

# Great Falls CONNECTION

## Avenue Of Arts

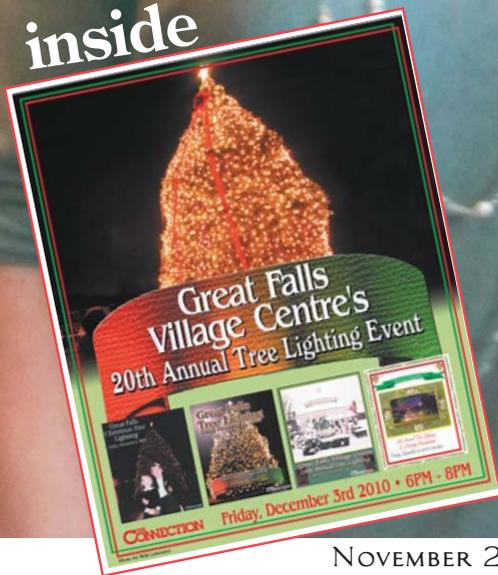
NEWS, PAGE 15

Karen Graham and Adrienne Kralick, Manager and Owner of Avenue Beau Sejour art gallery, stand before the painting 'Norma Jean' during the grand opening celebration.

### Giving Thanks In Great Falls

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### Bridge to Somewhere

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# Bridge to Somewhere After delays, construction resumes on Leigh Mill Road bridge.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

It just sat there, a half-completed bridge to nowhere for much of the early Fall. The bridge over Difficult Run on Leigh Mill Road, meant to be widened by two feet and reinforced, had already been torn up, but there was no progress being made.

While there was no actual construction being done, VDOT estimated thousand cars that traveled over the bridge daily had to find detours. While it appeared as nothing was getting done, in reality, the Virginia Department of Transportation had its work cut out for it.

The bridge was closed July 12, and was planned to re-open by Labor Day, so that school buses would be able to use the road. But during construction in August, VDOT engineers determined that the bridge abutments and wing walls were in worse condition than previously thought, and decided to replace the entire substructure.

According to an August VDOT



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

**Construction on the bridge over Difficult Run on Leigh Mill Road has resumed, after a delay for additional planning.**

press release, “the old abutments and wing walls, of unknown age, are constructed of stone masonry which has lost much of its structural integrity over the years. The entire substructure had to be demolished and replaced with an exterior stone texture to replicate the original structure.”

Nick Roper, district structure and bridge engineer for VDOT’s Northern Virginia district, said that once this was discovered, the bridge had to be completely rethought.

“Bridges are built from the ground up, and in this case, part of the bottom unexpectedly

broke,” Roper said. “Until plans could be formulated and approved, and then the contract amended, no work could go forward.”

Work on the bridge resumed Oct. 21, and VDOT estimates it will re-open no later than January 2011.

“We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused residents and will get the bridge by Jan. 31, if not before,” said Helen Cuervo, VDOT assistant engineer for construction. “Providing the weather cooperates, we hope to keep construction ahead of schedule.”

The new bridge will be the same height, elevation and alignment as the old bridge, but will be widened to 15 feet from the original 13 feet. This will give pedestrians and bicyclists more room on the bridge.

The deck, posts, rails and curbs will be made of laminated wood product that is bonded with strong, waterproof adhesives. According to VDOT, when it is finished it will be “safer, stronger, last longer and have a natural appearance.”

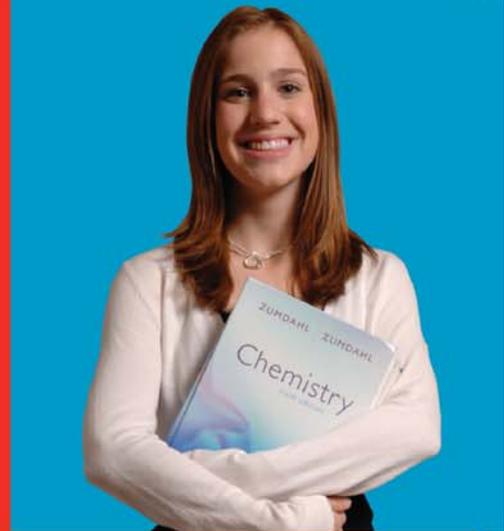
## MILITARY NOTES

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

Army National Guard Pfc. **Joshua B. Atkins** has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. During the nine weeks of training, he studied Army history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics and more. He is the son of Randy Atkins of Weant Drive in Great Falls, and a 1990 graduate of the Blue Ridge Preparatory School of Dyke, Va.

Cadet **Anthony Kotoriy** of Great Falls successfully completed Cadet Basic Training (CBT) at the U.S. Military Academy on Aug. 14. The initial military training program provides cadets with basic skills to instill discipline, pride, cohesion, confidence and a high sense of duty to prepare them for entry into the Corps of Cadets. Areas of summer instruction included first aid, mountaineering, hand grenades, rifle marksmanship and nuclear, biological, and chemical training. He is the son of Giovanni and Elizabeth Kotoriy of Great Falls, and a graduate of Langley High School.

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- Sunday, December 5 1:00 p.m.

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The new Great Falls Fire Station, as shown here, is scheduled to open in January 2012. In addition to many environmentally friendly features, the two-story station will have enough room for the fire department to store its' special rescue equipment.

## New Fire Station, Same Location

Great Falls Fire Station to be replaced with bigger, modern facility.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

The current Great Falls Fire Station was built in 1960, and as the scope of services offered by the Great Falls Fire Department has expanded, there has been a need for more room. Because of this, a new station is currently being built which will have much more room for their equipment, as well as other modern amenities. While a new building sounds good to the firefighters, there's also more than a little nostalgia for the old station.

“Firefighters are very into tradition, we don't like changes, so even though we're happy about the new facility, it's kind of like saying goodbye to an old friend.”

— Capt. Mark Feaster

“Firefighters are very into tradition, we don't like changes, so even though we're happy about the new facility, it's kind of like saying goodbye to an old friend,” said Capt. Mark Feaster, station captain. “We all have a lot of good memories in that old building.”

**THE GREAT FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT** will be moving into their new digs come January 2012, but in the meantime they've set up shop in temporary buildings behind the existing station. The new, \$12.5 million station will feature enough room for the specialized equip-

ment the Great Falls Fire Department uses and will contain several environmentally friendly features.

“There's a lot more room to better accommodate the specialized equipment they need,” said Dan Schmidt of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. “They have swift boats for river rescues and a medic unit, each with its own equipment that they will now have room for.”

The Great Falls Fire Department responds to all calls on the Potomac River from the Loudoun County line to the American Legion Bridge.

Fairfax County purchased additional property at 718 Walker Road, to expand the station, and will have a new septic system instead of the pump and haul system that was originally planned.

“The community said they wanted a septic system there, and as a result of great planning, we were able to change the plan,” said Brian Worthy of the department's Public Affairs Office.

**THE PLAN** is for the building to be LEED Silver certified by the U.S. Green Buildings Council, due to new technology that will reduce energy and water use. Low flow plumbing fixtures, low-power lighting fixtures and a design that takes advantage of natural light are all features the new station will have.

Green buildings can slash energy costs by 15 to 20 percent and water by as much as 20 percent, Worthy said. “Once the building is complete, we'll be able to do more exact calculations and see exactly how much we're saving.”

The new station will feature four bays, and Schmidt says it will be “very aesthetically pleasing.” A silo will be part of the façade, and it will also be used to dry hoses after use.

The station, which was a volunteer fire department, will be staffed by Fairfax County career firefighters, with a volunteer component. Even though some of the organizational structure is changing, Feaster says the area can still expect the same level of service.

“Nothing will change when it comes to operations, it's just that we'll be in a station that's on par with other ones in the county,” he said.

The fire and rescue teams will deploy from Walker Road now for calls, instead of Georgetown Pike. When leaving the station, there will be someone stopping traffic and the lights will be on, and though there haven't been any issues yet, drivers should be cautious, Feaster said.

## Giving Thanks in Great Falls

As we celebrate the Thanksgiving Day, the Great Falls Connection has asked area residents to respond to the following three questions:

- 1) What will you give thanks for this Thanksgiving?
- 2) What are you thankful for living and/or working in Great Falls?
- 3) What advice would you give to someone looking for more special things to be thankful for here?

Here are the responses, in alphabetical order.

**Candace Campbell,**  
Great Falls Optimist Club



“I'm thankful for the fact that I live in a friendly, vibrant community where people don't hesitate to jump right in and volunteer when problems need to be solved, when their neighbors need help, or when we want to create something - an event, or a wonderful facility like Turner Farm Park - for our town. I've met so many wonderful people while volunteering. It's astounding how much

talent and expertise there is in our little town.”



**Lorraine Turner Coons of Vienna,** (front row, middle)  
Turner Framing, Inc., Great Falls

1. Mostly my family and friends, of course. But also, as a business owner, I am thankful for our loyal customers in a struggling economy for helping us keep our great employees and a 37 year old business.

2. Great parks and trails.

3. We're lucky to have so much offered within a short distance - great restaurants, stores, pro sports, museums as well as hiking and biking right in your back yard.

SEE THANKS, PAGE 5

## Community Meetings on Snow Removal

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) and staff from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) have organized four meetings in the Dranesville district to explain the updated processes and policies implemented by VDOT since the last snow season, and snow removal plans for the coming season. After the record-breaking snow events of last winter the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and VDOT worked together to identify and address major problems with VDOT's snow clearing process. Some of the planned changes in that process expected to be discussed at the meetings are:

Increased and more accurate communication with residents; Increased communication with plowers including electronic monitoring of snow removal vehicles allowing more accurate status reporting to residents; Increased number of plows for neighborhoods;

❖ Earlier mobilization of plows based on weather forecast, not number of inches on ground;

❖ Updated "snow maps" (plow's assigned routes) with more accurate markings of "hot spots" (particularly difficult or previously neglected sections of road).

