

Shirin Ebadi, winner of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize, signs a copy of her book "The Golden Cage" for Fari Nazemi of Fairfax Station at a McLean residence Sunday. Ebadi spoke to a group hosted by the National Iranian-American Council.

PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION
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Volunteers still needed for the event; please contact Sandra Even at seven711@verizon.net to volunteer.

Shirin Ebadi, winner of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize signs copies of her book, "The Golden Cage," at a residence in McLean Sunday.



PHOTOS BY
ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

Ebadi Comes to McLean

Iranian Nobel Peace Prize winner speaks at McLean residence.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

As a board member of the National Iranian-American Council, McLean resident Forough Yazdani is no stranger to getting the Iranian-American community involved in civic processes. But she said it was a special honor to host Nobel Peace Prize Winner Shirin Ebadi at her home Sunday.

"She's just an amazing woman. We live in a free country, but for her to do what she did in her country is amazing," Yazdani said. "Her courage and bravery is more than I could ever imagine."

Ebadi is a former judge and lawyer from Iran, and one of the founders of the Defenders of Human Rights Center. She became the first woman to preside over a legislative court in 1975, but after the Iranian Revolution in 1979, she was demoted to a clerk in the court after conservative clerics declared Islamic law forbids female judges.

She has practiced private law since 1992 and has taught and lectured at universities across the world. She has also published more than 70 articles and 13 books.

In October 2003 she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her efforts defending human rights, particularly those of women and children. She was the first Muslim woman to receive the award, and fifth Muslim to receive the Nobel Prize in any field.

She spoke to several dozen local residents, mostly of Iranian descent, about the importance of getting information out to the world at large, despite the efforts of government and other leaders.

"Even a few months ago, [President Mahmoud] Ahmadinejad said 'do not write about news that creates concerns.' What could news that creates con-

cerns mean? I'm sure bad news, not good news," she said through a translator. "When we bring information to the world, we sensitize the international community [to our situation]. In democratic countries where people elect their government, the people can have an impact."

She said that the act of reporting information can have big impact, saying, "if you cannot eliminate injustice, at least tell everyone about it."

Ebadi also urged the Iranian-Americans in the audience to support others of similar descent in their community, whether socially, in business or in the political arena. She pleaded with them to instill cultural pride in their children, asking them to speak Farsi to them at home as well as English.

"We are in the era of globalization, our borders don't matter as much as our culture, it's our culture that keeps us alive," Ebadi said.

Many audience members were struck by her thoughts on the importance of information.

"I thought she had a great speech, it was very positive and promising," said Fari Nazemi of Fairfax Station. "She really stressed the importance of speaking out more, to let people around the world know what is going on."

Ebadi's words also struck home with some of the younger members of the audience. Ariana Guernmayeh, 10, was visiting from Richmond.

"She made some really good points," Guernmayeh said. "I thought it was interesting when she talked about the government controlling the internet, and how some people wanted to get to the internet without government control."

Trita Parsi, the president of the NIAC, said when the organization was offered a chance to host Ebadi, they were more than willing.

"She reached out to us about doing an event like this, and of course we jumped at the chance," he said. "The Iranian community is increasingly focusing on human rights, and we want people to know that we are opposed to the bloodshed and ready to end the violence. As we spread information about the realities in Iran, other governments will pay attention."



Shirin Ebadi, winner of the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize, speaks at a McLean residence Sunday, as part of an event hosted by the National Iranian-American Council.



PHOTO BY TOM MANGAN/ROTARY CLUB OF McLEAN

Service Above Self winner Frank Peterson is on the far right. Others (from left) are Rotarians Bilal Raschid, Tin Tin Nu Raschid, D.R. Butler, Sandra Duckworth and George Atwell.

Two McLean Rotarians Receive International Awards

Two members of the Rotary Club of McLean received international awards at the District 7610 Conference held last weekend in Gettysburg, Pa.

Long-time McLean Rotarian Bob Rosenbaum received the Rotary International (RI) Club Builder Award and the McLean Club's World Community Service Chair Frank Peterson was honored with the RI Service Above Self Award.

The Club Builder Award recognizes Rotarians who have made a significant impact in supporting and strengthening their Rotary club.

The award is presented to only 530 Rotarians worldwide each year.

The Service Above Self Award recognizes Rotarians who have demonstrated exemplary humanitarian service, with an emphasis on personal volunteer efforts and active involvement in helping others through Rotary. It is the highest honor for individual Rotarians and awarded to only 150 Rotarians each year.

Rosenbaum joined the McLean Club in November 1971. He served as McLean Rotary President during the 1974-1975 Rotary Year. Rosenbaum has held numerous other leadership positions within the McLean Club, and



Bob Rosenbaum

the McLean Rotary Club Foundation as well as District 7610. He has sponsored eight current members of the McLean Club.

Peterson has been a member of the McLean Rotary Club since May 2005. He is the co-founder and president of Partner for Surgery, a 10-year-old nonprofit organization that provides medical care and education to more than 25,000 Guatemalans and facilitated surgery for more than 5,000 native Mayan people. He works with Rotary Clubs in Guatemala, Minnesota, Hawaii, Virginia and California to implement Rotary Foundation matching grants that provide surgical supplies for medical teams conducting health care missions in Guatemala.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

publications to benefit the Society. Guests welcome. 703-790-0123.

MONDAY/MAY 2

Safe Community Coalition Spring Meeting. 7 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean. The SCC Board of Directors seeks input regarding issues for consideration and activities for the 2011-2012 school year. 703-371-5995.

Bereavement Training to become a Haven Volunteer. 9:30 a.m. Haven of Northern Virginia, 4606 Ravensworth Road, Annandale. Training will be on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from May 2-13. 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org.

TUESDAY/MAY 3

Vienna-Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce Business2Business. 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. "Opportunity 2011", a trade show specifically targeted towards small to medium size companies doing business in the Vienna-Tysons corridor. Limited access tickets \$25. Full conference access tickets \$129 members, \$149 non-members. <http://viennatysonstradeshow.com>, 703-281-1333 or www.vtrcc.org.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS). 6 p.m. St Timothy's Episcopal Church, 432 Van Buren St., Lower Level, Herndon. A noncommercial network of weight-loss support groups with tools and programs for healthy living and weight management. Meetings are Tuesdays. www.tops.org.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 27

Foster Parent Information Session. 6 p.m. United Methodist Foster Services (UMFS), 6335 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria. Agency representatives will answer questions and explain the requirements to foster or adopt. Free. 703-941-9008 or www.umfs.org.

Peer Support Group for Survivors of Clergy Abuse. 6:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Hills Regional Library, 7684 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Co-sponsored by the Northern Virginia affiliate of Voice of the Faithful, meetings last Wednesday of every month. Free. 703-538-6128.

THURSDAY/APR. 28

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group. 6:30 p.m. Sunrise of McLean, 8315 Turning Leaf Lane, McLean. 703-902-8102.

Child and Spousal Support: The Realities Beyond Formulas. 7 p.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St., N.E., Vienna. How to do your own child support guideline calculations. \$40 non-members, \$30 members. Register at www.thewomenscenter.org or 703-281-2657.

FRIDAY/APRIL 29

McLean Art Society Meeting. 10 a.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Jill Banks on "The Business of Art" and a sale of surplus art materials and

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NEWS



COURTESY PHOTO

Grammy-award winning Donnie McClurkin is set to host The Making of a Star, which will kick off nationwide auditions April 28 in Alexandria.

The Search Is On

New reality show seeks top military talent.

The CW network, home to shows such as the Vampire Diaries, Gossip Girl, 90210 and One Tree Hill, is set to launch The Making of a Star, a new performance reality competition series from 5 Streams Global Entertainment that will kick off its nationwide eight-city audition tour April 28 in Washington.

In remembrance of the 10-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, the first season will be a salute to America's military. Auditions will be open exclusively to U.S. veterans and military personnel and held at American Legion Posts across the country. Historic American Legion Post 24 in Alexandria is the site of the Washington area contestant auditions.

Hosted by Grammy-winning singer and producer Donnie McClurkin, the series will film in New York City and premiere in July for 10 consecutive weeks. The winner will be chosen from among the finalists during a live-telecast finale in September aboard the USS Intrepid.

In addition to Washington, auditions will be held in Charlotte, N.C., Atlanta, New York, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles and Dallas. The competition is not limited to singers. Musicians, dancers, actors, jugglers, acrobats and comedians as well as other talents are invited to participate.

For additional requirements and audition registration information, visit www.makingofastartv.com and www.legion.org. (Note: The Washington area audition date has changed from April 27 to 28).

