

HomeLifeStyle

Ready for Summer House Guests?

HomeLifeStyle, PAGE 8

Susan Cooper's octagon house, was designed with entertaining and house guests in mind.

**Honoring
Valor**

NEWS, PAGE 3

**Big Splash
At Longfellow**

NEWS, PAGE 3

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OPINION, PAGE 8 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 11 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 12 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 13

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Recognizing Men and Women of Valor

Fairfax County Chamber hosts 33rd annual Valor Awards.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce Valor Scholarship Fund awarded 31 Lifesaving Awards, 11 Certificates of Valor and 22 Bronze and Silver Medals of Valor June 6 at the 33rd annual Valor Awards. Police officers and firefighters were honored for their efforts saving lives and performing acts of bravery at the Hilton McLean.

“One of the things that sets Fairfax County apart is the dedication, service and bravery of our men and women in uniform,” said Richard Frisch, Foundation administrator. “It is with great pride that the Chamber and our Valor Scholarship Fund honor these amazing and inspiring individuals who have greatly exceeded the call of duty in protection of our citizens and community.”

The Fairfax County Police Department, Fire and Rescue and Sheriff’s Office as well as Officer Ryan Myers of the Vienna Police Department were honored.

Myers was awarded for his efforts after responding to a call from a mother saying that her mentally disturbed son was hearing voices. After seeing the man was under the influence of illegal drugs, Myers had him taken to a mental health facility.



PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Police Chief Col. David Rohrer presents Master Police Officer Peter Masood with a Lifesaving Award and Canine Shnoz the Canine Meritorious Award for their efforts in rescuing a 53-year-old woman who went missing in the Mason Neck Federal Wildlife Refuge in Woodbridge. After two days of searching from park rangers, Shnoz was called in and found the woman within 15 minutes.

It was there the man attacked Myers, trying to get at his weapon. Despite severe trauma to the face and head and a concussion, Myers was able to subdue the subject, making sure the mentally ill man did not get his weapon.

Doug Brammer of Verizon, who served as the event’s signature sponsors said the actions of the men and women that were hon-

ored is part of their daily lives.

“Fairfax County first responders do not seek the spotlight. They do their jobs simply because it’s what they do,” Brammer said. “If you were to call them heroes, they would deny it. They are committed and dedicated to their profession, wanting only to protect their families and our communities.”

Eight Fairfax County officers were awarded the Medals of Valor for their response to a 911 call about a female victim of a gunshot wound. Second Lt. Matthew Pifer and Police Officer First Class Greyson Bass first arrived on scene and found the woman in the front yard of a house. The woman was still breathing, but unresponsive.

“One of the things that sets Fairfax County apart is the dedication, service and bravery of our men and women in uniform.”

— Richard Frisch

A man had been seen going into the house with a weapon, so rescue personnel were not able to reach the woman without putting themselves in danger. Police Officers First Class Kirk McNickle and Anthony Stancampiano helped Pifer and Bass move the woman behind a hedge.

Stancampiano, a trained medic, and McNickle ran back into the gunman’s line of sight to retrieve medical equipment to keep the woman alive.

Soon Police Officers First Class Sean

SEE RECOGNIZING, PAGE 4

Red Cross Makes Splash at Longfellow

Student-led club caps off first year by donating \$1,500 for disaster relief.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

As a student at Longfellow Middle School, eighth grader Paris Mitzelfeld knows the importance of giving back. Which is why she started a Red Cross Club to show her fellow students what it’s all about.

“I really enjoy giving back, but I think some teenagers have a negative opinion of community service, and I wanted to change that,” she said.

The club’s efforts over the past school year resulted in a \$1,500 donation to the American Red Cross in the National Capital Region, which they presented June 9 at the school.

“It’s an impressive sum of money they were able to raise,” said Emily Martin, a volunteer coordinator with the American Red Cross in the National Capital Area, who

accepted the check. “It’s quite an endeavor they put together, and it’s beneficial to all involved.”

The students in the club and from the Student Council Association conducted an April 29 dance at McLean High School to raise money, and also performed several other service events throughout the year.

They raised \$3,000 for 100 disaster relief kits, to be placed in the school’s classrooms. They also collected more than 800 food items to SHARE of McLean, distributed fire safety fliers to local neighborhoods, taught a basic First Aid class to their fellow students and made blankets to donate to a homeless shelter.

“It’s fun to do something that’s more worthwhile than just another trip to the mall,” said Elizabeth Peartree, an eighth grader. “I think the things we were able to do will help somebody that really needs it.”

“I didn’t have much time for community service last year, with my schedule, so it was nice to fit it in this year,” eighth grader Kate Maguire said.

Longfellow Principal Carole Kihm said she was proud of what the students were able to accomplish in their free time.

“They’re an amazing group, and they did an amazing job raising money for people who need it,” Kihm said.

“It’s fun to do something that’s more worthwhile than just another trip to the mall.”

— Elizabeth Peartree

The group is the only student-run organization at Longfellow, so much so that sponsor Halimah Bechir, an English for Speakers of Other Languages teacher, said she just had to sit back and watch them work.

“I felt so inspired with the amount of work they were able to do on their own, they’re

a wonderful group,” she said. “They also inspired a lot of students in the school, they had more than 80 in the group.”

MORE THAN 130 children attended the April 29 dance at McLean High School, which was planned completely by the students. Paris’s mother, Lisa Mitzelfeld, said she was amazed at the way the group kept their momentum going.

“They wanted to hold it at the Old Firehouse Teen Center, that was booked, so they had to find another venue. Then they had to coordinate the date with the DJ. Then the disaster kits were out of stock,” she said. “They kept running into roadblocks, but never gave up and they never whined about it.”

Though Paris Mitzelfeld will not be a student at Longfellow next year, the group has already recruited a student to take over next year, ensuring that the Red Cross Club at Longfellow will live on.

“I learned I couldn’t do anything without the team around me,” she said. “And hopefully the team will be around for a long time.”

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NEWS



PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Police Chief Col. David Rohrer presents Crossing Guard Donna Courain with a Certificate of Valor. Courain was crossing elementary school students when it was reported that a man was facedown nearby. The man had suffered facial injuries in the fall, but Courain performed CPR on the man for several minutes until the arrival of medical personnel.

