

Home
Life
Style

Home Life Style

OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 9 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 11 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13

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8 Sides
Of a Dream

HOME LIFE STYLE, PAGE 10

River View
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HOME LIFE STYLE, PAGE 11

Creating a
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HOME LIFE STYLE, PAGE 12

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* By readers of the *Virginia Gazette* 2007-2009



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6:30 PM Wednesdays: Chapel, Prayer Service

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4/22-Good Friday Service at 7:30pm
4/23- Saturday Easter Vigil Service at 5:30pm
4/24- Easter Sunday Traditional Worship at 8:30 and 11am
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Jimmy Cirrito, owner of Jimmy's Old Town Tavern in Herndon, serves as auctioneer during the 20th annual Taste of the Town at Worldgate Plaza April 7.



From right, Jeff Sinclair of Herndon greets Mayor Steve DeBenedittis and Councilmember Jasbinder Singh at the Taste of the Town festival April 7, which benefited the Council for the Arts of Herndon. Town and county officials manned the council's table, serving drinks and interacting with guests.

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

A Taste of Herndon

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Jimmy Cirrito, owner of Jimmy's Old Town Tavern and recently crowned Northern Virginia's "King of Wings," remembers a month ago when it looked like his restaurant would fall to Glory Days in the Final Four of the annual tournament, held by Northern Virginia Magazine.

"We were doing our trivia night and I saw we were losing, so I announced that we were losing, and if everyone got their friends to vote for us, I would do the chicken dance in my underwear in the street," Cirrito said. "Everyone started sending texts and Facebook messages, and soon I even had a custom pair of boxer shorts to wear while doing the dance."

Wearing a hat shaped like a giant chicken wing, the newly crowned King of Wings was one of dozens of local businesses that took part in Herndon's 20th annual Taste of the Town Festival April 7 at Worldgate. The event, which serves as a fundraiser for the Council for the Arts of Herndon, was attended by close to 800 people hoping to sample the best of Herndon's cuisine.

"When it comes to quantity and quality of food, it's hard to beat this festival," said Omar Kashani of Herndon. "Within 50 feet you can get Thai, Indian, Mexican, American, almost any type of food you can dream of, and some that surpass my wildest dreams, like the chocolate fountain."

The chocolate fountain, provided by The Chocolate Chick, allowed guests to bathe a fruit, cookie or marshmallow of their choice in cascading chocolate. For many who visited the event, the fountain was the appetizer, the dessert and a mid-meal snack.

"First I started with a few chocolate-covered strawberries, you know, to start the evening healthy," said Barbara Dobrun of Chantilly, with a laugh. "I finished the meal with some chocolate covered Oreos, but I'd be lying if I said there weren't a few steps back at the fountain. But hey, if stuffing my face with chocolate helps the arts community, I guess it's a sacrifice I have to make."

This year featured many restaurants that are new to the community, or hadn't participated in the event



Adina Urrutia of Herndon dips a strawberry in the chocolate fountain at the 20th annual Taste of the Town festival at Worldgate April 7.

before.

"There are a lot of places that have opened in the past year or so and this is a huge opportunity for them to introduce themselves to the community," said Grace Han Wolf, Herndon councilmember and member of the Council for the Arts of Herndon. "Herndon is known for its quality restaurants, I don't think I've eaten at a restaurant outside of Herndon in years."

Even the veteran Herndon restaurant owners participated. Curcio, owner of the Tortilla Factory, the oldest full-service restaurant in Herndon, says that events like this are part of what they do.

"This is one of the most fun events we have all year," Curcio said. "Over the years, I've come to look on our customers as extended family. We're on our fifth generation of some families coming to the restaurant and countless people come there after weddings, funerals or birthdays. I see people all the time, coming back from college or some time overseas, and as soon as they're back in Herndon, they head to the Tortilla Factory."

At the Council for the Arts table, local officials such as Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), Herndon Mayor Steve DeBenedittis and town council members dispensed beverages to customers, especially the ones who were looking to cool the burn from some of Jimmy's Old Town Tavern's wings, which was conveniently at the next table.

"This is the kind of event that makes Herndon a really cool place to live," said Scott Dwyer of Herndon. "I think it's a special thing to come out

SEE TASTE, PAGE 5



Terry McAuliffe speaks to members of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce at their luncheon April 6, about his experiences starting a new car company, designed to provide electric cars and hybrids at an affordable price.

PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Bringing Renewable Energy to Virginia

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce hosted their monthly Newsmaker Luncheon April 6, featuring guest speaker Terry McAuliffe. McAuliffe, who served as chairman of the Democratic National Committee from 2001 to 2005, is the founder and chairman of GreenTech Automotive, which aims to make an affordable electric car.

McAuliffe likened today's quest for renewable energy as an opportunity on par with the internet in the 1990s.

He criticized state leadership for not adopting a renewable energy standard for Virginia. A renewable portfolio standard (RPS), places an obligation for a state to generate a certain amount of its power through renewable sources. Virginia has a 12 percent standard by 2022, but it is voluntary.

States like Maryland (20 percent by 2022), Delaware (20 percent by 2019), Pennsylvania (18 percent by 2020), North Carolina (12.5 percent by 2025) all have non-voluntary RPS, and Washington, D.C. has a 20.4 percent standard by 2020.

"This is one of the great technology corridors in the country, but we have no renewable energy standard," he said. "It's hard to bring renewable business to Virginia with no RPS. If I'm going to start a wind farm, I'm going to do it in a state with a standard."

McAuliffe claimed the need for renewable energy was not a political matter, it is about creating jobs where they are

needed.

"Whatever the folks in Richmond think about renewable energy, it's about jobs. It's not partisan, jobs are jobs," he said. "We need an RPS standard to compete with our neighbors."

He said as a country, the United States was falling behind China and Germany in terms of renewable energy.

"It's also important for national security," he said. "We can't continue to import 58 percent of our oil from countries that generally don't like us."

HE RECALLED reading about how Saudi Arabia was going to put billions into wind and solar power and how puzzled he was that a country so rich in oil would take such steps.

"I met with King Abdullah [bin Abdul-Aziz] and asked him why. He said when they use oil for power in-country, it costs about \$1.47 a barrel. When they sell it, they get \$100 a barrel for it," he said. "He told me 'I don't want to use a drop of oil to create power here,' and as a businessman, that made sense to me."

McAuliffe said he came up with the idea for GreenTech Automotive after a visit to London. When he was walking back to his hotel, and he saw a small electric vehicle — known as a neighborhood electric vehicle — and offered the driver \$100 to take it for a spin.

GreenTech will produce five different models, two electric and three hybrids, with the first car scheduled to be completed by July 4. He hired 2,000 people to work in his plant, which is in northern Missis-

SEE GREEN, PAGE 5

NEWS

WMAA Chooses Underground Subway

More expensive option for Dulles Airport metro station draws criticism.

BY NICHOLAS M. HORROCK
THE CONNECTION

The Washington Metropolitan Airport Authority voted 9 to 4 last week to override Virginia State and local officials and select an underground subway station that will cost \$330 million more than an above ground plan that was considered.

The action brought immediate criticism from Sean Connaughton, Virginia's secretary of Transportation and from the chairmen of the Loudon and Fairfax Boards of Supervisors.

Frank Wolf, the Republican congressman who represents Virginia's 10th District which includes Dulles Airport, called it a "bad decision. The WMAA had a chance to cut more than \$600 million from the project and chose not to."

Wolf has been a long time critic of WMAA's management and has asked the U.S. Government Accountability Office and the Department of Transportation's inspector general to make a "comprehensive review of WMAA's operations."

BUT IF ANYTHING, the WMAA's action underscores the delicate nature of operating in the shadow of the capital of the richest and certainly the most powerful nation on earth. Like the Department of Defense's decision to move some 20,000 employees from Maryland, Washington and Arlington to Fairfax County, the local governments can object and resist, but the nature of the national needs can often overcome local governments.

