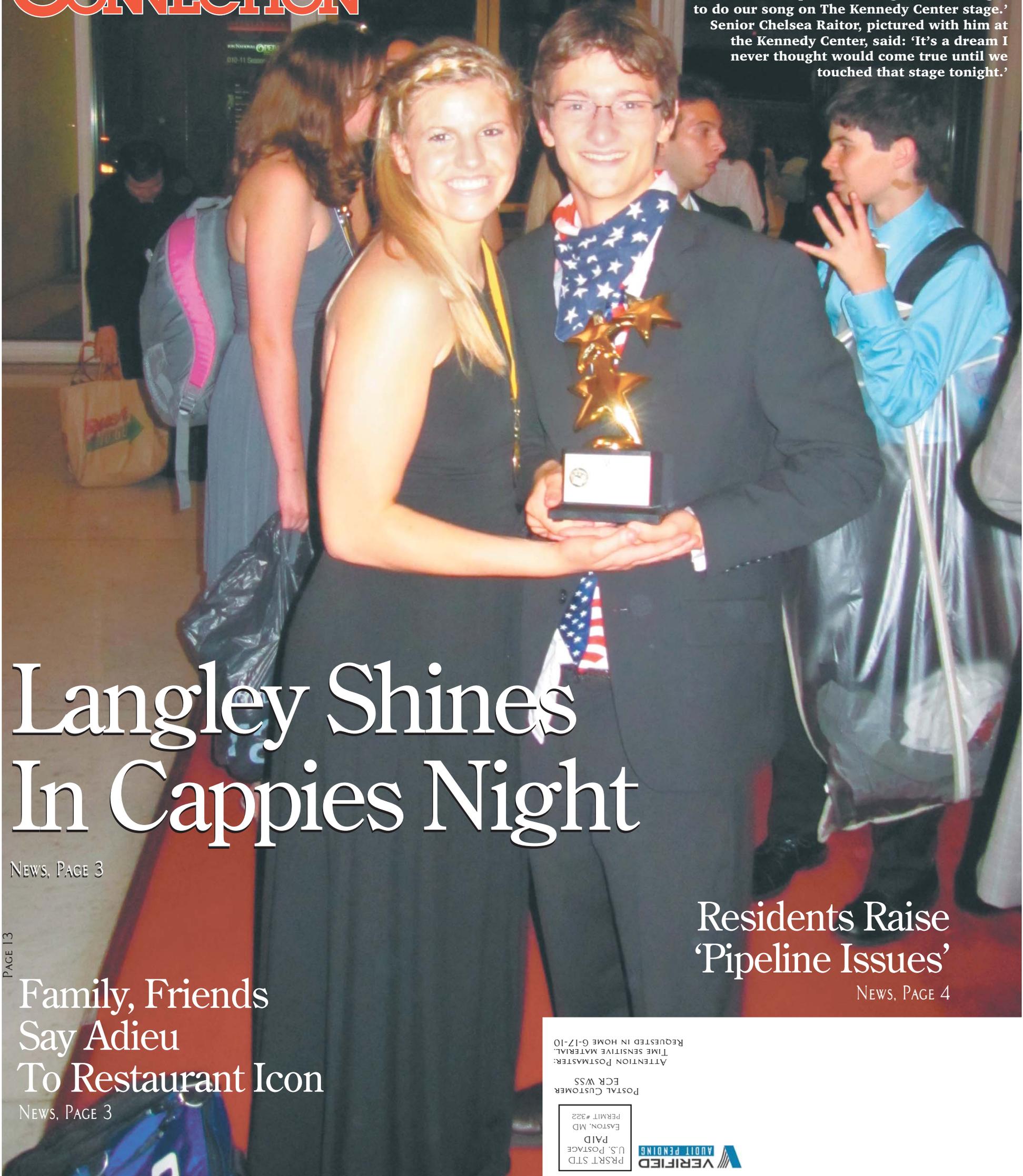


Langley High's 'Time's Square 2090,' written and directed by senior Wesley Brandt, garnered four Cappies Awards, including Best Musical. Brandt, who won Creativity Award, said: 'The best part was tonight, when we got to do our song on The Kennedy Center stage.' Senior Chelsea Raitor, pictured with him at the Kennedy Center, said: 'It's a dream I never thought would come true until we touched that stage tonight.'



## Langley Shines In Cappies Night

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## Residents Raise 'Pipeline Issues'

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## Family, Friends Say Adieu To Restaurant Icon

NEWS, PAGE 3

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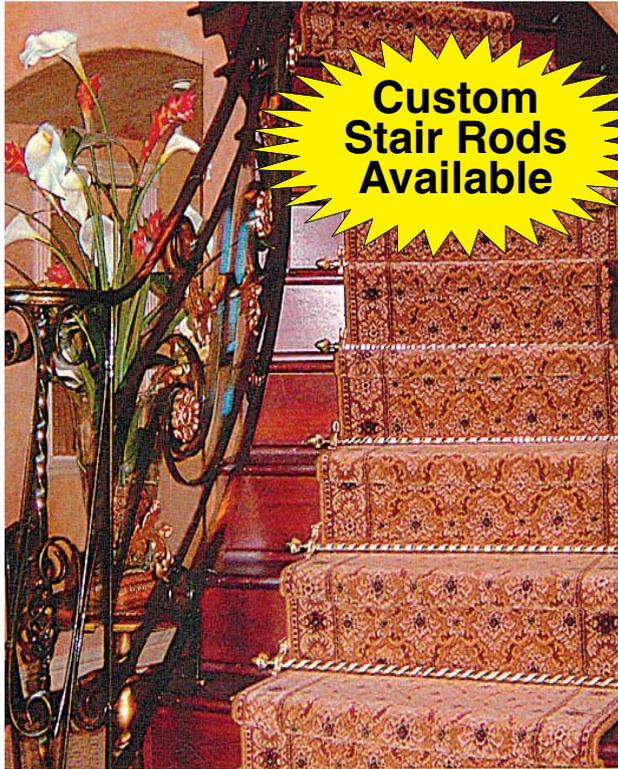
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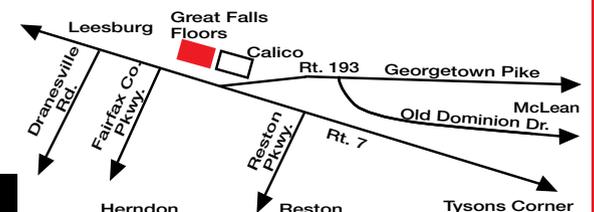
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**Best Musical, 'Time's Square 2090,' Langley High School. From left are Paul Goldberg, Kelly Hubbell, Wesley Brandt, Chelsea Raitor and Justin McKay.**

## Langley Shines in Cappies Night

**Wes Brandt's 'Time's Square 2090' wins four Cappies.**

BY BONNIE HOBBS  
THE CONNECTION

**A** classic based on a French novel and a student-written play were the big winners at Sunday night's 11th annual Cappies Awards program at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. South Lakes High School's production of "Les Miserables: School Edition" won six Cappies, and Langley High's "Time's Square 2090" garnered four, including Best Musical. Walt Whitman High in Bethesda, Md., won Best Play for "Amadeus."