—JEANNE THEISMANN



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PEOPLE

Amy E. Goodman, author of 'Wear This, Toss That,' Heidi Ellenberger Jones, Principal, Modern Jones, and Susan Braverman, Life Coach, Susan Braverman Coaching & Consulting.



Modern Jones Launches Women's Networking Forum

More than 45 women of all ages and professions from throughout the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area came together Wednesday, April 13, for the launch of the Modern Mix Women's Networking Forum. The group, founded by Modern Jones, a D.C. metropolitan full-service residential consultancy from Keller Williams Realty, aims to bring modern women together to discuss ideas, exchange opportunities and build networks to help each other make a difference in the community.

"Today's women juggle many responsibilities and often don't have the time—or the forum—to celebrate one another's success and learn from each other," said Heidi Ellenberger Jones, principal of Modern Jones. "Our Modern Mix gives women the opportunity to exchange ideas and opportunities with some of the most interesting, smart and fun women in the community. Whether a doctor, stay-at-home

mom, executive, student, or small business owner, our Modern Mix Women's Networking Forum offers something for women looking to better ourselves, our community, and our world."

Jones provided the group with a promising update on the local real estate market citing Real Estate Business Intelligence, an MRIS company, which shows home sales in the area improving. Participants then toasted the launch with a Modern Jones martini before networking their way through the crowd.

"I met new people and left feeling energized," said Cathy Bernasek, a Board Member for Compass, a company that provides pro bono strategic consulting to help strengthen Washington D.C. nonprofits.

The event was held at 1910 Restaurant in McLean. The next event will be held on May 11, 2011 at Assaggi, 6641 Old Dominion Dr in McLean.

Cindy Perkins, Owner of Little Gorrilla Designs, Kimberly Russo, COO of George Washington University Hospital, and Emma Baker, Director of East Coast Sales for Little Gorrilla Designs.



SCHOOL NOTES

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

Ashley Ann Alligood of McLean graduated from Radford University at the end of the fall semester. The daughter of Donna Alligood earned a bachelor of science in psychology.

Victoria Avvacumova of McLean has graduated from Illinois Central College.

Lara Linden of McLean has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list with high distinction at Grove City College of Grove City, Pa. The 2007 Washington Christian Academy graduate is the daughter of Derek Linden.

Matthew Thomas Valcourt of

McLean has been named to the fall 2010 high list at Episcopal High School. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery T. Valcourt.

Rebecca Flynn of McLean has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Fairfield University of Fairfield, Conn. Flynn is a junior in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Molly I. Mc Nerney of McLean has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Boston University of Boston, Mass.

Jennifer Oler of McLean has been nominated to represent Virginia as a National Youth Correspondent to the 2011 Washington Journalism and Media Conference at George Mason University, for an intensive study of journalism and media. Oler was cho-

sen based on academic accomplishments and a demonstrated interest and excellence in journalism and media studies.

Kristina Roth of McLean graduated with a bachelor of science degree from Ithaca College's Roy H. Park School of Communications. She is the daughter of Elizabeth Roth.

Alexandra Longwell has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Colgate University. She has also been named to the 2010 Patriot League Academic Honor Roll. Longwell is majoring in behavioral neuroscience and is a soccer goalkeeper for the Raiders.

Monica Mowery of McLean has been named to the fall 2010 dean's list at Tufts University of Medford, Ma.



Woman's Club of McLean Holds New-Members' Tea

The Woman's Club of McLean hosted its new members at a tea held at the club president's home on Tuesday, April 12. Several new members were present at the annual event, which is traditionally held near the end of the membership year. Shown, from left, are Marianne Polito, club president; Kay Burnell, chairman of the club's December 2011 Holiday Homes Tour, and new members Jane Studabaker and Kim Bolt.

Performing at Mary Washington

Fritz Reuter of McLean was selected to play Leaf Coneybear for the University of Mary Washington production of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." Reuter is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Patterson of McLean and is a 2006 graduate of McLean High School. A senior biology major, Reuter is a member of People for the Rights of Sexual Minorities and Symfonics, an a cappella group.



Best Selling Author Speaks to McLean AAUW

Helen Simonson, author of the best selling book "Major Pettigrew's Last Stand," was the guest speaker at the recent McLean AAUW book author luncheon. The sell-out crowd heard about her experiences writing the book and those that have happened since it was published last year. Simonson was born in England and spent her teenage years in East Sussex. She currently resides in the Washington, D.C. area.

Funding Provided for Transportation Projects

Foust announces new projects in Dranesville district.

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) has acquired funding for several new transportation projects. The funding for these projects comes from revenues generated by the Fairfax County Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Real Estate Tax for Transportation, and from Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) and Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP) funds.

THE NEWLY FUNDED projects are:

- ❖ Dolley Madison Blvd (Rt. 123) - Fairfax County Department of Transportation will install a sidewalk on the south side of the street between Great Falls Street and Anderson Road. This is a critical stretch of side-

walk for pedestrian access to the Tysons East Metro station.

- ❖ Birch Street - Fairfax County Department of Transportation will install a sidewalk on the north side of the street completing a missing link between Grove Avenue and the Falls Plaza Shopping Center.

- ❖ Dead Run Drive - Fairfax County Department of Transportation will install a sidewalk on the south side of Dead Run Drive in McLean, between the western end of Carper Street and Congress Lane.

- ❖ Westmoreland Street and Rosemont Drive - VDOT will install new School Crossing Pedestrian Signs and re-stripe the crosswalk in a high-visibility block pattern.

- ❖ Westmoreland Street and Bonheim Court - Fairfax County Department of Transportation will work with VDOT as part of their overall update of signage and striping of crosswalks, to install two ADA curb cuts to revamp this school crosswalk. This work complements recent enhanced signage and striping. FDOT will install a 10'x30' con-

crete 6" standard curb raised median island on the north leg, with associated striping eradication and new striping and signage.

- ❖ Westmoreland Street and Lemon Road - Fairfax County Department of Transportation will work with VDOT as part of their overall update of signage and striping of crosswalks, to install 2 ADA curb ramps and new crosswalk on the north leg of this intersection. The existing south crosswalk will be eradicated. This work complements recent enhanced signage.

- ❖ Westmoreland Street and Southridge Drive - Fairfax County Department of Transportation will work with VDOT as part of their overall update of signage and striping of crosswalks, to design and install 2 ADA curb ramps and a 10'x30' concrete 6" standard curb raised median island on the north leg, with associated striping eradication and new striping, complimenting recent improved signage.

IN ADDITION to these newly funded

projects, approximately 20 pedestrian, bicycle and minor road projects have been completed in the Dranesville District in the past three years and improvement work continues on approximately 35 funded projects that are in design phase or under construction.

In announcing these newly funded projects, Supervisor Foust said, "Making our neighborhoods safer and more accessible for pedestrians and bicyclists is a major goal of my office. I am pleased that several of the projects that we have completed and have planned will make it safer for students to walk and bike to school. I am also pleased that some of these projects will further our goal of making the new Metro stations more accessible for walkers and bicyclists."

Residents will also soon see progress on seven Virginia Department of Transportation projects to rehabilitate or rebuild bridges over streams or roadways in Dranesville.

'Father of the IG Act' Dies at 85

James R. Naughton Sr. served as Counsel for the House of Representatives from 1955 to 1983.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

James R. Naughton Sr., a McLean resident of more than 55 years, passed away March 10, a few days shy of his 86th birthday. Born in Sioux City, Iowa on March 18, 1925, Naughton served as Counsel at the U.S. House of Representatives for almost 30 years.

As a teenager, Naughton traveled to Washington, D.C. to serve as a mail clerk at the Congressional Post Office. This sparked a desire for public service in him, and he ran for Congress in 1950. Though unsuccessful, the experience steered him toward a career as a government attorney.

Naughton served as Counsel for the House of Representatives from 1955 to 1983, on the Intergovernmental Relations and Human Resources Subcommittee. In this capacity, he personally drafted the Inspector General Act of 1978. This established statutory offices of the Inspector General in Federal departments and agencies, and they are still present throughout the Federal government today.

An Oct. 22, 1992, Dayton (Ohio) Daily News article said, "Most Americans have never heard of Jim Naughton. His name never gets mentioned in campaign

speeches. But taxpayers have him to thank for devising the current system that has saved them billions of dollars. It was largely his idea to team government investigators with auditors to find waste, fraud and abuse."

Naughton received personal letters from Presidents Harry Truman and Jimmy Carter, thanking him for his efforts.

"I never felt it was going to wipe out waste, fraud and abuse overnight," Naughton told the Dayton Daily News. "But it's a good start. In the old days, nobody could even find the auditors."

