

Senior Bryan Kress interviews, from left, seniors Hannah Menchhoff and Julie Glauber at the red carpet premiere of "The Terrible Tragedy of Peter Pan" at McLean High School.

OPINION, PAGE 8 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 16 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13

PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION



McLean High Rolls Out Red Carpet

NEWS, PAGE 3

Improving Street Safety

NEWS, PAGE 9

McLean On Parade

NEWS, PAGE 4

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL.
REQUESTED IN HOME 12-9-10

PRSR.T STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT #322

'Tis the Season to be Green!

Here are some tips to add Green to your Holidays:

GIVE YOUR HOME A TREE:

Fairfax County is in need of more trees planted on residential properties. This holiday season - before the ground freezes - plant a tree on your property. If you plan on purchasing a live Christmas Tree, you might also consider purchasing a tree - with the root ball intact - to plant after the holiday. Trees can provide many benefits to your home. For details on tree planting and benefits, contact the Fairfax County Urban Forester at 703-324-1770, TTY 711.

USE CARE WITH LIGHTING:

When using festive lighting arrangements, be sure to carefully inspect wires for fraying and other damage. Also, be sure to follow manufacturer's instructions when connecting lights in sequence, using power strips or connecting to outlet adapters - overloading a circuit can overheat wires and cause fires. Use caution when using open flames such as candles and food warmers.

CONSERVE ENERGY:

Using LED decorative lights and timing devices can save on energy usage during the holiday season. Never leave lights on overnight.

CAN THE GREASE:

You can prevent sewer backups and overflows by pouring grease into used cans, adding an absorbent (like kitty litter or a paper towel) and disposing of it in the trash when full.

RECYCLE PACKAGING AND GIFT WRAP:

Cardboard boxes and packaging, all gift wrap (with the exception of foil wrap) and holiday cards, can be recycled through your normal curbside paper recycling collection.

RECYCLE YOUR LIVE CHRISTMAS TREE:

All Christmas Trees less than 8 feet tall can be recycled at the curb in Fairfax County during the first two weeks in January at no additional cost. Please remove tree stands, ornaments, tinsel, lights and tree toppers. For larger trees, contact your trash collector for collection details.



A Fairfax County, Va., publication.
December 2010

FAIRFAX COUNTY

**Department of Public Works
& Environmental Services**

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes



The cast of McLean High School's "The Terrible Tragedy of Peter Pan" comes together for a photo at the red carpet premiere Thursday night.



PHOTOS BY
ALEX MCVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

McLean High Rolls Out Red Carpet

McLean High School opens "The Terrible Tragedy of Peter Pan" with red carpet premiere.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Students from McLean High School got a chance to participate in both sides of the red carpet Thursday, as the theater department's play "The Terrible Tragedy of Peter Pan" opened with a bang.

Students from the cast were interviewed and photographed on an actual red carpet by students from the school's journalism department, which was a first for both groups.

"They called me over about 20 minutes before it began, so I really had to improvise," said senior Bryan Kress, who works on the school's morning show, and interviewed students on the red carpet. "I've never done anything like that, where I had to make up questions and have conversations for the camera, but I'm so glad I got to do it."

After walking through a mass of "paparazzi," the students greeted family and friends at a reception before the play actually opened later in the evening. The idea came from theater and journalism teacher Ann Poe, who wanted to try something different at the school.

"This is my first year teaching drama, and I wanted

SEE RED CARPET, PAGE 19



Theater and journalism teacher Amy Poe and senior Regis Brett toast at the premiere of "The Terrible Tragedy of Peter Pan," which Poe directed for the McLean High School theater department.



VIEWPOINTS

What was it like being part of a red carpet premiere?



Julia Barton,
sophomore,
Pirate and
Indian Brave

"I was at the head of the group; I just wanted to make sure everything got off to a good start."

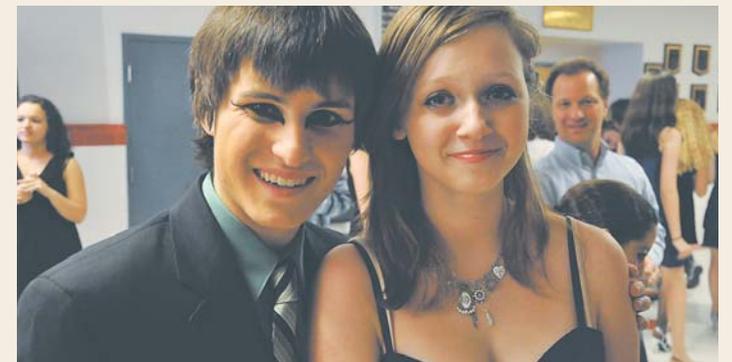


Lexie Shoabi,
junior, Tiger Lily

"It was so exciting, hopefully it's something I'll be able to do again in the future."

Meredith Bloom,
junior, Wendy

"The pictures, the interviews, that had never happened to me before, and to be honest, I never dreamed it would happen."



Max Sparta,
junior, Captain Hook

"I thought that was just the coolest thing I've ever done. I feel mildly famous right now."

Polina Tamarina,
sophomore, Lost Boy

"It was amazing. It feels good to have a big deal made out of the play, we really gave our best efforts, and it was nice of so many people to come out and support us."



Zoe Davidson,
junior, Tinker Bell

"It was something new, and it was very exciting. We got to show off our crazy makeup and fashions, which we worked hard on."

Elizabeth Kazarian,
freshman, Tiger Lily

"It was like being on TV, we got to see all of our fans come out for us."



Santa Claus and students from the Montessori School of McLean prepare to light the Christmas Tree in McLean after the Winterfest holiday parade Sunday.



McLean children join Santa and Mrs. Claus and other community officials, including Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) and Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), and members of the McLean Volunteer Fire Department and the Fairfax County Police Department.

PHOTOS BY
ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

McLean on Parade

Annual holiday parade brings community together in downtown McLean.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The best of McLean was on display Sunday, as the annual Winterfest parade took place on Chain Bridge Road. Donations were collected for various local charities, and Santa Claus wrapped the whole thing up.

"It seemed like a great opportunity for small businesses and charities to get their name out into the community in a fun, family-friendly setting," said Katie Sue, who was visiting relatives in McLean from Iowa, and decided to stop by the parade.

Groups such as the McLean Community Foundation, United Bank, Cecile's Wine Cellar, Elm Street Development, the Monett Foundation, Chain Bridge Bank and Tysons Ford all helped sponsor the event, and many of them had floats in the parade.

Other groups, such as the McLean Volunteer Fire Department, the Kiwanis Club and the McLean Rotary Club also contributed.

"I think events like this really show off everything McLean offers," said Glenn Corday of McLean. "Everyone from students at local schools to organiza-

SEE WINTERFEST, PAGE 5

Healthier Carpets... Healthier Home



Hadeed

Over
55
Years

Serving the Metro Area

Oriental Rug Washing & Wall to Wall Steam Cleaning

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">20% Off</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">in-plant cleaning through Dec. 18, 2010</p> | <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">Rug Repairs 10% Off</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">all in-plant repairs through Dec. 18, 2010</p> | <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">Wall to Wall Steam</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">Any 3 Areas</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">139. 400 sq ft 4 to 6 Areas</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">199. 800 sq ft 6 to 8 Areas</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">299. 1,000 sq ft</p> <p style="font-size: 0.6em;">Offer good through 12/18/10. Not valid with any other offers.</p> |
|--|---|--|

We Fix And Repair All Types:

www.hadeedcarpet.com 703-836-1111

See how we get your carpets sparkling clean on our web site



Happy
Holidays!

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION



Santa and Mrs. Claus greet attendees at the McLean Winterfest parade Sunday.

Winterfest Celebrated

FROM PAGE 4

tions with older folks like myself came out, and it was all to help create a sense of holiday spirit.”

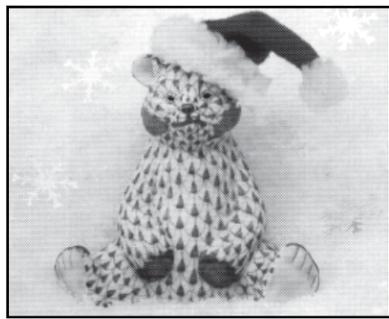
The last entry in the parade was a fire truck with sirens blazing as it came down Chain Bridge Road escorted by police cars. But instead of a firefighter manning the top of the engine, it was Santa Claus, who took time to wave and throw out candy canes to people gathered alongside the road.

The fire engine stopped at “Holiday Island” at the intersection of Chain Bridge Road and old Chain Bridge Road. There a chorus from the Montessori School of McLean set up in front of an unlit Christmas tree to wait for the arrival of Santa Claus.

Once he arrived, he helped light the tree, which resulted in loud applause from those who stuck around to watch the tree lighting.



Connor Iams, 5, meets McGruff the Crime Dog and MPO Pat Lucas of the Fairfax County Police Department at the McLean Winterfest parade Sunday.



Elegance Personified! Herend porcelain figurines are entirely handpainted by Hungarian artists, making each piece one of a kind. Available in 7 colors, with 24-carat gold accents. The ultimate holiday gift.

THE BEAR ESSENTIALS

Herend

Squire Chase

1319 Chain Bridge Road
McLean, Virginia 22101
703.790.5649

Store Hours:
M-SAT 10-5

Church of the Holy Comforter
(Episcopal)

The Rev. Richard A. Lord, Rector

CHRISTMAS EVE:

11:00 a.m. Eucharist with Children's Living Crèche
4:00 p.m. Eucharist with Children's Living Crèche
7:00 p.m. Festival Choral Eucharist
10:00 p.m. Festival Choral Eucharist

CHRISTMAS MORNING:

10:30 a.m. Traditional Holy Eucharist

543 Beulah Road, Vienna, VA 22180, www.holycomforter.com, 703-938-6521

BRIGGS & RILEY
TRAVELWARE

Enlighten
YOUR HOLIDAY TRAVEL

SAVE \$50 on full priced
Baseline and Transcend luggage \$299+.
Offer valid through December 31, 2010.

Paul's **LEATHER ACCESSORIES**

9903 Georgetown Pike 703-759-3735
Great Falls, VA 22066 www.Paulsleather.com

Having your Family and Friends visit this year?

Make their stay warm and comfortable with us at the Staybridge Suites McLean-Tysons Corner

Special Rates for the Holiday Season include:
Complimentary Shuttle Service
Hot Breakfast Buffet
Extended Checkout Times

Contact Us with Your Reservation
Reservations: 800-238-8000 • Hotel: 703-448-5400
www.staybridge.com/mcleanva

Or contact Sales for Group Information at: **703-336-5004**
Or E-mail: monikastepp@granddukehotels.com

TWO POOR TEACHERS
Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling

Bringing the Showroom to YOU!!
Select your remodeling products from our mobile kitchen and bathroom showroom and design center!!

Winter Bathroom Special!
(12/1/10 thru 1/15/11)
\$6850 (5x7) Tub Bathroom Remodel:
• Granite countertop • Moen Brushed Nickel
• Porcelain or Ceramic • Upgraded Vanity

Free Estimates
703-969-1179
www.twopoorteachers.com

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
EST. 1999

L'Auberge
Chez François

Introduces
Jacques' Brasserie at L'Auberge
Tuesday through Friday evenings 5-9 P.M.

332 Springvale Road • Great Falls, Virginia 22066

703-759-3800
www.laubergechezfrancois.com

Open for Lunch
Tuesday-Saturday: 11:30 A.M.-1:30 P.M. • Sunday: 12:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.
Open for Dinner
Tuesday-Friday: 5 P.M.-9 P.M. • Saturday: 4:30 P.M.-9:30 P.M.
Sunday: 12:00 P.M.-7:30 P.M. • Monday: Closed
Available for weddings, corporate and private parties

Nighttime Changes in Beltway Travel

Ongoing steel beam placement and bridge demolition to cause closures this week.

The Virginia Department of Transportation wants motorists to be aware of several overnight travel impacts beginning next week as part of the ongoing Capital Beltway High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project.

Overnight motorists traveling on I-495 south from Tysons Corner to Springfield may want to consider alternative routes as lane closures and detours will be in place along the Beltway at Leesburg Pike (Route 7), I-66, Gallows Road (Route 650) and Braddock Road (Route 620) as noted below. Motorists should expect delays and add an additional 30-60 minutes onto their commutes.

❖ I-495 south at I-66: Each night Sunday, Dec. 5 through Saturday, Dec. 11 from 9:30 p.m.-5 a.m., crews will close all lanes of I-495 south at I-66 for bridge demolition. Motorists will be detoured to Exit 49, I-66 west, to Nutley Street, follow detour signage around to I-66 east, back to I-495 south.