Recognizing Men and Women of Valor

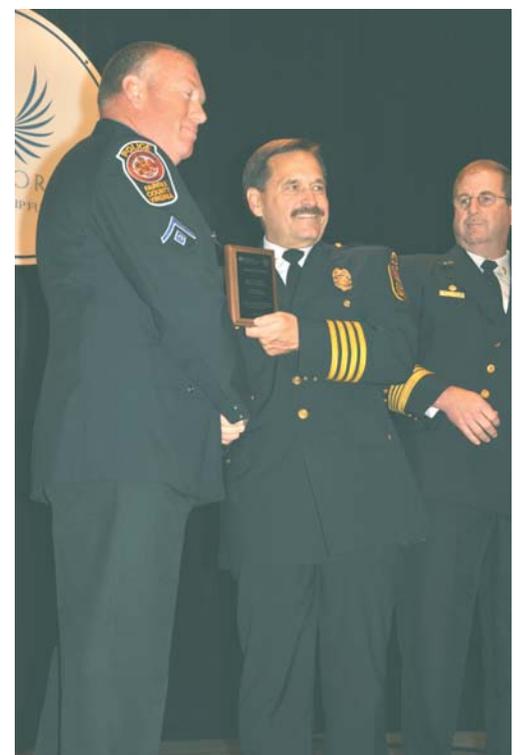
FROM PAGE 3

Craddock, Christopher Lincoln, Bradley Metz and Mostafa Mohamud arrived on the scene and helped transport the woman to the medics. The eight officers held a perimeter around the house for eight hours until a SWAT team relieved them. The situation continued for a day and a half, until the gunman shot himself.

Craddock, Lincoln, Metz and Mohamud were awarded Bronze Medals of Valor and Bass, McNickle, Stancampiano and Pifer were awarded Silver Medals of Valor.

U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11) attended the event and said he is always humbled to be around such heroes.

"I look forward to this event every year," he said. "The sacrifices these men and women make and continue to make on our behalf has resulted in this region, this community becoming one of the safest in the United States, thanks to their efforts."



Fairfax County Police Chief Col. David Rohrer presents Master Police Officer Robert A Dalstrom with a Lifesaving Award. Dalstrom was recognized after responding to a call and finding a man who had hanged himself with a belt.

The Valor Scholarship Fund raises funds for scholarships for the children of the Medal of Valor award winners. They have raised more than \$150,000 so far this year. For more information, visit www.fairfaxchamber.org/valor.

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NEWS

Faith and Public Policy Breakfast June 18

The intersection of faith and local government will be the topic of a free Faith and Public Policy breakfast on Saturday, June 18, 8:30-10:30 a.m. at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Chain Bridge Road and Great Falls Street in McLean. Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) will address how local government interacts with religious values and faith-based organizations in providing needed social services such as emergency care, housing and healthcare.

The panel also features Fairfax County leaders and representatives of faith-based organizations who will provide their perspectives of how faith and faith-based organizations work together with local government in areas both familiar and unexpected to attendees. Audience members will have the opportunity to ask questions.

For more information, contact Ray Martin, 703-556-0123, e-mail martinrs@aol.com.

Traveling Players Offers Day Camps

The Traveling Players Ensemble starts its ninth year this June, the professional theater company offering day camps for teens to bring theater into the great outdoors. Campers ranging from rising sixth through 12th graders will learn to practice their craft with the direction of experienced theater professionals.

Camp runs from June 20-Aug. 19, at The Madeira School in McLean. The camp's purple buses provide daily transportation throughout the Washington, D.C. area. A regular session is for weeks long. The camp also offers one-week intensives and advanced troupes with sessions up to seven weeks long.

This summer's ensembles will perform Moliere's comedies "Sganarelle" and "The Forced Marriage," Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" and "Romeo and Juliet," along with Flaminio Scala's 17th-century "Romeo and Juliet" parody "The Tragic Events."

The Traveling Players will offer several free public performances. For information on this or to join space still available in some ensembles, visit www.travelingplayers.org or call 703-987-1712. Need-based scholarships are available.



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OPINION

Amazing Teens

Time to celebrate their talents and accomplishments, and to keep them safe.

It's a time to celebrate the amazing accomplishments of area teens.

They're graduating from high school, many after completing college level work in Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate programs, for more than a year, earning scholarships and entry to college.

Some are accomplished athletes, ending high school careers as leaders on the field, demonstrating the benefits of practice and discipline, understanding more about what it means to work in a team than many adults ever will.

Some have excelled in theater, learning stage management, teamwork of different kind, complex tasks including lines, music, and more. High school students excelling in theater were celebrated Sunday, June 13, at the Kennedy Center, with awards going to (among others) Madison, Marshall, Mount Vernon, Westfield and Falls Church high schools in Fairfax County; Wakefield in Arlington; Walt Whitman in Montgomery County.

Local high school students pursue all sorts of music with passion. They are involved in many other arts, including photography, painting, sculpture.

There are teens who devote themselves to community service. Students in McLean have packaged literally tens of thousands of meals for the hungry. Others volunteer at homeless shelters, work on environmental projects, help in hospitals, animal shelters and nursing homes. Some have raised money for relief ef-

forts in Haiti or Japan or the Gulf Coast.

It's not surprising that some of these teens are celebrating in a variety of ways. You can see photo slide shows of many area proms at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com.

Now the word of caution.

Many, many high school students consume alcohol, usually to excess.

EDITORIAL

Responding to the 2009 Fairfax County Youth Survey, nearly half of high school students reported drinking alcohol. Twenty-three percent of high school seniors reported binge drinking in the two weeks before the survey, and 39 percent of them had consumed alcohol in the previous 30 days. Among 10th graders, 22 percent had consumed alcohol in the previous 30 days.

Twenty-two percent of students said they had used marijuana.

While those numbers are eye-opening, consider this: Twenty percent of students reported they had driven a car when they had been drinking. See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/youthsurvey

It's easy to forget, when high school students present themselves with maturity, with discipline, with intelligence, that they are, in fact, high school students. Their brains are not fully developed. They are not fully equipped to make what could turn out to be life and death decisions, especially in group settings. They still need guidance, protection, reminders, safeguards and safety nets, mostly from their parents.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Better Process

To the Editor:

The suicides of two students who were involved in the student disciplinary process were terrible tragedies. As a school system and as a community, we must do all we can to help prevent depression and the horrible loss of a child.

