

This Great Falls renovation reconfigured existing space to provide a family and entertainment friendly space in the family room and kitchen. A trend for 2011 remodeling is improving existing spaces rather than adding more space.

Top Remodeling Trends for 2011

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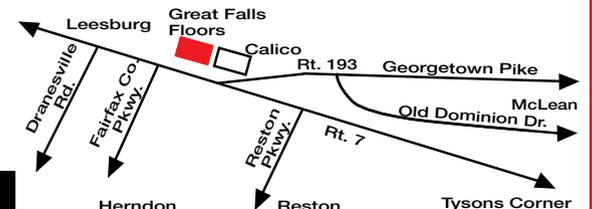
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Great Falls resident Amy Stephan presents information about the possible harmful effects of the crumb rubber field proposed for Leo Santaballa Field in Great Falls.



PHOTOS BY
ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

Turf War at Santaballa Field

Neighbors express concerns with proposed artificial turf field.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

When an artificial turf field was proposed for Leo Santaballa Field, behind the Great Falls Library, it seemed like a good solution to keep the lacrosse players on a field that is often closed due to poor drainage.

But neighbors from nearby Innsbruck Avenue have expressed concerns that the crumb rubber used on the field will eventually flow into Marmota Lake and that toxins from the rubber will eventually leach into their groundwater.

"This community has worked together for years to help our watershed health, and as we've studied this field, we've found more and more aspects we weren't comfortable with," said Amy Stephan, one of the residents.

The Great Falls Lacrosse Association proposed the artificial turf field at the end of last year in order to maximize the playing time for the more than 500 players in their league, who often are driven to other fields due to poor drainage on the current field. As one of the only primarily lacrosse-use fields, the GFLA wants to maximize the time it is ready for use.

Artificial turf fields are topped with a plastic grass and the crumb rubber is used as the 'dirt,' which is over an artificial carpet and a drainage system.

The crumb rubber used on the fields is made from recycled tires, which are chopped up into pebble-sized pieces. The concern is that the heavy metals and other toxins that are used to treat the rubber can be carried off by storm runoff.

About 120 tons of the pulverized rubber is used per field, which is equivalent to about 30,000 tires. Based on calculations done by Stephan and other residents — based on average rainfall in the area — around two million gallons of water will drain from the field per year.

The proposed field would have a drainage system, but the residents are concerned about the heavy



Residents of Innsbruck Avenue are concerned that this stream, which flows into Marmota Lake, will be affected by heavy metals and other chemicals in the effluent of the proposed artificial turf field at Leo Santaballa Field.

metals leached from the rubber will accumulate in their lake.

"We would like an assurance that drainage will be treated, and that these heavy metals will not accumulate in our lake," Stephan said. "What we're being asked to do is provide a retention pond for 120 tons of pulverized rubber."

Kathy Michaels, a neurobiologist at the National Institute of Health and founder of the Montgomery County-based Safe Fields Coalition, says there are concerns about the crumb rubber.

SEE ALTERNATIVES, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY NIKKI CHESHIRE/THE CONNECTION

Marvin Long in front of a painting depicting the construction of Tysons: as a mailman for 40 years he remembers the beginnings of the area development.

Serving Tysons for 40 Years

Mailman Marvin Long remembers the area when 'none of this existed.'

BY NIKKI CHESHIRE
THE CONNECTION

Even though only a few decades have passed since its development, it's hard to imagine Tysons Corner as anything different than the industrial jungle it is today. But one man doesn't have to imagine — he remembers.

Marvin Long, a mailman for the United States Postal Service, has been delivering mail to the Tysons area for about 40 years.

"I got this job right out of Oakton High School," said Long, explaining that he was part of a program at the school that allowed students to go to school for half a day and then go to a job for half a day to gain work experience. "My teacher asked me where I wanted to work, and off a whim I said 'Why not the Postal Service?' He got me an interview and I just stayed with it," he said. "I just loved it so much." Back then, said Long, he had to be sworn in with the Bible to work at the postal service.

When he first started, his route in Tysons consisted of just four stops on Leesburg Pike and a few on Gosnell, which dead-ended after a short while.

"None of this existed," said Long, gesturing out the window to the clustered chain stores, office buildings and car dealerships. "I saw everything get built.

"It used to just be property," Long said, describing Tysons' beginnings. "There was a house and a little two-pump Exxon on

one side and farmland on the other." Now, he said, that Exxon grew as Tysons did, becoming large enough to accommodate the heavy traffic flow. "When I first started out, I never thought there'd be a Metro! It's unbelievable what's been accomplished."

In the beginning, Long had a walking route in Vienna. "It was great! I got to meet lots of people." He remembered that, though he encountered many dogs while delivering mail, he was only bitten once. "I've been followed by German Shepherds, but the only bite I got was from a Chihuahua," he said, laughing. "Didn't expect that one!"

Throughout his years of service, Long says he's "seen kids grow up to have kids" and that "they still come up to say 'hi.' It's very fulfilling." Describing himself as a "people-person," Long has made many close friends while he worked, and is still visited by people who aren't on his route anymore.

After driving over 1 million miles for the postal service, one of Long's favorite places to deliver mail is a senior housing community on the short stretch of Tyspring Street.

"They're my heart and soul," Long said, explaining that helping them is very important to him as he knows they can't always get to the post office easily. "If they take them off my route, I'm really gonna retire," Long said with a laugh. "It really has been an adventure."

Del. Comstock Appointed to Majority Whip Team

Delegate Barbara Comstock (R-34) has been appointed by House Majority Whip Bill Janis to be a Deputy Whip for the House Republican Caucus.

"I am honored to be a part of our leadership team that will continue to encourage job creation while crafting the common sense solutions voters sent us to Richmond to deliver while facing these challenging economic times," she said.

Majority Whip Bill Janis said: "Since joining the House Republican Caucus last January, Delegate Barbara Comstock has already earned a reputation among the veteran members of the House as a principled, practical problem-solver. Dynamic and industrious, Barbara brings a fresh perspective and sound judgment to our public policy challenges. While it is uncommon for a freshman to be appointed to this position, Barbara has already proven that she has the skills to be a valuable addition to our Majority Whip Team."

Volunteer Fairfax to Hold a Family Volunteer Day

Families will get to enjoy the opportunity to give back to the community by working on service projects provided by Facets, Fairfax 4-H, Herndon Senior Center, Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, Operation Military Kids and Orphan Foundation of America. Projects will benefit homeless animals, deployed military personnel and their families here at home, children, hospital patients and orphans.

A Family Volunteer Day, celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and the spirit of service this day represents, will take place on Monday, Jan. 17, at the George Mason University: 4400 University Drive in Fairfax,

Shift 1: from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Shift one is currently closed) and Shift 2: from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

This experience allows children to witness first-hand how fun and easy volunteering can be, while providing quality family time and working on projects that will benefit people in need.

Registration: Contact Daneen Matheson DMatheson@volunteerfairfax.org or 703-246-3826 for more information on Give Together: A Family Volunteer Day.

Elwyn 'Chip' Comstock Joins Park Foundation

At the Dec. 15 meeting of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, Elwyn "Chip" Comstock was appointed to the Fairfax County Park Foundation Board of Directors for a three-year term. Comstock has been a leader in the community and a supporter of parks and recreational pursuits for many years.

Comstock and his wife, Barbara, have been residents of McLean for 28 years, where they have raised their three children. During that time, Comstock worked as a math teacher at Langley and Falls Church High Schools. He is currently in his 11th year as an assistant principal at Oakton High School. He has coached both soccer and basketball. Comstock also served on the Highlands Swim and Tennis Club Board, as well as acting as treasurer and club manager.

Comstock is currently a member of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna and serves as the librarian for the Potomac River Smallmouth Bass Club. He has been a member of the Friends of Riverbend Park, Friends of the Shenandoah River, and is a supporter of the Shenandoah Riverkeepers. He enjoys fly fishing along the Potomac River and has an interest in the development and maintenance of the many trails in Fairfax County parks.

