

A growing crowd
watches Western
Electric play at the
Great Falls Village
Centre June 6.

Great Falls Kicks Off Summer Concert Series

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NEWS

The crowd sets up at the Great Falls Village Centre for the Western Electric concert. Though it rained early in the day, it didn't dissuade more than 100 people from coming out and catching the first concert of the summer.



PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH / THE CONNECTION

Great Falls Kicks Off Summer Concert Series

Western Electric provides honky-tonk beginning to weekly shows.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Great Falls Village Centre kicked off its Summer Concerts on the Green Sunday, June 6 with a performance by local country band Western Electric. A local country band, they played a mix of country standards and original tunes that kicked off the summer season right for more than 100 people who attended the show.

Though it rained early in the day Sunday, the sun was out by the time the concert began, and there was no shortage of people filling the green. Consisting of an acoustic guitar, electric guitar, bass, drums and pedal steel guitar, the group took the bandstand at the center of the green just after 6 p.m. They quickly got the crowd into the mood by playing Johnny Cash's "Folsom Prison Blues."

While they kept things light for most of the concert, they also managed to pay tribute to the men and women of the armed forces. Lead singer Bennie Potter asked the audience to take a moment to recognize that "one of the reasons we can be here tonight in such a great place is because of the men and women serving our country."

After that, the band broke into "Gold Star Mother," a song dedicated to the group of mothers who have lost children in combat.

MEMBERS OF THE CROWD found their places on the lawn, with some setting up camp chairs, and others with more elaborate set-ups with tables and finger foods. Some people paid attention to the band like they were in an arena, while others just used the music as a backdrop for walking their dog, play-



Members of Western Electric kick off the Summer Concerts on the Green June 6 at the Great Falls Village Centre.

ing catch or browsing through the shops on the green.

While most of their parents sat and enjoyed time with friends and family, for the children of Great Falls, the concerts offer a chance to play with friends they don't otherwise see.

"I've been coming to these concerts every week since I was 3," said Cammie Sharron, who goes to Forestville Elementary School. "I like seeing old friends here, the ones that don't go to my school."

The concert is the first in the series, which will take place every Sunday from 6-8 p.m., concluding

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VIEWPOINTS

What is your favorite part about Great Falls summer concerts?

— ALEX McVEIGH



Jenna Zimmerman, pictured with Cammie Charron, Jessica York, Elise Doucet, Casey Charron and Nick Turlletes, Great Falls students
"We like to come here and have fun outdoors with all of our friends."



Robin Rentsch, Great Falls, volunteer
"A lot of the community comes together, and I love to watch the little kids dance, especially the little girls in their cute dresses."



Eleanor Anderson, Great Falls, retired government employee
"I like to see people using the Village Centre as a gathering place for the community."



Sharon Flaesch, Great Falls, homemaker
"The kids have fun, they run around and see their friends. It's just a nice small-town thing to do. It's one of the things that makes Great Falls great."



John Burke, Great Falls, business owner
"Things like this are one of the reasons we moved here. It's a great community gathering spot, and we come every Sunday."



PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Blacksmith Pat McGuire of Herndon took his first blacksmithing class 14 years ago. He's been a member of the Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac, Inc. ever since.

Corinne and Phil Meadows of Reston stopped by Colvin Run Mill to watch blacksmith Pat McGuire turn scrap metal into an artful wall hook accented with a leaf motif.

Water, Sewer Project To Be Discussed

The GFC's Land Use and Zoning Committee has arranged for Jay Donohue, the Dranesville District planning commissioner, and staff from the County's Department of Planning and Zoning and Supervisor John Foust's (D-Dranesville) office, to meet with the Committee and Great Falls residents to discuss the DC Water and Sewer Authority's (DCWASA) application to build a new odor abatement facility in parkland at the end of River Park Lane in Great Falls. The meeting will be Monday, June 14, 7:30 p.m., in the meeting room at the Great Falls Library. This is a date change as the meeting was previously scheduled for June 17.

This will be the community's best opportunity to hear directly from county officials about their review of DCWASA's Special Exception application prior to the Planning Commission's public hearing on this matter.

Summer Reading, Sign Up Online

Last year more than 48,000 children participated in Fairfax County library's Summer Reading Program. This year's program will run June 21 to Sept. 4. In addition to encouraging children to read throughout the summer and rewarding them with a coupon book full of great prizes, the program offers activities for every age group, including: theater stunts, anime drawing and crafts for teens; live animals, magic and a sound effects program for ages 6-12. Participants can also enjoy puppets, music and stories for families and young ones. Families can browse online for event details or pick up a copy of the library's newsletter "This Month" at any Fairfax County Public Library branch. New this year, students can register online to participate in the program. Sign-up, both online and in branches, will begin June 21. For more details, see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/srp/>

Blacksmith Forges Tradition

Colvin Run Mill offers free blacksmithing demonstrations.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Blacksmithing may have waned over the past 100 years, but it's not dead. Artisans of the Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac, Inc. practice their craft and pass on this link to horse-dependent days through public demonstrations.

Rather than visiting Colonial Williamsburg for blacksmithing demonstrations, the next best thing in the area is Colvin Run Mill where skilled blacksmiths forge tools and ornamental iron pieces. Pat McGuire of Herndon is one of them.

"I learned by taking a beginning blacksmith's class at the Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac, and I've been a member ever since," said McGuire. That was 14 years ago.

OUTSIDE A BARN at Colvin Run Mill, McGuire's blacksmith workshop is set up. In the raised hearth, intense coals heat the iron to a pliable state. By hand, McGuire turns a handle on a fan that increases the intensity of

the fire. The more air McGuire produces, the hotter the fire gets. He figured out once that, for each turn of the handle, there are 40 turns to the fan.

That's how a blacksmith maintains a temperature hot enough for forging iron.

Using scrap metal, McGuire heats the iron inch by inch, hammering it and changing its shape. It takes McGuire about an hour of labor to produce an ornamental wall hook. Much of the time involved in blacksmithing is taken up by heating the metal to necessary temperature for forging.

Phil and Corinne Meadows of Reston stopped by Colvin Run Mill for the first time on Sunday. They passed by the grounds of Colvin Run Mill and thought the landscaping and grounds looked beautiful.

They, and their two dogs rescued from the streets of the Dominican Republic, spent a while watching McGuire work and talking to him as he did so. Phil and Corinne both said they learned a lot of historical background about blacksmithing from McGuire.

"We're interested in history," Corinne Meadows said. "I learned from him [McGuire] that blacksmithing as a trade died out with the advent of the automobile. Blacksmiths were the first to have garages, too. Observing this, you can see what a noble craft it is. It takes a lot of skill and artistry."

Phil Meadows recalled his grandfather, "back

More

Blacksmithing Demonstrations at Colvin Run Mill on Sundays, July 11 and Aug. 1, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. No programs on July 4. Blacksmith's demonstrations are free to the public.

in the day," forging horseshoes for his farm's horses. Meadows said that he, too, learned new things about blacksmithing, among them that hot weather is more conducive to the process of forging than cold weather is because ambient cold cools the metal too quickly. "I would have thought it was just the opposite," Meadows said.

After the Meadows' interaction with blacksmith McGuire, Phil Meadows said that blacksmithing is a craft that he would enjoy learning to do.

"Blacksmithing takes a lot of skill and patience," said Phil Meadows. "There's an art to it, to take a raw piece of metal and turn it into something beautiful."

COLVIN RUN MILL offers free blacksmithing demonstrations on Sunday, July 11 and Aug. 1, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Membership in the Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac, Inc. stretches from Virginia, Maryland and Washington, D.C. to West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Interest, not expertise, is the only requirement for joining the Guild. For more information on the art of blacksmithing or to register for classes, see <http://www.bgop.org/>

COUNTY LINE

Committees Push for Accelerated Math

Two of the local school board's advisory committees have urged Fairfax County Public Schools to offer accelerated math classes at all elementary schools in the county.

According to the Advanced Academics Advisory Committee, students who do not take accelerated math as sixth graders are prohibited from taking Algebra I as seventh graders.