Langley High School Cappies Awards winners included:

❖ **Male Dancer - Senior Takuma Koide**

"I've been dancing three years," Koide said. "My mother loves musicals and, since I moved here from Japan when I was 10, she took me to New York to see Broadway musicals. That way, I'd learn English, plus American culture. Later, she encouraged me to dance and try out for theater, so I owe this to my mother. I also thank my parents and friends who cheered my dance moves and told me I had talent. They really encouraged me."

❖ **Creativity: Senior Wesley Brandt**

Brandt directed and wrote the



**Best Creativity, Wesley Brandt, director, writer of music, lyrics and book, Langley High School, 'Time's Square 2090.'**



**Best Male Dancer, Takuma Koide, Langley High School, 'Time's Square 2090.'**

### Saxons Celebrate Team Work

Seventy Langley High students participated this past fall "in front of, and behind the curtain" – cast, tech crew, running crew, band, costume designers, make-up artists and choreographers; 55 cast and crew attended the Kennedy Center Cappies extravaganza and collectively celebrated the originality and explosive political themes of this futuristic alternative rock, rap, and

music, lyrics and book for the original musical, "Time's Square 2090."

"I started thinking about it in January 2009, wrote it that summer and then they acted it in the

techno-infused musical. When the Cappie for "Best Musical" was announced, cast, crew, "Saxon Stage On Cue" boosters, faculty, administrators and friends of Langley High in the Concert Hall erupted in applause. "Time's Square 2090" was also recognized for Creativity (Wes Brandt), Best Ensemble in a Musical, and Male Dancer (Senior Takuma Koide).

fall," he said. "I played piano. I'm absolutely thrilled. It's been great working with everybody. I just hope more people write plays. It's

SEE BRANDT, PAGE 10



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

**Dianne Van Volkenburg, co-chair of the Great Falls Citizens Association's Land Use and Zoning Committee and John Ulfelder, another member of the committee, look over maps while posing questions to the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority about the Potomac Interceptor construction.**

## Residents Raise 'Pipeline Issues'

**Great Falls residents concerned about traffic, length of project.**

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

**R**esidents of Great Falls expressed their concerns about traffic patterns and the length of construction work being done to repair the Potomac Interceptor, a 50-mile wastewater pipeline that serves Loudoun, Fairfax and Montgomery Counties. The pipe, which conveys approximately 60 million gallons per day, needs a new lining in the mile-long stretch between man-holes 31 and 30, which are in Great Falls.

The first phase of the construction will involve construction of an odor abatement facility, which will be constructed just past the end of River Park Lane. The D.C. Water and Sewer Authority plans to build this facility to help reduce odor around the pipeline, as well as remove corrosive gases such as hydrogen sulfide from the sewer itself.

**THE SECOND PHASE** will involve placing a "slip lining" along the mile-long stretch of pipe, because the pipe has been corroded from the inside, partially due to age and partially due to the presence of a large amount of corrosive sewer gas.

"We've looked at this with a number of engineering firms and we feel that a slip lining is the way to go," said Jim Sillers, a consultant for WASA. "We've got to lay down 5,200 feet of the lining, which comes in 20-foot segments.

Given that the area is so remote, the use of roads by large vehicles has become an issue with the project, as residents feel that large, heavy vehicles on their roads will damage the roads and create a safety hazard for residents.

Lee Morse, a resident of River Park Lane questioned the DCWASA, wondering if there were other methods to fix the problem that didn't involve

SEE PIPELINE, PAGE 9

## New GFCA Board Commences July 1

The following are the Great Falls Citizens Association Officers and Board members commencing July 1:

Officers - Jackie Taylor, president; Eric Knudsen, vice president; David Kondner, treasurer; Glen Sjoblom, Secretary; Ralph Apton, past president. All serve one-year terms to June 30, 2011.

Board Members - Jack Bowles, Wayne Foley, Terry Graves, Stella Koch, Bud Thompson and Dianne Van Volkenburg will serve for one year, until June 30, 2011. Wes Callender, Bill Canis, Deborah Hassan, Shawn Khorshidi, Sheila Muralidhar and David Smith will serve for two years, until June 30, 2012.

## McLean to Celebrate Centennial

McLean's 100th Anniversary celebration will feature former Governor and Senator Charles Robb as the honorary chair and former delegate Vince Callahan as master of ceremonies.

Activities will include: unveiling of a logo for McLean memorabilia and a 40-foot map of Great Falls & Old Dominion Railroad, period games for children, tours of Storm's General Store, the Chesterbrook General Store and Post Office, a collection of old photographs, a calliope, food and a Barber-shop Quartet.

The celebration will take place Saturday, June 26, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the McLean Community Center.

## Volunteers Needed

Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions program needs volunteers to help older adults with transportation to medical appointments. Contact 703-324-5406, TTY 703-449-1186 or [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices) and link to Volunteers.

# Family, Friends Say Adieu to Restaurant Icon

## Francois Haeringer of L'Auberge Chez Francois died June 3.

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Washington community — family, friends, fellow-chefs, prominent personalities and loyal patrons — turned out en masse on June 10 to say “adieu” to the beloved French restaurateur who brought a touch of Alsace to the Great Falls countryside almost 35 years ago.

Francois Haeringer, born in Alsace, France, in 1919, died on June 3 after a fall in his home two days earlier.

His restaurant, L'Auberge Chez Francois, recreated the ambiance and cuisine of a traditional Alsatian country inn, and, from the restaurant's earliest beginnings was a Washington-area favorite for special occasions and romantic dinners.

“When guests come in here, they are at home,” said Haeringer in a 2007 interview. “This place is a destination. There is no ‘secret’ to our success. We are very nice to our customers. We serve good food and provide a good atmosphere. We make sure we have good waiters.

“And, I am here every day,” he said, not hiding a smile very well.

**AT 91**, Haeringer continued to take charge of the restaurant he loved so, at work in the kitchen two days before his death.

When Francois Haeringer moved his successful Washington, D.C., French restaurant to the rural backroads of Great Falls 31 years ago, peers and friends thought it a radical — and risky — move.

“They said I was crazy when I came up with this idea,” said Haeringer. “Nobody would come this far, they said.” But he persevered.

Haeringer's oldest son Jacques, executive chef at Chez Francois, recalled his father's response when the restaurant's accountant recommended against moving out of the



**Francois Haeringer, an icon in the Washington restaurant industry, died June 3. He worked in the kitchen two days before his death at age 91.**



**Francois Haeringer and his wife Marie-Antoinette at L'Auberge Chez Francois in 2007. His accountant and other restaurateurs thought he was crazy when he decided to move out of Washington and open a rustic restaurant in the Great Falls countryside in 1976.**

urban metro landscape into the woods of Great Falls.

“Papa kicked the wall, like this,” said Jacques Haeringer as he recreated the gesture. “No, I am doing this,” Papa told them. “If there is one thing that can be said of Francois Haeringer, besides his renown for great generosity, it was his will to do things his way.

Following the tradition of a French Alsatian country inn,

Francois Haeringer created a multi-dimensional restaurant renowned for its food, service, ambiance and setting. Set on 6 acres of woodsy Great Falls countryside, Chez Francois shuns the trendy and prefers to remain true to Francois Haeringer's culinary heritage.

From the “inn's” 100 year-old ceiling timber to the massive, functional fireplaces in the dining ar-

**“When guests come in here, they are at home.”**

— Monsieur Francois Haeringer, 2007 interview

eas, from the herb garden redolent with the fragrance of nature to the serene summer patio, each detail of the restaurant is an homage to Francois Haeringer's roots.