NEWS

McLean & Great Falls Market Analysis of Home Sales

	(Based on Final Closed Price)				
	>\$3 Mil.	\$2-3 Mil.	\$1.25-2 Mil	\$750k- \$1.25 Mil	<\$750k
2009					
22101	2	29	53	143	182
22102	8	7	22	53	205
22066	3	12	38	80	48
Total:	13	48	113	276	435
	Combined Total: 174			Combined Total: 711	
All Sales 2009: 885					
2010					
22101	8	12	55	154	141
22102	7	17	27	65	181
22066	1	11	69	101	33
Total:	16	40	151	320	355
	Combined Total: 207			Combined Total: 675	
All Sales 2010: 882					

A Tale of Price Recovery

Good houses, priced correctly for the current market, are selling.

BY KAREN BRISCOE

The predominant theme for the 2010 real estate market in McLean and Great Falls is that of price recovery. The number of closed sales was effectively flat: 885 total sales in 2009 and 882 total sales in 2010. In the category of under \$1.25 million there were fewer sales than 2009: 675 in 2010 versus 711 in 2009. The most significant increase in number of sales was in the \$1.25 to \$2 million market segment with 151 in 2010, up from 113 in 2009.

In my view, there is still a price squeeze occurring. Inventory continues to be less relative to de-

mand in the under \$1.25 million price range. With 675 total sales in 2010 in that market segment, that is a demand of 56.25 properties per month. As of Jan. 1, 2011, there were only 141 properties available to purchase, which represents a 2.5-month supply. At the end of the third quarter in 2010, there was a 3.5-month supply, which clearly shows that this market segment is recovering. A balanced market, thus neither a buyers or sellers market, offers a 6-month supply of properties. When there is less than a 6-month supply of inventory, then the market is considered a seller's market.

The over \$2 million price range in McLean and Great Falls is also

on the road to recovery, just not quite as fast. The absorption rate for this segment in 2010 was almost five properties per month. With 95 properties available to purchase as of Jan. 1, 2011, that represents approximately a 19-month supply of inventory, down from a 26-month supply at the end of the third quarter in 2010. It is clearly still a strong buyer's market in the over \$2 million price range and, in my view, true recovery will not happen in that market segment until it becomes balanced and stays that way for some time. The good news though is that the market is moving in the right direction!

This market update continues the theme "A Tale of Hope" from the third quarter of 2010. Be of good cheer: Good houses, priced correctly for the current market, are selling.

Reviewing a New All-electric Car

"Amazing!" declared Christopher Gatti of McLean in his review of the new all-electric Nissan Leaf. The car "does not even have an exhaust pipe." St. John Academy's new fifth and sixth grade writing club got a chance to review the Leaf and gave it almost-all-thumbs-up. The Leaf is one of three finalists in the North American Car of the Year awards now being decided by a group of 49 U.S. journalists including Jayne O'Donnell of McLean, a St. John Academy parent who helped launch the writing club. Cate Willing, also of McLean, found the Leaf "really cool" and assured "you would like to be seen in it." But McLean's Nora Stechschulte wasn't as effusive. While the car, which runs solely on battery power, is "a big step forward in the history of automobiles," she concluded it is "definitely not the best looking car on the market."



The children, left to right, are, front row: Christopher Gatti, Jeffrey Hales, Maddie Schultz, Julia Kushan. Back: Nora Stechschulte, Cate Willing, Katherine Hales, Edward McCormick, Eleanor Kinyon, Christina Martinez. Not visible: Alan Thomas.

Alternatives Studied for Santaballa Field

FROM PAGE 3

She said that carbon black, which was recently classified as a known carcinogen by the World Health Organization, is used in tires to increase their strength. It also breaks down at a nanoparticle level, which creates concerns that the people who use the field will be exposed to it.

"This material was created to roll on the roads, not for human use, and not to be under kids' feet, noses and hair," Michaels said.

"There's not anyone in Innsbruck who is opposed to the Lacrosse Association. We support what they do, we have former lacrosse players and our kids play lacrosse," said Robb Watters, another resident. "But as stewards of this community and our children, we want to see alternatives."

Glen Tofil, of the GFCA, says the organization isn't pushing for a crumb rubber field over another alternative, they are just going through the process that has led to the installation of 26 similar fields throughout the county.

"We considered it a county-approved product, but we're open to considering a totally green field that gives us a place to play," Tofil said. "We're not opposed to alternatives, but some can be cost prohibitive and cost at least 20 percent more."

The GFLA has applied for a \$150,000 grant from the county and hopes to raise the rest of the money

(approximately \$800,000) through its own fundraising efforts.

Glenn Youngkin, another resident of Innsbruck, said "20 percent more shouldn't be an issue. When we're weighing an extra 20 percent against all of these unknowns, that's impossible to balance."

Alternatives include virgin rubber, which isn't treated in the same manner as the recycled tires, as well as fields that use cork and coconut husks, which have been used in Europe and some parts of California.

Michaels said there are also new kinds of grasses being developed that solve some of the wear-and-tear issues that caused the need for a new field.

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) said that he will be the one who ultimately makes the recommendation on the field.

"We've put 26 of these in the county and this issue has not come up before," he said. "We're in a fact-gathering stage and I'm very interested in the results, but we just don't know them yet."

One of the things that makes Great Falls unique among communities with turf fields is their use of residential wells and the fractured bedrock underground, which can lead to unpredictable drainage.

More information on studies on artificial turf fields, as well as other research done by Great Falls residents, can be found at www.greatfalls-cleanwater.org.

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NEWS

Service Above Self Comes to Great Falls

Great Falls resident looks to found Rotary Club Chapter.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

When Great Falls resident Jeff Thinnies was looking for a direction for his life, the Rotary Club helped him find it. Now Thinnies is helping to found a Rotary Club chapter in Great Falls.

"I applied for a graduate fellowship that sent me to Germany and it had a real impact on my life," Thinnies said. "I lived in Germany during unification and still travel there and I've always had Rotary to thank for that."

There are neighboring chapters in McLean, Washington, D.C. and Reston, but not in Great Falls, which is why Thinnies wanted to start one here.

"Great Falls seems like the perfect community to have Rotary," Thinnies said. "Their motto, 'Service Above Self' is a perfect fit



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Jeff Thinnies, a Great Falls resident, is trying to start a Rotary Club chapter in Great Falls.

for this tight-knit, involved community." Thinnies has been recruiting charter members of the club, some of which have had a similar experience with Rotary in their youth.

SEE FOUNDING, PAGE 12



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Key Priorities: Jobs, Transportation, Education

Keeping Virginia the best place to live, work, start a business, raise a family and retire.

BY BARBARA COMSTOCK
STATE DELEGATE (R-34)



In February 2009, a Newsweek cover told us: “We Are All Socialists Now.” While this was telling in terms of letting us know where the new administration in Washington, D.C. and others may have wanted to lead the country, in Virginia – the home of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison — we took a different path.

First, in November 2009, we elected a governor and a majority of the House of Delegates who wanted to reinvigorate entrepreneurial capitalism – not abandon it. Second, we observed Washington D.C.’s federal spending and

taxing spree that our constituents were so concerned about and did the opposite.

In January 2010, when we started with a new governor, a new administration and 20 percent of the House of Delegates newly elected, we were faced with a daunting budget, a challenging economic environment and a \$4.2 billion budget shortfall. Outgoing Governor Tim Kaine left us a proposed budget for the biggest tax

About the Author

Delegate Comstock (www.delegatecomstock.com) represents the 34th District (Great Falls, parts of McLean, Vienna and Herndon) in the Virginia House of Delegates. She serves on the Transportation Committee, the Science and Technology Committee and the General Laws Committee. She was appointed by the governor to serve on the Governor’s Economic Development and Job Creation Commission and was also appointed by the speaker to serve on the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and The National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board.

increase in our history — \$2 billion. And to add insult to injury, his budget would have cut \$60 million in Fairfax County school funds by freezing the school funding formula.