Mame Riley, who chairs the board's Dulles rail committee, believes she and her colleagues made the right decision. The underground stop will be closer to the main terminal, about 550 feet away, and allow passengers to stay under cover until they enter a walkway with moving belt to the terminal. The open air station, though cheaper, would have been 1,150 feet away.

"If you're a family and you're traveling to India with a lot of kids and lot of luggage," she said in an interview, "that's a long haul."

According to Riley, the above ground plan was a "second class station for a first class airport," reminding her of old style bus stations.

Riley said the reality is that Dulles is in competition with the Baltimore Washington International Airport, which has gotten higher marks for customer convenience and accessibility (what she and others call the "schlep test;" how far you have to "schlep" your bags to get to your plane.)

Though Riley said she is totally sympathetic with the letters from Sharon Bulova (D-at large), chairman of the Fairfax Board of Supervisors and the Loudon County chairman, she believes that the authority can trim other costs and make up the difference of the underground station. "I've been told by some that the rail yard is 'gold plated' at \$330 million and I think we can save there and other places," she said. The board had already trimmed the subway plans.

Riley said she has talked to members of the Fairfax Board of Supervisors who have privately told her that they approve of the board's action, but in the aftermath of the economic crisis and facing an election they could not say so publicly. "They told me that it is the board's job to take the long view," she said. "This subway station will be operating 50 to 75 years from now."

THE UNDERGROUND OPTION will cost \$912 million to build and is scheduled to be completed in mid-2017. The above ground station would have been done in 2016.

Former Congressman Tom Davis, a member of the WMAA and the Dulles rail committee, led the critics in meetings last week. He argued that in choosing the more expensive station, the authority was failing its "partners," Fairfax and Loudoun counties which share 25 percent each of the cost. Some 50 percent will come from revenue of the toll road from the Beltway to Dulles and the Greenway and the rest from the federal government and the state of Virginia.

Davis warned in the committee meeting that extravagance in the second phase could see the subway end at Wiehle Avenue in Reston. He argued that some estimates suggest only 7 percent of the subway's riders will be airline passengers, but Riley countered that the 13,000 employees at Dulles- TSA screeners, maintenance and other personnel will certainly be major candidates for subway service.

Robert Clarke Brown, who headed financing issues on the committee, said the cost of the station is only 5 percent of the \$6 billion total price tag on the rail line. Both he and Riley made the point that very reason for the WMAA being involved in the subway line was to get a subway to Dulles, one of the fastest growing airports in the nation.

"The whole toll road involvement was to get a subway out to Dulles," Riley said.

But perhaps Brown underscored the underlying issue at the board's meeting last week when he noted that both Dulles and National had been designed by famous architects and planned to be welcome points to the nation's capital. Indeed, Eero Saarinen, the designer of the terminal building at Dulles, was perhaps the greatest architect of the 20th century.

"Dulles deserves a first class subway station," he said in an interview.

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday.

Oakton United Methodist Church, 2951 Chain Bridge Road in Oakton, will offer "The Seven Last Words of Jesus on the Cross" at their April 22 Good Friday Service. Contact 703-938-1234 or www.oaktonumc.org.
12 p.m. Word 1: Luke 23:34a with Rev. Beth Neubauer, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Vienna.
12:25 p.m. Word 2: Luke 23: 43

with Dr. Edward Bauman, Chaplain, Virginia Hospital Center, Arlington.

12:50 p.m. Word 3: John 19: 26 with Rev. Chris Bowman, Oakton Church of the Brethren, Vienna.

1:15 p.m. Word 4: Matthew 27: 46 with Dr. James Hoffman, Fairfax Baptist Church, Fairfax.

1:40 p.m. Word 5: John 19:28 with Rev. Donna Johnson, Unity of Fairfax, Oakton.

2:05 p.m. Word 6: John 19:30 with Rev. Don Hawks, Oakton United Methodist Church.

2:30 p.m. Word 7: Luke 23:46 with Rev. Don Hawks, Oakton United

Methodist Church.

Washington Plaza Baptist Church, 1615 Washington Plaza in Reston, has announced their Holy Week events. The regular weekly Sunday worship service is at 11 a.m., followed by lunch together at 12 p.m. Contact 703-471-5225 or www.washingtonplazachurch.com.

Maundy Thursday Service, April 21. 7 p.m. Experience Christ's last night through narration and music...

Reston Community Good Friday Service, April 22. 12 p.m. Share the story of Christ's last hours through scripture & prayer.



PHOTO GALLERY!

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To honor Mom on Mother's Day, send us your favorite snapshots of you with your Mom and The Connection will publish them in our Mother's Day issue. Be sure to include some information about what's going on in the photo, plus your name and phone number and town of residence. To e-mail digital photos, send to:

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Or to mail photo prints, send to:
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Green Opportunity Discussed

FROM PAGE 3

sippi. "I wanted to bring these jobs to Virginia, but they do not bid on these types of projects," he said. "It seems crazy to me. I have another facility I was hoping to bring to Virginia, but Mississippi has offered me 200 acres and \$6 million in incentives. I have a fiduciary duty to my shareholders. Virginia has got to get into the game."

Laura Poindexter of Laura B Creative, a small business marketing and graphic design studio, said she learned a lot about how Virginia operates.

"I didn't know a lot about what he said, that we had no RPS, that we don't bid on large projects like the GreenTech factory," she said. "They were all very good points about what Virginia needs to do to let the business community take advantage of this opportunity."

THE FIRST 100,000 electric cars produced will cost around \$10,000 for the lead acid battery and \$15,000 for the lithium ion battery. The MyCar will travel 70-80 miles on a single charge.

Bill Lauer, chairman of the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce, said he thought McAuliffe did a fantastic job bringing to light some of the issues Virginia will face in the future.

"It was a little alarming to hear we don't have an RPS, it seems like a way we can compete," Lauer said. "We need to be pro-active in the economic development arena and a standard seems to be exactly what we need locally and as a state to stay competitive."

Taste

FROM PAGE 3

and see your mayor, your council and your supervisor just hanging out, meeting people. I've lived in a lot of places where the only time you see an elected official is on the front page when they've done something wrong, but this really helps you feel like you're part of a bigger whole."

Vicky Dorman, president of the Council for the Arts, said the event was a lot busier than last year and that the top selling item at auction was the hot air balloon rides. Five rides were sold.

For more information on the Council for the Arts of Herndon, visit www.herndonarts.org.



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9 Things You Must Know Before Putting Your Home Up for Sale

Washington, D.C. A new report has just been released which reveals the 7 costly mistakes most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you to avoid them and sell your home fast and for the most money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional approaches to selling homes have become increasingly less effective in today's complex and fast paced society. The fact of the matter is that three quarters of home sellers don't get what they want for their homes, become disillusioned and – worse – financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report shows, most home sellers make the same 7 deadly mistakes costing them thousands of dollars needlessly. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a FREE, Special Report called, "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar."

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FRIDAY, APRIL 22
GOOD FRIDAY
12:10 p.m. Way of the Cross*
7:30 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday*

SATURDAY, APRIL 23
HOLY SATURDAY
9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Saturday
8:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter

APRIL 18, 19, 20
12:10 p.m. Eucharist*

THURSDAY, APRIL 21
MAUNDY THURSDAY
6:00 p.m. Agape Meal
7:30 p.m. Eucharist*

SUNDAY, APRIL 24
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OPINION

Striving to Tell Community Stories

The Connection Newspapers, including the Alexandria Gazette Packet, the Mount Vernon Gazette and the Centre View, won dozens of news awards for work published in 2010. Awards were announced at the Virginia Press Association annual conference in Norfolk on April 9.

