

McLean CONNECTION

Fairfax County officials and local children celebrate after cutting the ribbon on the newly opened renovated Dolley Madison Library in McLean Saturday, July 9.

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PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

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JULY 13-19, 2011



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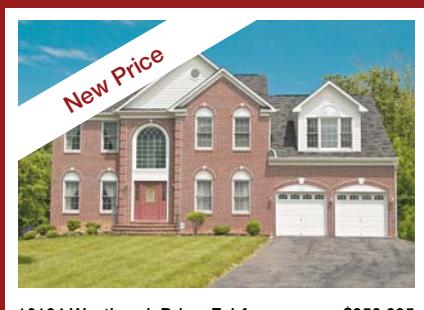
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NEWS

Doors Open at Renovated Library

Dolley Madison library re-opens with additional 8,400 square feet, more community space.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

For at least a few minutes, the 50,000 books in the newly-opened Dolley Madison library were in perfect order. Then the doors opened just before 10 a.m. Saturday, July 9, and as Fairfax County Public Library Director Edwin S. Clay III said, this would probably be the last time they would be in order.

The Dolley Madison Library re-opened after a renovation and relocation that took two years and the ribbon was finally cut on the new building.

Several of the oldest branches in the county's library system have undergone renovations, including those in Falls Church, Alexandria and Springfield.

"Today we add the renovation and expansion of Dolley Madison Library to the list of 21st century libraries that Fairfax County residents can now enjoy," said Sharon Bulova, chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. "Within this renovation we are better able to offer 21st century information services to the residents of McLean."

The \$8 million renovation was funded through a 2004 bond referendum. The rear of the library is made entirely of glass windows, allowing the library to be lit primarily by natural light. Other features, such as increased space to plug in laptop computers and a new meeting room, offer residents a better place to conduct their study, research or leisure time.

THE NEW LIBRARY features an additional 8,400 square feet, which includes updated meeting rooms with added capacity, a quiet study room and 24 computer stations with lamps and outlets for laptops.

"When Dolley Madison Library moved to this site 44 years ago in 1967, it was the first library branch to exceed 10,000 square feet. Today, this renovated spacious building almost doubles that size," said Kristin Cabral, the Dranesville representative for the Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees. "Even in the decades-old building, the Dolley Madi-



The Northern Virginia Hammer Dulcimer Players perform at the re-opening of the Dolley Madison Library in McLean Saturday.

son Library was one of the busiest of Fairfax County Library's 14 community branches. I'm sure with its new amenities it will continue to be popular with McLean library users."

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville), said the library would help everyone from students looking for materials for school to community members searching for information in the many print publications.

"Our libraries play a significant role in the commitment to the quality of life our residents value," Foust said. "I'm pleased we can present the residents of McLean with this renewed building. It is much more than brick and mortar, it is indeed an institution that enhances the public good."

The Dolley Madison Library is located at 1244 Oak Ridge Avenue in McLean, adjacent to the McLean Community Center.

Guests tour the newly renovated Dolley Madison Library during its re-opening Saturday.



MCLEAN CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHIC
703-778-9414 OR MCLEAN@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

From left, Randy, Lily, 12, Jaden, 7 and Beth Nonte Russell. Beth and Randy's experiences adopting Lily and Jaden led them to create a foundation dedicated to fighting child abandonment and product line to support it.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Living 'Good, True, Beautiful' Life

Russell family creates foundation after adoption experiences.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

McLean resident Beth Nonte Russell knows how quickly plans can change. It was 1999 when she got a call from a friend asking Russell to accompany her to China so she could adopt a baby girl. Russell, who was then working as a counselor, jumped at the chance to travel.

"We got to China, and the baby was brought to us, but within 24 hours my friend said she couldn't take the baby," Beth Nonte Russell said. "During that time, I had really bonded with the baby, and I told my friend on the spot that I would take her. I was thinking it would buy her some time to figure it out, maybe she was just under stress."

But Russell's friend didn't change her mind, and so she was faced with the prospect of calling her husband Randy and telling him that her vacation overseas had turned into much more than that.

"The phone rang at about midnight, and it was very unexpected. I was sound asleep, and I wasn't expecting to talk

to Beth for a few days," Randy Russell said. "I could tell right away from her voice that something wasn't going right, and then she just popped the question: 'What would you think about adopting this baby?'"

While having a question of this magnitude thrown on somebody who is barely awake might take some time to answer, Randy Russell says it didn't take him long at all.