❖ I-495 south at Leesburg Pike (Route 7): Each night Wednesday, Dec. 8 and Thursday, Dec. 9 from 11:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. crews will close all lanes of I-495 south at Route 7 for steel bridge beam placement. Motorists will be detoured to Exit 47A, Route 7 west, cross over onto Route 7 east, back to I-495 south.

❖ I-495 North and South Impacts at Gallows Road (Route 650): Each night Monday, Dec. 6 through Saturday, Dec. 11, from 9:30 p.m.-5 a.m., crews will close three lanes of I-495 north and south with temporary Beltway stoppages for up to 30 minutes after midnight at Gallows Road for steel bridge beam placement.

❖ Braddock Road (Route 620) east to I-495 north Impacts: Beginning at 9:30



Looking northeast on Rt. 123 through Tysons Corner, the new HOT Lanes ramp, once complete, will connect Westpark Drive to the Beltway, while pillars and the truss for the Dulles Metrorail Project stretches towards Reston. In the coming weeks, motorists should use caution while traveling on the beltway and around Tysons Corner because there will be steel bridge beam placement on several of the overpasses and exit ramp traffic shifts. Overnight detours will be in place. For more information on the lane closures, go to www.vamegaprojects.com.

p.m. Friday, Dec. 10 until 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, crews will close the Braddock Road east exit ramp to I-495 north for drainage installation. Motorists will be directed to continue eastbound on Braddock Road, left onto Backlick Road, left onto Little River Turnpike (Route 236) west, follow signs to I-495 north. Crews will use Saturday night, Dec. 11 through Sunday morning, Dec. 12 as a back-up should inclement weather cancel the work.

This work is part of the Capital Beltway High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project.

For updates and project information visit <http://www.vamegaprojects.com/news/featured-headlines/alert-all-lanes-of-i-495-will-close-after-midnight-at-various-locations/>

Crandall Receives Elly Doyle Award

Park Authority honors volunteers, philanthropists, environmentalists.

The Fairfax County Park Authority presented awards to its top volunteers at the annual Elly Doyle Park Service Awards program held at the Waterford in Fairfax on Nov. 19.

The Park Authority Board also presented the 2010 Sally Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award to former Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Jean Packard. The Fairfax County Park Foundation delivered Eakin Philanthropy Awards to Tara Mooney and Joseph Thelin, and the Claude Moore Foundation. Highlighting the festive evening's "Volunteers Rock!" theme was Jed Duvall's impersonation of Elvis Presley.

The recipients of the 2010 Elly Doyle Park Service Award were Frank Crandall, who has contributed to a diverse range of solutions on topics such as deer management, field lighting standards and sediment control; Ben



Park Authority Board Member Harry Glasgow presents Frank Crandall with an Elly Doyle Award.

and Margaret Peck, who have worked hand-in-hand to sustain a piece of Fairfax County's agrarian past by working to preserve Frying Pan Farm Park and the history of the Floris community; and Norma Hoffman, a longtime volunteer at Huntley Meadows, who championed the preservation of Historic Huntley and the creation of Huntley Meadows Park.

Three Special Recognition Awards for dedicated park volunteers were also announced. Recipients include Marilyn Schroeder, a

volunteer at Hidden Oaks Nature Center; Coletta Hein a volunteer at Green Spring Garden; and Greg Sykes, an Invasive Management Area (IMA) volunteer. Beverly Dobrenz, a student at James Madison High School, won the Youth Recognition Award for her service as a volunteer with the Adapted Aquatics program at Audrey Moore RECenter.

The Elly Doyle Park Service Award was established in 1988 in recognition of former Park Authority Board Member Ellamae Doyle's years of outstanding service.

Langley High Orchestra to Perform at Oakcrest School

The Langley High School Orchestra concert takes place on Thursday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road in McLean. The public is invited to Rule Britannia, a celebration of all things British. Langley's three orchestras will perform a variety of compositions from the British Isles including Handel's Water Music and selections by Purcell, Holst, and the Beatles. Special guests will include NoVA Firefighters Emerald Society Pipe Band, baroque trumpeter Josh Cohen of the Washington Bach Consort, and drama teacher Phyliss Jaffe who will read Shakespeare poetry.

Admission to the concert is free. Before the concert and during intermission, the orchestra will have its first annual silent auction, to benefit the orchestra. Silent auction items include: Georgetown Learning Centers SAT training (\$699 value), four tickets to a Capitals vs. Canadiens Hockey Game (\$540 value), Bach 2 Rock private music lessons (\$165 value), Eclips Hair Salon gift card (\$158 value), Turner

Framing (\$100 value), and many gifts and restaurant gift certificates from local businesses. The orchestra is grateful for the support of the community and its local businesses.

The orchestra would like to congratulate the following members who were selected to perform with the 2011 District 12 Orchestra:

Cindy Lee (concertmaster), Iris Lim, Anat Gilboa, Haruka Konishi, Gene Kim, Brandon Tran, Chris Quion, Grace Posey, Sydney Kee (alt) Alex Quion, Audrey McNicholas, Claire Lee, Constance Chiu, Skye Toor, Harrison Nam (alt).

Winter Concert at Langley High

The Langley High School Choral Department presents its Winter Concert on Thursday, Dec. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the LHS auditorium. The concert will feature Schubert's Mass in G with student soloists and accompanied by a professional string quartet. Another highlight of the concert will be the appearance of the Madrigal choir in elaborate Renaissance costumes performing selected music from their recent Renaissance Feast.

Salvation Army Needs Local Residents' Help

Annual red-kettle campaign underway.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
CENTRE VIEW

Year after year, the Salvation Army provides help for people in need in the local area. This year, though, more than ever, it needs the public's help.

That's because three factors are converging on it at the same time: More families are in need, fewer contributions are coming in and Giant Foods has drastically cut the group's red-kettle, solicitation hours.

"Right now, we're concentrating on our Christmas and winter-relief efforts," said Major Earl Fitzgerald, commanding officer of the Salvation Army's Fairfax Corps. "Our red-kettle program helps fund that."

Since 1960, the Salvation Army has served Fairfax County residents with utility and rent assistance, food, clothing and furniture on an emergency basis, all year long. During the Christmas holidays, it also gives them toys and bicycles.

Potential recipients apply for aid in October and November; then the organization screens them to verify the need. Last year at this time, the Salvation Army brightened the holidays for 1,100 local families containing 1,500 children. "This year, we're assisting 2,590 children in 1,250 families," said Fitzgerald. "Because of the economy, people are out of work and struggling financially."

"We're also getting less donations because of the economy," he continued. "So we're putting an appeal out to the public for assistance."

LAST HOLIDAY SEASON, said Fitzgerald, Salvation Army bell



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Salvation Army employee Melvin Bruce Gomber of Centreville rings the bell, Saturday morning, outside the Fair Lakes Wal-Mart, for the red-kettle campaign.

ringers stood outside 21 Giant Foods stores in Fairfax County, at least seven hours a day, Monday through Saturday. "It was a major source of fund-raising for us," he said.

The Salvation Army is more visible at Christmastime and people donated generously at the kettles outside Giant, explained Fitzgerald, because "people are in the spirit of giving in the holiday season and they respect the work of the Salvation Army."

Now, though, Giant has reduced the number of hours the organization can solicit there. "They've only given us one week in November and one week in December, four hours at a time," said Fitzgerald. "Because of the Giant decision, between Nov. 12 and Dec. 24, we'll lose \$150,000 in fund-raising."

He's not faulting the decision, however, just stating a fact. "Giant's new, company policy regarding soliciting is so that more

organizations can raise funds there, too — also on a limited basis," he said. "And we do appreciate the time they've given us."

But, added Fitzgerald, the change was announced "two weeks before we began our Christmas fund-raising campaign, so we weren't prepared for it. And it's affecting our fund-raising in both the Fairfax County and Washington Metropolitan areas. "D.C. Metropolitan-wise, we're projecting we'll lose \$700,000," he said. "That's a lot of money and help."

"Funds raised [now] help support families in January and February."

— Major Earl Fitzgerald, commanding officer, Salvation Army's Fairfax Corps

So, with nearly 1,100 more children to provide for, this year, Fitzgerald hopes the public's holiday spirit of giving will continue as Christmas draws closer. Meanwhile, he said, "We're scrambling with our fund-raising since donations are down and the need is up."

HE'S CURRENTLY writing letters to local businesses, asking for their support. "But unless we find a lot of people in the community who make some decent contributions, it'll be tough making up that deficit," said Fitzgerald. "My biggest concern is that we use the funds raised in the Christmas and winter-relief campaign to help support families in January and February."

He said the Salvation Army will "probably" be able to meet its toy

and clothing demands at Christmastime, thanks in great part to the Angel Trees in various businesses around the county. Each contains tags with a child's first name and the gift wanted. Angel Tree locations include BJ's and Wal-Mart in Fair Lakes, Wal-Mart in Burke and shops in the Tysons Corner Mall.

The organization also runs an Adopt-A-Family program whereby people can volunteer to buy gifts for an entire family. It's run through the Salvation Army's social-service office and may be reached at 703-385-8700, ext. 23.

"We can only help as the finances are provided," said Fitzgerald. "We're also looking for at least 100 volunteers, in addition to our paid employees, to man our kettle locations. I'm trying to cover all 21 Giant stores in my service area. This includes Fairfax, Chantilly, Centreville, Herndon, Reston, Vienna, Great Falls, McLean, Burke, Falls Church and Fairfax Station."

The Salvation Army also needs volunteers for its donation kettles outside other Wal-Marts, Safeways, Magruder's in Vienna, K-Mart in Chantilly and Herndon, the Lotte store in Chantilly and the Super H Market in Fairfax.

To volunteer, call 703-385-8700, ext. 11, and ask for Stacey Burke. Tax-deductible checks, payable to Salvation Army, may be sent to it at 4915 Ox Road, Fairfax, VA 22030. In addition, people may text the word, "give," to 85944 to make a \$10 donation from their phones.

"I'd like to thank the community for their past support and for what they're doing this holiday season to support the Salvation Army's efforts," said Fitzgerald. "We just hope our donations will pick up so we can better meet the needs of those less fortunate in Fairfax County."

Build Your Community

Support Your Local Businesses.

THE CONNECTION
to your community

www.connectionnewspapers.com

WRAP IT UP
at NVAR's Online Shop

The Northern Virginia Association of Realtors® online store is your one-stop-shop for real estate business products and accessories, 24/7.

Shop now ▶ **RealtorShop.com**

Realtors® bring you home for the holidays.
Thank your Realtor® today!

Or come on over to:

NVAR Headquarters, 8407 Pennell St., Fairfax, VA 22031
Herndon Center, 520 Huntmar Park Dr., Herndon, VA 20170

Store hours:
Mon. - Fri., 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Phone: 703.207.3215

Money To Burn?

If not, make Fashion Exchange your first Stop!

Today's styles at yesterday's prices!

FASHION EXCHANGE CONSIGNMENT
6663-B Old Dominion Dr. • McLean, VA

(703) 760-0808

Tues.-Sat. 10-5
Closed Sun.-Mon.

Call For Directions

OPINION

Tough Road Ahead

State and local coffers will continue to shrink in 2011; transportation improvements unlikely.

The Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance quotes Gov. Bob McDonnell's remarks to the Dulles Area Transportation Association earlier this week. "I can't emphasize how important it is to get started now," McDonnell said, to take advantage of favorable infrastructure pricing [due to the recession] by starting to invest more in transportation.

But the Alliance, which advocates for spending on roads and highways, points out that McDonnell "provided few details as to new funding sources, but promised that specifics would surface in the weeks ahead."

Last January was the "now" to get started to take advantage of "favorable infrastructure pricing."

McDonnell has been in office a year now, and won in Northern Virginia largely because of his vigorous campaigning on transportation issues. But he allowed the first year of his tenure, including the first year's session of the General Assembly, to pass without a serious proposal on how to fund transportation im-

provements in Northern Virginia or elsewhere in the state.

Instead, McDonnell has spent the last months talking up a liquor privatization proposal as a solution to transportation. In fact, that proposal would possibly pay for one intersection or overpass improvement project in Northern Virginia before moving on to cost state funding for education, public safety and social services tens of millions of dollars a year by turning over the revenues for private companies' profit.

EDITORIAL

Meanwhile, localities in Northern Virginia received essentially zero dollars from the state for transportation improvements in past year.