I wholeheartedly support the changes that are being made to the disciplinary process and the SR&R, (the student rights and responsibilities regulation). While certain infractions, such as drugs, weapons, assaults and gang activity, must be referred beyond the school because of their seriousness, improvements must — and will — be made in how these situations are handled.

The disciplinary process will be shortened and recorded. More academic, social and emotional supports will also be given to students and families from the start of the process.

Parents have been concerned that students are moved out of their base school and into another regular school too often. On June 9, the School Board unanimously adopted language to ensure that disciplinary hearing officers and

schools first consider discipline options such as Saturday School, detention, community service or the loss of certain privileges. There should be no default or automatic punishment for any offense. The punishment should be determined on a case-by-case basis. The purpose of the punishment is to get the student's behavior back on track, not to punish for the sake of punishment.

We have also made another sensible change in how to handle students' possession of their own prescription medication. As long as there is no evidence of distribution or abuse, principals can resolve the situation quickly without referring the student to the hearings office. Students have always been able to take their medications at school, but the medications are supposed to be kept in the clinic under the supervision of an adult.

Parents would like to see greater use of restorative justice programs. Such a program is currently being piloted at five Fairfax County high schools and can be expanded. All middle and high school administrators will be trained in restorative justice practices.

The best way to discourage misbehavior is to teach and celebrate

good behavior. All FCPS schools must have positive character building programs. They use either Responsive Classroom or Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS).

The good news is that student behavior is improving. Since 2005-06, there has been an 80 percent decline in students recommended for expulsion and a 69 percent decline in students recommended for a long-term suspension. Total disciplinary actions have declined by 20 percent. We should remind ourselves that 99 percent of our students do not get into serious trouble. Of the 1 percent of students who do, the vast majority continue their education in FCPS or county programs.

Schools have always been required to notify parents when a student misbehaves and may be suspended. We are now emphasizing the need to reach parents as quickly as possible.

Some parents are uncomfortable with an administrator questioning students without first notifying and seeking permission from a parent. But in order to protect the safety of all students, principals must be able to immediately investigate incidents of misbehavior.

During the summer, nearly twice as many teenagers die in traffic crashes than at other times, according to the Washington Regional Alcohol Program www.wrap.org. There have been some devastating examples of this locally.

The most important thing for parents to do for their teenagers is to talk to them. Even if your teen tries to deflect what you're saying, the information is still working its way into his or her brain.

Tell them you love them. Tell them it's been too much work to get them to this point to risk losing them. Tell them not to text and drive. Tell them not to drink and drive. Tell them not to get in a car with anyone driving who has been drinking. Tell them you'll come pick them up anytime that they need a safe ride home.

WRAP offers tips, facts and strategies on their website.

Correcting a Mother's Day Error

Because of an internal communications error, The Connection didn't receive many of the Mother's Day photos submitted to us by readers until late last week. We're so sorry we missed Mother's Day, but you'll find those photos at <http://bit.ly/iCiJcS>.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM, ON
TWITTER @MARYKIMM

Current law permits teachers and administrators to question students before parental notification. Parents clearly need to be notified as quickly as possible. But if the requirement for notification is too inflexible, administrators cannot get to the bottom of a potentially dangerous or disruptive situation. High school principals say that when they are investigating an incident, especially one involving multiple students, they need to figure out what has happened by the end of the school day. If they are delayed, it may be extremely difficult to resolve the problem in the best interest of the school community. A student has the right to remain silent when being questioned. But forbidding an administrator from questioning a student without parental permission threatens another equally important student right — to a safe and orderly school environment.

What we ultimately are trying to achieve is a balance — between the rights, education and welfare of those who have misbehaved and the safety of others.

Jane K Strauss
School Board Member
Dranesville District

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PEOPLE

DAD & ME

Christopher Romani, of McLean, with daughter Kate, 2, daughter Anna, 7, and son C.J., 5, pictured in front of the Whalehead Club in Corolla, N.C.



MILITARY NOTES

Navy Seaman Apprentice **James C. McCracken** of McLean, a 2007 graduate of Langley High School, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program, McCracken completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety.

Air Force Airman **Hyun H. Jeong** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio,

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

Texas. Jeong is the nephew of Sunny Chung of Spring Gate Drive, McLean.

Coast Guard Seaman **Nicholas C. Pfautz**, son of Terry Pfautz of Warrenton and Richard Pfautz of McLean, recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N. J.

Army 2nd Lt. **Andrew S. Oh** has entered the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md., as a first-year medical student, to be trained as a physician. He is the son of Dai H. and Soon M. Oh of Falstaff

Court, McLean. Oh is a 1997 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, and he received a bachelor's degree in 2003 from James Madison University in Harrisonburg.

Army Pfc. **Anthony M. Collier** of McLean has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. During training, Collier received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy and justice, basic first aid and more. He is the son of Michael Collier of Mackall Ave., McLean.

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Octagon House Designed for Guests

Home will host owner's wedding and 65 dinner guests in July.

BY JOHN BYRD
THE CONNECTION

It's hard to imagine a more perfect setting for a summer party than Susan Cooper's Octagon house. Situated at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac, the Romantic-revival style home was seemingly conceived as a place for socializing, and has succeeded at it beautifully ever since architect Joe Burton handed Cooper the keys to the masterpiece they both worked on collaboratively for several years.

"I wanted a house with a whimsical ambience that would be a pleasant gathering spot for family and friends," Cooper said, "so I gave a lot of thought to the setting, the space plan, and the interior décor. I wanted the house to feel light and summery—all year."

Designed around a radial pattern with a central atrium that rises 25 feet, the 6,400-square-foot home includes warmly-hued rooms centered on lovely outdoor focal points. Yet the angularity - teasing the eye with something just around the corner - suggests private places to pause and explore, before moving on.

"Joe and I spent a lot of time fine tuning," Cooper said. "There were several entertainment scenarios I wanted to integrate into the basic plan."

Of course, it helps that Cooper's original inspiration occurred some 30 years ago, when she first saw a multi-sided cottage on

a friend's country estate.

"I just loved the irregular lines—the way the shape lends itself to a creative interior treatment. It's very festive. It feels playful," Cooper said.

