

Pleasant Day at Pleasant Grove

NEWS, PAGE 3

The doors of historic Pleasant Grove Church, built by black and Native American residents in the late 19th century, were thrown open for the annual Pleasant Grove Day Fair on Saturday.

Tyson's Plan Nears Completion

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McLean Day 2010: Partying in The Park

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PHOTO BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION OPINION, PAGE 8 ♦ CALENDAR, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 14 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 17

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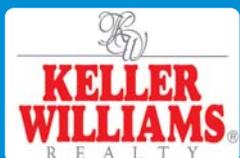
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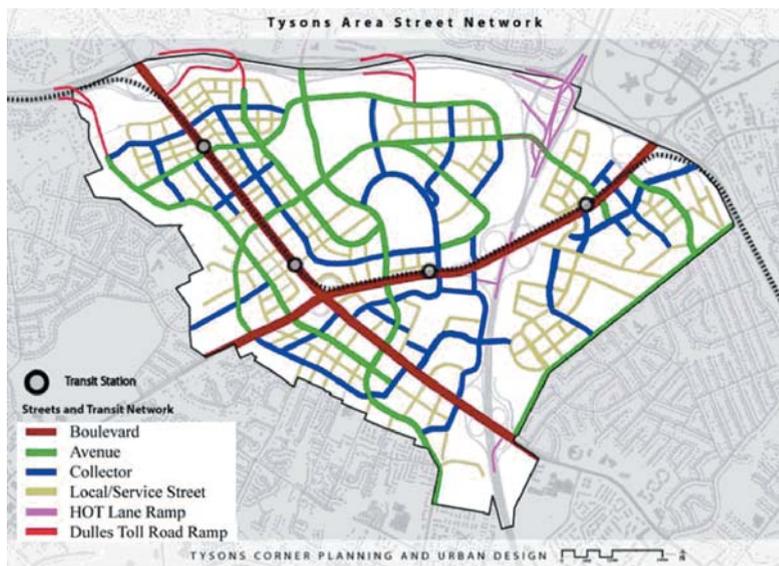
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A conceptual road grid for the redeveloped Tysons Corner has been laid out, but how to plan an official street map was one subject of last week's meeting of the Planning Commission's Tysons Corner Planning Committee. The commission is to make its final markup on the Tysons Corner plan at the end of the month.



MAP CONTRIBUTED

Tysons Plan Nears Completion

At second-to-last meeting, Tysons Committee talks roads, affordable housing, green building and funding.

BY MIKE DICICCO
THE CONNECTION

In the wake of repeated assertions from developers and landowners that the affordable housing requirements proposed for the redevelopment of Tysons Corner were too costly to meet, county staff presented some alternatives, one of which was borrowed from Arlington County. Rather than requiring that 20 percent of housing units constitute workforce or affordable housing — the minimum is 12 percent in the rest of the county — Matt Ladd of the Department of Planning and Zoning said the percentage could be based on the number of bedrooms in affordable units.

Ten affordable two-bedroom units would bring a developer as close to meeting the requirement as 20 one-bedroom units, although a mix of housing sizes would likely be required. Ladd said this would save developers money by allowing them to construct fewer kitchens and bathrooms. And, he added, "We think it provides incentive to build larger units and have more families in Tysons Corner."

Commissioner Rodney Lusk (Lee) said he would want to be certain that developers didn't end up cramming bedrooms into tiny units. "It's a good idea, though. I really, really like it," he said.

Ladd said the county could set a minimum square footage per bedroom for each unit. He also said the commission might consider lowering the affordable housing minimum to 17 percent, although he noted that none of these were necessarily staff recommendations.

NO OFFICIAL DECISIONS were made at the meeting of the Planning Commission's Tysons Corner Committee last Thursday, May 6, which almost all the commissioners attended, but it was to be one of

two final meetings between last month's public hearing and the commission's final markup of the Tysons Corner redevelopment plan, scheduled for May 27.

In addition to affordable housing, the committee also discussed the establishment of a road grid in Tysons Corner, "green" building requirements, storm water retention, how small a parcel could apply for redevelopment, and possible facilities at Raglan Run Park, and staff made a presentation on possible funding mechanisms to pay for improvements to roads and transit as the area is redeveloped.

One recommendation staff made regarding affordable housing was a countywide policy requiring landowners to contribute \$3 per square foot of nonresidential development to help pay for affordable dwelling units. This would not apply to mixed-use developments that included the requisite amount of affordable housing.

The group reached a tentative conclusion that the grid of streets would, at least initially, have to be planned on a piecemeal basis, as redevelopment proposals came in. Ideally, county staff would work with landowners to come up with an official street grid, district by district, said Planning and Zoning Director Jim Zook. But he said staff did not have the time or money to do so. "If we can't get to it, unfortunately, the burden is going to be on the applicant," Zook said.

Commissioner Walter Alcorn (at large), chairman of the Tysons Corner Committee, agreed with Zook that early redevelopment applicants would need to work with

neighboring property owners and county staff to come up with viable street grids for the areas in and around their properties, and a portion of the grid would probably be adopted with each rezoning application. As redevelopment progressed, an official street map for each district of Tysons Corner could eventually be adopted.

"Our challenge here is basically, if we don't have consolidation, how can we have some assurance that the grid will work," Alcorn said.

Staff had recommended that developers be required to consolidate a minimum of 20 acres to apply for a rezoning near any of the four future Metro stations, but after a number of property owners had

"Our challenge here is basically, if we don't have consolidation, how can we have some assurance that the grid will work."

— Commissioner Walter Alcorn (at large), Tysons Committee chairman

SEE FINANCING OPTIONS, PAGE 13



PHOTOS BY MIKE DICICCO/THE CONNECTION

From left, Friends of Pleasant Grove members Nancy Sampson of McLean, Geraldine Johnson of Hyattsville, Md., and Morrissey Bryant of Sterling operate a bake sale to raise money for the upkeep of the church building.

Pleasant Day at Pleasant Grove

Friends of Historic Church building hold annual fair.

McLean resident Anjali Sunderam first visited the historic Pleasant Grove Church off Lewinsville Road during a Pleasant Grove Day Fair a few years ago. Saturday marked her second year as a vendor at the event, where she sold handcrafted jewelry and other gifts. "We love the atmosphere of this place. It's very cozy," she said.

The annual fair is the only fund-raiser for the Friends of Pleasant Grove, the nonprofit that maintains the building, built by freed slaves in 1895 under the leadership of local resident Samuel Sharper.

The event, held on a sunny, breezy day, featured sales of crafts and "attic treasures," a bake sale, a plant sale, barbecue, live music and tours of the basement museum that displays Sharper family artifacts. As in years past, the Friends raffled off a quilt handmade and donated by member

Sylvia Gaskins.

"It's a fund-raiser for Pleasant Grove, so mainly we are the seller," said past Friends President Garry Jewett. In the past, he said, the event has raised up to \$7,000 to \$8,000 each year, although he said he wasn't sure this year's fair would take in quite as much.

— MIKE DICICCO



McLean residents Joan Jewett and Carole Herrick, both of the Friends of Pleasant Grove, look over the flowers available in the fair's plant sale.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

From left, Joanna Hsu of Longfellow Middle School, Patrick Reyes and Rachel Zmuda of Cooper Middle School, and Didi Park of Longfellow Middle School were recognized for their musicianship.

Musicians and Safety Patrols Get Awards

Woman's Club honors middle- and elementary-school achievers.

The musicianship of four students from Cooper and Longfellow middle schools was recognized on Tuesday, May 4, at a McLean Woman's Club ceremony, where the students also performed on their instruments. Didi Park and Joanna Hsu of Longfellow Middle School played works by Saint-Saens and Stradello on the cello and the French horn, respectively, and were accompanied on the piano by music teacher Laura Marchesotto Bogart. Students Patrick Reyes and Rachel Zmuda of Cooper Middle School performed a Mozart bassoon duet. The Saint-Saens piece was notably long and complex, but student Didi Park played it fluently.