Michael Lee Pope won nine awards writing for the Arlington Connection, the Alexandria Gazette Packet and the Mount Vernon Gazette, including investigative writing, public safety writing, education writing,

EDITORIAL breaking news writing, business and financial writing, obituary writing, feature writing and headline writing. Pope also reports for WAMU radio and authored a book, "Ghosts of Alexandria," in 2010. Pope's award-winning writing included local police departments' lack of transparency and refusal to share information that is public in almost every other state.

Alex McVeigh garnered awards for public safety writing for his coverage of the burglary spree in Northern Virginia, and for feature writing in the Reston Connection.

Julia O'Donoghue won first place for her coverage of Fairfax County School Board decision-making and communication on redrawing school boundaries and decision to close Clifton Elementary School.

News Awards

- ❖ First place, Michael Lee Pope, Obituary Portfolio, Personal Service Writing, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ First place, Michael Lee Pope, Feature Series or Continuing Story, Creating a Police Oversight Board, Mount Vernon Gazette
- ❖ First place, Michael Lee Pope, Public Safety Writing: Price of Justice; Seeking Complaints; The Buoy Druggers; Mount Vernon Gazette
- ❖ First place, Bonnie Hobbs, Public Safety Writing: Killing Yields Five Years; Child Molester Sentenced to Prison/Parents of Pedophile's Victims Speak Out; Fireworks Lead to Death, Jail, I Just Wanted Him Held Accountable, Centre View Southern Edition
- ❖ First place, Mary Kimm, Editorial Writing: Tolls and a Transportation Fix; Police Power Demands Transparency; Breast Cancer Awareness; The McLean Connection
- ❖ First place, Julia O'Donoghue, General News Writing, School Board Email Communication, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection
- ❖ First place, Louise Krafft, Picture Story or Essay, Elementary School Track Meet, Mount Gazette
- ❖ First place, Craig Sterbutzel, Sports News Photo, Spartans Repeat as Region Champions, Springfield Connection



Mary Kimm won first place for Editorial Writing in the McLean Connection and Alex McVeigh second place for Public Safety Writing in the McLean Connection and third place for feature writing in the Reston Connection.

Bonnie Hobbs, longtime reporter with the Centre View, won first place for her well-known public safety writing, and also for feature series for her compelling coverage of 3-year-old Rachel D'Andrea's struggle with neuroblastoma; Rachel died in January.

Managing editor Mike O'Connell won two awards, one for page design and one for overall newspaper design.

Mary Kimm won two awards for editorial

- ❖ First place, Reed Albers, Sports Writing Portfolio, Springfield Connection
- ❖ Bonnie Hobbs, Feature Series or Continuing Story, Rachel D'Andrea, Centre View Southern Edition, second place,
- ❖ LaShawn Avery-Simons, Sports Feature Photo, Inaugural Bridge Half Marathon, Alexandria Gazette Packet, second place
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Breaking News Writing, Snowmageddon Grips Alexandria, Crushing, Money Down the Drain; Alexandria Gazette Packet, second place
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, General News Writing, Controversy Along The Waterfront; Alexandria Gazette Packet, second place
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, In-depth or Investigative Reporting; Police Transparency Blackout, second place
- ❖ Craig Sterbutzel, Sports News Photo, Celebratory Splash, The Burke Connection, second place
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Headline Writing, Arlington Connection, second place
- ❖ Michael O'Connell, Page Design, Springfield Connection, second place
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Business and Financial Writing, \$7 Billion Stimulus; Fewer Services, More Taxes; Board Raises Taxes, Arlington Connection, second place

writing, including editorials on police power, remembering on Memorial Day, Virginia's challenge to the health care law, transportation, budget and breast cancer.

Our photographers, whose work is so important to community coverage and Connection style, won many awards. Louise Krafft won three awards for picture story and essay, and for her photographic contributions to Alexandria's Talk of the Town page. Craig Sterbutzel won first place for sports news. Deb Cobb won for her epic Day in the Life of Chantilly and her contributions to the Burke Connection. LaShawn Avery-Simons won first place for sports feature.

Jeanne Theismann, who joined the Gazette and Connection staff well into the contest year in 2010, nevertheless won two awards, one for her feature photography and one for headline writing.

Nick Horrock, who covers BRAC and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors after a distinguished national career, will be inducted into the Maryland-Delaware-DC Hall of Fame on April 21, 2011.

Jon Roetman, Ken Moore, Laurence Foong and the staff of the Potomac Almanac won awards in the Maryland-Delaware-DC press association news contest; the specific awards will be announced next week.

- ❖ Mary Kimm, Editorial Writing: Adding Painful Cuts; Cuccinelli Misleads on Costs, Remembering on Memorial Day, Fairfax Connection, second place
- ❖ Alex McVeigh, Public Safety Writing, Series of burglaries hits McLean, McLean Connection, second place
- ❖ Julie Ferrill, Laurence Foong, Louise Krafft, Specialty Pages or Sections, Talk of the Town, Alexandria Gazette Packet
- ❖ Jeanne Theismann, Headline Writing: For Whom the Bell Tolls; Ghost Writer; Plaid Tidings; Love on the Docks; Anchored in Alexandria, Alexandria Gazette Packet, third place
- ❖ Jeanne Theismann and Louise Krafft, Picture Story or Essay, Plaid Tidings; Alexandria Gazette Packet, third place
- ❖ Deb Cobb, Picture Story or Essay, A Day in the Life of Chantilly, Centre View Northern Edition, third place
- ❖ Michael O'Connell, Julia O'Donoghue, Jon Roetman, Rich Sanders, Deb Cobb; General Makeup, Burke Connection, third place
- ❖ Michael Lee Pope, Education Writing: Behind the Cafeteria Wall; Racial Divide; Instruction Versus Administration, Arlington Connection, third place
- ❖ Alex McVeigh, Feature Story Writing, Family, friends reconnect 20 years after teen's death, Reston Connection, third place

Providing Food for Others

BY MARILYN SILVEY
FOR THE CONNECTION

The need for free food in our area rose 90 percent over the last three years, according to Roxanne Rice, executive director of Food for Others, the largest distributor of free food in Northern Virginia.

While the demand has remained high, we are able to keep up with the need, she said, thanks to an increase in volunteers and assistance from area groups and businesses, which allow Food for Others to expand its services.

"We distribute food to more than 2,000 families each month at our warehouse in Fairfax, where we have increased our hours," Rice said. "And we have increased to 15 our distribution sites on street corners, in churches and other places throughout the area."

NEEDY CLIENTS come from every Northern Virginia zip code, Rice said, and they are mostly the working poor. "They may be working two jobs, but they may get laid off, or someone gets sick or dies, and they can't make it on a low

SEE FOOD, PAGE 7



Jessie and Tim Groszkowski, owners of the Great Harvest Bakery in Herndon, share their bread at area anti-hunger events.

THE CONNECTION

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Newspaper of
Oak Hill & Herndon

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

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Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

NEWS DEPARTMENT:
To discuss ideas and concerns,
Call: 703-778-9410
e-mail:
herndon@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

Nick Horrock
County & Projects
nhorrock@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

Editor in Chief
Steven Mauren
Managing Editors
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Photography:
Louise Krafft,
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Geovani Flores, Laurence Foong,
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CIRCULATION: 703-778-9426
Circulation Manager:
Linda Pecquex
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

Jerry Vernon
Executive Vice President
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse
Controller

Debbie Funk
National Sales, 703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

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

NEWS

Food for Others

FROM PAGE 6

income, when the average household income in Fairfax County is over \$100,000 a year." What has saved Food for Others is an increase in the number of volunteers – now over 1,000 a year – who donate food and money, pick up donations at markets, sort and give out food at the warehouse, sit at the front desk and keep records, go into field to harvest foods in season, and much more. Businesses have increased their contributions of both money and employee assistance.