Decades passed before Burton was engaged to take up Cooper's vision. Cooper had several intervening concidences, but the dream never faded.

"I refined some of my ideas by waiting a bit," Cooper adds. "But once the house was completed I began putting it to use."

An early Cooper fete was her "hen" party - a gathering of some 35 female friends she has known for over 25 years. For this affair, she sets up the veranda, which links the house to a detached 2-level garage, so that the entire assembly can dine al fresco, on portable tables she stores for just such occasions. The veranda abuts extensive landscaping that features hollies, skip laurels, tapering boxwoods and azaleas for color.

Family events usually put to use all three guest bedrooms (daughters and cousins come in from out-of-town.) Sometimes there is a family dinner the night before.

For sit-down dinners inside, Cooper sets up three 60-inch round tables in the dining room and redeploys a gaming table in living room to accommodate a setting for six.



An avid hostess, Susan Cooper designed the dining room so that it could accommodate place settings for 20 as needed. An additional table in the living room expands a dinner party to 26.

The guest rooms are set up as twins, doubles, and a king with en suite bath on the spacious lower level. The lower level, which also has a futon that converts to a bed, becomes a private family suite when needed. Guests have decamped here for up to a week.

The home's great success, Cooper observes, is that consideration to specific entertainment requirements have been integrated into the basic plan.

There's the bridge club that meets in the living room; the cocktail parties for 35 to 40; the long weekends with five to six house guests; the holiday affairs that can run for a week; the frequent causal evenings with one or two other couples, plus family dinner parties for up to 26.

Then, later this summer, the really big event: a wedding with a sit-down dinner for 65.

"I sketched out all the seating and serving requirements," Cooper says. "There will be eight tables seating four each on the porch that circumscribes the house; six more larger tables on the veranda. Plus, separate stations for the buffet, plates and cutlery, and one for the wedding cake."

Q: And who's the lucky couple?
A: "It's me," she acknowledges. "After Tony and I are married, the extended family will include nine children and 14 grandchildren."
Q: So you will be entertaining for years to come?
A: "Isn't it fun?"



PHOTOS BY JOE BURTON

Guest Room Shuffle

Local designers suggest thrifty and generous ways to decorate for out of town guests.

BY MEREDITH BILLMAN-MANI
THE CONNECTION

Local interior designers Lauren Liess from Herndon and Jill Sorensen from McLean have turned many rooms into guest rooms for their clients. They have spent years learning the tricks for updating a guestroom quickly and inexpensively while creating an inviting space. Though their decorating talents are in high demand and the jobs they do command top dollar, Liess and Sorensen have each developed several tricks that can work on any budget to create a guest bedroom with appeal.

If the homeowner is fortunate enough to have a dedicated space for a guest bedroom, the prep work before a guest arrives is less.

"Guests are looking for a room that's comfortable and inviting but empty enough for them to put their things. You don't want it to be as cold as a hotel," says Liess. Liess said that having a space for two suitcases, on a stand or on the floor, is key and that clearing space in a closet for guests to hang their clothes is important. "These touches will make them feel welcome," Liess said.

"A fantastic mattress, super soft sheets and great towels," are the elements Sorensen sees going into an elegant guest room and generous budget. "Comfort makes the difference. I would add a seating area and a desk. And situate the room in a quiet part of the house," Sorensen said.

Both agree that thinking ahead to anticipate your guests' needs will make for an easier trip for everyone. Small details, like a cleared space on a night stand, an alarm clock and soap and towels they know are for their use make guests feel welcome and autonomous because they do not immediately have to ask their hosts for things.

Champagne tastes can still be achieved on a low budget if the homeowner is willing to get creative with what they have. Designers do this all the time. They will walk through a home and pick up decorative items or

hanging art and bring it from one room into another to give it a polished look.

If it's been awhile since you had company, chances are your guest room has morphed into a catch-all room with boxes of out of season clothes, a desk from a deceased relative and anything else that needed storage space. These rooms need a little work but can be transformed for under \$100.

"Paint your dressers a fun color and tie in with fun bedding and pillows," said Liess. "If you've just used it to store, get everything out of there and put it in another room for a little while."

Sorensen agrees. "Clear clutter; most bad design starts with clutter. Empty is better than a bunch of mismatched stuff. Donate your unused items to a shelter or to someone who needs it. Paint the mismatched furniture one color to make them go together."

Colleen Donnelly of Herndon said the best thing she puts on the dresser for her out of town guests are copies of the local bus schedule going downtown. "Everyone wants to go to DC. I've gone a million times by now, so I have copies of the bus schedule. It has times and where it stops so they can go into the city whenever they want without needing us to drive them."

Sometimes space is at a premium and a family member, usually a child, will give up their room while guests are in town. Liess and Sorensen have some suggestions to keep guests from feeling as if they are intruding on someone's space. "The first thing is to take down anything personal or gender specific," Liess says. "Clear off the desk completely and make sure the guests know it's their space to use. If there's cutesy bedding, take that off. And make sure it's not Toyland in the room," said Liess.

What if unexpected company calls and you aren't ready. What do designers suggest you do then?

"Make sure it's neat and clean. Put in a bouquet of fresh flowers and a bottle of water by the bed. They'll feel welcome and won't worry about the rest," said Sorensen.

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McLean & Great Falls

REAL ESTATE

Top Sales for April



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7 498 Seneca Knoll Court, Great Falls — \$1,310,000