Ten students at Chesterbrook, Churchill Road, Franklin Sherman,

Kent Gardens and Spring Hill elementary schools received awards for their significant contributions as safety patrol members. The honorees were: William Boinest and Anna Murphy from Chesterbrook Elementary, Kristin McKinnon and Ryan Pride from Churchill Road Elementary, Claire Simpson and Jeffery "Jay" Goettman from Franklin Sherman Elementary, Lorenzo Leme and Heidi Deger from Kent Gardens Elementary, and Ameen Al-Dalli and Alyssa Bedell from Spring Hill Elementary.

The school principals and the students' parents attended the ceremony, which is an annual event of the Woman's Club of McLean.

— LAURA SHERIDAN



Ten students from local elementary schools were honored for their contributions as safety patrols.

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

THURSDAY/MAY 13

Training on Personal Care for Older Adults. 7 p.m. at Falls Church High School, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church. Family caregivers can learn the proper way to provide physical and emotional care to an older adult from a nurse educator including bathing, turning, assisting with movement and feeding. \$30. Sponsored by the Fairfax County Department of Family Services' Fairfax Area Agency on Aging. 703-

324-5432 or caregiver@fairfaxcounty.gov.
Northern Virginia Children's Mental Health Forum. 10:30 a.m. at INOVA Fairfax Hospital Physicians Conference Center Auditorium, 3300 Gallows Road, Falls Church. With representatives from the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services. 804-649-0184.

SATURDAY/MAY 15

Dranesville District One MCG Governing Board Election. 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. at the McLean Day 2010 festival at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. View candidate statements at

www.mcleancenter.org/contact/candidatestatements.asp.
T'ai Chi Beginners' Practice. 8 a.m. on the outdoor basketball court behind Dolley Madison Public Library at 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. 703-759-9141 or www.FreeTaiChi.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 16

Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society Meeting. 2:30 p.m. at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St., Falls Church. Grower David Eigenbrode on 'Tips and Techniques for Pinching and Shading = Bigger Mum Blooms.' Open to the public, free admission and refreshments. 703-560-8776.

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NEWS



PHOTOS COURTESY OF McLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Last year, approximately 14,000 people attended the McLean Day festivities.

McLean Day 2010: Partying in the Park

Community festival to be held on Saturday,
May 15, at Lewinsville Park.

McLean Day 2010: Celebrating Our Hometown, produced by the McLean Community Center (MCC), will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Saturday, May 15, at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road. Admission to the festival is free.

MCC BOARD ELECTION 10:30 AM-5 PM

Residents of Dranesville Small Tax District One can cast their votes to elect new members to the 2010-2011 MCC Governing Board from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Residents also may vote by absentee ballot. Completed ballots must be received by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 12, to be counted. Voting instructions and candidate information are available online at www.mcleancenter.org.

THE TRADITION CONTINUES

The first McLean Day was held in 1915 in a field adjacent to Franklin Sherman School. Sponsored by the McLean School and Civic League, Inc, the event raised funds for school and community projects. Various community organizations kept McLean Day going with varying degrees of success until MCC began producing it in the mid-1970s. Due to an ever-increasing number of participants, in 1988 MCC relocated the festival from the Center to Lewinsville Park. Last year, approximately 14,000 people attended.

VARIETY OF RIDES

Reithoffer Shows is bringing back the Orbiter to McLean Day this year. It will join other popular



McLean Community Center began producing the McLean Day in mid-1970s.

rides like The Tornado, The Ring of Fire, Pharaoh's Fury, The Starship 2000 and the bumper car rides. Other attractions include a rock-climbing wall, carnival games, pony rides, balloon sculptures and face painting. Toddlers and small children can enjoy a variety of small,

SEE COMMUNITY PARTY, PAGE 7

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce is one of the many community groups participating in festival.

Community Party in the Park

FROM PAGE 6

mechanical rides in the Children's Midway area.

MUSIC AND MORE ON STAGE

McLean Day entertainment offerings include something for everyone: Cravin' Dogs, Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun, Mutts Gone Nuts Dog Show and the young dancers of Joy of Dance.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD COURT

The Tender Rib of Temple Hills, Md., Anita's Frozen Cotton Candy and Nader's Bistro and Grill will join Eatery Row this year. Texas-style beef, hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, bratwurst, Greek favorites, skewer chicken, French fries, gyros, sausages, crab cake sandwiches, fried rice, and egg rolls are just a few of the entrees available. Other food items for sale include Good Humor ice cream, funnel cakes, cotton candy, popcorn and sno-cones, along with a variety of hot and cold beverages.

Free Shuttle Service

The McLean Community Center is offering a free shuttle service to and from three sites in the McLean community to make it easier for people to get to the McLean Day 2010: Celebrating Our Hometown festival on Saturday, May 15. The festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road.

Parking will not be allowed at Lewinsville Park on the day of the festival as heavy carnival rides will be located on the hard surface of the parking lot.

Shuttles buses will be available from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the following locations:

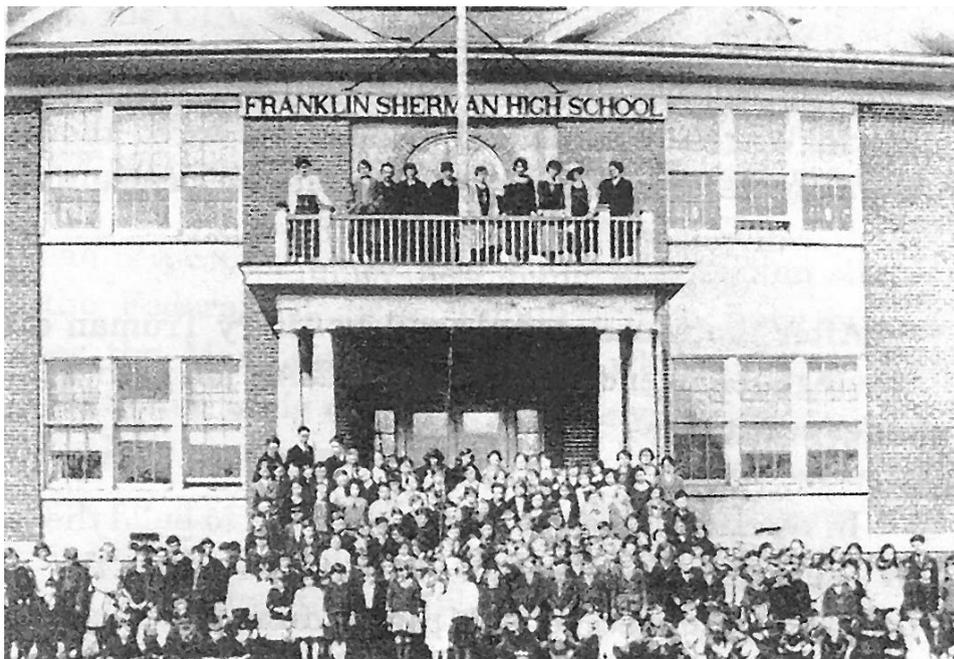
- ◆ The McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue. Meet the shuttle at the Center's front entrance.

- ◆ McLean Baptist Church, 1367 Chain Bridge Rd, across from Franklin Sherman Elementary School and Langley Shopping Center. Meet the shuttle at the stop on Brawner Street.

- ◆ Kent Gardens Elementary School, 1717 Melbourne St. Drivers accessing the school from Westmoreland Street should enter at Van Fleet Drive and turn left on Melbourne, which will dead-end at the school. Upon exiting the school, drivers should take the second left off Melbourne at Dean Dr., reserving Lumsden Street for bus use only.

The Center also will run a number of small transportation carts, similar to those used in airports, from the rear of the Lewinsville Senior Center, 1609 Great Falls Street. Meet the carts at the stop on Evers Drive.

For more information, contact the Center at 703-790-0123/TTY: 711, or visit: www.mcleancenter.org.



McLean Day began in 1915 in a field adjacent to Franklin Sherman School, pictured here around 1917.



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OPINION

'Let us Hear that Concern'

Citizens have a right to know the details of crimes in their neighborhoods and activities of police.

The first paragraph of Virginia Freedom of Information Act, passed by the General Assembly in the 1968, states that all public records "shall be presumed open."

But the legislation includes an exception that allows police to withhold some information.