More on the outlook ahead for public services from Deputy County Executive Ed Long as he prepared the budget forecast for the coming year:

❖ While home values are up for the first time in five years, the county still faces a multimillion dollar shortfall and the future of the local economy is uncertain.

❖ Government contracts are a major component of the Northern Virginia economy. In

Fairfax County alone in 2008, federal procurement contracts totaled \$17 billion. Since this is such a large component of the local economy, the discussion of cutbacks in federal contracts is a major concern.

❖ The Fairfax County budget gets less than 20 cents back from Richmond of every tax dollar it sends to the state.

❖ There are 30,000 unemployed people in Fairfax County, with the current unemployment rate approximately 4.9 percent, or close to half the national rate. Still, 30,000 people is a huge number of unemployed.

Share Your New Year's Resolutions

It's early and much of the holiday eating season is still in front of us. But most of us will engage in some soul searching and resolution making around the New Year. In the first issue of 2011, the Connection will share the New Year's resolutions of individuals and offices. Send us your resolutions, plus your tips on keeping resolutions. Feel free to offer resolutions for local officials as well.

Please include a photo with your resolutions.

E-mail to

mclean@connectionnewspapers.com

VIEWPOINTS

What makes the December holidays special to you?

—DONNA MANZ

Angeline Shonka, Clifton

"Family and my faith. It's everyone coming together and enjoying the festivities of the season."



Jackie Callaghan, McLean

"Getting together with family and friends, all the spirit of the season. Just being together makes it all special."

Beverly Levesque, Vienna

"The reason for the season, the birth of Jesus Christ."



Mayor M. Jane Seeman, Town of Vienna

"First of all, Christmas means being together with family and watching everyone open their presents. Secondly, it is the Christmas music in churches, on the radio and from the Town Band. My favorite of the whole season is driving down Church Street and Maple Avenue at night and seeing the holiday decorations on the lamp posts and on the Town Green. That is such a magical feeling."

Linda Disselkamp, Vienna

"We celebrate both Chanukah and Christmas. I prefer it when the holidays don't overlap. This year, Chanukah started on Dec. 1. It's a combination of getting together with friends and family. Baking, my kids like to do that with me. Particularly, as a Girl Scout leader, I see the kids don't realize how good they've got it in this area."

There's many opportunities to give back here."

THE CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Newspaper of
McLean

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns,
Call: 703-778-9410

e-mail:
mclean@connectionnewspapers.com

Kemal Kurspahic
Editor ❖ 703-778-9414
kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

Alex McVeigh
Community Reporter
703-778-9441
amcveigh@connectionnewspapers.com

Nick Horrock
County & Projects
nhorrock@connectionnewspapers.com

Rich Sanders
Sports Editor ❖ 703-224-3031
rsanders@connectionnewspapers.com

ADVERTISING:
To place an advertisement, call the ad department between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Display ads 703-778-9410
Classified ads 703-778-9411
Employment ads 703-778-9413

Trisha Hamilton
Display Advertising
703-778-9419
trisha@connectionnewspapers.com

Andrea Smith
Classified Advertising
703-778-9411
classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Barbara Parkinson
Employment Advertising
703-778-9413
classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editors
Michael O'Connell, Kemal Kurspahic
Photography:
Louise Krafft,
Craig Sterbutzel
Art/Design:
Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong,
John Heinly, Wayne Shipp,
John Smith
Production Manager:
Jean Card

CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Linda Pecquex
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS, L.L.C.
Peter Labovitz
President/CEO

Mary Kimm
Publisher/Chief Operating Officer
703-778-9433
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Jerry Vernon
Executive Vice President
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse
Controller
Debbie Funk
National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

Jeanne Theismann
Special Assistant to the Publisher
703-778-9436
jtheismann@connectionnewspapers.com



PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Chris Wells, pedestrian program manager for Fairfax County, explains several short-term and long-term solutions to safety concerns raised along Westmoreland Street in McLean.

Improving Street Safety

Fairfax County offers safety improvements for Westmoreland Street.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

McLean resident Elizabeth Ende still remembers seeing her daughter's friend almost get run down in October 2007 while trying to cross Westmoreland Street in McLean. The student was in the crosswalk, but the car was traveling at a high rate of speed, and the driver had to slam on his brakes to avoid a collision.

"Safety on that road has been a long standing issue, and I got involved when I saw a student almost get hit by a car," she said.

John Sims's son was trying to turn out of McLean High School onto Westmoreland Street after the 2009 junior prom, when he was hit by a speeding driver, who then fled the scene.

"It's a nightmare at that intersection," he said. "You've got a two-way left turn lane in the

SEE WESTMORELAND, PAGE 17

Culinaria
COOKING SCHOOL

Your palate is as unique as you are.

Join us for cooking classes at **Culinaria Cooking School** where professionally trained chefs will help you master the art of cooking everything from regional and ethnic cuisines to holiday truffles. Starting at \$65 per class, our cooking and wine tasting classes make the perfect present for everyone on your gift list.

Gift Certificates
You will be the hit of the holidays when you give the gift of a cooking class. Certificates are good for one year, and can be **used for any of our classes.**

Private Events
Celebrate the holidays in style without lifting a finger. Our chefs will prepare the perfect cocktail party or full-course meal. Call us for menus and pricing.

For more information and to register for classes, please go to www.culinariacookingschool.com

Or give us a call at 703.865.7920
We look forward to guiding you on your culinary journey!

Step-by-Step to Cooking Success
110 Pleasant Street, NW
Vienna, Virginia 22180

TOYS FOR TOTS

Maplewood Grill
Serving Our Neighbors and Friends for Over 26 Years

Wednesday, December 15th
Fundraising Dinner.
Maplewood Grill will donate 5% of all proceeds to Toys for Tots

Live Entertainment Wed thru Sat

STARR HILL CRAFT BEER DINNER
\$65 Thursday, Dec. 16, 7 pm
reserve ahead

Gift Certificates Available

703-281-0070 132 Branch Road, S.E. • Vienna, VA
Visit www.maplewoodgrill.com for Specials

Regency Salon
703-448-7790

Brazilian Blowout \$199
formaldehyde-free
keratin smoothing treatment

Full Highlight + Haircut \$129
includes blow-dry and styling

Certified Brazilian Blowout Salon
1800 Old Meadow Rd, McLean, 22102

GOOD TIDYINGS WE BRING
to you and your friends.

Save yourself from cleaning the toilet.
AND SAVE A FEW BUCKS.
ACT NOW TO RECEIVE \$50 OFF REGULAR MAID SERVICE.*

* Save 30 on your first clean and \$20 on your fourth clean. New customers only. Not valid with other offers. Excludes move-in/move-out cleans.

Gift CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE!

Call now to receive a free, no-obligation estimate
703-691-7999
www.MAIDS.com

The Maids
Referred for a reason.

ENTERTAINMENT

McLean Youth Orchestra Presents Winter Concert

The McLean Youth Orchestra Winter Concert on Sunday, Dec. 12 at 3 p.m. at Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road in McLean, will feature Oakton High School senior Dominic Favia on trumpet and works

by Torelli, Reed, Holst, and Hovhanness.

Favia has placed both 1st and 2nd in the International Trumpet Guild Youth Competition, 2nd (twice) and 3rd in the National Trumpet Competition and 1st (twice) in the National Trumpet Competition Historic Division on baroque trumpet. He is in the elite NSO Youth Fellowship Program. Admission is free, donations are accepted. 703-628-9363 or www.mclean-orchestra.



Dominic Favia

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

THURSDAY/DEC. 9

Holiday Gingerbread House. 6:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Families work together to decorate pre-assembled gingerbread houses. Supplies included in cost. \$45, \$35 McLean district residents. www.mcleancenter.org.

Alex Dezen and Courtney Kaiser. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Great Falls Lions Club Citrus Sale. 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Adjacent to the Wachovia Bank building in the Great Falls Village Center. A variety of oranges and grapefruits. All profits support local and national Lions charities. Sale continues through Saturday, Dec. 11. 703-880-5445.

FRIDAY/DEC. 10

Old Firehouse Teen Center Dance. 1440 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Friday night dance for 7-8th graders. www.mcleancenter.org.

Waverly Consort's "A Christmas Story." 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. In the spirit of the medieval church dramas and mystery plays, eight singers and five instrumentalists play reproductions of medieval instruments. \$21-\$42, youth through grade 12 half price. Tickets available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap." 8 p.m. at 1st Stage,

1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1ststage.com/mousetrap or 703-854-1856.

Concert and Christmas Market. 6-9 p.m. Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Featuring a Living Nativity, a Christmas Market and a concert at 7:30 featuring a bell choir, three vocal choirs and the Student Symphonic Orchestra. 703-356-3346.

SATURDAY/DEC. 11

Synergy Brass Quintet: "Christmas in Brass." 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Brass arrangements of Bach's choral works, Handel's triumphant "Messiah" and a selection of classic Christmas carols. \$22-\$44, youth through grade 12 half price. Tickets available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Lopez Studios, Inc. Annual Christmas Concert. 2:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Great Falls Studios Annual Holiday Art Show and Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls. Paintings, pottery, photographs, jewelry, art quilts, weaving, lithographs, woodcarving and more by Great Falls artists. A portion of the sale proceeds go to the school. Free admission. 703-442-9251.

Girls Lacrosse Team Mattress Sale Fundraiser. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at James Madison High School, 2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna. Name brands, all sizes, bed frames, full manufacturer warranties, delivery available. Children's corner. sandrafrederick@cox.net.

Santa Claus at the Freeman House.



Artist Meredith Murray presents a collection of contemporary artwork titled "The Spirit of Australia" on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at East Meets West Yoga, 144 Church St. N.W., Vienna. meredith@maitriart.com.

1-3 p.m. Freeman House, 131 Church St., Vienna. In the house's parlor, decorated for the holidays with greens and period arrangements. 703-938-5187 or www.historicviennainc.org.

Candlelight Tours. 5-8 p.m. at Cherry Hill Farmhouse, 312 Park Ave., Falls Church. View high Victorian holiday decorations and period vignettes in each room, enjoy caroling and refreshments. Adults \$6, age 12 and under \$2. 703-248-5171.

Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1ststage.com/mousetrap or 703-854-1856.

Wheels to Africa Bicycle Collection. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at

Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Wheels to Africa is a nonprofit that collects bicycles for Africa and needy American communities. \$10 donation requested with each bicycle to help cover shipping costs. www.wheels-to-africa.org.

Voice Chamber Singers: Home for Christmas. 7:30 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., N.E., Vienna. Christmas carols, classical and contemporary holiday music. \$23 adults, \$18 seniors, \$8 for age 24 and under. Tickets at the door an additional \$2. Purchase at www.voice.org/tickets or 703-277-7772.

Colonial Wassail. 1-4 p.m. at The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Gather in

the Farm's orchard to wassail with singing, dancing and chants. Enjoy hot spiced cider, sugar cakes, a roaring bonfire and 18th century games. Adults \$3. children and senior citizens \$2. 703-442-7557 or www.1771.org.

Art Exhibit. 7 p.m. at East Meets West Yoga, 144 Church St. N.W., Vienna. Meredith Murray and "The Spirit of Australia". meredith@maitriart.com.

Cool Yule. 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Live music by Hot Club of San Francisco. \$23-\$28. Free wine and cheese reception. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SUNDAY/DEC. 12

Handel's Messiah Sing. 4 p.m. Saint Luke Parish, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. With organist Paul Skevington, the Amadeus chamber orchestra, harpsichord, soloists and choir. Sing along or simply listen. Tickets \$15. 703-356-0670 or www.musicinmclean.org.

Xyra and Mystic Angels. 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Great Falls Studios Annual Holiday Art Show and Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls. Paintings, pottery, photographs, jewelry, art quilts, weaving, lithographs, woodcarving and more by Great Falls artists. A portion of the sale proceeds go to the school. Free admission. 703-442-9251.

Handbell Christmas Concert. 7 p.m. at Chesterbrook United Methodist Church, 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Featuring the St. Matthew's UMC Carol Ringers. 703-356-7100 or chesterbrookumc@gmail.com.

Agatha Christie's "The

Mousetrap." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1ststage.com/mousetrap or 703-854-1856.

The Holidays at Mason: Believe in Miracles. 7 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Mason Symphony Orchestra, University Chorale and University Singers perform selections composed by Alan Silvestri, Glen Ballard and John Rutter. Audience-sing-along. \$20 adults, \$15 students and seniors. Limited number of free tickets for students with a valid Mason ID. Charge tickets at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

McLean Youth Orchestra Winter Concert. 3 p.m. Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Featuring Oakton High School senior Dominic Favia on trumpet and works by Torelli, Reed, Holst, and Hovhanness. Admission free, donations accepted. 703-628-9363 or www.mclean-orchestra.