He also served in the U.S. Army's 100th Infantry Division in France and Germany during World War II. He was awarded the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts and the Combat Infantryman Badge. Naughton will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Yolanda (Cortinovic) Naughton, son James Naughton Jr. of Vienna, daughter Jennifer Naughton of Arlington, daughter-in-law Deirdre (Hannon) Naughton, grandson Jayden Naughton, several nephews and nieces, brother and sisters-in-law and his pal, Solstie, the family dog.



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OPINION

Tolls, Rail, Ridership

Why do private companies collect biggest tolls?

\$34.50: That's what I estimate I spent this past weekend on five full trips the entire length of the Dulles Toll Road and the Greenway, plus an additional trip on the Dulles Toll from the Beltway to Hunter Mill Road and back. (Remember when you could buy a tank of gas for that?)

Almost all of that money, at least \$22.50, went to the private owners of the Greenway, contributing not one penny to rail or any other local infrastructure. I don't mind the \$12 that might help pay for rail nearly as much.

How will the design of the Metro stop at Dulles Airport affect its use?

Research demonstrates, along with common sense, that the more convenient transit is, (frequency, proximity, continuity) the more people use it. It also has to be clean and safe, but we're going to assume those features will be included.

We've planned for decades (Dulles opened in 1962) not for rail to Tysons or for rail to Reston, but for rail to Dulles, to serve a portion of the 24 million passengers a year that fly through the airport; eventually the number of passengers could more than double.

Saving \$330 million is a worthy goal, the amount extra that putting the Dulles stop underground would cost. Making the rail easy to use is also important. The fact that drivers on the Dulles Toll Road pay for a significant por-

tion of construction of the rail line adds to the controversy.

There might be more than one way to shorten the walk from getting off Metro to the terminal (where we know that there are more trains, shuttles, corridors and escalators waiting). Perhaps an above ground station could be designed on the current hourly parking lot, conveniently a hop, skip and a jump into the terminal. Let the people who drive walk a few extra minutes instead.

Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, demonstrated that the walk from the above ground station to the terminal would be four-to-seven minutes. We know that navigating once inside the terminal also takes time.

Meanwhile, we need more scrutiny and intellectual power on the tolls we already pay and the tolls that are coming, and how those could be used to advance transportation for everyone.

No entity, private or government, should collect tolls without displaying clearly how much they are charging. It's not easy to figure out what you spend using your EasyPass transponder. At least on the Dulles Toll Road, there are signs letting you know what you are paying. No such luck on the Greenway. It might be good for everyone who uses it to have one day a year (not the same day please) when

they must pay by cash, just as a reminder of how much money it is.

Construction continues on the high occupancy toll lanes on the Beltway, where again, a private company will collect 100 percent of the tolls for at least 50 years, and the cost of one trip from near the American Legion Bridge to the Mixing Bowl in the HOT-lanes (remember, T for toll) could be as much as \$12. This is for infrastructure built on public property.

There are benefits to the construction of the HOT-lanes including rebuilding dozens of aging bridges over and around the Beltway. But the state could have paid for the project with bonds based on tolls. Or the contract could have required revenue sharing.

As Virginia seems intent on going forward with HOT-lanes on 395-95, public officials owe Northern Virginia commuters better representation.

— MARY KIMM,

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Send in Mother's Day Photos

The Connection will print a gallery of Mother's Day photos, email in your pictures to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. Be sure to identify everyone in the photo and let us know when and where it was taken.

EDITORIALS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taking Exception

To the Editor:

We take exception to former 10th District Democratic congressional candidate Jeff Barnett's misrepresentation of our Delegate, Barbara Comstock ["Getting What We Pay For," April 20-26 issue]. While a debate over governing philosophy is a healthy tradition Virginians are long known for, mischaracterizations and distortions represent partisanship at its worst and seem to be part of a political campaign that should have ended when Mr. Barnett lost to Congressman Frank Wolf last November.

Barnett's misguided attacks ignore that Delegate Comstock has indeed focused on our top priorities. She was a sponsor for the first major investment in transportation in 20 years – the \$4B transportation bill which was passed this year with overwhelming bipartisan support. Every Fairfax County Delegate and Senator, except one, voted for the bill. Among others things, it will provide \$30m for widening Route 7; funds that

Comstock vigorously worked to secure. Further, Delegate Comstock's bill to change the revenue sharing formula to provide more transportation funds for Fairfax County was incorporated, a fact that Barnett conveniently ignored. Delegate Comstock also was a leader in working with our community to prevent the further extension of the Hot Lanes to the Maryland border, holding two town hall meetings on the issue. In Great Falls, she similarly worked with the community and VDOT, to stop the two-lane turn from Route 7 and work for a single lane solution.

On education, Delegate Comstock was among the first to reach out and team with Governor McDonnell on behalf of Fairfax County students – I know because I was among those that met with her in advance. She was one of the first leaders in our community to fight to reverse former Governor Tim Kaine's proposed change of the school funding formula which would have cost Fairfax schools over \$60m. She came to our children's school, Churchill Elementary, in the early days of January 2010, and fought with us

to reverse Kaine's action. Jeff Barnett was a proud supporter of Kaine, who wanted to cut \$60m for our schools at the same time he wanted to add \$2 billion in additional taxes.

Delegate Comstock also was a leader in advocating for more in-state slots for our college students. The \$50m Higher Education bill that she sponsored and was passed this year with unanimous support, provides for more in-state slots for our students as well as significant STEM investments.

On the economic and jobs front, Delegate Comstock was chosen by the Governor to serve on his Job Creation and Economic Development Commission and she was the Chief Co-Patron on the R & D Tax Credit which was a priority of our high tech community and the Northern Virginia Technology Council (NVTC). Comstock's legislation for a Tele-work Tax Credit was also a priority for NVTC and again passed with broad bipartisan support.

Finally, Delegate Comstock has promoted quality of life issues by founding the first House Arts Caucus and by addressing Lyme Disease prevention and passing a

resolution supported by the National Capital Lyme Foundation making May "Lyme Disease Awareness Month." She also worked with a bipartisan group of legislators to strengthen penalties in Virginia to fight human trafficking.

Already, as a freshman, Delegate Comstock has been selected for leadership positions as Chairman of the Housing Subcommittee and as a Deputy Whip in her caucus. In addition, she was one of only 50 state legislators around the country to be chosen to participate in the University of Virginia's bipartisan "Emerging Political Leaders Program."

We appreciate Delegate Comstock's strong work ethic and her commitment to the people she so ably represents. We also appreciate that these significant accomplishments were secured while balancing our budget, not raising our taxes, and returning more money to hard working taxpayers.

Nuala and Glenn Kelly
McLean

MORE LETTERS, PAGE 15

THE CONNECTION

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NEWS DEPARTMENT:
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Call: 703-778-9410
e-mail:
mclean@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

Nick Horrock
County & Projects
nhorrock@connectionnewspapers.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

Jerry Vernon
Executive Vice President
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

Wesley DeBrosse
Controller

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

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

FAITH

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

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean, Sunday worship services are at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for adults is at 9:30 a.m. and for children during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Youth Group for grades 7-12 meets Sunday nights, 6 - 7:30 p.m. A 20-minute service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at 12 p.m. 703-356-3312 or umtrinity.org.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean. The third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m. Nursery

Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. in Vienna, presents the 12-week program "Passages," for those experiencing separation or divorce. The DivorceCare series meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Cost of materials \$20, scholarships available. 703-938 9050 or Passages@ViennaPres.org.

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

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

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ENTERTAINMENT



Hwa Crawford's original oil painting 'Great Falls Blue Heron' is a prize with a value of \$800. It will be given to a visitor, picked at random, who votes in the Great Falls village bird election at the Great Falls Studios tents.

Children's Art, Bird Election Add Creativity to Festival

An \$800 painting among rewards for voting for a bird.

For those with creativity in their fingertips, the Great Falls Spring Festival on May 1 will offer a bonanza of child-related and other art activities—and a prize valued at \$800.

The art comes three ways. You can watch Great Falls artists as they create new work. You can check out an exhibition of children's art from Forestville and Great Falls elementary schools. And if you are a child, you can grab crayons and take part in art activities that include creation of a large festival banner. Children who participate will get a free sticker featuring the logo for an election now taking place in Great Falls to select a town bird symbol.

The prize is an original oil painting created by Great Falls artist Hwa Crawford. It depicts a great blue heron treading for fish near the Potomac River shoreline in Riverbend Park in Great Falls. The framed, 16X20-inch painting will go to a Great Falls resident picked at random. To be considered, you must vote during the Spring Festival for your choice of a bird to become the official symbol of Great Falls. Voters will also be eligible to win other prizes,

including mugs made by local potters.