"I had an instantaneous answer: 'Yes. Bring her home,'" he said. "When you face a situation like that, it's not a cost benefit or risk-reward analysis. It's one of those questions that depending how you answer it, changes your life. It had a profound impact on me, and it's probably the most significant event in my life. It opened up things in me that I had no idea about."

BETH RUSSELL remembers the rest of her trip as one of the most emotionally grueling times in her life.

"I kept telling myself to dig down deep, to find the strength not to blow it," she said. "It tested every humanitarian and

SEE FIGHTING, PAGE 6

NEWS

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Submission deadline is July 22.



Woman's Club of McLean Installs New Officers

A ceremony was held June 1 to install new officers of the Woman's Club of McLean. The new officers will serve for one year. The ceremony took place at Mylo's Restaurant, in McLean. From left: Member Daisy Logan, new club President Ginny Sandahl, and new officers Phyllis Ainsworth, Dawn Schulz, Susan Cooper, Jeanette Calland, Millie Thompson, Barbara Toohig, and Joan Beard.

OBITUARY

Reed Saunders, 74, of McLean Dies

Designed Pell Grants, promoted youth soccer in Virginia.

Reed Saunders, a designer of the Pell Grants, was a lifelong educator committed to access to postsecondary education for people of all financial backgrounds and races. He was also an advocate for youth in extracurricular pursuits, especially the nascent soccer movement in Washington metropolitan area, serving as the first president of the Virginia Youth Soccer Association. He died May 8 at Virginia Hospital Center from pneumonia. He was 74 years old.

Saunders was a leader in state and federal aid to support students through awarding grants, loan guarantees and scholarships. In 1962, Saunders established the Office of Financial Aid at the University of Vermont, and worked with the cooperation of banks, colleges and legislature to establish the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, a non-profit organization supported by the State to aid needy students. He was a Founding Member of the National Association of State Scholarship Programs, and became Chairman of the Vermont Higher Education Loan Plan, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation. At the American College Testing Program (ACT) in 1967, he worked to limit the hurdles to access for aid by developing a brief and inexpensive form and report to determine student financial need.

Saunders became Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at HEW (later the Department of Education). In 1970 he wrote the concept paper for student aid initiatives for

the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant Program. Passed by Congress in 1972, this program, now known as the Pell Grants, increased access to college education for financially disadvantaged individuals.

Saunders' later career was focused through the window of government funding and accreditation to postsecondary institutions. He oversaw the Title III Endowment Program and the Aid to Developing Institution awards. He also worked to coordinate federal and private foundation support, including the United Negro College Fund and the Ford Foundation, to support the Historically Black Colleges. As Director of Higher Education Program Services in the 1990s he promoted the importance of including criteria to measure diversity in faculty and students in determining federal accreditation. He retired in 1995.

Saunders loved sports, and was committed to youth sports and scouting. A resident of McLean since 1969, he was instrumental to the development of soccer for youth within the Washington metropolitan area. In 1977, he was the first President of the Virginia Youth Soccer Association, a program that now serves 134,000 children. An early focus of the League was to keep dues and uniform fees low so children of all economic backgrounds could play. Saunders also supported girls' participation in sports, facilitating his daughter to be one of the first girls to play for the McLean Boys Club, which then became McLean Youth. Saunders was captain of the cross-country team as an undergraduate at Caltech. As a graduate student at the University

of Wisconsin, sailed an E-Scow, and led the Canoeing Program at the Hoofers Outing Club.

Saunders was born in Newark, N.J., son of Henry Kerr and Mary Reed Saunders. He graduated from Bloomfield High School in 1954, and attended the California Institute of Technology from 1954-58, and the University of Wisconsin where he received his BS in Psychology in 1959, his MS in 1962 in Guidance and Counseling and his PhD in Counseling and Behavioral Studies in 1966. His teaching included appointments in Commerce and Economics at the University of Vermont (UVM), the Department of Computer Science at the University of Iowa and the School of Education at the Catholic University of America.

Saunders, an Eagle Scout, was Scoutmaster in both Madison and Burlington, Vt., and was proud that his troop hiked the 50 mile "Long Trail" in the Green Mountains.