Fortunately, Governor Bob McDonnell and a healthy majority of the General Assembly went in quite a different direction and didn’t tax and spend more. We held the line on both. And we did it on a bipartisan basis.

We balanced the budget without raising taxes. The vote against the outgoing budget with the \$2 billion tax hike was a unanimous 97-0. The Northern Virginia delegation was also unanimously opposed to the proposal to cut our school funding by \$60 million by freezing the school funding formula. We worked with Governor

McDonnell, our local schools, teachers, PTAs and PTOs and our local business community to successfully restore these funds.

The budget cuts which returned our budget to 2006 spending levels were achieved through bipartisan agreement and the budget gained a strong bipartisan vote in the House and Senate. By the fall, we had a budget surplus and lower unemployment – a stark contrast to all but a handful of other states. We also continued to be recognized as a top business-friendly state with the top schools in the country.

There was also strong bipartisan opposition (80-17 against) to the federal government’s mandate to force individuals to buy health care insurance and impose fines if they didn’t. Almost half the House

Democrat caucus (19) joined Republicans to oppose Obamacare.

Already, more than 200 companies and unions (about three dozen unions now that actually supported the bill but can’t function under the mandate) have asked for exemptions from the bill, but states are still forced to shoulder these unfunded costs. The \$2 billion in additional costs to Virginia from the bill wouldn’t even necessarily provide better or more care given the huge new bureaucracy that comes along with it. And this \$2 billion would be on top of the exploding state health care costs we already have. While we have begun to deal with this healthcare challenge, allowing Virginia to find our own solutions rather than Washington dictated solutions would better serve the Commonwealth.

On transportation, we had a much delayed VDOT audit – which naysayers said was unnecessary. It turned out that while we were sitting in traffic and rest stops were being closed in the past adminis-

SEE COMSTOCK, PAGE 9

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OPINION

Be Sure To Let Us Know in 2011

Reaffirming our mission in the new year.

As local, weekly newspapers, the Connection's mission is to bring the news you need about your community that you are not likely to get anywhere else — to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones in community and people's lives.

At the Connection, we begin 2011 by looking for more input from our readers.

First, send us photos of you and your pet plus a few sentences for our Pet Connection, which will appear the first week in February. We'd like to have photos by Jan. 20.

Let us know how we're doing, and let us know what is going on in your part of the community.

We invite you to e-mail us letting us know about something you especially liked or didn't like about our coverage, and to write us letters to the editor.

We learn a lot from readers' ideas and questions. If you see something that you think might

be a story, or just something you wonder about, give us a call, or drop us a line.

We want to know if you have an idea for fixing traffic in your part of the world. We want to know if you've had a good or bad experience with local government or your schools.

We'd like to hear your ideas about how to make things better. If you know of a person or an organization that is interesting, doing important work, and might make a good feature story, let us know.

EDITORIAL

This year, almost every state and local elected official is up for reelection, and we will do our best to let you know why this matters and what you need to know in short bites with some longer analysis along the way. If you have questions you'd like us to ask candidates as we go forward, let us know.

We are looking for interesting people to feature in our pages each week. If someone in your family or your community published a book, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon or having art included in an art show, these are all things that we want to know.

The Connection will publish photos and notes of a variety of community events and

milestones, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, school, etc. Email or mail us a photo and a note about the event. Be sure to include the names of all the people who are in a photo, and say when and where the photo was taken.

We also publish notes about news and events in local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees, anniversaries and other accomplishments and events are welcome.

Our calendar of events lets people know about upcoming events. Send the information at least two weeks ahead of the event, and include a photo if possible. Events to be listed in calendars should be free or at nominal cost and open to the public.

In covering the issues, we strive to provide a voice for our readers. We look forward to hearing from you in 2011. We have a new website in the works (our current site has served us well but is best described as an antique) that will open up many more lines of communication. Stay tuned.

— MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

What Are Our New Year's Resolutions?

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY

PERSPECTIVES

Change is a given. How we intersect with change defines us. Are we thoughtful and proactive? Or do we wait for destiny to stare us in the face before opposing proposed initiatives in an emotional and negative manner?

Our Village, Semi-Rural in Character... Are we willing to have a conversation about what a semi-rural village could actually become? Can we imagine the architectural design of a village that we could all really love? Can planned outcomes be revealed clearly right now? What new construction? What renovations? What modification? What beautification? Do we really need to watch the undoing of septic in Great Falls without the proper preservation commitments in place, whether a historic overlay district, a final architectural design of the end state we all can accept, and/or an agreement to "downzone" to the proper zoning classification?

Bury the Overhead Wires... What is happening to us? More poles of all species of wood, shape, heights and odd supports with more wires of all different colors and thicknesses hung with many types of contraptions and connectors littering our historic road-

sides. More hacked trees. More power outages. More disorder. What is going on? Who can undo this chaos? How can our roadsides be brought to order?

Walking & Biking on Trails — and Carpooling... What will it take for us to mobilize ourselves by foot or bike - \$5 per gallon of gasoline? When will we lay the network for off-road travel—when no other options exist? What about carpooling? When will we proactively share cars on routine daily trips in order to reduce the total number of cars in use? How many cars do we need to eliminate to allow those cars in use to drive at normal speeds to derive fuel efficiency? What will it take to begin a conversation about ridesharing?

Growing Community Talent... We are so lucky to live in a community of highly educated, abundantly talented people — our artists' consortium is the most visible example. How can we create a community in which every form of talent is nourished and treasured to its maximum potential? We need sound, dry fields for our athletes; places for our intellectual nerds and geniuses to experiment; stages for our performers to sing, dance, dramatize, film and/or poetize; studios for our artists; essen-

tial archives and possibly museum space for our historians; and technology infrastructure for our tech-savvy. When will we begin to form other talent consortia such as the artists' consortium, drawing the generations together in respectful coaching and co-learning? What places or new facilities would we need to unfold our talents to their fullest expression? Our local astronomy observatory provides a successful example of how young people in our community enjoy resources they could never buy,

and hobnob with experts who know what they are doing, elbow-to-elbow. Can we envision the full picture of what we need to grow our many talents from the perspective of our community as a whole?

Connecting with the Land... Water flow needs erosion prevention strategies; fertile land grows fruits and vegetables; open fields invite carefully managed meadows in selected areas; etc., etc.

What we dream we can realize. Our challenge is to "dream big" while remaining intimately small.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Slippery Slope

To the Editor:

The recent upgrade of selected walkways in Great Falls typifies the regulatory hypocrisy favored by our political representatives. The ridiculous signs warning of a sloped pavement and the expensive iron railings when there is an uneven shoulder are actually more of a hazard to the pedestrian than the old pavement. It is also obvious from the photo that snow on the school walkway was unshoveled during a time when school was in session.

Our political leaders regulated Wall Street and bankers too, except in areas that affected customers. The President recently stepped in

to control offensive behavior in schools and soon the Navy will take action against group satire within a closed environment. I suspect the 33 Chilean miners who were trapped underground for 69 days also performed satirical impressions of peer behavior to entertain each other. It's a basic component of being human. Free speech and expression. Who is the final judge of what's offensive? Who decides that it's improper to depict Mohamed in a cartoon but it's acceptable art to depict Jesus Christ in a jar of urine? It's a steep and slippery slope!

Gene Phillip
Great Falls

THE CONNECTION

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Newspaper of
Great Falls

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OPINION

Comstock

FROM PAGE 7

tration, VDOT was sitting on \$1.4 billion in transportation dollars which could have been working for us. That has now changed, as well as putting \$500 million in bonds to work for our transportation needs.

And closer to home this year, we were able — through strong bipartisan work — to get VDOT to do an about face and work with our community for a single lane turn onto Georgetown Pike from Route 7 in Great Falls rather than the long planned two lane turn which was strongly opposed by the community. In McLean, we also worked together to make Transurban and VDOT aware of the community's opposition to extending the Hot Lanes past the 495 Georgetown Pike exit, resulting with the company declining to move forward on that proposal.

