

McLean Citizens Talk Tysons Corner

SPORTS, PAGE 3

Mark Zetts, co-chairman of the McLean Citizens Association's Planning and Zoning Committee, presents an overview of the draft proposal for Tysons Corner redevelopment before a full house at the association's winter membership meeting.

McLean 'Green House' Featured at Film Festival

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**WEEK IN
MCLEAN**

**Fairfax Holds
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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

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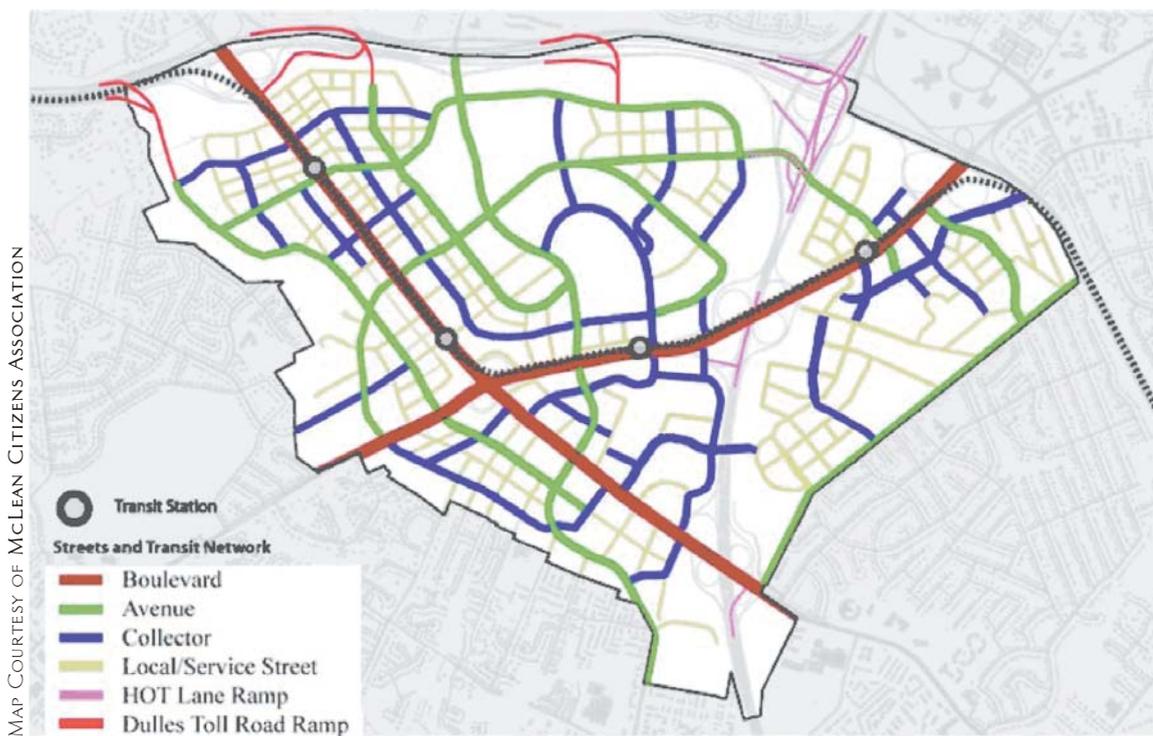


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MAP COURTESY OF MCLEAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Major road improvements, including an actual grid of streets, are planned to move traffic in the redeveloped Tysons Corner.

McLean Citizens Talk Tysons Corner

MCA makes redevelopment of commercial center into mini-city focus of winter meeting.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

Edwin Kuhn said he and his neighbors in the Evermay community were concerned with the additional traffic on Dolley Madison Boulevard that they expected to result from proposals to redevelop Tysons Corner. “We’re totally dependent on [Route] 123 to get anywhere,” he said at the McLean Citizens Association’s winter membership meeting, on Tuesday, March 2, where the topic of the night was planning for Tysons Corner. Kuhn said traffic on the road near his neighborhood had already increased by 30 percent in the last eight years, and three intersections along the route were predicted to have failing levels of service by 2030, according to county staff projections and recommendations for higher densities at Tysons Corner.