Police officials in Fairfax, Arlington and Alexandria have adopted what they call a "blanket" approach to using their exemption. That means they have decided to withhold any information and document they can.

The actual reports filed by police officers about any incident, available to the public and the press in almost every jurisdiction in America, are never released in Northern Virginia.

Leaders in Northern Virginia's police departments continue to assert that most people aren't don't care about the level of secrecy employed by police.

"Let us hear that concern," said a Fairfax County police spokesperson. "We are not hearing it from anybody except the media, except individual reporters."

"I don't think we have to justify it," said Alexandria Police Chief Earl Cook.

It's time to let them hear the concern, and

tell them that they do have to justify decisions to withhold public information. Contact your chief of police, along with your state and local elected officials. We'd appreciate receiving a copy of any letter you send.

Police should move to make as much information open to the public as possible. Should they have the right to redact some information, for example, the name of an undercover officer? Certainly. But withholding information should be a rare exception, not a blanket policy.

But the process of repressing critical information undermines the contract of trust between police and community, like the name of the shooter and exact details when police shoot and kill an unarmed civilian, as in the case of David Masters.

"Citizens truly do have a right to know the details of crimes in their neighborhoods, not summary information the police choose to release," wrote Ryan Donmoyer in a letter to the Alexandria Gazette Packet. "And the press plays a pivotal role in the unfettered dissemination of such essential information."

We continue to be grateful for the service, presence, expertise and judgment of the police officers patrolling our neighborhoods. The misguided decision to abuse the ability to with-

See for Yourself

Police departments include a wealth of information online, from statistics to the locations of some incidents. But the information is exactly what police choose to release. Each site includes some disclaimer like this one from the Alexandria Police website: "Detailed information from crime reports, such as victim names, specific addresses, and motive, may be confidential and may not be available to members of the public."

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<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/crime/>, and click on mapping or incident reports.

Get Involved: More Online

For contact information for elected officials, sample Freedom of Information Request letters with contact addresses, and related coverage, see www.ConnectionNewspapers.com.

Fairfax County Chief of Police, Colonel David M. Rohrer, 4100 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030, 703-246-2195

hold every piece of information possible comes from the leadership level. The police officers you come into contact with in your daily activities are not at fault here.

— MARY KIMM,

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A Chance To Get Tysons Right

Key decisions remain on how to make Tysons Corner a 24-hour city.

BY CHARLIE HALL
GREATER TYSONS CITIZENS
COALITION

The Tysons Corner redevelopment debate, one of Northern Virginia's most far-reaching land-use discussions since George Washington surveyed our area for Lord Fairfax, will soon come to a head.

The Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors will decide how to turn Tysons Corner into a true city, concluding a process that has taken five years, cost millions of taxpayer dollars and will redefine our region.

After many wrong turns, county leaders have a chance to get this historic decision right, turning a dumpy, sprawling district into a vibrant, sustainable urban corridor.

On March 17, Planning Commissioner Walter Alcorn (At-large) publicly acknowledged that a plan put forward by a citizens-land-

owner task force contains several fatal flaws, with potentially catastrophic consequences for McLean, Vienna, Providence District and beyond. His chief concerns are:

1. The task force's development targets are wildly over-ambitious, quadrupling the amount of construction on the ground today and allowing redevelopment well beyond walking distance from new Metro stations. In Alcorn's words, such a plan would "far overwhelm" any conceivable mix of roads and public transit, now and in the future.

2. The task force plan is recklessly rigid. It would give landowners permanent, irreversible building rights today for all construction between now and 2080. That would deny future residents the ability to adjust to changing realities.

For a year, the county planning staff has recognized these obvious problems. They suggested planning "only" 40 years in the future,

and slashing the task force's development goals by 33 percent. But even this "Task Force lite" plan could overwhelm the region's transportation grid.

The alternative put forward by Commissioner Alcorn protects county roads and finances, while preserving and even improving upon the task force's urban vision.

He and fellow commissioners have urged limiting detailed planning to only 20 years in the future and holding initial construction to about twice what is on the ground in Tysons today. Importantly, most construction would be focused within walking distance of new Metro stations, exactly the type of "smart growth" that made Arlington's Ballston area a successful, functional mini-city.

Commissioner Alcorn's plan is prudent and flexible. It does not commit the county today to a density and population that could overwhelm roads and parks in communities miles from Tysons' center. But it also allows future urban development, as additional public improvements come on line in 2030 and beyond.

This common-sense approach has been endorsed by many advocates of an urban Tysons, including the Sierra Club and the Washington Post editorial page.

Key decisions remain. More housing should be considered near Metro stations, to create a 24-hour city. Any proposal must produce a road grid to move automobiles inside Tysons. And billions of dollars in public project costs must be fairly divided between taxpayers and Tysons landowners.

However, by shedding the fatal flaws of previous Tysons plans, Commissioner Alcorn's alternative represents a significant step forward. His well considered proposal is the only feasible foundation on which to build our region's future.

Write

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NEWS

AAUW Guest Speaker Discusses 'Unfinished Revolution'

The McLean Branch of the American Association of University Women will host its annual Spring dinner on Tuesday, May 18, at 6:30 p.m. The guest speaker is Patricia McGuire, president of Trinity University, a position she has held since 1989. Washingtonian magazine has named her among the "150 Most Powerful People in Washington" and the "100 Most Powerful Women in Washington." She spearheaded one of the nation's first "weekend colleges" which allowed working women to attain a college degree.



Patricia McGuire

She will speak about the Unfinished Revolution: Why Women's Education Still Matters. The dinner

will be at Cafe Oggi, 6671 Old Dominion Drive in McLean at a cost of \$40.

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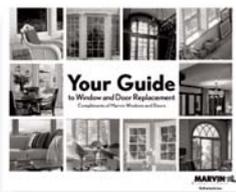
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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/MAY 13

Robert Ames Alden: McLean Remembered. 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Historical Society, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Alden has been a community leader in planning a green, central park, library, outdoor stage, community center and theater for McLean. schulm@erols.com.

Jason Castro. 8 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15. jammnjava.com.

Art Talk. 7 p.m. in the Emerson Gallery, McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Artist Jeremy Drummond will discuss his current exhibition, Everybody Knows This is Nowhere: A Photographic and Video Installation. 703-790-1953.

FRIDAY/MAY 14

Summer on the Green: Bill Emerson and Sweet Dixie. 6:30 p.m. at the Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Bring chairs or blankets for seating. No alcoholic beverages allowed. It is recommended that pets be left at home. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

'The Last Five Years.' 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A contemporary song cycle about a marriage, from meeting to breakup. \$30 adults, \$20 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1stStageTysons.org/years.

Dan Navarro and Peter Bradley Adams. 7:30 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$17. jammnjava.com.

Dinner Dance in Celebration of Norwegian Constitution Day. Tysons West Park Hotel, McLean. Cash Bar 7 p.m., dinner 8 p.m. Speaker Keith Eikenes, Defense Counselor, Royal Norwegian Embassy. Music and entertainment by Terry Lee Ryan, door prizes and dancing 9:30-12 a.m. \$65 per person, \$30 for age 30 and under. 703-408-3383.

Riverbend Park Camping Night. 6 p.m.-9 a.m. Saturday at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Families can enjoy camping and night hiking. Bring camping gear, toasting sticks and a dinner to cook on a campfire, enjoy stories and s'mores. A light breakfast is provided. \$45 per family. Reservations required at 703-759-9018.

SATURDAY/MAY 15

City of Fairfax Antique Car Show. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong St., Fairfax. Antique cars, live bluegrass music, food and more. See a Model-T Ford reassembled and running in 15 minutes at 1 p.m. A portion of the proceeds are donated to the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, D.C. www.visitfairfax.com or www.nvrg.org.

McLean Day 2010. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Food, games, entertainment and more. Free admission. Free shuttle buses will run from Redeemer Lutheran Church, McLean Baptist Church and the parking lot of MCC. www.mcleancenter.org/special-events, or 703-790-0123, TTY: 711.

McLean High School and Longfellow Middle School Big Band Jam. 2 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$8. jammnjava.com.

Sing Me Innomnia and The Goodnight Anthem. 6 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. jammnjava.com.