And students who take Algebra I in seventh grade often have an advantage when it comes to getting accepted to advanced academic programs in high school.

According to a Fairfax County Public School press release, approximately 80 percent of next year's freshman class at Thomas Jefferson School for Science and Technology had completed Algebra I by the end of seventh grade.

According to the school system's minority student achievement oversight committee, elementary schools without accelerated math are more likely to enroll black and Hispanic students. If accelerated math was expanded to all schools, it could improve the acceptance rate of black and Hispanic students at Jefferson.

Fairfax schools reported last month that only 17 of the 480 students in Jefferson's freshman class next year are black or Hispanic.

Huge Increase In Students with Autism

From 1997 to 2007, the number of students with autism in Fairfax County Public Schools rose 775 percent, according to the local school board's advisory committee on students with disabilities.

During the 1996-1997 school year, Fairfax County enrolled just 235 students who had been labeled autistic. By the 2006-2008 school year, the local school system included 1,712 students with autism.

Children in Fairfax schools are far more likely to be autistic than those in other parts of the country. Approximately one in every 91 children enrolled in the Fairfax school system was autistic in 2007, compared to just one in



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SEE COUNTY, PAGE 18



PHOTOS BY AMIR NOORBAKSH/ THE CONNECTION



Members of the Langley High School Choral Department present their annual Spring Show, 'On Broadway,' Thursday and Friday, June 3-4.

The Concert Choir performs 'Mary Poppins.'

Season Finale for Langley Choirs

'On Broadway' receives applause, audience recognition.

The Langley High School Choral Department took to the stage with their annual Spring show, "On Broadway," with the performances on June 3 and 4. The program featured Broadway musical hits from "Mary Poppins," "Les Misérables," "42nd Street," "Guys and Dolls," "Pippin," "Applause!" and "Seussical." The program also featured medleys in addition to the Broadway musical selections. The show gave the nearly full auditorium's audience a chance to listen the songs sung by the six different choirs directed by Mac Lambert and accompanied by Lori Taylor. The show was also accompanied by a live orchestra and choreographed by seven different choreographers including Keri Staley.

The show began with the Combined Choirs singing "The Spark of Creation," from the "Children of Eden," followed by the Treble Choir, who performed pieces

from "Seussical." Next came the Madrigals, who performed pieces from the choral medley "Next to Normal." After the Madrigals, The Women's Chamber Choir performed pieces from "Les Misérables," including the touching song "I Dreamed a Dream." The audience clapped to the music and enjoyed themselves while the Voicemale Chorus sang "I Get Around" and "Good Vibrations" from the Beach Boys' "Good Vibrations."

"I was very impressed by the choirs' talent and how enthusiastic all of the performers were. I can't wait to get on iTunes to download some of the songs I heard," said Bret Peters, a Vienna resident.

The Women's Select Treble Choir took on to the stage with their maid attires and brooms singing "It's a Hard-Knock Life," "Kids," and other songs from "Applause!" Saving the best for the last performance before the intermission, the setting and fashion shifted to London, England with the

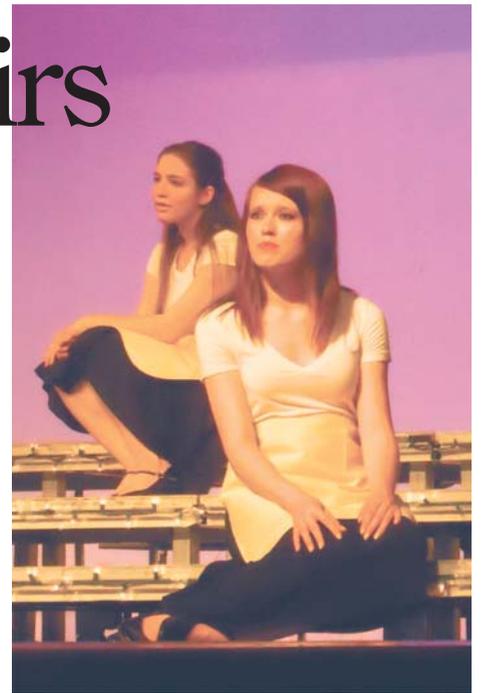
choirs' performance of songs from "Mary Poppins."

After the intermission, all the choirs sang individually once more and ended the concert with the Combined Choirs singing "Corner of the Sky" from "Pippin." During the second half, the audience enjoyed "Guys and Dolls," performed by The Madrigals and "42nd Street" by the Women's Select Choir, and other Broadway musical hits.

"The show was terrific and very professional with nice choreography," said Alexandra Bechter, an art historian and McLean resident. "You can tell that the performers were having a lot of fun singing and acting."

The Langley High School Choral Department will end the year with a Choral Awards Ceremony on Thursday, June 11 at 6 p.m. Professionally produced DVDs of the show are available for \$20 at www.langleychorus.com.

— AMIR NOORBAKSH



Hillary Benjamin and Abby Thompson, members of the Langley High School Women's Chamber Choir ensemble performing a medley from 'Les Misérables.' Benjamin was one of the two students, along with Nicole Kang, who choreographed the 'Les Misérables' medley for the last week's 'On Broadway' show.



Members of the Women's Select Treble Choir performing 'It's a Hard-Knock Life' with maid attires and brooms.



The Treble Choir performing 'Green Eggs and Ham.'



Director Mac Lambert and accompanist Lori Taylor

NEWS

Winning Third Place in World Finals

Colvin Run Elementary students impress at the Odyssey of the Mind championship.

Colvin Run Elementary School's Odyssey of the Mind team traveled to Michigan State University over Memorial Day weekend to take part in the world championships, which featured over 5,000 participants from 34 states and 12 countries.

Colvin Run, the Virginia state champions, took home third place in the Column Structures competition, which requires teams to design and build balsa wood columns that function together to balance and support as much weight as possible. In addition to testing students' technical skills and knowledge, Odyssey of the mind also rewards artistic creativity by requiring an original team-created performance to be included in the testing of its columns. The Colvin Run team's structure held 1,050 pounds, second only to the structure built by the team from Changzhou, China.



Back row, from left, Coach Peizhong Wang, Jessica Wang, Derek Kartalian and Coach Chuck Loving; and, front row, Aaron Granstedt, David Loving, Gwendolyn Rak and Annie Wang.

Langley High Senior Honored with Hillary J. Fein Spirit Award

At the Langley High School Crew end-of-year picnic on Sunday, June 6 at Sandy Run Regional Park, Langley rower and graduating senior Connor A. Houston was given the Hillary J. Fein Spirit Award for the "athlete who best embodies the true spirit and passion for Crew."

This honor is awarded every year by the Langley Crew Board of Directors to honor the memory of Hillary Fein, Langley Class of 1999. Fein was a dedicated member of the Langley Crew Team who died in 2000.

Connor is the son of Kerri (Houston) Toloczko and Mike Toloczko of Great Falls, and Phil Houston of Dallas, Texas.

Words engraved on the plaque from a diary entry made by Hillary in 1996 after the Stotesbury Regatta in Philadelphia read in part, "Today ... we realized what 'team' means ... honor, heart and honesty about pulling your best and never giving up. I am dedicated to this sport forever. You don't win a race on the water, you win a race in your heart."

Connor will be attending Liberty Uni-



Connor A. Houston, right, with the Langley High School Crew Head Coach Matt Fanny following the award presentation.

versity in the fall to major in strategic and intelligence studies at its Helms School of Government. He will also be participating in Air Force ROTC and Liberty Crew.

Sounds of Summer

FROM PAGE 3

on Aug. 8.

THE GREAT FALLS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION is also giving each show a theme, sharing information about some of the projects aimed at improving or maintaining the community. The initiative highlighted this week was the backyard wildlife habitats, since Great Falls already features more than 200 schools, homes and businesses that are certified wildlife habitats by the National Wildlife Foundation.

"We've been asked to host these concerts as a way to get more visibility for these initiatives," said Jackie Taylor of the GFCA, who helped man a table at the concert to give attendees more information about the association.

For more information and updates on the Great Falls Summer Concerts on the Green series, visit www.gfconcerts.com, or follow them on Twitter at twitter.com/GFconcerts.