Of course, budget cuts are always difficult. But while bad habits are often acquired during good times, good habits can be re-learned during tough times. Individual savings are up. We put a freeze on state government hiring. We continue reform efforts and removing certain unfunded state mandates on localities. We continue to be one of the most generous communities. Particularly over our holiday season, we see our community coming together to help those less fortunate and to help fund valuable programs for our community when the government cuts back.

Our unemployment rate of 6.8 percent in Virginia and 4.6 percent in our area is well below the national average of 9.8 percent, and the 10th lowest in the nation. But with 280,000 Virginians out of work, they need our continued dedication.

We return to Richmond on Jan. 12, and once again our focus will continue to be on the key quality of life priorities of our community: Jobs, transportation and education. The governor's budget amendments include new job-creation initiatives, including \$25 million for our technology and research community to leverage private and federal research dollars so we will continue as a technology leader, new investments in higher education, and a plan to put \$4 billion into transportation over the next three years.

All of this leads to getting more people back to good, prosperous jobs and ensuring that Virginia will be the best place to live, work, start a business, raise a family and retire.



Be Part of The Pet Connection in February

Send Your Photos & Stories Now to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

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



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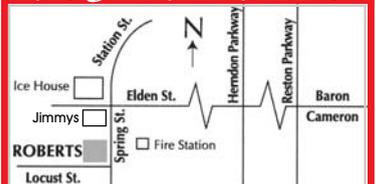
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PHOTO BY TRACI J. BROOKS

Duane Monahan, playing Robert Martin, dances with Claire O'Brien, who plays his fiance Janet van der Graaf in "The Drowsy Chaperone" at the McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, Jan. 14-29, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m. A musical comedy with glamorous brides, tap-dancing groomsmen and more. Tickets are \$17-\$19 with group rates available. 703-790-9223 or www.mcleanplayers.org.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

THURSDAY/JAN. 13

Jammin' Java's Mid-Atlantic Band Battle IV. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

International Guitar Night. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. With Clive Carroll, Alexandre Gismonti, Pino Forastiere and International Guitar Night (IGN) founder Brian Gore. \$25. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/JAN. 14

The OK Corral CD Release. 6:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

"The Drowsy Chaperone." 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Glamorous brides, tap-dancing groomsmen and more. \$17-\$19. 703-790-9223 or www.mcleanplayers.org.

The Peabody Trio. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Chamber music. \$35. Wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/JAN. 15

Sing Me Insomnia and Struan Shields at 6 p.m., **JAMuary, Box & Won, Venise and Empuls** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. at the George Mason University

Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$25-\$55, available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

The Mary Ann Redmond Band. 8 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. Heartfelt ballads and funky tunes. \$20. 703-854-1856 or www.1ststageyosons.org.

"The Drowsy Chaperone." 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Glamorous brides, tap-dancing groomsmen and more. \$17-\$19. 703-790-9223 or www.mcleanplayers.org.

Buskin & Batteau. 7:30 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Folk duo. \$22. Wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/JAN. 16

"The Drowsy Chaperone." 3 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Glamorous brides, tap-dancing groomsmen and more. \$17-\$19. 703-790-9223 or www.mcleanplayers.org.

In Layman Terms and Holly Montgomery at 1:30 p.m. and **McTwist CD Release, Action Item and The Dukes** at 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/JAN. 17

The Toasters (30th Anniversary Tour) with Alma Tropicalia and Ugly. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/JAN. 18

Mystery Book Discussion. 6:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584

Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Please join the mystery book discussion group. Call for title. Adults. 703-790-8088.

Understudies, Punch Drunk Poets, Forever The Win, Caryn Server, Ethan Douglas, Treble Lifter and Chaotika. 6:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/JAN. 19

Travelogue: Voyaging Alaska's Inside Passages. 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Preceded by a cooking demonstration of Alaskan cuisine at 6:30 p.m. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Organ Recital by Russell Weismann. 1 p.m. Saint Luke Parish, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Weismann is university organist and director of music and liturgy at Georgetown University. Free and open to the public. 703-356-0670 or www.musicinmclean.org.

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

American Antique Arts Association. 10 a.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. "Oriental Rugs, History, Care and Conservation" by John Ayoub. pauljoan@cox.net or 703-532-0280.

Pierce Pettis and Grace Pettis. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

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THURSDAY/JAN. 20

Artist's Reception. 7-9 p.m. McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Paintings by Deborah Addison Coburn. Mpaart.org.

Warm Up to a Good Story. 10:30 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Stories and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-293-6227.

Afternoon Reading Group. 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Water for Elephants by Sarah Gruen. Adults. 703-293-6227.

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

OK Book Discussion. 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. People of the Book by Geraldine Brooks. Adults. 703-242-4020.

Schiavone, We Were Kings and My Radio. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/JAN. 21

"The Drowsy Chaperone." 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Glamorous brides, tap-dancing groomsmen and more. \$17-\$19. 703-790-9223 or www.mcleanplayers.org.

"Our Town". 7:30 p.m. James Madison High School, 2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna. Small town residents find love and learn about life. \$5. madisondrama.com.

English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. English conversation group for adults. 703-938-0405.

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Learn and play. Age 5-18. 703-938-0405.

SATURDAY/JAN. 22

Perú Negro With Eva Ayllón: "Festejo". 8 p.m. at the George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A group of more than 30 dancers and musicians performs the rhythms, sounds and movements propagated along Peru's coast by African slaves, joined by singer Eva Ayllón. Tickets \$23-\$46, available at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

"The Drowsy Chaperone." 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Glamorous brides, tap-dancing groomsmen and more. \$17-\$19. 703-790-9223 or www.mcleanplayers.org.

"Our Town". 7:30 p.m. James Madison High School, 2500 James Madison Drive, Vienna. Small town residents find love and learn about life. \$5. madisondrama.com.

Ars Nova Chamber Orchestra. 7:30 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., N.E., Vienna. Devienne's

Quartet for Bassoon and Strings, Op. 73, Mozart's Piano Quartet in G Minor, K.478, and Wagner's Siegfried Idyll. Joel Lazar, conductor. arsnovawashington@gmail.com.

Microsoft Access. 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Introduction to creating, modifying and mastering databases using Microsoft's Access program. Age 13 and up. 703-293-6227.

VITA Tax Assistance. 10 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Tax help. IRS-certified volunteers help taxpayers who earned up to \$49K. Adults. 703-790-8088.

Langley High School Fashion Show. 7 p.m. Langley High School Auditorium, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. "Once Upon A Runway: A Fashion Fairytale". sarahbenz3604@hotmail.com.

Birding in the Gardens. 10 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Join a naturalist to learn about bird life and identification in the gardens. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. 703-255-3631 ext. 106.

Creature Teacher. 2 p.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. A special presentation about snakes, turtles and frogs. Free. 703-255-3631 ext. 106.

The Bigger Lights, Boys Will Be Boys and The Love Light at 6 p.m. and **Fight The Bear, Overdrive Superthruater** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

8TH ANNUAL MCLEAN MLK DAY CELEBRATION

Embrace the Dream
A Blues & BBQ Dinner

Sunday, Jan. 16
5-7 p.m.

This year's event features the music of Curtis Blues, a preservationist of acoustic Delta Blues of the 1920s and 1930s. The BBQ dinner will be catered by The Tender Rib of Temple Hills, Md. This program is produced in cooperation with the **DC Blues Society**.

\$5 adults
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The McLean Community Center
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Registration is available online at www.mcleancenter.org



Last Stand Band: David Schatz, Zach Walker, Michael Richardson

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Cashmere's Topia Band- from left, Kevin Nejad, Brian Patterson, Alex Lichtenstein.

