

Replacing Hate With Acceptance

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Members of the Langley High School community bid on items at a silent auction Friday, which was held prior to the premiere of the school's performance of "The Laramie Project." The auction raised \$7,000 for the Matthew Shepard Foundation, which seeks to end hate through various educational, outreach and advocacy programs.

PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

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PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION



Thomas Howard, programs director of the Matthew Shepard Foundation, speaks to the audience at Friday night's performance of "The Laramie Project" along with members of the cast.

Replacing Hate With Acceptance

"Laramie Project" premiere features question and answer session.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Langley High School welcomed Thomas Howard, programs director of the Matthew Shepard Foundation for a question and answer session following the premiere of their performance of "The Laramie Project." The play examines homosexuality, hate, tolerance and community in the wake of the death of Matthew Shepard, who was severely beaten and left to die by two men in October of 1998.

"I have been blessed with the opportunity to spend my life watching people perform 'The Laramie Project,' and I think this generation really gets it," Howard said.

The actors in the play said they learned a lot about what a tragedy like the death of Shepard brings out in people.

"I thought I understood a lot more than I did, now I know there's a lot I have to learn," said senior Nicole Kang, who played four roles. "I didn't understand how much people can hate, and by the same token, how much they can love."

Senior James Mamana, who played Dennis Shepard, father of Matthew, in addition to other roles, said the act of trying to become the people in the play opened his eyes.

"The biggest difference was the before and after once you put yourself in their shoes," he said. "Every time you go on stage you learn not just about the people you are portraying, but about yourself."

THE AUDIENCE asked the actors if it was hard to portray some of the more hateful characters in the play, because some of them said very hateful things.

"It made me a little uncomfortable, some of the things I had to say," said junior Jordan Moeller, who played among other roles the leader of a protest from the Westboro Baptist Church. "But we have to open up in order to educate, we have to show people can be like, because this play is to educate."

Despite what people at Langley learned from the

play, Howard said that a lot of people in Laramie are still in some form of denial. But he also said that the people he spoke with are accepting of the play as it was written, because of the accuracy not found in subsequent media reports.

"Most people I know who are the characters are proud of the product," Howard said. "This is Matt's legacy, and it's not sensationalized, it doesn't paint him as a martyr."

With issues like anti-gay bullying and the repeal of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy at the forefront of the news today, several audience members questioned how much progress was being made.

Howard said he does "not believe that there's an increase in anti-gay bullying, it's just that we're talking about it more."

Howard urged members of the audience to take a look at their own community, and to take the lessons they learned from the play.

"It's not a gay thing," he said. "It's a values thing. If you don't want me to force my values on you, then don't force your values on me."

Senior Zack Gray, who plays several roles, including the doctor who ran the hospital where Matthew Shepard was treated, said he witnessed a change of attitude firsthand.

"One of my friends asked what I was doing this weekend, and I told him I'd be in this play. He asked what it was about and I told him, and he said 'that's really gay,'" Gray said. "So I told him what it was in detail, what the play was really about, and he didn't have much to laugh about after that."

HOWARD also revealed to the audience a fact about the case that wasn't released until much later, and that a lot of people didn't know. He said that when Reggie Flutey, the officer who responded to the call when Shepard was found, arrived on the scene, there was a female deer next to Shepard keeping him warm, and that was one of the reasons it was theorized that Shepard survived 18 hours out in the cold.

"The challenge to each of you is to tell each other what you're feeling, never assume anyone else in your life knows you love them, unless you tell them," Howard said.

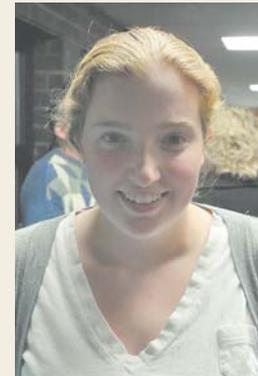
The play was attended by hundreds of students and parents from the Langley community, and also featured a silent auction that raised \$7,000 for the Matthew Shepard Foundation.

"I didn't understand how much people can hate, and by the same token, how much they can love."

— Nicole Kang,
Senior, Langley High

VIEWPOINTS

What did you learn from the performance of "The Laramie Project?"



Shannon Megrue, senior,
Langley High School

"I learned how many perspectives there are, and just because you agree with something doesn't mean that you're a good person or disagree you're a bad person."



Stavie Browne, freshman,
Christopher Newport University

"You can't judge someone until you know them. I learned how much people can judge without knowing, whether it's assuming that it's wrong to be gay, or to assume Matthew Shepard was a martyr. Those are the kind of extreme conclusions you can come to without knowing."



Hayley Mueller, senior,
Langley High School

"This is the fifth time I've seen the play, and no matter how many times I see it, I go home with a new perspective. I'm 100 percent in support of gay rights, but every time I go home after seeing it, I think I'm not doing nearly enough."



Stephen Rainey, senior,
Langley High School

"I learned about the story of the deer being with Matthew, that he wasn't alone. I hadn't heard that before the Q-and-A. It also reinforced what our [Gay-Straight Alliance organization at school] says, that people are who they are, and you have to accept that."



Natalie Bozorgzad, senior,
Langley High School

"You always hear certain phrases like 'that's so gay' and I learned how big of a deal that is. It's not something to say lightly, and it shouldn't be used the way kids use it most of the time."

Keeping Tysons Moving for Holiday Shoppers

The Virginia Department of Transportation announced several overnight lane closure adjustments along the Beltway near Tysons Corner to accommodate late night holiday shoppers as they leave shopping centers each night. As part of the Capital Beltway High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes Project, the lane closure schedule is as follows: Through Thursday morning, Dec. 23, all overnight full lane closures along the Beltway near Tysons Corner will occur from 1 a.m. through 5 a.m. Crews will begin setting up single lane closures at 9:30 p.m. but all full Beltway closures near Tysons will not occur until 1 a.m. The late closure time will allow for holiday shoppers and employees to leave the Tysons area prior to the closures going into effect.

For holiday travel, all lane closures will be suspended starting at noon on Thursday, Dec. 23, through 9:30 a.m. on Monday, Dec. 27 and again at noon on Thursday, Dec. 30 through 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 3, 2011.

Winter weather can have frequent impacts on planned lane closures. Expect closures to be canceled and rescheduled to account for inclement weather. Notice will be given at the earliest opportunity announcing revised lane closures.

For a complete list of lane closures, visit <http://vamegaprojects.com/lane-closures>

Tysons Connector to Stop Operations

The Tysons Connector - the free midday shuttle bus service in Tysons Corner - will stop operating on Dec. 30. After one year of operation, ridership was not sufficient to meet minimum goals needed to viably continue the service.

Tysons Connector began in November 2009 to serve area businesses, residents, shoppers and visitors within Tysons Corner. The service was launched to provide travel options within Tysons during construction of the Dulles Metrorail project as part of the project's comprehensive transportation management plan.

After Dec. 30, those riders who use the Tysons Connector may be able to get around Tysons Corner by using the following routes:

♦ Tysons West Park transit station: Metro routes - 2T; 3T; 5A; 23A; 24T; 28T; Fairfax Connector routes - 401; 402; 425; 427; 574.

♦ Tysons Corner transit station: Metro routes - 2T; 3T; 15K; 15L; 15M; 23A; 28A; 28T; 28X; Fairfax Connector routes - 401; 402.