Traffic and transportation infrastructure have been the concerns most often brought up by neighbors of Tysons Corner as talks about its redevelopment with the advent of the Metro Silver Line have unfolded over the last several years. Congestion has already become a serious problem in and around the urban center.

Planning Commissioner Walter Alcorn (At-large) told Kuhn that he was also concerned about traffic impacts on surrounding communities, but Commissioner Jay Donahue (Dranesville) reminded the crowd that current county plans would allow Tysons Corner to add up to 65 percent more floor space than is there now, saying that planning it for higher densities around the coming Metro stations should help minimize the traffic resulting from increased development.



PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

Planning Commissioners Jay Donahue (Dranesville), left, and Walter Alcorn (At-large) field questions about the future of Tysons Corner at the McLean Citizens Association’s winter membership meeting.

Alcorn is the chairman of the Planning Commission’s Tysons Corner Committee, and Donahue represents the Dranesville District on the commission. The two were guest speakers at last week’s meeting, which more than 300 residents attended.

“This is a huge, huge topic,” said Mark Zetts, as he introduced the transportation planning portion of his presentation that night. Zetts is a co-chairman of the McLean Citizens Association’s (MCA) Planning and Zoning Committee, and he presented an overview of what is being proposed for Tysons Corner.

In order to accommodate increased density, Zetts said, many existing roads are to be widened and extended, a network of new roads are to be put in place, and new interchanges and collector/distributor lanes are to be added to the Dulles Toll Road, which will

SEE PUBLIC. PAGE 6



PHOTO BY KIM MORAN

Pictured from left are Science Olympiad medallists Katherine Carris, Ai Mochida, Jennifer Song, Jay Uitz and Andrew Visocan.

Churchill Road ES Students Win Science, Math Medals

Students in Churchill Road’s Science Olympiad Club, sponsored by fifth grade teacher Jennifer Ezzell, took part in the Regional Virginia Science Olympiad competition on Saturday, Feb. 27 at Fairfax High School. The two teams of CRS fifth and sixth graders competed against 18 other teams of from fifth through eighth grades. These teams were tasked with building machines, bridges and flying machines. The following students won medals:

- ❖ Jennifer Song and Katherine Carris, second place in Write It, Do It
- ❖ Ai Mochida and Katherine Carris: third place in Wright Stuff

❖ Andrew Visocan and Jay Uitz: fourth place in Junkyard Challenge

Also on Saturday, Feb. 27, eight CRS students took part in the Northern Virginia Regional MATHCOUNTS Competition at Woodson High School. The students competed against 45 other elementary and middle school teams. CRS teacher Willia Hennigan and alumnus Alex Kwon coached the team. Representing Churchill Road were: Andrew Ko, Ai Mochida, Tarun Kamath, Kevin Zhou, Joanna Gerr, David Gent, Junyoung Hwang Cramer, and Callan. Ko received two awards for being one of the top three sixth-grade mathletes.



PHOTO BY JANE HSU

Pictured from left, back row, Kevin Zhou, Tarun Kamath, David Gent, Callan Cramer and Junyoung Hwang; middle row, Joanna Gerr, Ai Mochia and Willia Hennigan; and, seated, Andrew Ko.

OPINION

No Way

Assembly should kill bill that would pave way to hand state tax revenues to private companies in public-private transportation projects.

While most states are working on ways to 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

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.

EDITORIAL

COMMENTARY

Finalizing the State Budget

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

received large cuts before."

As the House and Senate budgets are brought together this week to produce the final budget, we should be on target to meet these principles. The Republican 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, including 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 determine 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 generations. States such as Maryland, New York, Michigan and many others, which have continued to raise taxes in a recession, have found

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'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



JASON SCADRON/COLLAGES PRODUCTIONS

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.

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.



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Public Encouraged To 'Get Involved' in Tysons Planning

FROM PAGE 3

also need to be widened. Street-car circulator routes are also to run through the area, and interchanges on the coming high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes on the Beltway are already in the works.

ALL OF THESE ADDITIONS to the transportation grid will cost about \$2 billion, Zetts said. "But after all that money is spent, Tysons will be able to grow to 84 million square feet by 2030, and then guess what? That's it." At that point, he said, county officials expect the road grid to be completely saturated.