Saunders was, above all, devoted to his family. He is survived by his loving wife Dolly (Rachel), children and their spouses: Ray and Anette of North Potomac, Md., Rachel and Seth of N.Y., Craig and Shari of McLean, John and Pamela of McLean, and grandchildren: Benjamin, Mark, Mathew, Sarah, Jack, Thomas, Luke, Emma and Holden. Even after suffering from Parkinsonism for many years, Reed Saunders was frequently found at the metropolitan Washington soccer fields cheering his grandchildren.

Memorial Service will be held July 23 at 4 p.m. at the Immanuel Presbyterian Church in McLean.

Donations in his memory may be made to Parkinson's Research at Beth Israel Medical Center, Department of Neurology, 10 Union Square East Suite 5K, New York, NY 10003.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

FRIDAY/JULY 15

LifeLine Screening. American Legion Post 270, 1355 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Stroke, bone density and osteoporosis screenings. Package prices from \$139. Appointments required. Reserve at 877-237-1287 or www.lifelinescreening.com.

MONDAY/JULY 25

McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia Meeting. 5:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The group is planning an event for Saturday, Oct. 22, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. 703-356-8223.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 27

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.

Pauline Shirley Toastmasters Club Meeting. 6:45 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Meets second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. 703-893-5506 or paulineshirley.freetoasthost.info.




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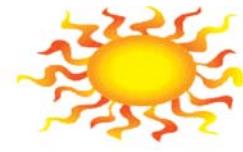
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NEWS

Fighting Child Abandonment

FROM PAGE 3

spiritual instinct I had.” Beth Nonte Russell soon quit her job to care for Lily, and began writing down her experiences in a journal. In 2004, she turned those writings into “Forever Lily,” a novel that chronicles her journey to China and her experiences with the unexpected adoption.

“It was so cathartic to write it all down, and I started making copies at Kinko’s to give to my husband and sisters, anyone who was asking me how it all happened,” she said. “Soon I was passing copies around, and a friend used it for her book club.”

Through a family connection, Beth Nonte Russell was able to have a few hundred copies made, which landed on her doorstep in 2005, one day before she was to make a trip to China to adopt her second child Jaden.

While on the flight to pick up Jaden, she began thinking about setting up some sort of foundation to help abandoned children. She had a name, the Golden Phoenix Foundation, but she was unsure about how to raise money.

“I knew how hard it would be to raise funds, so I decided to try and sell some sort of product,” she said. “I thought of something like a doll at first, but as I was editing the book, I realized how much I described scents, more than landscapes or anything else. I’ve always loved perfume, so I decided that a custom fragrance would be

“When I met the baby during one of my visits, she stole my heart, and when I got back I showed pictures to my husband and daughters.”

— Beth Nonte Russell

perfect to commemorate the experience.”

After working with a custom perfumer in California, the Forever Lily fragrance was on shelves. Russell decided to name her company GoodTrueBeautiful, after a pledge her college sorority took to live a “good, true, beautiful life.”

The fragrance contains many elements from Beth Nonte Russell’s story.

“There’s a part in the book where I was really at a low point, and I was at a market fruit stand and smelled a fresh peach and it gave me an immediate lift,” she said. “The lily flower is at its core, and there are other things, such as fig, because I had a fig candle burning next to me while writing the book. The fragrance is really a composition on its own, another way of telling the story, but without words.”

RANDY RUSSELL said the entire experience has been amazing.

“I knew Beth always wanted to write, but I had no idea about the perfume line,” he said. “But that’s

a product focused on life enhancement, and that’s what our foundation is also about.”

The GoodTrueBeautiful line has since expanded into another fragrance designed by their daughter Lily, jewelry, body lotions, meditation equipment, tea, clothing and more.

The Golden Phoenix Foundation is dedicated to ending child abandonment worldwide, and the Russells have plans to expand it even further.

“I had an idea for facilities for older girls who haven’t been adopted, called Lily Houses, which focus on job training and education,” Beth Nonte Russell said. “The thought of Lily or Jaden on the streets at a young age with no education or training, kept me up at night.”

She still makes regular visits to China for the foundation, and in a few weeks, Beth Nonte Russell will be headed to China to adopt their third, an 18-month-old special needs child.

“When I met the baby during one of my visits, she stole my heart, and when I got back I showed pictures to my husband and daughters,” she said.

Lily, now 12, just graduated from Spring Hill Elementary School, and will head to Cooper Middle School in the fall. Jaden, now 7, is a student at McLean Montessori School.

More information about the Russells, the Golden Phoenix Foundation and GoodTrueBeautiful can be found at www.mygtblife.com.