An Evening with Charlie Mars. 10 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$15 advance, \$18 at the door. jammnjava.com.

Summer on the Green: James Madison High School Jazz Band. 12 p.m. at the Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Bring chairs or blankets for seating. No alcoholic beverages allowed. It is recommended that pets be left at home. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

Dr. Rami Kanaan Violin Concert. 7 p.m. at Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Violinist Dr. Rami Kanaan with pianist Bette Cooley. Lecture-recital format, with a discussion of each composition before the duo perform it in entirety. Free admission, donations accepted. www.oaktonbrethren.org or 703-281-4411.

Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association. Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Dance demonstrations, line dance lessons at 7:30 p.m., beginners two step at 8 p.m. Open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. This is the Association's Annual Benefit Dance for Fisher House. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. www.nvcwda.org or 703-860-4941.

Fairfax County Master Gardeners. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. Adults. 703-293-6227.

Plant Clinic. 10 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Masters Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative Extension will answer gardening questions. Adults. 703-790-8088.

'The Last Five Years.' 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A contemporary song cycle about a marriage, from meeting to breakup. \$30 adults, \$20 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1stStageTysons.org/years.

Claude Moore Colonial Farm 18th Century Spring Market Fair. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Dance and sing to period music. Play quills and other games, and watch a children's puppet theater. Order nails from the blacksmith, and herbs and flowers from the plant vendor. Browse the latest in Colonial American fashions at the seamstress, millinery and stillatory stands. Enjoy roast chicken, fresh asparagus, sugar cakes and fruit pies. Adults \$5, age 3-12 and senior citizens \$2.50. www.1771.org.

Barbara Martin and Mac Walter. 5 p.m. at The Palladium at McLean, 1450 Emerson Ave., McLean. Free and open to the public. 703-288-9505 or www.thepalladiumatmclean.com.

Skin Cancer Screenings. 8:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m. at Inova Fairfax Hospital, 3300 Gallows Road, Falls Church. In recognition of National Skin Cancer Awareness Month, medical experts will screen patients and provide education, follow-up treatments and teach patients about how to perform self-exams. Call 703-750-8812 for an appointment.

Dance to The Helmut Licht Band. Colvin Run Schoolhouse, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Traditional ballroom, latin and swing music with a Salsa/Mambo lesson prior to the dance. Lesson 8 p.m., \$5; dancing 9-11:30 p.m., \$12 per person. 703-795-2003 or www.colvinrun.org.

International Pot Luck. 5-7 p.m. at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Mingle with Cultural Care Au Pair staff, host families and au pairs. Free. 703-268-6686 or www.culturalcare.com.

World Children's Choir Spring Concert. 7 p.m. at Christ Crossman United Methodist Church, 384 N.



Barbara Martin and Mac Walter will perform on Saturday, May 15, 5 p.m. at The Palladium at McLean, 1450 Emerson Ave. Free and open to the public.

Washington St., Falls Church. The "Song of Peace" concert will include performances by the Junior and Concert Choirs, Bella Voce, and Opera Ensemble conducted by Sondra Harnes. Tickets available at www.worldchildrenschoir.org or 703-883-0920.

district residents. Workshop with Doug Berky at 4:30 p.m. for ages 10 and up; \$10 per person, available only at the MCC Box Office. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SUNDAY/MAY 16

The McLean Youth Orchestra. 4 p.m. at Saint Luke Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Pauline Anderson, artistic director. Donations accepted. 703-356-0670 or www.mclean-orchestra.org/myo.

Rocknoceros. 2 p.m. at Hunter Mill Country Day School, 2021 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Children's rock band. Grounds open at 12 p.m. for picnics. www.hmcds.com

Steven Gellman CD Release. 2 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12 advance, \$15 at the door. jammnjava.com.

Crash Test Dummies and Rob Morsberger. 8 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$17 advance, \$20 at the door. jammnjava.com.

Falls Church Elementary PTA Home & Garden Tour. 12-4 p.m., with a self-guided tour through a variety of Falls Church City homes and gardens. www.fallschurchpta.org.

Summer on the Green: U.S. Navy Country Current. 6:30 p.m. at the Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Bring chairs or blankets for seating. No alcoholic beverages allowed. It is recommended that pets be left at home. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

'The Last Five Years.' 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A contemporary song cycle about a marriage, from meeting to breakup. \$30 adults, \$20 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1stStageTysons.org/years.

Claude Moore Colonial Farm 18th Century Spring Market Fair. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Dance and sing to period music. Games, puppet theater, blacksmith, plant vendor, seamstress and more. Enjoy roast chicken, fresh asparagus, sugar cakes and fruit pies. Adults \$5, age 3-12 and senior citizens \$2.50. www.1771.org.

Phillippe Cousteau. 9 a.m. at Saint Luke School, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The CEO and co-founder of the non-profit EarthEcho International will speak on ecological issues. Bishop O'Connell High School and Saint Luke School have organized a cell phone recycling program. Representatives from O'Connell's Ecology Club will join the event. Open to the public. 703-356-1508.

Doug Berky with Gems: The World's Wisdom Stories. 3 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. For ages 6 and up. Masks, puppets, mime, comedy, music and storytelling. \$14 non-residents, \$10

local services and gift baskets. Free admission. Snacks and baked goods available for purchase. 703-938-2988 or ddresdner@cox.net.

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

NoCo, Automatics and Power Pirate. 8 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. jammnjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 19

Organist Paul Skevington. 1 p.m. at Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Free. 703-356-0670 or www.musicinmclean.org.

Darrell Scott and Pierce Pettis. 7:30 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20. jammnjava.com.

The Roller Coaster of College Admissions. 6:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. College admissions and educational consultant Julia Ross on identifying colleges that meet a child's individual needs. 703-293-6227.

Preschool Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Join us for stories, fingerplays and activities. Ages 2-5 with adult. 703-757-8560.

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

Model Investment Club of Northern Virginia. 7 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Learn more about investing following an investment club model. New visitors welcome. Adults. 703-790-8088.

Personalized Microsoft Office Training. 7:15 p.m. Tysons-

Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. A 45-minute one-on-one Microsoft Office training session with a technology volunteer. Call for appointment. Adults. 703-790-8088.

An Exhibition by Artist Cao Yong. 6 p.m. at Wentworth Gallery, Tysons Galleria, 1807 U. International Drive, McLean. 703-883-0111 or 1-800-732-6140.

THURSDAY/MAY 20

An Evening with Unknown Hinson. 9 p.m. Jamm'n' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20 advance, \$25 day of show. jammnjava.com.

FRIDAY/MAY 21

Summer on the Green: Splinters - Rock. 6:30 p.m. at the Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Bring chairs or blankets for seating. No alcoholic beverages allowed. It is recommended that pets be left at home. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

The Mikado. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$40-\$280. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

'The Last Five Years.' 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A contemporary song cycle about a marriage, from meeting to breakup. \$30 adults, \$20 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1stStageTysons.org/years.

Musical Moments Concert. 7:30 p.m. at the McLean Bible Church Smith Center, 8925 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. 'An Evening with Irving Berlin.' Tickets \$10, available at www.mbcnysons.org/musicalmoments.

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All qualified residents of the McLean Community Center district (Small District One Dranesville) are encouraged to vote for members of the 2010-2011 MCC Governing Board.

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The McLean Community Center
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
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Changes Coming for Schools with Poor Students

Many call process for changing programs for needy students flawed.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

Laurie Blackburn calls the public school where her son attends first grade extraordinary. She isn't the only one.

Hollin Meadows Elementary has drawn national attention for its outdoor gardening and science program, where students grow food and learn about native plants and insects on the school site. First Lady Michelle Obama visited the Mount Vernon school to learn more about its outdoor program last fall, and Hollin Meadows students have been invited to her vegetable garden at the White House two years in a row.

Recently, the U.S. Department of Agriculture interviewed staff at and shot footage of Hollin Meadows for an instructional film they intend to distribute to other school districts around the country.

But the gardens might not survive the Fairfax County School Board vote on the annual budget May 20.