The bird election is a project conceived by the local art group Great Falls Studios in conjunction with the National Audubon Society, Forestville and Great Falls elementary schools and eight other local organizations. Great Falls Studios will have two tents near the gazebo on the Village Green.

The art activities at the Festival, including the election polling place, will be brought to you by 93 artists who live or work in Great Falls and are members of Great Falls Studios. The non-profit Great Falls Foundation for the Arts, which supports the visual arts in Great Falls, will also have a booth where children can create art. The two groups have been doing their best to make Great Falls an artful place, and at the Festival they'll be reaching out to you in hopes that you and your children become part of a Great Falls movement to nurture creativity and establish Great Falls as a regional center for the visual arts.

The festival is sponsored by the Celebrate Great Falls Foundation and will take place on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Great Falls Village Centre.

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

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 27

Thirty Seconds To Mars. 7 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. \$32.50-\$39.50, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. Accessible seating is available at 703-993-3035. www.thirtysecondstomars.com or www.patriotcenter.com.

The Digitour with Dave Days, David Choi, DeStorm, Ricky Ficarella and more. 6 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/APRIL 28

Eisley, The Narrative and Christie Dupree. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Bedtime Storytime. 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Stories and songs. Age 2-5 with adult. 703-242-4020.

FRIDAY/APRIL 29

Graham Parker. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

"Cheaper by the Dozen." 8 p.m. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Tickets \$13-\$15. 703-790-9223 or www.McLeanPlayers.org.

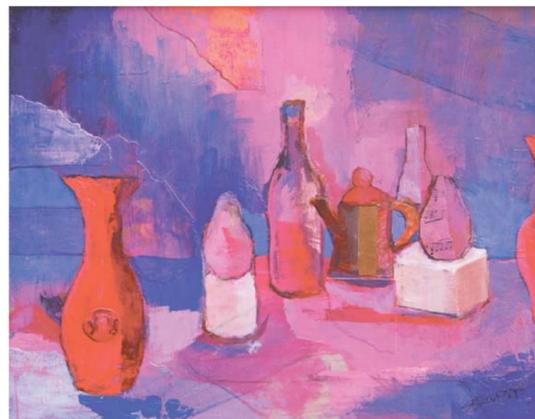
SATURDAY/APRIL 30

Kylie Minogue. 8 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Tickets \$55-\$125, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. www.patriotcenter.com.

Tony Thaxton and Claudia Rivera at 10:30 a.m., and **Tyrone Wells and Matt Duke** at 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

WUMC Preschool Yard and Bake Sale. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Wesley United Methodist Church, 711 Spring St. S.E., Vienna. Children's clothes, toys, household goods and homemade treats. All proceeds will be used to purchase books for the school. yardsaleforbooks@gmail.com

Fairfax CASA Run for the Children. 8:30 a.m. Fairfax Courthouse, 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. 10K and 3k. Food, prizes and entertainment for runners and spectators. Runners will help raise awareness for the CASA program while also raising money to support the recruitment, training, and supervision of volunteers from the



Twyford to Exhibit at Katie's Coffee House
Suzanne Twyford's work will be featured at Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road in Great Falls, during the month of May. The show, entitled "Aspects of My Life" reflects, through paintings in oil, acrylic, and mixed media, favorite subjects and eclectic themes. Twyford's work has been exhibited widely and hangs in private collections here and abroad.

community to serve as Court Appointed Special Advocates. \$25-\$30. Register at www.fairfaxrunforthechildren.com or 301-871-0400.

World Tai Chi Day. 10 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Demonstrations and mini-classes of Taijiquan, Qigong and Yoga. www.peaceabledragon.org.

Ryan Buckle & Friends: Science You Can Sing To. 10:30 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Music and science with Ryan Buckle and Zeldi the Zookeeper. All ages. 703-790-8088.

Community Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 270, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Household items, jewelry, small appliances, toys, DVDs, tools, art, books and more. 703-893-4588.

Art Show and Sale. 6 p.m. Historic Methodist Grove Church, 8641 Lewisville Road, McLean. Reston-based artist Ann Marie Williams' abstract expressionist and realistic paintings. annmarie87@verizon.net.

Fistula Foundation Fundraiser: Dinner and Dance Performance. 7 p.m. United Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Four-course dinner with dance performance by Jane Franklin Dance Co. Tickets \$60, available at 703-425-9712 or carmelask@mns.com. www.thefistulafoundation.org. **"Cheaper by the Dozen."** 8 p.m.

Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Tickets \$13-\$15. 703-790-9223 or www.McLeanPlayers.org. **Community Yard Sale.** 8 a.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S., Vienna. Clothes, books, housewares and more. Proceeds go to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society to help fund a cure for blood cancers. 703-448-3900.

SUNDAY/MAY 1

Celebrate Great Falls Spring Festival. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Great Falls Village Center, Georgetown Pike and Walker Road, Great Falls. Rock climbing wall, moon bounces, Velcro wall, pony rides, vendors and craftspeople, stage performances including the Langley dance team and local bands, a classic car show, and more. Sponsored by the Celebrate Great Falls Foundation.

"Places." 12 p.m. Great Falls Festival, Great Falls Village Center, Georgetown Pike and Walker Road, Great Falls. Dodgeball Theatre's Teen Ensemble original production, written and performed by the actors. \$10. www.dodgeballtheatre.com.

Randy Thompson. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Native American Woodlands Walk. 2 p.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. A tour of the Potomac Valley Native Plant Collection, with emphasis on the uses Native Americans made of these plants. Free

and open to the public. 703-255-3631.

Community Yard Sale. 8 a.m.-1 p.m. American Legion Auxiliary Unit 270, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Household items, jewelry, small appliances, toys, DVDs, tools, art, books and more. 703-893-4588.

Arc of Northern Virginia 33rd annual Patriots' Cup Corporate Challenge 8K Race. 9 a.m. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Proceeds benefit people with disabilities in Northern Virginia. www.thearcofnova.org/events/patscup/.

7th Annual 5K Race and 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk. Vienna Elementary School, 128 Center St. S., Vienna. Registration at 6:45 a.m., race begins at 8 a.m. Rock and roll warm-up, awards ceremony and post-race refreshments. Race course is USATF certified. Adults \$25-\$30, children \$5-\$15. www.viennas5krun.org.

37th Annual Walk On the Hill. 2-5 p.m. Vienna's Windover Heights Historic District. Co-sponsored by Historic Vienna, Inc. and the residents of the District. Free and open to the public. Visitors may walk through any garden with an "Open" sign and listen to concerts by the Green Hedges School Jazz Ensemble and the Vienna Community Band. Rain date May 8. 703-938-5187 or www.historicviennainc.org.

"Cheaper by the Dozen." 8 p.m. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Tickets \$13-\$15. 703-790-9223 or www.McLeanPlayers.org.

Civil War Concert. 7 p.m. Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. "The Civil War on the Home Front," a concert of music, song and poetry from the Civil War presented by Slor-Og. Sponsored by The City of Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts. Family friendly, free admission and parking. 703-352-ARTS or www.fairfaxspotlight.org.

TUESDAY/MAY 3

Danger Between the Lines. 7 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. "Danger Between the Lines - The Civil War Along Hunter Mill Road." Presentation with DVD, artifacts, and question and answer period. Presented by the Hunter Mill Defense League. Adults. Free. 703-938-0405.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 4

Joan As Police Woman. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/MAY 5

Jarrold Gorbil, Josiah Leming and Dion Roy. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/MAY 6

Neil Innes. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

"Cheaper by the Dozen." 8 p.m. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Tickets \$13-\$15. 703-790-9223 or www.McLeanPlayers.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 7

Steve Forbert at 7 p.m., and **Fight The Bear and Overdrive Supertruster** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Home & Design Luxury Expo. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sheraton Premiere, 8661 Leesburg Pike, McLean. With HGTV's Jane Lockhart. HomeandDesign.com.

Fairfax Civil War Day. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Historic Blenheim Estate, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Re-enactors, all-day demonstrations on blacksmithing with an 1862 traveling forge, railroads, and soldier research. Talks about slave life, the telegraph, soldiers' graves, Lee's resignation and the Skirmish at Fairfax. Guided tours of Blenheim's gallery, exhibits on secession and the Blenheim attic graffiti. Firing demonstrations of a Howitzer cannon artillery gun, "boot camp" for children, scavenger hunt, wagon rides through soldier camps, period music and dancing. \$5 adults, \$3 age 12 and younger. Proceeds benefit the restoration and maintenance of the Historic Blenheim Estate. Free parking and shuttle service provided at Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run. This event is produced by the City of Fairfax; Historic Fairfax City Inc.; and the 17th Virginia Infantry, Company D "Fairfax Rifles." 703-591-0560 or www.fairfaxva.gov/SpecialEvents/CWW/CWW.asp.