Langley Presents a Coffeehouse Concert

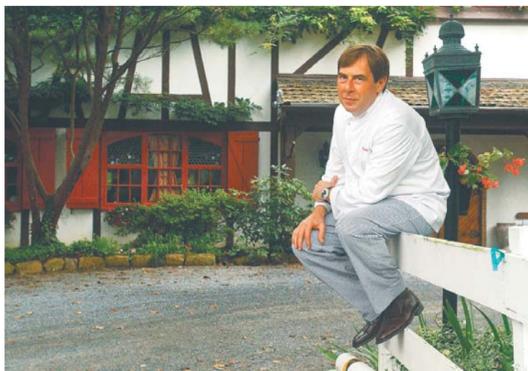
On Saturday, Jan. 8, Langley High School Theatre Honor Society students presented the "LHS THS Coffeehouse Concert" at Jammin Java in Vienna. This eclectic afternoon showcase included cool bands, solo musical performances, and comedy. The audience enjoyed performances of rock, pop, show tunes and original musical compositions.



Nicole Kang - Senior

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Jacques Haeringer in front of his restaurant.

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Prices include the demonstration, lunch or dinner with fine wines, written recipes for the home chef, and all taxes and gratuities. As always, Chef Jacques and the staff at L'Auberge Chez Francois will accommodate any dietary restrictions and concerns with advance notice.

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Founding Rotary Chapter in Great Falls

FROM PAGE 6

"When I was in sixth grade, I received a leadership award from Rotary Club and it really made a big impression on me," said Tom Dungan, a charter member and CEO of Management Solutions. "I think it also presents a really good opportunity to get to know people in this community at a deeper level and to do some good."

Maryam Baradari, a senior executive at Accenture, is also a charter member along with her husband. She said he is looking forward to taking an active role in the various causes supported by Rotary.

"I can't tell you how excited I am to not just write a check, but to give my time, get my family involved in making a difference," Baradari said. "I think it will also be important to show our children how important it is to give back and hopefully we'll get the opportunity to think globally and act locally."

Baradari says she is interested in a number of causes that have affected her personally, such as diabetes and breast cancer, but she



PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Volunteers at a Stop Hunger Now event package meals at the Lutheran Redeemer Church in McLean last November. The Rotary Club of McLean helped organize the event, raise money and recruit volunteers.

is also passionate about education, particularly children's education.

The McLean Rotary Club is serving as sponsor for the Great Falls

Club, and McLean Rotary Club president Glenn Yarborough says he is happy to welcome a new club.

"I think it's marvelous that we're going to have a club right next door and we were happy to sponsor them," he said. "I think it's going to be a lot of fun working with them."

Rotary is one of the largest providers of international scholarships, the 32,000 clubs in more than 120 countries help with many causes around the world as well. Local chapters have donated money for students to take Electronic Field Trips to Williamsburg, participated in the Dulles Airport Fantasy Flight during the holiday season and helped package more than 100,000 meals for starving people around the world.

"As an organization, Rotary is always looking for service opportunities to build fellowship and goodwill," Thinnis said. "Everywhere they go, the communities are grateful they exist, and I think we'll have a real impact in Great Falls as well."

For more information on Rotary, contact Thinnis at jthinnis@jtiinc.net.

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Kathryn Peyton (fourth from left) with one of her IB economics classes.

Marshall High Teacher Honored

Kathryn Peyton named Virginia's 2010 Outstanding Economic Educator of the Year.

BY MIRIAM MCPHIE
THE CONNECTION

Three years ago, Kathryn Peyton began teaching at George C. Marshall High School and promptly started pushing for the school to offer International Baccalaureate (IB) classes in economics. Her interest in teaching economics sprung from years of putting her MBA to use in the professional business world. Last year, her hard work paid off when students began to enroll in the first IB Economics class Fairfax County Public Schools had seen in several years. She was recently rewarded for her efforts by being named Virginia's 2010 Outstanding Economic Educator of the Year.

Marshall is currently the only school in Fairfax County that offers IB Economics, though Peyton hopes more IB schools will follow Marshall's example soon. By next fall, all Virginia high schools will require students to take an economics class before graduation.

"Kids want to take econ," Peyton says, "and the current economic situation in our

country provides the best lab." She encourages her students to keep up-to-date on the nation's financial conditions and to think critically about all the information presented to them.

Several schools in the area that provide Advanced Placement courses have economics classes, which Peyton explained are similar to the International Baccalaureate class. "The difference lies in where their focus is," Peyton notes. "AP economics focuses primarily on domestic and micro level matters, while our IB economics looks at both domestic and international issues."

Because IB does stress an emphasis on global topics, Peyton makes sure her students are aware of the financial situations in other regions of the world, particularly third world countries. Many of her lessons are interactive, such as having her students figure out ways they would balance our national budget and showing them videos of foreign sweatshops.

Peyton was nominated by Kurt Waters, the high school Social Studies Specialist for Fairfax County Public Schools. He said that while there are a great number of very strong economics teachers in Fairfax County, Peyton came immediately to mind this year.

"She has worked in the business industry and brings a lot of relevant perspectives to her teaching," Waters said.

Peyton is currently working to develop new lesson plans and creative ways to teach the course, which she hopes will make it easier for teachers to approach some of the more difficult content.

SCHOOL NOTES

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

Whole Foods of Tysons will host a demonstration at Chesterbrook Elementary with Chef Matt Finarelli on Jan. 20, 5 p.m. Finarelli create a healthy lunch box and demonstrate how to make a nutritious meal for children. Samples and recipes provided.

Whole Foods, 7511 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Claire.Montaut@WholeFoods.com.

McLean residents **Jun Woo Choi**, **Nathaniel Eliason** and **Andrew Kwon** were named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Choate Rosemary Hall. Choi

is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Byung Wook Choi and So Yeon Lee, Eliason is the son of Randall Dean Eliason and Cherie Renee Kiser, and Kwon is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Goohoon Kwon.

McLean residents **Gregory R. Epremian** and **Meaghan E. Gilmore** have been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Bucknell University of Lewisburg, Pa. Epremian is the son of Jeffrey and Annette Epremian, and Gilmore is the daughter of Shaun and Lynn Gilmore.

Gillian Eiserman of McLean has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Bridgewater College of Bridgewater, Va. Eiserman is a freshman majoring in business administration.

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21 Announcements

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21 Announcements

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AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications facility on an existing hotel located at 1401 Lee Hwy, Arlington, VA. Three new LTE antennas, one per sector, will be installed at heights of 130 feet, 133 feet and 137 feet on the roof. Two radio heads will be added per sector (6 total), and new equipment cabinets will be placed on the rooftop equipment platform. 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 61107409-MAT c/o EBI Consulting, EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403 or via telephone at (781) 273-2500.

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
In Re: Adoption of Baby Girl Tort, a minor, No A076 of 2010 in the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. To: "Dave" The Unknown Natural Father of Baby Girl Tort, who was born on May 29, 2010, in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. A Petition has been filed asking the Court to put an end to all rights you have to the child, Baby Girl Tort. That hearing will be held in Orphans' Court, 1700 Frick Building, 437 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15219 on **Wednesday, February 16, 2011, at 1:30pm.** You are warned that even if you fail to appear at the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to the child may be ended by the Court without your being present. You have the right to be represented at the hearing by a lawyer. You should take this paper to your lawyer at once. If you do not have a lawyer or cannot afford a lawyer, go to or telephone the office set forth below to find out where you can get legal help. If you cannot afford to hire a lawyer, please advise the office of that when you telephone or visit.
LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE, The Allegheny County Bar Association, 11th floor, Koppers Building, 436 7th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-261-5555.
DEBORAH L. LESKO, Esquire, attorney for Petitioner, 373 Vanadium Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15243. 412-276-4200

Of Maximum Importance



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

By the time this column prints on Jan. 12, 2011, I will have met with my oncologist and discussed the results of my end-of-December scans. Given the Jan. 5, 2011 due date of this column however (as was the case with last week's column), it is being written and submitted for copy-editing consideration before the Jan. 7, 2011 appointment with my oncologist will actually have occurred. Ergo the continuing uncertainty.