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Chick Hall, lead guitarist for Western Electric, plays during the band's concert June 4 in Great Falls. Western Electric played a mix of covers and originals, never straying too far from their country roots.

Summer Concerts on the Green, Sundays 6-8 p.m.

JUNE 13: Diamond Alley, a five-piece dance/rock/funk/soul band performing a mix of hits and their own original tunes.

JUNE 20: Daryl Davis, a keyboardist, guitarist and vocalist, as well as an actor, author and lecturer, performs hits of the '50s.

JUNE 27: The Shields Brothers, a pop rock trio that won 2009 Fox Rocks, combine crisp harmonies, solid grooves and excellent lead vocals with the showmanship of stadium rock bands.

JULY 11: Cravin' Dogs, an all-original, eclectic, rootsy rock-pop outfit featuring a blend of folk, rock, '80s new wave and bluegrass.

JULY 18: The Smallwood Brothers, a combination of classic rock, soulful blues rock and "flat-out guitar rock," that also incorporates soul, R&B, funk, country and show tunes.

JULY 25: Tom Principato, a guitarist that has been "setting the telecaster on fire" all across the globe, performs blues with the Tom Principato Band.

AUG. 1: Hamburger James, here to prove that three-minute records and the vintage sounds of the 50's can still push musical boundaries.

AUG. 8: Two Car Living Room, blues and rock with a few originals thrown in, their goal is to have fun and make sure the audience does the same.

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OPINION

For Scientists, Start Earlier, Learn Geography

After years of changes designed to increase diversity, Thomas Jefferson this year admitted nine poor students.

Each year, 480 students are admitted to the top high school in the United States, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. Back in 2004, a Blue Ribbon commission recommended a variety of changes to the admission's process to enter Fairfax County's top public school, an effort to boost the diversity at the school. The school's students have been about 90 percent Asian and white.

Many changes later, changes designed to consider students "holistically," the incoming freshman class has dramatically smaller percentages of black, Hispanic and poor students than the student body of the county as a whole. Four African American students were admitted, along with 13 Hispanic students, in a class of 480 incoming freshman.

More telling, there were nine students poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced price meals admitted to begin ninth grade next year at TJ. That's less than two percent. Children in a family of four with income of less than \$44,000 annually qualify for subsidized meals, and such children make up about 20 percent of all students in Fairfax County.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Different View On 'Fairness'

To the Editor:

I would like to applaud George Waters for his missive on the FCSB's recent hikes on certain school activities and services ["Fairness Goes Out the Window," Great Falls Connection, June 2-8, 2010]. The fever pitch of middle class entitlement that radiated from every line succeeded, at long last, in breaking 20-plus years of indifference to spur me to write a letter to the editor. Please understand this is in no way intended as an attack on Waters, whose civic sense is evidently well developed and who clearly cares about the school budget. I thank him heartily for expressing his views even as I disagree profoundly with his position.

Waters decries the imposition of a \$75 fee on each Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) class our high school students take henceforth, adding without a hint of irony that, "what many of us thought were rights are apparently just privileges." Students invariably, and sensibly, take AP classes to save themselves the expense and effort of introductory college classes. The IBDP adds little more than a cosmopolitan gloss on stan-

More than 70 percent of those admitted to TJ had completed geometry in eighth grade. But in some of the poorest and most diverse middle schools in the county, advanced math programs are not even offered.

In the overall state of the county, does it matter how many poor students, or black students, or Hispanic students, get to go to the best high school in the country?

It does matter that students from schools with more diversity and more poverty are not getting the opportunity to develop a passion for science and technology.

The school system's failure to prepare more poor students well enough to gain admission to TJ means a huge missed opportunity. It means that tens of thousands of stu-

dents who could be developing a passion for science at an early age that might transform their lives are not getting the foundation they need to go forward in rigorous programs, whether that's at TJ or AP or IB.

FCPS is cutting programs that benefit poor students and schools with a higher percentage of poor students, for example Project Excel and year-round school calendar, even as it is clear poor students have almost no access to the county's top programs.

It's time to add a geographic component to admissions at TJ, reserving some spots for students from every middle school.

This will also require starting earlier with advanced classes so that when those students arrive at TJ, they can succeed there.

EDITORIALS

Last Call for Father's Day photos

Father's Day is Sunday, June 20, and once again the McLean Connection will publish a gallery of Father's Day photos.

Send in photos as soon as possible, including names of everyone in the picture, the date the picture was taken, the ages of the children and sentence or two about what is happening

and where the photograph was taken. Be sure to include your town name and neighborhood.

Email photos to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com, or mail a disk or prints to McLean Connection, Father's Day Photo Gallery, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

dard college prep fare and is generally capable of impressing few beyond admissions officers at certain schools. So when exactly did requiring the county's taxpayers to grease one's college education become a "right?" Funny, most of us think that is the parent or student's responsibility. In truth, \$75 — even at a multiple of 10 — is a bargain when compared to what colleges are charging these days.

He laments that these fees, which affect nobody but the beneficiary, will serve as a disincentive to those students whose families are just scraping by. Perhaps so, but he notes in nearly the same breath that, "the board did include a fee waiver for the truly poor," and that simply is not good enough for the middle class in Fairfax. Isn't it?

We live in the second most affluent county in the United States with a median income of \$106,785, according to the most recent survey by Forbes. The county's own data on income distribution (2008) show that some seven in 10 households make at least \$75,000 per year, numbers that presumably well encompass Fairfax's middle class. In light of such wealth, to suggest that a few hundred dollars more a year in educational expenses — which, after all, are an investment in our respective children — makes our

elected officials "reckless" and the rest of us "feckless" debases these words beyond all power to shame.

I would address Waters' attack on the Board of Supervisors for having the temerity to lower property tax rates as we emerge from recession, but I think you get the idea. Mr. Waters is right, there is no such thing as a free lunch, and the sooner all of us — poor, middle class, and, yes, the wealthy — learn to stop looking to the government (read taxpayer) to cosset our every individual want, the sooner we can prioritize our real needs and spending.

Thomas Garcia
Great Falls

Disparity Needs To Be Addressed

To the Editor:

The Connection's report on acceptance rates at Thomas Jefferson High School ["Diversity at TJ?," June 2-8, 2010] raises serious questions about the school's admission policies. Why are the fractions of students accepted from the pools of black applicants (four out of 184) and Hispanic applicants (13 out of 225) so much lower than the fractions of accepted white (166 out of 1,277) and Asian (276 out of 1,243) ap-

plicants? Is the disparity a result of inadequate admission criteria? If not, is it the result of inadequate preparation of black and Hispanic children by our elementary and middle schools? I hope the School Board will look into this matter, report its findings to the public and promptly take any necessary or desirable remedial action.

William Shapiro
McLean

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

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NEWS

Margaret Johnson's 'Memory Moments' on Exhibit at Great Falls Library

On June 17, from, 7-9 p.m., a reception is taking place for Margaret Johnson, who is showing her paintings at the Great Falls Library from June 1-30. Refreshments will be served.

Johnson is an artist living and working in Great Falls. She paints with oil, concentrating on still-lives and landscapes. She also sometimes paints portraits and a few watercolors. Johnson is an active member of the Great Falls Studios, McLean Art Club and the Vienna Art Society. The show will include selections from her series of paintings featuring local barns in Great Falls.

"Memory Moments," Paintings by Margaret Johnson, can be seen at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls. For more information, visit www.margaretjohnsonart.com.



Margaret Johnson



Margaret Johnson, 'Turner Farm.'

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CALENDAR

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

THURSDAY/JUNE 10

Swing Dance with King Teddy. 7:30 at The Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. 703-424-1745 or www.headoverheelsdance.com.
Sally Seltmann and Tamarama. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. jamminjava.com.
Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society. 2:30 p.m. at the Falls Church Community Center, 223 Little Falls St., Falls Church. John Capobianco, on 'Styling Your Chrysanthemum Bonsai.' Free. 703-560-8776.