“He was Dad to us, but his patrons were the most important things outside his family,” said Jacques Haeringer, spokesman for the family. “He was well-known for his generosity. He didn't do things by the accountant's books.”

Inside St. Catherine of Sienna in Great Falls, an altar boy carried the crucifix to begin the funeral mass for Francois Haeringer. Behind him walked eight men of the kitchen staff dressed in starched white linens, preceding the coffin. For a man known to be humble, it was fitting.

“That was very emotional, well-placed,” said Anne Claire Chaufour, whose family owns Le Refuge restaurant. “It's exactly what Francois would have wanted.”

Jacques Haeringer agreed. “We had to do it right. Otherwise, I'd be in trouble,” he said, pointing upward and smiling at the thought of “Papa” looking down on him.

**MOURNERS SMILED** when they spoke of their relationships with “Monsieur Francois” and noted the presence of Francois Haeringer that L'Auberge Chez Francois resonates with.

He was known as generous and humble, happy tending his garden and feeding geese. His close companion, Fifi the dachshund, looks for him every day still, a family member said.

The Rev. Alexander Drummond, who celebrated the mass at St. Catherine's, referred to the roses sometimes left at St. Catherine's statue, the Christmas luncheon given to church staff, the extra touches at Chez Francois, all gifts of Francois Haeringer. “It was our pleasure and honor to have him here in this parish,” said Drummond, who was born in Lorraine, France. “Every time I go to Chez Francois, I feel like I'm coming home,” he said.

The glitterati of the restaurant world celebrated Francois Haeringer's impact on the industry describing him affectionately as strong-willed, down-to-earth and an icon.

Patrick O'Connell, noted chef

SEE MONSIEUR. PAGE 5

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

# 'Monsieur Francois' Remembered

FROM PAGE 4

and owner of Virginia's famed Inn at Little Washington, described Francois Haeringer as a an icon in the Washington restaurant industry and a "man who cared deeply and had a passion for his work."

"Those are attributes that are disappearing from our culture," said O'Connell. "His indelible influence will keep some of those attributes alive."

Robert Wiedmaier, chef and owner of several metro-area restaurants, called Francois Haeringer adamant in his beliefs. "He was one-of-a-kind," Wiedmaier said.

"He had a wonderful sense of humor," said chef and restaurateur Bob Kinkead, a neighbor of Jacques Haeringer in Great Falls. "He was one of those people I was privileged to know, but, kind-of glad I didn't work for him. He was an icon. Lots of people in the industry got experience working for Francois."

Michel Richard attended the funeral, as did NBC4 weather forecaster Bob Ryan. Ryan said that he and his wife spent their first anni-

versary at Chez Francois 30 years ago.

Yvonne Hispiche worked at Francois Haeringer's downtown restaurant in the 1960s. Her husband worked at the Great Falls l'auberge for 13 years. Hispiche called Francois Haeringer a good man, one who had a hand of steel but wore a velvet glove.

Jeremy Kay, publisher of Jacques Haeringer's cookbooks, said that when he came by to talk with Jacques Haeringer, he did not think that Francois Haeringer even knew he existed. "But when I came by with my girlfriend [now, Kay's wife], he sent over a bottle of champagne for us," Kay said.

Bruce Neal worked for Francois Haeringer 40 years ago. "He was stern, yet, very loving and caring," said Neal. "If you understood his heart, you understood the man."

Francois Haeringer is survived by his wife Marie-Antoinette, sons Jacques, Robert and Paul, and four grandchildren, his dachshund Fifi and collection of canaries.

A scholarship for culinary students has been set up in the name of Francois Haeringer. Donations to the Francois Haeringer Schol-

arship Fund may be mailed to the French International Culinary Society at P.O. Box 42556, Washington, D.C., 20015. Checks should be made payable to FICS.

**ON THE PATIO** of L'auberge Chez Francois, family and guests celebrated the life of Francois Haeringer. Musicians played music of France, wine flowed, and platters of the type of food the restaurant is known for filled tables.

Overlooking the patio stands a statue of St. Francis, or, as "Monsieur Francois" called it, St. Francois. An animal lover, Francois Haeringer honored St. Francis. That spirit is now joined by another.

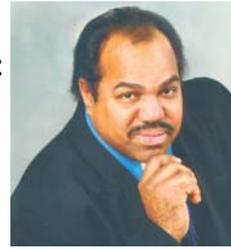
As Jacques Haeringer lifted his glass in memory of "Papa," he said that someone had asked if the restaurant would stay closed for the remainder of the day of the funeral.

"There is no way we would close for dinner today," Jacques Haeringer said, smiling, and eliciting laughter from the mourners. "If we did, there would be hauntings and apparitions."

With that, Jacques Haeringer called out, "Adieu, Papa."

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# In Diversity, TJ Is Low-Performer

**New admissions process has failed to increase minority and poor student enrollment.**

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE  
THE CONNECTION

**I**t might seem obvious why students choose to attend Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. U.S. News and World Report has rated it the best high school in the country for the past three years.

"I came here because of the academic opportunities," said Thomas Woodruff, a junior from Centreville who spends 90 minutes each weekday commuting to and from Jefferson's Alexandria campus.

Students at the Northern Virginia magnet school, commonly referred to as TJ, have genuine interest in school and academics, which creates a more congenial atmosphere, according to some current students.

"The people here are so much friendlier. They are nice to each other. You can leave your stuff in the hallway and no one will take it," said Alan Barte, a freshman from Herndon.

But one problem a few current students voiced about TJ is the homogenous student body. Less than five percent of TJ's students are black or Hispanic. Over 80 percent of the pupils are white or Asian.

"The only thing I don't like is how half the students at the school are Asian. I wish there was more diversity," said Mary Kim Weidman, a freshman who is part Korean and from Reston.

**GETTING ACCEPTED** to TJ is not an easy task for anyone. The school admitted only 15.3 percent of the 3,119 student who applied to be part of the Class of 2014. That means TJ had a lower acceptance rate for its incoming freshman class than either Cornell University or Swarthmore College this year, according to information on U.S. News and World Report's website.

Fairfax students also compete with children from around the region for slots at the Northern Virginia magnet school. About 80 percent of TJ's student body comes from Fairfax but residents from Arlington, Loudoun, Prince William and Fauquier counties and the City of Falls Church can also attend the school.

Students who are black, Hispanic or poor have a particularly hard time getting admitted to TJ. Out of 480 students admitted to next year's freshman class, just four are black and 13 are Hispanic. Only nine are considered poor enough to qualify for free-or-reduced-priced lunch.

And across all four grades at TJ last year, approximately 1.78 percent of students were black, 2.84 percent of students were Hispanic and 1.74 percent were poor.

Fairfax schools' countywide enrollment is far more diverse than that of TJ. Across the school system, 18.1 percent of students are Hispanic and 10.5 percent are African American. Approximately 25 percent of all



**Sophomore Sarah Sam and freshmen Kleo Greenwood, Alan Barte and Mary Kim Weidman enjoy Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology but said they wish the school had a more diverse student body.**

county students are considered poor.

None of Fairfax's other 24 high schools posted such low percentages of black or Hispanic students as TJ.

Only one high school, Langley in McLean, has a lower percentage of poor students enrolled.

TJ does enroll a higher-than-average percentage of Asian students, who will make up almost 58 percent of incoming freshman class next year. Countywide, Asian students account for just 18.5 percent of the school system population.