"Cheaper by the Dozen." 8 p.m. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Tickets \$13-\$15. 703-790-9223 or www.McLeanPlayers.org.

Colvin Run Community Hall Dance. 9 p.m. 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Salsa lesson, music by The Family band, dance lesson at 8. Lesson \$5, dance admission \$12. 703-795-2003 or www.colvinrun.org.

Social Justice Yard Sale. 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. www.uucf.org or lkozloff@verizon.net.

"Cheaper by the Dozen." 8 p.m. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Tickets \$13-\$15. 703-790-9223 or www.McLeanPlayers.org.

Dragon Fest. 2-7 p.m. Green Hedges School, 415 Windover Ave., McLean. Games, rides, face painting, food and more. Admission is free. 703-938-8323.

Colvin Run Community Hall Dance. 9 p.m. 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Salsa lesson, music by The Family band, dance lesson at 8. Lesson \$5, dance admission \$12. 703-795-2003 or www.colvinrun.org.

Social Justice Yard Sale. 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. www.uucf.org or lkozloff@verizon.net.

SUNDAY/MAY 8

An Evening with Charlie Hunter. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

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NEWS

Area Real Estate Group Expands

Real Estate Team Huckaby Briscoe Group becomes Huckaby Briscoe Conroy Realty Group.

Karen Briscoe, principal owner, announced that Lizzy Conroy has joined her as Vice President and that the Huckaby Briscoe Group has been renamed Huckaby Briscoe Conroy Realty Group (www.HBCRealtyGroup.com). The expanded team includes two principals, six associate agents and two staff members. Karen Briscoe attributes the team's success to a strong focus on service in the business: "We are committed to providing top service to our clients, and have sold more than 1,000 homes valued at over \$1 billion." Sue Huckaby founded the firm in 1977, and became one of the most successful Realtors in America; she was ranked number 10 out of over 2,000,000 realtors in the United States in 2001, and was the top realtor in Northern Virginia for many years.

Conroy graduated from Georgetown University with a B.A. in economics. She has lived in McLean for nearly 10 years, and has been very active in the Washington, D.C. community. She brings to the team a successful career in marketing and commercial real estate experience, having gotten her start at Newmark LLC, a New York City-based commercial real estate firm. She joined Karen and the Huckaby Briscoe Group in the summer of 2009.

Conroy said, "This is a very ex-

citing time to be involved in the Northern Virginia real estate market. I believe our team at HBC Realty Group is well-positioned to take advantage of the recovery that we continue to observe in the local real estate market. Since its founding, this group has set the bar for excellence and value for their clients by delivering exceptional customer service."

A leading residential real estate team in Northern Virginia, HBC Realty Group has achieved to-date sales of over \$1 billion by consistently selling more than 40 residential properties annually. Karen Briscoe attributes this success to her team, "We have agents who specialize in customer service, and this means that we can effectively match clients to the right agent for their needs, including everything from multi-million dollar luxury estates to \$300,000 condominiums and town homes." Primary markets for HBC Realty Group include McLean, Great Falls, Arlington, Vienna, Falls Church, and Alexandria, and they represent clients throughout the Northern Virginia region.

If you are thinking of buying or selling a home in Northern Virginia, contact Karen Briscoe or Lizzy Conroy with the Huckaby Briscoe Conroy Realty Group at www.HBCRealtyGroup.com, 703-734-0192, or Homes@HBCRealtyGroup.com.

Historic Street Fair to be Held at Colvin Run

As a way to honor and applaud the two hundredth anniversary of the Colvin Run Mill and surrounding community, the Great Falls Historical Society is sponsoring a Colvin Run Historic Street Fair on May 15, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Inside the Colvin Run Schoolhouse, visitors can enjoy a school reenactment; photo boards depicting the community over its 200 year history; treasured artifacts on display; and relatives and descendants of local residents who will discuss the good old days, weaving a picture of days gone by. Members of GFHS can begin the day at the schoolhouse, where a wristband can be picked up that will allow access to a free grind at the Colvin Run Mill.

Local businesses will display their wares and offer foods along

the road. Artists will be outside the Mill, painting the historic building for all to see. Food, ice cream, and music will delight. A silent auction will provide a way for local businesses to showcase their offerings. Outside the schoolhouse native plants, heirloom seeds, and backyard wildlife habitat techniques

will be on display. The Great Falls Historical Society invites and welcomes member participation in the preparation of this event. They are gathering the history of the Colvin Run area and welcome your photos, artifacts and stories, if you have

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT IN AND FOR VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA.
CASE NO. 2011-30093-FMCI (36)**

IN RE: The Marriage of:
ROBERT W. HOOD,
Petitioner,
and
KATHLEEN B. HOOD,
Respondent
NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE
To: KATHLEEN B. HOOD
{Respondents last known address}
601 CLEAR SPRINGS RD, GREAT FALLS, VA 22066

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on ROBERT W. HOOD, whose address is 2154 Brandywine Falls Way, Orlando Florida 32824, on or before 5/13, 2011 and file the original with the clerk of this 125 E. orange Ave, PO Box 2401, Daytona Beach, FL 32114, before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter.
If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition. Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Courts office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed to the address on record at the clerks office.
WARNING: Ruling 12.285 Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.
DATED this 29 day of March, 2011
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT BY L. Moreland, deputy clerk

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources will hold a Public Information Hearing to discuss the proposed Highland Park-Overlee Knolls Historic District in Arlington County, VA. The Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, May 9, 2011, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Arlington County Office Building, Arlington County Boardroom on the third floor at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201. Public comment regarding the proposal will be taken at the time of the hearing or can be sent to: Director Kathleen Kilpatrick, VA Department of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221. These proposals have been recommended eligible for the Virginia Landmarks and National Register. Proposals will be presented to the State Review Board and the Historic Resources Board on June 16, 2011 in Richmond, VA. For a copy of the proposal and/or a boundary map, contact Marc Wagner, VA Department of Historic Resources, 804-367-2323 x-115 or marc.wagner@dhr.virginia.gov.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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LETTERS

Daze of this Particular Week



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Here it is: April 3, 2011, three months since my last diagnostic scans, the exact week in fact when typically – per doctor's orders for the last two years, I would be waiting out (sweating out is more accurate) the findings from the previous week's scans, hoping for a good result. Trying to pretend that I was still in control of my emotions/life. Trying not to worry my wife, Dina. Trying to put my best face forward; until the call came or we arrived at my doctor's office for the usual post-scan appointment/assessment to discuss and/or "strategize" about what medical treatment/frequency happens next.

And what change occurred, what change Team Lourie agreed on was, twofold: to reschedule my every-three-week chemotherapy to four, and to change the frequency of my quarterly scans. The CT scan will now occur every four months. The MRI of the brain and the Bone scan will now occur every six months. (Minimizing exposure to harmful radiation and poisonous chemotherapy was our intent.) What it all means is, right now I am emotionally over-extended, sort of. Right now – exactly, I am living the month between the old – and familiar – cycle of being scanned quarterly and then being updated by my oncologist accordingly and now (subject to reevaluation anytime; it's up to me, my doctor has assured me), adding a month's time to that assessment because of my relative good health and previous "partial stable remission" status and desire to moderate, if possible, the collateral damage caused by my ongoing treatment. Good news, all the way around; except...

It's sort of uncharted territory, though. It's the longest interval between scans – and certainly appointments with my oncologist, since I got on this cancer train in late Feb., 2009. Don't get me wrong. I'm thrilled to be here. (Heck, I'm thrilled to be anywhere; let's be honest.) And according to my oncologist's initial diagnosis and prognosis: "13 months to two years," I shouldn't be here. Yet, here I am; living proof of a patient who has outlived his prognosis and has jokingly been called "the poster child for Avastin." I have now survived longer on this chemotherapy drug than any other of my oncologist's previous patients.

However, I am not cured. I am only continuing to respond well to treatment. But nothing is forever. There were few guarantees given at the beginning of my diagnosis and there's been even fewer offered now, 25 months post-diagnosis. And it's during these atypical intervals of time or changes in treatment, or living beyond dates when I was told how statistically unlikely it would be for a stage IV lung cancer patient to survive, when I have extra anxiety about the jackpot in which I find myself immersed.

And the reason I feel this way is that part of my coping mechanism, diagnosis-to-date, has been denial: trying not to focus or concern myself – or others, too much, with the underlying problem (as I euphemistically refer to my diagnosis). Even though there were (are) constant reminders, I have deluded myself, somehow and assimilated and compartmentalized the cancer stuff into a "Seinfeldian" type of vault. A vault to which only I have the key and for which I maintain control – responsibly.