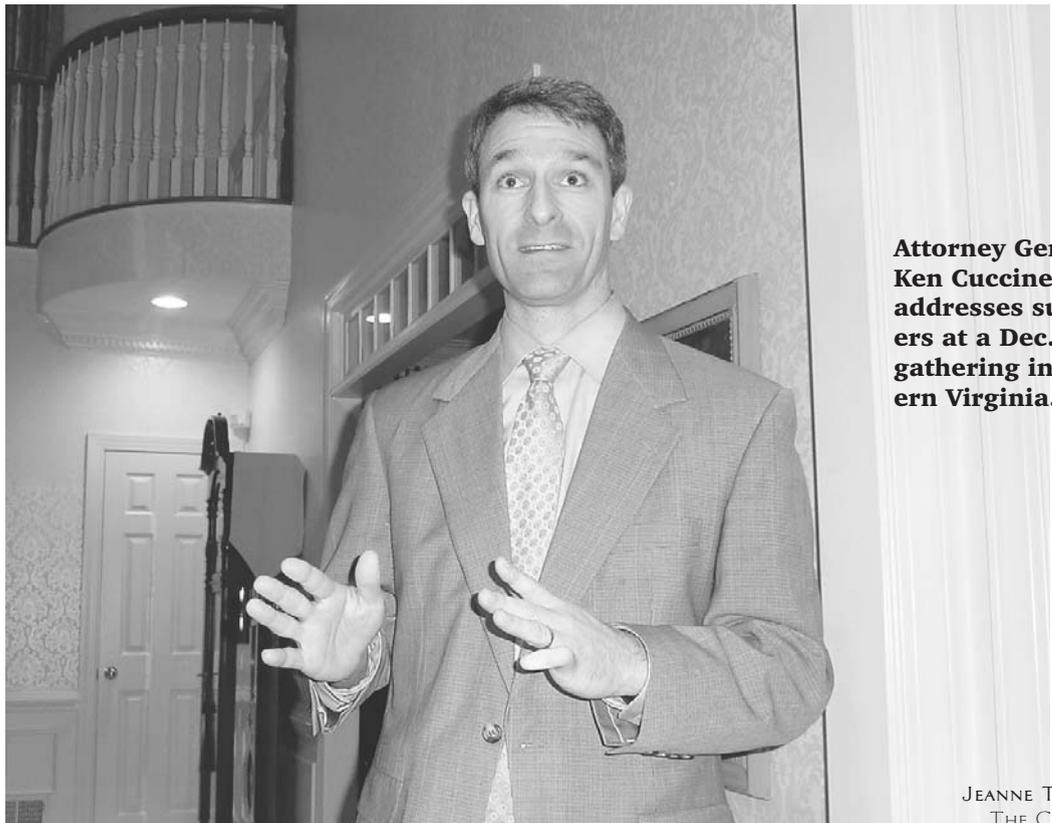
For more information on schedules, go to www.FairfaxCounty.gov/connector.

'Food 4 Trees' Helps Schools' Food Banks

AV Remodeling and Construction reached out and helped local families in need with their second annual "Food 4 Trees" holiday food drive. "We founded the 'Food 4 Trees' program as a simple way to encourage food donations during the holidays. It's a win-win for everyone participating," said Vincent D'Avena, owner of AV Remodeling and Construction. "Food 4 Trees" provided a savings on the cost of Frasier Fir trees, in exchange for \$30 food donation pledges. "In early November, we started taking pre-orders for trees and the food donation pledges. The response and support for the program was tremendous," said D'Avena. Trees were available the first weekend of December for pick up at The Old Firehouse Teen Center in McLean, one of the program sponsors. Participants of the program dropped off their food donations when they picked up their trees. Volunteers were available to help cut and help load trees.

D'Avena said, "I'm very grateful to our corporate sponsors who included, McLean Hardware, McLean Copy, HG Hospitality Group and the Old Firehouse Teen Center."

NEWS



Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli addresses supporters at a Dec. 15 gathering in Northern Virginia.

PHOTO BY
JEANNE THEISMANN/
THE CONNECTION

'Christmas Came Early This Year'

Fundraiser turns into celebration for Cuccinelli.

BY JEANNE THEISMANN
THE CONNECTION

Less than 48 hours after federal district Judge Henry E. Hudson ruled that the provision in the health care reform law requiring individuals to purchase insurance is unconstitutional, Virginia's Attorney General Ken Cuccinelli, architect of the controversial litigation, was savoring his first-round victory at a private fundraiser Dec. 15 in Northern Virginia.

"Christmas came early this year," Cuccinelli told a group of friends and supporters at the home of Susan and David Hirschmann.

After addressing a crowd that included U.S. Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE), U.S. Rep. Sam Graves (R-GA), Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources Doug Domenich, Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) and RNC state committeeman Morton Blackwell, Cuccinelli spoke about the media whirlwind following the Dec. 12 decision.

"The last 48 hours have been tightly scheduled talking to a lot of different folks," Cuccinelli said. "Some of them are hostile, some are friendly and some are actually objective as I'm trying to explain to people why we are carrying the case forward."

While many were surprised at the outcome, Cuccinelli was not.

"The shock of actually winning is fun," Cuccinelli said. "I don't mean my shock, I mean other people's. We're not shocked at all. We analyzed this closely before we ever made a move on it. Everybody else just presumed the outcome."

Despite the international spotlight on the case, Cuccinelli has taken a back seat in the courtroom to Virginia's solicitor general, who will argue the case when it is expected to go before the Supreme Court in 2011-2012.

"Our solicitor general is one of those guys where people frequently say 'that's the smartest person I've ever been in a room with,'" Cuccinelli said of E. Duncan Getchell. "And because he's not the attorney general, he can spend more time with the details planning for the curveballs. I would love to argue it and am capable of arguing it, but he's the one who knows the case law and history, which is critically important."

In addition to the health care case, Cuccinelli talked about other significant issues his office has tackled.

"Like the health care case, the EPA case is about protecting the constitution," Cuccinelli said of the pending suit against the Environmental Protection Agency's move to regulate greenhouse gasses. "It's also about the rule of law and the economy. Typically, we are trying to support Virginia's good business environment."

Another success for Cuccinelli was allowing absentee ballots that arrive after Election Day to be counted.

"Protecting the voting rights for our military members deployed abroad is important," Cuccinelli said. "We have registrars who don't get absentee ballots out on time so now for the first time we allow people's votes that arrive after Election Day to be counted."

According to Cuccinelli, the races to watch in 2011 will be in Northern Virginia.

"I believe we're going to have a great candidate in Janet Howell's district — Caren Merrick," Cuccinelli said. "In the Prince William-Loudoun swath we're going to get a new senate seat and that open seat is going to be very interesting regardless of where it lands."

Cuccinelli, who has remained in the area since taking office earlier this year, was happy to be back where he considers home.

"I get mocked in other parts of the state but this is where I grew up," Cuccinelli said. "This is where I went to school, this is where my kids have grown up and where they're going to school. My wife did the same thing. We're those rarities — we actually grew up here and stayed here and we're very happy with that."