❖ In addition, attendees will have an opportunity to discuss particular problem areas in their communities.

The meetings will be held as follows:

❖ Herndon Area, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m., Lecture Hall - Door 1, Herndon High School, 700 Bennett Street, Herndon.

❖ McLean/Arlington Border Area, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m., Library (Media Center), Chesterbrook Elementary School, 1753 Kirby Rd., McLean.

❖ McLean Area, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean.

❖ Great Falls Area, Co-Sponsored by Great Falls Citizens Association, Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m.

(Snow presentation begins 8:15 to 8:30), Great Falls Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

For more information contact Julie Ide in Supervisor Foust's office at 703-356-0551 or by email at julie.ide@fairfaxcounty.gov.

## Area Well Represented in The Christmas Revels

Virginia residents can usually be found both on and off stage, as cast, crew, and audience members at the Washington Revels' annual holiday theatre event, The Christmas Revels. Virginia is particularly well-represented this year, with a total of 25 performers and 10 production staff members, including the following area residents:

Jane Bloodwort, Adult Chorus; and Thomas Wilkens, Adult Chorus, of Great Falls; Scott Matheson, Adult Chorus; Lea Mulder, Teen Chorus; and Jason Noone, Teen Chorus & his brother Peter Noone, Adult Chorus of McLean; Keegan Cassidy, Directing Intern; Kathy Cutri, Merchandise Sales; Paul Hogan, Teen Chorus; Marissa Maley, Adult Chorus; and Katie Somers, Teen Chorus, of Vienna.

Now in its 28th season, one of the Washington area's most popular holiday celebrations - The Christmas Revels - will play at GW's Lisner Auditorium, 21st & H Streets, NW for two weekends, Dec. 4-5 and Dec. 10-12. More information at [www.revelsdc.org](http://www.revelsdc.org) or 1-800-595-4849

## Holiday Design Presentation

**Margaret Fleegal (right) of Twinbrook Florist and her designer, Mike Burch, presented a Holiday Design program at Five Hills Garden Club in Vienna on Nov. 16. Gail Gile (left), club member, hosted Fleegal.**



## NEWS

# Distracted Epidemic

One out of four Beltway drivers have experienced an accident or near-miss because of distracted driving.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

A van full of Marines was barreling down Franconia Road after a baseball game one night last September, when the tragic consequences of distracted driving became clear. The way Fairfax County Police Capt. Susan Culin describes the circumstances of the crash, the driver was already distracted talking to his buddies when his cell phone began vibrating in his pants pocket.

"We're not really sure what happened next, but we have our suspicions," said Culin, commander of the Traffic Division. "In that instant, the driver drove through a red light that he didn't see until it was too late."

What happened next is one more statistic in what a growing chorus of voices is describing as a "national epidemic." The four-vehicle crash sent eight people to the hospital. One Marine was in grave condition for a while, but he is still recovering. The driver, also a Marine, has legal consequences of the crash. That issue will be resolved in the courts, but the weight of what happened that day will be a burden forever.

"He now must live with critically injuring his friend," said Culin. "We have to stigmatize this type of behavior and put an end to it."

And the problem is only growing worse every day, according to survey data compiled by AAA Mid-Atlantic and HOT lanes contractor Transurban-Fluor.

Last year, according to the survey, one in six drivers reported an accident or near miss as the result of sending texts, reading e-mail or chatting on the telephone. This year, it's one in four. Half of drivers on the phone say they are responding to urgent work-related issues. Despite the workplace-related nature of the epidemic, few employers have formal policies discouraging distracted driving.

"Overwhelmingly, we are seeing these numbers increase," said Virginia Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton. "People don't seem to be making the connection."

Connaughton hopes employers will help them make the connection, instituting new policies. Four major regional employers have already taken the pledge: Inova Health System, Tysons Corner Center, Booz Allen Hamilton and Science Applications International Corporation. That last business, which is perhaps better known by the acronym SAIC, donated the use of its parking lot to serve as the venue for a press conference releasing the study and launching the campaign. Cars swooshed through the background, a large construction zone resembling an



Fairfax Police Capt. Susan Culin speaks about the rising in drivers being distracted by their smart phones.

obstacle course for motorists and their smart phones.

"There are places in Tysons Corner and on the Beltway where I even turn off the radio," said Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova. "Lanes are being rearranged as we speak, and it's important that we pay attention to what's going on around us."

**DRIVERS WHO ENGAGE** in distracted driving can be charged for failing to pay full time and attention to the road. Police records from across Northern Virginia show a spike of charges in this category over the last few years as smart-phones have become more widely used. According to Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, distracted driving was responsible for more than 6,000 crashes in Northern Virginia last year. Ten people were killed, and 3,000 people were hurt.

**"There are places in Tysons Corner and on the Beltway where I even turn off the radio."**

**— Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova**

"When you are distracted and you are driving, you are a hazard," said Fairfax County Police Capt. Tracy Russillo. "You are a threat to yourself and all those people around you, especially when driving through a construction zone where there is already less room to navigate and make an error."

The statistics are daunting and potentially misleading. Police officers say there's no good way to know if a cell phone was the reason for a crash because they are depending on those responsible to report the information. Unlike driving while intoxicated, there's no test that could prove a smart phone was responsible. So the boundaries of the problem remain somewhat of a mystery. Yet according to those now calling for action, it's becoming a problem too big to ignore.

"We know that motorists know they shouldn't be doing it — that it's dangerous," said Lon Anderson, director of government relations for AAA Mid-Atlantic. "And yet our numbers are still going up."

In the first 100 days since the campaign launched last week, organizers hope to get at least 100 employers to take the Employer Safety Pledge.

# GIVING THANKS IN GREAT FALLS

## Joda Coolidge

(pictured on family holiday)



1. Thankful for a very rich life in many ways: health, freedom and the love of family and friends.

2. The community feeling, the caring environment and the natural beauty of Great Falls makes it a unique and wonderful place to live.

3. If the question is more focused on what I am thankful for in terms of living in Great Falls, I'd say: Our hometown celebrations- Spooktacular, Tree Lighting, Spring Festival and Fourth of July, our beautiful parks, our great local businesses, our amazing social organizations- Great Falls Friends, Newcomer's and

Women's Club, Optimist Club. Great Falls is just "one of a kind".

## Diane Falconer,

President of Great Falls Foundation for the Arts



1. That there are still many people in this world who have hope that we can work together to make the world a better place for our great-grandchildren.

2. After living in many places, I am very grateful for having the good fortune to be able to live and raise my two sons in Great Falls for the past eight years. Our hometown features the largest wild river in a US suburban area, the Great Falls, gorgeous trees which display a full range of colors and bluebells announcing spring. At the same time, the proximity to our nation's capital, the diversity of residents and the excellent schools, arts and focus on families have made life here ideal. We are very thankful.

3. You can find almost everything here. Read the paper and try some new activities - there's an abundance of museums, theater, music, community and art events. Have you been to Wolftrap? The Barns? Have you ridden your bike along the W&OD trail both directions, visited Arlington's Artisphere, taken an art class at the Great Falls School of Art or hiked on the ridge overlooking the Potomac at Difficult Run? Have you listened to Celtic music while drinking beer at The Old Brogue or strolled the Mall (either National or Tysons) lately?

## Una Higgins,

Saxon Stage on Cue President, Langley HS

1. I appreciate community retailers like Cathy Moran of "Cathy's Corner," Mr. Kim of "Kim's Tailoring," and Yasser at Deli Italiano. They are friendly, offer quality services, and make great ambassadors for Great Falls.

2. I also love walking and hiking along the Potomac and in Great Falls Park with good friends on a beautiful day.



## Pat Mercer Hutchens,

Teacher and artist



1. A better question might be, what won't I give thanks for. My husband, retired Army and later retired Presbyterian pastor (PCA) and I have lived here for 30 years. I have taught school many of those years at George Mason, The Corcoran, NOVA and Lord Fairfax College and met and helped in the lives of hundreds of young people. I still teach part time. We moved 18 times before settling in this area, so I am beside myself with joy that this is where we ended up. We have three children and 12 grandchildren, all of whom live in the area. I am overflowing with gratitude for our wonderful family. Because I have lost many friends I grew up with and went to school with, I am deeply thankful for so many friends we have made through the years in Virginia, DC and Maryland. I'm thankful for health and strength. Although I grew up in a wonderful small town in Louisiana, I love living in this Metro area, within a drive to many

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## Holidays are Here!

### Friday, November 26

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- 11 am** 20th Annual Reston Holiday Parade
- 12:30 – 4:30 pm**  
Visits and Portraits with  
Santa & Mrs. Claus
- 6 pm** Tree Lighting and Sing Along
- 6:30 – 10 pm**  
Horse Drawn Carriage Rides

- Throughout December**  
Street Entertainment  
Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides  
Breakfast with Santa

- Saturday, December 4**  
94.7 Fresh FM – Coats, Blankets & Scarves Drive

- Friday, December 10**  
Toys for Tots - Live MIX 107.3 Broadcast

- Saturday, December 11**  
Santa Paws – Pet Portraits by GoodDogz.org

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### SHOPPING

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- Apple
- ArtInsights Animation & Film Art Gallery
- at&t wireless
- Banana Republic
- Bike Lane
- Chico's
- Cigar Town
- Dandelion Patch
- Davelle Clothiers for Him & Her
- Eyewear Gallery
- Faber, Coe & Gregg Sundries
- FedEx Office
- Fidelity Investments
- Gap
- Gap Kids/Baby Gap
- Greater Reston Arts Center
- Hyatt Regency Reston
- Jos. A. Bank Clothiers
- Jouvence/Aveda
- Le Shoppe for Hair, Nails & Skin Care
- Market Cellars
- Midtown Jewelers
- One to One Fitness Center
- Origins
- Paris, France Perfumes
- PNC Bank
- Potomac River Running
- Pottery Barn
- PR at Partners
- Prime Cleaners
- Rave Cinemas
- Sephora
- South Moon Under
- Talbots
- Talbots Petites
- Victoria's Secret
- Wachovia Bank
- Williams-Sonoma

### DINING

- American Tap Room
- Ben & Jerry's
- Big Bowl
- Busara Thai Restaurant & Lounge
- Chipotle
- Clyde's of Reston
- Community Canteen
- Cosi
- Edibles Incredible!
- Il Fornaio
- M&S Grill
- Market Street Bar & Grill
- Marvelous Market
- McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant
- Mon Ami Gabi
- Nine West
- Obi Sushi
- Panera Bread
- Paolo's Ristorante
- Potbelly Sandwich Works
- Starbucks
- Sweetgreen
- Uncle Julio's Rio Grande Café
- Uno Chicago Grill
- Yogen Früz

...and much more!

