waivers; so now more people will be able to choose to stay in their own home instead of institutions. And we were able to add 178 new Medicaid Waiver slots for the most vulnerable citizens among us.

Another positive item in the House budget is that it allows for the issuance of more than \$400 million in transportation infrastructure bonds. The sale of the new bonds will be within the state's conservative debt limits and the new bonds are expected to be issued later in 2010. The resulting funds will likely be used to secure federal matching money to pay for new roads, overpasses, and mass transit projects in Northern Virginia and other parts of the state.

Our state government is experiencing the most serious and sustained revenue reductions in gen-

SEE COMSTOCK, PAGE 13

THE CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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Great Falls

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

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OPINION

Yellow Ribbons Street

BY DEVON MALONEY

After the massive snow storms in February, the Fraley family could be found with several other families shoveling themselves out of their homes. Following the recent deployment of their father, David Fraley, the family has been getting support from other families in their neighborhood.

The Fraleys' Vienna street is now lined with yellow "Support the Troops" ribbons on trees, mailboxes and basketball hoops. Organized by a group of neighborhood women the night before David Fraley's deployment, they arranged for him to see the ribbons as his family drove him to the airport on Jan. 20.

David Fraley will be gone for a yearlong tour in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait. "We get to see him in his two week leave time this summer," said Alexandra Fraley, David's daughter and a Langley High School freshman. "He is given one two-week vacation time. In August, we're going to spend it with him in Europe. We're going to try to visit a lot of the countries out there."

Alex also has a younger brother and sister, David and Jacqueline, who are both at Colvin Run Elementary School. While the possibility of deployment for their dad was still being verified, Alex and her parents told her younger siblings when they received formal notice. "I personally think that my brother and sister are living in the moment almost as if that they haven't actually realized it yet." Once they were told, "they acted as if it wasn't going to happen," Alex said.

A little after David (their dad) took off, Alex said: "At the moment, we are just in shock almost, but we are coping. We are trying to keep up with all of the things we did before [my dad] left: sports, schoolwork ... everything."

Devon Maloney is a 14-year-old Vienna ninth grader at Marshall High School. She has lived and traveled all over the world.



Davon
Maloney

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Choose How You Celebrate on St. Patrick's Day!

Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Irish Breakfast Buffet in The Pub
7:30am-10:30am
Featuring Celtic harpist Sharon Knowles
\$19.95 per person Reservations Required
First pints will be poured at 7:30am

The Snuggery's Irish Concerts
includes lunch or dinner, reservations required
Featuring Pennywhistle (Barry, Don & Leonard Nelson) straight from County Donegal, Ireland
Lunch 12:00-2:00pm: \$35 pp & 2:30-4:30pm: \$35 pp
Dinner 5:00-7:00pm: \$40 pp & 7:30-9:30pm: \$50 pp
For Reservations, Call 703-759-3309

St. Patrick's Day Pub Bash
Opens at 11:00 am
Traditional Irish beers at all 3 bars
Live entertainment all day in the pub featuring Ted Garber (1:00pm until Last Call)
NO ONE UNDER 21 ADMITTED...NO EXCEPTIONS!
\$10 Cover Charge includes an official 2010 button
1st come, 1st served Limited seating
We accept MC, Visa, Discover, Amex and
Old Brogue Gift Cards. No cash or personal checks.
Smoking will be permitted in The Pub only.
Come and Enjoy!
We encourage you to have a designated driver. If you need a taxi or a ride home, please ask a manager for assistance.

More information on OLDBROGUE.COM
We are located at 760 Walker Road, Great Falls, Va
in the Great Falls Village Centre
"Celebrating our 29th year"

Storybook Festival

**Saturday, March 13
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

\$5 per person; free for children age 2 years old and younger

For ages 3-8. Come enjoy entertainment by special guest **Barry Louis Polisar**, stories, craft projects, books, and book-related materials, refreshments and more! Children can meet some of their favorite storybook characters in person.


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



PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Hearing on the McLean Community Center's FY 2012 Programs
Wednesday, March 24, at 7:30 p.m.

The Governing Board of the McLean Community Center is seeking input from residents of Dranesville Small District One at its Public Hearing on Programs for FY 2012, which runs July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012.

The Board is interested in hearing residents' ideas for classes, community events, theatre programs, exhibits, tours and youth and teen activities.

If you would like to speak at the hearing, call the Center to have your name placed on the speakers' list. You also may submit comments in writing to: mail@mcleancenter.org.


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

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/MARCH 11

The Battle of the White House in 1814. 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Historical Society, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Historian and archaeologist Patrick L. O'Neill will speak on the Battle of the White House after the burning of Washington in 1814. Free, no reservations required. 703-442-9370 or schulm@erols.com.