"We get a lot of support from corporate groups, like the Mars Company, Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, who bring their employees to volunteer. We have schools that send us volunteers regularly, such as Madeira, and others that lead walks and hold food drives to raise money for us. And we have non-profit groups like Reston's Giving Circle of Hope, which holds an annual public event that will fund all our programs for two and a half weeks," Rice said. That event, Empty Bowls, will be held this year on April 29. An annual benefit supper for hunger relief, it is held at St. John Neumann Catholic Church and last year attracted 600 people and raised about \$18,000. Chair Cathy Waters said it is so successful because there are virtually no expenses and the whole community is behind it. "We have potters who make and donate the beautiful bowls that our guests take home. We have nine of the area's best restaurants and bakeries that donate soups, chili, bread and desserts. We have Girl Scouts who come and serve food and drinks and musicians who come and play and sing, and it is truly a community event," Rice said.

RESTAURANT AND BAKERY PARTNERS in the Empty Bowls venture are enthusiastic about helping out. Tim Groszkowski bought the Great Harvest bakery in Herndon last year after working there for nine years. He says he is happy to keep the bakery's tradition of community service.

"It's important to be a supporter of the community and continue the tradition of giving back."

Director Rice says that such community events as Empty Bowls increase individual awareness of hungry people and of the organizations like Food for Others that exist to assist them. Fortunately, she says, awareness often leads to action.

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

THURSDAY/APRIL 14

"Thrill Me: the Leopold and Loeb Story." 8 p.m. The Elden Street Players at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The story of Leopold and Loeb, the Chicago "Thrill Killers" of 1924. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$7-\$15. www.ringling.com or 202-683-3238.

Teen Cupcake Party. 7 p.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Celebrate National Library Week with cupcakes, games, and talking about your favorite fiction. Age 12-18. 703-437-8855.

Baby Steps Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Interactive storytime. Age 13-23 months with adult. 703-689-2700.

Book Discussion Group. 7:30 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein. Adults. 703-689-2700.

"Fiddler on the Roof." 7:30 p.m. Park View High School, 400 West Laurel Ave., Sterling. \$7 students and seniors, \$10 adults. PatriotDrama@gmail.com.

FRIDAY/APRIL 15

"Thrill Me: the Leopold and Loeb Story." 8 p.m. The Elden Street Players at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The story of Leopold and Loeb, the Chicago "Thrill Killers" of 1924. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$7-\$15. www.ringling.com or 202-683-3238.

"Fiddler on the Roof." 7:30 p.m. Park View High School, 400 West Laurel Ave., Sterling. \$7 students and seniors, \$10 adults. PatriotDrama@gmail.com.

SATURDAY/APRIL 16

Herndon Native Up for Miss Indiana Title

Kara Adelle Mitchell, a lifelong resident of Herndon and graduate of Herndon High School, has won the title of Miss Ball State University 2011 and will now compete for the title of Miss Indiana in June in Zionsville, Ind.

Mitchell is a 21-year-old senior at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind. on the Academic Achievement Scholarship. She graduates in May with a Bachelor's of Arts in Advertising with minors in French and Dance Studies. Mitchell grew up in Fairfax County where she graduated from Herndon High School and is the daughter of Cynthia Mitchell of Prince George. At Herndon High, she was on the



The Weekend Bluegrass Concert Series presents Mill Run on Saturday, May 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road in Herndon. The traditional bluegrass band from Disputanta, Va. features the husband and wife team of Bobby Goff, Jr. and Billie Sue Goff. Tickets are \$12. <http://millrunbluegrass.intuitwebsites.com>.

"Thrill Me: the Leopold and Loeb Story." 8 p.m. The Elden Street Players at the Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. The story of Leopold and Loeb, the Chicago "Thrill Killers" of 1924. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

Something Different 2011. 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. The Elden Street Players, Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Four short improvised plays for young audiences, including The Gingerbread Man, The Cracked Pot, The Pied Piper and The Rabbit's Judgment. Written and directed by Holly Harrington. \$7. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

St. Elizabeths Hospital and the Civil War. 9:30 a.m. Frying Pan Park Visitor Center, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Keith Young will speak on St. Elizabeths, its shop for manufacturing prostheses, and its role in treating soldiers psychologically damaged by wartime experiences. The hospital cemeteries' burials span 1856-1983. Sponsored by Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc. \$5 donation requested, free to FCCPA members. 703-437-9101 or www.honorfairfaxcemeteries.org.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. 11:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$7-\$15. www.ringling.com or 202-683-3238.

Kaveri Kannada Sangha. 3 p.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Art and drama meeting. 703-437-8855.

Ryan Buckle & Friends: Science You Can Sing To. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Music and science with Ryan Buckle and Zella the Zookeeper. All ages. Register at 703-689-2700.

Spring Wildflower Walk. 1:30 p.m. Reston Museum, 1639 Washington Plaza, Reston. Meet at the Museum for orientation and to carpool to the Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston. After viewing the wildflowers, continue along the stream valley path to the major stream restoration in the Glade area. All welcome. 703-709-7700 or restonmuseum@gmail.com.

"Fiddler on the Roof." 7:30 p.m. Park View High School, 400 West Laurel Ave., Sterling. \$7 students and seniors, \$10 adults. PatriotDrama@gmail.com.

SUNDAY/APRIL 17

Something Different 2011. 2 p.m. The Elden Street Players, Industrial Strength Theatre, 269 Sunset Park Drive, Herndon. Four short improvised plays for young audiences, including The Gingerbread Man, The Cracked Pot, The Pied Piper and The Rabbit's Judgment. Written and directed by Holly Harrington. \$7. 703-481-5930 or www.eldenstreetplayers.org.

A World War II German/American Love Story. 2 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Author Melvin R. Bielawski talks about the books he authored about life during World War II. Adults. 703-689-2700.

ESL Advanced. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Adults practice English in a group with a volunteer facilitator. 703-689-2700.

ESL For Jobs. 6 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. English conversation and job skills. Adults. 703-689-2700.

ESL Conversation. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for adult non-native speakers. 703-242-4020.

Kids' Science. 3 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Explore scientific topics through activities. Age 6-8. 703-689-2700.

ESL For Jobs. 6 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. English conversation and job skills. Adults. 703-689-2700.

ESL Conversation. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for adult non-native speakers. 703-242-4020.

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"Live Wire." 4 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Theater of the First Amendment recreates the look, sound and feel of the classic radio days of the 1930s with "Live Wire," featuring a selection of authentic shows drawn from Mason's extensive Federal Theatre Project archives. Pre-performance discussions, free to ticket holders, begin 45 minutes prior to the performance at the Center for the Arts on the Center's Grand Tier III. Tickets are \$18-\$36 at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$7-\$15. www.ringling.com or 202-683-3238.

MONDAY/APRIL 18

English Conversation. 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for adult non-native speakers. 703-242-4020.

Kids' Science. 3 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Explore scientific topics through activities. Age 6-8. 703-689-2700.

ESL For Jobs. 6 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. English conversation and job skills. Adults. 703-689-2700.

TUESDAY/APRIL 19

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$7-\$15. www.ringling.com or 202-683-3238.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Internet, Word and Excel basics. Adults. 703-242-4020.

Cats and Dogs Preschool Storytime. 7 p.m. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center St., Herndon. Stories and rhymes. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-437-8855.

Baby Steps Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Interactive storytime. Age 13-23 months with adult. 703-689-2700.

ESL Advanced. 10:30 a.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Adults practice English in a group with a volunteer facilitator. 703-689-2700.

A World War II German/American Love Story. 2 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. Author Melvin R. Bielawski talks about the books he authored about life during World War II. Adults. 703-689-2700.