TWO PROGRAMS, Project Excel and Focus, were established more than a decade ago, in part to help elementary schools with a larger percentage of needy students. Superintendent Jack Dale now says the money used for those programs can be spent more effectively in another way.

But what Dale's new initiative entails is unclear and how much money individual schools which benefited from Project Excel and Focus will receive has not been released. The Hollin Meadows community, for example, is not sure whether they will get as much funding under Dale's new plan as they have in the past or whether the school system will let them use any of the money to maintain the gardening program.

"When you are changing from an old program to a new program, you should bring people along and not leave them in the position of not having any clear idea what kind of school their children are going to be going to in three months," said Blackburn.

During county budget deliberations last month, several members of the Board of Supervisors called the school board irresponsible and insensitive to the community when it came to the elimination of Project Excel and Focus, as well as a year-round school calendar program in place in a handful of county schools.

Several supervisors said the school board should have had a long and extensive community engagement process about eliminating such long-standing programs, especially since they affect some of the county's most vulnerable children.

"I hold three public hearings when a gas station wants to change the color of its awning. This is a policy shift of much more importance," said Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee).

Many of the details about the school

system's new initiative for at-risk students were fuzzy because the schools were not sure how much funding they would receive from the county or the Virginia government, said school board member Janie Strauss (Dranesville).

"It would have been great to let people know what was happening in February, but we didn't know how much money we were going to get and it looked pretty bad," said Strauss.

Last year, school board members voted to use federal stimulus money to fund Project Excel, which provides an extended school day on Mondays at 16 elementary schools. The supervisors should have known that the stimulus money was limited and would run out at the end of next year, said several school board members.

Dale and many school board members also pointed out that the most significant funding that elementary schools with students in poverty receive comes in the form of a lower staff-to-student ratio, which will not be changed.

Still, several members of the community said they felt "ambushed" by the change and supervisors found the timeline too condensed for such a major change.

During a public hearing in January, the Fairfax Area League of Women Voters complained about the school system's budget documents being "opaque" and said the organization had a hard time parsing out how the school system was spending money. The Fairfax Education Association and Fairfax County Council of PTAs aired concerns about responsiveness.

"There is no open dialogue. That is not how the school system works," said Arthur Lopez, incoming chair of the schools' minority student achievement oversight citizen advisory committee.

But many school board members contend that Dale's new initiative for students in poverty will reach more needy students. The superintendent plans to boost funding for students who are poor and need to learn English from \$20 million to \$30 million next year.

"Overall, we will be spending more money than we are now," said Dale.

Of the new money, about \$5.4 million will

Schools Affected

Many needy schools currently receive extra funding and support through the Project Excel, Focus and year-round calendar programs. The school board is likely to eliminate all three programs and replace them, in part, with a "priority schools" initiative.

Those campuses that would receive extra funding as a "priority school" are not the same as those who received funding under Excel, Focus and year-round calendar.

| School | Excel | Focus | Year-Round | Priority School |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|-----------------|
| Annandale Terrace Elementary | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Beach Tree Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Brookfield Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Bucknell Elementary | Yes | No | No | Yes |
| Bull Run Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Cameron Elementary | Yes | No | No | No |
| Centre Ridge Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Clearview Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Cunningham Park Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Crestwood Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Daniels Run Elementary | No | Yes | No | No |
| Dogwood Elementary | Yes | No | Yes | Yes |
| Dranesville Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Fort Belvoir Elementary | Yes | No | No | No |
| Fort Hunt | No | Yes | No | No |
| Forest Edge Elementary | No | Yes | No | No |
| Franconia Elementary | No | No | Yes | No |
| Glen Forest Elementary | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Graham Road Elementary | Yes | Yes | Yes | No |
| Groveton Elementary | Yes | No | No | No |
| Halley Elementary | Yes | No | No | No |
| Herndon Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Hollin Meadows Elementary | Yes | Yes | No | Yes |
| Hutchinson Elementary | Yes | No | No | No |
| Hunter Woods Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Hybla Valley Elementary | Yes | No | No | Yes |
| Kent Gardens Elementary | No | Yes | No | No |
| King's Glen Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Lake Anne Elementary | No | Yes | No | No |
| London Towne Elementary | Yes | No | No | Yes |
| Mount Eagle Elementary | Yes | No | No | No |
| Mt. Vernon Woods Elementary | Yes | No | No | Yes |
| Parklawn Elementary | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Pine Spring Elementary | Yes | Yes | No | No |
| Providence Elementary | No | Yes | No | No |
| Riverside Elementary | Yes | Yes | No | Yes |
| Rose Hill Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Timber Lane Elementary | No | No | Yes | No |
| Sleepy Hollow Elementary | No | Yes | No | No |
| Stenwood Elementary | No | Yes | No | No |
| Washington Mill Elementary | No | No | No | Yes |
| Westlawn Elementary | Yes | No | No | No |
| Woodlawn Elementary | Yes | No | No | Yes |
| Weyanoke Elementary | Yes | No | No | No |
| Woodley Hills Elementary | Yes | Yes | No | No |
| Woodburn Elementary | No | Yes | No | No |
| Hughes Middle* | No | No | No | Yes |
| Sanburg Middle* | No | No | No | Yes |
| Whitman Middle* | No | No | No | Yes |
| Glasgow Middle* | No | No | No | Yes |
| Twain Middle* | No | No | No | Yes |
| Herndon Middle* | No | No | No | Yes |

*Project Excel, Focus and the year-round calendar program does not exist at the middle school level but middle schools are included under the "priority school" plan.

students and other minorities.

According to a written proposal, extra funding could be provided for literacy coaches and instructional coaches and to enroll all eligible 4-year olds in the Head Start program. Instead of providing an extended day or year-round school year to all students attending a particular school, individual pupils could also be asked to start school early in August if their academic achievement is lacking.

DALE and several school board members said the three current programs are static and limited. Those schools that were initially enrolled in the Excel, Focus and year-round calendar programs a decade ago are still the only ones receiving the services.

Demographic changes over the last few years have also meant that those schools with largest number of poor students and the lowest achievement rates now are not necessarily the ones where Excel and year-round calendar are in place.

"Once a school was in the program, the school was always in the program. And no one else could get into the program," said School Board member Stu Gibson (Hunter Mill).

The Excel, Focus and year-round calendar programs were also only in place in elementary schools. Dale's new plan would give extra funding to middle schools – Hughes, Sandburg, Whitman, Glasgow, Herndon and Poe – because they have high levels of poverty.

Finally, Dale said there was no compelling evidence that Excel, Focus or a year-round

calendar was boosting achievement. When comparing schools that had those three programs with similar schools that didn't, the school system saw no difference in academic achievement, said Dale.

BUT some individual schools have seen tremendous results, said school board members and parents.

In addition to Hollin Meadows, Graham Road – which has the Excel, Focus and year-round calendar programs – has been nationally recognized.

And even though Hollin Meadows is listed a "priority school," it isn't clear that it will receive the same level of extra funding it does now, said Blackburn.

"My concern is that it is May and all we have seen is an outline of an outline," said Blackburn.

Financing Options for 'New Tysons' Discussed

FROM PAGE 3

testified that this would prevent them from redeveloping, staff members said they recommended that 20 acres be considered a goal, not a necessity. Approval would rest more on whether developers met a set of criteria, including a commitment to a street grid that would connect to surrounding properties, the provision of parks and other public facilities, and a demonstration of how adjacent properties could be redeveloped in a compatible manner.

Commissioners agreed. "Hopefully, the 20 [acres] is a soft 20," said James Hart (at large).

Staff continued to recommend that Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification be required for commercial development, and basic LEED certification for residential buildings. However, staff members no longer advised awarding density bonuses for anything other than meeting LEED Gold or Platinum standards. Commissioners were reluctant to embrace even those density bonuses.

"I'm still very skeptical about bonuses for building green. I think the market is going there already," said Commissioner John Litzenberger (Sully).

Lusk and Hart agreed, saying a tax abatement might make a more desirable incentive.

A NUMBER OF RESIDENTS from the area of Raglan Road Park had turned out at public meetings to express concerns about ball fields and other possible recreational uses being suggested for the wooded park, and staff proposed that language be added to emphasize that as much mature tree cover and vegetation as possible should be retained to screen the neighborhoods from the development in Tysons Corner. Other changes in wording made it possible that development of the park could be scaled back, for example changing the "and" in the recommendation for athletic fields and other recreational uses to "and/or." Commissioners were amenable to the changes.