Storyteller Jim Weiss. 7 p.m. at the Gesher Jewish Day School, 4800 Mattie Moore Court, Fairfax. Bring used books to donate at the event and receive a coupon for a free book at the Gesher Used Book sale. gesherjimweissevent@gmail.com.

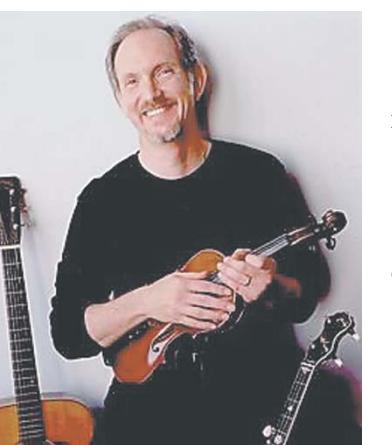
Stage Door Canteen with the Wayne Tymanick Group. 3-5 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. 703-790-0123, TTY 711.

Artist's Reception. 7-9 p.m. at Habatat Galleries, 8020 Towers Crescent Drive, Tysons Corner. Local artists Jennifer Lo and Craig Schaffer. www.habatatgalleries.com.

Jarrod Gorbel and Val Emmich. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Anat Cohen Quartet. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Clarinetwerk and jazz. \$24. 703-938-2404 or wolftrap.org.

Bruce Molsky will perform American traditional and Celtic fiddle, guitar, banjo and vocals on Sunday, March 14, at 4, 6 and 8 p.m. at The Old Brogue Irish Pub.



Bruce Molsky will perform American traditional and Celtic fiddle, guitar, banjo and vocals on Sunday, March 14, at 4, 6 and 8 p.m. at The Old Brogue Irish Pub.

FRIDAY/MARCH 12

The Big Cheese. 7 p.m. at Bangkok Blues, 926 W. Broad St., Falls Church. A local family band consisting of Rice, his daughter Lea Mae Rice and Jim Atherton, performing new originals, cool covers, and tunes from their 2009 album Rumble in the Dairy Aisle: It's All Gouda. \$7. 703-945-2468 or www.TheBigCheeseMusic.com.

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

Wisconsin Lutheran College Choir and Chamber. 8 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 7426 Idylwood

Road, Falls Church. A diverse, mostly a cappella program of sacred and secular choral works in original languages. Free and open to the public. 703-534-1719.

Holes. 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. More than 15 elementary, middle and high school students in a play based on the Newberry award-winning book by author Louis Sachar. 703-573-SEAT.

Claude Moore Colonial Farm Winter Book Sale. 5-8 p.m. at the Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Most books \$1 to \$2, standard paperbacks five for \$1. Free admission. Proceeds benefit the museum's educational programs. www.1771.org.

Casting Call for Local Film: "For the Glory." At the King's Chapel, 12925 Braddock Road, Clifton. Contact forthe glory@1voicefilms.com, e-mail replies will assign audition time slots.

Tyrene Wells, Tony Lucca and Roy Jay. 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15-\$22. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Greg Brown with Jason Wilber. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Contemporary guitar-heavy folk music. \$30. 703-938-2404 or wolftrap.org.

How Will the National Debt Affect Your Future? 11 a.m. at Vinson Hall Retirement Community, 6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. A free educational seminar examining the long and short term consequences of the financial crisis and government stimulus programs. Reserve at 301-937-1242.

Lopez Studios, Inc. Showcase Cabaret 2010. 1:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Girlyman. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$18. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Second City 50th Anniversary Tour. 7:30 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Improvisational comedy. \$22. 703-938-2404 or wolftrap.org.

Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society. 2:30 p.m. at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St., Falls Church. Slide program with question and answer session.

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

Naomi Project Volunteer Training Session. 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at Falls Church Presbyterian Church, 225 E. Broad St., Falls Church. The Naomi Project needs mentors for high risk pregnant women and new mothers. The project's mission is to promote healthy pregnancies, babies, and mothers. \$20 registration fee for a background check, study materials, and lunch. 703-860-2633 or www.naomiproject.org.

Claude Moore Colonial Farm Winter Book Sale. 5-8 p.m. at the Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Most books \$1 to \$2, standard paperbacks five for \$1. Free admission. www.oldrogue.com.

Three Hurdles to Federal Government Jobs. 11 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Navigating the USA Jobs Web site and more. Adults. 703-757-2622.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. With Alok Goldstein, piano, and Avner Dorman, composer. 7 p.m. pre-concert lecture free to ticketed patrons. The Symphony requests concertgoers bring canned foods to the concert, to be donated to Food for Others. \$25-\$55. Tickets available at 1-888-945-2468 or Tickets.com.