But new-and-different causes problems for old-and-familiar me. This one month extension, to which doctor and patient agreed, is "new and different." Soon it won't be. Soon I'll get my scan results and things will go on as they now will have become: familiar. That's my hope anyway. And if not, you'll read about it here because I'll need your thoughts and prayers even more.

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

Partnership Promotes Arts

To the Editor:

The Board and staff at the McLean Project for the Arts applaud the recent budget decision of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to include funding for a master plan study for the arts as called for in the recently established Arts section of the county's Comprehensive Plan.

Our mission at MPA is to exhibit the work of emerging and established artists, to promote public awareness and understanding of contemporary art, and to offer instruction and education in the visual arts. The MPA provides a program of museum quality professionally curated exhibitions and offers classes for adults and children including under-served students who might not otherwise have exposure to art exhibits or programs. Originally called the Emerson Gallery when it was founded in 1962, MPA became the first public-private partnership for the arts with Fairfax County in 1988. Today we receive funds from the state, the County, and private donors. The County's budget commitment this week reinforces our long held belief that the arts must be an integral part of a dynamic economy

and culture.

Increasingly, the arts are a requisite component of the 21st century education we need to prepare us for a global economy. The Conference Board's 2008 report The Ill-Prepared U.S. Workforce identified five "high need" applied skills that are most often lacking in today's workforce applicant pool. One of the five is the "creativity and innovation" skill set. At MPA we devote almost 75 percent of our budget to programs. Our education and outreach efforts extend well beyond the boundaries of our own community, and include people of all ages and socio-economic groups.

None of us is surprised that creativity and innovation are essential in a competitive society. This is the 130th anniversary of the Smithsonian's Arts and Industries Building: 130 years ago the public and private sector leaders of the Industrial Revolution joined forces to promote the essential connections between creativity and business and between the bully pulpit of the government and the ingenuity of the marketplace.

In the midst of today's revolution in technology and information, a public commitment to funding and integrating the arts into the education, economic development

and workforce training programs sends a clear message to the private sector that the partnership between our arts and industries must continue to grow. At MPA, we think the new county master plan study should promote the arts not only for their own intrinsic merit, but also as a conduit to originality in all disciplines.

Steven Johnson, in his groundbreaking book *Where Good Ideas Come From: The Natural History of Innovation* describes how geneticists Watson and Crick used artistic and architectural concepts to imagine the double helix and unravel the codes of DNA. "Chance favors the connected mind" Johnson concludes, and it is a recurring theme in his book. Today more than ever, creative, connected minds will drive the progress and set the course for our role in a society with fewer borders. In Fairfax County, we can and should be leaders in this effort. At MPA we know that society needs people who "think outside the box". Let's work together to find people who don't even see a "box" as the framework for the next new thing.

Margaret Vanderhye
Board Member,
McLean Project for the Arts

Misguided Praise

To the Editor:

I was surprised to read in your Opinion section that Robert Theon believes Delegate Comstock has stayed in touch with her constituents [Praising Del. Comstock, March 30-April 5 issue]. Which ones? Perhaps he imagines that Comstock's partisan accolades to herself and cheerleading to her conservative base constitute "responsiveness", but most of us in the 34th district expect more

Ms. Comstock in large part put her name on bills as a co-sponsor and did not originate significant legislation that she developed. In fact, another local newspaper called Delegate Comstock's bill to give teachers a fake bonus from a non-existent County surplus, "stupid." Fortunately that bill like most others she introduced failed

Another dubious initiative was her effort to shift funds from pre-school programs to all day kindergarten. This temporary measure-taking money from one program to support another is a typical slight-of-hand technique for Comstock and her ideologue

colleagues in Richmond.

Ms. Comstock even seems confused about which office she is running for this year. In a recent email she referenced a Federal Election Commission deadline for a fund raising report. Apparently she is so focused on running for a national office in 2012, she has forgotten about her current responsibilities to the constituents of the 34th District.

J. Jay Volkert
Vienna

Underfunded Disaster

To the Editor:

Rail-to-Dulles is an underfunded disaster. Location of the station at Dulles is only the latest symptom. The single biggest problem is our Congressman's failure to get proper federal funding. Of the \$6.25 billion projected cost, only 14% comes from the Federal government. The nationwide average

for Federal funding of mass-transit rail is 38%. Rail projects in Dallas and Seattle, with no federal impacts, got 42-50% federal funding. Rail-to-Dulles should have received at least that much if not more. After all, connecting our Nation's capital by rail to its international airport is in the federal interest. But Frank Wolf only got 14% for us, despite being on the Appropriations Committee. If Wolf had done his job and just obtained the nationwide average, we would have an additional \$1.5 billion dollars for Rail-to-Dulles. That would pay for parking garages at the new stops, an underground station at Dulles, union wages, a tunnel under Tysons, and cuts to tolls on 267. None of that will happen because he let us down on Rail-to-Dulles. We will be living with this failure for decades.

Jeff Barnett
McLean

The writer was Democratic nominee for the House of Representatives in Virginia's 10th District.

POLICE REPORT

Activities reported by the McLean police department through April 22.

COUNTYWIDE TRAFFIC

ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGN

The Traffic Division of the Operations Support Bureau and the Patrol Division of the Fairfax County Police Department, in cooperation with the Virginia State Police, will launch a two-week initiative, "50 Means 50", along Route 7100, the Fairfax County Parkway. This campaign kicks off on Sunday, April 17 and targets aggressive and reckless driving; including speeding, texting while driving, following too closely, and failure to pay full time and attention on the Fairfax County Parkway. Motor squad officers along with patrol officers from several district stations throughout the county and Virginia State Troopers will be assigned specific enforcement duties along the parkway. A variety of vehicles will be utilized

including motorcycles, pick-up trucks and other unmarked and marked police vehicles. The stepped-up enforcement will take place 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until its conclusion on Saturday, April 30. The intent of the initiative is to reduce the overall average speed on the parkway and to reduce the number of property damage, injury, and fatal crashes, making the parkway a safer place for all.

MISDEMEANOR SEXUAL ASSAULT/

DRUNK IN PUBLIC/ ARREST

A man was arrested for inappropriately touching an employee, a 19-year-old woman, around 1:45 p.m. on Thursday, April 14 at Maggiano's Italian Restaurant, 2001 International Drive. A 59-year-old male of the 1000 block of Spruce Street in Falls Church was

apprehended nearby and charged with misdemeanor sexual assault and drunk in public.

TRESPASSING/ RESISTING ARREST/ ARREST

Police were called to Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, for a man acting disorderly outside of the movie theatre. As officers were investigating, the man was allegedly uncooperative with them. A 26-year-old male of the 1600 block of Chernite Court in Vienna was arrested and charged with trespassing and resisting arrest.

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All listings are due by Monday at 3 P.M.

NEWS

Härth Executive Chef Thomas Elder toasts the launch of Hilton McLean's eco-friendly restaurant with Vienna Mayor J. Jane Seeman [left] and Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth.



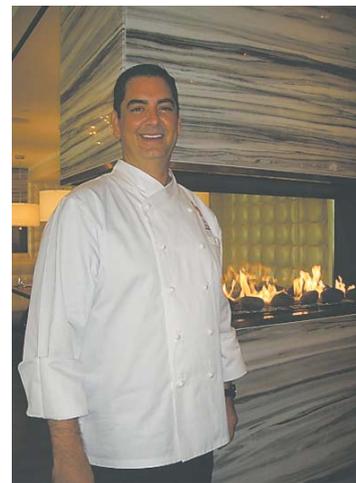
DONNA MANZ/
THE CONNECTION

Fired-up in McLean

Härth at Hilton McLean Tysons features local meats, produce, and beehives.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

When Hilton McLean embraced the innovative concept for its new restaurant, Härth, it focused on the palate, the environment and the community, guided by the hands of Executive Chef Thomas Elder. Elder keeps bees for their honey, grows herbs and vegetables on Hilton McLean grounds, and buys his organic produce and naturally-raised meat from local farmers. It's sustainability, flavor and innovation to the n-th degree.



Härth

The soft launch on April 4 brought out Hilton McLean and Hilton International management, local elected officials and the press. A Hilton concept, Härth is part of Hilton McLean's \$40 million renovation.

"What Härth brings is a sense of community," Elder said. "Sustainability is important in our world."

Härth, so-named because of its signature wood-burning granite-clad oven, specializes in wood-fired dishes, from garnished crusty flatbreads to Virginia-raised meats. The open-kitchen oven, centerpiece and heart of the restaurant, and three decorative wall fireplaces, set the tone for the restaurant's ambiance.