Best Wishes For The Holidays



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT

THE CONNECTION
to your community

Alexandria
Gazette Packet
Mount Vernon Gazette

THE CONNECTION

Potomac
ALMANAC
CENTRE VIEW

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year

We wish our readers, our clients and everyone who lives, works, studies, plays, shops or pursues their avocations here all the best over this holiday week and beyond into the New Year. Thank you for making the Connection a part of your week, a part of your year.

This is our last news edition of 2010; next week shortly after Christmas, readers will receive the Children's Connection our traditional issue devoted to the writing and artwork of local children and teens.

In the meantime, we are looking for input on New Year's resolutions. Share one or more of the resolutions you will make for 2011, or tell us about a past resolution and how you approached it, for better or worse. Do you have some tips to share for achieving your goals? Send us 50-200 words, and please share a photo as well. We'll print selections in our first issue of the New Year, Jan. 5-12, 2011.

Send your submissions to xxxxxxxx@connectionnewspapers.com.

Another opportunity to be a part of the Connection: The Pet Connection will publish on

Feb. 2, 2011, send us photos of you and your pet by Jan. 20.

Alternatives to Drinking and Driving

A recent ride-along with a Northern Virginia police officer gave Connection reporter Alex McVeigh a chance to convey some of the methods and mission to get drunk drivers off the road. (See Getting Drunk Drivers Off the Streets, in Dec. 15's Reston Connection, <http://connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=346976&paper=71&cat=104>)

Among other things on the night of the ride-along, the officer encountered an apparently drunk driver who had fallen asleep behind the wheel waiting to make a right turn, his car running, his turn signal blinking and vomit evident down the outside of the driver's side door. It's enough to make you want to stay home.

With the season for holiday parties comes the increased incidence of driving under the influence, with drunk driving arrests up more than 70 percent compared to other times of year. In 2010, Fairfax County Police have in-

vestigated more than 660 alcohol related accidents. In 2008 in Fairfax County, there were more than 3,100 arrests for driving under the influence.

In Arlington, 677 arrests. In Alexandria, 515 arrests. In the City of Fairfax, 181 arrests.

DON'T TAKE THE RISK. Plan ahead, leave your car at home, take public transportation, arrange for a designated driver, or choose to abstain if a designated driver isn't available.

But if you find yourself in the unfortunate position of drinking without a safe way home on your own this holiday season, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program has provided you with a safety net called SoberRide. Take their number with you when you head out, and be sure any young adults (must be 21 or over) in your family are similarly armed.

WRAP's 2010 Holiday SoberRide program is available now through 6 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 1, 2011. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30 fare), call 800-200-8294. You must be 21 or older. (Callers are responsible for anything over \$30.)

EDITORIALS

Protecting Virginians with Intellectual Disabilities

Excerpts from a letter from the Arc of Virginia to Gov. Bob McDonnell:

Despite our being 8th in per capita income, Virginia is ranked 46th for its fiscal effort towards community-based services for Virginians with developmental disabilities. In addition to its lengthy waiting lists and continued practice of institutionalization, Virginia's existing community services are chronically underfunded. Virginia's reimbursement rates for home and community-based waiver programs have not kept pace with inflation, and as a result, our service system is behind the rest of the country.

To put it simply, Virginia cannot sustain the cuts and policies contained in the current budget.

The Arc of Virginia is the Commonwealth's oldest and largest advocacy organization for people with developmental disabilities and their families. It was The Arc families who, 55 years ago, established the first education programs for children with developmental disabilities. It was The Arc families, who for decades, fought for access to community-based supports so their sons and daughters would not be forced to live in state operated institutions. Today, we ask you to protect the core state services and supports that people with developmental disabilities and their families have fought so hard for, and improve access to the services that are still

lacking.

Virginia has not fulfilled the promise of community integration for Virginians with developmental disabilities. More than 1,100 Virginians with developmental disabilities continue to be institutionalized in outdated and segregated state facilities. More than 6,400 Virginians with intellectual and related developmental disabilities continue to languish on waiting lists for community-based supports. Nearly 3,000 of these individuals are identified as being in "urgent need" for reasons such as living with an aging caregiver, aging out foster care, or imminent risk of homelessness. In the face of this crisis, the current budget provides no help to any waiting list families through June 30, 2012.

The Arc of Virginia urges you to protect existing HCBS Waiver services and supports, which are scheduled to be cut on July 1, 2011, by taking the following actions in the 2010-2012 Introduced Budget:

- ❖ Elimination of the 5 percent cut in reimbursement rates for HCBS Waiver programs

- ❖ Elimination of the 2/3 reduction in respite hours for families receiving HCBS Waiver services

- ❖ Elimination of the reductions in assistive technology and environmental modification

Furthermore, The Arc of Virginia requests that you to take action to end the ID and IFDDS Waiver wait-

ing list crisis, beginning with the following actions:

- ❖ Removal of budget language that eliminates 400 new ID Waivers and 67 new IFDDS Waivers in FY12, honoring the promise made to people with developmental disabilities and their families in § 32.1-323.2

- ❖ Inclusion of funding for 800 new ID Waivers and 165 new IFDDS Waivers to further aid waiting list families

- ❖ Provision of \$5 million in support services for 1,000 people who are also waiting because they have been denied access due to level of functioning

Finally, The Arc of Virginia joins countless other local, state and national organizations in calling for an end to Virginia's antiquated practice of institutionalizing people with developmental disabilities. We request that you establish a comprehensive plan to

transition to a community-based system of support and reinvest cost savings to assure successful transitions, maintain existing services and provide support to those who are waiting.

If action is not taken to sustain and strengthen the community-based safety net, thousands of Virginians may be at risk of losing their homes, jobs and lives in the community. Please prevent Virginia from taking a huge step backwards in the civil rights movement for Virginians with developmental disabilities. It is time to fulfill the promise of community and end the segregation of people with developmental disabilities. Virginia has waited long enough.

Howard Cullum
President
Jamie Liban
Executive Director
ARC of Virginia

Write

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

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410

By e-mail: mclean@connectionnewspapers.com

NEWS



Capitol Steps will perform at Langley High on Sunday, Jan. 23.

Capitol Steps to Perform at Langley High

Every January, Langley High School provides an evening of fun and frolic with the political satirists Capitol Steps.

This has been a long-standing tradition at the school and the auditorium is filled with parents, friends, fans and students. Seniors taking AP Government often get extra credit by showing their ticket stub to their teachers. The show provides a satirical view at the Washington antics, developments and the international arena.

Year after year, Capitol Steps helps support the Langley High School All Night Grad Party, a tra-

dition at Langley High School where graduates can spend the night safely with their friends. The school is transformed into a casino, amusement park, food court, and so much more. This is all done through the hard work of parents and teacher volunteers with funds from events like Capitol Steps.

The annual Capitol Steps performance will take place on Sunday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. in the Langley High School Auditorium.

Tickets are available for \$30 through Abby Mackness, 1310 Scotts Run Rd. McLean, VA 22102. Questions to: amackness@juno.com



The members of the Women's Chamber Choir are Betsy Abraham, Julie Abraham, Tamana Ahmad, Ambert Bennet, Jessica Bumsted, Colleen Cofer, Mia Engelhardt, Sarah Etherton, Taylor Goodson, Sarah Larkworthy, Kushali Marwaha, Emma Mercer, Smruthi Rudraraju, Savannah Smith, Abby Thompson, Amelia Welch, and Alina Zufall.