Enjoy The Night Sky Festival. 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Guided stargazing in the night sky over the Potomac River. Look through a telescope and listen to ancient stories about the constellations while sitting around the campfire, activities and games. Badge requirements for the Brownie Try-It Space explorer and Junior Girl Scout Sky Sky Search can be completed. \$5 per person. Reservations required at 703-759-9018.

Legal Aspects of Separation and Divorce. 10 a.m. at McLean Gov't Center, 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean. With singer/songwriter Barry Louis Polisar. The festival is to promote young children's interest in reading. \$5, age 2 and under free.

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Hamlet. 3:30 p.m. at the Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. \$10, Fairfax County students free. After-show Open Mic Session from 5-6 p.m. www.travelingplayers.org.

An Evening with Red Molly. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Celebrate the Ancient Persian New Year. 6-9 p.m. at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Learn about 3,000 years old traditions and enjoy a free Persian concert directed by Dr. Majd. Contact: sounia@chainlink.com.

Travel and Adventure Film: Inside Iran Today. 7:30 p.m. at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St., Falls Church. Slide program with question and answer session, \$10, \$8 district

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

FRIDAY/MARCH 19

Dear Sara Jane. 7:30 p.m. At The Soundry, 316 Dominion Road, Vienna. www.soundry.net
Steve Forbert. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.
The Chuck Shaffer Picture Show, Earth Note Syndicate, Dreaming of Eden and Those Passing By. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

SATURDAY/MARCH 20

McLean Orchestra Concert: A Season for All. 8 p.m. at Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Vivaldi: Flute Concerto, RV 438 in G Major with Emma Resmini; and Vivaldi, The Four Seasons with Regino Madrid. 703-893-8646 or www.mclean-orchestra.org.

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

Japanese Taiko Drum Ensemble Tao: The Martial Art of Drumming. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. \$22-\$44. Youth through grade 12 half price when accompanied by an adult. Tickets available at 888-945-2468 or visit cfa.gmu.edu.

Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association. At Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Beginners Two Step beginning at 7:30 p.m. open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. Members \$10, non-members \$12.



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OPINION

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FROM PAGE 8

erations. States such as Maryland, New York, Michigan and many others, which have continued to raise taxes in a recession, have found themselves in far worse situations with higher unemployment rates, more cutbacks for schools and fewer prospects for job creation.

Our budget was designed to reverse the downward spiral that our economy is in. When you look at the projected tax increases and burdens coming from Washington, we wanted to do everything we could in the Virginia budget to restore and expand prosperity, not punish it. Unlike Washington where they can print money and spend with abandon, we are obligated to live within our means and prioritize spending. And unlike those in Washington, we have been able to come together and focus on the number one priority of jobs and economic growth while meeting our obligations on core government services. Many challenges remain in these tough economic times, but we came together to start the turnaround.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No Need for New Taxes

To the Editor:

This is in response to the second letter from Kathleen Murphy proposing to tax Great Falls families to create a fund for use in meeting her stated goals for the community ["Helping Create A 'Sense of Place,'" Great Falls Connection, March 3-9, 2010]. My earlier letter in opposition to this idea refuted the rationale advanced in the first letter; the current letter includes more verbiage but is no more convincing.

Now she wants to use the Special Tax District to create a Community Center for Great Falls. However, because of the efforts of the past community leaders over many years, we already have three community center facilities. We have the Old School House and the Great Falls Grange, both of which were preserved and are available for use by community organizations, and the large meeting room in the Great Falls Library, which is excellent and in frequent use by the community organizations. These facilities just need to continue to be put to beneficial uses, in cooperation with the County.

The current letter also laments that Great Falls must deal with many different organizations to achieve its goals, and states as an example a so-called "new" situation of having to contend with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) over its proposal for two turn lanes from Route 7 onto Georgetown Pike. The Great Falls Citizen's Association has been that its executive board members have been selected from all parts of the community and can enlist those with expertise to focus on emerging issues. We need to also continue to enlist the political and administrative support from the Dranesville supervisor and the entire Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Foust has demonstrated his effectiveness at helping Great Falls achieve its goals. Special taxes provide no substitute for tapping the expertise of the many talented people in Great Falls.

The community has had many successful examples in the transportation area, which include working with our state delegation to create the law under which Georgetown Pike was the first highway designated in Virginia as a Scenic and Historic Byway; making the compelling case to VDOT which resulted in maintaining Old Dominion Drive at two lanes rather than increasing to four, when the Old Dominion Drive bridge over Difficult Run was replaced; working with the County and VDOT to provide turning lanes on Georgetown Pike at Old Dominion, Walker Road and Seneca Road, and correcting the dangerous intersections at Springvale and Utterback Store Road with Georgetown Pike, sav-

ing the large oak trees near the intersection of Walker Road with Georgetown Pike, and addition of four traffic lights at Old Dominion Drive, River Bend Road, Walker Road and Seneca Road. None of these efforts required lawsuits, although this cannot be ruled out. One of the strengths of the Great Falls Citizen's Association has been that its executive board members have been selected from all parts of the community and can enlist those with expertise to focus on emerging issues. We need to also continue to enlist the political and administrative support from the Dranesville supervisor and the entire Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Foust has demonstrated his effectiveness at helping Great Falls achieve its goals. Special taxes provide no substitute for tapping the expertise of the many talented people in Great Falls.