McLean Symphony: Deck the Halls. 3 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Seasonal selections for orchestra and chorus and an audience participation singalong. Featuring pianist Carlos Alberto Ibay and the University Festival Chorus. \$25 adults, \$20 seniors, \$15 students, age 12 and under free. www.mclean-symphony.org.

MONDAY/DEC. 13

Bert Jansch and Pegi Young. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 12



McLean Community Center
The Center of It All

Here's What's Happening at MCC

Winter/Spring Class & Activity Registration Begins!

Monday, Dec. 6, for McLean Tax District Residents
Monday, Dec. 13, for all others

Visit our Web site for detailed information.

Hot Club of San Francisco Cool Yule

Sunday, 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!

Theatre IV The Tailor of Gloucester

Sunday, Dec. 19, 3 p.m.
\$12/\$8 district residents

For ages 4+. This holiday classic by Beatrix Potter is the story of a poor tailor who works his fingers to the bone to finish a coat for the Mayor's Christmas wedding, only to run out of thread.



Winter Break Camps and Trips

Monday, Dec. 27, through Wednesday, Dec. 29.

Your child can have a wonderful time on their school's winter break. Sign them up for one to three full or half-days of MCC's Winter Break Camp. In addition, 5th through 8th graders can join the Old Firehouse Teen Center for fun-filled trips to Shadowland, Sportrock and Kettler Capitals Iceplex.

The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA 22101
703-790-0123, TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

60-75% OFF POTS
Area's Largest Selection

Benches, Fountains, Bird Baths **25% OFF** **Trees, Shrubs & Perennials**

Poinsettias
All Colors ~ New Varieties

Fraser Fir 4'-11'
Cut Premium Quality Christmas Trees

Spring in the Greenhouse
Citrus, Cyclamen and Amaryllis

Boxwoods 25-50% Off

Japanese Maples 6" To 12'
30-50% Off
Over 100 Varieties

Shredded Hardwood Mulch
\$3.39 3 cu. ft.

Bonsai & Orchids
25% Off
New Bonsai Dishes

Off-Season Pricing

FREE Landscape & Hardscape Estimates

Landscape Design Services Available

Patios, Walls, Walkways Paver Driveways & So Much More
No Sub-Contracting

9023 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, Virginia
2 miles west of I-495 on Rt. 50.
1 mile from I-66 (Vienna Metro)

703-573-5025
www.cravensnursery.com
Holiday Hours: Mon-Thurs & Sun 8:30-5:30 • Fri & Sat 8:30-7

Cravens Nursery & Pottery

SUCCESS

YOUR SUCCESS IS OUR SUCCESS

It takes financial strength and the power of a local banking relationship to help you run your business and, ultimately, grow your business.

LET'S KEEP GROWING TOGETHER.

EAGLEBANK
We're listening.

TYSONS CORNER • 8601 WESTWOOD CENTER DRIVE
MARYLAND • VIRGINIA • WASHINGTON, DC • WWW.EAGLEBANKCORP.COM • 703-485-8011

BULLETIN BOARD

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

THURSDAY/DEC. 9

Great Falls Lions Club Citrus Sale. 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Adjacent to the Wachovia Bank building in the Great Falls Village Center. A variety of oranges and grapefruits. All profits support local and national Lions charities. Sale continues through Saturday, Dec. 11. 703-880-5445.

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.

Reclaiming Your Financial Future: Financial Planning During Separation & Divorce. 7 p.m. at the Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E. Vienna. Practical information to make educated financial decisions from two divorce planners with more than 25 years of experience. \$45 non-members, \$35 members. Register at www.thewomenscenter.org or 703-281-2657.

VTRCC Holiday Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. The Tower Club, 8000 Towers Crescent Drive, Suite 1700, Vienna. \$40 members, \$50 non-members. Register at www.vtrcc.org or 703-281-1333.

Snow Information Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Chesterbrook Elementary School, 1753 Kirby Road, McLean. With Fairfax County Supervisor John W. Foust and staff from VDOT. Concerns include more accurate communication with residents and plowers, including electronic monitoring of snow

removal vehicles, increased number of plows for neighborhoods, earlier mobilization of plows, and updated maps of plows assigned routes with more accurate markings of particularly difficult or previously neglected road sections. dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov.

TUESDAY/DEC. 14

Tysons Corner Kiwanis Club Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at George C. Marshall High School, Room 124, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Meeting is public and Individuals looking to volunteer in their community welcome. www.tysonscornerkiwanis.org.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 15

MCC Governing Board Monthly Meeting. 6:30 p.m. at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Open to the public. To speak at the meeting call 703-790-0123 TTY: 711.

The Advisory Board of the Northwest Center for Mental Health Services. 7-9 p.m. at Northwest Center for Community Mental Health, 1850 Cameron Glen, Reston. Volunteers are needed to serve and act as advocates for women's shelters, homeless shelters, etc. The Board meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Contact Cleveland at 703-435-0868 or leaderwilliams@gmx.com.

JSSA Parent Support Group for Young Adults Across the Autism Spectrum. 7 p.m. at JSSA, 3018 Javier Road, Fairfax. A monthly support group to discuss participants' interests and concerns. Identifying community resources, building a support network and balancing one's own needs with that of an adult son or daughter. Register at 703-204-9100.

THURSDAY/DEC. 16

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.

Assistance League of Northern Virginia Weekend Food for Kids Program. 9:30 a.m. at Hoop Magic, 14810 Murdock St., Chantilly. Assemble food packages to distribute to schools in Fairfax and Prince William Counties. Volunteer at 703-591-2312 or alnorthernva@yahoo.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 17

Line Dance Class. 10 a.m. Durga Temple, 8400 Durga Place, Fairfax Station. For age 55 and up. All levels. Ongoing, meets every Friday. \$5. Registration required at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/rec or 703-324-5544, TTY 711.

SATURDAY/DEC. 18

T'ai Chi Practice. 8 a.m. at St. Luke's Catholic School Gymnasium, 7005 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Saturdays through March. Free, open to all. No special clothing or equipment needed. www.FreeTaiChi.org or 703-759-9141.

Winter Break Trips

Dec. 27-29

For 5th-8th graders

During the Fairfax County Public School's Winter Break, 5th-8th graders can join in on one of these fun-filled trips! Registration is required.

The Old Firehouse Teen Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for trip participants.

Shadowland

Monday, Dec. 27
10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
\$35/\$30 McLean district residents
Activity No. 8107.210

Sportrock

Tuesday, Dec. 28
10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
\$40/\$35 McLean district residents
Activity No. 8108.210

Ice Skating at the Kettler Capitals Iceplex

Wednesday, Dec. 29
10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
\$30/\$25 McLean district residents
Activity No. 8109.210



The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123; TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 11

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 15

Jesse Malin & The St. Marks Social, Marah "It Came Upon a Midnight Beer" Rock & Roll Christmas Show, Richard Bacchus and more. 8:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

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

THURSDAY/DEC. 16

McLean High School Orchestras Winter Concert. 7 p.m. in the Auditorium at McLean High School, 1633 Davidson Road, McLean. The concert will feature Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite and other holiday and classical favorites. elizabeth@tlstrategies.com.

Sesame Street Live: Elmo's Healthy Heroes. 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$15-\$28, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available for patrons with disabilities at 703-993-3035. www.sesamestreetlive.com.

Decembersongs with Dan Navarro, Amy Speace, Sally Barris and Jon Vezner. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Book Discussion. 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call for title. Adults. 703-757-8560

FRIDAY/DEC. 17

"The Laramie Project." 7:30 p.m.

Langley High School Auditorium, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. A play about the reaction to the 1998 murder of University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard. All proceeds from ticket sales and a silent auction will be donated to the Matthew Shepard Foundation. pjaffe@fcps.edu.

Sesame Street Live: Elmo's Healthy Heroes. 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$15-\$28, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available for patrons with disabilities at 703-993-3035. www.sesamestreetlive.com.

Bill Kirchen's Honky Tonk Holiday Show. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap". 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1ststage.com or 703-854-1856.

2010 Graduating Artist Showcase. 6-9 p.m. George Mason University Art and Design Building, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Fall 2010 Senior Exhibition Reception. Exhibits of over 60 graduating artists including paintings, sculpture, animation, graphic design, drawing and more. Live music and refreshments available. Free admission. 703-993-8898 or hmillera@gmu.edu.

The Brothers Grimm Spectaculation. 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Comedy in the style of Monty Python. \$5-\$8. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SATURDAY/DEC. 18

"The Laramie Project." 7:30 p.m. Langley High School Auditorium, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. A play about the reaction to the 1998 murder of University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard. All proceeds from ticket sales and a silent auction will be donated to the Matthew Shepard Foundation. pjaffe@fcps.edu.

Sesame Street Live: Elmo's Healthy Heroes. 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets \$15-\$28, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available for patrons with disabilities at 703-993-3035. www.sesamestreetlive.com.

4th Annual Rocknocoeros Holiday Singalong with The Barbershop Quartet. 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Vienna Boys Choir. 8 p.m. at George Mason University Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Holiday music from Gregorian chant to favorite Christmas carols. \$24-\$48, youth through grade 12 half price. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap". 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. \$25 adults, \$15 students. www.1ststage.com or 703-854-1856.

Vienna Choral Society Concert. 4 p.m. at the Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road, Vienna. Celebrate the season with favorite and familiar holiday songs at "Come in from the Cold: A Fireside Concert." Adults \$20, students and seniors \$15, family \$35. 703-255-5508 or www.viennachoralsociety.org.

Winter Break Camps

Children enjoy supervised games, arts and crafts, music and special events.

Dec. 27-29

Half-Day Camp

9 a.m.-Noon
For ages 4-6.
\$40 per day/\$30
McLean district residents

Children must bring a lunch and a drink each day. A morning snack will be provided. Tennis shoes and casual clothes recommended.

Parents must fill out camper information forms before the child can attend camp.

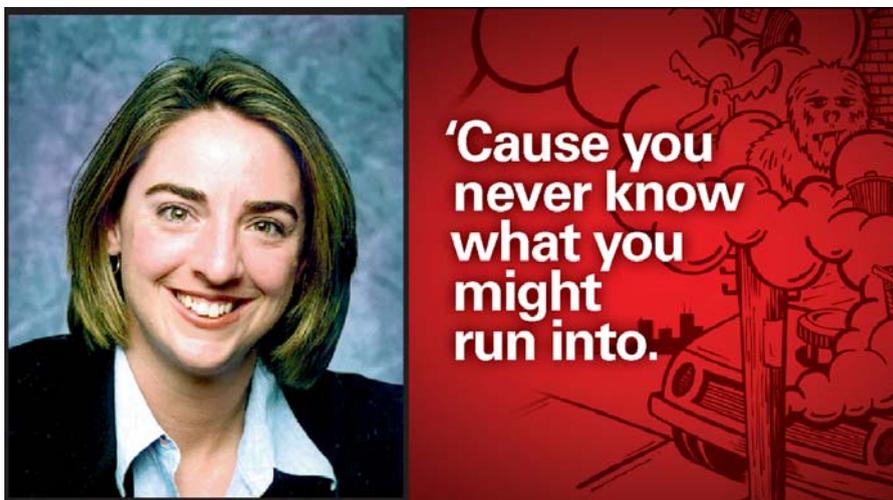
Full-Day Camp

9 a.m.-4 p.m.
For ages 5-9.
\$60 per day/\$50
McLean district residents

Forms are available at MCC and the Old Firehouse Teen Center (OFTC). An adult must sign the child in and out of camp each day.



The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123; TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org



'Cause you never know what you might run into.

Jonna S Wooten, Agent
8148 Electric Avenue
Vienna, VA 22182
Bus: 703-560-7804
jonna.wooten.loy3@statefarm.com

I'm your agent for that.

Having me as your agent means having a real person there to help you when you need it. So when accidents happen, you have someone you can trust to get the job done right, and right away. Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.[®]
CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7.



State Farm

1001177

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company - Bloomington, IL

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

If you do not get The McLean Connection delivered to your home...