Currently, about 46 million square feet of development exists in Tysons Corner, and county staff has recommended about 116 million square feet by 2050. The Tysons Land Use Task Force, which spent years working up a detailed recommendation for redevelopment, recommended 175 million square feet by 2080, but Zetts said the county believed this level of development to be unrealistic.

To grow beyond what is projected for 2030 Zetts said, transit,

such as a bus rapid transit system and two additional Metro lines, would be needed, as well as an additional crossing over the Potomac River. "This is all way-out-in-the-future planning," he said.

Traffic demand management (TDM) programs, such as telecommuting policies, staggered work hours and fees for parking, would also be required of property owners.

An analysis of 19 intersections in surrounding areas found that at least 14 of them would require improvements to manage the additional traffic, at a total cost of about \$14 million, Zetts said. Three of them, though, would have failing levels of service even after improvements. Those are Route 123's intersections with Old Dominion Drive, Old Courthouse Road and Lawyers Road in McLean and Vienna.

The county has proposed that Tysons Corner will ultimately house up to 100,000 residents and 200,000 jobs on its 1,700 acres. Currently, about 112,600 jobs and only 18,500 residents are located there. The increase would neces-

sitate new fire stations, elementary schools, parks and other facilities. One topic of interest has been playing fields. Zetts said former county policy would have required 60 ball fields, while the task force suggested only one or two. The county's newly adopted urban park standards call for about 20 fields.

Development density is to be centered around the four planned Metro stations, and the county has recommended a floor-area ratio (FAR) of 4.75, meaning 4.75 square feet of floor space for each square foot of land, for properties within one-eighth of a mile of the stations, dropping to 2.75 within a quarter-mile and 2.0 at a half-mile. Alternately, the task force recommended higher densities, starting at 6.0. Even a FAR of 0.5 is fairly high by Northern Virginia standards, Zetts said.

And, he said, distances from Metro stations in the Tysons Corner project were being measured from station entrances, rather than platforms, as county policy dictates. The difference is about 130 linear feet. "It doesn't sound like a big deal, but it is," he said, not-

ing that about 1 million square feet of property would be eligible for higher densities as a result.

Additionally, density bonuses are recommended for meeting certain criteria, Zetts said. For example, a bonus of 20 percent higher density is being proposed for developers that include 20 percent affordable housing in their projects. "This is really a critical part of the plan," he said, noting that encouraging people who worked in Tysons Corner to live there was essential to reducing car trips.

Bonuses are also being proposed for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. "We don't want to see any bonuses given for green buildings because there's a market for green buildings," Zetts said, adding that "silver" certification may soon be required and was not difficult to achieve, with projects receiving points just by being near a Metro stop. Also, he said, "These standards are changing constantly." He said a tax break for green design would be preferable.

TYSONS CORNER would be up to 400 feet high. To give an idea of that height, Zetts said the Sheraton Hotel and the Tycon Tower, also known as the "shopping bag building" — both visible from the Fairfax County Government Center in the Fair Lakes area — are 210 feet tall.

"What we're really being asked to do is decide whether or not Tysons should become, in effect, a city," Alcorn said after the presentation.

Ted Alexander, chair of the MCA's Tysons Task Force Liaison Committee and the Greater Tysons Citizens Coalition, said phasing triggers would need to be put in place, allowing certain levels of density only when a certain amount of infrastructure was built or at least funded. "In the past, landowners have won a lot of these decisions in court," Alexander said, asking whether the Planning Commission thought such triggers could be made binding.

Alcorn said planners' two biggest challenges would be phasing

BUILDINGS IN THE NEW SEE HARD DECISIONS, PAGE 11

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McLean's 'Biggest Johnny Depp Fan'

McLean High School sophomore Lexie Shoaibi, 'McLean's biggest Johnny Depp fan,' attended last Thursday's midnight premiere of the movie 'Alice in Wonderland' at the Regal Ballston Commons 12 Theater in Arlington, the closest midnight opening to McLean since the movie did not open until the following day at Tysons Corner. She is pictured in full Mad Hatter regalia.



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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.