It therefore makes no sense to initiate a campaign to create a Special Tax District, since this will become a very controversial and divisive issue for Great Falls, and tend to inflame the community, with little benefit toward legitimate Great Falls goals.

Glen Sjoblom
Great Falls

FAITH NOTES

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

The Anglican District of Virginia's 'Anglican Insights' speaker series will explore the topic of Anglicanism. Anglican Church in North America Archbishop Robert Duncan will kick off the first event at 9 a.m. on March 13 at The Falls Church, 115 East Fairfax St., Falls Church, with Morning Prayer, followed by Archbishop Duncan's address and a time for the audience to ask him questions. Free and open to the public. [www.AnglicanDistrictofVirginia.org](http://AnglicanDistrictofVirginia.org).

Epiphany United Methodist Preschool, 1014 Country Club Dr., NE in Vienna, is now enrolling 3 and 4-year-old students for the 2010/2011 school year. For more information or to schedule a tour call 703-938-2391 or email to epiphanypreschool@vacoymail.com

Visit the school's website at www.epiphanypreschool.com

Korean United Methodist Church in McLean, Lewinsville Road at Swings Mill Road, is performing the drama "I am Judas Iscariot," with 70 chorus members and 25 orchestra members on April 2 at 8 p.m. The church is inviting the public to attend the performance; the dialog will be shown on screen in English. Music includes Highlight of Mozart Requiem (4 selection) and Dubois "Last 7 words at Cross" (3 selection).

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First Baptist Church ... 703-938-8325

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

Vienna Baptist Church ... 703-281-4400

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

Buddhist

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center ... 202-331-2122
Church of the Brethren

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

Catholic

Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877

Our Lady of Good Counsel ... 703-938-6728

St. Athanasius Catholic Church

703-759-4555
St. Mark's Catholic Church ... 703-281-9100

Charismatic

Christian Assembly ... 703-698-9777

Church of Christ

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

Disciples of Christ

Antioch Christian Church ... 703-938-6753

Episcopal

Church of the Holy Comforter ... 703-759-6521

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

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

Jehovah's Witness

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

Lutheran

Emmanuel Lutheran Church ... 703-938-2119

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

Methodist

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

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

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

Epiphany United Methodist ... 703-938-3494

Great Falls United Methodist ... 703-759-3705

Oakton United Methodist ... 703-938-1233

Vale United Methodist ... 703-620-2594

Smith Chapel United Methodist ... 571-434-9680

Wesley United Methodist ... 703-938-8700

Non-Denominational

Christian Assembly Church ... 703-698-9777

Presbyterian

Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church ... 703-560-6336

Korean Central Presbyterian ... 703-698-5577

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Traveling Players Presents Hamlet at the Old Firehouse Teen Center

Shakespeare's masterpiece of family, conscience and revenge is brought to life by a cast of 14 talented teen actors in the Traveling Players Ensemble's performance of "Hamlet" on Sunday, March 14, at 3:30 p.m. Old Firehouse Teen Center in McLean. After the performance, the audience is invited to join the actors and audience for the first-ever Traveling Players Open Mic, featuring songs, poetry, monologues and more. Performers ages 11-17 are welcome to participate with their own three-minute act. The open mic will run from 5-6 p.m.

Admission to the event is \$10. Teachers and students at Fairfax County public schools get in free with a valid I.D.

The showcase features the talents of students from throughout the Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C. area: Christopher Baughman (Great Falls), Katherine Baughman (Great Falls), Robert Boyd III (Alexandria), Maggie Bussard (McLean), Masha Edmondson (Washington, D.C.), Kira Feldmesser (Oakton), Caitlin Myers (Bethesda, Md.), Gwendolyn O'Brien (Oakton), Jeremy Pryzby (Reston), Ellie Robb (Washington, D.C.), Jeffrey Robb (Washington, D.C.), Camille Speer



PHOTO BY EMILY RIEHL-BEDFORD

Jeffrey Robb and Christopher Baughman in Traveling Players' 'Hamlet.'

(Great Falls), Kai Tshikosi (Rockville, Md.) and Megan Van Horn (Vienna).

Registration is now open for TPE's 2010 Spring Classes, including "The Play's the Thing" (grades 5-8) and "Improvisation in Performance" (grades 9-12). The classes begin on March 20. TPE offers need-based scholarships for all its educational programs.