They also reaffirmed staff's earlier suggestion that applicants for rezoning in Tysons Corner be required to submit a storm water management plan that would retain at least the first inch of rainfall in any storm, which, in most storms, would mimic conditions in a forest.

Barbara Byron and Scott Sizer of the Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment pre-

sented the commission with a range of options for funding the road and transit improvements that would be necessary to accommodate 84 million square feet of development in Tysons Corner by 2030. This is the planning horizon and interim level of development that has gained the most favor among residents and landowners, although it has not been officially adopted.

"We as the Planning Commission are not going to be making recommendations on specific funding sources," Alcorn said, noting that those decisions would be up to the Board of Supervisors. However, he said he thought it was the commission's responsibility to make sure that such a critical issue was being addressed.

Staff has estimated the total cost for the grid of streets, improvements to existing roads across Tysons Corner and expanded bus service at about \$1.46 billion. The cost for road improvements to accommodate traffic in the areas surrounding Tysons Corner remains unknown, as only certain key intersections have been studied.

Sizer said staff was recommending that the private sector cover the entire cost of building the road grid, estimated at \$444 million. Meanwhile, the public would cover the estimated \$374 million needed to establish a bus system to carry riders around Tysons Corner and to and from the Metro stations. Staff suggested that the estimated \$646 million cost of Tysons-wide road improvements, such as the widening of routes 123 and 7 and additional access points for the Beltway and the Dulles Toll Road, should be shared, with the public covering about two-thirds of the cost. About 35 percent of the vehicles on these roads are expected to be through-traffic, and staff felt the public should cover this cost, as well as about half the cost of managing local traffic.

Zook said the strategy of managing growth by concentrating it in mixed-use developments around transit stations was a county initiative in the public interest. "If that is our strategy, then we've got a responsibility to share in making that work," he said.

Byron said plans for sharing costs would likely come under fire

from both the public and private sectors during the public hearing process and could change. "It would be unusual if those stood unchallenged and unchanged throughout the process," she said.

THE STREET GRID is expected to be about 60 percent complete by 2030, and Sizer said most of the cost of construction would be covered within individual redevelopment projects. Staff suggested that a rate hike in the existing Tysons Road Club cover the rest of the costs, proposing that the rate be raised from about \$3.87 to \$8.63 per square foot of nonresidential development, as well as \$1,000 per residential unit. The proposed residential rate is relatively low, to encourage rapid residential development, Sizer said.

He laid out several options for covering the \$646 million in Tysons-wide road improvements, noting that the list was "not comprehensive by any means" and that some combination of funding options would likely be necessary. These included a tax increment financing (TIF) plan that would capture increases in county tax

revenue resulting from the redevelopment, an additional penny on county property taxes, a meals tax, rolling costs into the county's Capital Improvement Program, applying for state and federal funding, dedicating revenue collected through the commercial transportation tax, creating a commercial tax district, collecting money through a Tysons Corner community development authority and requesting road improvements through development prof-

Several commissioners said some options for covering costs through additional taxes on the public could prove problematic. Lusk, however, pointed out that Tysons Corner had generated revenue for the rest of the county for years and was now asking for assistance in return. "Tysons Corner really has been the donor district to the rest of Fairfax County," he said.

The Tysons Corner Committee will meet again tonight, May 12, to discuss future densities in Tysons Corner, how to phase in the redevelopment and how far into the future the plan should extend.

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SPORTS

McLean, Langley Boys' Soccer Rivalry Reaches New Heights

Gundersen's goal proves to be the difference for Saxons in meeting between two of the region's best teams.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

For now, at least, it appears the Langley High Saxons are the elite boys' soccer team within the powerful Liberty District.

The Saxons defeated two of the Northern Region's elite teams — district opponents Stone Bridge and McLean — in contests last week to remain unbeaten and separate themselves, at least a little, from their primary district challengers.

"Both McLean and Stone Bridge are very good," said Langley coach Bo Amato, whose team, with just one week remaining in the regular season, remained unbeaten at 11-0. "We're three teams that have a chance to do damage in the region playoffs."

Langley, earlier last week on Monday, May 3, handed host Stone Bridge (11-1 record) a 2-1 loss. Then, four days later, the Saxons, going up against cross-town rival McLean (8-2-2), won by a same 2-1 score in a contest played on a gorgeous spring evening, in front of a large, enthusiastic crowd at McLean.

McLean coach Mike Anderson said Langley was simply the better, more physical team in the late season meeting.

"I thought they physically dominated us," said Anderson. "To their credit, they won balls and defensively dominated us. Bo [Amato] has done a real good job with them. Our guys were pumped up for the game. Unfortunately, we didn't really show up today. Langley imposed their play upon us."

Langley tallied what proved to be the game-winning score with 13 minutes, 13 seconds remaining in the second half when 6-foot-3 inch senior forward Jan Gundersen, from about 25 yards away off the left wing area of the field, sent a scorching liner high into the McLean net to break a deadlock and give his team a 2-1 lead.

In an instant, Gundersen, although being defended tightly, made a move to get his shot off.

"He made a great turn and shot," said Amato. "He had a man on his back. He just turned and hit the ball."

Langley continued to apply pressure during several rushes the remainder of the way. McLean, meanwhile, did not make a serious charge at the net over the final 13 minutes.

With the win, Langley was given the McLean Youth Soccer Cup trophy in the moments following the game's conclusion. The prized possession goes to the winning team of the annual rival game between the Saxons and Highlanders. Langley players representing their team in receiving the Cup were Saxons Farhan Khan, Gundersen, Roshan Patel, and Dylan Price. Anderson, the McLean coach, congratulated the four Saxon players during the informal presen-



Josh Ellis' first half goal was barely out of the reach of McLean goal tender Rob Maffei.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Langley's Jeff Cochran high wires the ball during Saxon-Highlander boys' soccer action last Friday night at McLean.

tation.

Certainly, it's likely that both teams could meet again at the upcoming district tournament set to begin next week.

"McLean and Langley is always a great rivalry," said Langley's Jeff Cochran, a junior midfielder. "Whether the teams are good or bad, it's a good matchup. Playing them at districts would be unbelievable."

Langley goalie Jay Lupas, a 6-4 junior who earned the win in net on Friday, said the already feverish rivalry between the two boys' soccer teams has risen to an even higher level this spring.

"It's always been a big game because it's McLean," said Lupas. "But it's even bigger now because both teams are really good."

LANGLEY HAD GOTTEN the better of the play throughout much of Friday's first half and eventually broke through with the

game's first goal when junior forward Josh Ellis, off a long throw-in by Cochran from the left sideline, corralled the ball from the right side of the goal area before, from close range, sending a crossing shot into the net for a 1-0 Saxons' lead with 9:25 remaining in the opening half.

It was a remarkably strong throw-in assist from Cochran, whose toss somehow crossed the middle of the goal area and to Ellis, who got control of the ball before getting off his close range shot.

"The ball came off the throw-in from Jeff," said Ellis. "I had a guy on me and the ball bounced my way. I got some open space and kicked it into the left corner."

Cochran recalled his toss being deflected before getting to Ellis.

"I threw it across as hard as I could," said Cochran. "It skipped off one of our heads or a McLean head. When the ball got to Josh

I knew he was going to score."

Amato was relieved when his team had finally broken the ice and gotten onto the scoreboard.

"We had some chances before," said Amato. "[On the goal] Josh stayed on his feet, composed himself and put it away."

The score remained 1-0 the rest of the half and for 11 more minutes into the second half before McLean, to the delight of the home team fans, tied the contest on a score by senior midfielder Tim Whitebread, who took advantage of a short breakaway off the right side by finishing with an 8-yard groundball, crossing shot into the left side of the net to make the score 1-1. Earning an assist on the score was senior forward John Sims.

Just like that, McLean, which had been struggling to sustain an offensive attack all game, had burst through and hit pay dirt. It was a brand new game.