FIRST CLASS MAILED SUBSCRIPTIONS

are now available for the first time with timely postal carrier delivery: \$30 for six months. *Help us meet the costs of providing first-rate community journalism on newsprint to your household.*

Call 703-778-9426 (or -9427) or e-mail circulation@connectionnews.com

P/T ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR
Clifton Presbyterian Church~Fx Cty
Immediate Opening. Send resume to:
cpcpcmm@yahoo.com by 1/10/11

ADMIN/RECEPTIONIST
Vienna Tax Consulting/Preparation
Firm seeks P/T help. Must be computer literate. Flexible hours. Fax resume to
703-242-6271

BILLING ADMINISTRATOR
F/T position for a billing administrator for a home medical equipment company. Position to include: processing of medical claims and organizing of patient files. Must have at least 2 yrs exp with office operations. Must have good personal skills and phone mannerism. Salary based on exp. Hours: 10am-6:30pm.
Please call 703-370-5790

EDUCATION TRAINING

GET HIRED!
Dental, Medical & Pharmacy Staff Trainees
Needed now!!
No Experience Necessary.
Medical, Dental Facilities & Pharmacies
NOW HIRING.
Local Job Placement & Training Available
1-(800)-381-1734
CTO SCHEV

HOW TO SUBMIT ADS TO THE CONNECTION Newspapers & Online CLASSIFIED

DEADLINES
Zones 1, 5, 6.....Mon @ noon
Zones 2, 3, 4.....Tues @ noon
E-mail ad with zone choices to:
classified@connectionnewspapers.com
or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411

EMPLOYMENT

DEADLINES
Zones 5, 6.....Tues @ 11:00
Zones 1, 3.....Tues @ 4:00
Zone 2.....Wed @ 11:00
Zone 4.....Wed @ 1:00
E-mail ad with zone choices to:
classified@connectionnewspapers.com
or call Barbara @ 703-778-9413

ZONES

Zone 1: The Reston Connection
The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
Zone 2: The Springfield Connection
The Burke Connection
The Fairfax Connection
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection
Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette
Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South
Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac
Zone 6: The Arlington Connection
The Vienna/Oakton Connection
The McLean Connection
The Great Falls Connection

Want to Make Real Money?
TitleMax is currently looking for experienced professionals for Assistant Store Manager & Store Manager opportunities! Management, lending, collections, multi-unit, & rent-to-own experience is a plus.
For immediate consideration, please apply online
www.titlemax.biz

TMX FINANCE

COLLEGE STUDENTS & HS SENIORS SEMESTER BREAK WORK \$17.00 Base-Appt.
1-5 week work program. Can continue in Spring. Customer sales/service, flex schedules. All ages 18+, conditions apply, all majors welcome.
703-359-7600

P/T Admin Assist
P/T position, 24 hrs/wk max. I manage a small, high-paced, fast-growing financial services company; travel considerably; and otherwise work from home. I need someone to manage mail, documents, and databases; make travel arrangements; perform marketing tasks; run errands; and do a variety of odd tasks. Must be proficient in MS office, Google software apps, other web apps; quick at learning new software, processes, and procedures; flexible; very well organized; strong at prioritizing work and managing time; willing to work out of my basement or at your home. I am overloaded in admin, logistics, tactics, and paper and need your help so I can focus on managing and growing the business.
Please email your resume to
ecoengineer8242007@gmail.com

Educational Internships
Unusual opportunity to learn many aspects of the newspaper business. Internships available in reporting, photography, research, graphics. Opportunities for students, and for adults considering change of career. Unpaid.
E-mail internship@connectionnewspapers.com

THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

26 Antiques
We pay top \$ for antique furniture and mid-century Danish/modern teak furniture, STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, jewelry and costume jewelry, paintings/art glass/clocks.
Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790.
Email:theschefer@cox.net

110 Elderly Care
LIVE IN CAREGIVER
Excellent references
20 yrs exp. **434-258-8558**

28 Yard Sales
MOVING SALE - SAT 12/11
11AM-3PM at 2147 Woodford Road Vienna. Furn, clothing, elect. garden tools etc

102 Instruction
Experienced Tutoring Available in the Northern Virginia Area
Dean's List College Graduate with Years of Experience
Accounting/Finance Degree All Ages and Grades Considered
Math, Spanish, English from \$35/hour
Call Hal @ (703)864-6616

I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate.
-Arthur Wing Pinero

109 Prof. Services

109 Prof. Services

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

SAN THOMAS
Peace of Mind is What You Deserve
(703) 7728362
•Personal Drivers Services (www.santhomas.net)
•House Watching Service (Law Enforcement Officers)

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

116 Childcare Avail.

116 Childcare Avail.

LEGAL NOTICE
AT&T intends to file an application to collocate cellular telecommunications antennas and install new equipment at 2400 South Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22203. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Country Club Towers" will consist of the collocation of antennas on existing mounts and equipment on the roof. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carolyn Mitchell, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
AT&T intends to file an application to collocate cellular telecommunications antennas and install new equipment at 4501 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22204. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "AWE Chatham" will consist of the collocation of antennas on existing mounts and equipment on the roof. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carolyn Mitchell, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
AT&T c/o Bechtel Communications Inc. intends to file an application to modify/upgrade existing cellular telecommunications equipment at 6404 Williamsburg Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22207. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Berkshire" will consist of the replacement three existing antennas with three LTE antennas. In addition, two TE43 support cabinets for RXAIT and one rectifier will be installed. Twenty feet of one inch conduit will be installed from the Purcell to the Lucent Cabinet. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carol Blitz, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
AT&T c/o Bechtel Communications Inc. intends to file an application to modify/upgrade existing cellular telecommunications equipment at 1425 South Eads Street, Arlington, Virginia 22202. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Pentagon City Mall" will consist of the installation of antennas on the building rooftop. In addition, LTE equipment frame will be installed inside the shelter. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carol Blitz, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com.

LEGAL NOTICE
AT&T intends to file an application to collocate cellular telecommunications antennas and install new equipment at 1766 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia 22102. AT&T is publishing this notice in accordance with Federal regulation 37CFR1.1301 et seq, the National Environmental Policy Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 36 CFR 800. The project referenced as "Lewinsville WT" will consist of the collocation of antennas on the top of the water tower and equipment inside an existing equipment shelter next to the water tower. Parties interested in submitting comments or questions regarding any potential effects of the proposed facility on Historic Properties may do so in writing by contacting Carolyn Mitchell, AT&T, at 7150 Standard Drive, Hanover, Maryland 21076 or c/o theresa.scarlato@atcassociates.com.

AuPairCare
Affordable live-in childcare! AuPairCare provides quality:
• Screened, international au pairs.
Approximately \$340/wk for 45 hours
• Families can have an in-home childcare.
Infant specialized program
• Available. Save \$350 by using promo code RMZEROAPP, call 800-4-AuPair.
* www.aupaircare.com

Now! Complete Print Editions Online!

The full print editions of all 18 Connection Newspapers are now available on our Web Site in PDF format, page by page, identical to our weekly newsprint editions, including print advertising. Go to www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click on "Print Editions."



CLEANING

CLEANING

A CLEANING SERVICE

Since 1985/Ins & Bonded

Quality Service at a Fair Price
Satisfaction Guaranteed
Comm/Res. MD VA DC

acleaningserviceinc.com

703-892-8648

**CARE MORE
CLEANING SOLUTIONS**



Residential & Commercial
10% Senior Citizen Discount

703-862-5904

OR

703-780-6749

LICENSED

INSURED

caremorecleaning.com

ELECTRICAL

ELECTRICAL

K & D ELECTRIC

COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated

Recessed Lighting

Ceiling Fans

Phone/CATV

Computer Network Cabeling

Service Upgrades

Hot Tubs, etc...

Licensed/Bonded/Insured

Office 703-335-0654

Mobile 703-499-0522

IMPROVEMENTS

IMPROVEMENTS



R&N Carpentry

◆BASEMENTS ◆BATHS ◆KITCHENS

Foreclosure specialist/Power washing

◆Exterior Wood Rot, Roofing & Siding

Deck & Fence repair, Screen Porches

No jobs too large or small

Free est. 37 yrs exp. Licensed, Insured

703-987-5096

M. C. Lynch

Home Improvement
Family Owned & Operated

Rotten Wood, Wind Damage, Trims,

Windows, Doors, Deck, Stairs, Vanity,

Basement Framing, Garbage Disposal,

Painting, Power Wash, Siding Repairs.

Licensed, Bonded, Insured

703-266-1233

R.N. CONTRACTORS, INC.

Remodeling Homes, Flooring,
Kitchen & Bath, Windows,
Siding, Roofing, Additions &
Patios, Custom Deck, Painting



We Accept All Major Credit Cards

Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic

Phone: 703-887-3827 Fax: 703-830-3849

E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com

The HANDYMAN

A DIVISION OF NURSE CONSTRUCTION



BATHROOM REMODELING, DRYWALL,
PAINTING, CERAMIC TILE, CARPENTRY,
POWER WASHING & MUCH MORE

You have tried the rest - NOW CALL THE BEST!!

Proudly serving Northern VA - 46 yrs. exp.

Licensed

We Accept VISA/MC

Insured

703-441-8811

LAWN SERVICE

LAWN SERVICE

**PINNACLE SERVICES, INC.
LAWN SERVICE**



MOWING, TRIMMING,
EDGING, MULCHING
& TRIM HEDGES

Group Rates Avail.!

703-802-0483

HANDYMAN

HANDYMAN

THE #1 HANDYMAN



LICENSED • INSURED • RELIABLE

- BATHROOMS
- KITCHENS
- CAULKING
- PLUMBING
- DECK REPAIR
- STORM DOORS
- ELECTRICAL
- PAINTING

No JOB TOO SMALL • LOW PRICES • ON TIME

www.the1handyman.com

CALL: 703-444-0806

IMPROVEMENTS

IMPROVEMENTS

Friendly Painting & Construction

- Prof. Painting Residential/Commercial
- Kitchens, Baths, Basements, Remodeling

No Job Too Small or Big

CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

Class A Lic. VA & MD • Fully Insured & Bonded

703-425-3600

friendlypnc.yc@gmail.com

**J.E.S Services
LANDSCAPE & CONSTRUCTION**

- Patios • Walkways
- Retaining Walls
- Drainage Problems
- Landscape Makeovers



Call: 703-912-6886
Free Estimates

MASONRY

MASONRY

One of the Oldest Masonry Companies in NOVA
Owned & Operated by The Cadle Family since the 1950s

MASONRY

SPECIALIST, LLC

For All of Your Masonry Needs
Custom Design, Installation, Repairs & Restoration

BRICK - FIELDSTONE

FLAGSTONE - CONCRETE

EP Henry & Belgard Pavers

Patios, Walkways, Driveways

Retaining & Decorative Walls

703-443-2308

See our web site for ideas, pictures & coupons:

www.masonryspecialist.com

All Work Guaranteed • Licensed & Fully Insured

Class A License #VA2705087240A

FIREWOOD

Firewood

Seasoned Hardwood
in Great Falls.

\$175 per cord pick up

\$225 delivered/dumped

in Great Falls area.

703-759-2448

GUTTER

M&O Repair

GUTTER RESET

Painting

Pressure Washing

Fix Ice damage

NEW GUTTERS

703-843-4792

PINNACLE SERVICES.

- GUTTER CLEANING
- SMALL REPAIRS
- SCREENING
- POWER WASHING

703-802-0483
GROUP RATES AVAILABLE
FREE EST.

HAULING

ANGEL'S TRASH REMOVAL

Junk & Rubbish • Furn.,

Yard, Construction

Debris • Tree Leaf

& Snow Removal

703-863-1086

703-582-3709

AL'S HAULING

Junk & Rubbish
Concrete, furn., office,
yard, construction debris

Low Rates NOVA
703-360-4364
703-304-4798 cell

7 DAYS A WEEK

MASONRY

MASONRY

Custom Masonry

703-768-3900

www.custommasonry.info

Brick, Block, Stone, Concrete, Pavers

Repairs & New Installs

All Work Guranteed

PLUMBING

PLUMBING

WILLIAMS PLUMBING & Remodeling



No Job too small

Toilets, disposals, leaks,

septic pumps, faucets

Lic & Ins 25 yrs exp

24 hour service.

571-263-6405 / 703-241-5789

THE CONNECTION CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:

703-917-6400

Employment: 703-917-6464

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

**"Bank Error
in My Favor"**



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I received a \$25 check in the mail today. It was sent to me by my bank, the bank with whom I've had a long-standing (through their name-changing) relationship. A bank however, with whom I've had minimal interaction, other than maintaining a checking account and being the recipient of any number of direct mail solicitations. I have no savings account, no money market account, no IRA account, no home equity and/or second trust and no personal loans; I may have a credit card (that I don't use) but it serves as a back-up/overdraft account which I most definitely have. Although, with the passage - and implementation recently of the new banking legislation, I'm not exactly sure what it is I still have, and/or what it is I'll be charged the next time a check presents itself without proper support. So you can imagine my surprise (or perhaps you can't), when I received a plain white business envelope from my bank which contained this mystery money and a brief explanation for its being sent - to me: some refund of a fee I don't remember paying and/or even caring about.