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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/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 Geshur 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 Geshur Used Book Sale. gesherjimweissevent@gmail.com.

Stage Door Canteen with the Wayne Tympanik 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.

Jarrold 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. Clarinet and jazz. \$24. 703-938-2404 or wolfrap.org.



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

FRIDAY/MARCH 12

The Big Cheese. 7 p.m. at Bangkok Blues, 926 W. Broad St., Falls Church. A local family band consisting of Larry 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. 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 paperback 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 Circle, Clifton. Contact fortheglorystory@1voicefilms.com, e-mail replies will assign audition time slots. www.fortheglorysthemovie.com.

Tyrone Wells, Tony Lucia 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 wolfrap.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 13

McLean Storybook Festival. 11 a.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. With singer/songwriter Barry Louis Polisar. The festival is to promote young children's interest in reading. \$5, age 2 and under free. 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.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. at George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4373 Mason Pond Drive, Fairfax. With Alon 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 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. \$45 nonmember, \$35 members. Register at www.thewomenscenter.org or 703-281-2657.

Holes. 3 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. Free admission. www.1771.org.

Stripping Gypsy: The Life of Gypsy Rose Lee. 2 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Author Nora Lee Frankel. Adults. 703-938-0405.

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 301-897-1242.

Lopez Studios, Inc. Showcase Cabaret 2010. 1:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. 703-255-1566 or www.jamminjava.com.

Girllyman. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. 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 wolfrap.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 14

Bruce Molsky. American traditional and Celtic fiddle, guitar, banjo and vocals. 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.

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WEEK IN MCLEAN

FROM PAGE 2

Foust to Conduct Town Hall Meetings on Budget

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) has scheduled town hall meetings in March to provide an opportunity for the public to learn about and discuss the proposed Fiscal Year 2011 Budget for Fairfax County. Budget staff will be present at all meetings to make a summary presentation of the budget and answer questions.

A meeting in Great Falls was already conducted on March 3 at the Great Falls Grange. The next session is on Thursday, March 11, at 7 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave. in McLean.

Public Hearings before the Board of Supervisors will be held in the Board Auditorium at the Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax VA 22035) on April 6, 7 and 8. The Board of Supervisors will adopt a final budget on April 27.

For further information on the FY 2011 Advertised Budget Plan, access the budget Web site at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget>. For more information on public meetings, contact Wes Callender in Supervisor Foust's Dranesville District office at 703-356-0551, TTY 711 or e-mail Dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Comstock

FROM PAGE 4

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.

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Churches- Catholic
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Cathedral of St. Thomas More...703-525-1300
Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek Catholic Church...703-734-9566
Our Lady of Lourdes...703-684-9261
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church...703-979-5580
St. Ann Catholic Church...703-528-6276
St. Charles Catholic Church...703-527-5500

Church of Christ
Arlington Church of Christ...703-528-0335

Church of God- Anderson, Indiana
Church of God...703-671-6726

Churches-Episcopal
St Andrew Episcopal Church...703-522-1600
St George Episcopal Church...703-525-8286
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Churches-Episcopal
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St Paul Episcopal Church...703-820-2625
St Peter's Episcopal Church...703-536-6606
St Thomas Episcopal Church...703-442-0330
Trinity Episcopal Church...703-920-7077

Churches Lutheran(ELCA)
Advent Lutheran Church...703-521-7010
Faith Lutheran Church...703-525-9283
German Lutheran Church...703-276-8952
Lutheran Church of The Redeemer
703-356-3346

Churches Lutheran
Resurrection Lutheran Church
703-532-5991

Churches Lutheran(Missouri, Synod)
Our Savior Lutheran Church...703-892-4846

Churches-Nazarene
Arlington First Church of the Nazarene...703-525-2516

Church-Brethren
Church of The Brethren...703-524-4100

Churches-Baptist
Arlington Baptist Church...703-979-7344
Cherrydale Baptist Church...703-525-8210
First Baptist of Ballston...703-525-7824
Mt. Zion Baptist Church...703-979-7411

Churches-Baptist-Free Will
Bloss Memorial Free Will Baptist Church...703-527-7040

Churches-Christian Science
McLean-First Church of Christ, Scientist...
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Churches-Presbyterian
Arlington Presbyterian Church...703-920-5660

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Clarendon Presbyterian Church
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Little Falls Presbyterian Church
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Trinity Presbyterian Church...703-536-5600
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Come join us March 21 at 6pm for an Easter concert by the Youth Choir of FBC Alexandria, followed by a church-wide fellowship.