# GIVING THANKS IN GREAT FALLS

FROM PAGE 5

beaches and easy train ride to Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. We have beautiful trees in our yard, and a comfortable home. Come to find out in years of taking advantage of the countless sources for studying genealogy, my husband and I both found that we have many forefathers and foremothers who started out in Virginia, even some at Jamestown. I am basically one happy camper, and oh yes, I give God lots of credit for grace and mercy not only to have been blessed, but to have the health and strength to enjoy what we have.

2. Who would not like living in one of the most beautiful areas of the United States? When we moved here, our neighbor had almost 12 cows in a field behind us. Another neighbor raised roosters and chickens. Several others had horses. Some or all of these groups occasionally drifted into our yard - which was okay for a girl raised on a farm. I have been able to find full time and part time jobs. The museums abound, the treasures of the Smithsonian are a stone's throw away. Hospitals and health clinics are near to every area. It is impossible to get around to all the incredible restaurants - but we have tried. There are zoos, news museums, many places to

study, theaters, libraries in every town with an interlibrary loan system, colleges are close for taking classes (such as computer skills), and well, I cannot think of a better place to live. One of the things our children liked in this area was that they met and became friends with people from all over the world - people sort of live and let live around here. Since I am a practicing artist as well as a teacher, this area abounds with opportunities to be in art groups, exhibit art works and to see hundreds of other artist's work. The churches are great - if you don't like one, there are dozens of other good ones to visit and attend. There are personal interest groups for just about everything and we have not finished visiting all the sites that people from all over the world come to see. It really feels like the center of the world.

3. I try my best not to give advice unless asked, but I would just say that special things are easy to find and that no doubt thankfulness originates on the inside. Not only is beauty in the eyes of the beholder, but so are things to be thankful for. I appreciated the town I grew up in and the many places we lived in through the years, but this area takes the cake for me! I do love New York, but I really love Northern Virginia.

**Phylliss Jaffe,**  
Director of Langley High  
Theatre Program



**Phylliss Jaffe, right, with sister Dena, in childhood days.**

1. My family.
2. The incredible opportunities, support and enthusiasm of the students, staff and community of Langley High School.
3. Appreciate and love those dear to you, and help those who are less fortunate than yourself. (I really am appreciative of the interest/coverage of the theatre program here at Langley.)

**Michela Mansuino,**  
Great Falls Atelier

1. This Thanksgiving I will be especially grateful to have a roof over my head, to have a cozy bedroom with heat and blankets and pillows and to be near my mother and step-father.

2. I'm thankful for living in the Vienna, Oakton, McLean and Great Falls area because of the people that live here. There is so much talent and appreciation for the arts. Our community has created a level of culture which radiates happiness and enthusiasm for life, from dining to fashion to music and theater, visual arts and architecture. We are a Renaissance Metropolitan area.

3. My advice to someone looking for more special things here would be to invest in taking classes, getting on a board of directors or be a sponsor for an arts organization. It helps the community grow strong and builds friendships.



restontowncenter.com



# NEWS

## Suspected Serial Burglar Apprehended

Suspect in more than 100 burglaries and larcenies caught in Montgomery County.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

A man police suspect is responsible for the serial burglaries throughout Northern Virginia and Maryland has been caught by Montgomery County Police. Brad K. Edmonds, 34, of Oxon Hill, Md. was arrested Nov. 17 at approximately 4:30 a.m., after a joint surveillance team from Montgomery and Fairfax Counties witnessed him attempt to break into a residence in Potomac, Md.

The series of burglaries started in Fairfax County on Aug. 24 and spanned across several police districts. The burglar preyed on mostly unlocked houses and parked cars, stealing cash, some personal items and even several firearms. It is estimated more than 100 such burglaries and larcenies took place in Fairfax County since then.

There were also suspected incidents in Loudoun and Prince Williams Counties.

The crimes has several things in common that alerted police to the possibility of a serial burglar, including the fact that they were nighttime burglaries, while people were home, which McLean district station commander Capt. Steve Thompson called "extremely rare."

Col. David Rohrer, Fairfax County Chief of Police, said that since the suspect had been entering homes while people were home, it was important to catch the suspect before someone got hurt.



**Brad K. Edmonds, 34, of Oxon Hill Md., was arrested Nov. 17 in Potomac, Md. Montgomery and Fairfax County Police believe Edmonds is the man responsible for the string of more than 100 burglaries in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area that started Aug. 24.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE

"Nighttime burglaries of occupied homes present heightened risk of safety for the public and propelled this investigation into very high priority operations for the Fairfax County Police Department. I commend our patrol officers and detectives for their dedication to the long sustained hours of work these cases required. I am also grateful to our policing partners, particularly the Montgomery County Police Department, for their collaboration, and to our communities for their patience, cooperation and support during this investigation."

A McLean resident first reported a suspicious vehicle in their neigh-

borhood Nov. 8. Police made a traffic stop, and this first brought Edmonds to police attention, and they were able to link his vehicle to the series of robberies.

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) hosted a series of public meetings throughout his district during the series of crimes, always urging the public to be vigilant, saying "when we do catch him, it's going to be because someone saw something and called the police right away."

Detectives followed Edmonds for several nights and mornings before the arrest, finally making their move after watching him break into two vehicles, make a residential burglary and attempt another one. He was apprehended at the intersection of River Road and Falls Road.

Edmonds is currently being held on a \$425,000 bond at the Montgomery County Detention Center. He has been charged with first-degree burglary, attempted first-degree burglary, two counts of malicious destruction of property under \$500, two counts of theft between \$1,000 and \$10,000, two counts of rogue and vagabond, theft under \$1,000, fourth-degree burglary tools, possession of a firearm after a felony conviction, possession of a stolen firearm and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

According to a Fairfax County Police press release, the task force is continuing its investigation and anticipates placing charges against Edmonson in Fairfax County.

www.childrensacademy.com.

### THURSDAY/DEC. 2

**Strategies for Securing Guaranteed Retirement Income in Uncertain Times** is the subject of a seminar to be given by Trey House, a Financial Advisor in Morgan Stanley Smith Barney's Wealth Management office in Vienna. The seminar will be given at 8 a.m. at The Westin Tysons Corner, 7801 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Admission is free and reservations can be made by calling Trey at 703-790-7178 or emailing [trey.house@mssb.com](mailto:trey.house@mssb.com).

**Beulah Road Al-Anon Group.** 7:30 p.m. at the Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road, Vienna. Practicing the Twelve Steps, welcoming and giving comfort to families of alcoholics, and giving understanding and encouragement to the alcoholic. [revku@cox.net](mailto:revku@cox.net).

overview of each. Hosted by The Women's Center - David Levy, Esquire, Surovell Markle Isaacs & Levy PLC, 7 - 9 p.m., The Women's Center, 127 Park Street, N.E., Vienna. \$35 Registration Fee / \$25 (Members). For more info or to register go to [www.thewomenscenter.org](http://www.thewomenscenter.org) or call 703-281-2657.

### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 1

**Parents and Caregiver Support Group for Special Needs Children.** 7:30 p.m. at Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, 8900 Little River turnpike, Fairfax. Meets first Wednesday of each month. Register at 703-537-3040.

**McLean Children's Academy Registration Open House.** 9:30-11:30 a.m. at 6900 Elm St., McLean. For kindergarten enrichment and preschool classes, registration for Fall 2011. 703-734-2353 or

## BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

### THURSDAY/NOV. 25

**Beulah Road Al-Anon Group.** 7:30 p.m. at the Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road, Vienna. Practicing the Twelve Steps, welcoming and giving comfort to families of alcoholics, and giving understanding and encouragement to the alcoholic. [revku@cox.net](mailto:revku@cox.net).

### TUESDAY/NOV. 30

#### VTRCC Holiday Mixer.

5:30 p.m. Weston Tyson's Corner, 7801 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. [www.vtrcc.org](http://www.vtrcc.org).

#### Five Wellness Habits that Can Save Your Life:

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# OPINION

## Shop Locally

### Local businesses are invested in community.

While the rest of the world would like to remember small businesses for just one day this year, "small business Saturday," Connection readers know that local businesses are a mainstay of our communities. Locally owned retail shops, services, restaurants depend on vibrant local communities to thrive.

While the economic situation is daunting, even locally where things are much better than nationally, even families who feel financially secure will be more frugal in this holiday season than before the recession. Recently, there is more life in the economy, though, and most local families will shop and give during the next month. Many people have started ahead of the traditional kickoff date for Christmas shopping, the Friday after Thanksgiving. Hanukkah begins Dec. 2.

One way to be sure holiday shopping comes with some holiday spirit is to do a portion of the shopping in some of the area's locally owned stores. There is special holiday ambiance available by shopping in the heart of a town that is decked out for the season.