My reaction was to say aloud something like: "The bank made an error in my favor? Wow! That never happens." As soon as I said that 'bank error' line, I was transported - figuratively speaking, since I wasn't in a hot tub at the time, back some 45 years to those youthful days of playing board games, "Monopoly," specifically, on our back porch on Athelstane Road in Newton Centre, Ma., where my brother and I would play for hours on end (I always chose the dog, he chose the iron) until one player had all the money and/or all the property and the other player was unable to pay for landing on their Hotel/Utility/Railroad.

There I was, "Taking a 'Chance' on 'Community's Chest' (as I always intentionally mispronounced them) to see what fortune - or misfortune - would befall me: "Advance Token to Boardwalk," "Take a Ride on the Reading," "Elected Chairman of the Board, Pay Each Player \$50," "Pay School Tax of \$150," "You Have Won Second Prize in a Beauty Contest, Collect \$10," and of course, "Bank Error in your Favor, Collect \$200;" that was as much "found money" as there was in "Monopoly." Granted, the check I received in the mail was only for \$25, but collecting money out of the blue like that, when you're not expecting any - and having done nothing to deserve it, made that \$25 feel like \$200. It was as if "Community's Chest" had advised me to "Advance To Go" and "Collect \$200," or even better, I had landed on "Free Parking" and collected the "kitty," as we called the money paid to the game/placed in the center of the board.

As much as anything though, receiving that \$25 check and remembering "Monopoly" and the simpler, much less complicated days of my board game-playing youth, brought a smile to my face and a slew of wonderful memories to my mind. I had a happy childhood and it all came rushing back to me when I read the explanation for the check: "Bank error," a refund of a fee or overcharge, or something to that effect. It was a warm and fuzzy moment, that's for sure; one which always included milk and cookies because if my brother and I were in the house playing a game like that, there was always milk and cookies; my mother saw to that.

She (I can still hear my father admonishing my brother and I: "Don't call your mother 'she'") was determined to make sure my brother and I drank our eight glasses of milk every day; the medical prescription in the 50s and 60s to guarantee children consumed enough calcium in order to develop strong bones. And to make sure we drank our milk, we needed to eat something for it to wash down and cookies were the obvious choice: Oreos (before there was "Double Stuf"), Chips Ahoy or some other kind of chocolate chip cookie and Keebler's Fudge Town or Fudge Stripes; these were the most popular, there were others. And though it was a board game we were playing, we weren't bored. We were "Monopolized." It made us happy and it made our parents happy. No wonder it's a fond memory, everybody was happy and the living was good, so far as we knew.

Ah, the innocence of youth. There's no recapturing it, but it was sure nice remembering it.

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

HOLIDAY GUIDE



Waverly Consort

The Waverly Consort performs "A Christmas Story" on Friday, Dec. 10, 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. In the spirit of the medieval church dramas and mystery plays, eight singers and five instrumentalists play reproductions of medieval instruments and recount the events of the Biblical Christmas story. \$21-\$42, youth through grade 12 half price. Tickets available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

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

THURSDAY/DEC. 9

Holiday Gingerbread House. 6:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Families work together to decorate pre-assembled gingerbread houses. Supplies included in cost. \$45, \$35 McLean district residents. www.mcleancenter.org.

FRIDAY/DEC. 10

Waverly Consort's "A Christmas Story." 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. In the spirit of the medieval church dramas and mystery plays, eight singers and five instrumentalists play reproductions of medieval instruments. \$21-\$42, youth through grade 12 half price. Tickets available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/DEC. 11

Synergy Brass Quintet: "Christmas in Brass." 8 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Brass arrangements of Bach's choral works, Handel's triumphant "Messiah" and a selection of classic Christmas carols. \$22-\$44, youth through grade 12 half price. Tickets available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Lopez Studios, Inc. Annual Christmas Concert. 2:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Great Falls Studios Annual Holiday Art Show and Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls. Paintings, pottery, photographs, jewelry, art quilts, weaving, lithographs, woodcarving and more by Great Falls artists. A portion of the sale proceeds go to the school. Free admission. 703-442-9251.

Santa Claus at the Freeman House. 1-3 p.m. Freeman House, 131 Church St., Vienna. In the house's parlor, decorated for the holidays with greens and period arrangements. 703-938-5187 or www.historicviennainc.org.

Candlelight Tours. 5-8 p.m. at Cherry Hill Farmhouse, 312 Park Ave., Falls Church. View high Victorian holiday decorations and period vignettes in each room, enjoy caroling

and refreshments. Adults \$6, age 12 and under \$2. 703-248-5171.

Voce Chamber Singers: Home for Christmas. 7:30 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., N.E., Vienna. Christmas carols, classical and contemporary holiday music. \$23 adults, \$18 seniors, \$8 for age 24 and under. Tickets at the door an additional \$2. Purchase at www.voce.org/tickets or 703-277-7772.

SUNDAY/DEC. 12

Handel's Messiah Sing. 4 p.m. Saint Luke Parish, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. With organist Paul Skevington, the Amadeus chamber orchestra, harpsichord, soloists and choir. Sing along or simply listen. Tickets \$15. 703-356-0670 or www.musicinmclean.org.

Great Falls Studios Annual Holiday Art Show and Sale. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls. Paintings, pottery, photographs, jewelry, art quilts, weaving, lithographs, woodcarving and more by Great Falls artists. A portion of the sale proceeds go to the school. Free admission. 703-442-9251.

Handbell Christmas Concert. 7 p.m. at Chesterbrook United Methodist Church, 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Featuring the St. Matthew's UMC Carol Ringers. 703-356-7100 or chesterbrookumc@gmail.com.

The Holidays at Mason: Believe in Miracles. 7 p.m. at George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The Mason Symphony Orchestra, University Chorale and University Singers perform selections composed by Alan Silvestri, Glen Ballard and John Rutter. Audience-sing-along. \$20 adults, \$15 students and seniors. Limited number of free tickets for students with a valid Mason ID. Charge tickets at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 15

Jesse Malin & The St. Marks Social, Marah "It Came Upon a Midnight Beer" Rock & Roll Christmas Show, Richard Bacchus and more. 8:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 17

Bill Kirchen's Honky Tonk Holiday Show. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

NEWS



PHOTO BY SEAN MCCALLEY/THE CONNECTION

Instructors Bill Grinnell and Steve Bashardost demonstrate different scenarios.

Teaching the Art of Self-Defense

Tyson's American Fight Club prepares area residents for real-life challenges.

BY SEAN MCCALLEY
THE CONNECTION

Now in its sixth year of operation, the American Fight Club in Tyson's Corner teaches Northern Virginia residents the skills they need to handle themselves in real life combat situations.

What do you do when somebody is holding a gun to your face? How about if somebody wraps you in a bear hug from behind? First things first: handle your stress and prevent panic from taking control of your actions.

"Just by having that plan you have an advantage," teaches Bill Grinnell. "No matter how strong you are, technique is what's important."

This creed is reflected in the demography of the Fight Club students.

"One minute you've got a 300 pound man wrapping you up in a bear hug, and the next you're facing off against an 80 pound female consultant," said Tim Froemling, a student of the class.

Instructors Steve Bashardost and Grinnell said they are confident that their curriculum works and that students will return. And many do: the amount of students has grown from three to 75 in the past six years.

"It's based on real world scenarios," said Bashardost. "We teach a 4-month core system, and our focus is on the real world."

What's more, the lessons learned in the class are built to transfer into all aspects of daily life.

"Our training helps you lower stress. We simulate moments where the mind is under the most pressure," said Grinnell. "Of-

More Information

American Fight Club, Inc. is located at 8480-G Tyco Road in Vienna. Tel: 1-800-928-5870. info@afcva.com
Contact: Steve Bashardost (Steve@afcva.com) or Bill Grinnell (Bill@afcva.com).

ten the first reaction is that people decompose. We teach you how to relax the body and stay calm, and this can help you feel confident whether you're walking down the street at night or talking with someone at work."

Grinnell and Bashardost are both certified in many types of combat and have black belts in martial arts. Both amateurs and professionals, from accountants to police officers, seek their lessons.

"It's people from all walks of life," said Froemling. "I've met people in the special forces, to housewives, to kids."

Bashardost and Grinnell condition the mind to automatically react to certain combat problems. They involve misdirection and striking pressure points. Even a slight rap on the carotid artery is intense: it causes the mind to ring, eyes to glaze and drool to fly.

"You'll believe in the power of the triangle," laughed Grinnell, referring to the target spot on a person's neck.

The club offers 31 free days to allow students plenty of time to decide if they want to keep going to the class.

"We just teach you something that would work," said Bashardost.

For Wrestling Enthusiasts, It's a Classic

NOVA Classic wrestling meet set for this weekend at Fairfax.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax High will, once again, be hosting the annual early season Northern Virginia Wrestling Classic this Friday and Saturday.

One of the yearly highlights of the early high school winter sports season is the annual Northern Virginia (NOVA) Wrestling Classic, the large showcase extravaganza that is hosted by Fairfax High School and includes most of the public schools from across the Northern Region as well as other public and private schools from the metropolitan area and further out.

The Classic has been one of the most successful and longest-running booster-sponsored events in the region. This year's Classic, the unofficial starting point of the local prep school wrestling season, is believed to be in its 23rd straight year, although that fact is a little fuzzy to event coordinators.

"We were trying to do a countdown and we think this is the 23rd year," said Tim Gordan, Fairfax High's Director of Student Activities, in a recent e-mail regarding the event. "But our memories are fading!"

Whatever the Classic's official year start-up, the tournament is a monitor for local coaches to get a sense of where their respective teams are at the early stages of the mat season.

THE CLASSIC will be held this Friday, Dec. 10 and Saturday, Dec. 11 at Fairfax High. The action will begin at 10 a.m. on both days.

Thirty-one teams are expected to participate in this year's Classic, including McLean High, under head coach Kenneth Jackson, and surrounding local schools such as Annandale, Fairfax, Madison, Marshall, Lake Braddock, Paul VI, South County, West Springfield and W.T. Woodson. Langley High will not be participating in the Classic, but will instead compete in a meet up the east coast in Attica, N.Y. called the Sgt. Richard Romesser Duals.

LANGLEY HIGH will compete in New York this weekend. The following weekend (Dec. 17-18) will see the Saxons in Portsmouth, Va. at the Jack Mounie event. Then after Christmas, Langley will take part in the Battle at the Bridge event in Woodbridge Dec. 29-30. So it will be an especially busy upcoming three weeks for Langley.

"It is very important to get off to a good start for many of our guys, and going to New York should be a great experience for many of them," said Langley head coach Jeff Mye. "We have a pretty young team this year and have some great senior leadership. When we go to Portsmouth, the goal is to see some of the southern Virginia teams that we would not normally get to see throughout the year."

Last weekend, the Langley varsity split up with part of its squad competing at the Varsity Duals at Herndon High and the other part at the Ray Oliver meet at McDonogh High in Maryland. At the Herndon Duals, the Saxons went 1-2 as a team. The Saxons lost to Washington-Lee, 49-30, defeated Herndon, 54-30, and fell to South Lakes, 54-28. At the Ray Oliver meet, Langley finished 10th overall among 21 teams.

Top Langley wrestlers in Maryland were: Griffin Dulany (2nd place at 171 weight class); Tate Dulany (3rd at heavyweight); Matt Wilson (5th at 152); Mark Wilson (6th at 145); and Jay Ives (6th at 136).

The team champion was Arch Bishop Spalding. Langley was the lone Northern Region team, other than Centreville High (16th place), to compete at the



Langley goaltender Brendan Mullen was outstanding in the net during the Saxons' ice hockey victory over McLean.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

LANGLEY HIGH, in recent high school club ice hockey action, handled McLean, 6-1. Langley received stellar net play from senior goalie Brendan Mullen.

Langley opened the game's scoring with a goal from Peter Nam, off an assist by Logan Pontell, in the first period. McLean tied the contest later in the period before Langley, in second period play, got goals by Grant Grieco (assist from Ian Schneider), Evan Sterling, and Nam to take control of the game.

Langley fans, in the game played at Reston Skatequest, were so exuberant that the boards became loosened between the second and third periods and the rink was unsafe for further play. The contest was concluded at another venue.