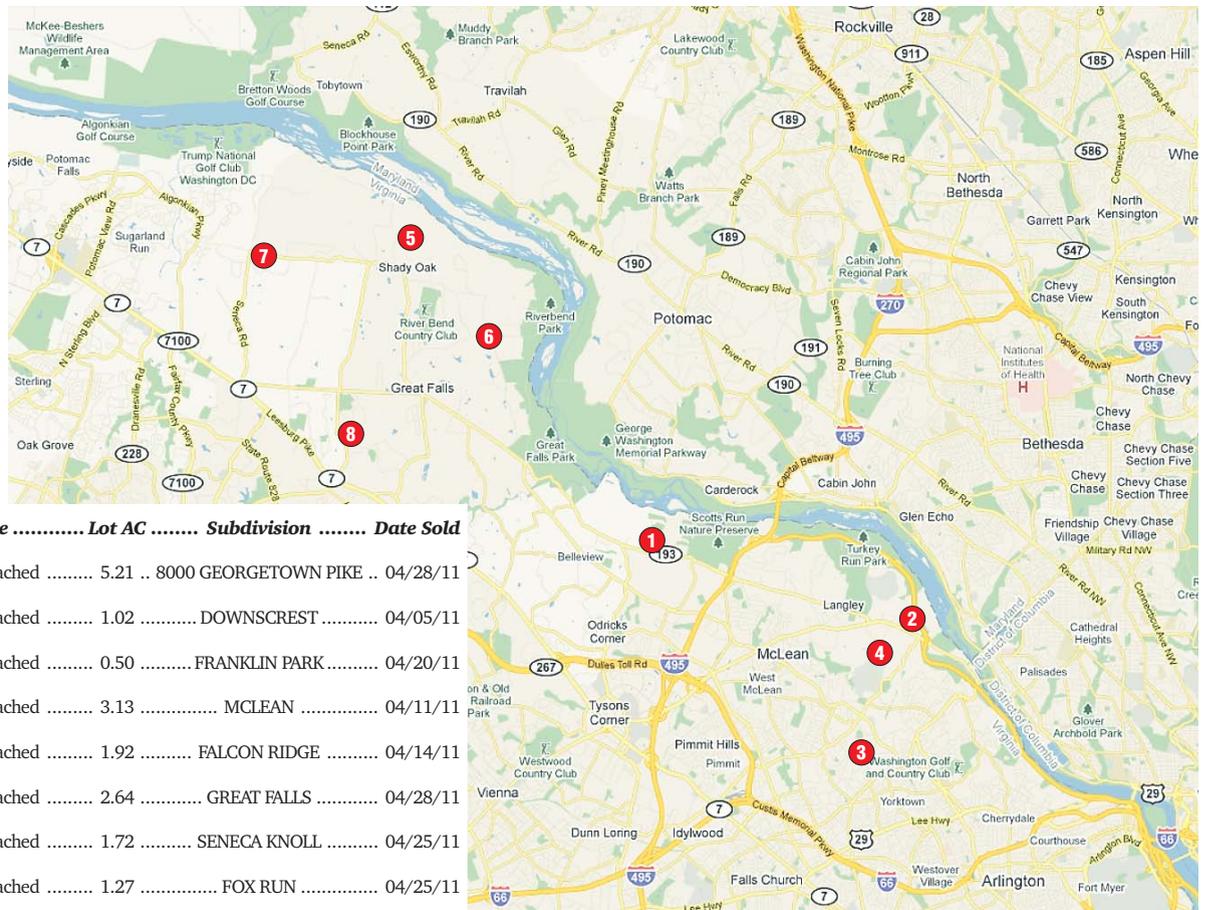
2 1123 Litton Lane, McLean — \$2,875,000



3 1942 Virginia Avenue, McLean — \$2,228,774



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3 1942 VIRGINIA AVE	6	6	1	MCLEAN	\$2,228,774	Detached	0.50	FRANKLIN PARK	04/20/11
4 1338 POTOMAC SCHOOL RD	6	3	1	MCLEAN	\$1,775,000	Detached	3.13	MCLEAN	04/11/11
5 10011 HIGH HILL PL	5	5	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,555,000	Detached	1.92	FALCON RIDGE	04/14/11
6 401 RIVER BEND RD	5	4	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,410,500	Detached	2.64	GREAT FALLS	04/28/11
7 498 SENECA KNOLL CT	5	5	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,335,000	Detached	1.72	SENECA KNOLL	04/25/11
8 10551 FOX FOREST DR	5	4	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,310,000	Detached	1.27	FOX RUN	04/25/11

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ENTERTAINMENT

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

WEDNESDAY/JUNE 15

- Red Wanting Blue, Riley Etheridge, Jr. and Tiger Darrow.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
- Book Discussion Group.** 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call for title. Adults. 703-757-8560.
- Lunch Bunnies.** 12 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Bring a blanket and lunch, enjoy stories. Birth-5 with adult. 703-242-4020.
- One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 3 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Adults. 703-242-4020.
- Model Investment Club of Northern Virginia.** 7 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. New visitors welcome. Adults. 703-790-8088.
- Elvis Costello & The Imposters.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Eclectic rock and roll. \$48 in-house, \$30 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/JUNE 16

- "Jack and the Bean-Stalk."** 12 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. With an irreverent Cow, a crafty, bean-peddling Stranger and a saucy Hen What Lays the Golden Eggs. Tickets \$15 at www.1ststageTysons.org or 703-854-1856.
- Author Norman Polnar.** 7:30 p.m. Chapter 227, Vietnam Veterans of America Inc. at Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Cedar Lane Shopping Center, Vienna. Polnar, a naval analyst and author, will discuss his book, "Project Azorian: The CIA and the Raising of the K-129," analyzing the CIA's partially successful recovery of a sunken Russian nuclear missile submarine. General public invited. Free admission. 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.
- Company of Thieves, Empires and Sleeper Agent.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.
- Afternoon Reading Group.** 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Half the Sky by Nicholas Kristof. Adults. 703-293-6227.
- Book Discussion Group.** 7:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Call for title. Adults. 703-757-8560.
- Book Discussion.** 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Those Who Save Us by Jenna Blum. Adults. 703-242-4020.
- Art Exhibit Opening Reception.** 7-9 p.m. McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Free. www.mpaart.org or 703-790-1953.
- Southside Johnny and The Asbury Jukes and The Smithereens.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Rhythm and blues-tinged rock. \$40 in-house, \$22 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/JUNE 17

- Civil War Encampment and Reenactment of the 1861 Battle of Vienna.** Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. A wide range of commemorative activities will be take place in the area surrounding the Vienna Community Center, the site of the



McLean Project for the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Ave. in McLean, presents the opening reception for "Strictly Painting 8," Thursday, June 16 from 7-9 p.m. The exhibition continues through Saturday, July 30. Free. www.mpaart.org or 703-790-1953.

1861 Battle of Vienna. This battle was the first time a train was used tactically in warfare in American history. The main encampment will begin set-up on Friday, June 17th near the community center. Activities will include period music by Evergreen Shade starting at 7 p.m. and storytelling of the Battle of Vienna by historian Jim Lewis on a projection screen at 7:30 p.m. These free events are at the Town Green, 144 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Encampment activities and demonstrations will take place all day culminating with the reenactment of the Battle of Vienna at 6 p.m. With the 5th Regiment ANV and 17th Virginia Infantry Regiment, Company G. Free. 703-255-6356.