Small retail shops are part of what defines

any community. Their livelihood depends on the livability and quality of the neighborhoods around them. A small business owner pays attention to every detail in his or her business in a way that no chain can.

Frequently, it is the small retail person who is active in fund raising for local charities, for fire and rescue service, for local schools and in organizing holiday events.

#### EDITORIALS

Local retail stores, mom-and-pop stores, face some of the toughest chal-

lenges imaginable right now. The costs of being in business have grown tremendously while revenues are not.

Competition from Big Box stores and the Internet make the holiday shopping season all the more important to locally-owned retailers.

Everyone will do some of their shopping at the mall. In this area, almost everyone will do some shopping via the Internet.

But local shoppers should be sure to save some shopping time and dollars for local stores.

## Remember to Give Locally Too

Remember that people applying for food stamps and seeking help from food banks has more than doubled in the last few years in Northern Virginia. Local charities are scrambling to meet tremendous increased demand for holiday help as well.

Organizations like SHARE of McLean and LINK depend on volunteers and contributions to try to meet the expanding need for food and warm clothes on a daily basis.

Beyond that, organizations stretch to provide the basics for a holiday meal for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners and the hope of pre-

sents for many children who might otherwise not receive a single holiday gift.

There are many ways to give, with some local charities connecting the donor to a specific family to provide a holiday food basket and fulfill some wishes for gifts. Many organizations encourage the donation of gift cards. Every local group seeking to help the needy right now is facing extra demand and needs both volunteer and financial help.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

### GIVING THANKS IN GREAT FALLS

BY WALT  
LAWRENCE

After attending this Veteran's Day ceremony at the Freedom Memorial in Great Falls, I began to think about all the military veterans who have touched my life. Some of them I knew well and others will forever remain strangers. With Thanksgiving approaching, I feel that I want to give thanks to them for their efforts as I cannot imagine what my life might have been like without them.

Veterans started to come into my life right after I was born in 1940 as my mother's two brothers were in the Navy in World War II and served on destroyers in the Atlantic. My uncles would come to visit us every time their ships came into Boston and they would bring us bacon, coffee or sugar which were in short supply and rationed during the war. While they never talked much about the war, they did describe their horror trying to recover crewmen from ships that had been torpedoed by German submarines in the North Atlantic.

**ONE DAY** my sixth grade teacher, Mrs. Wagoner, introduced a new student teacher, Mr. Stout, who would be with us for the remainder of the year. He was an Army



veteran from World War II and had served in Burma. My eighth grade English class teacher was an Army veteran from the Korean War. He still carried the wounds from the war as his face twitched and his hands trembled continually, but he loved the English language and he certainly passed this passion on to his students. In the tenth grade my math teacher, Mr. Rockford, walked with a severe limp as a result of a leg wound he got while serving in the Army in Korea. A college geography professor of mine, Mr. Schonenburger, was a Navy pilot who flew Catalina Flying Boats in the South Pacific during World War II, and on one occasion said, "I would love to start a University on the Island of Samoa as it is the most beautiful place on earth."

When it came time for me to decide what I should do about my own military service, I decided to join the Navy. I went down to Pensacola, Fla. in November of 1961 to start my training with 65 other guys as Aviation Officer Candidates. After four months of training we got our commissions and then military orders scattered us all to the wind. Many stayed in the Pensacola area to be trained as pilots and navigators. I came to DC to attend a navy intelli-

gence school. In August of 1964, I picked up the paper and read that one of my Pensacola classmates, Ltjg. Richard Sather, had just been shot down and killed off North Vietnam in the Tonkin Gulf incident. Dick was the first Navy pilot killed in the Vietnam War. I have visited his name frequently on the Vietnam Memorial and think about those four months of training together and our one round bout in a boxing ring. A few years ago I located his family and talked at length with his brother who now lives in California. Dick is buried at the Punchbowl National Cemetery in Hawaii.

Eight years ago I traveled to Normandy, France and the Ardennes area of Belgium with my wife, her sister and their father to visit some of the places where their uncle Dave had jumped and fought during World War II. Dave was in the 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne and made all four jumps with the 82nd during the war, although he was wounded a couple of times. We found the bridge just west of the town of St. Mere-Eglise in Normandy where Dave and thousands of other soldiers jumped the night before D-Day in June 1944. We walked the rows of perfectly aligned tombstones in the beautiful Normandy American Cemetery. We drove to Belgium, and with the help of some very supportive Bel-

gians, found the hillside where Dave's unit was fighting on the morning of Jan. 5, 1945 when he was killed near the town of Garonne during the Battle of the Bulge. Obviously, I never met Dave but I am now a part of his family as I am married to his niece Maria.

**IN 2006**, Maria and I took a leisurely drive across the country to visit family in Oregon. We made a planned stop at Wounded Knee, S.D. on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. This was the site of a massacre of Lakota Sioux Indians in 1890, which has been memorialized in a book and a movie. We went to the cemetery of Wounded Knee, which is nothing like those manicured military resting places of the Punchbowl, Normandy, Arlington, etc. This place sat on a small wind-swept hill where the grasses were all dried and overgrown and the head stones leaned in every direction. But the inscriptions on these stones identified numerous veterans that had served in every war. When I saw these graves I truly realized that military veterans are the same regardless of where they are from, what service uniform they wear, or where they have served. I believe that every veteran has touched each one of us either directly or indirectly and thus I am thankful for all who have served and for all who are currently serving.

## THE CONNECTION

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# LETTERS

## Stampede on the Bridge

To the Editor:

I read with great interest the letters from Great Falls residents who think they have the solution to alleviate traffic backing up on either side of the one-lane bridge on Springvale Road in Great Falls. The simple answer is to follow the current system of alternating one car at a time. This works fine if drivers don't get impatient and start making up their own rules.

I have lived in Great Falls near the bridge in question since 1992 and have decided that if nothing else the bridge is a wonderful opportunity to study human nature. I have locked up my brakes because I have been behind people who stop when there is no oncoming car. I have waited for as many as six cars to cross the bridge because one or two drivers decide they are too important to wait and suddenly there is a stampede. There are the polite drivers who wait for the other to go across and for a long time no one moves. Then there are the drivers who start crossing at the same time and vehemently argue with each other in the middle of the bridge while the rest of us wait for the war of words to subside. The biggest danger and the reason police officers may be handing out tickets are the drivers who step on the gas to beat the oncoming car and end up playing chicken. James Dean would be proud.

The bottom line is that it wouldn't matter how many cars go at a time. There would always be someone who think it's okay to add one more car. I have clocked the crossing time and the wait. If everyone takes a deep breath and pays attention it goes like clockwork. Going two or more cars at a time inevitably leads to delays because there are always more cars coming up from behind adding to the line.

I have to admit to being impatient from time to time but since moving here I've mostly looked at the one-lane bridges in Great Falls as an opportunity to be a good neighbor.

Arthur Kingdom III  
Great Falls

### Write

Letters to the Editor  
The Connection  
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# ENTERTAINMENT

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

## FRIDAY/NOV. 26

**28th Annual Art and Craft Showcase.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. More than eighty local artisans with pottery, fused and stained glass, jewelry, fabric and weavings, photography and more. Admission \$3. [www.nvhg.org](http://www.nvhg.org).

**Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols.** 7 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church Chapel, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Free, tickets required. 703-938-9050, x135 or [grapevinebooks@viennapres.org](mailto:grapevinebooks@viennapres.org).

**John Eaton - The Roaring '20s** at the Barns, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna., 7:30 p.m. This signature Eaton performance will salute the timeless works of jazz heroes George Gershwin, Louis Armstrong, and Hoagy Carmichael, with performances of "Stardust," "Rhapsody in Blue," and "Tea for Two," among others. \$25.

**Gillian's Fun Deck and Park Ren Hollow:** A Night When Friends Adopt A Family. 8:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

## SATURDAY/NOV. 27

**A Chanticleer Christmas.** 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Traditional carols, sacred works and holiday favorites. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticketholders, begins at 7:15 p.m. on the Center's Grand Tier III. \$24-\$48. Charge at 888-945-2468 or [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

**The Haddad Youth Ballet of Great Falls** with International Guest Artists will present The Nutcracker at Madeira School, Georgetown Pike, McLean, 2 & 7 p.m. Tickets are available by calling 703 759 3366 or

at the theater on show days. Adults \$25 - Seniors \$22 - Students \$19 - Children \$16.

**28th Annual Art and Craft Showcase.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. More than eighty local artisans with pottery, fused and stained glass, jewelry, fabric and weavings, photography and more. Admission \$3. [www.nvhg.org](http://www.nvhg.org).

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**Gillian's Fun Deck and Park Ren Hollow:** A Night When Friends Adopt A Family. 8:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Moch Pryderi and the Songs of Wales.** 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. A six-piece Celtic band. \$15. Reserve at 703-759-3309. [www.oldbrogue.com](http://www.oldbrogue.com).

**"Nutcracker Ballet."** 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. Presented by the Classical Ballet Theatre of Northern Virginia. Tickets \$18-\$22, special pricing available for military families and Girl Scouts. [www.cbtnva.org](http://www.cbtnva.org) or 703-471-0750.



**Moch Pryderi (Welsh for "Pryderi's Pigs") will perform at The Snuggery of the Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road in Great Falls on Sunday, Nov. 28.**

## SUNDAY/NOV. 28

**28th Annual Art and Craft Showcase.** 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. More than eighty local artisans with pottery, fused and stained glass, jewelry, fabric and weavings, photography and more. Admission \$3. [www.nvhg.org](http://www.nvhg.org).

**Benjamin Britten's Ceremony of Carols.** 7 p.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church Chapel, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Free, tickets required. 703-938-9050, x135 or [grapevinebooks@viennapres.org](mailto:grapevinebooks@viennapres.org).

**Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Bingo.** 7 p.m. at the VVFD, 400 Center St. South, Vienna. Games held every Sunday in the Flame Room. [www.vvfd.org](http://www.vvfd.org).

**Jammin' Java Songwriter's Circle: I Love The 80s.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**"Nutcracker Ballet."** 2 p.m. at Northern Virginia Community College Ernst Theater, 8333 Little River



**Josef Spacek, an accomplished violinist who has performed all over the world, will perform a free concert at the Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue in McLean on Sunday, Nov. 28, 3 p.m.**

Turnpike, Annandale. Presented by the Classical Ballet Theatre of Northern Virginia. \$18-\$22, special pricing available for military families and Girl Scouts. [www.cbtnva.org](http://www.cbtnva.org) or 703-471-0750.

## MONDAY/NOV. 29

**Church Street Holiday Stroll.** 6-9 p.m. along Historic Church St., Vienna. Santa, a petting zoo and roasting marshmallows. Live music. Tour the Caboose, the Knights of Columbus building at 214 Lawyers Road, N.W. and the Vienna Presbyterian Old Chapel. Toys For Tots collection at Encompass Design Build, 211 Mill St., and collection of

non-perishable food items for the Committee For Helping Other (CHO) near the stage. 703-938-5187 or [www.historicvienna.org](http://www.historicvienna.org).

**Levi Kreis, Eric Himan and Jason Antone.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

## TUESDAY NOV. 30

**Lunafest.** 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

## WEDNESDAY/DEC. 1

**TFDI Tour Feet. Tony Luca, Jay Nash and Matt Duke.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

## THURSDAY/DEC. 2

**Cartoon Johnny Holiday CD Release Show** at 7:30 p.m. and **It's First Dubstep & DnB Banger, Grime Syndicate and Amerkat vs Mathus** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**44th Annual McLean Holiday Homes Tour.** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Holyrood Drive and Countryside Court. Five traditional homes elaborately decorated for the holidays. A sixth house will contain jewelry, art and clothing vendors. Admission \$25-\$30. Proceeds benefit local charities. Tickets available at Mesmeralda's in McLean, Karin's Florist in Vienna, Great Dogs of Great Falls or the Woman's Club at [www.mcleanwc.org](http://www.mcleanwc.org). Kay Burnell at 703-821-9144 or Laura Sheridan at 703-556-0197.

**MPA Exhibition Opening and Reception.** 7-9 p.m. Join the McLean Project for the Arts for an evening reception as it opens three new exhibits. The exhibits will be open Thursday, Dec. 2, through Saturday, Jan. 8. Emerson Gallery: Figuration Today - The Surrealist Influence; Atrium Gallery: Amalgamate - Paintings by Cindy Neuschwander; Ramp Gallery: Fleeting Images - Monoprints by Stephanie George.

Art gallery hours are Tuesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. For more information, call 703-790-1953 or visit the MPA website.

**Art and Law.** 7:30 p.m. at George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Free. 703-993-8898.

## FRIDAY/DEC. 3

**The Virginia Opera: Mozart's "Così Fan Tutte."** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts

Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com).

**28th Annual McLean Holiday Crafts Show.** featuring 80 fine American artists from all over the country, will offer pottery, ceramics, jewelry and glass to holiday decor, items for children, gourmet foods, paintings, drawings, photography and more for all your Christmas, Hannukah and New Year's gift shopping. Admission: \$2 adults; \$1 age 13 and younger, good all three days, Friday-Sunday, Dec. 3-5. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue in McLean.

**Old Firehouse Teen Center Dance.** 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Friday night dance for 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders. Design wearable spray art, customize a t-shirt. [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org).

**Atomic Tom** at 7 p.m. and **Super bob, Uncrowned and Rebel Inc** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**"Amahl and the Night Visitors."** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Gian Carlo Menotti's classic story. \$20 adults, \$15 students and seniors. 888-945-2468 or [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

## SATURDAY/DEC. 4

**28th Annual McLean Holiday Crafts Show.** featuring 80 fine American artists from all over the country, will offer pottery, ceramics, jewelry and glass to holiday decor, items for children, gourmet foods, paintings, drawings, photography and more for all your Christmas, Hannukah and New Year's gift shopping. Admission: \$2 adults; \$1 age 13 and younger, good all three days, Friday-Sunday, Dec. 3-5. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue in McLean.

**GMCC Reindog Pageant.** At Langley Shopping Center, 1366 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. [www.mcleanwinterfest.org](http://www.mcleanwinterfest.org) or [lynn.gulick@cardinalbank.com](mailto:lynn.gulick@cardinalbank.com).

**Make a Holiday Wreath.** 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. \$40, includes instruction and everything needed to make a holiday wreath. Reserve at 703-255-3631.

**Turtle Island String Quartet.** 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With jazz pianist Cyrus Chestnut and mandolinist Mike Marshall. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins 45 minutes prior to the performance on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets \$22-\$44, available at 888-945-2468 or [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

**McLean Orchestra Holiday Concerts: 'Twas the Night,** 8 p.m. Guest Conductor Ernest Green, a Cover Conductor with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and Artistic Director of Live Arts Maryland and the Music Director of the Annapolis Chamber Orchestra and Annapolis Chorale. Adults \$20, Seniors \$15, Youth Free (16 & under, students w/ID). Oakcrest School / 850 Balls Hill Rd. in McLean.

**Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Bingo.** 7 p.m. at the VVFD, 400 Center St. South, Vienna. Games held every Sunday in the Flame Room. [www.vvfd.org](http://www.vvfd.org).

**McLean WinterFest Parade.** 4 p.m. from Fleetwood Road down Chain Bridge Road to Brawner St. The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce will hold its traditional tree lighting on Holiday Island immediately following the parade. This year's parade has a longer route, a variety of free refreshments, and scheduled entertainment prior to the parade start. [www.mcleanwinterfest.org](http://www.mcleanwinterfest.org) or [lynn.gulick@cardinalbank.com](mailto:lynn.gulick@cardinalbank.com).

**Lloyd Dobler Effect Holiday Unplugged Show & CD Release.** Elizabeth Coyle and Albert Ketter & Chris Brooks at 3 p.m., **Our Daily Bread Presents Dave LaMotte** at 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).

**Christmas Craft Fair.** 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

at Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Jewelry, photography, artwork, preserves, floral arrangements, music CDs, books and more. 15% of the proceeds benefit Unity of Fairfax Church and Unity Church of Chantilly. [www.unityoffairfax.org](http://www.unityoffairfax.org).

**"The Nutcracker."** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at George Mason High School, 7124 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Performed by the Kintz-Mejia Academy of Ballet of McLean. \$25. [www.northernvirginiaballet.com](http://www.northernvirginiaballet.com) or 703-893-0404 ext. 217.

**Alternative Gift Fair.** 9 a.m.-6 p.m. at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 543 Beulah Road, N.E., Vienna. Purchase handcrafts or donate livestock, mosquito nets or micro-loans through Heifer International, Episcopal Relief and Development, and 5 Talents International. Secret Santa Shop for children. St. Nicholas Festival from 2:30 p.m.-5 p.m. 703-255-1411 or [www.holycomforter.com](http://www.holycomforter.com).

**"Amahl and the Night Visitors."** 8 p.m. at George Mason University Harris Theater, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Gian Carlo Menotti's classic story. \$20 adults, \$15 students and seniors. 888-945-2468 or [cfa.gmu.edu](http://cfa.gmu.edu).

**Open House.** 1-5 p.m. Elite Piano Academy, 8230 Boone Blvd., Suite 100A, Vienna. Private and group lessons available. [www.hyunmichung.net](http://www.hyunmichung.net).

## SUNDAY/DEC. 5

**28th Annual McLean Holiday Crafts Show.** featuring 80 fine American artists from all over the country, will offer pottery, ceramics, jewelry and glass to holiday decor, items for children, gourmet foods, paintings, drawings, photography and more for all your Christmas, Hannukah and New Year's gift shopping. Admission: \$2 adults; \$1 age 13 and younger, good all three days, Friday-Sunday, Dec. 3-5. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue in McLean.

**The Virginia Opera: Mozart's "Così Fan Tutte."** 2:30 p.m. at George Mason University Center For The Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. \$48-\$98. 888-945-2468 or [www.tickets.com](http://www.tickets.com).

**McLean Orchestra Holiday Concerts: 'Twas the Night** (family concert), 3 p.m. Guest Conductor Ernest Green, a Cover Conductor with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and Artistic Director of Live Arts Maryland and the Music Director of the Annapolis Chamber Orchestra and Annapolis Chorale. Adults \$20, Seniors \$15, Youth Free (16 & under, students w/ID). Oakcrest School / 850 Balls Hill Rd. in McLean.

**Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Bingo.** 7 p.m. at the VVFD, 400 Center St. South, Vienna. Games held every Sunday in the Flame Room. [www.vvfd.org](http://www.vvfd.org).

**McLean WinterFest Parade.** 4 p.m. from Fleetwood Road down Chain Bridge Road to Brawner St. The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce will hold its traditional tree lighting on Holiday Island immediately following the parade. This year's parade has a longer route, a variety of free refreshments, and scheduled entertainment prior to the parade start. [www.mcleanwinterfest.org](http://www.mcleanwinterfest.org) or [lynn.gulick@cardinalbank.com](mailto:lynn.gulick@cardinalbank.com).

**Lloyd Dobler Effect Holiday Unplugged Show & CD Release.** Elizabeth Coyle and Albert Ketter & Chris Brooks at 3 p.m., **Our Daily Bread Presents Dave LaMotte** at 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [jamminjava.com](http://jamminjava.com).