"There are a lot of people from a lot of different ethnic backgrounds here. But I would like to see more African Americans," said Sarah Sam, a sophomore who is part African American and a member of the school's Black Student Union.

**FAIRFAX COUNTY** Public Schools has struggled to boost enrollment among black and Hispanic students at TJ since 1998, when the school board ended an affirmative action program at the school.

In 1998, the last year of the affirmative action program, TJ admitted 49 black and Hispanic students. By 2003, this number has dropped to just 16, prompting the school board to form a blue ribbon commission on the TJ admissions process that year.

The commission, which included admissions officers from Yale University and the University of Virginia, concluded TJ was behind other elite high schools and colleges, when it came to certain groups of minorities and poor students.

At the Bronx High School for Science in New York City for example, a school ranked fourth on U.S. News and World Report's "best high schools" list in 2008, approximately 12 percent of the student body was black or Hispanic and one in three students was considered poor.

**MINORITY STUDENT** advocates said there are several reasons why black and Hispanic students struggle to gain admission to TJ.

"There is not a lot of enthusiasm for going at this point. People look at the numbers and say there is not a lot of support for me going to that school," said John Johnson, chair of the School Board's Minority Student Achievement Oversight Committee.

Approximately 50 private companies and tutors offer test preparation specifically for the TJ admission exam. Since black and Hispanic families are more likely to be low-income, they are less likely to have the money to spend for a private tutor for the entrance exam, said Johnson.

Even minority and poor students who make it past the initial screening and into the semifinalist round may not have as strong applications as those from affluent backgrounds. In the final round of the TJ application process, staff look for an indication that students are interested in math or science. And students at-risk are less likely to have gone to math camp or away on a science expedition to another country.

"Those families who are financially gifted have the means to provide more enrichment activities," said Johnson.

Not enough students who are black, Hispanic or poor are being prepared earlier on in their educational careers for gifted and talented programs like TJ, said minority student advocates.

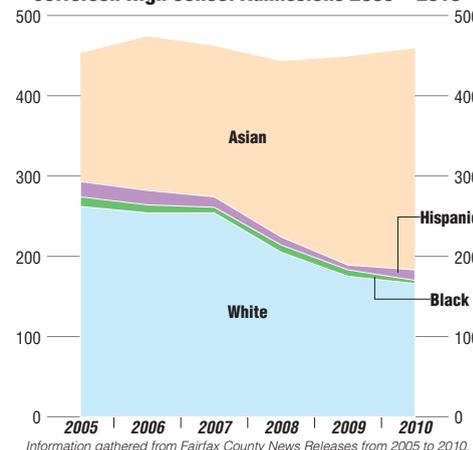
The majority of Fairfax public school students who attend TJ have come through elementary and middle school gifted and talented centers. And of the 10,514 students enrolled in those elementary and middle school gifted and talented centers, only 400 are black and 438 are Hispanic, according to Fairfax County Public Schools.

According to Johnson, there are also 22 elementary schools in Fairfax that do not offer accelerated math. These schools tend to have larger populations of black, Hispanic and low-income students. And although students are not required to take Algebra I by the end of seventh grade to get into TJ, 80 percent of those accepted this year had done so. Starting next fall, advanced math at the sixth grade level will be available on all elementary campuses, said Paul Regnier, spokesperson for the school system.

While affluent parents may have been preparing their children's list of activities with an eye toward applying to TJ for years, many lower-income parents — including those who are black and Hispanic — have not had such foresight, said Abraham Lerner, head of the diversity committee for TJ's Parent Teacher Student Association.

"You have families who are doing everything that they need to do to get their children into TJ by the time they are in third grade. There are other parents who are learning about TJ for the first time when their children are in eighth grade," said Lerner, who conducts outreach to the families of black and Hispanic middle school children who have high GPAs and could make good candidates for TJ.

**Jefferson High School Admissions 2005 - 2010**



**UNDER THE OLD** admissions process, TJ admissions gave a rank to all the children in the applicant pool based on a formula in which a student's admissions test results accounted for 80 percent of their overall "score" and their grade point average [GPA] accounted for the 20 percent.

The current admissions process gives significantly more weight to grades as opposed to the entrance exam. The pool of semifinalists is also approximately twice as large.

The school board had concluded that one of the barriers to increasing black and Hispanic enrollment was the low number of students from these groups that made it into semifinalist round in the first place.

One year, as few as seven of the 800 students who made it past the first round of admissions for TJ were black, according to school board documents.

But this year, TJ admitted just 17 black and Hispanic students. Last year, 14 students from these minority groups were accepted. The percentage of TJ's student body that is Asian has jumped from 32 percent to 57.5 percent.

PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

# Sandbox Full of Memories

Sean Ahearn returns to childhood playground to complete his Eagle Scout project.

BY COLLEEN SHEEHY ORME

It was 1998 when Sean Ahearn, 4, first stepped into the sandbox at the Great Falls United Methodist Preschool. GFUMP as many affectionately call it. Sean built many friendships and memories on that playground. None of which were forgotten.

Twelve years later, Sean sought a community project to complete his requirements for Eagle Scout. He knew exactly where he wanted to give back to the community. He contacted Carolyn See, the director of the Great Falls United Methodist Preschool.

"I picked this project because I went to school at GFUMP and because there are many memories there, too," said Sean. He collaborated with See and determined the need for the playground restoration. He then rolled up his sleeves and got to work. He had the project approved by Scoutmaster

Alex Drew and Eagle Advisor Donnie Marshall. Sean then began the large task of scheduling, organizing and completing the entire endeavor.

HE MET with See to create a restoration list. The sandbox would need to be moved and a new one built, the five cycle would be relocated, the swings painted, the main play structure scrubbed, and finally, the area would be weeded, trimmed and mulched. With this list it was time for Sean to recruit individuals to help him get the job done. Sean sought the help of some of his fellow Scouts. He also decided it was time to call a few of his old GFUMP sandbox buddies. "I asked a bunch of friends and parents of friends who came out to help, I tried to get preschool friends since we all started out on that playground and we're still friends today," said Sean.

"Typically it's other Scouts that work on these projects, but this



Sean Ahearn, right, with his older brother, Pete.

had more non Scout boys because the boys that went to this school all wanted to go back to help," said Jan Ahearn, Sean's mother. "It was their first school experience."

Great Falls United Methodist Preschool has been in operation since 1950. It is the oldest running preschool in Great Falls. The curriculum is based on the "philosophy of learning through play." Their goal is to ensure children are



Scouts and GFUMP Alumni on Restoration Day.

better prepared and interested in learning, "while acquiring a sense of his/her own unique worth."

See has been the director of the preschool for 28 years. "It was very special for Sean to remember the preschool as well as remember his favorite teacher Mrs. Diane Gay," said See. "I just thought that was above and beyond. That Sean still had a connection with his preschool and his first teacher. That was very, very, special. I was touched that a very busy young man, with a busy life would come back here to do this playground project. Often, mothers will say something to us, but to have a child reach out was so heartwarming. And to have the boys in the 1998 to 1999 class help was un-

believable. Is there a stronger word than special? Because it just meant so much to me and it speaks volumes about the boys and their families."

WITH THE PLAYGROUND project successfully completed, Sean attained the honor of Eagle Scout, a distinction held by just 2 percent of all Boy Scouts and the culmination of 10 years of work. Sean reflects on his Eagle Scout community project. "It was tough to destroy that sandbox since Michael Maselli and I met in that sandbox and had our first fight there too," he said.