Langley High Choir Performs at 'Fantasy Land'

The Langley High School Women's Chamber Choir visited the North Pole and brought tears to the eyes of an adoring audience at the United Airlines Fantasy Flight event on Saturday, Dec. 11. Every year United Airlines volunteers transform a section of Terminal D at Dulles International Airport into the North Pole for a few hours on a Saturday morning in December so that terminally ill children can visit

a fantasy land with their families and meet Santa. The children and their families boarded a plane and taxied around the runway before arriving at the North Pole terminal where they were greeted by the Women's Chamber Choir in their Renaissance-style gowns singing Christmas carols. The songs and smiles continued while everyone deplaned into the North Pole fantasy land.



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PHOTO BY SHIRLEY J. GREGORY/THE CONNECTION

Rev. Cole Floyd is shown with Rev. Tim Floyd, Senior Pastor of Providence Baptist Church, his ministry appointment confirmed.

Pastor Cole Floyd, permanently appointed Minister of Students and Families, is poised to build on the successes of the past year.

Helping Youth at Local Church

Rev. Cole Floyd installed as Providence's new Minister of Students and Families.

BY SHIRLEY J. GREGORY
THE CONNECTION

Providence Baptist Church in McLean has appointed Rev. Cole Floyd as the new Minister of Students and Families on Dec. 1, a vacant position he had occupied on temporary basis. He will continue ministering to young people from elementary school age through young adult and their families. His goals are to continue helping youth forge strong Christian lives, and to provide them access to the resources they may need. His Bible-centered ministry is based on testimony, witnessing, and outreach.

Rev. Floyd ministers to 25 young people, seventh graders through young adults. For the past year he has worked to bring the church's youth together in order for them to get to know each other, and to become friends not only in church, but outside of church as well. "I am pleased to see close bonds that they have formed," said Rev. Floyd. Rev.

Rev. Floyd leads teens in visits to nursing homes, in reaching out to the homeless and needy, and in helping each other, and meeting each other's needs, even help with homework. Rev. Floyd believes that when teens learn to minister to others at their age, it strengthens their faith and gives them a confidence that will serve them well in college and adult life.

"We sponsor 'fun' activities so that young people can get to know each other," he said, "such as the 'Lock-In' planned for January. Once the teens become comfortable with the relationships they forge through these activities, the Biblical studies, and the ministry available to them, they feel comfortable about inviting their un-churched friends to visit the church and get involved."

Minister of Students and Families is a position Rev. Floyd's life experiences has more than prepared him to assume. In addition to growing up in Providence Baptist Church and being a part of its close-knit congregation, he was a Christian counselor at the popular sports camp Summer's Best Two Weeks in Boswell, Pa., through high school and college. He led the Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship at Longwood University for two years, and was the Children's Ministry Intern at Providence

before graduating. He has preached at and led Bible studies in senior living facilities and Christian assemblies as far away as Albany, Ind.

After graduating from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., in 2009, Rev. Floyd became a Preaching Associate in Norberth Wales, sharing teaching responsibilities with Pastor Chris Rees. He also travelled to various congregations in Southwest Wales and other parts of the UK to preach in mid-week and Sunday services. It was there he noticed an interesting phenomenon. "In most instances I was the youngest person in the church," said Rev. Floyd. "And, there were no young people attending church." In order to minister to young people in Wales, he had to get in touch with local youth organizations.

Rev. Floyd's installment as Providence's youth minister was incidental. The position became vacant just as Rev. Floyd returned from Wales, and he agreed to step in until a permanent replacement was found. His successes in ministering to the church's youth, bringing them to fellowship with each other and the entire church body, proved that he is the best choice for the job.

Rev. Tim Floyd is pastor of Providence Baptist Church, and Rev. Cole Floyd's father. He said, "Cole was a fill-in. It was a coincidence that the ministry position became vacant just as his ministry in Wales ended."

"I feel God has prepared Cole for this. He has a vision for the kids," he continued, "and he has done well. We're very pleased that he signed up for the permanent position."

Rev. Cole Floyd's plan for the future is to build on what he has already accomplished. He has seen the Reach Out energy grow exponentially this year among the teens, and he plans to build upon that, ministering to the church family and the community even more. There are plans for mission trips abroad, as well. He and the teens will travel to Zimbabwe next summer, and he plans to take them to a mission trip abroad each year.

Providence Baptist Church is located at 8980 Brook Road in McLean. Sunday worship is at 10 a.m.; Bible Study Plus is on Sunday at 11:20 a.m. Rev. Cole Floyd meets with the Single Young Adults every other Tuesday at 7 p.m. at 1222 Providence Terrace in McLean (oneway@providencetoday.org).

Wednesday nights are family nights at Providence, with something for every family member: Dinner at 5:45 p.m.; Adult Bible Study at 7 p.m.; Student Ministry at 7 p.m.; and, Kids Ministry and AWANA at 6:30 p.m. Contact the church at 703-893-5330; the website is providencetoday.org.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 22

Todd Wright's 8th Annual Christmas Spectacular (acoustic). 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/DEC. 23

Santa Jam Benefit Concert. State Theatre, 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church. To raise money for Northern Virginia's Doorways Women and Families Shelter and non-profit 'Music to Give'. Featuring Tommy Lepson, Soul Gravity and Linwood Taylor. \$10. An unwrapped child's Christmas gift also suggested. Purchase tickets at www.thestatetheatre.com.

Todd Wright's 8th Annual Christmas Spectacular. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 24

Good For The Jews: Putting The Ha! In Hanaukka Tour with Rob Tannenbaum and David Fagin. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/DEC. 26

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Bingo. 7 p.m. at the VVFD, 400 Center St. South, Vienna. Games held every Sunday in the Flame Room.



PHOTO COURTESY 1ST STAGE

Jennifer Weinreich and John Stange as Mollie and Giles Ralston in 'The Mousetrap.' The 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road in McLean, present 'The Mousetrap' by Agatha Christie, directed by Jessica Lefkow, on weekends through Jan. 9. A charming couple opening a new guesthouse, an array of whimsical guests, in the brink of a terrible blizzard, a murder is committed. Tickets are available at www.1ststageytsos.org/mousetrap or 703-854-1856.

www.vvfd.org.

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.1ststageytsos.org/mousetrap or 703-854-1856.

Poor Man's Lobster, Funkmnykz and The Arctic Groove. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E.,

Vienna. jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/DEC. 27

Movie Matinee. 11:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Short movies based on popular children's books. Bring a lunch and have a picnic. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-757-8560

Where's My Face (Dubstep and Electrohouse) with Viking, DJ M.A.F., Konstellation and Hubsmoke. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/DEC. 28

The Dinobabies and Marly Dumarz. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 29

Berrett and Harrison and Cara Salimando. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/DEC. 30

Natalie York and Molly Hagen. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.
Frostival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dulles Expo & Conference Center, 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Family fun with storytellers, music and dance, crafts, interactive activities, Secret Agent 23 Skidoo and more. Canned food items and new and gently used winter coats will be collected to provide to families in need. www.Frostival.com.