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NEWS



Helping Tornado-hit School

Girl Scout Troop 6729 presents Jennifer Bargerstock, President of the McLean High School Athletic Boosters, with a \$200 check for the football and cheer program at Page Middle School in Gloucester County, Va. This McLean-based Girl Scout Troop hoped their cookie sales money would be helpful to Page Middle School in rebuilding their football and cheer programs. On April 17, 2011, tornadoes ripped through the area, leaving Page Middle School destroyed, over 168 homes damaged or destroyed and at least three people dead in its wake. The youth football and cheer shed was completely demolished, with an estimated \$78,000 of equipment and supplies lost, jeopardizing the entire upcoming fall season. Also pictured are Nyka Feldman, Executive Director, of the Safe Community Coalition and Tom Herman, Director of Student Activities, at McLean High School.

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OPINION

Hot Races? Primaries? Uncontested?

Northern Virginia awash in uncontested races; but there are several hot primaries on Aug. 23.

First of all, there are some very important races taking place on Aug. 23, and absentee voting is already underway. If there is any chance you might either be away on vacation on Aug. 23 or you might have a combined work day and commute of 10 hours (that is to say, if you work), or you might be away for any other reason, you can vote in person absentee or by paper ballot absentee.

PRIMARIES AUG. 23

♦ Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Braddock district Democrats, Janet Oleszek and Christopher Wade compete to face incumbent John Cook (R) in November.

♦ Senate District 30, Democrats Adam Ebbin, Libby Garvey and Rob Krupicka are in a three-way race for the nomination to replace retiring state Sen. Patsy Ticer. The winner will face Tim McGee (R) in November. This district, including parts of Arlington, Alexandria and Mount Vernon, trends to Democrats, so the primary could determine the winner.

♦ Senate District 31, Democrats Jaime Areizaga-Soto (D) and Barbara A Favola (D) face off; winner will face Caren Merrick (R), to replace retiring Sen. Mary Margaret Whipple. If you live in McLean, Great Falls, parts of Herndon or Sterling, listen up, you are likely in this newly configured district that used to be almost entirely in Arlington.

♦ Senate District 36, Republicans Jeffrey M Frederick (R) and Tito Muñoz (R) compete to face state Sen. Toddy Puller (D) in this district that includes Mount Vernon, parts of Lorton and much more of Prince William County than before redistricting.

♦ Senate District 39, Republicans Miller

EDITORIAL

Baker and Scott Martin compete to challenge incumbent state Sen. George Barker (D) in November. This district encompasses parts of Centreville, Clifton, Lorton, Fairfax Station, Springfield and the City of Alexandria.

♦ House of Delegates 49, Democratic primary, Stephanie Clifford (D) v. Alfonso H Lopez (D). So far there is no Republican or other candidate so the winner of the primary could be uncontested in November in this Arlington district.

UNCONTENDED:

Parties could still add a candidate up until Primary Election Day, Aug. 23, but at this point it's unlikely that many of these seats will be contested. This is not an exhaustive list.

Fairfax County, Hunters Mill Board of Supervisors, incumbent Cathy Hudgins (D) is so far uncontested. Also on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Pat Herrity (R-Springfield), Jeff McKay (D-Lee), Gerry Hyland (D-Mount Vernon), Michael Frey (R-Sully) are uncontested.

House of Delegates District 35 in Vienna, Del. Mark Kream (D) is so far uncontested

House of Delegates, District 86, Del. Tom Rust (R) is so far uncontested in this district in parts of Oak Hill, Herndon, Chantilly and Loudoun.

House of Delegates, District 41, Del. Eileen Filler-Corn (D) is so far uncontested in this district that covers parts of Fairfax, Burke and Springfield.

House of Delegates, District 53, Del. Jim Scott (D) is so far uncontested.

House of Delegates, District 43, Del. Mark Sickles (D) is so far uncontested.

House of Delegates, District 44, Del. Scott Surovell (D) is so far uncontested in this Mount Vernon district.

House of Delegates, District 45, Del. David Englin (D) is so far uncontested in this district that includes parts of Mount Vernon, Alexandria and Arlington.

House of Delegates, District 46, Del. Charniele Herring (D) is so far uncontested in this City of Alexandria district.

There are some hotly contested races for November, but more on those races later.

To register to vote, to vote absentee, contact:

Fairfax Board of Elections, 703-324-4700, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/

Be Part of the Pet Connection

The summer edition of the Pet Connection will publish on July 27, with contributions and submissions due July 21.