FRIDAY/JUNE 11

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. 6 p.m.-12 a.m. on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Rusted Root performs at 8 p.m. General admission seating is available for all performances at the Bud Light Main Stage. Six stages will be located throughout the festival site. All shows are free with daily tickets to the event. 703-324-3247 or www.celebratefairfax.com.
Cirque Dreams: Illumination. 8:30 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$45-\$245. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.
Summer on the Green: Annapolis Bluegrass. 6:30 p.m. at the Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Bring chairs or blankets for



Diamond Alley performs at Great Falls Summer Concerts 2010 on Sunday, June 13, 6-8 p.m. at the Great Falls Village Centre.

seating. No alcoholic beverages allowed. It is recommended that pets be left at home. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.
"Tinner Hill: Portraits in Black and White." 7:30 p.m. at ArtSpace Falls Church, 410 South Maple Ave., Falls Church. Theater based on the stories of local civil rights pioneers. \$15 for Adults, \$10 for students and seniors. www.creativecauldron.org or 571-239-5288.
"Suburban Motel." 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road in Tysons Corner. A funny cycle of plays with a pack of bizarre characters determined to survive. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1stStageTysons.org/motel.
Old Firehouse Teen Center Dance.

7-10 p.m. at The Old Firehouse Teen Center, 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Disc jockey, Chipotle's Burrito Bowls and customized Green Screen photo. For rising 7th graders and all other middle schoolers. \$15, \$10 McLean district residents. Activity No. 5444.410. Register at 703-448-8336 (TEEN).

SATURDAY/JUNE 12

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. 10 a.m.-12 a.m. on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Carolina Liar performs at 3 p.m. and KC & The Sunshine Band at 8 p.m. General admission seating is available for all performances at the

Bud Light Main Stage. Six stages will be located throughout the festival site. All shows are free with daily tickets to the event. 703-324-3247 or www.celebratefairfax.com.

Cirque Dreams: Illumination. 8:30 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$45-\$245. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

Dork Diaries Book Signing. 3-5 p.m. at Simply Sparetime, 8310 Turning Leaf Lane, McLean. Meet the author and illustrator. Prizes and giveaways. www.simplysparetime.org or 703-288-9393.

Historic Vienna, Inc. Used Book Sale. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on the lawn of the Freeman House, 131 Church Street, NE, Vienna. Current bestsellers, classics, travel, cookbooks, biography and history. All proceeds support the programs and activities of Historic Vienna, Inc. 703-928-5187.

Commemorate the Confederate Victory at the 1861 Battle of Vienna. 4 p.m. at the historic marker on W&OD Trail at mile marker 11.5, about 100 yd. north of where the trail crosses Park St., Vienna. Frank Stringfellow Camp #822 Sons of Confederate Veterans will host a short talk about the battle. Free and open to the public. 703-250-8705 or stringfellowbuva@att.net.

"Tinner Hill: Portraits in Black and White." 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at ArtSpace Falls Church, 410 South Maple Ave., Falls Church. Theater based on the stories of local civil rights pioneers. \$15 for Adults, \$10 for students and seniors. www.creativecauldron.org or 571-239-5288.

Fitness Practice. 8 a.m. at the Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445

Laughlin Ave., McLean. Yoga and Pilates. Bring yoga mat and water. Free. 703-288-9505.

Dulcie Taylor. 5 p.m. at the Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Country. Free. 703-288-9505.

"Suburban Motel." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road in Tysons Corner. A funny cycle of plays with a pack of bizarre characters determined to survive. \$25 adults, \$15 students.

www.1stStageTysons.org/motel.
Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Horticultural tips, techniques and advice. 703-293-6227.

SUNDAY/JUNE 13

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. on the grounds of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Josh Thompson and Jimmy Wayne perform at 4:30 p.m. General admission seating is available for all performances at the Bud Light Main Stage. Six stages will be located throughout the festival site. All shows are free with daily tickets to the event. 703-324-3247 or www.celebratefairfax.com.

AR Rahman, Musician and Composer from Slumdog Millionaire film. 7:30 p.m. at George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets are \$45-\$500 at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. www.arahman.com or www.patriotcenter.com.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 12



PHOTO GALLERY!

"Me and My Dad"

To honor dad on Father's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your dad and The Connection will publish them in our Father's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

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Or to mail photo prints, send to:

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 11

Summer on the Green: Kingsley Winter Band - 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.

Bluegrass Brunch with Dead Men's Hollow. 1:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$8. jamminjava.com.

Into the Great Wide Open: Jammin' Java's Songwriters' Circle. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance, \$15 day of show. jamminjava.com.

Great Falls Summer Concerts 2010, Diamond Alley, a 5 piece Dance/Rock/Funk/Soul band, 6-8 p.m. at the Great Falls Village Centre.

Historic Vienna, Inc. Used Book Sale. 12-5 p.m. on the lawn of the Freeman House, 131 Church Street, NE, Vienna. Current bestsellers, classics, travel, cookbooks, biography and history. All proceeds support the programs and activities of Historic Vienna, Inc. 703-928-5187.

"Tinner Hill: Portraits in Black and White." 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. at ArtSpace Falls Church, 410 South Maple Ave., Falls Church. Theater based on the stories of local civil rights pioneers. \$15 for Adults, \$10 for students and seniors. www.creativecauldron.org or 571-239-5288.

"Suburban Motel." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road in Tysons Corner. A funny cycle of plays with a pack of bizarre characters determined to survive. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1stStageTysons.org/motel.

'Florida Days' Hits McLean Stage

Original play debuts at the Alden Theatre this weekend.

BY JESSICA LEVINE
THE CONNECTION

The newest original play by McLean Drama Company president Rachael Bail has it all — comedy, drama, tragedy and a dysfunctional family to rival the craziest of kin.

"Florida Days," which will run Friday, June 11 through Sunday, June 13 at the Alden Theatre, tells the story of a family that moves from Pennsylvania to a small town in central Florida.

"This play is about a dysfunctional family," Bail said. "I guess all families are dysfunctional," she added, jokingly.

Bail, a former journalist with Voice of America and the play's author and producer, has written five other plays that the



PHOTO BY PAUL GILLIS PHOTOGRAPHY

Caitlin McCormick of McLean plays a disturbed woman, June, in the McLean Drama Company's original work 'Florida Days,' with Trey Ervine of Vienna in the role of her husband, Billy.

company has presented at the Alden Theatre, including last year's "Immoral Combat," a satire on the news industry.

Though Bail described "Florida Days" as the first tragedy that she's written, actors agreed that the 90-minute show has a fair amount of humor as well.

"I really love how there's so much comedy, even in the most

dramatic of scenes," said cast member Elise Edwards, a Falls Church resident and the show's female lead.

Edwards plays Betty, a young woman who moves away from her family to New York to pursue a journalism career. This is Edwards' second show with the company. She also performed in "Immoral Combat" last year.

Times and Tickets

Performances of "Florida Days" will run June 11 and 12 at 8 p.m. and June 13 at 2 p.m. The 10-Minute Play Contest winning entry, a play called "Visiting Anna" about an Alzheimer's patient and her daughter, will follow the final show on June 13. Tickets are available through the Alden Box Office at 703-790-9223 or through Ticketmaster at 703-573-SEAT or www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors, students and McLean Tax District residents. Groups of 10 or more pay \$10 per person or \$8 per person for seniors and non-profit groups.

"I really relate to the young Betty in the play, being bright-eyed and fresh out of school," Edwards said. "To me, [the show] really talks about lack of self-awareness, how it's so easy to repeat the mistakes of the past. Dysfunctional does not happen in a vacuum."