FRIDAY/DEC. 31

Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap". 9 p.m. at 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. Special performance and party. \$50. www.1ststageytsos.org/mousetrap or 703-854-1856.
4th Annual Rocknoceos New Years Eve Party. 11 a.m., 2 p.m.

and 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.
Frostival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dulles Expo & Conference Center, 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Family fun with storytellers, music and dance, crafts, interactive activities, The Great Zucchini and more. Canned food items and new and gently used winter coats will be collected to provide to families in need. www.Frostival.com.

SATURDAY/JAN. 1

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.1ststageytsos.org/mousetrap or 703-854-1856.
Mambo Sauce and The Movement. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.
Frostival. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Dulles Expo & Conference Center, 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Family fun with storytellers, music and dance, crafts, interactive activities, Secret Agent 23 Skidoo and more. Canned food items and new and gently used winter coats will be collected to provide to families in need. www.Frostival.com.

SUNDAY/JAN. 2

Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Bingo. 7 p.m. at the VVFD, 400 Center St. South, Vienna. Games held every Sunday in the Flame Room. www.vvfd.org.
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.1ststageytsos.org/mousetrap or 703-854-1856.

FAITH NOTES

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

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd. in McLean, has announced their Advent and Christmas events. 703-356-3312 or www.umtrinity.org.

◆ **Family Service with Pageant**. Friday, Dec. 24 at 5 p.m. Childcare will be available.

◆ **Candlelight & Communion**. Friday, Dec. 24 at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

◆ **St. John's Episcopal Church**, 6715 Georgetown Pike in McLean, has announced their Christmas worship services. 703-356-4902 or www.stjohnsmclean.org.

◆ **Christmas Eve Family Service**. Friday, Dec. 24 at 4 p.m., with Christmas music beginning at 3:30 p.m. This service is especially designed for families with young children.

◆ **Traditional Service of Holy Eucharist**. Friday, Dec. 24 at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Familiar carols, following Christmas music beginning at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

◆ **Celebrate with Holy Eucharist**. Saturday, Dec. 25 at 10 a.m. The singing of familiar carols on Christmas morning.

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.

The Antioch Christian Church, 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna, invites the public to their annual Christmas Eve worship on Friday, Dec. 24 at 7:30 p.m. The evening will include the story of Christmas, the singing of Christmas carols with a story for children and

Candlelight Communion. 703-938-6753 or www.antiocdoc.org.

Epiphany United Methodist Church, 1014 Country Club Drive N.E. in Vienna, has announced their Christmas schedule. 703-938-3494.

◆ **Children & Family Service**. Friday, Dec. 24 at 6 p.m.

◆ **Traditional Candlelight, Carol & Communion Service**. Friday, Dec. 24 at 9 p.m.

◆ **Christmas Celebration**. Sunday, Dec 26 at 11 a.m.

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.

Vienna Assembly of God has a ministry to children on Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m. at the corner of Center N and Ayr Hill Avenue, N.E. Children's Church on Sundays also available. 703-938-7736 or www.ViennaAG.com.

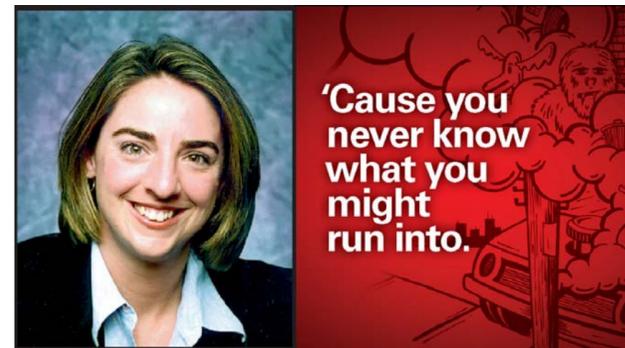
Vienna Christian Healing Rooms, every Saturday, 1-5 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779 or www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com.

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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. Holy Eucharist (Episcopal)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26:
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

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

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www.staybridge.com/mcleanva

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

OPEN HOUSE LISTINGS
Will Return after the Holidays

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call 703-821-5050

Give Together

A Family Volunteer Day
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service
 Monday, January 17, 2011
 Shift 1: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 Shift 2: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 GMU - Fairfax Campus

Spaces are limited and pre-registration is required at www.volunteerfairfax.org.

Special thanks to the Connection for its support of volunteerism.

Join us for live tweets at VolunteerFFX.

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NEWS



Pictured, from left, Dr. Jonathan Merrill, Cofounder, CEO, Astute Technology, Reston; Caren Merrick, candidate for the State Senate; Gene Riechers, partner, Valhalla Partners, McLean; and M'Liz Riechers.

Caren Merrick Announces Candidacy for State Senate

Caren Merrick (R), of McLean, has announced that she is a candidate for Senator in Virginia's 32nd District (McLean, Great Falls, Reston, Herndon, Falls Church, Tysons Corner).

On Monday, Dec. 6, with over 100 guests present, Merrick launched her campaign of jobs, opportunities and innovation at the McLean home of Gene and M'Liz Riechers.

Merrick is a 23-year resident of Northern Virginia and has been an entrepreneur, helping to create hundreds of jobs in Northern Virginia as cofounder of webMethods, and as a mentor and investor in several early-stage technology companies. She is an active investor and mentor in non-profit organizations that help low income and military families succeed in education, work, and life.

At her launch event, Merrick said, "We are all concerned about the recession and unemployment. Our Virginia Senate needs to focus on turning our economy around by eliminating jobs-killing red tape and taxes that hurt small business owners. About 95 percent of all Virginia jobs come from 230,000 small businesses. Seventy-five percent of all new jobs growth will come from Virginia's small businesses. Virginia's small business owners need representatives who understand the courage, sacrifice, and hard work that it takes to create the jobs our Commonwealth needs to recover from this recession. I will be their champion in the Virginia Senate."

Merrick was appointed to Governor McDonnell's bipartisan Economic Development and Jobs Creation Commission earlier this year. She said she will also focus on improving education by advancing greater focus at earlier ages for

About Caren Merrick

A wife, mother, entrepreneur, businesswoman, community leader and volunteer, Caren Merrick has been part of the Northern Virginia community for over 23 years. She is co-founder of webMethods, Inc., a global enterprise software company based in Fairfax, that employed over 450 people in Northern Virginia. She was cofounder and chairman of the webMethods Foundation, which employed an innovative approach, investing in nonprofits and social entrepreneurs in the community that help low income families achieve their potential in education, work, and life. Merrick has been an Advisory Board member for Charity Works, supporting grants and championing nonprofits that serve military families. She also served on the board of directors for the Northern Virginia Technology Council, Inova Health Care Services, the Fairfax Symphony, and Greater DC Cares. She is a Guest Lecturer, McDonough School of Business, at Georgetown University. Merrick has received the Community Champion Award, Volunteer Fairfax, and the Leadership Award from The Womens' Center in Vienna.

For more information, see <http://www.CarenMerrick.com>, and follow Caren on Twitter: CDMerrick

science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). She will work for greater efficiency and accountability in transportation.

Gene Riechers, partner with Valhalla Partners, a venture investment fund, said, "Caren was a key part of a team of people that started a company in her basement, employing hundreds of Northern Virginians. Her experiences and success in our community show several traits about Caren. To be a successful entrepreneur, you need to have a vision for the future, have the creativity to do things differently, and have the courage to take on tough issues. Caren has all of these - which will make her a great representative for us in the State Senate."