**McLean Community Center**  
The Center of It All

Here's What's Happening at MCC



**28th Annual McLean Holiday Crafts Show**  
Friday-Sunday, Dec. 3-5  
Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.;  
Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Admission: \$2 adults; \$1 age 13 and younger**  
Good all three days!  
Take \$1 off adult admission with this ad

80 fine American artisans from across the country convene for this highly regarded and much-anticipated juried show featuring fiber arts, wood, ceramics, pottery, jewelry, glass and much more!

Sign Up Now!  
**Happy Holidays at Historic Fairmont Park**  
Thursday, Dec. 9  
**\$145 per person/\$135 district residents**

Come on this day trip and tour the historic houses of Fairmont Park in Philadelphia. Step back in time to an era of 18th and 19th century holiday traditions filled with fresh evergreens and exquisite yuletide decorations.

**Hot Club of San Francisco**  
Cool Yule  
Saturday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m.  
**\$28/\$23 district residents**

Celebrate the holidays in Paris! Back by popular demand, Hot Club of San Francisco brings to life your favorite winter tunes with their Django-esque stylings. Make this season bright with the flames of Gypsy jazz.

**The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon**  
An Alden Theatre Production  
Friday and Saturday, Dec. 17 and 18, 7:30 p.m.  
**\$8/\$5 district residents**

The fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm are turned on their heads in this fast-paced, rollicking ride. This wild, freeform comedy is an evening of madcap fun as the stories of the Brothers Grimm meet the comedy style of Monty Python. It may be nutty, but this ain't no Nutcracker!

**The McLean Community Center**  
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA 22101  
703-790-0123, TTY: 711  
[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)

**28th Annual McLean Holiday CRAFTS SHOW**  
A Juried Art and Craft Show Since 1982

80 fine American artisans convene for this highly regarded and much-anticipated juried show. Featuring fiber arts, wood, pottery, jewelry, glass, holiday decor, gourmet foods, paper art, photography, soft sculpture, paintings and more!

**Friday-Sunday December 3-5**

Admission: \$2 adults \$1 age 13 and younger  
Good all three days!

Friday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.;  
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# GIVING THANKS IN GREAT FALLS

**Susan A. Newhall** - resident of Great Falls, owner of Susan Newhall Interiors in Great Falls.



1. A healthy family, a fire brightly burning in the fireplace, wonderful friends coming to our door, more than enough to eat, children laughing, a loving church family, and our sweet fluffy puppy twitching with dreams in front of the fire.

2. More jobs than most places, excellent health care, the best emergency services in the country, proximity to the Nation's Capitol, a peaceful view of rolling hills, woods and wildlife from our windows. A wealth of people with abilities, personalities, nationalities, experiences and educations to learn from, receive help from, and share with.

3. Gratitude that we can flip a little switch and the room is filled with light. Gratitude we can walk past a thermostat that keeps our home comfortable all year round without going out to chop wood, split it, let it age, and carry it in the house. Gratitude in the summer that we can stay cool with air conditioning or a fan without having electricity blackouts for most of the day, as it does in many countries. Gratitude that if we're stopped by a policeman we can feel safe; yes, even if we get a ticket; because in many countries residents have no rights to protect themselves against their own government. Gratitude for the wealth that abounds here, allowing charities and churches and support organizations to help those who have less.

**Gail Pean**, Artist,  
 Great Falls Studios Board Member, Community Liaison Director



1. This Thanksgiving I will give thanks for the good health of my friends and family and their friendship and support this year of my artistic endeavors and charity fundraisers.

2. I am grateful for living in Great Falls for each day I enjoy the natural beauty surrounding me and the respect for other animals, flora and fauna that share the ecosystem with me. I am also grateful for the Great Falls Studios members and the camaraderie of my fellow artists and art lovers in and around our community.

3. I would give the advice to others to enjoy each day with their children and spouses as if it were their last. Do not take life for granted or put off telling those you love why you love them. Do not waste time with people who are not supportive of your positive thoughts and endeavors. Be grateful for your health and your talents. Develop and share them with friends and family.

**Sharon Rainey**,  
 Neighbors International

1. My family and I are all healing from advanced Lyme Disease. We have been in treatment for more than a year now, anticipating that we will be done in Spring/Summer of 2011.

2. I work one mile from our house, so I am very spoiled! I love working and living in Great Falls. My parents live in McLean, so it's nice to have them close by as well. I'm thankful for the small town atmosphere, supported by community events like the annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.



**Lochini Johnston Rumburg**,  
 Artist



1. I am very thankful for our caring neighbors and wonderful families we have got to know over the years.

2. As an artist living in Great Falls I am able to truly express my love for art and share that experience with an artful community.

3. Take part and stay involved in community organizations and groups in the area and you can experience the joy of giving and living in a wonderful community.

**32nd Annual Herndon Holiday Arts & Crafts Show**  
**Sunday, December 5, 2010**  
**10am - 4pm**

The Herndon Community Center will host over 100 Arts and Crafts vendors offering unique gifts, holiday decorations and handmade items

**Free Admission and Parking.**  
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**The Crippen Companies**  
Notice of Public Meeting

**Stump Dump CDD Landfill (Permit No. 317)**

Pursuant to the requirements of 9 VAC 20-80-310 of the Virginia Solid Waste Management Regulations, 9 VAC 20-80-310A.5, The Crippen Companies will hold a public meeting to discuss the Proposal of Presumptive Remedy for the Stump Dump CDD landfill. The facility at which the meeting will be held, is located 820 Utterback Store Road, Great Falls, Virginia, 22066 - 1538.

As a result of apparently exceeding a Groundwater Protection Standard, the facility has conducted a Proposal of Presumptive Remedy. The purpose of the public meeting is to acquaint the public with the technical aspects of the proposed corrective measures, and how the facility plans to meet the standards and regulatory requirements. The meeting will identify issues of concern and facilitate communication between The Crippen Companies and the Public.

The public meeting will be held on December 9, 2010, at 1:00 PM, at the referenced location. Comments on the Proposal of Presumptive Remedy will be accepted until 5:00 PM on December 24, 2010.

The Public may view a copy the Proposal of Presumptive Remedy report at the Great Falls Public Library located at 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, Virginia 22066. Comments from the Public are encouraged. All comments must be in writing and be delivered to Mr. Burwin Reed at 3730 Greentree Lane, Dumfries, Virginia 22026.

For further information, call Mr. Burwin Reed (703-690-6040).

**21 Announcements** **21 Announcements** **21 Announcements**

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**OBITUARY**

VIENNA, Va. — **Philip Alan Smith, 82**, of Vienna, Va., passed away at 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, November 3, 2010 at Inova Fairfax Hospital, Falls Church, Va.

He was born in Columbus, Oh. in 1927, was raised in Cleveland and Delaware, Oh., where he graduated from Ohio Wesleyan with B.A. degree in journalism in 1950. He also served in the U.S. Army, 1946-1947. Surviving are his wife, Nevada D., of 58 years; two daughters, Kimberly A. Smith, New York, N.Y.; and Jill S. Funkhouser, Oakton, Va.; a sister, JoAnn Leavenworth, Hudson, Ohio; and a grandson, Andrew S. Funkhouser, Oakton, Va.

Phil Smith began his career as editor of the Star-Republican newspaper in Blanchester, Oh. He was then employed for the Ohio Secretary of State, 1951-1953, and later at Ohio Petroleum Marketers Assoc., 1953-1961. In Findlay, Ohio he worked for Marathon Oil Company from 1961 until 1969. After Marathon, he worked in various writing, editing and communications capacities for Ketchum, Inc. in Pittsburgh, Pa.; as Public Information Director of the American Bar Assoc. in Chicago, Ill.; and then as Communications Director for the National School Boards Assoc., in Alexandria, Va. until 1991 when he retired.

He was a member of the National Press Club, Public Relations Society of America, National School Boards Association, Education Writers Association, and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

A funeral service was held at the Vienna Presbyterian Church, where he was a member, with a military service at Fairfax Memorial Park Cemetery in Fairfax, Va.

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PHOTO BY SHIRLEY J. GREGORY/THE CONNECTION

Avenue Beau Sejour is located at 10135 Colvin Run Road, Suite 100, in Great Falls.

## Avenue of Arts

### Avenue Beau Sejour opens in Great Falls.

**A**venue Beau Sejour is a dream come true for owner Adrienne J. Kralick.

"I designed Avenue Beau Sejour in the vein of the Impressionist artists in France, where local artists gathered to encourage and support each other," said Kralick.

As a place for artists, art lovers, and friends to gather, she encourages guests to linger to enjoy the artwork, converse in the lounge area or read selections from the gallery's library while enjoying Starbucks coffee and fresh-baked goods from Ann's Kitchen.

Kralick and gallery manager Karen Graham are both artists themselves and take a personal approach to selecting artists to represent.

"In the beginning, I approached artists whose work I admired," said Kralick. "Once the word got out about the gallery, artists began approaching us."

"There was a great turnout for our opening," said Graham, "and we received many compliments from our guests."

Avenue Beau Sejour exhibits the work of local and regional artists. Talent represented includes paintings in all mediums, sculptures and one-of-a-kind jewelry and scarves. Numerous artists represented at the gallery were available to discuss their work and their techniques during the Grand Opening celebration. Guests were also treated to a special one-act performance of "Le Petite Prince" by the Ambassador Theater.

The gallery also offers oil painting classes (group and private), including open studio and live model sessions. Monthly Avenue Artists class memberships are available for unlimited painting opportunities. Avenue Beau Sejour (at the former "SAGE" location) is located at 10135 Colvin Run Road, Suite 100, in Great Falls. Call 703-716-4299 for more information and to inquire about classes. Email: Adrienne@AvenueBeauSejour.com, or visit [www.AvenueBeauSejour.com](http://www.AvenueBeauSejour.com).