The sandbox is now new and sits in a different location on the familiar playground.

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# OPINION

## Be Part of the Pet Connection

Send us your photos and stories of your favorite creatures for our July edition.

**W**e love our pets. Dogs and cats and other creatures great and small are essential members of our families. They offer us unconditional love, joy, comfort, companionship, humor. We know our children benefit from learning to empathize, care for and love our family pets.

We don't hesitate when it comes to spending on their health care or rearranging our lives around basic needs.

To celebrate, we plan to publish the Pet Connection, including your family's pets, in late July.

We invite photos of your pets with you, your children or with whole family. We'll prefer photos that picture the pets with their humans.

We also invite children's artwork of their pets.

We also welcome short stories (200 words or less) about your pet. Tell us a funny story, or explain how your pet helped you or a member of your family through a tough time. Tell us about how you came to adopt or rescue your pet. Tell us about your favorite places to go with your pet, or how you solved a particular challenge concerning your pet.

We haven't forgotten horses, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians, guinea pigs, hamsters, and other more unusual pets — we hope for

photos about them all.

Be sure to identify the full names of everyone pictured in any photos, include information such as breed and age of the pet and children pictured, and (very important) the community where you live.

### Expertise for Annual Community Guides

What tips do you have for someone new to your town? What interesting, almost secret, places would you like to have learned about earlier when you moved in?

We invite you to share the expertise you've gained in living in your hometown with your neighbors and with people new to the area in our Newcomers and Community Guides, coming later this summer.

Connection staff members and interns are already working on the annual Newcomers and Community Guide, which will publish at the end of August.

We invite residents, businesses and organizations to send us suggestions. We invite calendar listings for major events for the upcoming year, information on how to get involved in nonprofits and charities, details about your club or other organization.

When are the major festivals, celebrations

We prefer digital submissions, delivered on CD or via email. Please send in submissions as soon as possible, but at least before July 10. E-mail to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com), and write "Pets" in the subject line. You can mail submissions to Great Falls Pet Connection, 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Please be sure to include the name of the artist or author, and name of the home town, along with address and phone number to be used for verification purposes only.

and other events at your church or temple or mosque?

We also invite readers to contribute directly to the newcomers and community guides. Send us a short letter: what do you love about your community? Tell us about one special place you've discovered. Does your family have different favorites in different seasons? How did you get involved in your town? Share your favorite park. Tell us about your favorite annual event.

Helping pets adapt to new surroundings can be a big part of any family's move. Share tips you have for acclimating a pet to a new home. Do you have a favorite dog park?

Send your comments and submissions to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com) or mail to Great Falls Newcomers Guide, 1606 King St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

— MARY KIMM,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Why We Need More Sidewalks

To the Editor:

In the June 2-8 edition, a letter to the editor was featured in the which the writer referenced the new sidewalks in downtown Great Falls and asked, "Who Would Dare To Use Sidewalks?" The answer is me. I use the sidewalks to get around town almost daily. In fact, just yesterday I took our dog for a nice long jog on the sidewalks. My wife also walks to and from work on the sidewalks. When we need to go to the Safeway, the post office, the library, the Brogue or The Farmer's Market we now have a safe option that burns calories, not fossil fuels. It is great for local area businesses. Additionally, it has led to a better sense of community for us as we now meet people as we walk around town. I would encourage the writer to think about allowing his or her children to use the sidewalks. Various forms of sidewalks have existed since the advent of roads and people have been safely traveling on them ever since. Just as a driver should be alert, a pedestrian needs to be alert and practice safe behavior.

But with child obesity at an all time high and the environmental tragedy in the gulf coast, I do not believe we should be teaching the children of our community that driving is a safer, healthier alternative to walking. I am thrilled to see county resources being allocated to something that will make downtown Great Falls safer, more accessible, more community-focused and hope to see even more sidewalks further down the road.

**M. Boggs**  
Great Falls

#### Human Rights Begin at Home

To the Editor:

I note that the U.S. House of Representatives recently voted to repeal the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law, the law under which homosexuals can be dismissed from the military if their sexual orientation becomes known. Voting against the repeal was our representative, U.S. Frank Wolf (R-10). I would very much like him to explain his reasons for opposing the repeal. The Pentagon is already preparing for this change, and the repeal is supported by many in the highest

ranks of the military, including current and former Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. If there is no statistical reason for opposing repeal, and if U.S. Rep. Wolf's own experience does not support his position, since he did not serve in the military, then I am left wondering if it is just further evidence of the unblinking, unthinking adherence to the Republican party line that we have come to expect over these many years. U.S. Rep. Wolf devotes considerable space on his website to his work promoting human rights all over the world. If he really believes in human rights, why would he then help perpetuate discrimination against a group right here in the U.S. who seek nothing other than the opportunity to serve their country, honestly, openly and honorably?

**Sarah O'Neil**  
Great Falls

#### Questions To Answer On Tysons' Future

To the Editor:

This is in reference to

"Tysons' Future Density Debated" [The Connection, May 19-25, 2010].

Despite all the information published about what will happen in the Tysons Corner project, nowhere are there discussions on what will happen to the neighboring communities, like McLean.

The numbers of new inhabitants seem to be in the order of 70,000 to 100,000. Where will all the cars owned by these people go? Route 123 and Route 7 are overwhelmed with traffic. Will Route 123 be made into an eight-lane limited access road through McLean? Will Route 123 be double decked through McLean? How will these projects be funded? Or will these people be prohibited from owning cars?

Where will all the schools to support the children be built and who will pay for them? Or will school aged children be prohibited from living there?

The project seems to be driven by only developer's needs, not those of the surrounding communities. Can the McLean Connection find answers for us?

**John Rudzki**  
McLean

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# Pipeline Impact Debated

FROM PAGE 3

heavy construction traffic. "We're trying to encourage some creative thinking when it comes to construction traffic around Deepwoods Drive and River Park Lane," Morse said. "I would like to see the county trying to squeeze out all the alternatives."

The residents are faced with a conundrum of sorts, because if bigger trucks are used, less trips would be required, but the larger trucks have difficulty maneuvering some of the sharp corners in the area.

Sillers had previously reported that a high estimate for total truck trips to the site could be as many as 600-800, but he added that the number could decrease sharply if "most of the material can be stored on-site, so we won't have to haul it out and back."

Since the roads WASA intends to use are private, they need to obtain easements signed by residents. One resident suggested the use of Seneca Road as a possible alternative, since it is a public road and a bigger one. Siller promised to look into the matter later this week.

**RESIDENTS** were also concerned about the length of the project, which is sched-

uled to begin later this year. Construction of the odor abatement facility should take six to eight months, with the slip lining taking less than a year, possibly as little as eight months, said Siller.

When asked why the two projects can't be done simultaneously, Siller said that "there just isn't enough workspace to do both at the same time," and he added that the odor facility was being done first because a majority of the permits were already signed off.

Planning Commissioner Jay Donahue (Dranesville) attended the meeting to gauge the feelings of Great Falls residents.

"We understand that this project will have major impacts on a lot of people, and I think these meetings are a good way to make sure these impacts are mitigated or eliminated," Donahue said. "We want to make sure we know exactly what is on [resident's] minds as this continues."