Send in photos of you or other members of your family with your pet or pets along with a caption that includes the full names of everyone pictured, the ages of the pet(s) and any children, information about the pet(s) and a description of what is happening in the photo. Include your town name as well. Good to include: who, what, where, when and why.

We welcome photos, drawings or other artwork; stories and anecdotes about what makes your pet special, how you came to adopt your pet or anything other story you'd like to share about your pet; advice for others on adopting or caring for pets.

Send photos and other submissions by July 21.

For Vienna/Oakton, McLean, Great Falls, Reston, Oak Hill/Herndon Connections, send to kemal@connectionnewspapers.com

THE CONNECTION

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MORE LETTERS, PAGE 13

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Job Well Done

To the Editor:

There is so much misleading and inaccurate about the Letter to the Editor from Shelley Slade of McLean, (The Connection, July 6, 2011) it's hard to know where to begin. To start with, Ms. Slade fails to identify that the bill she complains about, SB 757, originated in the Senate with Democrat Senator Roscoe Reynolds, and deals with the use of paintball guns and air guns on private property with the permission of the owner of the property. Permission is also needed from the owner of the land on which the paintball or BB pellets are expected to land.

It's odd that partisan Democrats would attack Delegate Comstock for voting for a bill that was supported not only by Democrat David Englin of Alexandria, but by Senate Democrat leaders such as

2009 Gubernatorial candidate Creigh Deeds, Senator Chuck Colgan, and House Democrat leader, Ward Armstrong.

That's what desperate partisans do when they don't want to acknowledge the fact that Delegate Comstock has worked in a strong bipartisan manner on Northern Virginia's top priority issues of the economy, roads, and schools, and produced a strong record of leadership.

Barbara's record has already resulted in her receiving the strong endorsements of Northern Virginia businesses and leaders across the political spectrum from the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce to the Northern Virginia Technology Council, the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors, the Associated Builders and Contractors and the National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB). She already has been selected as the Chairman of

the Housing Subcommittee as a freshman member. I know personally that Barbara has also received the current support and even donations of individuals who previously supported her 2009 Democrat opponent. It is telling that many of them have looked at Barbara's record and they support her on her legislative achievements such as her signature telecommuting bill and her instrumental role in passage of Virginia's Research and Development Tax Credit — both top priorities of Northern Virginia's technology community — and her strong work on the Governor's Economic Development and Job Creation Commission.