To highlight your Faith Community call Karen at 703-917-6468

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to mclean@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@vtccc.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 20

Marshall High School Boosters Club Mulch Sale. At 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. To pre-order or for free home delivery, fill out the order form at www.gcmhsboosters.org, or stop by and purchase mulch at \$4.50 a bag. Contact Sandy MacDonnell at www.gcmhsboosters.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 21

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

Hard Decisions To Be Made

FROM PAGE 6

development and funding infrastructure improvements. He said phasing could be carried out as rezoning requests were heard, with developers getting only a fraction of their entitlements approved at a time as they met requirements for infrastructure. Or triggers could be put into the county's Comprehensive Plan. An example of this, he said, was plan language that allowed increased density only with the arrival of Metrorail. "And, honestly, nobody sued, so we don't know for sure," he said.

Donahue said it would be important to get phasing triggers into the Comprehensive Plan, so that they weren't implemented on a piecemeal basis as rezoning proposals came in.

Sally Horn, an MCA board member, asked whether the schools, parks and other facilities necessary to support the increased population would be located inside Tysons Corner and whether developers would be required to pay for the majority of those amenities. "I personally would hate to see Fairfax County taxpayers have to foot the bill for all these costs," she said.

"We realize Tysons has to provide a lot of things for itself," Donahue said, adding that he wanted most of the required facilities to be located within the Tysons Corner area.

Alcorn pointed out that landowners were already paying for a special tax to help fund the Metro line, as well as a new commercial-industrial tax, but he said, "I'm actually OK with having them pay more because they area going to benefit from it." However, he said he was not sure how much of the costs developers could be made to pay for.

Ronke Luke said she lived in a

condominium near one of the planned Metro stations, and her home lay in the path of one of the new roads being planned for the area. "Shall we get a letter one day saying, 'Oops, sorry?'" she asked.

Alcorn said the proposed street grid was only conceptual. "The exact location of streets would still need to be engineered," he said. He added that many of the new streets would not be built for another 20 years or more, so the fact that there might be buildings in their way now might not be of great concern.

Asked how the widening of the Dulles Toll Road might affect properties along the road, Zetts said the county had not yet decided how large an expansion might be necessary, but he said lanes would probably need to be added from the toll road's intersection with Route 7 past Hunter Mill Road. "They don't take your property. They just need a little piece of it," he said, showing a map on which a line cut through yards up and down the toll road. Wolf Trap Park was also likely to lose land to the toll road expansion, Zetts said. "The Department of the Interior is probably going to take a dim view of giving up property here."

Alcorn encouraged residents to get involved. "There are still some — I'd say probably the hardest decisions — to be made," he said, noting that densities, the transportation infrastructure and how plans would be implemented remained undecided.

At its March 11 and 17 meetings in the Fairfax County Government Center, he said, the Planning Commission's Tysons Committee would ask for public comment on the plan. The official public hearing, though, is scheduled for April 21, and the county's Board of Supervisors is to approve a plan for Tysons Corner sometime in May.