A public hearing with the Planning Commission is scheduled for July 22. Community members can sign up to testify at the hearing. The staff report on the project should be available by July 9 at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/staffreports](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/staffreports) and the project will be under the link "SE2010DR002."

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## CALENDAR

Send announcements to  
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Deadline is Thursday for the following  
week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.  
For additional listings, visit  
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### THURSDAY/JUNE 17

**Fred Eaglesmith and The Ginn Sisters.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

**The Glass Onion.** 7:30 p.m. Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Beatles tribute band. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performance.

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

**Artists' Reception.** 7 p.m. at McLean Project for the Arts, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Multi-media juried exhibition 'Fantastic Journeys'. Free. www.mpaart.org or 703-790-1953.

**Lavender Wand Workshop.** 10 a.m. Cherry Hill Farmhouse, 312 Park Ave., Falls Church. Make a lavender wand sachet and tour the 1845 farmhouse. \$5. Reserve at 703-248-5171.

### FRIDAY/JUNE 18

**Summer on the Green: Sunny Daze.** 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.

**Cats.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$44-\$245. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

**Struan Shields CD Release, Berrett and Harrison and Alexis Babini.** 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. jamminjava.com.

**Paul Cebat Tomorrow Sound.** 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20. jamminjava.com.

**"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.

**NVTA 2010 One-Act Play Festival.** 7:30 p.m. James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. \$14-\$35. 703-615-6626 or www.nvtaweb.org.

**Center for Ballet Arts: "Swan Lake".** 7 p.m. at Oakton High School Theatre, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna. Tickets \$15.

### SATURDAY/JUNE 19

**Memories of the Korean War: Concert & Picture Exhibition.** 7



Nevie Brooks (left) as Denise, Brian Razzino as Michael, and Leigh Jameson as Carol in 'Suburban Motel' at 1st Stage in Tysons Corner. The show runs through July 3. Tickets are available at www.1ststagetysons.org/motel.

p.m. at George Mason Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A choral art performance in remembrance of the Korean War 60 years ago. Samuel Barber's Agnus Dei, U.S. military songs and more accompanied by a full orchestra. A Korean War Picture exhibition will also be a part of honoring and appreciating Korean War Veterans. Free for veterans; reservations required. \$25-\$45. 240-483-5593 or cle13@hotmail.com.

**Cats.** 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$44-\$245. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

**Rocknocoeros Family Happy Hour.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. jamminjava.com.

**Box & Won and Shawn Sky.** 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. jamminjava.com.

**"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.

**Northern Virginia Country Western Dance Association.** At Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Line dance lessons at 7:30 p.m., couples specialty dance at 8 p.m. Open dancing 8:30-11 p.m. \$5-\$12. www.nvcwda.org or 703-860-4941.

**Woven Green.** 5 p.m. Outdoors at the Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave.,

McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

**NVTA 2010 One-Act Play Festival.** 7:30 p.m. James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. \$14-\$35. 703-615-6626 or www.nvtaweb.org.

### SUNDAY/JUNE 20

**Summer on the Green: Randy Barrett Mama Tried - Bluegrass.** 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.

**Cats.** 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$44-\$245. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

**Acoustic performance by Justin Currie and Graham Colton.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$18. jamminjava.com.

**Puccini's "La Rondine."** 3 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. A semi-staged performance of one of the composers' last works, in the original Italian with projected English subtitles. \$25 adults, \$15 students.

**www.RiverbendOpera.com.**

**"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.**

### MONDAY/JUNE 21

**Earth, Wind & Fire.** 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$58-\$471. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

**Marc Capponi's Summer Solstice Spectacular.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. jamminjava.com.

**Fun with Jonathan Austin.** 3:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Juggling, magic and unicycling fun. All ages. 703-757-8560.

### TUESDAY/JUNE 22

**The Fold, McTwist, Jonas Sees In Color and Breaking Borders.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. jamminjava.com.

### WEDNESDAY/JUNE 23

**Jer Coons, Andrew Hoover and Taylor Carson.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. jamminjava.com.

**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.

**Interesting and Amazing Animals.** 4 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Learn about different animals and how they live. Ages 8-14. 703-757-8560.

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## Brandt: Dream Comes Alive

FROM PAGE 3

an awesome experience. Directing was the hardest part, with 60 kids in the cast and crew, and a month-and-a-half to do it. The best part was tonight, when we got to do our song on The Kennedy Center stage."

**♦ Ensemble in a Musical: The ensemble in the "Stand Up" number**

"I'm incandescently happy, right now. We put 10,000-percent effort into it and worked so hard," said

junior Becca Allen.

"We're such a family, and this clearly represents that," said Junior Nicole Kang. "We love each other so much, and it wouldn't have been possible without that."

"It's the most exciting moment of my life; words can't describe it," said sophomore Gretchen Burke.

"It was one of the most collaborative efforts, and the bonds we had go beyond anything else I've ever had before," said sophomore Brian Patterson.

**♦ Best Musical**

"I can't believe we got it," said Brandt. "The actors and crew made my dream come alive, and it's fantastic."

"It's incredible, from where we started to where we ended is unbelievable," said senior Paul Goldberg. "Wes is a musical genius."

"It's a dream I never thought would come true until we touched that stage tonight," said senior Chelsea Raitor. "It was a possibility, but who knew it would really

occur? We're all impressed."

"Time's Square 2090' has been the most amazing experience of my life," said senior Justin McKay. "Wesley is one of the most incredible people I've ever met. It was a pleasure to help him put this all together and make it come true."

"I'm shocked and so excited for Wes," said senior Kelly Hubbell. "He even got an offer to produce this at Colorado College [where] he'll be attending, this fall. He's so talented, and I feel honored to have worked with him."

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## McLean High Crowns Prom King and Queen

The McLean High School Prom was Saturday, June 5, at Army Navy Country Club. Students enjoyed a beautiful venue and a fun theme: Classic Hollywood — A Red Carpet Affair. Senior Superlatives were awarded at the Prom. Among the winners were: Most Spirited-Collin Cannon and Aleigh Kemp, Hollywood Bound-Vanessa Bretas and Demitri Simpson. Pictured are McLean's Prom King Will Dutrow and Prom Queen Hanna Longwell, who also had the honor of being crowned Homecoming King and Queen.



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# Feeling The Music

## A 7<sup>th</sup>-grader reviews McLean Orchestra's 'Sweet Sorrow' concert.

BY MEGAN ZWICKER  
7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE/COOPER MIDDLE SCHOOL

**A** play where the music does most of the talking, not the actors. The instruments are not hiding below the stage, but are in sight. The actors are known as narrators, because they have few lines that say a lot.

The story was about Romeo and Juliet. In the beginning of the musical story, there was mostly Pyotr Tchaikovsky music. It was more joyful music because it represented when Romeo and Juliet meet. The narrators act as the characters while the instruments fade in and out helping to tell the story. As the story gets tenser, the music choice changes too. The story makes a big jump and goes on to Sergey Prokofiev. The music has a sad tone to it. In the end, the music changes again. The music is still sad, but more of mourning. It is by Hector Berlioz.

I enjoyed all of the music that was played. I am not sure of the name of my favorite song, but it is a very well known song. I have heard it in a lot of movies, usually when a big monster is walking in. It was my favorite song because it made my imagination feel like I was right there where Romeo and Juliet had been. The songs played where all classical songs. At the beginning of the concert, the director told us that the three musicians in the concert were rarely ever put together. The level of performers was advanced. It was advanced because it was mostly adults who have been playing since they were kids. The instruments used in the performance went from strings, to woodwind, and brass and other instruments. I heard a lot of dynamics in the songs. Also, the way the strings would staccato (pluck) was amazing because it sounded like jumping.