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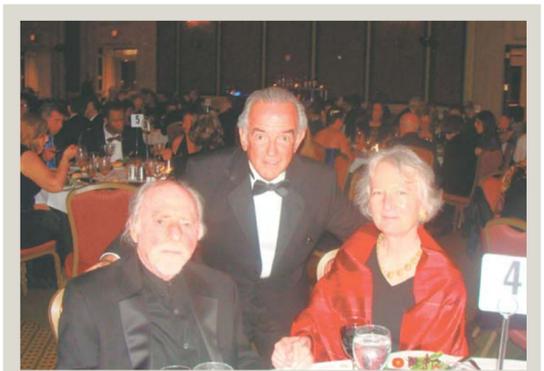
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ESL For Jobs. 6 p.m. Reston Regional Library, 11925 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston. English conversation and job skills. Adults. 703-689-2700.



Rudy Tassara (standing), pictured at the last year's event with Reston founder Bob Simon and his wife Cheryl Terio Simon. Simon praised the event as a 'fantastic combination of location, food and music.'

Tango Comes to Reston

One of the most elegant and entertaining evenings of the year is once again coming to Reston: On Saturday, April 23, the Herndon Rotary Club with the support of the Haitian Embassy of Washington D.C. is sponsoring a special evening at the Reston Hyatt Regency Hotel featuring a live 30-piece orchestra, professional tango dancers and instructors, and a three-course dinner with complimentary Argentine wines.

Tango, popularized in the U.S. by the movies of Rudolph Valentino in the 1920s, has seen a recent resurgence in popularity thanks to Dancing With the Stars.

Argentine born Herndon businessman Rudy Tassara, who grew up with a passion for tango, has been planning every detail of the evening for months with a committee of business and professional leaders from

the Herndon-Reston community. The atrium of the Hyatt will welcome arriving guests with a cash bar, a wide variety of silent auction items and professional dancers giving a demonstration "taster" of the evening to come. After the meal and show, a professional tango dance instructor will give live lessons to guests on the dance floor.

Herndon Rotary is the community's oldest and largest service club, active since 1939. In the last several years, the Club has worked with Rotary Clubs in Haiti to provide access to education, health care and clean water. Proceeds from the evening will go to ongoing community projects in Pignon, Haiti and to helping youth, improving schools and providing scholarships for students in the greater Herndon area.

For tickets, call Rudy at 703-478-2800 or go to www.herndonrotary-tango.com



Members of Girl Scout Troop 1867 of Herndon display their rain barrel.

tures of the Chesapeake Bay and the surrounding plants, birds and insects symbolize life on land.

The girls hope their artwork will

inspire others to join in their vision of a future that includes a healthy Chesapeake Bay in a verdant watershed.

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Octagon House, a Long-Awaited Dream

Design explores rare 19th century architectural style.

BY JOHN BYRD
THE CONNECTION

Good things come to those who wait sometimes in memorable shapes. It was almost 30 years ago, in fact, that Susan Cooper first got a glimpse of her future dream house and another 20 years before she discussed the vision with someone who could properly interpret it. Cooper contends that the result — one of the few octagon houses in the United States — was worth the wait.

“An old boyfriend’s family had an octagon-shaped country house,” Cooper recalls. “I was fascinated with the irregular lines and the creative interior design the shape allows. So smitten, I immediately began to plan an octagon house of my own.”

Cooper indulged in a recurrent labor of love, sketches, floor plans, design details and several scale models. Still, it wasn’t until 1986 that Cooper had a chance to review the project’s feasibility with a real architect, Joe Burton, principal of JA Burton Architects in Vienna.

Burton was designing commercial interiors for Rucker Realty Group where Cooper was employed. The two shared a love for the Romantic-revival period architecture (1850 to 1910), the octagon house being a favorite, and by the late 1980s, Cooper had commissioned Burton to convert her concepts into working drawings.

The Northern Virginia native even put Burton’s plans out for bid, only to conclude the interviewed builders weren’t right for her special assignment.

Eventually, Cooper hired Burton to build a more conventional house for herself and her husband. But when her husband died a few years ago, Cooper knew it was time to commence work on the long-forested dream home.

“An octagon house is essentially a radiant pattern — like a spider web — that proceeds from a central core and links eight horizontal beams to eight equidistant vertical shafts,” Burton explains. “This structure, in turn, directs the search for symmetry into a continually compelling convergence of the functional and the decorative.”

WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN SPORADIC EXPERIMENTS with the octagon’s demanding geometry, the style’s pioneer was American architect Orson Fowler, who authored a seminal work on the topic. Fowler was persuaded that the design greatly improves on traditional shapes by augmenting both natural light availability and outdoor visual continuum. While some Fowler-influenced homes were built in the mid-19th century, the design never enjoyed



PHOTOS BY GREG HADLEY



wide spread popularity; today there are fewer than 500 authentic octagon houses in the country.

“Certainly the shape mainly appeals to owners with a particular sensibility,” Burton said. “When you’re looking to create personalized spaces, this is a fascinating configuration.”

Structurally, Burton designed a 6,400 square-foot three-level home around a belvedere-topped central atrium that features a glass-encased elevator.

“I had the belvedere fabricated off-site, then craned into place,” Burton said.

The main level consists of an entryway with a living room off to the right and the kitchen and informal dining to the left. One can walk through the atrium to the formal dining room, then circle back in either direction. Cooper finds the plan confers each room with privacy while simultaneously encouraging strollers to roam about freely.

“There cannot be a better plan for entertaining,” Cooper said. “I’ve had up to 60 guests and found I had plenty of space to add tables where needed.”

Cooper selected Mexican Saltillo tiles for the first level flooring. Burton introduced brick-hued variants in a pattern to emulate the home’s web of structural supports.

The second level provides three bedrooms, each with a private bath. The lower level incorporates a spacious family room and an additional guest room.

As one would expect of a Romantic-revival style home, the transition from inside to outside is a critical piece of the architectural statement. A generous veranda completely circumscribes the home’s main block. A spacious breezeway, crowned with a 16x16-foot skylight, links the house to a two-story outbuilding.

Burton notes that an essential consideration was sighting the structure with an eye

Architect Joe Burton designed a 6,400 square-foot three-level home around a belvedere-topped central atrium that features a glass-encased elevator.

towards focal points. On this score, Burton positioned the living room fireplace and built-ins to obstruct a view of the only close neighbor. Other windows present inviting portraits of surrounding woodland, a vista Cooper has begun enhancing with a series of landscaping projects.

Joe Burton periodically holds workshops on residential architecture. Contact 703-321-0021 or jburtan@burtonarch.com for information.



Susan Cooper and Joe Burton in front of Cooper’s Octagon dream in McLean.