And Chef Elder isn't shy about applewood-smoked bacon, either, whether it tops his flatbreads or is the primary ingredient in his secret-recipe bacon jam.

NOT YOUR TYPICAL GOURMET RESTAURANT, Härth features a garden abundant with herbs and vegetables, and a patio accented with firepits. Elder keeps bees on the hotel's roof, anticipating enough honey for recipes and tea service.

If that's not enough "green" for you, then, imagine this: The hotel is installing charging stations for electric cars and is hosting a Saturday producers-

only farmers' market from mid-May through the fall, partnering with Inova health care and its wellness resources. In a service to the Tysons-area community, Härth will offer semi-annual electronics recycling.

Elder has had planted at Hilton McLean eight varieties of exotic peppers and five varieties of mint. He learned about beekeeping when he decided to integrate local honey into the restaurant's inventory. In the past year, he's learned a lot about his two hives.

The Härth bar features the restaurant's signature dishes, including the wood-fired flatbreads, mini lobster rolls, and a charcuterie and cheese platter to share. Elder plans on adding authentic Virginia peanuts to the complimentary bar snacks.

"I think this is fantastic," said Mayor M. Jane Seeman, one of Härth's opening day guests. "This whole concept certainly makes them unique. Maybe, it will start

a trend.

"This area will be redeveloped and we need to look at fresh options. This could be the trendsetter for Tysons redevelopment."

ELDER'S NEWLY-SCARRED ARMS, gratis of the wood-fired oven, are testament to his hands-on approach to his restaurant and its objectives. Every detail of Härth has Elder's handprint. "For people like us, with our hearts in our cooking, the work is rewarding," said Elder, a Chicago transplant.

Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth expressed delight with the concept, from the garden to bees on the roof and buying locally. "The whole green sustainability part is wonderful," said Smyth. "It's an upscale type of restaurant we would love to see at Tysons. Not to mention, it's beautiful, too. Apparently, a lot of thought and planning went into this restaurant."

HÄRTH, AT HILTON MCLEAN Tysons Corner, celebrates its grand opening the end of April. The hotel is located at 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. Phone 703-761-5131.

SCHOOLS

Sixth graders performed the "Go Green" rap at Churchill Road's Earth Day Assembly: Pamela Negussie, Reagan Hill, Grace Cheatham, Ethan Reblitz, (Lauraine Park, partially obscured) Sean Olmsted, Wes Chambers, (Anna Marie Hollar, partially obscured), Thomas Clarke, Rachel Park and Donya Momenian.



PHOTOS BY KIM MORAN

Celebrating Earth Day at Churchill Road

Thanks to the timing of spring break, Churchill Road Elementary School got in the spirit of Earth Day a week early. Planned by PE teacher Jordan Craig Kuhn and 6th grade teacher Meghan Roman, the students enjoyed a spirited school-wide assembly. Beginning with a rousing rendition of "Recycle..." (sung to the tune of "Who Let the Dogs Out") by David Ericson and his third graders, the show continued with a video, prepared by 5th grade teacher Bob Timke on how to plant and care for the seedlings from Dominion Power's Project Plant It! Each child in the school will plant their own seedling the first week in May. School counselor Alex Mantel and Green Team Member Kaki Schmidt awarded students in grades 3-6, "Green Student Awards" for their participation in the school's eco

audit and other eco-friendly activities.

Interspersed with creative song and dance routines about global warming – "Ice, Ice Maybe" (performed by 6th graders Ariana Aulisi, Elena Loria and Ellie Buckley) and going green (performed by 6th graders Grace Cheatham, Reagan Hill, Anna Marie Hollar, Donya Momenian, Pamela Negussie, Rachel Park, Lauraine Park, Wes Chambers, Thomas Clarke, Sean Olmstead and Ethan Reblitz) and saving our earth (Patrol Captains), teachers new to Churchill Road this school year competed against one another in a trash sort. Hosted by 6th grade teacher Meghan Roman, the new teach trash sort was the highlight of the show. Pitted against other newcomers, the winners were third grade teacher Krista Zier and fourth grade teacher Kate Vose.



Sorting trash into the proper recycling categories are Churchill Road third grade teachers Krista Zier and Dave Ericson, while student judge, Danny Lee, rates their performance.



Churchill Road Patrol captains Emily Stranne, Katie Bellaschi, Olivia Augustini, Tatiana Bennett and Charlotte Sununu dance to the "Save our Earth" Earth Day Assembly finale.

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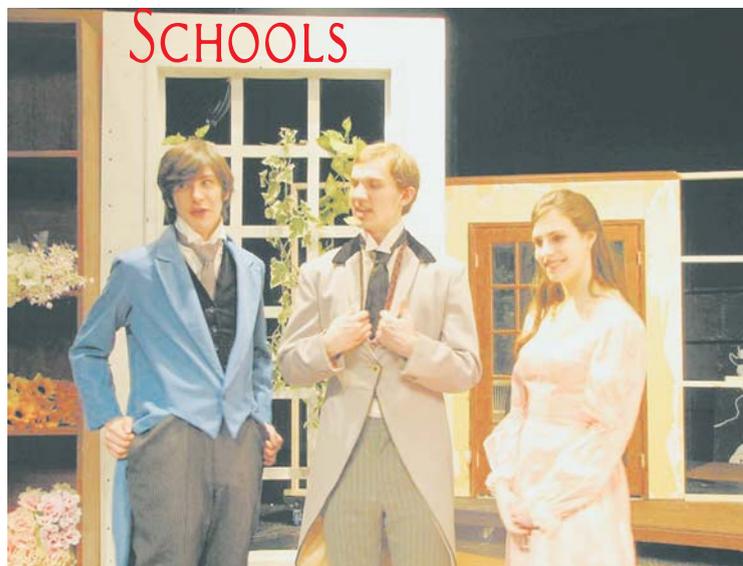
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Neil Wilcox-Cook, Charlie Belt, and Lily Roth in Marshall High production of 'The Importance of Being Earnest.'

PHOTO BY
 DELANEY CONWAY

THIS IS "TOBY"

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CAPPIES
 REVIEW

Show Well-delivered

'The Importance of Being Earnest' at Marshall High.

BY AMBER HUGEE
 MOUNT VERNON HIGH SCHOOL

What's in a name? While a rose by any other name may smell as sweet, two men find out that their names get them into a ghastly scrape. "The Importance of Being Earnest" was written by Oscar Wilde, and premiered in London, 1895. It is about two men, Algernon Moncrieff and Jack Worthing, who make their lives easier by creating false identities. Both men pretend to be a man named Ernest Worthing, and while pretending to be Ernest, propose to the women they love. The women confess they always wanted to marry someone named Ernest, which neither of the men truly are. The truth comes out in a witty way that convinces the audience that being earnest is just as important as being Ernest.

Marshall High School's production of "The Importance of Being Earnest" was a thoroughly enjoyable experience. The consistent British accents added to the authenticity of the play and characterization. Neil Wilcox-Cook (Algernon Moncrieff) and Charlie Belt (Jack Worthing) had brilliant chemistry and comedic timing; memorable bits like a struggle for muffins and reaching for a cigarette case were obviously thought out, but it was in a way that didn't take one

out of the story. As the story progressed Wilcox-Cook's reactions were spot on, and kept the energy consistent during longer scenes.

The romantic relationships were charming; Melissa Goitia (Gwendolyn Fairfax) and Belt made an adorable pair. Goitia's facial expressions set the tone for each scene she was in, especially when she and Lily Roth (Cecily Cardew) met and thought (mistakenly) that they were engaged to the same man. Roth played Cecily with endearing characterization; her adoration for Algernon radiated from the stage. Sarah Chapin (Lady Bracknell) commanded the stage when she burst on it in a fluster of social omniscience. Her adamant stance against the marriage of Gwendolyn to a man of little social stature made her seem silly; thusly Wilde makes fun of the aristocracy's insistence on "marrying well" instead of for love.

Presented in three acts, the show had a beautiful set, in Act Two, a running fountain was placed in a very colorful garden. The color schemes were beautiful, and the pleasantries continued through to the props. During tea time, real tea and sugar were used, as well as cake and bread. The attention to detail in the script was commendable, even a corner of wallpaper that was falling off was purposefully so.

With its wit and message, "The Importance of Being Earnest" was a show that stood rather strongly on the stage of Marshall High School's auditorium; it was well-delivered, and well-received. The question: what's in a name? The answer: nothing, and everything, depending on the circumstance, but always be earnest.



Helping Homeless Animals

Boy Scout Troop 128, sponsored by St John's Episcopal Church in McLean, cleared brush, debris and installed a new mulch surface to two pet play areas at the Friends of Homeless Animals shelter in Aldie, Va. as part of Austin Fruin's Eagle Service Project. Friends of Homeless Animals is a non-profit, no-kill shelter that focuses on the rescue and placement of homeless dogs and cats in the Northern Virginia and Washington D.C. area.