— SHIRLEY J. GREGORY

## Holiday Craft Show Returns to McLean

**M**cLean Community Center's (MCC) annual McLean Holiday Crafts Show will offer shoppers more than Black Friday. Now in its 28th year, the juried show provides an abundance of original, reasonably priced, hand-crafted, American-made goods. The show will be held Friday, Dec. 3 through Sunday, Dec. 5, at MCC, 1234 Ingleside Ave. Show hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 3; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 4; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 5. Show admission is \$2 for adults, \$1 for children up to age 13, and is good for all three days of the show.

At press time, artisans participating in this year's show include McLean-based designer, Tracy Suk of Tracy Suk Designs (<http://www.tracysuk.com/>

[homedecorations.html](http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events/homedecorations.html)), furniture maker and woodworker Davrill Nash, master papercutter Marie-Helene L. Grabman (<http://www.main.nc.us/openstudio/MHGrabman/>), who will do silhouettes for patrons on request, and Sculptor Yandong Wang, among many others.

McLean High School and Chantilly High School will perform seasonal favorites throughout the weekend. A variety of entrees, snacks, desserts and beverages will be for sale courtesy of Sweetleaf Restaurant.

Discount admission coupons are available on the Center's Web site: <http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events/craftshow.asp>. For more information, call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, or visit: [www.mcleancenter.org/special-](http://www.mcleancenter.org/special-events)

## Sharing the Love of Music

### Acclaimed pianist Hyun-Mi Chung opens music academy in Vienna.

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

**H**yun-Mi Chung, a classically-trained concert pianist who has recorded all of Beethoven's sonatas, will bring more than 25 years of teaching experience to Vienna when she opens the Elite Piano Academy in December.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, classical music lovers of all ages can meet Chung at an open house at the academy from 1 to 5 p.m. The academy is located at 8230 Boone Blvd. Suite 100A. "I will be there to answer questions, or test students on the piano and give information about piano lessons," she said from her home in Framingham, Mass. She is officially moving to Vienna on Dec. 1st.

Her only requirement of students is that they want to learn. "If they want to learn, then I can teach them, whether I have to explain something one time or 20 times. When I had 70 students, I had 70 different methods of teaching, because everyone learns differently and at their own pace," she said.

She will also teach students of all ages. "I've had students as young as 2, as well as many mommies and daddies of younger students. There's really no age limit if you want to learn," she said.

"I love music so much, and I always wanted to see my students enjoy music, and when my students smile, then I am happy," she said.

**HER LOVE OF MUSIC** began early. The daughter of a prominent physician in Korea, Chung was just four-years-old when she started classical piano lessons, practicing for several hours each day.

The piano prodigy was soon awarded distinguished prizes, among them first prize in the Honam, Pullma, Pung Moon Competition for Young Pianists. By the time she was 12, she started recording classical piano music, and her debut recital was broadcast throughout her country.

In 1975, at the age of 15, she left Korea to attend the preparatory division of the Julliard School of Music in New York City, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degree of music. At Julliard, she studied with well-known pianists Jane Carlson and William Masselos. Later, she attended the master classes given by Pierre Sancan and had lessons periodically with him in Paris.

By 1991, she was living in Framingham and teaching more than 70 students for six days a week. Although her teaching schedule at her studio in Framingham was hectic, she said that she enjoyed seeing students' appreciation for music blossom. She was also an active concert pianist in New England, performing with Symphony Pro Musica, and doing concerto performances with the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, and benefit concerts for the Korean School of



Hyun-Mi Chung

New England.

**ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO**, Chung took a break from teaching students to achieve her personal music dream. "While you're in school, you learn all different styles of music, but after nine years of learning at Julliard, I had an idea that I wanted to record the entire sonatas of Beethoven," she said, adding:

"After Julliard, I wanted to leave something for others to enjoy, to express myself through music, and to leave something that would last longer than a concert."

She stopped teaching, and started devoting the time she needed to achieve her dream of recording all of Beethoven's 35 piano sonatas, considered by music critics to represent a "magnificent Mount Everest of Music."

In 2007, she finally achieved her dream and completed the recording, becoming the first female pianist to have recorded the entire canon of Beethoven's sonatas.

"I feel content now. It took me longer than I thought to accomplish this, but now I feel like I can go back to teaching music for the pure enjoyment of it," she said.

She chose Vienna for her next move when she played a concert for the National Presbyterian Church in D.C. last June. "I liked the area and Vienna in particular. I am a Christian, and I wanted to find a church home. National Presbyterian Church is a peaceful place for me; (a place) to contemplate God and my music peacefully. I look forward to meeting anyone who shares a love of music in Vienna," she said.

# Virginia Cross Country Season Concludes

## Northern Region runners fare well in state championship races.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

Even high school cross country runners from the Northern Region, two girls and five boys, earned top 15 medals at the Virginia State AAA championship meet races, which were held Saturday, Nov. 13 at the Great Meadow course in The Plains.

In the girls' race, the two Northern Region runners to finish among the leaders were Lake Braddock's Sophie Chase and Herndon's Carolyn Hennessey. Chase, a sophomore, finished second overall with a time of seventeen minutes, 41 seconds. She finished right behind Stafford High first place finisher Hannah Lowery (17:41), also a sophomore who barely crossed the finish line ahead of her Bruin rival. Meanwhile, Hennessey, a senior, finished in fourth place overall at 18:16. She finished behind third place Megan Moye of Cosby High (Midlothian), who timed at 18:03.

"It was as good as she could have possibly run," said Herndon coach Pete Sherry, of Hennessey's outing. "It was her best race. Her goal since the beginning of the year was to finish on the top four [at states]."

In the girls' team standings, the top finishers from the Northern Region were Thomas Jefferson High (136 points), Lake Braddock (160), West Potomac (188) and West Springfield (223), who finished in fourth, fifth, seventh and 10th places, respectively. Sixteen teams, in all, participated. Midlothian (104) won the girls' team title, ahead of second place

Maggie Walker (113) of Richmond.

Jefferson's top finishers were Stephanie Marzen (18th place) and Kelly Rogers (26th). Other good races from Northern Region runners came from Dale Lescher (16th place) of West Potomac, Myah Hicks (17th) of Edison, Madison sophomore Anna Stone (20th), Lake Braddock freshman Hannah Christen (21st), Washington-Lee's Isabel Amend (27th), Lake Braddock freshman Katie Roche (31st), West Springfield High's Maddie Wittich (35th), Lee High freshman Bailey Kolonich (36th), and Oakton's Hailey Dougherty (38th).

**IN THE BOYS' AAA RACE,** Annandale High's Ahmed Bile captured the individual title with a winning time of 15:27. The junior finished barely ahead of second place Silas Frantz (15:27) of Douglas Freeman High School in Richmond.

Chantilly High sophomore Sean McGorty finished in fourth place overall at 15:44, ahead of senior and fifth place finisher Sam Rubenking of Lake Braddock (15:45). Lee High's Abraham Jacob, a senior, earned a sixth place standing at 15:47 and Jefferson senior Jonathan Phillips (15:51) took ninth place.

Other top outings at states for local boys' runners came from West Springfield senior Colin Taylor (16th place), Woodson High junior Paul Gates (18th), and South County junior Dylan Miller (30th).

In the boys' team standings, the top finishers from the Northern Region were sixth place West Potomac (173), eighth place Lake Braddock (217), ninth place South Lakes (229) and 10th place Herndon. Midlothian High (46) was the team champion, besting second place Colonial Forge (104) of Stafford.

Lake Braddock's top finishers were Rubenking and Nick Tuck (23rd).

South Lakes' top two finishers were Nick Guarnaccia (21st place) and Will Sickenberger (33rd). Herndon's top runners were Jimmy Luehrs (20th) and Troy Hunsaker (34th).



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Girls runners compete at last Saturday's Virginia State AAA championship race at Great Meadows.

## Great Falls Madrid Captures Richmond Capital Classic Cup

The Great Falls Madrid, a NCSL Div. 2, under 12 boys' soccer team coached by Jose Venegas of Hi Performance (HP) Soccer, competed in the 2010 Richmond Capital Classic Soccer Tournament over the weekend at the new and amazing SportsQuest facilities in Midlothian.

The Madrid brought home the Championship Cup after a stellar outing, going undefeated in four games and shutting out the competition by 10 goals to none. What made the championship run even more impressive was that the Madrid competed a year up in the U13 Boys Superior Division (second highest division) and played 11 versus 11 for the first time ever. (They currently play 8 versus 8).

**THE MADRID** started the tournament with 2-0 win over Shenandoah Valley. The one year difference in age was clearly visible in terms of size. However, the Madrid matched its opponent in

speed and overwhelmed Shenandoah Valley with a possession game that spread the ball over the field.

Next up was the Virginia Beach Rush Swoosh. Once again, the Madrid played outstanding and recorded their second win and shutout with a 5-0 thumping to make it to the semifinals, and an opportunity to play the tournament host Richmond Strikers.

Early Sunday morning, the Madrid and Strikers kicked off and battled for 60 minutes. The Madrid faced the most physical and fastest team of the tournament thus far. The Strikers were much larger, in some cases more than a foot taller than the Madrid players, and speedy. The Madrid, however, was able to score mid-way through the first half and held onto that lead with an incessant stifling defense to gain the win.

Having played three tough, physical games in less than a day, the Madrid next faced their toughest opponent yet - Soccer Organization of Charlottesville Albemarle (SOCA). SOCA won their bracket and beat

Shenandoah Valley in the semifinals to make it to the finals against the Madrid.