This kind of waiting and wondering and mind-racing-out-of-control is nothing new for me, nor is it for any patient, terminal or otherwise, who is scanned/X-Rayed and/or examined regularly (women waiting for the results of a mammogram certainly come to mind). And though I don't think I feel any differently (meaning symptomatic/worse), I do feel something. And that something is inevitability. Consider the fact that my oncologist initially told Team Lourie back on Feb. 27, 2009 that I had 13 months to two years to live and Feb. 27, 2011 (the end of that two years) is merely six weeks away, and I'm sure you can imagine the calendar-watching I'm obsessing on.

And as much as I want to, try to, ignore that original prognosis (I hesitate to characterize it as fact since medicine is, after all, a science; it's not arithmetic), it is nearly impossible to do so. Moreover, I have made many changes in my life since first receiving my cancer diagnosis, and they, presumably, along with my attitude, have served me well and likely enabled me to maintain an atypical quality of life (for a terminal patient, I mean) and to outlive that original prognosis. However, as a long-time salesman, I can't shake one of the adages that many of us have learned to live by: "Waiting for the other shoe to drop." Meaning, something negative is lurking – which you can't control. And the corollary to that adage/attitude is inevitability: the longer the news is positive, the closer it gets to being negative. (Or for non-terminal salespersons – in general: "Every 'No' is one step closer to a 'Yes.'")

Not that I'm depressed or on any kind of mental slide, it's more that I'm living a very time-sensitive existence, according to my oncologist. And having been diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer which, generally speaking, doesn't go away, and in my case is inoperable to boot, doesn't exactly enhance what quality of what life you do have. So minimizing anything that is happening to me: symptom-wise, diagnosis-to-date-wise or plain old words-to-the-wise-wise, is challenging to say the least; and the bane of that existence to say the most.

But what else is new? Nothing! This recurring quarterly cycle is of course familiar to me – at this juncture, and comfortable, sort of. I go to the same places, see the same people, follow the same routine. And for me, "same" is good as is "familiar." It lessens the impact and eliminates any of the awkwardness. All of which contributes to managing stress – and stress, as I've been repeatedly told, especially as it effects terminal/cancer patients, is a killer (literally and figuratively). And since being the exception that proves the rule has been my mantra, I am happy to find a path of less resistance.

Still, knowing what I know and doing what I do, doesn't make life any easier, it just doesn't make it more difficult than it already is. And simplifying the cancer tasks (as well as most others, if you want to know the truth) is my goal, because I've reached a point where I can no longer be bothered. I'm already bothered enough.

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

Home Life Style

Elegant and Efficient

Less is more as homeowners seek higher quality in smaller spaces.

BY JOSHUA BAKER,
PRESIDENT, BOWA
SPECIAL TO THE CONNECTION

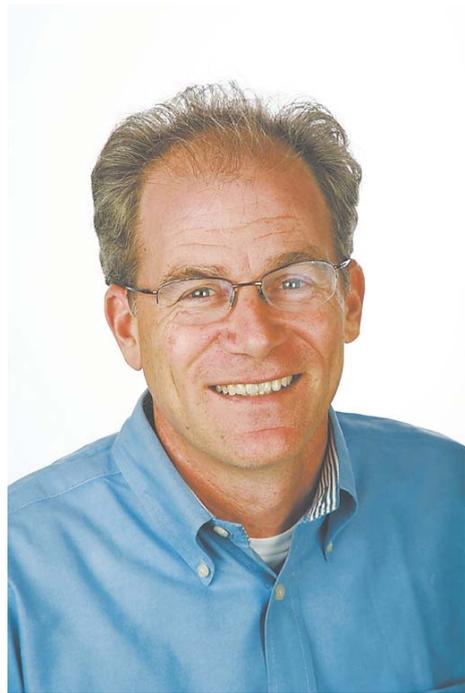
Today's homeowners are much more informed and educated about what they want in a home. Travel, home shows, the internet and a greater focus on the importance of transforming a house into a home, have led homeowners to be very particular about what renovations they do and how they go about them.

No longer are people limited to cookie-cutter plans from a builder selecting little more than the color of the tile or carpets. Instead today's homeowners have embraced the idea of actively participating in determining customized solutions that will best suit their family's needs, wants and lifestyle.

Here are remodeling trends that BOWA Builders predicts for 2011.



This Great Falls renovation reconfigured existing space to provide a family and entertainment friendly space in the family room and kitchen.



Josh Baker, president of BOWA Builders.

the existing homes in our area were not designed for the way we live today. Small, compartmented rooms, a kitchen that is meant to be occupied by two or three people at most and formal rooms that separate the family from each other are no longer the types of spaces families' desire. As a result today's home remodeling projects often focus on reconfiguring, opening up and otherwise improving existing spaces to better suit the way today's families live, play and entertain. Because many BOWA clients lead hectic schedules outside of the home, they continue to trend toward remodeling projects that create highly usable, comfortable living spaces in their home. Families want practical and appropriate spaces in their home retreats because they treasure their time there.

KITCHENS - TRANSFORMATION BY DESIGN Kitchens are the social center of our homes and need to accommodate a myriad of uses. While sometimes the solution is adding square footage, particularly in homes built 30 or more years ago, frequently the solution lies in rethinking the layout and improving the connection to surrounding spaces, both interior and exterior. In



A sophisticated media room renovation in McLean allows for much more than viewing movies.

one BOWA project, the wall separating the formal dining room from the kitchen was removed completely, creating a spacious casual kitchen. The new expanded eating area was a much improved use of the families existing space, and is now consistent with their lifestyle and priorities.

THEATERS - AS LIVING SPACES

Media rooms have become more and more prevalent as families look for ways to incorporate the latest technology into their homes and lives. While these rooms began as home theaters they are evolving to fit many more aspects of family life. No longer is their sole purpose to showcase a movie while the audience sits quietly in the dark in rows of comfortable seating. Incorporating theater seating with lounge seating and counter space provides an opportunity to socialize with friends during the game or gather the family on a weekday evening. After a recent BOWA renovation, the theater is now used each evening as the family relaxes together with their own focus or project.