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SPORTS

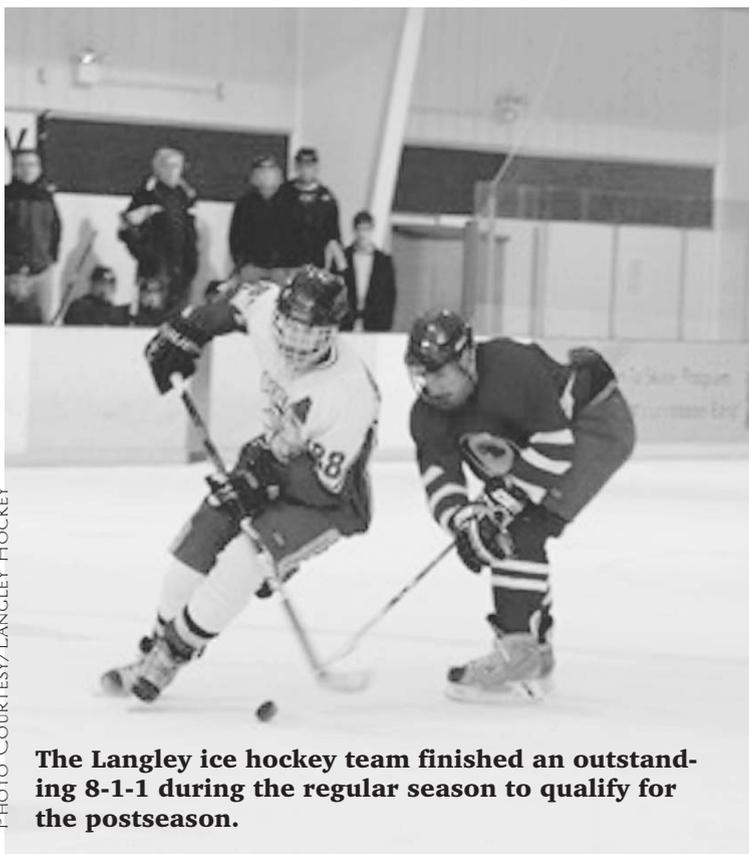


PHOTO COURTESY/LANGLEY HOCKEY

The Langley ice hockey team finished an outstanding 8-1-1 during the regular season to qualify for the postseason.

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.

The Fairfax County Football Hall of Fame recognizes and promotes the special efforts of individuals from the local youth and scholastic football programs. This recognition includes Inductees to the Hall of Fame that represent the rich history of the sport in the area as well as current football players, coaches, officials, cheerleaders, administrators, and other individuals exhibiting dedication to the sport from both the scholastic and youth club ranks.

Langley High graduate Morgan Danner, a sophomore member of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy, N.Y.) women's indoor track and field team, was named a Women's Track and Field Performer of the Week as a result of her strong showing at the Liberty League championships. At the postseason meet, Danner finished third or better in all four events she competed in. She won her second straight indoor pole vault title with a height of 3.05 meters and also claimed victory in the long jump with a distance of 5.22 meters. The McLean resident also finished third in the triple jump (10.22) and helped the 4x200 relay team to a second place finish. It was the second Field Performer of the Week honor for Danner, who was also recognized with the same award on Feb. 1.

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

Bennett Standiford of Great Falls is a starting defenseman on the Trinity College (Conn.) men's lacrosse team this spring. A senior defender and three-year letterman, Standiford was part of a 2008 Trinity team, under coach Jim Finlay, that advanced to the New England Small College Athletic Conference semifinals. In high school, Standiford was a Langley High lacrosse starter under coach Earl Brewer.

McLean Youth Soccer (MYS) Spring 2010 registration has begun on MYS' Web site at www.mcleansoccer.org. Returning players as well as new players are welcome to register. MYS offers various programs for children ages 4 through 18. MYS programs include recreation, travel, McLean Premier Soccer Travel, U5 for Pre-K players and TOP Soccer for children with special needs. The season will begin the week of April 5 and extend through mid-June. Be sure to register no later than Jan. 30 to take advantage of the early discounted registration fees. Contact the MYS Administrator at admin@mcleansoccer.org. For more information, call the MYS office at 703-506-8068.

The Madeira women's swim and dive team, coached

by Rod Montrie, competed at the Virginia State Independent Schools' Championships postseason event on Feb. 19-20 at the George Mason University Freedom Aquatic Center in Manassas. Madeira, which finished a strong 5-2 over the regular season, finished sixth overall at the state meet. Madeira athletes qualified for the finals in 11 of the 12 events. Four Madeira girls were named to the VSIS All-State team. Those girls were Maddie Alagia, Ann Griffin, Brittney Jansen and Christa Ann Saunders.