### WITH PERFECT WEATHER

and the game being played on the center turf of the facility with video cameras rolling, the Madrid and SOCA squared off. SOCA - aware that it was playing a U12

team - attempted to use its physical superiority to its advantage. However, the Madrid, high off their past three wins and smelling victory, stuck to the game plan that led them to the championship game - to win every contested ball, play possession soccer, spread the field, and execute with precision. The Madrid frustrated SOCA at every turn. Many of the opposing parents couldn't believe the display of soccer from the Madrid



PHOTO COURTESY/MADRID

and how dominant they were over their older, larger opponents. The Madrid went into the half with a 1-0 lead. Midway through the second half, the Madrid made it 2-0 and held the commanding lead until the final whistle blew. Congratulations to all of the players for a job well done.

—KENNETH CUSHING

# GIVING THANKS IN GREAT FALLS

**A**s we celebrate the Thanksgiving Day, the Great Falls Connection has asked area residents to respond to the following three questions:

1) What will you give thanks for this Thanksgiving?

2) What are you thankful for living and/or working in Great Falls?

3) What advice would you give to someone looking for more special things to be thankful for here?

**Kathleen Murphy,**  
Great Falls Historical Society

❖ *Treasuring Heritage* - I deeply appreciate the surprises that live in the oral histories of our most esteemed senior residents. Beanie Lambert and Gerry Schmitz told us their oral histories this past October, revealing an authenticity of character that was striking to behold. We will gather more oral histories to assemble the rich tapestry of history about "our place in the world" - Great Falls. Honoring our origins changes our perspective ... and our horizon.

❖ *Treasuring Home* - Our Great Falls artists provide a metaphor for all the wonderful possibilities of our community: Creating personal works of art that they generously display throughout public spaces around our village, while joining together with fellow artists to co-market, co-educate, co-fund-raise, and co-nourish — even opening their private studios for public edification on the occasion of the Great Falls Artists' Tour. This wonderful template of personal excellent and mutual support offers us a model that can be applied to other areas of potentialities within our community of Great Falls.

❖ *Treasuring Habitat* - I am thankful for the glorious nature that embraces us at every turn — now expressing itself in tones of autumn golds, reds, oranges, and browns — filling our eyes with splendor, and warming our hearts with wonder and amazement. We are so incredibly blessed to live in a space in which nature enjoys such a huge "white board" for self-expression. To see how our trees stretch and dance, to hear the wind moan, to feel nature's stillness traversed by lively critters scampering here and there, is to know that generous magnificence of Being.



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Saturday, Dec. 4th at 11:00 a.m.

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PHOTO BY PETER NGUYEN

Orla Conway as Roxie Hart, center; left to right, Sarah Chapin as Velma Kelly, Mike Breger as Billy Flynn, Allie Rosenbluth as Mary Sunshine, Michael Steiner as Amos Hart and Katherine Laudano as Mama are joined by the entire cast during a rehearsal for Chicago at George C. Marshall High School.

## Marshall High Presents 'Chicago'

Marshall High School presents the Broadway musical "Chicago," based on the true story of a 1924 murder trial, on Dec. 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 5 at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for students and seniors and \$15 for adults. Tickets

are available online at [www.theatreatmarshall.org](http://www.theatreatmarshall.org).

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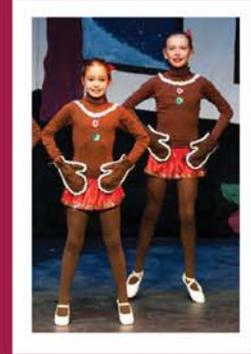
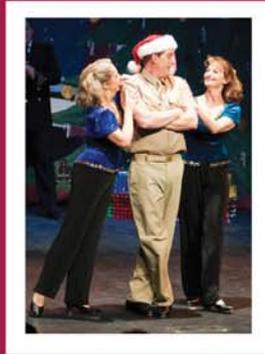
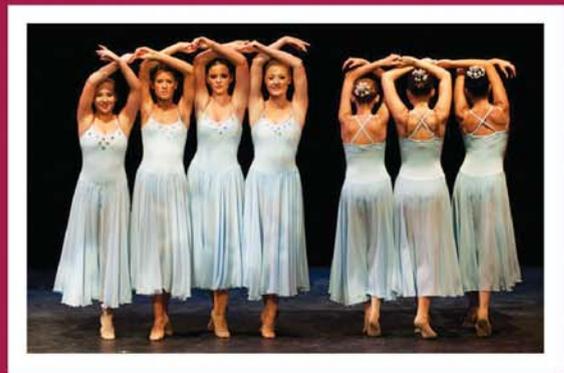
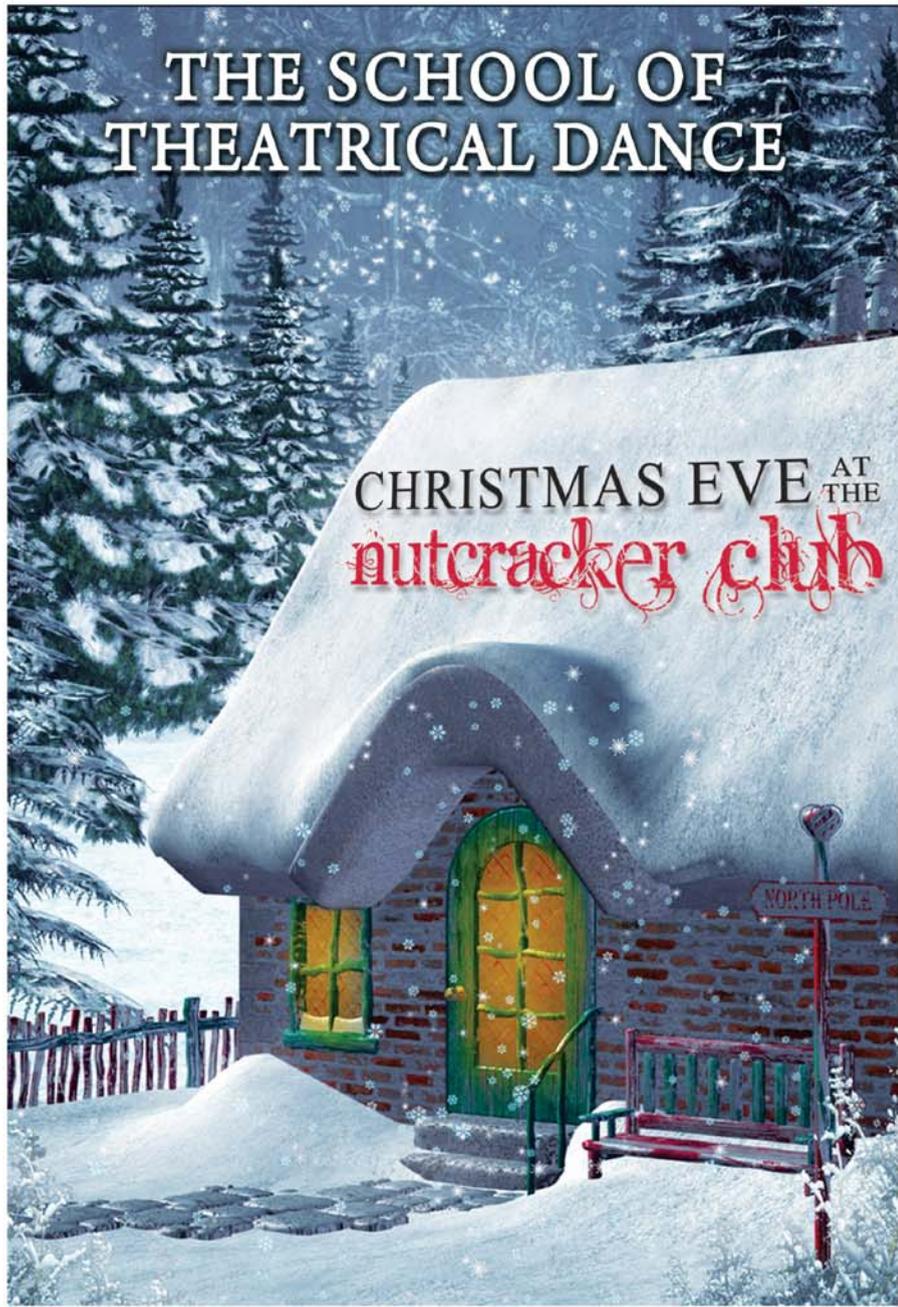
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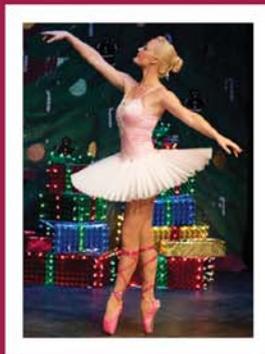
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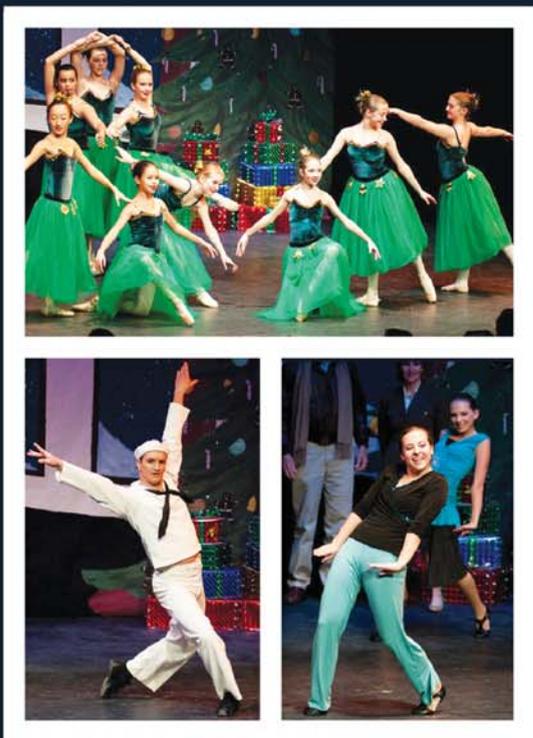
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