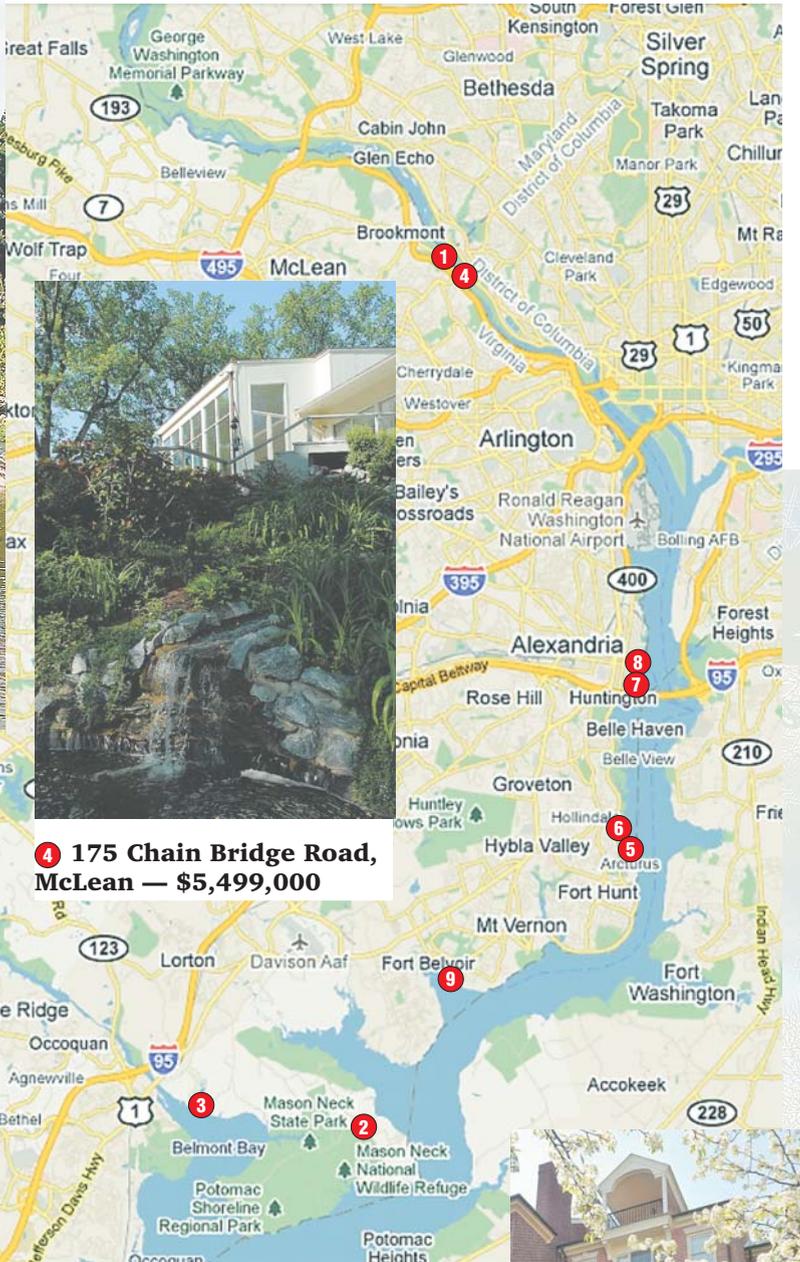
Northern Virginia REAL ESTATE

Potomac River View Properties on the Market

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION



1 636 Chain Bridge Road, McLean — \$10,995,000



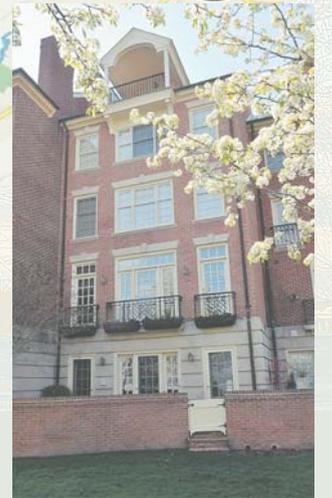
4 175 Chain Bridge Road, McLean — \$5,499,000



6 7608 Southdown Road, Alexandria — \$2,750,000



5 7808 Southdown Road, Alexandria — \$3,555,000



8 6 Wolfe Street #22, Alexandria — \$2,550,000

Address	MLS#	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Price	Type	Lot AC	Subdivision	Listed by	Agent
1 636 CHAIN BRIDGE RD	FX7544964	10	8	1	MCLEAN	\$10,995,000	Detached	6.52	MCLEAN'S GOLD COAST	Washington Fine Properties LLC	William F. X. Moody
2 11201 GUNSTON RD	FX7324475	6	8	2	MASON NECK	\$7,995,000	Detached	5.131	STONE MANOR ON THE POTOMAC	McEneaney Associates	Sue Goodhart
3 10606 BELMONT BLVD	FX7469424	4	3	1	LORTON	\$7,000,000	Detached	7.735	BELMONT BAY	Long & Foster	Pascale Karam
4 175 CHAIN BRIDGE RD	AR7568928	4	3	1	MCLEAN	\$5,499,000	Detached	2.299	ARLINGWOOD	Long & Foster	Jack Spahr
5 7808 SOUTHDOWN RD	FX7260580	6	6	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$3,555,000	Detached	0.645	WELLINGTON	Coldwell Banker	Wil Roberts
6 7608 SOUTHDOWN RD	FX7523353	3	4	1	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,750,000	Detached	0.416	ARCTURUS ON THE POTOMAC	Keller Williams Realty	Bob Kuletz
7 12 WOLFE ST #52	AX7549012	3	3	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,695,000	Townhouse	-	HARBORSIDE	TTR Sotheby's	Michael Rankin
8 6 WOLFE ST #22	AX7557493	4	4	2	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,550,000	Townhouse	-	HARBORSIDE	McEneaney Associates	Babs Beckwith
9 8516 MOUNT VERNON LNDG	FX7022897	6	5	-	ALEXANDRIA	\$2,900,000	Detached	0.535	MT VERNON ON THE POTOMAC	Long & Foster	Chris White

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1645 Sierra Woods Dr...\$369,000.....Sun 1-4.....Ellen Moyer.....RE/MAX.....703-298-6444

Vienna

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2701 Bellforest Ct. Unit 409..\$330,000..Sun 1-4...Ron Fowler.....Weichert.....703-598-0511

Oakton

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10335 Southam Ln.....\$929,235.....Sun 1-4.....Craig Lilly.....Prudential Carruthers.....703-599-2566

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Home LifeStyle

The Family Foyer: Essential Space

BY JOSH BAKER
FOUNDER, BOWA

The front entryway. The mudroom. The all purpose room for shoes, backpacks, mail, mobile phones, keys and gym equipment.

Whatever your name for it, this space is essential for every homeowner. At BOWA, we call this important room the "Family Foyer" as it often includes spaces to help organize the way today's modern family lives. Here are four tips to help your family optimize (or create) a useful Family Foyer.



BOB NAROD PHOTOGRAPHY

This family entrance in Great Falls features custom bench and cubbies



Josh Baker

1.) Transforming a Space into a Family Foyer: If there is no space currently allocated as a Family Foyer, the first step is to understand what the space is currently being used for and if those functions can be moved elsewhere or incorporated into the new family foyer space. For example, at BOWA, we are seeing more people repurpose their back halls and laundry spaces into family foyers. Many families are doing home renovations to move their laundry facilities to the upper level since that is where the majority of laundry is generated.

2.) Protect from Wear and Tear: The family foyer is the first line of defense from the outdoors—meaning it sees a lot of traffic, dirt and other debris. To protect floors from wear and tear, utilize tile or stone flooring. These materials are much easier to clean and protect than carpet or wood flooring. Stone materials used to create adjacent patios or walks can be incorporated to create a cohe-

sive flow between the indoor and outdoor spaces. For walls, we recommend a quality grade of paint with a more durable finish like eggshell or satin, which makes clean up easier. For aesthetic reasons, we also see a lot of wainscoting used in family foyer renovations. This material also has the added benefit of being a more durable surface to protect walls from the scuffing of kids' backpacks and the dog's scratching.

3.) A Space for Everything: From a space for mail organization, to mobile phone charging stations, to shelves for storing children's backpacks and shoes. We have also seen dog showers and storage for Fido's leash, toys and food. In some cases the family foyer blends into the home more seamlessly by remodeling areas for crafts or laundry centers (if that doesn't get moved upstairs). There are a lot of tools out there to help economize and tuck storage into every spare space. Small space storage organizers

used to be seen only in the design of boats and RVs but are now being used to help fit a lot of function into residential small spaces. At BOWA, we particularly see this in our condo remodeling and row house projects, where space is often at a premium.