"We were shocked a little bit," said Lupas, the Langley goalie, of the Highlanders' score. "But we knew if we kept fighting we were still going to win."

Sixteen minutes later, Langley regained the lead for good on Gundersen's clutch goal. The score held the rest of the way and the Saxons continued their remarkable unbeaten season of 2010.

At the game's final whistle, Langley's Ellis, who was on the far side of the field in good viewing range of the visiting Langley fans, emphatically clapped his hands twice before extending his arms and acknowledging the fans with two thumbs up.

"We know McLean is a good team and that they were pumped up to beat us," said Ellis. "But we're undefeated and we're on a good run. It's always fun to beat McLean — in basketball, football or soccer. There were lots of people out here tonight."

Langley was scheduled to conclude its regular season this week with road games at West Springfield on Tuesday, May 11 and at Jefferson on Thursday, May 13. If the Saxons can win both, they will enter the postseason undefeated.

"We knew we had a talented team," said Cochran, of the Saxons' confidence going into this season. "We have a good group of guys and we are tight knit. To be 11-0 is just unbelievable because soccer is a game where [you can get tripped up] and lose to anyone."

Amato realizes the Saxons have a long ways to go for this to be the great season his team has such high hopes for. Ultimate success will come in the postseason. But the coach is certainly well pleased with the way Langley has played up to this point.

"I'm real proud of the kids," he said.

Anderson, the McLean coach, hopes the loss to the Saxons will help his team in the long run.

"It teaches us something," said Anderson, of the setback. "Against bigger teams we need to be more physical. Now it's about how we regroup."

McLean will close out the regular season with a home game versus Stone Bridge on Thursday, May 13 at 7 p.m.



PHOTO BY AMIR NOORBAKSHH/THE CONNECTION



The Grandsons' lead vocalist/guitarist/trumpeter, Alan MacEwen, entertains the audience with the sound of the trumpet.

The Grandsons entertain in the Palladium Civic Place Green in McLean last Saturday.

The Grandsons Kick Off Summer at Palladium

The McLean Palladium Civic Place Green started off the summer with rock and roll style music on Saturday, May 8, from 5-7 p.m. The Grandsons, a band from the McLean area consisting of three male performers — Chris Watling, Alan MacEwen and Matt Sedgley — entertained audience on a “picture perfect” sunny day.

“[It was] a wonderful addition to a wonderful day and summer,” said Alice McLarty, NPS landscape architect, of McLean.

“A wonderful way to kick off the summer season with wonderful music, picnic dinners, and dancing

barefoot as the sun goes down,” said Margie Wayne, of McLean.

“The Grandsons are my favorite local band. They’ve got musicality and a great playful spirit. I split my time between the Vienna Town Green and McLean Place Green during the weekends,” said Karen Detweiler of Vienna.

For more information in the coming events at the Palladium Civic Place Green, visit:

<http://novasummerconcerts.wordpress.com/fairfax/civic-place-green-summer-concert-mclean/>.

— AMIR NOORBAKSHH

Playing the History at Colvin Run E.S.

The entire fourth grade at Colvin Run Elementary School recently performed the musical ‘Roll Back the Years’ as part of their study of the colonial period and the Revolutionary War. The musical, which depicts key events in American history, was a way for the children to learn about American history and integrate music and choir lessons with the social studies curriculum. Kate Carniol, who played one of the narrators said, ‘It was a lot of fun, and really made me think about how the colonists felt about the war. I also liked learning and singing all the songs.’



SCHOOL NOTES

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

Several foreign language students from Oakcrest School in McLean attained national recognition for excellent performance on the 2010 National Spanish Examinations. Students from Oakcrest School earned a total of 4 gold, 5 silver and 9 bronze medals along with 16 honorable mentions. Gold medal recipients were Giordana Agostini '15, Claire Rodriguez '15, Alex Aguilar '14 and Gianna Ridout '14. Students were taught by Spanish teachers Monica Pompei, Holly Salls and Heather Lee.

Camille Marie Devlin of McLean was named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Miami University of Oxford Ohio.

Gina C. Maggio of McLean was named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Saint Francis University of Loretto, Penn.

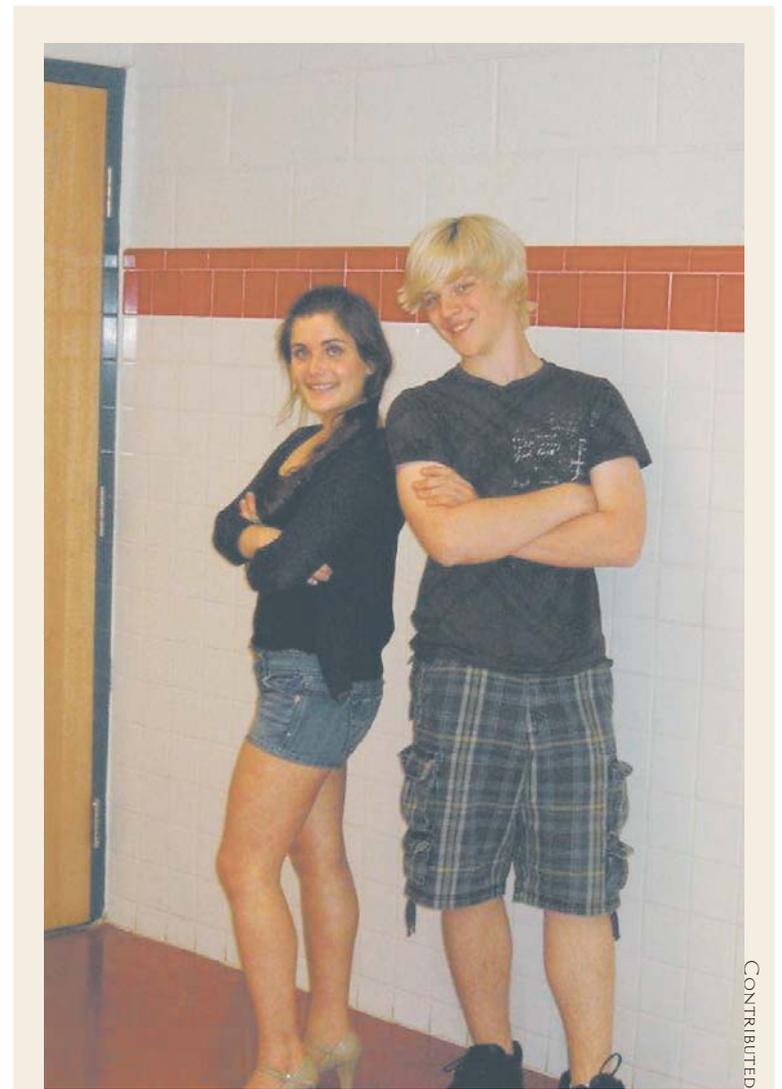
Shefali Hegde, a senior at McLean High School, has been chosen as a candidate for the 2010 Presidential Scholars Program. Hegde is the daughter of Kirti Shetty and the late Ajit Hegde of McLean.

The following McLean residents received degrees from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg at the Dec. 2009 graduation: **Melody Lind**, bachelor of science cum laude in human nutrition, foods, and exercise; **Christine Meawad**, bachelor of science in business magna cum laude in finance; **Caroline Perez**, bachelor of science in business in marketing management; **Isabel Smith**, bachelor of

science summa cum laude in sociology; **Jay Cooper**, bachelor of arts in communication; **Yalda Ghamarian**, bachelor of science in apparel, housing, and resource management; and **Yousef Rahman**, bachelor of arts in international studies.

Six McLean residents, **Alicia Ann DiGiammarino**, **Michelle Victoria Evans**, **Elizabeth Sarah Freeman**, **Courtney Lyn Millian**, **Sonia Ashley Singh**, and **Stephanie Shelley Volftsun**, have been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.

Darius Mobarakeh of McLean has been named to the fall 2009 dean's list at St. Bonaventure University. Mobarakeh is a junior biology major, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mohtasham



CONTRIBUTED

Emma Leiken and Nick Stone as Roxie Hart and Billy Flynn in the McLean High production of ‘Chicago.’