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

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

Langley High School and Saxon Stage (Phyllis Jaffe, Theatre Arts Chair) presents "Deadwood Dick or The Game of Gold," on March 18, 19 and 20, at 7:30 p.m., in the Langley High School Auditorium. The play by Tom Taggart is based on the dime novels of Edward L. Wheeler, and features a Robin Hood of the West, Deadwood Dick. Taggart has fashioned a blood and thunder melodrama with long lost daughters, stolen gold mines, kidnapped heroines and hairbreadth escapes abound. Add to that the saloon girls, cowhands and other outlaws.

The following Great Falls residents have been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Virginia Tech at Blacksburg: **Rebeka L. Badila, Charles J. Baker, Kevin J. Barbera, Brian T. Benjamin, Julia A. Benjamin, Holly H. Berkley, William M. Buenzle, Brett J. Burnette, Michael P. Bylund, Nicholas M. Cafferky, Emily J. Canis, Paul B. Caron, Victoria R. Cheshire, Arjun H. Chopra, Elizabeth A. Davis, Kenley A. Eaglestone and Farrah M. Goal.**

The following Great Falls residents have been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Virginia Tech at Blacksburg: **Lily E. Goodson, Stephanie A. Hintz, Johanna L. Hsu, Emily Y. Khan, Kohl K. Kianpour, Erik J. Kiffe, Skye W. Lu, Thomas C. Montague, Matthew S. Ning, Caitlin E. Perna, Michael V. Rapp, Mitchell K. Ruloff, Lawrence K. Satterfield, Walter S. Scheib, Raumi N. Sidki, Tara Talaie and Andrew W. Watson.**

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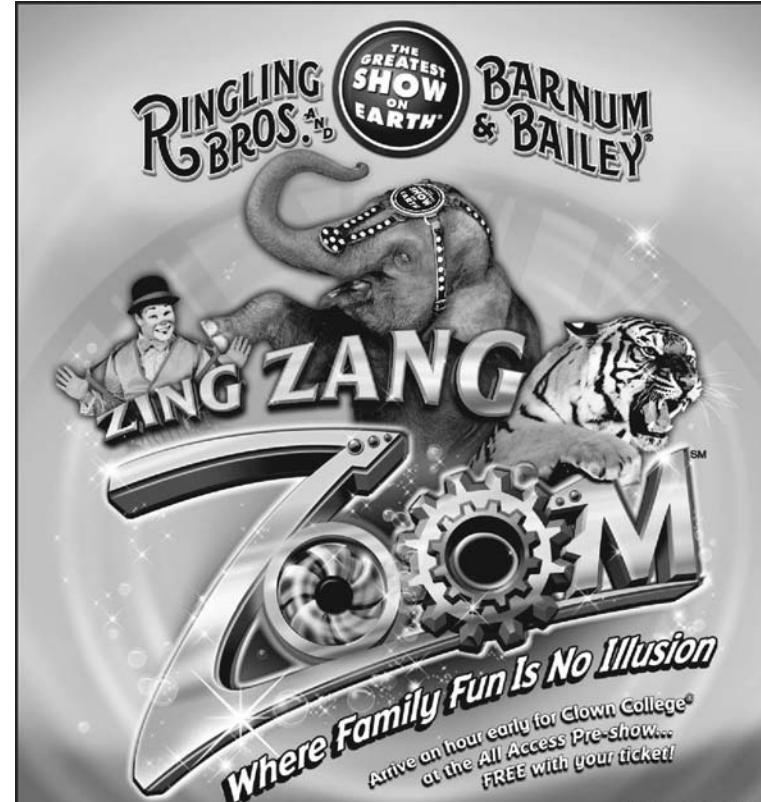
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NEWS

In front of The Green House in McLean, are, from left, Mark Turner, builder; Vicky Sabo; Liv Violette, filmmaker; and Philippe Cousteau. The film, 'The Green House: Design It. Build It. Live It' will be shown on March 17 at E Street Cinema as part of the Environmental Film Festival.

PHOTO BY JASON SCADRON/COLLAGE PRODUCTIONS



'Green House' Featured at Film Festival

The designing, building and furnishing of a carbon neutral house in McLean is documented in the film "The Green House: Design It. Build It. Live It," which will have its world premiere on March 17 at E Street Cinema as part of the Environmental Film Festival in Washington, D.C. The entire festival schedule is at www.dcenvironmentalfilmfest.org.

Chronicling the building of this carbon-neutral house, which became the first green show house in the Washington, D.C. area, the film captures the process from

start to finish, from the groundbreaking to the furnished show home decorated by eco-conscious designers. Audiences are placed in the middle of the action and behind the scenes, receiving first-hand knowledge of the engineering and technology that drives the house and the principles and methods of designing eco-friendly spaces. Environmentalist Philippe Cousteau consulted with the building team on the impact their decisions have on the planet.