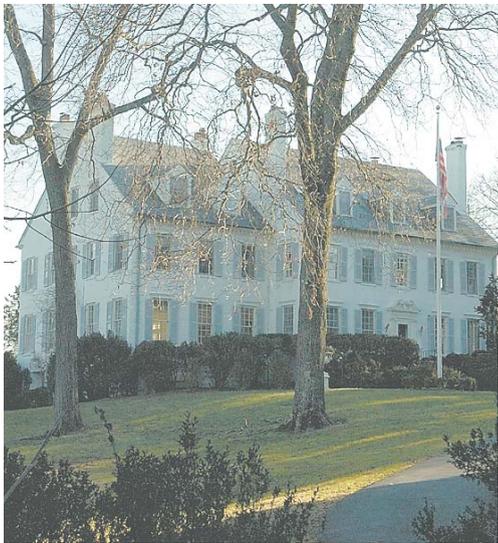
REPEAT REMODELERS Require

SEE ELEGANT AND EFFICIENT,
PAGE 17

Fairfax County REAL ESTATE

Top Sales

A look at some of the top sales of 2010



2 1147 Chain Bridge Road, McLean



1 1322 Balls Hill Road NE, McLean



3 10350 Elizabeth Street, Great Falls



23 330 Ayr Hill Avenue NE, Vienna



4 6622 Malta Lane, McLean

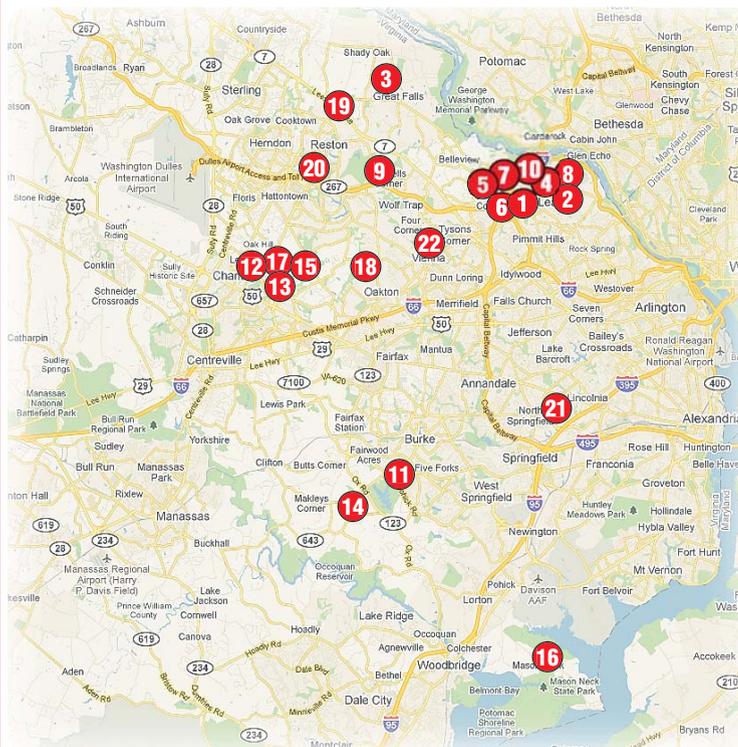
THE TOP TEN

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 1322 BALLS HILL RD NE	7	8	3	MCLEAN	.....	\$10,200,000	Detached	2.05	.....	ELMWOOD ESTS	10/28/10
2 1147 CHAIN BRIDGE RD	12	10	1	MCLEAN	.....	\$8,250,000	Detached	5.63	.....	LANGLEY FARMS	01/07/10
3 10350 ELIZABETH ST	7	10	3	GREAT FALLS	.....	\$6,500,000	Detached	2.71	.....	GOULDMAN ACRES	07/01/10
4 6622 MALTA LN	5	7	1	MCLEAN	.....	\$6,160,000	Detached	1.00	.....	LANGLEY FARMS	03/17/10
5 8113 SPRING HILL FARM DR	5	5	1	MCLEAN	.....	\$4,402,132	Detached	1.17	.....	SPRING HILL FARM	04/15/10
6 7301 DULANY DR	5	6	2	MCLEAN	.....	\$4,335,000	Detached	2.19	.....	ELMWOOD ESTS	08/12/10
7 7681 BALLESTRATE CT	6	6	3	MCLEAN	.....	\$4,000,000	Detached	1.03	.....	THE RESERVE	08/03/10
8 1127 LANGLEY LN	7	5	1	MCLEAN	.....	\$3,850,000	Detached	0.60	.....	LANGLEY FARMS	05/18/10
9 1532 CROWELL RD	5	5	3	VIENNA	.....	\$3,750,000	Detached	2.83	.....	BROWNS MILL ESTATES	11/11/10
10 7029 BENJAMIN ST	5	5	1	MCLEAN	.....	\$3,603,350	Detached	1.10	.....	LANGLEY FOREST	06/11/10

SOME OTHER TOP SALES IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

11 9829 SUMMERDAY DR	4	4	1	BURKE	.....	\$1,175,000	Detached	0.86	.....	BURKE LAKE MEADOW	08/09/10
12 3408 MEYER WOODS LN	5	4	2	FAIRFAX	.....	\$1,310,000	Detached	0.83	.....	THOMPSON ROAD PROPERTY	05/18/10
13 3491 ROSE CREST LN	4	4	1	FAIRFAX	.....	\$1,240,000	Detached	0.99	.....	OAK HILL ESTATES	05/27/10
14 11001 SANDY MANOR DR	5	4	1	FAIRFAX STATION	.....	\$1,685,000	Detached	5.01	.....	SANDY RUN FOREST ESTATES	04/28/10
15 12191 GOLDENCHAIN CT	4	4	2	HERNDON	.....	\$1,445,000	Detached	1.25	.....	SHADETREE ESTATES	09/08/10
16 11191 GUNSTON RD	5	6	1	LORTON	.....	\$3,600,000	Detached	5.26	.....	STONE MANOR ON THE POTOMAC	09/29/10
17 12827 PARAPET WAY	4	5	1	OAK HILL	.....	\$1,350,000	Detached	1.20	.....	OAKTON CHASE	07/23/10
18 2601 GENEVA HILL CT	5	5	1	OAKTON	.....	\$1,475,000	Detached	0.94	.....	HANNAH HILLS	07/29/10
19 11284 STONES THROW DR	5	3	2	RESTON	.....	\$1,290,000	Detached	0.69	.....	ESTATES AT WYNDHAM HILLS	08/12/10
20 11776 STRATFORD HOUSE PL #11043	3	3	0	RESTON	.....	\$1,060,000	Penthouse	.....	.....	STRATFORD	01/29/10
21 5253 MONROE DR	6	5	1	SPRINGFIELD	.....	\$1,075,000	Detached	0.41	.....	EDSALL ROAD PROPERTY	07/20/10
22 330 AYR HILL AVE NE	6	5	2	VIENNA	.....	\$2,200,000	Detached	0.53	.....	VIENNA	07/22/10

SOURCE: MRIS, INC. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MRIS, VISIT WWW.MRIS.COM.



© Google Map data

Top 8

Home design and remodeling trends for 2011.

Case Design and Remodeling identified what they believe will be the top eight trends in home design and remodeling for 2011. Based on emerging industry developments and customer requests, the list was compiled by Bill Millholland, executive vice president at Case.

- 1. LED or compact fluorescent (CFL) lighting** – Homeowners are moving away from incandescent fixtures toward more energy-efficient choices such as LED and CFL bulbs.
- 2. High-quality synthetic materials for home exteriors** – Synthetic materials such as Hardie Plank siding and PVC trim pieces mimic the look of natural materials like wood, but are much more durable and better able to withstand climate changes.
- 3. Large format bathroom tiles** – Smaller square tiles are being replaced with tiles measuring 12" x 12" or larger, as well as non-square shapes (12" x 18"), producing flooring and walls that showcase more tile and fewer grout lines.
- 4. Multiple finishes on kitchen cabinetry** – Complementary multiple stains and a mix of painted and stained finishes on cabinetry enables homeowners to escape the look and feel of a "cookie cutter" kitchen where all surfaces match.
- 5. Screened porches** – Homeowners are extending their living areas with screened porches that allow them to enjoy the outdoors throughout the year without the nuisance of insects.
- 6. "Furniture-like" detailing in kitchens** – Varied cabinet and counter heights, distressed finishes and furniture-style toe kicks provide visual interest and help eliminate the "component" look of many kitchen cabinet designs.
- 7. Heated bathroom flooring** – Heated mats underneath bathroom flooring tiles provide radiant heat that is proven to keep homeowners warmer than forced-air heating systems, helping to save on energy costs.



With drawer inserts for cutlery, spices or dividers, homeowners are making better use of every available space within their kitchens, as in this McLean kitchen renovated by Case Design and Remodeling.

8. Kitchen cabinet accessories – With drawer inserts for cutlery, spices or dividers, homeowners are making better use of every available space within their kitchens.

"The remodeling industry is poised for substantive growth in 2011 due to the number of options available to homeowners wanting to revive their living spaces," said Millholland.

For more, see CaseDesign.com or call 800-513-2250.

Elegant and Efficient

FROM PAGE 15

ments for homes change as the family grows and matures. Often what worked wonderfully when a couple is starting out with small children is no longer the best option as everyone gets older and schedules, hobbies and family dynamics evolve. Many families find that they decide to complete multiple projects during the life of the home. In other cases it just makes sense to phase projects to minimize interruption or spread the costs over time. Year after year, a number of BOWA clients return to us ready to take on the next phase of their home remodeling projects. For one local family, BOWA recently completed its fifth project including a family room expansion, a master suite addition and garage, a guest suite renovation, kids' bath renovations, and an exterior make-over.

HIGH PERFORMANCE HOMES For some homeowners the desire to be "green" and minimize

their impact on the environment will drive them to investigate new available options, such as high-efficiency windows. For others it is the desire to reduce the costs of maintaining a home. For still others it is to reduce the contaminants that may exist in our homes. Today's answers to these issues can be flaunted in the design of a renovation or seamlessly incorporated into a home without compromising the integrity of the design. Whatever the goal, we recommend to all BOWA clients that they consider having an energy audit completed on their home before undergoing any renovations. The resulting report will pinpoint many small changes that can drastically improve a home's performance. Often these items can be incorporated into the planned renovation without driving substantial cost increases. These can include adding insulation in unseen gaps in the home envelope, changing the means of heating water or updating out-moded appliances and equipment.