"By Jeeves." 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A musical inspired by the P. G. Wodehouse stories of Bertie Wooster and Jeeves. \$30 adults, \$15 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1stStageTysons.org/jeeves.

The Kennedys. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Fairfax Saxophone Quartet. 7:30 p.m. Old Town Plaza, 3955 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. Classic jazz. Weather permitting. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and a picnic basket. Free. 703-757-0220 or www.fairfaxband.org.

Art Show. 7 p.m. Cafe Nemooneh, 525 Maple Ave. West, Vienna. With artists Mina Smith, Mehrhad Izadi and Arman Gyuulamirian. smaleki@nemoonehbakery.com.

NVTA 2010 One-Act Play Festival. 7:30 p.m. James Lee Community Center, 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church. Tickets \$14-\$35. 703-615-6626 or www.nvtaweb.org.

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

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

Friday Flicks. 11:30 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Bring lunch and enjoy a movie. Call for title. Ages 1-6 with adult. 703-790-8088.

RAIN-A Tribute to The Beatles. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the

Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. \$40 in-house, \$25 lawn. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/JUNE 18

Civil War Encampment and Reenactment of the 1861 Battle of Vienna. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. With the 5th Regiment ANV and 17th Virginia Infantry Regiment, Company G. Free. 703-255-6356.

31st Annual Spring Mosby's Confederacy Bus Tour. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Truro Rectory, 10520 Main St., Fairfax. Sponsored by the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society. With tour Leaders Don Hakenson, Gregg Dudding, Eric Buckland and Tom Evans. The bus will be leave the Truro Rectory to visit various Mosby sites in Loudoun County, Fauquier and Prince William Counties, including Mt. Zion Church, Middleburg, Markham, Warrenton, Warrenton Junction and Catlett Station. The tour will stop at a fast food restaurant for lunch. \$65 members of the Stuart-Mosby Society, \$75 non-members. 703-971-4984.

"By Jeeves." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner. A musical inspired by the P. G. Wodehouse stories of Bertie Wooster and Jeeves. \$30 adults, \$15 students. 703-854-1856 or www.1stStageTysons.org/jeeves.

Become a Pilot Family Day. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Parkway, Chantilly. An outdoor aviation display with dozens of visiting vintage, recreational, military and home-built aircraft. Meet the experts, live performances, hands-on activities, story times, tours and book signings. 202-633-1000 or <http://airandspace.si.edu/HazyFamilyDays/>.

Antique Car Show. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Co-sponsored by the Fairfax County Park Authority and The Model A Ford Club of America. More than 400 antique and classic cars. Buy a car at the Car Corral. Flea Market with more than 100 vendors. Live music by Jumpin' Jupiter. Tour the first floor of the 1794 house included. \$9 adult, \$8 senior, \$6 child. 703-437-1794.

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McLean Wins State Soccer Crown

Highlanders come from behind to shock Cox in soccer finals.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

When Andrea Romness, McLean High's outstanding girls' soccer midfielder, was asked by coaches earlier this spring what her expectations were for the Highlanders' season ahead, she came back with an all or nothing reply.

"I said, 'Win the state title, anything else will be a failure,'" said Romness, of her heart-felt reply.

On Saturday afternoon, June 11, McLean reached the pinnacle of high school team sports when the Highlanders, fueled by a brilliant late game comeback, stunned the Cox High Falcons (Virginia Beach), 3-2, in the Virginia State AAA championship game played at Westfield High School.

Trailing 2-1 following a Cox goal with just over 22 minutes remaining in the second half, McLean scored two times over the final 13 minutes — both scores coming from senior forward Melissa Downey — to defeat the Falcons and claim its first state crown in program history.

"We won [the finals game] because of our fight and heart," said Romness. "We gave it our all."



McLean's Becca Latimer, preparing to get off a shot, gets taken down by the Cox goalie during a key second half play in Saturday's state finals game. A penalty was called and McLean's Melissa Downey tied the game on a penalty kick.

McLean (17-4-2), which earlier in the postseason had beaten Stone Bridge High for the Liberty District title but fell to W.T. Woodson, 1-0, at the Northern Region finals, won three straight games at states to bring home the ultimate state prize. Coach Rob Bouchard's squad, over 10 playoff games this spring, went an outstanding 9-1, outscoring its postseason opponents, 29-10.

THE HIGHLANDERS, who a year ago saw their season end with a first round region playoff loss to Yorktown, reached the state finals contest versus Cox, the No. 2-seed from the Eastern Region, by getting wins over Chesapeake's Grassfield High, the top seed from the Eastern Region, and Battlefield High (Haymarket), the top seed from the Northwestern Region. In the finals win over Cox, McLean played hard and well

throughout against a talented Falcons' team which seemed to have the Highlanders on the verge of losing. But McLean never wilted. Instead, over the final part of the contest after having fallen behind, the Highlanders were relentless and focused in their pursuit of coming back and winning.

The game-tying goal came as a result of a tenacious McLean offensive rush which resulted in Becca Latimer, a junior forward, getting brought down from behind by the Cox goalkeeper as she was attempting to corral the ball and get off a shot from the left side. The goalie contact resulted in a penalty.

Downey, a First Team All-Region selection this season, was the Highlander called upon to take the penalty kick. With McLean's chances of tying the game resting solely on her shoulders, she came through with the equalizer score on a hard groundball shot which went into the right side of the Cox net to make the score 2-2 with 12 minutes, 42 seconds remaining in the second half.

Romness, on the sequence that resulted in the successful PK, had set up the Highlander rush on the goal with a nice throw-in from the right sideline.

Cox fans in the nearside stadium bleachers were vocal and adamant in their view that officials had made a poor call on the penalty. But Latimer, in fact, had been knocked down in plain sight. The Cox goalie was given a yellow card on the play.

Downey capitalized with her clutch PK.

SEE MCLEAN, PAGE 15

Third State Crown Establishes Dynasty for Saxons

Langley boys win third state lacrosse championship.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The recently completed postseason presented plenty of challenges for the Langley High boys' lacrosse team. But through them all, the Saxons, just as they did in both their 2009 and 2010 playoff journeys, persevered and ultimately were the last team standing.