HOME SALES

NOVEMBER 2010
\$3,350,000 ~ \$431,500

| Address | BR | FB | HB | Postal | City | Sold Price | Type | Lot | AC | Subdivision |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|--------------|-------------|-------------------|------|--------------------------|----|-------------|
| 8103 SPRING HILL FARM DR | 5 | 5 | 2 | MCLEAN | \$3,350,000 | Detached | 1.03 | SPRING HILL FARM | | |
| 8917 BROOK RD | 6 | 5 | 3 | MCLEAN | \$2,400,000 | Detached | 1.16 | WOODSIDE ESTATES | | |
| 904 CENTRILLION DR | 5 | 5 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$2,300,000 | Detached | 0.85 | THE RESERVE | | |
| 1226 EARNESTINE | 5 | 6 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$2,271,548 | Detached | 0.35 | HANSBOROUGH | | |
| 7904 OLD FALLS RD | 6 | 6 | 2 | MCLEAN | \$2,100,000 | Detached | 0.48 | SPRING HILL | | |
| 904 DOUGLASS DR | 6 | 6 | 2 | MCLEAN | \$1,850,000 | Detached | 0.58 | LANGLEY FOREST | | |
| 1206 SUMMIT RD | 6 | 5 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$1,599,000 | Detached | 0.27 | BEVERLY MANOR | | |
| 6795 STOCKWELL MANOR DR | 5 | 4 | 1 | FALLS CHURCH | \$1,350,000 | Detached | 0.14 | STOCKWELL MANOR | | |
| 6906 STRATA ST | 6 | 5 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$1,267,500 | Detached | 0.24 | DEVON PARK | | |
| 7018 ARBOR LN | 5 | 3 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$1,250,000 | Detached | 0.94 | RIVER OAKS | | |
| 6304 WALDEN WOODS CT | 5 | 5 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$1,175,000 | Detached | 0.24 | WALDEN OF MCLEAN | | |
| 6610 WEATHEFORD CT | 5 | 3 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$1,150,000 | Detached | 0.51 | LANGLEY OAKS | | |
| 1356 NORTHWYCK CT | 5 | 5 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$1,090,000 | Detached | 0.15 | SPRING HILL | | |
| 969 SPENCER RD | 5 | 3 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$1,070,000 | Detached | 0.80 | SAIGON | | |
| 1408 INGEBOG CT | 6 | 5 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$1,015,000 | Detached | 0.53 | POTOMAC ESTATES | | |
| 1847 KIRBY RD | 5 | 4 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$1,000,000 | Detached | 0.23 | CHESTERBROOK | | |
| 5834 UPTON ST | 5 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$990,000 | Detached | 0.28 | CHAIN BRIDGE FOREST | | |
| 1217 DALEVIEW | 4 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$975,000 | Detached | 0.94 | WOODSIDE ESTATES | | |
| 6790 STOCKWELL MANOR DR | 4 | 3 | 1 | FALLS CHURCH | \$932,500 | Townhouse | 0.07 | STOCKWELL MANOR | | |
| 8404 MARTINGALE DR | 5 | 3 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$910,000 | Detached | 0.55 | GREENWAY HEIGHTS | | |
| 1924 RHODE ISLAND AVE | 4 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$900,000 | Detached | 0.24 | FRANKLIN PARK | | |
| 2005 FREEDOM LN | 4 | 3 | 0 | FALLS CHURCH | \$890,000 | Detached | 0.50 | NANTUCKET | | |
| 7105 CAPITOL VIEW DR | 4 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$880,000 | Detached | 0.35 | OLD DOMINION GARDENS | | |
| 6219 LOCH RAVEN DR | 4 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$857,500 | Detached | 0.28 | POTOMAC HILLS | | |
| 7054 IDYLWOOD RD | 5 | 4 | 1 | FALLS CHURCH | \$830,000 | Detached | 1.34 | BAKER PROPERTY | | |
| 7809 FALSTAFF RD | 4 | 3 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$814,000 | Detached | 0.35 | MC LEAN HAMLET | | |
| 7741 LEGERE CT | 3 | 3 | 2 | MCLEAN | \$754,000 | Townhouse | 0.05 | MCLEAN PLACE TOWNHOME | | |
| 5919 FRAZIER LN | 3 | 2 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$750,000 | Detached | 0.39 | WESTMONT | | |
| 1304 CALDER RD | 4 | 2 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$725,000 | Detached | 0.46 | SALONA VILLAGE | | |
| 1641 WRIGHTSON DR | 5 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$700,000 | Detached | 0.27 | WEST GRASS RIDGE | | |
| 7016 SEA CLIFF RD | 4 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$690,000 | Detached | 0.31 | WEST LEWINSVILLE HEIGHTS | | |
| 6457 DRYDEN DR | 5 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$683,000 | Detached | 0.25 | BROYHILL GLEN GARY PARK | | |
| 6829 MCLEAN PROVINCE CIR | 3 | 2 | 2 | FALLS CHURCH | \$665,000 | Townhouse | 0.05 | MC LEAN PROVINCE | | |
| 1419 AUDMAR DR | 3 | 2 | 1 | MCLEAN | \$660,000 | Detached | 0.26 | BROYHILLS MC LEAN ESTS | | |
| 7016 TYNDALE ST | 4 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$650,000 | Detached | 0.37 | WEST LEWINSVILLE HEIGHTS | | |
| 1806 BARBEE ST | 4 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$650,000 | Detached | 0.27 | GRASS RIDGE | | |
| 6502 DRYDEN DR | 4 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$615,000 | Detached | 0.24 | BROYHILL GLEN GARY PARK | | |
| 2115 NATAHOA CT | 3 | 3 | 0 | FALLS CHURCH | \$590,000 | Detached | 0.26 | POWHATAN HILLS | | |
| 2031 MAGARITY CT | 3 | 4 | 0 | FALLS CHURCH | \$552,500 | Townhouse | 0.05 | MAGARITY MEWS | | |
| 8370 GREENSBORO DR #701 | 3 | 3 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$550,000 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | 0.05 | ROTONDA | | |
| 7724 MARSHALL HEIGHTS CT | 3 | 2 | 2 | FALLS CHURCH | \$495,000 | Townhouse | 0.05 | MARSHALL HEIGHTS | | |
| 8380 GREENSBORO DR #826 | 3 | 2 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$494,900 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | 0.05 | ROTONDA | | |
| 2270 CARTBRIDGE RD | 3 | 2 | 1 | FALLS CHURCH | \$471,000 | Townhouse | 0.05 | IDYLWOOD STATION | | |
| 1803 OLMSTEAD DR | 3 | 2 | 0 | FALLS CHURCH | \$435,000 | Detached | 0.20 | PIMMIT VIEW | | |
| 8380 GREENSBORO DR #226 | 3 | 2 | 0 | MCLEAN | \$431,500 | Hi-Rise 9+ Floors | 0.05 | ROTONDA | | |

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BULLETIN BOARD

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

Pimmit Hills Regional Library, 7684 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. A monthly peer support group for survivors and others affected. Free. Confidential. No registration required. 703-538-6128.

THURSDAY/DEC. 23

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.

THURSDAY/DEC. 30

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.

FRIDAY/DEC. 24

Washington DC Jewish Community Center's Day of Service. Help at one of over 50 non-profits throughout the area. Projects vary from 2-4 hours and encompass a variety of activities such as throwing holiday parties for children, visiting seniors and serving meals to the homeless. Family and group projects are also available. \$20. Register at www.washingtondcjcc.org/volunteer.