McLean High To Present ‘Chicago’

McLean High School will present “Chicago” May 27-30, with classic Broadway songs like “All That Jazz” and “Razzle Dazzle,” as characters sing and dance their way through the legal system and around a public captivated by the Jazz Age.

Set in the Windy City in the 1920s, aspiring vaudeville singer Roxie Hart has been arrested for the murder of her lover. But her aspirations don't end there. Her trial becomes the hottest ticket in town, much to the chagrin of former vaudeville star Velma Kelly, also on trial for murder. With the help of smooth-talking lawyer Billy Flynn and the all-powerful jail matron Mama Morton, the rivaling murderesses compete for both their innocence and fame in this Tony and Academy Award winning musical sensation.

Featuring songs such as “The Cell Block Tango,” “Mr. Cellophane,” “We Both Reached for the Gun” and “When You're Good to Mama,” the show highlights the talent of the McLean High School Performing Arts Department.

The evening performances on May 27, 28 and 29 will begin at 7:30 p.m. The Sunday, May 30, matinee will begin at 2 p.m.

“Chicago” will be presented in McLean High School Craighill S. Burkes Theater, 1633 Davidson Road, in McLean. Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling 703-714-5816. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors or students.

Note: This production is rated PG-13. For performance updates see the MHS Choral website at www.McLeanChoral.org.

Mobarakeh.

Yang Yang of McLean has received a University of Virginia Harrison Undergraduate Research Awards, which will assist in conducting independent research. Yang, a chemical engineering major, is studying “A Novel Synthesis of Advanced Nanocomposites via Surface Modification of Silica Nanoparticles.”

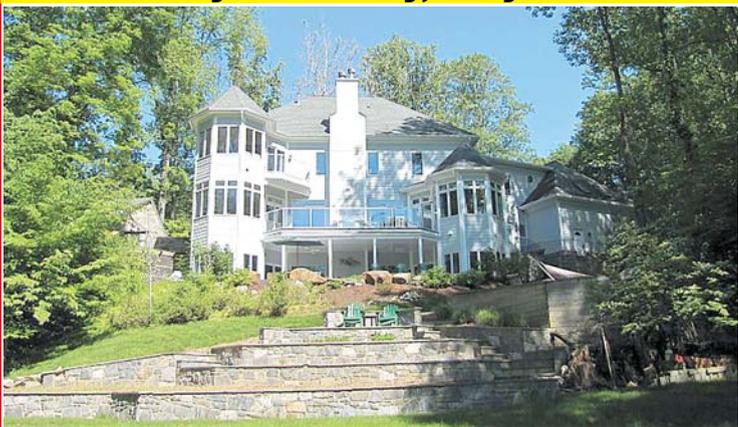
Allan Manishin of McLean has been named to the fall 2009 dean's list

for at the Villanova School of Business, Villanova, Pa.

Three McLean residents, **Erin Ellis**, **Andrew Kwon** and **Bennett Silverman** have been named to the winter term 2010 dean's list at Choate Rosemary Hall at Wallingford, Conn. Ellis is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mervyn I. Ellis, Kwon is the son of Mrs. Sungyun Kwon, and Silverman is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Alan Silverman.

OPEN HOUSES

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

REAL ESTATE

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Long & Foster® Real Estate, Inc., has announced the launch of The Long & Foster Market Minute™, an innovative report aimed to deliver local knowledge based on county-level data. A leader in providing real estate market data, Long & Foster will produce the reports every month, currently covering 100 counties it serves in the Mid-Atlantic region. The Long & Foster Market Minute™ is an overview of market statistics pre-

sented at the county level. The easy-to-read and easy-to-share reports include information about each county's units sold, active inventory, median sale prices, months of supply, new listings, new contracts, list to sold price ratio, and days on market. In addition to the 100 counties in seven states it currently covers, The Long & Foster Market Minute will include more counties in future releases.

The Long & Foster Market Minute™ reports are available at no charge on the Long & Foster Web site, <http://www.longandfoster.com/>.

Keller Williams Realty McLean

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A Date with Destiny, Sort Of



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Am I glad March 27, 2010 has passed without me having passed. That was the lower end of the infamous "13 month to two years" time frame that my oncologist prognosticated, statistically speaking, that stage IV lung cancer patients have until, well, you know. The next date is two years from the original date of diagnosis/prognosis, meaning next February 27, 2011 - 11 months from now, you know when. It's not like I'm looking at the calendar every day and crossing out days however, marking what time I have left, or not. Still, it's impossible not to be mindful of dates, given the less-than-ideal health situation in which I find myself ensnared.

But somehow, I must. Somehow, I must go on living as if there's no end in sight, go on living as if my prognosis, my disease, is merely a blip on my life's radar rather than the multitude of blips (tumors) that actually appear on the medical scans that I regularly undergo. Having juggled this mental conundrum for more than a year now, I have to admit, I've had better days (and weeks, and months, etc.), but March 28 (the day after) was certainly one of them.

Unfortunately, one date does not a lifetime (normal life expectancy) make. Nevertheless, as a cancer patient currently undergoing treatment, any kind of news, result, answer, date, that can be interpreted as positive is to be embraced and exaggerated (within reason of course). Because finding a path of least resistance, mentally, through the uncharted - and very unpredictable - waters seems to be key to the intangibles working for you instead of against you.

But who knows, really? There are so many opinions, so many studies, so many papers; some educated, some not; some proven (in a manner of speaking), some not; pertaining to fighting and defeating cancer, that knowing what course of action has merit and what course is merely discourse, is yet another mental hurdle. The information available online, from medical professionals, from well-meaning friends and family (with their own anecdotal evidence/information from their respective circles/lives) and from other miscellaneous "educators" is overwhelming. Who to believe? How best to proceed? How much to hope? How much to care? It's much easier said than done. (And it's not that easy to say it, either; it's much easier for me to write it; ergo the cancer columns.)

But finding a way, you must. Because the alternative is grim, and that's no fairy tale. That's reality, the harshest reality there is: between a rock and a hard place (see column of the same name published 4/21/2010), with no place to go except a cliff (metaphorically speaking) on which your oncologist originally said your next 13 months to two years will sort of teeter (I'm paraphrasing a bit, but you get the idea, I'm sure).

And teeter, physically (from the neuropathy and muscle weakness, among other cancer-and-the-side-effects-of-the-treatment-of-cancer-related effects) you will and mentally, too, from the obvious strain on your brain, dealing with this new reality. The trick is; heck, there is no trick. There are good days and bad days, and some actual dates that carry you forward (and some that carry you backward, too); some of them meaningful, some of them meaningless. It's mind over matter. Somehow, you have to not mind what matters and not let matter what's on your mind.

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

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28 Yard Sales

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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As part of their study of U.S. history, Churchill Road students saw the Liberty Bell. From left are Alden Anthony, Nicole Saad, Emily Kruse, Kristin McKinnon, Hannah Curtis, Liam O'Donovan and JiHwan Lee.

Churchill Road E.S. Students Visit Philadelphia

On Saturday, April 17, Churchill Road Elementary teachers Meghan Roman, Jill Hamlin, Sarah Finger, David Ickowski, Nathan Geer and Jordan Craig-Kuhn hosted a group of fourth and sixth graders on a special field trip to Philadelphia. The weather was perfect and the Churchill Road group explored the city. They started off on the walking tour around “the most historic square mile, in the most historic city” stop-

ping by the home where Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, Signer's Walk, the Philadelphia state house, aka Independence Hall, the first borrowing library, Franklin Cour and Betsy Ross' house. Following a visit to the Liberty Bell, they explored the Constitution center, watching an eye-opening movie called, “Freedom Rising” and then came face-to-face with some of our Founding Fathers.

PHOTOS BY JILL HAMLIN AND MEGHAN ROMAN



Churchill Road students visit Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Pictured, from left, are: Dave Ickowski (fourth grade teacher), Emily Kruse, Patrick Smith, Jackson Payne, Marshall Iverson (hidden), Richie O'Kane, Lauren Markwart and Hannah Curtis. Back row, from left, are Sarah Finger (fourth grade teacher), Nate Geer (third grade teacher), Taylor Tracy, Nicole Saad, Alden Anthony, Kristin McKinnon and Sophie Houmaoui.