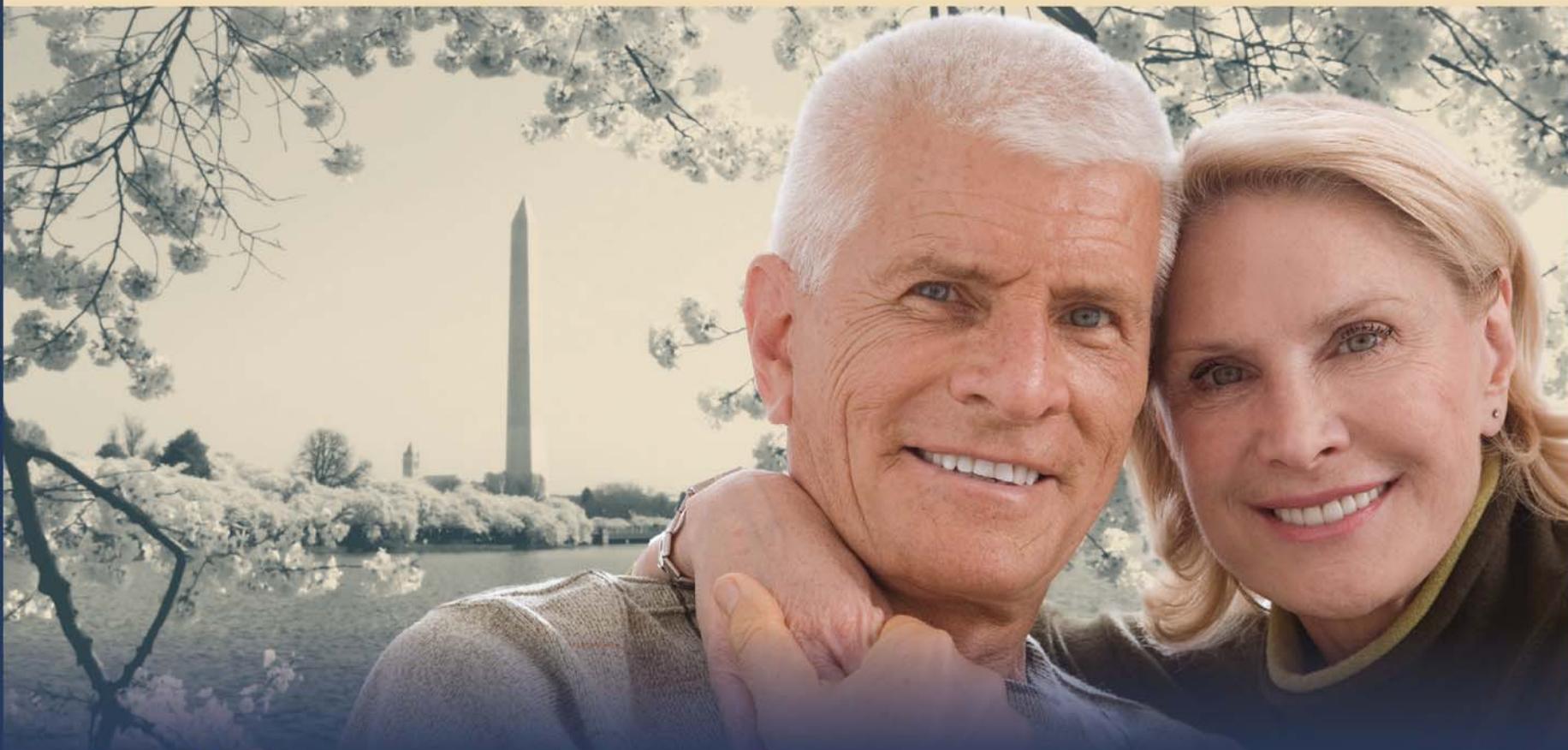
I know they also appreciate her work on local transportation issues such as the Georgetown Pike/Route 7 two lane issue and securing funds to widen Route 7. They also know that she fought the budget of former Governor Tim Kaine

that would have cut Northern Virginia school funds by over \$120 million and increase our taxes by \$2 billion. With Barbara's help, the budget reversed those cuts, got more money in the classrooms, and eliminated that \$2 billion tax increase, which would have been the largest tax increase in history. She also worked this year to get funding for all day kindergarten to all of our schools instead of leaving McLean and Great Falls schools behind as they had been for years. Now all of our schools will have all day kindergarten in the Fall.

Delegate Barbara Comstock has delivered results for the 34th District and deserves our thanks for a job well done.

Steve Mullins
Great Falls

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- Wellbeing, publishes Aug. 3, closes July 27
- HomeLifeStyle, publishes Aug. 10, closes Aug. 4
- A+ Education Learning Fun, publishes Aug. 17, closes Aug. 11
- Insider's Edition: Community and Newcomer's Guide, publishes Aug. 24, closes Aug. 18

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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

THURSDAY/JULY 14

Dean's Big Ol' Gay 50th Birthday with Jimmy Gnecco, The Blackjacks, Struan Shields and The Independent. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SteveSongs. 11 a.m. Wolf Trap Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. For ages 2-10. 11AM. Sing and dance with "Mr. Steve," cohort of the PBS KIDS preschool show. \$8 day pass (includes Baba Jamal Koran show at 10 a.m.), under age 3 free. 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Author David R. Stokes. 7 p.m. Barnes & Noble Tysons Corner, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center. "The Shooting Salvationist: J. Frank Norris and the Murder Trial that Captivated America." 703-506-2937.

FRIDAY/JULY 15

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. \$19 adults, \$17 seniors and students. www.mcleancenter.org.

King Creosote and Jon Hopkins at 7:30 p.m., followed by The Dinobabies and FeeFree at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SteveSongs. 11 a.m. Wolf Trap Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. For ages 2-10. 11AM. Sing and dance with "Mr. Steve," cohort of the PBS KIDS preschool show. \$8 day pass (includes Baba Jamal Koran show at 10 a.m.), under age 3 free. 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Swing Dancing with the Natty Breaux Band. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. 8:30 p.m. beginner swing lesson, 9 p.m.-12 a.m. dance. Jump-blues, swing and rockabilly music. \$15 admission.

MONDAY/JULY 18

The Chapin Sisters and Sean Rowe. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Preschool Storytime. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Stories, fingerplays and activities. Age 3-5 with adult. 703-757-8560.