Tough Pitching Slows Highlanders Down Over Spring Break

But McLean remains unbeaten in Liberty District softball play this spring.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The McLean High girls' softball team went up against some stiff competition at the Madison High Spring Break Tournament in Vienna over the last two weeks.

The recent poor weather conditions continued at the tournament. Nevertheless, the Highlanders were able to get in three of their scheduled five games. The other two are set to be made up later this week.

McLean went up against some pretty quality competition and pitching and as a result struggled to generate a lot of offense in its three games at the tournament. The Highlanders lost two close contests - 3-1 to Stonewall Jackson (Manassas) and 3-2 to Northern Region opponent Westfield High.

McLean pitcher Lauryn Hahne put together two quality outings in both losses. But along with the struggle to score runs in those two contests, McLean struggled defensively as well according to head coach Maurice Tawil.

"In both those loses, our defense did not support the outstanding pitching by sophomore Lauryn Hahne," said Tawil. "We also didn't hit well enough to make-up for our sub-par defense. But, we need to give credit to [the opposing] pitchers."



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

McLean High softball pitcher Jamie Bell remains unbeaten this season.

The loss versus Stonewall Jackson was the first of the entire season for McLean, the defending state AAA champions who started this season 7-0. The Highlanders, in the loss to Stonewall, managed six hits at the plate and the one run. Hahne allowed just four Raiders batters to get base hits in her stellar effort for McLean.

MCLEAN, despite its tournament losses to both Stonewall and Westfield, did get a nice victory over a tough C.D. Hylton High (Woodbridge) club, 2-0, on Monday, April 18, at Madison.

In that game, McLean's Grace Henry drove in the winning two runs with a double over the center fielder's head. Freshman

Christi Geisler, meanwhile, went 3-for-3 at the plate, with two doubles. The winning pitcher for McLean was seasoned standout Jamie Bell, who remained unbeaten on the season.

McLean will conclude the tournament with games versus both West Potomac and Marshall High Schools this Saturday, April 30. Both opponents, like McLean, are members of the Northern Region. Marshall is also a fellow member with McLean of the Liberty District.

Going into this week, McLean was 9-2 overall. The team is a perfect 7-0 in Liberty District play.

The Highlanders have been led this season by seniors Bell and Jesse Straub, as well

as junior Allison Wilhelm. Bell, who is unbeaten on the mound, is also contributing mightily at the plate with a batting average at around the .500 mark. Straub, meanwhile, has been outstanding defensively and is also hitting near .500 with good power numbers. And clean-up hitter Wilhelm is leading the team in home runs while also batting near .500.

THIS WEEK, the Highlanders were scheduled to resume regular season play within their Liberty District. McLean was scheduled to play at home versus Fairfax High on Monday, April 26, before traveling to Jefferson High the following day (April 27) for a game versus the Colonials. This Thursday evening at 6:30, McLean will be at home versus South Lakes. Then, of course, the locals will conclude play in the Madison Tournament on Saturday.

Next Tuesday, May 3, McLean will be at home against district rival Madison for a 6:30 p.m. game. It will be the second meeting of the season between the two district foes. McLean won at Madison on April 1 by a 5-2 score. In that first meeting between the Highlanders and Warhawks, Highlander RBIs came from Straub, Bell, and Wilhelm. On the mound that evening, Bell allowed 11 base hits but held the hard-hitting Madison team to just the two runs.

Coach Tawil realizes the Highlanders have quite a challenge in all the games they are scheduled to play over the next several days, especially when it comes to the district games.

"We have several big games coming up and we will need to continue improving in order to stay atop a talented Liberty District," said Tawil.

Highlanders Edge Warhawks In Liberty boys' Tennis Action

Liberty District boys' tennis rivals McLean and Madison High Schools competed in a closely contested team match earlier this week on Monday, April 25. The visiting Highlanders edged the Warhawks by a 5-4 score.

It was an exciting match with the team score tied at 4-4 with just the No. 1 doubles competition pending. The McLean top doubles' team of Nik Padmanabhan and Louis Gruber ended up winning a close competition over Madison's No. 1 team of Dan Sablik and John Adam, 10-8, to tilt the team victory into the Highlanders' favor.

Sablik, Madison's outstanding singles player, remained unbeaten this spring at No. 1 singles, getting past McLean junior Kayvon Mobarakeh. Madison also received singles victories from John Nothaft, who bested Charlie Roco, 10-7, at No. 4 singles; and Matt Bosco, who got past McLean's Bing Waid, 10-6, at No. 5 singles.

The Highlanders also earned three wins at singles. Padmanabhan, at No. 2 singles, defeated

Madison's Ho Joon Choi, 10-4. Gruber, at No. 3 singles, beat Madison's John Adam, 10-7. And at No. 6 singles, McLean's Zach Spahr was a 10-7 winner over Madison's Will Lowther.

So, going into doubles, the team match was tied at 3-3. Madison's No. 2 doubles team of Choi and Nothaft was a winner over McLean's Mobarakeh and Roco. Meanwhile, at No. 3 doubles, the Highlanders' duo of Waid and KC Kristian defeated Madison's twosome of Alex Russell and Aaron Plymack. Following the conclusion of both the No. 2 and 3 doubles' matches, the No. 1 match was still taking place. The winner of that top tier competition would determine the team victor. And it ended up being the Highlander team of Padmanabhan and Gruber that came out on top at the No. 1 doubles matchup, thus giving the Highlanders the team triumph.

McLean, with the win, improved its record to 8-3 on the season. Madison, with the loss, is now 4-5.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The Langley Saxons boys' soccer team will celebrate Senior Night on Friday, April 29. Special pre-game formalities will begin at 6:30 p.m. as seniors will be introduced. Kickoff for the Saxons' Liberty District game versus Stone Bridge High will be at 7:30. The evening will feature special activities and the night of soccer will be fun for all ages. Local youth players in attendance should wear their Great Falls Soccer Club jerseys for free admission. Regular admission is \$5. Donations accepted.

The Langley girls' soccer team, meanwhile, will celebrate its Senior Night on Thursday, May 5.

Great Falls Soccer Club is proud to have had and continue to have so many of these Langley seniors play in the Great Falls Soccer Club from the earliest of ages (many since U5). This is their last season with Great Falls Soccer Club and with Langley.

Jesse Lawrence, a McLean resident and a graduate of Maret School in Washington, D.C., played a big role for the Ohio Wesleyan University men's lacrosse team in its 8-7 victory over Kenyon. The NCAC game took place on April 15. With Ohio Wesleyan holding onto an 8-7 lead in the final minutes, Lawrence, a junior midfielder for the

Battling Bishops, was instrumental in causing several Kenyon turnovers over the contest's final three minutes to preserve the lead and the win for his team.

American Legion Post 180 will hold its 10th annual Golf Classic Friday, June 17 at Penderbrook Golf Club in Fairfax. Registration is from 7 to 8 a.m., with shotgun start at 8. There is room for 144 golfers. Each entry fee includes Green Fees, Event Shirt, Cart Rental, and Steak Dinner. There will be prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive, and hole in one. For more information contact Janet Renner at rennerjl7396@verizon.net.

The Paul VI High golf team recently captured its seventh straight Virginia State Catholic Schools Championship. The postseason event took place at Kiskiack Golf Club in Williamsburg. Under windy conditions, Paul VI (308 strokes) edged out local rivals Bishop Ireton (326 strokes) of Alexandria and Bishop O'Connell (334) of Arlington, both whom finished in second and third place, respectively.

Paul VI senior Tyler Wingo was the first place medalist at 72, even par.

Paul VI, under longtime head coach Milt Papke, has now won 12 state titles in school history.

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 <p>OPEN SUN. 5/1, 2-4pm!</p>		 <p>OPEN SUN. May 1st!</p>	 <p><i>Falls Church City!</i></p>		
<p>3022 Sylvan Drive \$779,000</p>	<p>1762 Kirby Road \$1,865,000</p>	<p>2836 Meadow Lane \$675,000</p>	<p>226 Midvale Street \$829,000</p>	<p>2318 Highland Terrace \$719,000</p>	
 <p>OPEN SUN. 5/1, 2-4pm!</p>		 <p>OPEN SUN. May 1st!</p>			
<p>2401 Sagarmal Ct. \$879,000</p>	<p>6343 Crosswoods Drive \$1,025,000</p>	<p>2835 Meadow Lane \$599,000</p>	<p>2837 Brook Drive \$629,000</p>	<p>6432 South Street \$899,000</p>	

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