MONDAY/JAN. 3

A Representative of Congressman Frank Wolf at the McLean Community Center. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1234 McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. First Monday of every month. Citizens are invited to express opinions on issues before Congress, or seek assistance with federal problems. 703-709-5800.

TUESDAY/DEC. 28

Tyson's 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.

TUESDAY/JAN. 4

ESL Class Registration. 7 p.m. at St. Mark Christian Formation Center, 9972 Vale Road, Vienna. Seven proficiency levels, from Beginner 1 to Advanced 2. \$20 for the 10-week semester, classes will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m. New students must also purchase the appropriate book. Optional basic computer skills class offered to intermediate and advanced ESL students. 703-626-3585 in English, 703-477-2389 in Spanish, or 703-994-8510 in Korean.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 29

Support Group for Survivors of Clergy Abuse. 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Tysons-



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Be sure to include your name, address and phone number, and identify all people and pets in photos. Submission deadline is January 20.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Elaina Ebersole of McLean, majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is now serving as a Hokie Ambassador for Virginia Tech.

Hokie Ambassadors primarily provide the tours for prospective undergraduates. The Hokie Ambassadors exemplify what it means to be a Hokie through dedication and service.

Corey Jean Gartenhaus of Great Falls has graduated with a bachelor of arts in marketing and advertising/public relations from Marietta College of Marietta, Ohio.

Zachary D. Geller of Great Falls has been accepted to The Graduate School at Virginia Tech. Geller is majoring in civil engineering and pursuing a master of science in the College of Engineering.

Randi Myers of Oakton has graduated from Coastal Carolina University of Conway, S.C. with a bachelor of science, cum laude.

Michael Yauss of Vienna has graduated from Coastal Carolina University of Conway, S.C. with a bachelor of science in business administration.

Beth R. Stein of Vienna has been accepted to The Graduate School at Virginia Tech. Stein is majoring in forestry and pursuing a master of science.

Kiran Karra of Vienna has been accepted to The Graduate School at Virginia Tech. Karra is majoring in electrical engineering and pursuing a master of science.

Brian C. Cheng of Vienna has been accepted to The Graduate School at Virginia Tech. Cheng is majoring in computer engineering and pursuing a master of science.

Matthew J. Rathje of Vienna has been accepted to The Graduate School at Virginia Tech. Rathje is pursuing a Master of Information Technology.

Troy M. Morgan of Vienna has been accepted to The Graduate School at Virginia Tech. Morgan is majoring in human development and pursuing a master of science.

Arun Sundaram Sundaram of Vienna has been accepted to The Graduate School at Virginia Tech. Sundaram is majoring in computer science and applications and pursuing a master of science.

Oakton residents **Nicholas McCormick** and **Louisa C. Stanwich** have been named to the president's list at Randolph-Macon Academy in Front Royal for the first quarter of the 2010-2011 school year. McCormick, a junior at the Academy, is the son of Michael and Gabrielle McCormick of Oakton.

Stanwich, a freshman at the Academy, is the daughter of John and Maria Carosa Stanwich of Oakton.

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A Quarter for My Thoughts



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

Wondering whether what I'm feeling physically is symptomatic of my having my stage IV lung cancer – or not, has become the bane of my existence. The presumed inevitability of it wears on me night and day. Though my overall stress level is significantly lower than when I was working full time, commuting two rush-hours a day by car and being "clock-radioed" at 5:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, I'd be lying if I said living with my diagnosis/prognosis is "no problem."

Having said – and admitted that out loud, I am however, reasonably able to get on with the activities of my daily living and pretty much be counted on to finish most of what I start. And what I find myself needing to finish most are my quarterly scans: Bone, CT and Brain MRI, which I have every three months per my participation in a Schering Plough "Randomized Phase 2 Study".

After 15 months in, my results have been, to quote myself (and referring to a previously published column): "Scantastic!" Nevertheless, future results/my health could change in a week – or so I've been reminded, professionally. As such, I've learned to take the so-far good news with the as-yet-not-received bad news. Still, if there's good news to be heard, given the terminal nature of my original prognosis, I want to hear it. More importantly – for me, I need to know how to process it, and where to place it in my compartmentalized/"defense-mechanized" brain – for self-preservation of course, so that I don't upset this delicate Libra balance that I strive to maintain. And it's about this time (eight to 10 weeks out) in my recurring quarterly scan cycle when my subconscious takes over.

I believe this happens because of something my oncologist said about eight months ago. That was when I first received unexpected and amazing news from him – following the previous week's scans. The tumors were not moving or growing. In fact, there seemed to be more scar tissue than tumors, the doctor said. Perplexed at what it all meant, since I came in experiencing what I thought were cancer-related symptoms, my oncologist attempted to put me at ease – and clarify as well when he said: "You've been scanned stem to stern in the last week, anything you feel over the next eight weeks, don't even worry about it. It's not the cancer," (the cancer that we know about, ergo the continuing mental problem). And as reassuring and wonderful as that answer/explanation was, it has however, had an unintended effect: anxiety.

Per my doctor's advice, for the first eight weeks after my scans and every-three-week appointment with my oncologist have been completed, I really don't worry too much (as much, to be honest) about whatever I might be feeling physically/the cancer. It's all good. However, once I'm into the ninth week or so, the worm turns and all presumptions, rationalizations and nothing-to-worry-about concerning my cancer/any miscellaneous symptoms I may be experiencing, are off. At that point on my mental calendar, the cancer window is officially open for business, or so my subconscious thinks. It's the next four weeks until I'm scanned again that my brain is in total control. It reacts, overreacts, wonders, worries, stresses about every little thing I feel, or think I feel. I can't stop it. I can only endure it.

Consequently, those/these next four weeks can't pass quickly enough. And as peculiar as it may sound, I'm not nearly as nervous for those scan results as much as I am eager for them. At least then, I'll know exactly where my cancer is or – more importantly, where it's not. Then I'll be back in control, for another eight weeks, anyway. It may not be an ideal way to live, but it is living and it is feeling, and it sure beats the alternative.

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

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21 Announcements

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AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify an existing telecommunications installation inside a steeple located on a church at 4110 N. Old Glebe Rd., Arlington, VA. The modification includes removal and replacement of three antennas (one from each sector) with three new antennas in the same locations at a height of 87 feet, and the addition of three antennas at a height of 83 feet within the steeple. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 61107882-MAT c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA, 17403, or via telephone at (781) 273-2500.

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
AT&T Mobility is proposing to install new wireless telecommunications antennas on an existing building located at 2110 Washington Blvd., Arlington, VA. The new facility will consist of adding three panel antennas (one per sector) to existing rooftop mounts at 62 feet above ground level. Support equipment will be placed on an existing rooftop equipment pad. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 61107459-SF c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or via telephone at 781-273-2500.

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AT&T intends to file an application for the collocation of new antennas on the building located at 1900 Columbia Pike, Arlington, Virginia. 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 "Court House" will consist of the collocation of antennas on the roof of the building. In addition, conduit will be run from the equipment shelter to the antennas. 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

LEGAL NOTICE
AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify a wireless telecommunications facility on a building located at 1415 N. Oak St., Arlington, VA. The proposed modification consists of adding three antennas (one per sector) at a height of 73.4 feet on the rooftop. Two antennas will be mounted behind an existing screen wall, and one will be on an existing chimney. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 61108009-MAT c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA, 17403, or via telephone at (781) 273-2500.