4.) Provide Personalized Spaces: If you provide it, maybe they'll use it? Consider designating individualized spaces for family members to help ensure their personal items are actually put away. For children, consider creating individual lockers or cubbies with their names on them and designed to meet the needs of the particular child. For example, the ballerina needs space for her dance bag while the budding baseball player might need a taller cubby for his bat bag and cleats. For smaller spaces, you can still provide children opportunities to customize. That may mean a different color or decal on their cubbies, or adjustable hooks for the youngest child to be able to hang his or her coat without assistance.

78th Anniversary Historic Garden Tour

The Garden Club of Fairfax will host five homes on the 2011 tour in Arlington and McLean on Tuesday, April 19.

Featured homes include a cross between a ranch and a "Cape Cod on steroids," designed and constructed by Marvin T. Broyhill for his son, Joel Thomas Broyhill; a modified Craftsman house by BOWA Builders; a brick cottage-rambler, a Tudor Revival Arts and Craft remodeled 1938 home and a French Country home.

This year's co-chairs Sandra Hunt and Cheryl Freeman of Vienna are working up last minute details on the docent's notes and coordinating the multiple committee assignments.

The Fairfax Tour will be held on Tuesday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$20 prior to the tour and \$25 day of tour; they may be purchased online at www.VAgardenweek.org or locally at participating retailers: Anita Perlut Interiors in Oakton, Burke Florists in the University Mall, Calico Corners on Williamsburg Boulevard, Color Wheel in McLean, Company Flowers in Arlington, Damon Galleries in Vienna, Executive Press in

Fairfax, Express Jewelers in the Ballston Mall, Heart in Hand in Clifton, Judy Ryan of Fairfax, Katie's Coffee House in Great Falls, Lemon Twist in Arlington, McLean Cleaners in McLean, Mesmeraldas in McLean, Millie's Dry Cleaning in Arlington, Needlewoman East in Falls Church and the Old Brogue Irish Pub in Great Falls.

On the day of the tour, tickets may be purchased at the Memorial Baptist Church and at any of the properties open for the tour.

Garden Week in Virginia hosted by the Garden Club of Virginia, the oldest and largest statewide tour in the country. This year 36 tours feature 250 homes, gardens, and historic landmarks during the week of April 16-23.

At the Ceckowski-Christie home, a transformation of the grounds got underway six years ago. And now it boasts an Edgeworth's chrsantha, a Pyrus communis Moonglow – Pear, a Mexican buckeye, a Continus grace Smoke tree, a Parsley-leaf Hawthorn, Chinese Fringe, a Japanese Snowbell and Cusa dogwoods, Cornell dogwoods, and a walking stick tree.

From Oak Hill to Japan

Children in almost 30 School Age Child Care (SACC) centers are participating in the Students Rebuild project, which is collecting paper cranes to raise money to aid relief efforts for Japan. The Oak Hill SACC center in Herndon, where the idea for SACC participation originated, was planning to mail their origami cranes to Students Rebuild on Friday, April 8. The goal of the international project is to collect 100,000 paper cranes from young people around the world. The Bezos Family Foundation has pledged to send \$2 to Architecture for Humanity for each crane received. The funds will help reconstruction efforts in Japan, following a devastating March 11 quake and tsunami.

The idea to participate in the paper cranes project started with the mother of a child enrolled in Oak Hill SACC. The child brought the idea to SACC staff.

"As children, they're often not able to do anything to help out in a situation like this," said Oak Hill SACC Center Supervisor Kristi Redwine. The children were excited about participating in the project because they saw that raising money by making origami cranes "was something they could do to make a difference and be part of something bigger," Redwine said.

According to a Japanese legend, anyone



The children of Oak Hill SACC wanted to contribute 1,000 cranes to the cause.

who folds 1,000 paper cranes will be granted a wish by a crane. Students Rebuild will weave the cranes received into a large art installation that will be sent as a gift to children in Japan.

The children of Oak Hill SACC wanted to contribute 1,000 cranes to the cause. "They

will make their goal," Redwine said. The combined total number of cranes that will be sent from the 28 participating SACC centers is approximately 7,500.

SACC is a program of the Office for Children, which is a division of the Fairfax County Department of Family Services.

Population Increases 7.6 Percent

Population in the Town of Herndon increased 7.6 percent between 2000 and 2010, to reach 23,292 residents, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. This compares to similarly modest growth rates in the City of Fairfax (5 percent) and the Town of Vienna (8.5 percent), although it is less than the population growth rate in Fairfax County (11.5 percent) and the Commonwealth of Virginia (13 percent).

2010 Census data also reveals a significant increase in Herndon's Hispanic or Latino population. Hispanic or Latino residents now make up 33.6 percent of the town's total population, compared to a 26 percent share in 2000. This represents a 38.9 percent increase in Herndon's Hispanic or Latino population over 10 years; in comparison, the Commonwealth of Virginia experienced a 91.7 percent increase in Hispanic or Latino residents, and Fairfax County saw a 57.5 percent increase.

The population of every race held steady in the town between 2000 and 2010, with the exception of people who identify themselves as White; the White population decreased 7.2 percent over the time period. Notably, the town's Asian population rose 4 percent, while the percent of people identifying their race as "Other" rose 3 percent.

The number of housing units in Herndon increased by 8.7 percent, or 623 units, between 2000 and 2010. The percentage of homes vacant in the town in 2010 was 3.2 percent, above Fairfax County's vacancy rate of 2.4 percent but well below the commonwealth's vacancy rate of 7.1 percent and the national vacancy rate of 14.5 percent.

For more detailed information on the 2010 Census, visit the U.S. Census Bureau online at www.census.gov.

SCHOOL NOTES

Thomas C. Loper III, son of Thomas C. Loper II and Kathleen S. Loper of Herndon, has received an appointment to the Class of 2015 at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Loper is scheduled to graduate from Marion Military Institute in May of 2011 where he was a member of Normandy Society. The prospective members of the Class of 2015 will report to West Point for the first time on June 27, 2011.

Herndon High School students **Patrick Miller** and **Zach Ward** made the All Virginia Orchestra and **Matt Larson, Ryan Little, Kat Lopes,** and **Caitlin Williams** made the All-Virginia Band and Orchestras. **Kevin Hopkins** is an alternate on English horn.

Robert Snow of Herndon received a bachelor of science in recreation and parks management from Frostburg State University, Frostburg, Md.

Oak Hill residents **John Thomas Palmisano, Alison Virginia Silkworth** and **Molly Caitlin McKee** have been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

Lila Herk Rieber of Herndon was named to the fall 2010 honors list at Mary Baldwin College of Staunton, Va.

Around the World in One Night

Herndon Elementary School celebrated International Night on March 24. Staff, students and their families celebrated the many cultures represented at the school. The families enjoyed artifacts, food and performances from many different countries.



PHOTO BY TIFFANY BRYANT

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Qaadir and Jesi Antwine of Herndon are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful baby girl, **Dylan Marie**, born on Feb. 18, 2011. Adoring Grandparents are **Warner and Maureen Palmer** of South Carolina and **Joseph and Susan Moon** of Virginia Beach.



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Time To Consider



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As much as I want to – and try to – act normally (not consider the fact that I have cancer and a life-expectancy-challenged future), every day; situations, questions and decisions arise which, inadvertently almost, prevent me from doing so. Choices that previously would have been made without giving any thought to time. Now, all I see is time.

As a few examples: pills; some of the vitamins and supplements I buy offer a multi-bottle discount/incentive. Given the varying numbers of pills per bottle, it's possible I could be buying enough pills to dose for a year – or more. Ordinarily, given the value/cost savings and my middle age, it would be prudent and cost-effective to buy in such quantities. But then it hits me: am I going to be alive in a year? And if not, why spend money now on something I might not need later?

A new bed, a dental crown, a new roof, a new washer/dryer; do you think products/services with a 10-year/20-year guarantee interest me, generally speaking? If I didn't have a terminal disease and the need was genuine, and the money was available, I wouldn't hesitate. Now, not so much. I don't want to think this way, but I do.