I think the performance was amazing. I would definitely recommend it to a friend. I would recommend it because it was a new way to see a concert. It would have the narrators start it and the music tells the rest of the story. I really noticed that the narrators weren't moving like in a regular play. They just acted with their tone of voice and facial expression. The narrators also stood on a balcony high above the orchestra.

I felt really moved by how hard they all had worked. I was also starting to think during the concert that all instruments are alike. The voice has all the same thing that a violin has. If the voice is off key, it needs to be tuned just like a violin. I imagined when singing, legato is like moving the bow really slowly and smoothly across the strings. It was the best orchestra concert I have been to. I really liked it and I want to go to another one of their concerts. It is one of the first musical concerts I have been to where the musicians really got in to their music and put heart into it.

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### Part-time Executive Director

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 Wichay, Vice-President at:

[Debbie.Witchey@safecommunitycoalition.net](mailto:Debbie.Witchey@safecommunitycoalition.net)  
by June 28, 2010.

Website at: [www.safecommunitycoalition.net](http://www.safecommunitycoalition.net)

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## Charitable Misgivings



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I have never been particularly charitable. Oh sure, I've given money here or there, especially when friends, neighbors, co-workers or family members have embraced - and solicited for - a cause. But on the whole, my actions (make that inaction) have left a lot to be desired. Unless of course, there were cookies or candy involved, or self-addressed, pre-stamped envelopes provided; otherwise, my inclination has been, generally speaking, not to "incline." I have stayed pretty much within my perimeters, not navigating (heck, not even drawing) outside the lines. I have been happy traveling within the imaginary guidelines set for me, set by me, set because of me. Well, that's about to change.

A little perspective goes a long way, and so too does an unexpected stage IV lung cancer diagnosis affect a life-long non-smoker at age 54; and so my perspective has changed (as in, "There are no atheists in foxholes," a quote most often attributed to World War II journalist, Ernie Pyle), evolved you might say, matured even, and now I'm redrawing some of those lines. I'm certainly not on the front lines, it's more of a rear guard-type action. I'm not addressing and/or stamping those envelopes or calling prospective donors over the phone, nor am I soliciting in public. I'm simply contributing, financially, more frequently than I have in the past. (That's not saying much, but it is saying something.) On the one hand, I figure it's not too late. On the other, I figure, given my prognosis, it's now or never. I don't think I'm making a Faustian-type deal, but neither do I know for sure that unselfish acts made in the face of death won't result in some kind of positive feedback down the line (under the line? up the line? across the line?). Still, I'm a long way from committing myself to a potential spiritual-type purity that might, in fact, alter the course (or is that curse?) of that future line. Nevertheless, I'd rather be safe than sorry, or at least think I'm being safe so maybe I won't be sorry. But who knows, really?

So yes, I suppose there is an ulterior motive. Now, whether a few dollars spread around (by me) to those less fortunate than I (cancer issues not-always-withstanding, although likely underlying every decision I now make; subconsciously probably, consciously definitely) and/or contributing to more charitable endeavors (other than myself) won't likely help me in this life, I can't see how it would hurt, either. Nor am I counting chickens or hatching a plan. I'm simply trying to consider the bigger picture.

It's not like I'm donating all my worldly possessions or going on a pilgrimage to the Promised Land to find the true meaning of life - and death. I'm still living my normal (relatively speaking for a cancer patient receiving chemotherapy every three weeks) life, but trying to work into that "normal" life more dos and less don'ts, and to be more sensitive to those who have not rather than to those who have a lot.

I wouldn't say this benevolence hit me recently. I would say it's been a gradual year-or-so ago awakening, having hit me on Feb. 27, 2009, when my internal medicine doctor first called me with the results of my biopsy. The "m" word has a way of sharpening your focus and maybe even redefining your values a bit.

So here I sit, 15 months later, approximately, doing better than my oncologist expected, and grateful for every result that he has characterized as "above average." I'm not thinking about death (too much), I'm thinking about life. And not just mine, but others. In a peculiar way, it sort of helps.

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

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**OBITUARY**  
**Dr. Robert Thomas Herron**  
**(Age 63)**  
Doctor Robert Herron, died on June 12, 2010, after a long battle with cancer. He was born on February 11, 1947, in Jamaica, NY to Catherine (nee Jensen) and the late James Herron. Survivors include his wife of 35 years, Margaret (nee Carmody) Herron, son and daughter in law, Christopher and Alexis (nee Kaufmann) Herron, daughter Kathleen and son Thomas Herron. He is also survived by his brothers, Allen and Kevin Herron. He was predeceased by his sister, Diane Roy. Relatives and Friends are invited to Dr Herrons Life Celebration at Money and King Funeral Home, 171 W. Maple Ave. Vienna, VA on Tuesday June 15 from 5-8pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St Marks Catholic Church, 9970 Vale Rd, Vienna, VA on Wednesday June 16, 2010 at 1:00pm. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers the family suggest that memorial contributions be made to Capital Hospice, 6565 Arlington Blvd, Suite 500, Falls Church, VA 22042. Please view and sign the guest book at www.moneyandking.com

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## 21 Announcements

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## FATHER'S DAY GALLERY



**Nick Berray, 12, of Great Falls, with dad Tom at the top of the mountain in Beaver Creek, Colorado, March 2010. Ski Heaven!**



**Stephanie and Floyd Gaibler of Great Falls at the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach during the Spring Break.**



**Richard Brown of Great Falls and two of his sons, Kevin, 21, left, and Michael, 24, right, and wife Nora Lee Brown, pictured in Fredericksburg on March 16.**



Langley's Jack Lundeen (3) fends off a Loudoun Valley player during last Saturday night's state title game at Westfield High School. Lundeen, a senior attack, had a goal and an assist in the Saxons' win.



Freshman midfielder Luke Salzer of Langley (40) moves with the ball in the state finals game. In winning their second consecutive state title, the Saxons built a third quarter 6-1 lead over the Vikings.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## Once Again, Brewer's Bunch Wins State Lacrosse Title

### Langley's hard playoff ride concludes with lopsided finals win over Loudoun Valley.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

In the end, Langley's 12-5 Virginia state tournament boys' lacrosse title game victory over Loudoun Valley Saturday night, June 12 at Westfield High School probably came easier than the Saxons expected.

For a squad that has experienced numerous down-to-the-wire postseason games over the past two seasons - including an OT triumph over Chantilly at last year's state finals - the reality of a relatively lopsided state championship game affair probably did not seem realistic for the Saxons.

But Langley, which has persevered through a tough postseason against talented, motivated opponents determined to knock off the defending state champions, finally experienced a game where it controlled play from start to finish. In Saturday's state finals, the Saxons played hard, played with passion and played an all-around sound game to capture their second straight state crown.

"By far it was our best defensive game we've played," said Langley goalie Andrew Spivey. "The scouting report by the coaches was so good."

A day prior to the championship game, Langley gathered as a team and watched a video of its regular season 8-7 overtime loss to Loudoun Valley back on March 30 in Purcellville.

"We watched game film and looked at each other and asked, 'How did we lose that game?'" said Langley coach Earl Brewer, smiling at the recollection.