Director Stephanie Kelly has been involved in most of the company's productions since 2005. She stage-managed "Immoral Combat" last year, and when Bail asked her to direct

SEE MCLEAN DRAMA,
PAGE 15

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21 Announcements
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21 Announcements
OBITUARY
A. DEWEY BOND (AGE 87)
A. Dewey Bond, of Great Falls, VA died on May 25, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Jean Jensen, daughters, Philinda Collins, Laurel Elizey, Carolyn Bannister and Sylvia Donovan, and 11 grandchildren. A Funeral Service will be held at Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066 on Saturday, June 5, 2010 at 11:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Heifer International or Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Arrangements were made by Money and King Funeral Home. www.moneyandking.com

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The Safe Community Coalition is conducting a search for a part-time Executive Director. The Executive Director will be responsible for continuing and developing relationships within our community, identifying opportunities for collaboration and co-sponsorship, raising awareness of the coalition within the community through enhanced media attention and coalition-building efforts, and providing administrative support to the Board of Directors. This position is 30 hours per week. Resumes, nominations, and inquiries should be submitted to Debbie Wichey, Vice-President at: Debbie.Wichey@safecommunitycoalition.net by June 21, 2010. Website at: www.safecommunitycoalition.net

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A Question of Answers

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



As much – and as hard – as I try, it's difficult to forget that I have cancer. There are reminders everywhere. But the reminders that arrive/appear unexpectedly – thwack, are the worst. Let me give you two examples: my application for Social Security Disability benefits (which is merely a reduced percentage of your retirement benefit paid early, before you're eligible for that retirement, if you are determined to be "disabled," that is, a determination which is not easily or quickly made).

These days, even applying for Social Security disability is an online exercise (hopefully not in futility, but there's certainly no guarantee) and one that is somewhat daunting at that. My joke has been that if an applicant is able to successfully complete their online application for disability benefits, it immediately disqualifies them from receiving those benefits since the applicant has proven he is not so disabled that he can't sit and type at a computer; (the definition of disability according to Social Security is extremely general, so much so that if you can do anything for which you have background, training, education or experience, Social Security can deny your claim). The process is supposed to take 45 minutes, the site advises; it took me two hours, but I did finish and was able to submit my application online.

The questions begin simply enough; the non-medical ones, all the relevant facts; name, address, phone numbers, date of birth, social security number, employer, income, etc. Soon enough, the medical questions follow. About half-way through these questions, (treating physician, facility, medications, symptoms, date disability began), all of which were very reasonable and expected, humdrum even (sort of, given the seriousness of the matter at hand), came the following question which, had I not already been sitting, would have likely knocked me off my feet: "Is this disability likely to result in death in less than two years?" I hesitated then, as I'm hesitating now, writing the next sentence. Try asking yourself that question and then realizing you have to answer "Yes." Heavy doesn't begin to describe the weight I felt. Within a few minutes, I got my bearings and eventually re-engaged and ultimately completed the application. (By the way, when you answer "yes" to that "do you expect ..." question, you are fast-tracked to a special page within the application for extra-special attention.)

The second example of an unforeseen reminder that I didn't need, and one that came totally out of the blue, unlike the application for Social Security which certainly had the potential for such reminders but one that nevertheless I did not anticipate, came in the mail from my HMO. It was an innocent-sounding, customer service-type survey, asking me questions about my most recent visit with my oncologist: courtesy, efficiency, punctuality; did the doctor explain my treatment, discuss options, clarify procedures and so forth. There were maybe a dozen questions with each answer requiring a check mark beside "no experience" to "excellent," with multiple other characterizations in between. It took five minutes to complete.

At the bottom were a few additional questions, more general, summary-type questions about the responder/patient: "Would you recommend this doctor/HMO to another person?" "Overall, are you pleased with your level of care?" Then, the unexpected two by four: "How would you describe your health? "Poor, Fair, Good, Very Good, Excellent?" Again, I hesitated; gulped and said out loud: "I'm a cancer patient, I guess I'd have to say 'poor.' As much as I'd like to think otherwise, and as "above average" as my oncologist has described my diagnosis-to-date reaction/condition, I'd have to say/think that checking a box other than poor would be naive on my part so I checked 'poor', stuffed and sealed the envelope and then wrote this column.

In general, I feel fine. My oncologist is "pleased." However, I have stage IV lung cancer. Sometimes, the less said – and the less asked about it, the better.

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

MCA Proposes Tysons Changes

McLean Citizens Association recommends several changes to Tysons Corner Plan.

By ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The McLean Citizens Association has proposed several changes to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance for Tysons Corner, which the group will testify on at a June 22 hearing by the Board of Supervisors.

The MCA has raised several concerns with the current proposal, including a lack of planning for parks and athletic fields and who will assume costs for the new infrastructure. Although the MCA does have its concerns, Rob Jackson, president of the MCA, said that the Planning Commission's recommendation is much more consistent with the MCA's resolutions than they expected.

In addition to the MCA, the lack of athletic fields was also a concern of Planning Commissioner Jay Donahue (Dranesville), who was the only "nay" vote when the 11-member Fairfax Planning Commission voted on the plan last month. The cause for concern is that the language of the Planning Commission's recommendation does not require parks and athletic fields to be part of the design. This lack of facilities, Donahue worried, will cause the parks in nearby Vienna and McLean to become overburdened with use by an expanded Tysons Corner.

Another major concern from the MCA was the proposed financing for the Tysons Corner development, with taxpayers footing 57 percent of the bill and the land developers paying for 43 percent.

"We'd like them to model the plan off of the Route 28 plan, where landowners paid 75 percent of the infrastructure costs," Jackson said. "After all, they're the ones who will benefit the most from the added density. We feel that Route 28 set a successful precedent, so why do something different?"

According to the proposed Tysons Plan, there are a total of 14 road projects to be completed by 2030 that are needed to "improve access points from the Dulles Toll Road and I-495 and Tysons and to improve traffic flow within the area." These 14 projects would cost \$646 million, of which the taxpayers are required to pay \$436 million, or 67.5 percent.

The MCA also supports a recommendation to limit most commercial density growth to within a quarter mile of the four proposed Metro rail stations.

The Board of Supervisors will conduct a hearing on the final Tysons Corner plan on June 22.



PHOTOS BY PAUL GILLUS PHOTOGRAPHY

From left, Sam Simon and Karen Masih of McLean stand with Thomas Linn of Reston and Elise Edwards of Falls Church during a rehearsal for the McLean Drama Company's upcoming production, 'Florida Days.'

McLean Drama Company Presents 'Florida Days'

FROM PAGE 12

"Florida Days," she agreed.

Kelly said that audiences will easily relate to the show's themes.

"Everyone has a little dysfunction in their lives," she said. "Whether they're willing to admit it, they do. There's something in everybody's lives that they can identify with in the show."

CAST MEMBER Caitlin McCormick of McLean has been involved in Alden Theatre productions ever since she did a summer theater workshop at age 10.

"I loved being here [as a child]," McCormick said. "The staff here is excellent; they treated us like we were professional actors."

McCormick plays June, Betty's sister, in "Florida Days," her first production with the company.

"It's really a show about an American family and all the dysfunction that goes with that," she said. "It's about what it means to be a woman, to be a wife. It's about a lot of things, but at the heart of it is the family relationships."

McCormick has enjoyed working on the production.

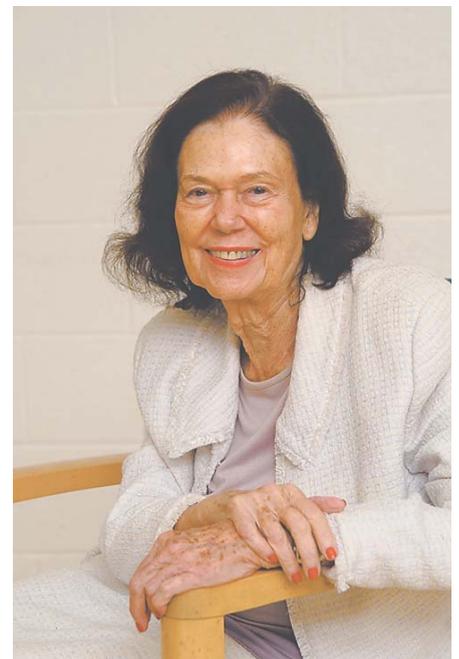
"Stephanie, the director, is really great," McCormick said. "She asks us 'What do you think about this' instead of telling us. It's nice to feel you have freedom ... to explore the character."

Cast member Samuel Simon, another McLean resident, plays the concertmaster, whom he described as "the most officious character in the play."

Simon said that "most anybody" will enjoy the play.