Langley captured its third straight Virginia state tournament championship on Saturday night, June 11. As three-time state champions, the Saxons, under longtime head coach Earl Brewer, have certainly earned high school "dynasty" status as one of the greatest all-time sports programs in the history of the Virginia High School League, the governing body of high school sports in the state.

The Saxons, facing a Northern Region rival, Chantilly, which has known its own share of postseason success in recent years

(state champions in 2009; state runner-ups in 2010), made their stamp on the finals game early on and never faltered thereafter. Langley, in the championship tilt played in front of a near-capacity crowd at Westfield High School, tallied the game's first five goals on way to a dominating 17-8 win.

"We've worked hard and come together as a team," said Langley senior attack player Mike Adams, who scored nine goals to lead the three-time champions. "This feels awesome. I knew when we stepped up nobody could beat us. And we definitely stepped up tonight. It wasn't any one individual. It was a team win."

Langley (19-3) started the postseason off with three consecutive wins at the Liberty District tournament, including a finals win over Madison High School on May 12. The Saxons then won their first two games — victories over T.C. Williams and Oakton — at the 16-team Northern Region tournament.

But a semifinals round upset loss to Annandale, 12-8, on May 23 at Oakton High School ended Langley's region title hopes and put them in the uncomfortable third place consolation game versus West Springfield. At stake in the contest with the Spar-

tans, a team experiencing a breakout season, was a berth at the eight-team state playoffs. The Saxons, putting away the disappointment of the loss to Annandale, rose to the occasion and handled the scrappy West Springfield squad, 11-7, to advance to states.

"That loss to Annandale definitely motivated us," said Adams. "I think [in the long run] it helped us."

At Battlefield High (Haymarket) in a state quarterfinals round game, Langley pulled out a gritty, 6-5, overtime victory on June 3. Then, in a rematch with Annandale five days later at Westfield High, the Saxons avenged their earlier regional playoff loss to the Atoms with an inspiring 10-7 triumph which put the Saxons back into the state championship game for a third straight year.

By that point, Langley, having tasted both good and bad moments during its five-week postseason march, was not about to be denied and handled the Chargers to garner their third consecutive state title.

"It's surreal to win it again," said Langley junior goalie Andrew Spivey.

THREE GOALS WITHIN the first four minutes of play — scores from sophomore midfielder Luke Salzer (12-yard bounce

shot off the right wing); junior midfielder Hunter Bentz (catch and shoot goal from close range); and Adams, who, off the right wing, flung a shot into the net from 10 yards out — resulted in an early Chantilly timeout.

The Chargers came back out and got off three good scoring chances, including a wrap-around, close range shot from senior Craig Penman, whose attempt hit metal and bounced away. But Chantilly could not break through into the scoring column.

A short time later, Adams, off an assist from senior attack Jack Sandusky, scored off the right corner from close range to make it 4-0 Langley. Less than a minute after that, Sandusky, on the move, sent a sizzling bouncer into the net from the right wing. That made the score 5-0 with just over five minutes remaining in the first period.

"I think they came into the game [rolling]," said Chantilly senior attack/middie Devon Westerman, of the Saxons' fast start. "We were waiting for things to happen, waiting for someone else to make a play and that hurt us."

Chantilly's Daniel DeCenzo, a junior attack, scored the Chargers' first goal, a quick

SEE LANGLEY, PAGE 15

Confused Yet Again



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I really hope that the nesting/organizing/getting-things-in-order-type behavior I've been exhibiting lately is not my subconscious cashing a check that my conscious hasn't even written. Certainly we're all entitled, periodically, to spring-clean but when you're post-the-end-date of your oncologist's original prognosis (two years), everything takes on added significance – and meaning. And simply being grateful for having lived beyond your doctor's original expectations doesn't always carry the day; there are nights to worry about, too. So yes – in my head, anyway, I wonder why I'm doing things and I am extremely sensitive as well, to what my body is doing (or not doing), that is: whether what I'm feeling/how I'm behaving is a symptom of my having stage IV lung cancer or predictable – and normal, middle age?

Hopefully, my arranging/simplifying my life-activity of late is nothing more than time on my hands and the motivation to use them to try and make that life easier/less complicated. Then again, it might not. It might be the part of our brain that we don't use – or even control, making decisions for me. I keep remembering a M*A*S*H episode when Radar was telling Capt. Pierce about his Uncle Ernest who sort of knew things in advance (like Radar), and how two days before he died, Uncle Ernest moved closer to the undertaker. "How thoughtful," Hawkeye wise-cracked. I don't believe I'm Uncle Ernest reborn (after all, he was a fictional character); still, being affected by television programming as I have – and am, I can't completely ignore Radar's story, humorous though it was meant to be.

And another coincidence is worrying me, again. My wife, Dina, thinks our two cats, Biscuit and Cappuccino, are hanging around me more, as if they know something life-changing (heck, let's be honest; life-ending) is imminent. We've noticed this animal-instinct behavior twice before: once when I was chemo-sick and another time when our rabbit, Chester, now deceased, was having health problems – to which he eventually succumbed. The cats hung around Chester's cage. I'd like to think, although I'm having a little difficulty convincing myself, totally, that the cats are hanging around me because they love me and because I "treat" them, feed them – mostly, and clean out their litter box – always. Dina is not so sure. She thinks, if I were to characterize out of context, that the cat's attentiveness is a version of the elephant's graveyard (if you know your Tarzan movies), the place where elephants go to die when they know they're close to death. I don't want to believe any of it, except I did grow up watching Johnny Weismuller's Tarzan movies and since I never had any real pets growing up (other than parakeets and those 50-cent turtles once sold at Woolworth's), and Dina did, I've never observed animal behavior other than on television. Dina was raised with lots of pets, even had a horse, and never watched Tarzan movies so maybe she knows something – that I certainly don't, about animal behavior that she actually witnessed which possibly could be relevant now or even accurate? Then again, perhaps the cats' behavior of late is simply about proximity and familiarity and any similarity to instinctual/sixth sense-type behavior is purely coincidental?