For more, see www.bowa.com.

OPEN HOUSES

Saturday & Sunday, Jan. 15th & 16th



6903 Lupine Lane, McLean
\$1,795,000 • Open Sunday 1-4 pm
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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.



McLean

6903 Lupine Lane.....\$1,795,000...Sun 1-4....Jan and Dan Laytham...Long & Foster.....703-759-7777

Falls Church

411 West Broad St.....\$325,000...Sun 1-4....Keith Harris.....Samson Properties...703-395-6601

Reston

2031 Beacon Place.....\$679,900...Sun 1-4....Barbara Hendrickson...Keller Williams.....703-901-9200

Herndon

13511 George Wythe Ct....\$385,000...Sat 1-4....Olga Aste.....Century 21.....703-624-4199
 13511 George Wythe Ct....\$385,000...Sun 1-4....Rich Langguth.....Century 21.....703-609-3079
 12506 Northern Valley Ct...\$549,900...Sun 1-4....Suzanne Burch.....Century 21.....703-328-5606

Vienna

9411 Cello Court.....\$739,500...Sun 1-4....Heather Embrey.....McEneaney.....571-236-2616
 2006 Roundhouse Rd.....\$1,049,997...Sun 1-4....Chris Brown.....Long & Foster.....301-928-2479

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10719 Oak Pl.....\$399,900...Sun 1-4....Denene Crabbs.....Century 21.....202-487-4949
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 10500 Elmira Ct.....\$529,000...Sun 12-4....Lena Restivo.....Weichert.....703-855-7341

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12204 Henderson Rd.....\$749,000...Sun 1-4....Carol Hermandorfer.....Long & Foster.....703-503-1812
 12851 Popes Head Rd.....\$849,000...Sun 1-4....Carol Hermandorfer.....Long & Foster.....703-503-1812

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Sterling

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 20921 Trinity Sq.....\$419,990...Sat 1-4....Judy Willis.....Long & Foster.....703-430-1000
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To add your FREE Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please contact Salome Gaibler at 703-778-9421 or salome@connectionnewspapers.com All listings are due by Monday at 3 p.m.

Saxon Swimmers Ready for Postseason

Langley girls remain unbeaten following victory over Madison.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Both the Langley High girls' and boys' swim/dive teams are enjoying highly successful seasons within the Liberty District this winter.

The Lady Saxons improved their record to 5-0 last Friday night when they defeated Madison, 207-108, in the meet held at Oak Marr Recreation Center. Both teams, Langley and Madison, entered the pivotal district meet with unbeaten 4-0 records. But it was the Saxons who emerged victorious, remaining unbeaten and having the inside track to the regular season title with just a couple of weeks remaining.

The Langley boys, meanwhile, experienced their first loss of the season on Friday when they fell to unbeaten and defending district champion Madison, 200-115. Over their first four meets this season, Langley had beaten McLean, Stone Bridge, Marshall and Fairfax.

Both the Langley girls' and boys' teams will meet South Lakes High this Friday night at Audrey Moore Recreation Center before closing out the regular season the following Friday (Jan. 21) versus Jefferson.

The district championships will be held the weekend of Jan. 28-29 at Audrey Moore.

"We have been having a great season so far," said Langley head coach Ryan Jackson, of both his girls'

and boys' squads.

The Langley squads have received strong leadership from their team captains - Meghan Overend, Karen Schirm, Christy Meyer, Alex Brumas, Chuck Katis, and Trager Metge.

"They have been instrumental in leading the team," said Jackson.

Several Langley swimmers have qualified for the Virginia State Championships postseason meet, which will take place the weekend of Feb. 18-19. For the Langley boys, both Chuck Katis and Ryan Natal have earned seedings at states - Katis in the 200-IM, 100-back, 100-free and 100-breaststroke events; and Natal in the 100-fly, 50-free, 100-free and 200-free events. The boys' 200-medley relay is also a state qualifier.

Meanwhile, on the girls' side, three Saxon relays - the 200-medley, 200-free and 400-free - have earned state qualifications. Individual girls to earn state bids thus far have been Jayme Katis (200-IM) and Abi Speers (50 and 100-free races).

NUMEROUS SAXON swimmers have locked up seedings for the Northern Region Championships, which will take place the weekend of Feb. 3-5 at Oak Marr Recreation Center.

Chuck Katis has qualified to compete in the 200-IM, 100-back, 100-free and 100-breaststroke events at regionals, while Natal has qualified in the 200-free, 100-fly, 50-free and 100-free races.

For the Langley girls, region qualifiers include Jayme Katis in the 200-IM, 100-free, 200-free; Meghan Overend in the 50-free, 100-fly, 100-back, 100-free, 200-free; Karen Schirm in the 100-breaststroke; Abi Speers in the 50-free, 100-free, 200-IM; and Allie Zeidan in the 200-free.



Jayme and Chuck Katis

'Wonder Twins' Move On

Chuck Katis will swim at Harvard, Jayme at Virginia Tech.

Langley High's "Wonder Twins," Chuck and Jayme Katis, have gone crimson and maroon - with Chuck committing to swim at Harvard and Jayme at Virginia Tech.

The buzz of an alarm wakes them while all-nighter sessions are shutting down. In order to give themselves time to stretch, eat, and change before beginning practice at 4:50 a.m., the Katis twins - Chuck and Jayme, both Langley High seniors - set their clocks to sound as early as 4:10 on Monday and Friday mornings, not to mention three hour daily training sessions immediately following the school dismissal bell - a sound which normally signifies freedom to most other high school students.

Nevertheless, the twins have been honing their focused regiment for more than 10 years; they started swimming when they were only six and slowly transitioned into year-round swimmers, starting at the age of seven, while playing other sports including ice-hockey and soccer.

Within the past year, they have contributed substantially to both the Langley High swim team and to their USA club team, Curl Burke.

The twins both served on national high school record setting relays, albeit in different strokes. Furthermore, while

Chuck was given the opportunity to represent the United States in Ireland at the 2010 Irish Nationals, Jayme held lifetime best times at the 2010 USA Speedo Super Sectionals meet in Buffalo over the summer, aiding Curl Burke's victory at the national competition.

Despite common assumptions that twins are generally similar, if not identical, in social aspects of life, Chuck and Jayme are more different than their common sports interests and abilities seem to imply. This especially resonates with them and their mother as their college years approach - the prospects of their separate ways loom ahead. However, their athletic and academic strengths have made the normal college search more inviting and much quicker. The twins were encouraged by coaches to complete their college applications prior to the start of the school year, before many students had considered where they wished to apply, and later took recruiting trips to the schools which most interested them.

In the end, Chuck committed to swim at Harvard (Cambridge, Mass.) in the spring, inspired by the surrounding city's energy, while Jayme decided to remain in her native Virginia and compete for the burgeoning swim program at Virginia Tech.



PHOTO COURTESY/LANGLEY HIGH

Torrie Zarella (center) of Langley High School will play women's lacrosse at the University of Cincinnati next school year.

The McLean 7th grade select boys' basketball team had a spectacular holiday season. First, the locals won the 7th grade Braddock Road Youth Club (BRYC) Thanksgiving Tournament by beating Vienna in the finals. Then, playing up a year, they won the more recent 8th grade BRYC Holiday Tournament with a finals win over the Virginia Rapids. Members of the team reside in Vienna, McLean, Great Falls and Falls Church. From left to right: Grant Robinson, Patrick Ryan, Preston Whitman, Jack Coleman, Chris Murphy, Chase Barrand, Coach-Chris Leggett, Andrew Trainer, and Brett Wellde. For more information on the team, contact coach Leggett at chrisleggett@yahoo.com.



PHOTO COURTESY/MCLEAN TEAM

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