"Anybody who enjoys theatre is going to have a good time seeing something that is new, original and timely," he said.

THE PLAY'S THREE PERFORMANCES are dedicated to Kris Rathjen, lighting de-



Rachael Bail, playwright, president and founding member of the McLean Drama Company, wrote the original work Florida Days."

signer and founding member of the Company, who died on April 21 at age 54 while recovering from an accident.

Rathjen, a Great Falls resident, was "a wonderful guy" who will be remembered for his many talents and willingness to help out with every aspect of a production, Bail said.

"He did so many things," Bail recalls. "He built sets, and he directed the lighting, designed the lighting. He just stepped in to do whatever needed to be done to help us."

Simon described Rathjen's death as both "sad and inspiring."

"There's two sides to a loss like that," Simon said. "Hopefully it makes the performances more meaningful to everyone and ... to the community."

"It was a great, great loss," Bail said. "We really miss him."

SPORTS

Langley Lacrosse Teams Advance at States

Saxon girls dominant in first round playoff win, boys earn OT victory on goal by Ahearn.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

First round Virginia state playoff wins last week had both the Langley High girls' and boys' lacrosse teams one step closer to potential 2010 state champion status this week.

The Langley girls, who have never before qualified for the state tournament, overwhelmed Osbourn Park (Manassas), 16-6, in a girls' quarterfinals round contest on Friday night, June 4. The Saxons (17-3), who on May 26 captured their first-ever Northern Region tournament title with a 13-11 finals win over W.T. Woodson, were scheduled to meet Western Albemarle (Crozet) on Tuesday evening, June 8 in a state semifinals game. That game was slated to be followed by the second girls' semis contest — Woodson versus Loudoun Valley. Both games were set to take place at Westfield High School. The girls' state title game will be played at Westfield this Saturday, June 12 at 6 p.m.

The Saxons, in their decisive quarterfinals round win over Osbourn Park, dominated from the start.

"Our team played well and we had enough of a lead where we were able to play our backups in both the first and second half," said Langley head coach Richard DeSomma.

The coach said his team is made up of a special group of girls.

"What has gotten us further [than in the past] is the girls' themselves, their attitude and spirit," he said. "They like each other and they are a happy group that work hard in practice and enjoy the game. They have a good balance."

Langley's three senior team captains — goalie Mary Riley Pembroke, midfielder Elspeth McGarry and defender Natalie Doran — have done an excellent job leading an overall young team that includes 16 players who are either sophomores or freshmen.

"Sometimes you get [good team captains], and sometimes you don't," said DeSomma. "These girls represent the team and the girls and have good relationships. There are no chemistry issues. This is a young team, too, with five sophomore starters. We have a good practicing team with good lacrosse IQ. They hear [directions] and they apply it."

Langley's style of play is more methodical. The Saxons like to set up their offense and work the ball around.

"Control [is the key]," said the coach. "We like to control the game with our passing. But we do have enough skill that when we



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Langley High girls' lacrosse players Natalie Dolan (12) and Kelly Martins (5) play tough around the goal in this regular season game with Oakton.

do decide to go in for a score we have a 70 percent shot to score ratio."

Of all of his teams' strengths, DeSomma said the most important quality is that the Saxons play together.

"They play as a team," he said. "That is their No. 1 strength. That's really our key note."

In the win over Osbourn Park, McGarry led Langley with five goals and three assists. Other good scoring games came from sophomore midfielder Nicky Pritchett (4 goals), junior attack Nicole Burkart (3) and junior attack Torrie Zarella (3).

WHEREAS THE LANGLEY girls' opening round state playoff game was lopsided in nature, the Saxon boys' quarterfinals round game versus Salem High (Virginia Beach), a 13-12 Saxons' overtime win, was a nail-biter.

Langley's Sean Ahearn, a sophomore attackman, came from behind the goal to score from close range with 2 minutes, 16 seconds remaining in the 4 minute overtime session to break a 12-12 tie. This gave Langley a dramatic win to keep alive its hopes of successfully defending last year's state title.

Saxon senior attack Jack Lundeen was credited with the assist on the game-winner, in which he and Ahearn executed a basketball-like give-and-go play.

"They ran a little play," said Langley coach Earl Brewer. "Jack curved behind the goal [with the ball] and Sean set a pick like a basketball play. Then Jack passed the ball

to Sean, who took two or three steps and shot."

It was the second straight overtime game the Saxons have played in the postseason. In its region championship game against Robinson on May 26, Langley could not hold onto a lead late in regulation and ultimately lost to the Rams, 11-10, in overtime.

With the win over Salem, Langley was set to meet Northern Region opponent W.T. Woodson in a state semifinals game at Westfield on Wednesday, June 9 at 7:30 p.m. It was set to be the first meeting between the two teams this season. The other boys' semifinal game pitted Brooke Point (Stafford) versus Loudoun Valley at 5 p.m. Brooke Point upset Robinson in a state quarterfinals game last week.

LANGLEY, in the game with Salem, trailed 7-4 at halftime and 8-5 during the third quarter. The Saxons came back to tie the score at both 10-10 and 11-11 before taking the lead at 12-11 with 2 1/2 minutes remaining in the fourth quarter. But immediately following the go-ahead goal, Salem answered by winning the ensuing face-off and taking the ball down the field and scoring the equalizer to eventually move the contest into overtime, where Langley won.

"These guys have played a lot of overtime games," said Brewer, of his squad. "Overtime is about who has the most left in their legs at the end of the game. Salem didn't have a very deep bench."

But Brewer went on to say that Salem, a member of the Eastern Region, has an out-

standing team.

"They were as good as any team we've played this year," said Brewer. "They are well coached, physically tough, athletic and very fast."

Langley did not fall apart once it got behind by three goals at the half and in the third quarter.

"I don't think our guys ever got down," said Brewer. "There was never any panic - maybe they were just a little ticked off on the sideline. Three goals are not hard to make up in lacrosse."

Ten different Langley players scored in the win, led by Ahearn's three goals and Lundeen's two scores (and four assists). Single goal games came from junior midfielder Troy Scharfen (1 assist), senior midfielder Jack Curry, senior midfielder Joey Byrne (2 assists), senior attack Ethan Bailey, senior midfielder Ryan Miller, senior defenseman Robbie Bennett, junior attack Jack Sandusky and senior midfielder Bryan Clubb. In the net, Saxon goalies Andrew Spivey (7 saves) and Ryan Long (2) had good games.

One huge factor in the win was the clutch play of Langley sophomore midfielder Spencer Gorham, who won 12 of 18 face-offs.

"Spencer was definitely one of the keys to us winning the game," said Brewer, who added that Gorham earned a game ball with his exceptional play. "He's just a sophomore and hasn't played a lot this season. He's been primarily a face-off guy this year. He's a big, strong kid and works very hard on face-offs."

Where 'Something Special' Happens

1st Stage Theatre aims to create a 'pride of place' in Tysons.

BY NIKKI CHESHIRE

THE CONNECTION

Tyson's Corner has most of the elements required to classify it as a city, including the residential areas, retail, restaurants, businesses, malls, movies and a soon-to-be Metrostations. But one thing is missing — theater.

However, a recently opened establishment, 1st Stage Theatre, is changing that. Opened in the tail-end of 2008, the creators of the small 100-seat theater, two former Fairfax County school teachers along with former students, parents of former students and a singing/acting teacher, had a vision of not only "creating a home for young local artists to launch and nurture their professional theatre careers" but to also "provide the community with some wonderful theatre experiences," as stated on their website, 1stStageTysons.org.

"I read somewhere that in the daytime, Tysons is one of the largest cities on the East Coast. By night though, it's almost deserted," said Mark Krikstan, the artistic director at 1st Stage, as well as one of the founders. "One way to build an exciting, thriving, strong city is to ignite the culture. A theater can create a 'pride of place' that will make this city thrive. Tysons has to be more than a mall or an office building or a parking lot."

"I think that [the theater] can survive at Tysons," said Lori Hardee, a real estate agent for Weichert Realty, adding that its success is based on if it can weather the continuing growth of Tysons Corner and catch on through word of mouth. "It was wonderful and the theater inside is a jewel. I love the way they did the seating and the stage," Hardee said.