Filmmakers, Jason Scadron, president of the Fairfax-based Collage Productions, and Liv Violette, president and CEO of The McLean PR Group, will be available for discussion following the screening along with the house's builder, Mark Turner and designers Barry Dixon and Ernesto Santalla, all of whom are featured in the film.

Tickets to the screening are \$10 and are available beginning March 8., at the E Street Cinema, 555 11th St., N.W.

Award-Winning Guest Comes to Storybook Festival

Award-winning children's author and singer-songwriter Barry Louis Polisar will be the special guest at the McLean Community Center's (MCC) Storybook Festival on Saturday, March 13. Sponsored by MCC and Washington Family Magazine, the event will be 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Center. Tickets are \$5 per person; children 2 and younger will be admitted free of charge. The center is located at 1234 Ingleside Ave.

Designed for 3- to 8-year-old children, the festival promotes young children's interest in reading. Other activities include roaming storybook characters and book-related arts and crafts projects. Light refreshments



Barry Louis Polisar will perform at McLean Community Center's Storybook Festival on Saturday, March 13.

will be served.

For more information on the McLean Storybook Festival, call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit: www.mcleancenter.org.

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SPORTS

Langley Boys' Outstanding Season Ends at State Playoffs

Saxons' basketball squad won another district crown and reached region finals this winter.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Two losses to close the season will do little to dampen what has been a remarkable winter campaign for the Langley High boys' basketball team. The Saxons saw their season officially draw to a close Saturday afternoon, May 6, when they fell to Roanoke's Patrick Henry, 58-36, in a Virginia State AAA quarterfinals round playoff contest played at the Salem Civic Center.

Langley, which went 22-5 this season, had a remarkable postseason in which it captured its third straight Liberty District tournament title before winning three games in a row at the Northern Region playoffs to reach the finals. There, in a game played on March 1 at Robinson Secondary School, the Saxons lost to Chantilly, 50-43, in the championship game.

Both Langley and Chantilly advanced to states. The Chargers won their state quarterfinals game against Gar-Field last Saturday night at Robinson to advance to Wednesday's state semifinals in Richmond. Meanwhile, the Saxons, in their quarterfinals affair, could not slow down a Patrick Henry team that had captured the Northwest Region title. Making its second state playoff appearance in three years, Langley was held scoreless in the first quarter and trailed 14-0 going into the second quarter. The Saxons played better the rest of the way but could never make it close. They trailed 26-13 at halftime and 34-21 after three quarters before the Patriots outscored them by nine points in the final quarter.

"They're very good and very athletic," said Langley coach Travis Hess, of Patrick Henry. "They shoot the ball tremendously well from the perimeter and are great in transition."

Hess said his team did a good job defensively in containing the Patriots' outside shooting. For the game, the Patriots converted just a pair of long range three-pointers. But the Saxons had no answer in stopping Patrick Henry's ability to run the floor.

"Their transition game was very good and they were very good defensively," said Hess.

Falling into a 14-0 first quarter hole made the entire game an uphill climb for Langley.

"I think our kids came out a little tense



Langley's Austin Kriz, going up with the ball, led the Saxons to the state AAA playoffs this season.

and apprehensive," said Hess. "[Patrick Henry] had all the confidence in the world."

Langley played a zone defense most of the night. But when the Saxons needed a big comeback in the final quarter to keep alive any hopes of winning, they switched to a man defense.

"We needed to speed [the tempo] up to get turnovers and possessions," said Hess.

But Patrick Henry excels in that style of play and went on to the win.

Langley received a strong game from senior forward Joey Kiffe, a team tri-captain who finished with team-high 10 points.

"He played physical and rebounded for us and got some points inside," said Hess, of the 6-foot-4 inch Kiffe.

Langley's other top scorers against Patrick Henry were senior point guard Colin Jones (nine points) and junior guard David Adams (eight).

Langley sophomore point guard Austin Vasiliadis (five points) played a good floor game and did a good job handling Patrick Henry's intense defensive pressure.

The Patriots did a good job slowing down Langley senior center Austin Kriz (two points), the Saxons' top scorer on the season who had played outstanding throughout the postseason.

"They double teamed him and were so

quick," said Hess, of what Kriz faced throughout the game.

THE SEASON will go down as one of the best in Langley boys' basketball history. It marked the second time in the program's history in which the Saxons qualified for the state tournament. No other team in the history of the Liberty District has ever won three district tournament championships in a row.

"Making the state playoffs is a great accomplishment," said Hess. "We're proud of everything we've accomplished. We lost to a great [Chantilly] team in the region cham-

pionship. 22-5 is a great season and nothing to be ashamed about."