In the final period, Matt Barnett scored his first goal of the season, assisted by Sterling, and Nam scored his third goal of the game, off an assist by Logan Pontell during a penalty kill, to earn a hat trick (3 goals). Langley, with the win, improved to 2-1 and bounced back from a previous week's loss to Forest Park High (Prince William County).

Langley sponsored a food drive that took place at the McLean game. The food collected was donated to Reston Interfaith.

THE MADEIRA VARSITY SWIM AND DIVE TEAM opened its new season last Friday, Dec. 3 with a private school meet versus Georgetown Visitation. Madeira, coached by Rod Montrie, lost a close 93-87 decision to its local opponent.

"We started the season with a strong meet against a very good team," said coach Montrie. "Our swimmers really stepped up but we fell a little short because of Visitation's good depth."

Madeira won the 200-medley relay with a team of senior Christa Ann Saunders, juniors Ann Griffin and Brittney Jansen, and sophomore Maddie Alagia. Madeira also won the 400-freestyle relay with Saunders, Jansen, Alagia, and sophomore Grace Johnson.

Double winners for Madeira were: Alagia (200 and 500-freestyles); Saunders (100-butterfly and 100 backstroke); and Jansen (50 and 100-freestyle).

Other solid meets came from sophomore Melanie Brown, a first-year team member who earned a second place finish in the 500-freestyle; freshman Michaela Saunders; and diver Briaun Isreal.

Madeira was scheduled to compete in a home meet versus Connelly earlier this week on Tuesday.

McLean Wrestlers Ready for the Classic

McLean High is participating at this weekend's annual NOVA Classic event at Fairfax High School. Highlander head coach Kenneth Jackson is enthusiastic about his team's chances of competing well at the Classic and throughout the winter season as well.

"We have 19 returning wrestlers this year, seven of which were varsity starters last year. We have a strong core of dedicated wrestlers," said Jackson.

Those wrestlers include junior Austin Miller (125-weight class), senior Andy

Chung (130), sophomore Forest Stieg (145), and senior Paval Hovhannisyan (160).

Coach Jackson commented on each of the four core team members.

"Austin has worked hard this off season and is ready to go up against the best," said Jackson. "Andy is ready to redeem himself and show everyone in the area he is here to take on all his competitors. Forest Stieg is in his second season as a varsity starter and has shown great promise and we are excited to see how he performs against the best in the area. Paval Hovhannisyan did not wrestle last year due to injuries but is

back and ready and will work hard to make it to the top."

This past weekend, McLean competed at the Granby Kickoff Classic at Granby High in Norfolk.

"I think it is important for us to get out of the area and wrestle schools from the south," said Jackson. "We had several holes for these matches but showed great heart. Not all of our top guys were able to make it."

Miller was McLean's top wrestler at the Granby Kickoff, going 4-0 and winning all his matches by pins. Highlander wrestlers who finished 3-1 were Hovhannisyan,

sophomore Adilet Uspeev (135 division), junior John Polzer (171) and senior Gi Yoon (189).

Now, McLean is set and ready for the NOVA Classic.

"The NOVA classic is a great tournament for us to start the year off with," said Jackson. "This gives us a look at where we fall in the Northern Region and gives us a good look at our competition. I know our boys will come out wrestling hard. The Highlanders are ready to show off our talent."

— RICH SANDERS

Westmoreland Improvements Proposed

FROM PAGE 9

middle, with cars going two separate directions, with traffic trying to pass on both sides. It's a recipe for disaster."

Supervisor John Foust and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation know about the problem too, and they are taking steps to correct it. At a public meeting at Kent Gardens Elementary School Nov. 29, they laid out some short-term and long-term solutions to the problems.

"I've heard a lot from residents about safety concerns on Westmoreland," Foust said. "We were able to come up with five relatively quick improvements whose funding is not enormous, so I was able to find funding, if the community agrees to the changes."

ONE OF THE IMPROVEMENTS calls for the addition of block-style markings for the crosswalk at the intersection of Rosemont Drive and Westmoreland Street. It also calls for additional crosswalk signs to

be placed near the intersections of Westmoreland Street and Bonheim Court, Southridge Road, Lemon Road and Poole Lane.

"By adding a downward arrow to the signs next to the crosswalk, it will indicate that's where the walk is, and by placing a sign a little further up the road, it will alert the drivers ahead of time," said Chris Wells, pedestrian program manager for the county. "Within the next few weeks, we hope to have the crosswalk at the Rosemont intersection marked and all the signing up."

The improvements also call for improved crosswalk markings at other intersections, but they won't be put in before the issue of adding medians on several sections of Westmoreland is resolved. Foust said the medians will offer pedestrians crossing the chance to cross one side at a time, with a respite in the middle.

"They're not perfect, but they're a proven safety improvement," he said.

Sims said he doesn't think signs will do much good.

"I don't think signs will help,

everyone is always in a hurry there, at morning and at night," he said. "They need to have a crossing guard out there during peak times, just having somebody there to direct traffic would do a lot of good."

Foust said the Fairfax County Police have looked into this possibility, but they need to conduct a count of personnel in early 2011 before they can commit to that.

McLean resident Daphne Earley said that cars speeding along Westmoreland are a big part of the problem, and the varying speed limits on the road don't help things.

"Just putting up signs isn't enough, we'd like to get it zoned for 25 miles per hour along the whole road, instead of going back and forth to 35 miles per hour," she said. "Trying to walk my son to school on that road is like playing 'Frogger,' you're dodging traffic the whole time."

FOUST said he has tried to get VDOT to reduce the speed limit, but "they just won't do it."

Jacky Longwell, a McLean resident and president of the PTSA at McLean High School, says that the road needs more pedestrian and vehicular infrastructure around the school.

"Kids who are trying to get to McLean [High School] from Westmoreland can't take a left to get to the school, so many of them go a little farther down and take a wide U-turn into the right lane, which is just an accident waiting to happen," she said.

While a lot of people wanted to see long-term solutions, such as a widening of Westmoreland Street, Wells said that projects like that would have to wait until the county's budget is more stable. While the signs would go in within the next few weeks, he said the median improvements would likely be done during the summer of 2011.

Foust also said that other improvements, such as a light at the intersection of Westmoreland Street and Old Chesterbrook Road, are waiting on a warrant study from VDOT before they can proceed.

FAITH NOTES

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

Charles Wesley United Methodist Church will hold the Blue Christmas Service: The Other Side of Sadness on Monday, Dec. 13, 2010 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Sanctuary, 6817 Dean Drive in McLean. A service of comfort, hope and healing for those experiencing sadness, anxiety or struggle. www.charleswesleyumc.org

Chesterbrook United Methodist Church, 1711 Kirby Road in McLean, will offer Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion worship at 7 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 24. 703-356-7100 or chesterbrookumc@gmail.com.

Centering Prayer offered at St. Dunstan's, 1830 Kirby Road, McLean, Tuesdays at 7-7:45 p.m. Centering prayer is meditation and contemplative prayer, wordless, trusting, opening of self to the divine presence. Instruction offered. marjorie.cole@gmail.com.

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

Visit These Houses of Worship

Join A Club, Make New Friends, or Expand Your Horizons...

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>Assemblies of God Arlington Assembly of God...703-524-1667 Calvary Gospel Church...703-525-6636</p> <p>Baptist Bon Air Baptist Church...703-525-8079 McLean Baptist Church...703-356-8080</p> <p>Buddhism The Vajrayogini Buddhist Center 202-331-2122</p> <p>Churches-Catholic St. Agnes Catholic Church...703-525-1166 Cathedral of St. Thomas More...703-525-1300 Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek Catholic Church...703-734-9566 Our Lady of Lourdes...703-684-9261 Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church...703-979-5580 St. Ann Catholic Church...703-528-6276 St. Charles Catholic Church...703-527-5500</p> <p>Vatican II Catholic Community NOVA Catholic Community...703-852-7907</p> | <p>Church of Christ Arlington Church of Christ...703-528-0535</p> <p>Church of God-Anderson, Indiana Church of God...703-671-6726</p> <p>Churches-Episcopal St Andrew Episcopal Church...703-522-1600 St George Episcopal Church...703-525-8286 St Johns Episcopal Church...703-671-6834 St Mary Episcopal Church...703-527-6800</p> <p>St Michael S Episcopal Church 703-241-2474</p> <p>St Paul Episcopal Church...703-820-2625 St Peter's Episcopal Church...703-536-6606 St Thomas Episcopal Church...703-442-0330 Trinity Episcopal Church...703-920-7077</p> <p>Churches Lutheran(ELCA) Advent Lutheran Church...703-521-7010 Faith Lutheran Church...703-525-9283 German Lutheran Church...703-276-8952 Lutheran Church of The Redeemer 703-356-3346</p> | <p>Resurrection Lutheran Church 703-532-5991</p> <p>Churches Lutheran(Missouri, Synod) Our Savior Lutheran Church...703-892-4846</p> <p>Churches-Nazarene Arlington First Church of the Nazarene...703-525-2516</p> <p>Church-Brethren Church of The Brethren...703-524-4100</p> <p>Churches-Baptist Arlington Baptist Church...703-979-7344 Cherrydale Baptist Church...703-525-8210 First Baptist of Ballston...703-525-7824 Mt. Zion Baptist Church...703-979-7411</p> <p>Churches-Baptist-Free Will Bloss Memorial Free Will Baptist Church...703-527-7040</p> <p>Churches-Christian Science McLean-First Church of Christ, Scientist... 703-356-1391</p> | <p>of Arlington 703-892-2565</p> <p>Churches-United Methodist Trinity United Methodist Church of McLean...703-356-3312 Charles Wesley United Methodist...703-356-6336 Calvary United Methodist...703-892-5185 Cherrydale United Methodist...703-527-2621 Chesterbrook United Methodist...703-356-7100 Clarendon United Methodist...703-527-8574 Community United Methodist...703-527-1085 Mt. Olivet United Methodist...703-527-3934 Walker Chapel United Methodist...703-538-5200</p> <p>Churches- United Church of Christ Bethel United Church of Christ...703-528-0937 Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ...703-538-4886</p> <p>Non-Denominational New Life Christian Church - McLean Campus...571-294-8306</p> <p>Metaphysical Arlington Metaphysical Chapel...703-276-8738</p> <p>Presbyterian Church in America Churches Christ Church of Arlington 703-527-0420</p> <p>Synagogues - Conservative Congregation Etz Hayim...703-979-4466</p> <p>Synagogues - Orthodox Fort Myer Minyan...703-863-4520 Chabad Lavavitch of Alexandria-Arlington...703-370-2774</p> <p>Synagogue - Reconstructionist Kol Ami, the North Virginia Reconstructionist Community...571-271-8387</p> |
|--|---|---|--|

Saint Ann Catholic Church

SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 PM
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM
1:30 PM Spanish Liturgy
5312 North 10th Street
Arlington Virginia 22205
Parish Office: (703) 528-6276

DAILY EUCHARIST:

Weekdays
Monday-Friday, 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM
Saturday, 8:30 AM

All Are Welcome!



PARISH WEBSITE:
www.rc.net/arlington/stann

To highlight your Faith Community call Karen at 703-778-9422

A Spiritual Response to Terrorism

Discover Spiritual Solutions at the
Christian Science Reading Room
6825 Tennyson Drive
McLean, VA 22101
Mon-Sat 10am-2pm _ 703-356-1391
All are warmly welcomed

To learn more about Christian Science visit:
spirituality.com, ChristianScience.com
christianscienceDC.org

Also, you can visit www.wmal.com Sundays & Mondays to hear how others found spiritual answers to life's challenges on *Sentinel Radio*

THIS IS "MACK"

D.O.B. August 27, 2008. Bassett/Beagle X, neutered male, 45 lbs. Adorable face... check! Cutie patootie long and low body... check! Ears to the floor...check! Need more? How about great with other dogs? Still need more? How would you like a jogging partner to keep you fit and trim? And as an added surprise...how about a friend who will provide unconditional love? All this and only 2 years old. I can see you racing out the door now...but wait...have you sent in your dog adoption application yet? Better hurry—someone else may already be in love. Attributes: Cutie patootie!