INSTEAD of just simply bringing live theater to Tysons Corner, the founders of 1st Stage wanted to take a step further. One of their



Carolyn Myers playing Cathy Hiatt in 'The Last Five Years.'



John Loughney playing Jamie Wellerstein in the 1st Stage Theatre production of 'The Last Five Years.'

PHOTOS COURTESY OF 1ST STAGE THEATRE

'Suburban Motel' Opens June 11

Onstage: "Suburban Motel." 1st Stage presents this cult hit, a dark and screamingly funny cycle of plays that introduces us to a pack of bizarre characters with a determined instinct to survive, but without the capacity to think their way out of trouble, bad luck or a seedy motel room. Parental notice: contains strong adult content.

main goals is to provide a place for budding actors to improve upon themselves by performing in a professional atmosphere. "I also thought that ... students 'emerging' from theater programs need[ed] a place where they could build a résumé," said Krikstan.

The small yet charmingly intimate theater, located off a back turn down Spring Hill Road, brings in a "completely different experience" than watching a show in a much larger venue, according to Krikstan. "Something special happens between the actors and the audience in a space such as ours."

Recently, 1st Stage Theatre presented "The Last Five Years," which, told through song, "recounts the intimacies of dating and marriage over five years between a young New York couple." The play unfolds in a way much differently than expected, as the male role, Jamie (played by John Loughney) tells the story chronologically, whereas his spouse, Cathy (played by Carolyn Myers) starts from the end of their marriage and goes backwards to their first meeting.

Only portrayed through two actors and a few instrumentalists,

Performances are Fridays, June 11, 18 and 25 and July 2, at 8 p.m.; Saturdays, June 12, 19 and 26 and July 3, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; and Sundays, June 13, 20 and 27, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 1st Stage is at 1524 Spring Hill Road in Tysons Corner. Tickets \$25 adults, \$15 students, at 703-854-1856 or <http://www.1stStageTysons.org/motel>.

the production highlighted the intimacy of the theater. "It's a perfect musical for a small house such as ours," said Krikstan.

"It was an interesting production of a bittersweet romance," said Jackie Merz, a member of the audience. "The musical ensemble that accompanied them was particularly astounding, and the two lead characters carried the show with flair."

THIS RENDITION of the play, which was originally written by Jason Robert Brown and later played off Broadway and in a New York production under Marty Bell, greatly differs from the original. "Certainly, the set is different but, more importantly, our actors have changed the dynamic," said Krikstan. "I remember taking sides in the New York production. I thought Jamie was clearly to blame for the downfall in the relationship. In our production, I go back and forth as to who to be angry with."

To learn more about 1st Stage Theatre, purchase tickets or make a donation, visit www.1stStageTyson.org

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COUNTY LINE

FROM PAGE 5

every 150 students nationwide, according to the report.

Congressional Offices Race For The Cure

Staff of all three Northern Virginia congressmen participated in the Susan G. Komen Global Race For The Cure on the National Mall June 5.

Staff members for U.S. Reps. Gerry Connolly (D-11), Jim Moran (D-8) and Frank Wolf (R-Va.) made up three of the 43 congressional teams that took part in the annual event, which raised more than \$4 million for breast cancer outreach and research.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Leave (Animal) Babies Alone

It is not uncommon for wildlife mothers to be away from their young to avoid attracting predators. This is normal behavior. If a baby animal is hiding quietly, it is usually not an orphan, and young animals

raised by their parents have better chances for survival.

Fairfax County's wildlife biologist Vicky Monroe is urging people to leave young animals alone. According to Monroe, with the advent of warm weather, encounters between people and wildlife increase. The number of baby animals that are "found" and taken to the Animal Shelter, away from their natural habitats also increases.

Most common species of animals taken by residents include;

- ❖ Birds (fledglings have feathers, open eyes and leave the nest before fully able to fly.
- ❖ Deer (fawn are left unattended by their mothers 90% of the time)
- ❖ Rabbits (young rabbits are left unattended by mothers during daylight)
- ❖ Turtles (young turtles fully independent upon hatching from egg)

A young animal might be in need of rescue by a certified wildlife rehabilitator or veterinarian if it is found near deceased mother, has an obvious injury, is in distress (crying and wandering) or in poor condition (dirty, attracting flies, skinny).

For more about wildlife in Fairfax County, see www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/animals/wildlife or for more about injured wildlife, see www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/injured/.

FAITH NOTES

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

Oakton Church of the Brethren's Family Fun Day will be Saturday, June 12, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the church at 10025 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Painting a peace mural, face painting, crafts, games, a moon bounce, a bake sale and more. Free. 703-281-4411 or www.oaktonbrethren.org.

The Hearts Afire Church Picnic will be at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 12, at The Church of the Good Shepherd, 2351 Hunter Mill Road in Vienna. The community is invited to enjoy the picnic and assist assembling 'birthing kits' for Haitian newborns and their mothers. Moonbounce and games, praise band J.C. Reigns, burgers and hotdogs. Donations for church mission projects welcome. www.goodshepherdva.com.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road in McLean, will collect for a Food Drive, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. June 19. Donations can be

dropped off outside of music suite A. Volunteer sorters, drivers and special needs shoppers are also needed. dmheier@yahoo.com or 703-573-2969.

Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna, invites the community to Vienna Family Fun Night, 6-9 p.m. on Saturday, June 26. Food, activities and games, including a movie, for all age groups, with prizes for certain events. Free. 703-938-6753 or www.antiochdoc.org.

Church of the Holy Cross, 2455 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, is offering an evening Vacation Bible School at 5:30 p.m. from Sunday, July 18 through Thursday, July 23. Dinner is included. Ages 3-1/2 to 12 are welcome. \$15 includes registration, a t-shirt and a CD. pamnicholson@cox.net or 703-573-0250.

Epiphany United Methodist Preschool, 1014 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, is now enrolling 3-4-year-old students for the 2010/2011 school year. Contact 703-938-2391 or www.epiphanypreschool.com.

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 SUMMER WORSHIP • MAY 30th - SEPTEMBER 5th
SUNDAY: 10:00 AM 

Assembly of God
Vienna Assembly of God ... 703-938-7736
Washington Christian Church...703-938-7720
Cristo Es Mi Refugio...703-938-7727

Baha'i
Baha'i Faith for Northern Virginia ... 703-821-3345

Baptist
Global Mission Church ... 703-757-0877
Peace Baptist Church ... 703-560-8462
Bethel Primitive Baptist Church ... 703-757-8134
Cartersville Baptist Church ... 703-255-7075
Fellowship Baptist Church ... 703-385-8516
First Baptist Church ... 703-938-8525
The Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877
Vienna Baptist Church ... 703-281-4400
New Union Baptist Church...703-281-2556

Buddhist
Vajrayogini Buddhist Center...202-331-2122

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

Catholic
Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877
Our Lady of Good Counsel ... 703-938-2828
St. Athanasius Catholic Church ... 703-759-4555
St. Mark's Catholic Church ... 703-281-9100

Charismatic
Christian Assembly ... 703-698-9777

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

Disciples of Christ
Antioch Christian Church ... 703-938-6753

Episcopal
Church of the Holy Comforter ... 703-938-6521
Church of the Holy Cross ... 703-698-6991
St. Francis Episcopal ... 703-759-2082

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

Lutheran
Emmanuel Lutheran Church...703-938-2119
St. Athanasius Lutheran Church... 703-455-4003

Methodist
Andrew Chapel United Methodist ... 703-759-3509
Church of the Good Shepherd ... 703-281-3987
Dunn Loring United Methodist ... 703-573-5386

Epiphany United Methodist ... 703-938-3494
Great Falls United Methodist...703-759-3705
Oakton United Methodist ... 703-938-1233
Vale United Methodist ... 703-620-2594
Smith Chapel United Methodist ... 571-434-9680
Wesley United Methodist ... 703-938-8700