Following are Madeira results from the state meet: 200-yard medley relay team of Christa Ann Saunders, Ann Griffin, Brittney Jansen, Maddie Alagia (third place); Maddie Alagia (11th in 200-IM); Brittney Jansen (sixth in 50-free, fifth in 100-free); Christa Ann Saunders (third in 100-back, fifth in 100-fly); Tessa Newland (sixth in dive); Debbie

Druckerman (13th in dive); Grace Johnson (16th in 100-free); Maddie Alagia (third in 500-free); 200-free relay team of Ann Griffin, Grace Johnson, Rachel Tang, Megan Basel (12th place); Ann Griffin (13th in 100-breaststroke); 400-freestyle relay team of Brittney Jansen, Grace Johnson, Maddie Alagia, Christa Ann Saunders (sixth).

The Northern Virginia Nereids Synchronized Swimming Club will conduct its fifth annual Introductory Clinic on Saturday, March 20 at Audrey Moore Recreation Center in Annandale. Nereids coaches and athletes will introduce girls ages 7 to 15 to the graceful, powerful Olympic sport of synchronized swimming.

Receive a "synchro" noseclip and embroidered patch keepsake. For details, visit nvnsynchro.com or e-mail tell_me_more@nvnsynchro.com.



Spectacular Season Comes to an End

The Langley High boys' basketball team, shown here earlier this season following a victory over McLean in the annual Rotary Cup game, saw its spectacular winter campaign end Saturday night, March 6, in Salem with a loss to Patrick Henry of Roanoke in a quarterfinals round game of the Virginia State AAA playoffs. The Saxons were Liberty District champions for a third straight year and reached last week's Northern Region finals.

McLean Crew Hosts Annual Mulch Madness Sale

McLean Crew Club is selling the highest quality hardwood shredded mulch at competitive prices. Free delivery to your home Saturday and Sunday, March 20-21. McLean Crew Club has consistently won highest awards at both the state and national level. Two McLean alumni rowed for the 2008 Olympic Rowing Team.

McLean Crew Club receives no direct funding from Fairfax County Schools and relies solely on membership fees, donations, and sales. The annual Mulch Madness is McLean Crew Club's biggest fundraiser. Order your mulch at mcleancrew.org or contact PR Wheeler at 703-847-6979 or Carol Sanders at 703-847-9409.

EMPLOYMENT

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ZONE 6 AD DEADLINE:
TUESDAY 11 A.M.

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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NEWS

McLean Rotarians Pamela Danner, along with her husband David of the Tysons Corner Rotary Club, and Dr. Ali Al-Atar are Major Donors to the Rotary Foundation. Pictured here, from left, are Past District 7610 Governor Travis White, Pamela Danner, David Danner, Dr. Al-Atar and District 7610 Governor Horace McCormick.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOM MANGAN/ROTARY CLUB OF MCLEAN

McLean Rotary Recognizes Major Donors

For the third year in a row, the Rotary Club of McLean continued its leadership among Rotary clubs in the Northern Virginia region by recording the highest per capita giving to international humanitarian projects.

The McLean Rotary Club's three-year member per capita giving average was \$486.36 based on club members' financial support of The Rotary Foundation for the last three years. It was presented the inaugural Ylonen Cup, named after the late District 760 Governor Charles S. "Chuck" Ylonen, because of its members' support of the Annual Programs Fund of The Rotary Foundation.

The Foundation provides funding for initiatives sponsored by Rotary International, Rotary districts and clubs worldwide that assist underserved communities around the world, said Robert L. Hahne, the local club's Rotary Foundation chairman, at the Feb. 16 McLean Rotary Club meeting.

District 7610 Governor Horace McCormick and his wife, Carlota, along with District Governor-elect Ron Marion, Past District Governor Travis White and Assistant District Governor Tom O'Brien attended the McLean Rotary Club meeting to recognize the local club's achievement and several individuals.

The District 7610 leaders recognized McLean Rotarians Dr. Ali Al-Atar and Pamela Danner and her husband, David, a Tysons Corner Club member, as Major Donors. The Rotary Foundation recognizes couples or individuals as Major Donors when their lifetime contributions have surpassed \$10,000.

During the Feb. 16 meeting, McLean Rotarians Martha Child and Dale Lazar were honored as multiple Paul Harris Fellows (giving \$2,000), and Cherry Baumbusch was recognized as a Paul Harris Society member (giving \$1,000 annually).

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