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PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Langley boys' coach Travis Hess has seen the Saxons win two straight following four losses to start the season.

McLean boys' coach Kevin Roller said his team has progressively improved over the first several weeks of the season.

Rivals McLean and Langley Meet on Hardwood

Highlander girls prevail, while Saxon boys are also winners.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Local high school basketball fans from McLean and Langley both got a taste of victory during an early season girls'-boys' double-header last Friday night at McLean.

In the evening's first game, the home team McLean girls bested Langley, 50-36, in the cross-town contest. Then, in the boys' night-cap game, Langley edged the Highlanders, 43-42.

Langley, with the boys' game win, improved its record to 2-4 overall. The Saxons, in the Liberty District affair, were led by David Adams' 16 points. Also in double digit scoring for the Saxons was Jeff Cochran with 11 points. Braden Anderson added six points and Daniel Dixon five for the winners. For McLean (3-3), Gordon Rigo scored a game-high 17 points. He was the lone Highlander player in double digit scoring, although Thomas Van Wazer and Sango Amolo brought some balance to the team's scoring output with nine and eight points, respectively.

McLean led 16-11 after one quarter but the Saxons trailed by just one point at halftime and trailed just 33-31 after three quarters before outscoring the guests 12-9 in the final stanza to win.

In the girls' game, McLean (2-3) jumped out to a 14-7 lead after one quarter and held a 23-11 halftime advantage. The Saxons (0-4), still in search of their first win, were outscored by just two points in the second half.

Lisa Murphy led McLean with 15 points, while Andie Romness was also in double figures with 12 points. Erin Mundy contrib-

uted seven points, Christy Warren scored five and Shellie Kaniut four for the Highlanders.

Langley senior Sarah Kleinknecht and younger sister Jennie Kleinknecht, a sophomore, both scored 11 points to lead the Saxons. Jessica Stewart, another sophomore, added seven points.

The McLean girls, since beginning the season with losses to Robinson and Washington-Lee at the Woodson High Tip-Off Tournament, have won three of their last four games - a 39-26 home win over Falls Church, a 49-45 win at Yorktown, a non-region home loss to North Stafford, and the recent victory over Langley.

The Highlander girls are coached by Mike O'Brien, while Keith Eastman is at the helm of Langley.

MCLEAN boys' head coach Kevin Roller, despite his team's one-point loss to Langley, is pleased with the way his Highlanders have played early on this season. Since an 0-2 start, with the setbacks coming to Paul VI, 63-42, and Robinson, 74-49, at the Woodson Tip-Off, McLean has won three of its last four games, the setback coming to the Saxons on Friday after the Highlanders had won three straight over Falls Church, 66-41, Yorktown, 55-45, and The Heights (Washington, D.C.), 75-70 in overtime. In the win over The Heights, a private school opponent, Kevin Lastova nailed a three-pointer at the final regulation buzzer to tie the game and force overtime where McLean won.

The Highlanders have just three seniors on their roster - guards Edwin Manson and Brian Godla, and center Charlie Davis.

"We have had a strong start to our season," said McLean coach Kevin Roller. "We are a team that is looking to improve each week and we have succeeded so far."

While the Highlanders lost by lopsided scores in their two games at the Woodson tourney, Roller was not downcast regarding the contests with the Panthers and

Rams.

"It was great to open the season against Paul VI and Robinson," he said. "While we went 0-2 in the tip-off tournament we led both games at the end of the first quarter and saw not just what we could become as a team but what we needed to improve upon to accomplish our objectives. The guys were disappointed by the outcome but I told them that we were in a better position moving forward than if we had found a less competitive tournament and had gone 2-0."

The Highlanders came back strong with their three straight victories.

"We played a very strong second half [against Falls Church] and then [against Yorktown] we played the best defense of the season and had five players score between eight and 15 points," said Roller. "We slipped in our focus and execution in our game versus The Heights, giving up a nine-point halftime lead. But we were able to go the length of the floor in the final five seconds and hit a game tying three-pointer by Kevin."

McLean's top scorers through six games are juniors Rogo (18 points) and Van Wazer (14 points, 9 rebounds per game). Strong support has come from seniors Godla and Davis, as well as juniors Amolo, Daniel

Lewis, Lastova, and Mark Hannibal.

The McLean boys will travel to Panama City Beach, Florida over the holidays (Dec. 28-30), where they will take part in the Area Glass Marlin Holiday Tournament, hosted by Arnold High School in Panama City Beach.

"Our goal at the tournament is to grow closer as a group and to continue to improve with each game against what will be much stronger competition than we saw in our Holiday Tournament last year. While we certainly hope to come home with a winning record in Florida, the more important objective is to continue to improve as a team and position us for the remainder of the District schedule and, hopefully, beyond."

THE LANGLEY HIGH BOYS (2-4) will be playing at Westfield High's Bulldog Bash Tournament Dec. 28-30. The Saxons, in their tournament opener on Dec. 28, will meet Potomac High at 12:30.

Langley (2-4) lost its first four games to begin the season before coming back with two straight victories - 78-59 over visiting Fairfax on Dec. 14, and Friday's one-point triumph over McLean. The Saxons were scheduled to play at Centreville High earlier this week on Tuesday, Dec. 21.

Madeira Swimmers Make It 1-1

The Madeira School, in a private school varsity swim meet held on Tuesday, Dec. 7, defeated Holy Child, 104-79, to improve their season record to 1-1.

"We had a strong showing for this being the second meet of the season," said Madeira coach Rod Montrie. "Our top swimmers look to be in mid-season form even though it is still early in the season. And our relays are beginning to look strong."

Madeira swept all three relays - the 200-medley relay, with a team of senior Christa Ann Saunders, juniors Ann Griffin and Brittney Jansen, and freshman Michaela Saunders; the 200-free relay, made up of senior Rachel Tang, Griffin, sophomore Grace Johnson and Michael

Saunders; and the 400-freestyle relay team of Christa Ann Saunders, Jansen, Alagia, and Johnson.

Double winners for Madeira were Alagia (200 and 500-free events); Christa Ann Saunders (100-butterfly and 100-backstroke); and Jansen (50 and 100-freestyle races).

Also, junior Kat Pflieger posted personal-best times in the 500-free and 100-back events; and Johnson posted personal best times in the 200-free and the 100-fly events. In diving, sophomore Sara-Nia Coleman completed her first meet and did a great job, according to coach Montrie.

Madeira's next meet is Friday, Jan. at home against Maret.

Salon Daniel Sends Packages to Haitian Orphans

Salon Daniel of McLean is seeking donations to send 270 holiday care packages now through Dec. 31 to 270 orphans at the St. Clou Orphanage in Haiti. Each care package is \$7. The salon has already raised approximately \$1000 and is sending their first shipment of 50 plus care packages. They have a goal of raising more than \$1800 to ship all the packages.

"So many Haitian children are going without many basic necessities this year. We wanted to remember them during this holiday season. We appreciate our team and clients helping us achieve our goal," said

Daniel Bechara, owner, Salon Daniel.

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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

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

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