Nevertheless, it's impossible to ignore certain behaviors, both mine and others who live with me/see me most often. Somebody knows something. Perhaps those closest to me know the most. Presumably they would notice the slight, almost imperceptible signs, changes that most casual observers, even non-casual observers like myself might miss (or who are loathe/afraid to admit). And since I have never been one to look in the mirror, especially when I was bald for all those months during – and a little bit after – my heavy chemotherapy, another set of eyes would likely see some truths that are not self-evident.

As much as I try not to focus on myself and my circumstances, however, invariably an unexpected observation or a twinge or a random thought will cause the inevitable trip back to cancer land. It's not always a horrible trip, and so far, all my trips have not resulted in falls, nor have they been one way. But they have been my way. And in my opinion/experience, there's only one way to view all this cancer stuff: askance, or not. Ergo my continuing problem/dilemma.

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

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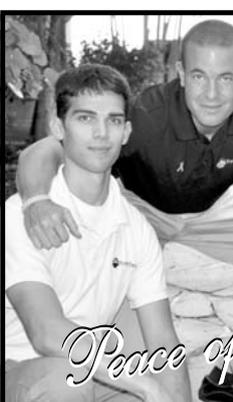
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Langley Wins State Crown in Lacrosse

FROM PAGE 12



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Langley's Luke Salzer (3) makes a move with the ball during the Saxons' state title game win over Chantilly Saturday night, June 11, at Westfield High School. Salzer scored two times in the victory.

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turnaround liner over his right shoulder off the right side, to make it 5-1, with 4 minutes, 23 seconds remaining in the first quarter.

Langley's Salzer, shortly after a Langley timeout, scored from 18 yards out on a bouncer shot off the left wing to make it 6-1 Saxons, the score going into the second quarter.

"Coming out and leading 5-0, 6-1 and getting that much momentum, that was a great feeling," said Spivey, the Langley goalie who made several stellar stops in the net at the close of the first quarter as Chantilly was trying to gain some life. "I was confident. I had a few saves early in the game and that helped me."

Langley's dominance continued throughout the second quarter as the Saxons scored the first five goals of the 12-minute session to build an 11-1 lead. Adams scored three of his team's goals during that stretch.

Chantilly carried a little momentum into the half following scores from Cole Fitzgerald and Kyle O'Connor but the Chargers still trailed 11-3 at the intermission.

THE LANGLEY LEAD increased to 13-3 over the first five minutes of the third quarter. Chantilly then came up with its best scoring spell of the game, scoring three straight goals — scores from Kyle Louis, Westerman, and Penman — to get the Chargers within 13-6 going into the final quarter.

The Saxons put the game away for good early on in the fourth on consecutive goals by Adams and one from senior midfielder Davis Wagner to make the score 16-6. The final ended up being 17-8.

"We won the little balls, hustled to ground

balls and Spivey played great for us," said Adams, pinpointing a few keys in his team's win.

"They played a great game," said Chantilly's Westerman.

Along with Adams' huge scoring game, Langley also got two goals apiece from Bentz, Salzer, and Sandusky, as well as one apiece from Wagner and junior attack Sean Ahearn.

Chantilly goals came from Cole Fitzgerald, Kyle Louis, DeCenzo, O'Connor, Penman, Westerman and Nico Alcalde.

The Chargers (21-2), under coach Kevin Broderick, had an outstanding season. They lost just one time in the regular season — to Langley, 11-10, during a spring break game — and captured the Concorde District tour-

namment crown with an 8-5 finals win over Robinson on May 12. At regionals, the Chargers reached the finals with wins over Mount Vernon, Woodson, and West Springfield. Then, in the region title game, Chantilly earned a nail-biter 12-11 win over Annandale.

At states, Chantilly won games over Patrick Henry and Albemarle High (Charlottesville) to reach the championship encounter with Langley.

"People didn't believe in us and didn't believe we'd be here [in the state finals]," said Westerman, of a Chantilly squad that had lost a number of solid players to graduation last spring. "But we won our district and the region. Everybody loved everybody out there. We were all brothers out there."

McLean Girls Snag State Soccer Title

FROM PAGE 12

"I just didn't want to think of everyone watching but I could feel the anxiety a little bit," said Downey, of the big moment pressure of having to convert the penalty kick. "It was just me and the goalie. I just had to roll it in."

Downey credited Latimer with being in position to bring about the penalty call.

"She drew that foul because of hard work," said Downey.

Latimer recalled getting the ball off a crossing pass and then going down.

"As I was shooting the goalie slid behind me," she said. "I'm so glad we got a penalty kick."

"I thought Becca really hustled to get that call, and Melissa had a great finish [on the PK]," said teammate Katie Yensen, a senior midfielder. "It was really necessary we get that goal. Everybody was tired and the heat was getting to us."

The game's momentum was clearly in McLean's favor after the successful penalty

kick, and over the next several minutes the Highlanders continued to put the pressure on. Then, with just over five minutes remaining, McLean came up with the charge that led to the go-ahead and winning score.

McLean junior forward Rose Sommovigo started the rush with an upfield kick that got the ball to Downey down the right side of the field behind the defense. Downey then moved with the ball left to right across the field with two defensive players' right behind her. She then, while still moving left, scooted a hard, straight-on shot from 25 yards out. The solidly struck ground ball kick, off her left foot, went into the right side of the net. Just like that, McLean led 3-2 with 5:02 left.

"I saw Rose," recalled Downey, of Sommovigo's long kick that started the scoring chance. "I said 'If I don't score now, this could be our last chance.' I wanted to finish it. I was just so happy [when the ball went in]. I was exhausted after that run, I didn't have anything left."

"I knew I had to get the ball up there to

her," said Sommovigo. "I played it up the line to Melissa. From there it was all her. I had confidence in her. She always makes those."

McLean held off Cox over the remaining five minutes to secure the lead and the state championship win.

"I'm so proud of everyone," said Latimer. "We played great."

MCLEAN HAD FALLEN behind, 1-0, less than five minutes into the start of the game. But five minutes later, the Highlanders made a clear early game statement that they meant business when senior forward Jordan Walker, off a crossing pass from the left by Yensen, scored from 10 yards out to tie the contest at 1-1 with 29:51 showing on the clock.

"I got the ball on a throw-in and beat a defender with a little move," said Yensen, of the scoring play. "And then I crossed it back to Jordan. She had a great shot. That goal was huge because it gave us motivation and momentum."

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