"Our team played all year unselfishly," said the coach. "Everyone accepted their roles so well in games and in practices."

A guard-oriented team in recent seasons, the Saxons changed their style this season and had the mindset of working the ball inside to star center Kriz, who earned First Team All-District honors along with teammate Jones. Kiffe earned Second Team honors and Vasiliadis made Honorable Mention.

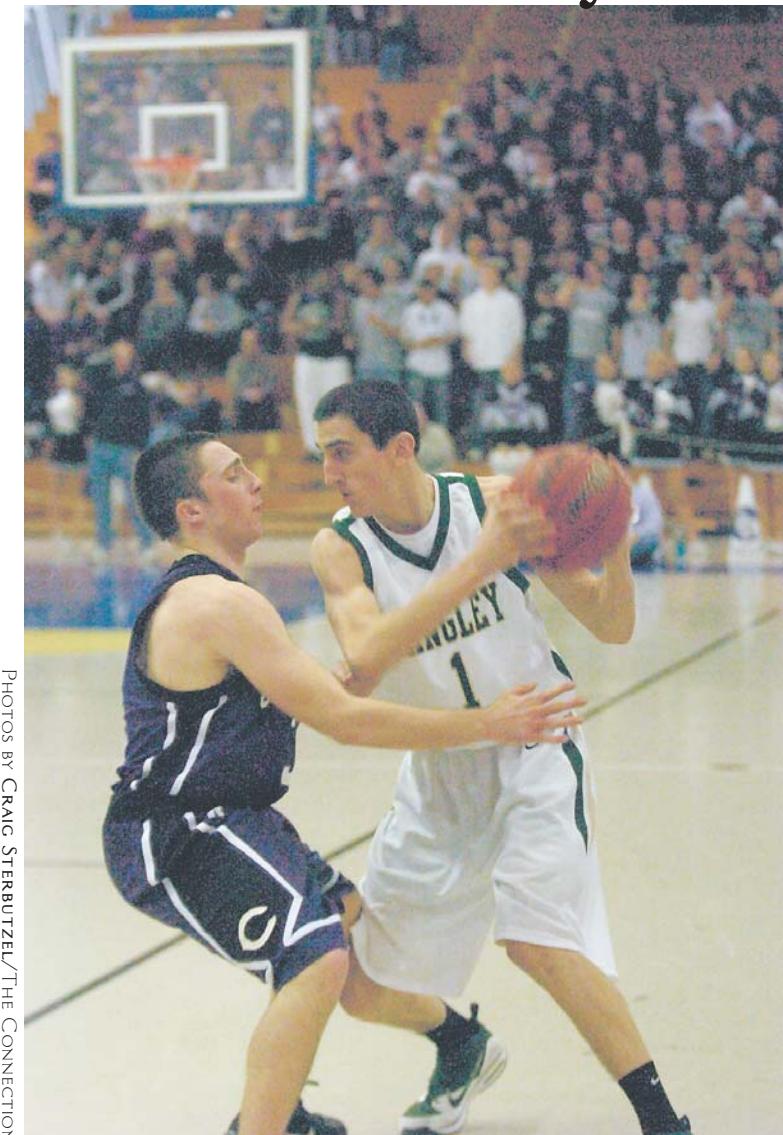
"We worked to really pound the ball inside and our players really embraced that philosophy," said Hess.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The Langley High ice hockey club finished its regular season with an 8-1-1 record following an impressive 10-0 Senior Night win over Loudoun County High School on Feb. 12. With the victory, Langley clinched the Northern Virginia Scholastic Hockey League (VSHL) North Division Conference title. Langley has now won the division championship three out of the last four years. Langley celebrated the Senior Night win with big games from 12th graders Todd Hatfield (three goals), John Mensing (two goals), Will Derryberry (two goals), Jon-Marc Diner (two goals) and John Labelle (one goal). Freshman Evan Sterling also had a strong game and scored a hat trick. Junior goaltender Brendan Mullen was awarded

the 'hard hat' after the game by his teammates as the hardest working player of the game. He made numerous spectacular saves during the game to preserve the shutout.

The Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame announced that the 20th Annual Banquet will be held on Sunday, March 14, at the McLean Hilton Hotel, 7920 Jones Branch Drive in McLean. Festivities will begin with a social gathering at 2:30 p.m. and dinner at 4 p.m. The awards ceremony will immediately follow honoring local area youth and high school players, coaches, officials, and cheerleaders along with other guests and the new Hall of Fame inductees.



Colin Jones (1) scored nine points in Langley's state quarterfinals playoff loss to Patrick Henry on Saturday, March 6.

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P/T Executive Director

The Alliance for Housing Solutions, a non-profit organization that works to increase the supply of affordable housing in Arlington through research, public education and advocacy, seeks a part time (20 hours a week) executive director. For information about the position and the search, see www.allianceforhousingsolutions.org.