It was no slight against Loudoun Valley, the Northwest Region champions and a talented all-around team. What stood out to Brewer in watching film of that first meeting with the Vikings was the unforced errors his squad made in that contest — the Saxons' only regular season loss of the season.

"I thought we had to eliminate the unforced errors against them [in the state finals]," said Brewer.

Langley did just that, playing a much better game against the Vikings than it had during the early regular season meeting. Of course, that was to be expected. After all, the Saxons were a much better team at year's end than they had been earlier in the spring.

"We played pretty sloppy against them during the season," said Spivey. "Now, we're a totally different team."

Compared to some of its other games earlier in the postseason, the state finals game was a lopsided affair for Langley. In the Liberty District finals, Langley edged Madison, 10-9. Then, at regionals, the Saxons had tough, close game wins over both Chantilly and Westfield before losing in the region title game to Robinson in overtime on May 26.

Despite the finals loss to the Rams, Langley still qualified for the state tournament. There, Langley continued to play close games, barely getting past a tough Salem High (Virginia Beach) team in overtime, 13-12, on June 5, before earning a hard-fought, low-scoring win over Northern Region foe W.T. Woodson, 7-5, on June 10 (see the Woodson game story at

connectionnewspapers.com, at Great Falls sports).

So, naturally, in Saturday's finals, the Saxons were expecting another close affair against a Loudoun Valley team that had already beaten them once.

"We had lost to Valley before and knew it would be a tough game," said Langley senior attack Jack Lundeen, of the Saxons' mindset going into Saturday's game.

**BUT IT WAS NEVER CLOSE.** Langley jumped out against Loudoun Valley from the start with three first quarter goals to take a 3-0 lead. The Saxons dominated ball control over the first 12 minutes. Meanwhile, the Vikings could not maintain possession, continually turning the ball over as a result of Langley's tenacious play or unforced mistakes.

Langley increased its lead to 4-0 early in the second quarter off a Sean Ahearn catch-and-shoot score from six yards out. Lundeen, from behind the net, passed the ball to Ahearn to earn the assist on the score.

Loudoun Valley finally scored its first goal of the game just over a minute later to get within 4-1. But the Saxons, in the low-scoring second quarter, tallied the final goal of the 12 minute stanza on a nifty, 12-yard shot by senior midfielder Joey Byrne (four goals, one assist), who was moving left to right across the goal area when he released the ball.

So, at the half, Langley held a 5-1 lead. The game's next goal did not come until midway through the third quarter when Lundeen, off a pass from Bryan Clubb (one goal, one assist), scored from eight yards out to make the score 6-1 Saxons.

Later, early in the fourth quarter, Langley had an 8-3 advantage following a score from Byrne, off an assist from Mikey Adams.

After the Vikings got within 8-4, Langley reeled off four straight scores — the goals coming from Byrne, Clubb, Ahearn and Robbie Bennett — to put the game away at 12-4.

Langley's huge turnout of student fans, seated in a section on the visitors' side of the stadium, was in all-out celebration mode over the game's final eight minutes as the Saxons were, by the second, closing in on their second straight title.

A Loudoun Valley goal with two seconds remaining hardly squelched the Langley victory party. At the game's final whistle, the Saxon players on the bench sprinted out onto the field to join their teammates. There was unbridled, spontaneous celebrating as players hugged one another and pointed towards family and friends watching from the bleachers. Saxon Nation was whooping it up.

"It's unbelievable," said Spivey, who played outstanding in the net for the Saxons. "Two years in a row is pretty special."

Spivey, a backup goalie on last year's state title winning team, said he experienced some early game nerves before settling down.

"Before the game I tried not to think of it being a state championship game," said the sophomore. "I felt the pressure early on but then got a few saves and settled down."

He said the loss to Robinson in the region finals might have ultimately gotten the Saxons better prepared for states and ultimately winning another state title.

"We had won 17 games in a row up until the Robinson game," he said. "Maybe we got a little ahead of ourselves [against Robinson]. It humbled us."

Humbled, but not eliminated, the Saxons put the loss to the Rams behind and regrouped for states.

# NEWS

## Girl Scouts Learn Self-defense

Girl Scout Troop 3134 organizes a self-defense workshop to address sexual assaults on young girls.

BY CLAIRE BABILONIA  
THE CONNECTION

Earlier this year, Girl Scout Troop 3134 of Great Falls discovered a shocking statistic: 50 percent of sexual assaults are made on girls ages 15 and under. Inspired to make a change, the troop embarked on a year-long study of empowering women and educating young girls in their community.

Under the guidance of Troop Leader Sylvia Roman, the troop's study culminated in a self-defense workshop with the U.S. Tae Kwon Do

Martial Arts Academy on Saturday, June 12. Participants paid for the session with canned food donations, which were collected and delivered to the Embry Rucker Community Shelter in Reston. "Most men think they are supe-

**"Most men think they are superior to women because of their strength. We're taking the opportunity to fight back."**

— Margaret Kriso,  
member of Troop 3134

rior to women because of their strength," said Margaret Kriso, a member of Troop 3134 and 10th-grader at Langley High School. "We're taking the opportunity to fight back."

Margaret and her fellow Girl Scouts invited other troops to participate in the session, which was open to Girl Scouts grades four and up.

**ABOUT 15 GIRL SCOUTS** came to the one-hour workshop at the Martial Arts Academy.

"This is a great opportunity," said Kathleen Foley,



After a successful attack, participants help their partners up.

SEE GIRLS, PAGE 18

PHOTO BY CLAIRE BABILONIA/THE CONNECTION

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# NEWS



**At the end of the session, Tara Razjouyan gives an impressive demonstration for the Girl Scouts.**

PHOTO BY  
 CLAIRE BABILONIA/  
 THE CONNECTION

## Young Girls Fight Back

FROM PAGE 17

troop leader of 1133 and service unit manager for Great Falls. “And the girls came up with this idea all on their own.”

Foley said this project is one step closer to the troop’s Gold Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout may

earn. The troop must develop a service-oriented project that takes into consideration its surrounding community and will continue long after the initial steps. Each member must also acquire a significant amount of volunteer hours centered on a potential career path.

“The structure of the Girl Scouts

promotes leadership,” said Foley. “It is great at encouraging the girls to get out of their comfort zone. The older girls interact with younger troops in addition to their own.”

Three instructors lead the session through five basic self-defense maneuvers. The girls worked with partners and alternated between roles of attacker and victim.

Instructor Tara Razjouyan emphasized the importance of remaining levelheaded during an attack. “Act timid and make your attacker feel as if they’re in control,” said Razjouyan. “Give yourself time to calm down and never panic.”

**IN THE PROPER** psychological state, the victim can perform maneuvers with confidence and fluidity. Each instructor helped the pairs repeat movements in order to feel comfortable enough to perform under pressure.

Razjouyan assured the participants that size is not the only factor. By keeping body parts close and seeking out sensitive pressure points, a person of any size can overcome an attacker of greater body strength.

At the close of the session, the girls presented scenarios that they most feared. Examples included being attacked from behind, being pinned to the ground, and experiencing unwanted advances in a car.

The Girl Scouts left the session feeling empowered and confident. Even if they do not remember the exact maneuvers, they understand the importance of remaining calm and looking for sensitive pressure points.

“No matter how big of a guy he is,” said Razjouyan. “You can get him to leave you alone.”



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