HUMANE SOCIETY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY
Hours: Monday-Friday 10-4 and Saturday 10-3 • www.hsfc.org
4057 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030 • 703-385-7387

OPEN HOUSES

Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 11th & 12th



218 River Park Dr., Great Falls • \$1,100,000 • Open Sunday 1-4
Carol Ellickson, Weichert, 703-862-2135

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

 **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.** 

Great Falls

218 River Park Dr.....\$1,100,000...Sun 1-4....Carol Ellickson.....Weichert.....703-862-2135

Vienna

1511 Gingerwood Ct.....\$624,950...Sun 1-4....Eugene Curtin.....Weichert.....703-856-3416

408 Adahi Rd.....\$639,000...Sun 1-4....Casey Samson.....Samson.....703-508-2535

9411 Cello Ct.....\$739,500...Sun 1-4....Heather Embrey.....McEneaney.....571-236-2616

117 Locust St. SW.....\$1,200,000...Sun 12-3...Susan Fadoul.....Long & Foster.....703-402-1717

Sterling

20512 Blue Heron Terr.....\$314,900...Sat 1-4....Vicky Noufal.....Century 21.....703-402-5416

703 Riverview Ct.....\$450,000...Sun 1-4....Sloan Wiesen.....Weichert.....703-869-4825

Gainesville

8793 Ellis Mills Dr.....\$455,000...Sun 1-4....Leslie Thurman.....Thurman & Assoc.....703-895-6000

To add your FREE Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please contact Trisha at 703-778-9419, or trisha@connectionnewspapers.com All listings are due by Monday at 3 p.m.

NEWS



From right, June Crisan and Debbie Mullan tour the kitchen at the Studabaker home.



PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Mary Lou Nelson directs visitors through the home of Dick and Dabney Schmitt during the McLean Holiday Homes Tour. Nelson, along with other volunteers from the McLean Women's Club, designed the centerpieces with real fruit. They take several hours to complete.

Holiday Open Houses

McLean Women's Club hosts 44th annual Holiday Homes Tour.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

While most owners of the houses featured on this year's Women's Club of McLean Holiday Homes Tour have been preparing since February, Kim Bolt only had a few days' notice.

"Last Sunday, someone dropped out and my neighbor is the chairman, and they called," she said. "The ladies helped decorate it all week, which really shows the community spirit around here, that's the kind of neighborhood this is."

The house featured several stagecoach posters that had been passed down through their family for generations, and they even survived the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

"They were in an attic when the roof of the house they were in caught on fire," she said. "They have some water damage, but it sort of adds to their history."

Five houses in the Countryside Estates neighborhood of McLean hosted hundreds of visitors this year, the 44th year of the tour. The houses were all on one-acre lots, and most have been renovated from their original designs.

Marianne Polito, president of the McLean Women's Club, called the homes "five beautiful examples



Millie Thompson, right, shows guests around the Cottani home during the McLean Women's Club Holiday Homes Tour.

that have been expanded and modernized to address growing families and the changing aesthetics of the owners."

The tour officially kicked off in the parking lot of nearby Oakcrest School, and those who showed up early got to follow a bagpiper across Balls Hill Road into the neighborhood.

Some houses offered hot cider to take the day's chill off, other Christmas cookies or other sweets.

Katie Cottani, 11, helped serve hot cider at her house, and she was on the front lines decorating the house in preparation for the guests.

"It was fun, putting the ornaments on the tree was my favorite part of it all," Cottani said.

Rosina Aguiar managed to get her house together, despite having six kids — none over the age of 11 — in the house.

"It nearly killed me," she said with a laugh. "But I'm glad it came

together, and I'm happy to be a stop on the tour."

Mary Lou Nelson served as one of the guides for the tour, and she also helped build handmade centerpieces, which were on display at several stops.

"It takes a few hours per centerpiece between six of us," she said. "We use real fruit in them. People ask about the florists that did it, but we do it ourselves, and none of us is a professional."

Students from Oakcrest School served as greeters at each house, welcoming visitors in and directing them to the first tour stop within the house.

"We usually help with these open houses, and I really like to do it, we get to meet and greet a lot of great people," said freshman Emma Tierney. "It's great meeting people who live around the school. They usually have such nice things to say to us."

SCHOOLS

Red Carpet Premiere at McLean High

FROM PAGE 3

to do a big show, to really flex our performance muscles," Poe said. "I've always been fascinated by Peter Pan, it was my favorite story growing up, and this is an interesting take on that."

THE STORY isn't as happy-go-lucky as the standard Peter Pan stories, it deals with Pan's conflicted view of growing up. The play also presented many challenges when it came to the set, it transforms from a New York loft to Neverland, but without moving objects on and off of the stage.

"The stage is literally transformed, nothing new is added," Poe said. "It's about transformation and magic."

When it came to fleshing out the various effects in the play, stage manager Terry Mittelman, a junior, said it was quite an undertaking.

"There's a scene with someone flying, and it's only a few inches off the ground, but it's a big endeavor for a high school play," she said.

Members of the stage crew said it was one of the most complex projects they had ever worked on.

"It was a long process with constant changes, and we had so many ideas to work through," said junior Zhina Kamal. "Everything had to morph into Neverland, so a table had to turn into a boat, or a cloth into a teepee."

Junior Hannah Heile said that a parent, Kim Johnson, was instrumental in helping them with the set, "she spent as much time as we did on everything."

"I've never done something with so many crazy lights and such a complex set," said senior Marielena Plana, who played Wendy. "We had to work without a set for a month, in a black box, and it was tough visualizing everything."

Poe had two separate casts, which meant more than 70 actors. The part of Peter Pan is even split in two, with junior Nick Stone playing Pan, and senior Elliot Duffy playing his shadow.

"We've acted before with each other, but this was definitely challenging," Stone said. "We spent a lot of time in Ms. Poe's office trying to work everything out."

Duffy said, "I didn't know we were splitting the character, but we went in hoping to see something special."

Sophomore Damian Leverett also did something for the play he had never done before: he composed the score. He has played viola for six years, but this was the first time he had written a full score.

"It was a lot of work, but I feel like it was worth it,



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Senior Bryan Kress interviews, from left, junior Nick Stone, who played Peter Pan and senior Elliot Duffy, who played his shadow, at the red carpet premiere of "The Terrible Tragedy of Peter Pan" at McLean High School Thursday.

and I'm thankful for the opportunity," Leverett said. "There is a part at the end of the show that was particularly tough, it's an intense moment on stage, and I felt we needed music for about five straight minutes, and it really had to create a specific ambiance."

Even with his work done, Leverett made some last minute changes to his score. He originally wrote it for piano, guitar, upright bass, cello and violin, but to a mix-up with the orchestra, the guitar and violin were cut.

The cast brought in a fight choreographer for three days of study for various fight scenes.

"We had stage choreographers come in to help with our stage combat, and after we did a run, they told us and said we were one of the most talented groups we had ever seen," said junior Julia Barton, who played an Indian brave and pirate. "That really meant a lot to me, hearing that."

CAST MEMBERS said the complexity of the play led to them forming close relationships with other members.

"This last week of rehearsals we've been here till almost 10 p.m. every night, and we really got as close with each other as any cast I've worked with," said Dominique Munoz, a senior who played Nibs, one of the Lost Boys.

Poe said that she was blown away with the way the students tackled such an ambitious project.

"I've been involved with drama since I was six, and this is literally the most talented group of high schoolers I've ever worked with," Poe said. "I kept pushing them to the limit, and they kept taking on more and more, and it turned out better than I could have imagined."

SCHOOL NOTES

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

More than 30 student-operated businesses will be selling goods at the 5-Star Market at Marshall Academy from 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 9, and Friday, Dec. 10, in the cafeteria at Marshall High School. Entrepreneurship students from Marshall Academy, one of six high school academies in Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS), will operate the market. The 5-Star Market is open to the community for purchases. Visitors are asked to sign in at the main office.

Items will include earrings, necklaces and bracelets, scarves, multiple varieties of winter hats, sunglasses,

cell phone and media cases, a selection of brand name perfumes, gloves, earmuffs, and body products. Entrepreneurship students traveled to the New York City wholesale district in November to purchase products that they planned to sell as business owners at the 5-Star Market. Through funding provided by the FATE Foundation, students worked in partnerships to conduct market research, identify a market, negotiate with wholesalers, purchase inventory, create promotions, price products, and prepare financial records.

The 5-Star Market simulation is a curriculum-based project that students use to demonstrate their proficiency in multiple Entrepreneurship curriculum units.

Martin Brown of McLean was inducted into Ithaca College's Oracle

Honor Society. The fall ceremony honors students who have completed their first semester ranked in the top five percent of their academic schools. Brown is an exploratory major in the college's School of Humanities & Sciences.

Alanna Meehan and **Alec Ostapovicz** of Madison High School earned gold medals in Food Innovations at the Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America National Leadership Conference in Chicago, Ill. Participants demonstrate knowledge of the basic concepts of food product development by creating an original prototype formula, testing the product through focus groups, and developing a marketing strategy.

St. Albans School Admissions Open House

Our Upper School
Admissions Open House
(for applicants to grades 9-11)
will be held on Sunday,
December 12, from 1-3 P.M.

Please visit www.stalbansschool.org/admissions
or call the Admissions Office at 202-537-6440
for more information. No reservations
necessary to attend the Open House.

St. Albans School welcomes students of all cultural, racial, religious, and economic backgrounds to join us for our 101st year in 2010-2011. We are an independent, college preparatory school for boys in grades 4-12, and for boarding students in grades 9-12. Visit www.stalbansschool.org for more information about St. Albans School Today!



St. Albans School

Massachusetts & Wisconsin Avenues, NW
Washington, DC 20016-5095

St. Albans School (Located on the grounds of the Washington National Cathedral)

MUSIC MASTERS Where You'll Love To Play

Specializing in music instruction • Instrument Rentals
Monthly student performances • Popular and classical music
Music supplies and more! • Special orders welcome
Special teacher discounts • Instrument Repair

INSTRUMENT RENTAL

8455-H Tyco Rd. • Vienna, VA 22812

703-848-9403

E-mail: mmasters2@aol.com • Web Site: www.music-masters.org

If you value independent thinking...
Get to know Edmund Burke School.
Find Action, Engagement, Achievement

Open House: January 8, 2011 (1-3:30 pm)



BURKE

EDMUND BURKE SCHOOL

4101 Connecticut Ave. NW • Washington, DC 20008
202-362-8882

www.eburke.org

OVER 80 HOMES SOLD SO FAR THIS YEAR!



JD CALLANDER
 Top 1% of Realtors Nationwide
703.606.7901

JD@newNOVAhome.com
 www.newNOVAhome.com

Set up an appointment to find out how I can sell **YOUR** home!

1 AGENT - COMPANYWIDE

#1 Listing Agent #1 Selling Agent
 #1 Total Volume #1 Total Transactions

Weichert, Realtors (Dolley Madison Office)

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|
| <i>McLean</i> | | <i>McLean School Pyramid!</i> | | <i>McLean</i> | |
| | | | | | |
| <p>OPEN SUNDAY 12/12 2-4pm!</p> <p>6184 Hardy Drive McLean \$759,995 Sought-After Potomac Hills! 5 BR/3BA 2 level brick rambler with fresh paint; sparkling hardwoods; walkout LL!</p> | | <p>5155 38th Street N. Arlington in FAIRFAX COUNTY! \$929,000 BEAUTIFUL, updated Williamsburg colonial w/ stainless steel and granite in kit; walkout LL w/ au-pair/in-law suite; cul-de-sac location!</p> | | <p>NEW LOWER PRICE!</p> <p>1553 Dominion Hill Court McLean \$1,199,000 STUNNING 5br/4.5 bath home with no detail overlooked! Gourmet isl. kitchen; 4' bump-outs; stunning MBR suite w/sitting rm, frpl & lux bath!</p> | |
| | | | | | |
| <p>7118 Merrimac Drive \$679,000</p> | <p>Under Contract!</p> <p>2179 Harithy Drive \$899,000</p> | <p>NEW PRICE!</p> <p>6218 Nethercombe Court \$799,000</p> | <p>1343 Kirby Road \$1,499,000</p> | <p>Falls Church City!</p> <p>310 Forest Drive \$1,177,250</p> | <p>CALL FOR DETAILS!</p> <p>1762 Kirby Road McLean</p> |
| | | | | | |
| <p>SOLD!</p> <p>2104 Hutchison Grove Ct. \$424,250</p> | <p>CALL FOR DETAILS!</p> <p>1509 Highwood Dr McLean</p> | <p>FALLS CHURCH CITY!</p> <p>1105 Tuckahoe Street, N. \$1,225,000</p> | <p>NEW PRICE!</p> <p>6564 Snowbell Lane \$499,000</p> | | |

CALL ME TODAY TO SCHEDULE A PRIVATE SHOWING OR FOR A FREE ANALYSIS OF YOUR HOME'S VALUE! (703) 606-7901