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Ashby Ponds, opened in October, 2008, as part of the Erickson Retirement Communities, and is a CCRC located in Ashburn, VA. Ashby Ponds has its own private duty home care agency to serve the residents of this new and beautiful retirement community. Residents enjoy home care without the challenges of travel, weather and safety concerns in a beautiful setting with physicians, social workers and other professionals on site. This is an excellent opportunity for the experienced home care professional to use their talent and skills to develop a home care agency in a unique environment while participating in the growth of our newest community.

Ashby Ponds is seeking a Home Support Clinical Manager to develop home care services and ensure that as our residents move in they can anticipate that these services will be readily available to them. The Clinical Manager will provide the clinical leadership, business development and administrative oversight, to meet the home care needs of our residents as our community grows and adds other health care services. The Clinical Manager must possess the caring and kindness that is fundamental to the Erickson Communities philosophy of retirement living. The ideal candidate will be solutions oriented with a commitment to the highest quality of care and customer service.

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ASHBY PONDS
by

Phase Two (Year Two, Diagnosis to Date)



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Now that year one is over, what next? Ergo, the problem. So much of year one (post diagnosis) is spent assimilating; facts, feelings, and figuring out all the new people, places and things that cancer and its treatment present. Eventually, for me, anyway, it all becomes routine, second nature, almost. The mental energy/capacity needed to coordinate, arrange and integrate all the cancer elements into your life has lessened as year one has come to an end. No longer am I stressing over where do I go, who do I see, how do I get there and when will I know, whatever; now it has simply become, what happens next?

However, it's that uncertainty concerning what does happen next which is likely responsible for the malaise, the ennui, the lack of drive that has characterized my attitude/behavior over the past month or two. Originally I thought my missing motivation was simply a natural reaction to the cable-computer disconnect I wrote about ("Not Able Without Cable," 1/20/2010) and experienced during the last two weeks of December. Now, I'm beginning to think that the neutral in which I'm stuck might be more symptomatic and probably characteristic of cancer patients who've been given 13-month to two-year life expectancies; at some point, reality has to take its toll. As I find myself saying recently (and regularly) in trying to explain my feelings, I can be naive or I can be in denial, but I don't think I can be both. I have a serious situation here and pretending/presuming that somehow it's not, is hardly a long-term solution.

But it has been a year-one solution. However, that year is up and so too is the effectiveness of that solution. So now, I have to come up with a year-two solution, a solution which has been difficult to find, and one whose non-existence is likely responsible for my less-than-chipper mood of late. Fortunately, this mood is not the result of any new pain or deficit that I'm experiencing. Generally speaking, my symptoms remain relatively manageable, all things considered, and have not changed appreciably. My problem is more mental than physical. I'm in the second year of a diagnosis whose original prognosis was that patients rarely, if ever, live beyond two years. As my Oncologist said, "There are no parades for lung cancer survivors;" (in fairness, it was in response to one of our questions). Nevertheless, am I supposed to ignore that medical (albeit statistical) fact and forget that I ever heard it just because I feel – and look – pretty good?

What really complicates finding a year-two solution is that much of what was new and difficult and emotionally overwhelming in year one for me, after becoming a cancer patient; (again, I feel I have to qualify since I can't speak for all or any other cancer patients) is not nearly so in year two. As a consequence, I now have "brain space" available, space that previously was filled with all sorts of cancer treatment/lifestyle stuff. It's not exactly gone but, it has found its own level, and in that leveling, has enabled my brain (subconsciously and consciously; heck, maybe even unconsciously) to wander the emotional landscape and begin to consider and assess the past, present and hopefully future of, Kenny-the-cancer patient/survivor. Considerations that were beyond its reach/grasp while dealing with all the cancer clutter of year one.

And it's wearing on me. I wouldn't say I'm worrying about dying it but it's getting increasingly more difficult to ignore certain facts/arrangements – medical, financial, insurance, funeral etc. – that might need to be made, and better made in advance, presumably. If you think I need some help, you're probably right. At the least, I needed to write about it. It's a start, anyway. Thanks for reading.

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

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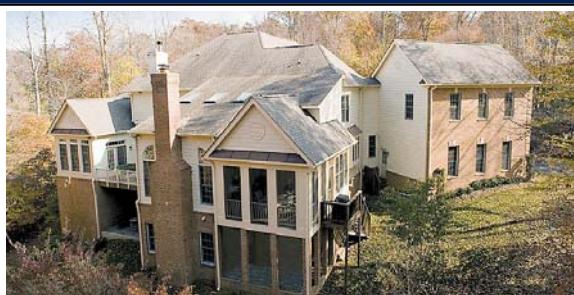
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