Clothes, shoes/sneakers, seasonal items, items bought off-season/in advance; three months, six months ahead: will I need these items the next time the calendar reads spring, summer, fall or winter? Maybe I will, maybe I won't; and again, might the money I spend now – for the future, instead be needed for a present that might arrive sooner than I want to believe – or even anticipate? I realize a positive attitude/belief is important, crucial maybe, but sometimes you can't stop a speeding train by merely hoping and praying that it slows down. A thought sort of has a mind of its own, if you know what I mean?

I guess what this column is really about is, how am I supposed to live for today (as a terminal cancer patient) when my nature, my personality and my life's experiences have typically been about living today while planning and preparing for tomorrow? To not consider, in everything I do – or consider doing, the fact that I have an "underlying problem" (stage IV lung cancer), and a less-than-expected life expectancy, would seem to be counter-productive almost.

Still, not doing so, might hurt me in the short run. I wouldn't exactly call this an opportunity (seems the wrong word, given my prognosis) however, but perhaps it is a chance to rearrange my life in a way that might provide some relief. It's so backward though, for me to not consider the consequences tomorrow of what I'm doing today. It's not normal. Not how I was raised. Not instinctive, at all. So it doesn't seem/feel right. But I suppose being diagnosed with lung cancer at age 54 isn't right either. What is right though – for me, is trying to find a balance (I'm a Libra; duh!) so that I can stay true to who I am but not be so stuck in my circumstances that happiness is always beyond my reach.

As you can tell, I'm still working on it. Maybe the journey taken is more important than the actual arrival. I sure hope so because, knowing myself as I do, I'm not sure I'm getting there anytime soon.

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

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Rain, Rain Go Away

Local high school teams do all they can to get practices, games in.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Dealing with poor springtime weather is a yearly ordeal for high school sports teams. The cranky spring seasons in Northern Virginia often consist of cold, blustery weather and lots of rain. Such elements can create havoc with the re-scheduling of games, difficult field conditions and team continuity. Weather is often worse over the first six weeks of the spring season, a carryover from the winter, before turning for the better over the final six weeks of the season.

"It seems as if weather has always been an issue during baseball season," said second year Herndon High baseball coach Greg Miller, a former player for the Hornets as well. "I always tell our team that we need to control what we are capable of controlling and the weather isn't one of those things."

IT IS PRETTY MUCH expected that several games during the

spring will be hindered by poor weather, resulting in temporary stoppage of play during a game or postponement. Early season non-district games are often not re-scheduled. District games usually are re-scheduled.

"We have been fortunate so far, in that we have only postponed one game due to weather," said Maurice Tawil, the McLean High girls' softball coach.

Last Saturday, the Highlanders spent most of the day preparing their field for a 2 p.m. afternoon game versus private school opponent Bishop O'Connell. Late week rain had swamped the diamond with water. But all the hard work Saturday morning and on into the early afternoon paid off as the field was made playable. McLean, the defending state public school champions, went on to defeat the perennial powerhouse Knights to improve their record to 6-0.

"We worked on our field for seven hours, to make the field playable for our game with O'Connell," said Tawil. "We obviously wanted to play."

The relatively recent addition of turf playing fields on high school athletic campuses throughout Fairfax County has made it easier to combat rainy conditions. Many of the football stadiums use turf, meaning springtime girls' and boys' soccer and lacrosse games can often take place even when it is raining.

John Schneeberger, the Madison softball coach who led the Warhawks to both the Liberty District and Northern Region titles last year, said dealing with poor weather is simply a part of the spring sports equation.

"Rain is just a part of spring sports and impact softball and baseball the most," he said. "At Madison we plan for it and do what we can to play. The school is very supportive to make sure we have the resources available to get the field ready."

Sometimes, teams are grateful when a game is postponed. Craig Lunde, the South Lakes High boys' lacrosse coach said his team was preparing to play without several key players in a March 31 district game at McLean. It turned out that the game was postponed due to poor weather. In the make-up game played on April 4, the Seahawks were at full strength



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Herndon's Matt Smith swings at a pitch during last Saturday's Concorde District make-up baseball game between the Hornets and host team Centreville squad. The game, dedicated to local military personnel, was originally scheduled to take place the night before. But poor field conditions due to recent rains resulted in the postponement. Herndon won Saturday's make-up, 6-3

again and defeated the Highlanders 13-6.

The Langley High girls' lacrosse team has had one game shortened - a 10-4 Liberty District home win over Marshall - due to worsening weather conditions, and another - a scheduled district home game last Friday night versus Jefferson - that was not started because of poor conditions.

While just two of Langley's games have been affected by poor weather, numerous practices have been changed up. "We haven't had use of our fields about nine times

this year," said Langley coach Richard DeSomma, who led the Saxons to their first ever state playoff appearance last year. "We are used to adjusting for that."

"The girls aren't affected in any way," said DeSomma. "They and coaches are used to making adjustments. Any coach or player involved in a spring sport for any length of time knows what to expect - that it's not really warmer until the end of the season and that fall [season] sports are warmer for a longer period than spring sports."

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

Another cold night saw the South Lakes High baseball team recover from three consecutive losses with an 8-6 victory over Jefferson. The Liberty District game took place on April 1 at South Lakes.

The Colonials jumped out to a 3-0 lead with a run in the first inning and two more in the second. After leaving runners in scoring position in the first two innings, South Lakes got on the board with two runs in the third on singles from JoJo Lear and Billy McLaughlin, and a long RBI double from Will Sweet. The Seahawks scratched out the tying run in the fourth with a leadoff Taylor Gose single, stolen base by pinch runner Austin Schweppe and sacrifice by David Odlen before Schweppe scored on a wild pitch.

The Seahawks took the lead in the fifth with a two-out bases loaded walk to Taylor Gose. David Odlen followed with a triple, scoring three runs to make the score 7-3 South Lakes. Jefferson came back with three runs in the sixth on four walks and a single to make it 7-6. The Seahawks added an



PHOTO COURTESY/RESTON LADYHAWKS

The 16th annual Special Olympics basketball Tournament took place on Saturday, April 2 at Marymount University in Arlington. One of the participating teams in the tournament was the Reston Ladyhawks. Here, in a tournament game between the Ladyhawks and the Alexandria Titans, Sarah Marvin (white jersey) of Reston and Mike Smith (left) of the Titans both go for the basketball. Reston's Lauren Fultz (40) is in the background.

insurance run in the bottom of the sixth on a McLaughlin sacrifice fly for the final runs of the evening.

Seahawk hitters had eight hits on the night, led by right fielder Odlen (double, triple, sacrifice bunt and 3 RBIs); shortstop JoJo

Lear (2 hits); and third baseman McLaughlin (2 hits). Gose (single), the Seahawks' catcher, and pitcher Will Sweet (RBI double) also had good nights.

Sweet, the starting pitcher, got into some early trouble but settled



PHOTO COURTESY/PEGASUS

The Herndon Pegasus, coached by Paul Robson and his sister Hannah Robson, won three games to capture the Fairfax Police Youth Club (FPYC) Liberty Cup Tournament for the U12 Girls Blue Division on March 27. The Pegasus, a member of the Washington Area Girls Soccer League (WAGS), fought hard through the cold weather to capture the victory. On the back row, left to right: Cara McFerren, Emily Jones, Erica Griffith, Cabrey Keller, Leah Fri, Seanna Adam, and Caroline Glazier. Front Row: Mia DiTommaso, Ashley Wilson, Annie Colclough, Maddie Patrick and Renee Kohler.

down before he tired in the sixth. He lasted 5-2/3 innings, allowing six hits for a hard-fought win.

John Beck relieved, pitching the final 1-1/3 innings to finish up and earn the save.