Non-Denominational
Christian Assembly Church ... 703-698-9777

Presbyterian
Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church ...
703-560-6336
Korean Central Presbyterian ... 703-698-5577
Vienna Presbyterian ... 703-938-9050

Quaker
Langley Hills Friends...703-442-8394

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

450 ORCHARD STREET
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**Dr. KENNY SMITH,
PASTOR**



SUNDAY WORSHIP, 7:45 AM & 11:00 AM
MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM

St. LUKE A.M.E. Church

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SHERATON RESTON HOTEL
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9 A.M.
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10 A.M.
LET US WORSHIP GOD TOGETHER

Rev. Dr. Peter G. Taylor, Pastor
571-337-2022



*Church of the
Holy
Comforter*
(Episcopal)

The Rev. Richard A. Lord, Rector
*Welcomes you to worship, learn
& enjoy fellowship with us!*

SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE
Saturday: 5:00 p.m., Holy Eucharist
Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist
543 Beulah Road, NE Vienna, VA 22180
703-938-6521 www.holycomforter.com



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7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I, No Music
9:00 a.m. Family Service, Holy Eucharist Rite II
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
5:00 p.m. Come as You Are Contemporary
Service with Communion

The Rev. James Papile, Rector
The Rev. Jacqueline Thomson

The Rev. Denise Trogdon
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SCHOOLS

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



Samantha M. Fulton

Samantha M. Fulton, 22, a 2005 graduate of Langley High School and December 2009 graduate of Longwood University, will attend St. George's University School of Veterinary Medicine, located on the island of Grenada, West Indies, beginning in August 2010. St. George's University has graduated more than 450 veterinarians and over 8,000 physicians who are pursuing careers in various locations throughout the globe. The veterinary school was established 10 years ago and is affiliated with 29 schools of veterinary medicine, most of which are in the United States. Fulton is the daughter of Steven Fulton of Great Falls and Suzanne Fulton of Reston.

Fulton holds a degree with a major in Biology pre-professional. She is a member of Tri-Beta National Biological Honors Society, Kappa Lambda Chapter, and Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority. She is presently employed at Banfield Pet Hospital in Reston. In previous years, while on school breaks, she worked as well as interned at Seneca Hill Animal Hospital, Resort and Spa in Great Falls. In addition, she has volunteered at The Equine Rescue League in Loudoun County.

Ian Seth Rattner Malakoff of Great Falls has graduated from Trinity College in Hartford, Ct., with a major in Hispanic studies with honors and economics.

Christopher Au of McLean, attending Thomas Jefferson High School for Science Technology, is among twenty of the nation's top high school chemistry students, representing 11 states, who will compete for a spot on the United States' team in the 42nd annual International Chemistry Olympiad to be held in Tokyo, Japan, July 19-28, 2010. Historically, the U.S. team, which is sponsored by the American Chemical Society (ACS), the world's largest scientific society, has been a strong competitor at the international event. In 2009, the U.S. team won a gold medal and three silver medals. In 2008, the team won one silver and three bronze medals. In 1999 and 2000, the American team won the top gold medal.

Luke W. Knepper of McLean has been awarded a corporate-sponsored scholarship from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. Knepper, who attends Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology and intends a career in computer science, will receive a National Merit CSC Scholarship.

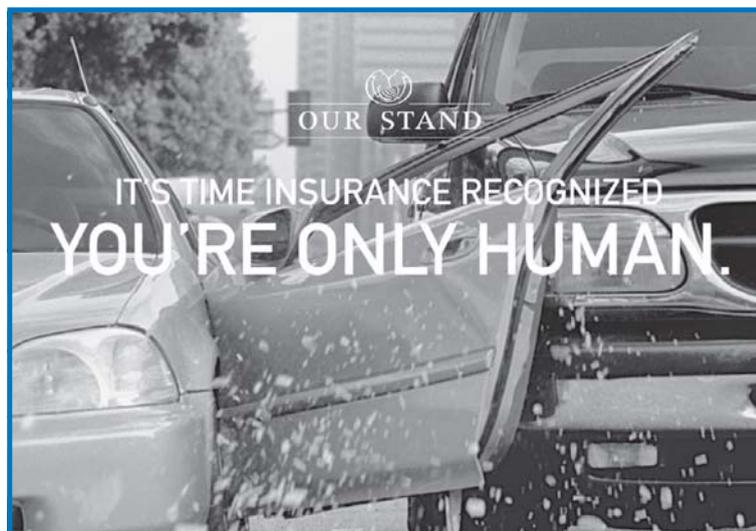


Two fifth grade teachers, Bill Mosher and Deborah Bulford, donate blood at Spring Hill Elementary on June 1.

Blood Drive at Spring Hill E.S. To Help Injured Athlete

A couple of weeks ago, a drunk driver nearly took the life of a young athlete. Chris Tate was riding a motorized bike when a speeding car hit him. Although his foot had to be amputated, he was lucky in many ways. He was taken to the hospital quickly. He had many other injuries, but none life-threatening. He has a mother-in-law who mobilized friends and colleagues and organized a blood

drive in his honor. Deb Rudd teaches chorus and general music at Spring Hill Elementary School in McLean. She arranged for Inova's Bloodmobile to spend June 1 in Spring Hill Elementary's parking lot, where teachers and parents alike donated from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Tate has a long road of rehabilitation ahead, but as he said to Michelle, his wife of just a few months, "I'm going to run again."



Spiro Souliotis
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OPEN HOUSES

Saturday & Sunday, June 12 & 13



11543 Tralee Dr, Great Falls • \$1,795,000 • Open Sunday 1-4
Lyons & McGuire Team, Weichert, 703-406-9009

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, click the Real Estate links on the right side.



Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.



Great Falls

- 1121 Riva Ridge Lane.....\$695,000...Sun 1-4....Robyn Carton.....Weichert.....703-622-0004
- 11411 Jordan Lane.....\$869,900...Sun 1-4....Robyn Carton.....Weichert.....703-622-0004
- 11444 Woolington Rd.....\$1,497,500...Sun 1-4....Glynis Canto.....Weichert.....703-395-2355
- 11543 Tralee Dr.....\$1,795,000...Sun 1-4....Lyons & McGuire Team...Weichert.....703-406-9009

Reston

- 1523 Northgate Square #23/1B...\$198,000...Sun 1-4....Ritu Desai.....Samson.....703-625-4949

Oak Hill/Herndon

- 355 Woodgrove Ct.....\$589,900...Sun 1-4....Laurie Mensing.....Long & Foster.....703-965-8133
- 1616 Sadlers Well.....\$435,000...Sun 1-4....Vicky Noufel.....Century 21.....703-402-5416
- 11903 Crayton Creek.....\$995,000...Sun 1-4....Christine Richardson...Weichert.....703-231-1812
- 11910 Crayton Ct.....\$899,000...Sun 1-4....Carl Becker.....Premier Properties...301-873-3221

Brambleton/Ashburn

- 42603 Good Hope Ln.....\$555,000...Sun 1-4....Ritu Desai.....Samson Properties...703-625-4949

McLean

- 1700 Fairview Ave.....\$1,098,000...Sun 1-4....Laura Maschler.....Weichert.....703-893-1500
- 6116 Franklin Park Rd.....\$1,249,000...Sun 1-4....Jane Price.....Weichert.....703-893-1500
- 6200 Chesterbrook Rd.....\$898,000...Sun 1-4....Laura Maschler.....Weichert.....703-893-1500

Vienna

- 901 Potterton Circle, SW.\$1,100,000...Sat 4-5/Sun 2-4...Robert Hilts.....Yeonas & Shafron.....703-919-8623
- 2787 Grovemore Lane.....\$424,900...Sun 1-4....David Lloyd.....Weichert.....703-593-3204

To add your FREE Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please contact Salome Gaibler at 703-778-9421 or salome@connectionnewspapers.com All listings are due by Monday at 3 p.m.



Jan & Dan

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Great Falls \$1,295,000



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McLean \$725,000



Ashburn \$299,000



Great Falls \$799,000



Leesburg \$625,000



Lynn Kemmerer
Buyer Agent



703-759-9190 Office
703-444-1991 Home



Anne Morrow
Buyer Agent