Chees Club. 2 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Learn chess rules and strategy. Children may bring their own chess sets; no chess clocks needed. Age 6-14. 703-757-8560.

Rick Thompson Jazz Quartet. 5 p.m. Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

Rocknroceroes presents The Hometown Debut of "Colonel Purple Turtle." 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Big O and Dukes: Back to the Bunker One-Year Anniversary Party. 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

TUESDAY/JULY 19

Reptile Wonders. 7 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Meet and learn about these animals with Reptile Wonders' Nature Center on the Go. Age 6-12. 703-757-8560.

The Grey Area, Shoot The Radio and Shelby Blondell. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 20

Blame Sally, Cindy Lee Berryhill and Rebecca Pronsky. 7:30 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 branch for title. Adults. 703-757-8560.

SteveSongs. 11 a.m. Wolf Trap Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. For ages 2-10. 11AM. Sing and dance with "Mr. Steve," cohort of the PBS KIDS preschool show. \$8 day pass (includes Baba Jamal Koran show at 10 a.m.), under age 3 free. 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

THURSDAY/JULY 21

Larnell Starkey & the Spiritual Seven. 7 p.m. Nottoway Park, 9601

Baba Jamal Koran show at 10 a.m., under age 3 free. 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

18th Century Summer Market Fair. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Stroll living history museum and working farm grounds. See spinners and dyers, test your quill writing and watercolor skills or order nails from the blacksmith. Children can play quoits, bob for apples and see chickens, turkeys, pigs and cows. See colonial family and community members in costume and character. Spit-roasted rosemary chicken, corn, fruit pies, lemonade and more available for purchase. Adults \$6, age 3-12 and senior citizens \$3. Weather permitting. Free parking. www.1771.org/directions.htm

Family-friendly, large-cast, musical theater is the McLean Community Players next production as the multiple Tony award nominated Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice creation "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" comes to the Alden.

With a cast of 30 and over 20 musical numbers backed by a 10 piece band, the Biblical story of dreamer Joseph who doesn't lose faith in his visions will be brought to life. It is a journey through good times and bad, a life of riches and of prison, of sibling rivalries and false accusations, ultimately to find family reconciliation and redemption.

The production is co-directed by McLean Community Player's veterans Kevin and Pamela McCormack with the musical direction of John Edward Niles. This same team brought the well-received revival of "Evita" to the Alden in 2008.

For Kevin McCormack, "staging Joseph with its large cast, its large num-

Musical Journey at Alden Theatre

McLean Community Players presents "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

Family-friendly, large-cast, musical theater is the McLean Community Players next production as the multiple Tony award nominated Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice creation "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" comes to the Alden.

With a cast of 30 and over 20 musical numbers backed by a 10 piece band, the Biblical story of dreamer Joseph who doesn't lose faith in his visions will be brought to life. It is a journey through good times and bad, a life of riches and of prison, of sibling rivalries and false accusations, ultimately to find family reconciliation and redemption.

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For Kevin McCormack, "staging Joseph with its large cast, its large num-

Courthouse Road, Vienna. African-American Gospel. 703-324-SHOW.

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

Murphy's Kids, Irresponsible and Mr. DR. MC. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/JULY 22

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. \$19 adults, \$17 seniors and students. www.mcleancenter.org.

United Daughters of the Confederacy Wreath Laying. 2 p.m. 9027 Center St., Manassas. 703-368-1873 or www.manassassmuseum.org.

Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax.

Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice to home gardeners. Adults. 703-293-6227.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.

Plant Clinic. 10 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Master Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative Extension answer gardening questions. Adults. 703-790-8088.

Camp Manassas. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Jennie Dean Historic Site, 9601 Wellington Road, Manassas. Military encampments, soap making, period activities and games, horse training and more. Free. 703-361-6599 or www.manassascivilwar.org.

Martinez & Guthrie. 5 p.m. Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

8th Annual Asian Food and Tennis Festival. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With 35 multi-cultural food and 150 product vendors. Four showcase villages, Heritage India, Wow Philippines, Image of China and Amazing Thailand. Free admission. info.asianfestvaldc.com.

Tropical Plants. 10 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Join a walk through the gardens to learn how to grow, propagate and over-winter tropical plants. \$5. Reserve at 703-255-3631.

Horsemanship Demo, Classes and Fundraiser. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Turner Farm Park, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Lessons for adults and children. Sponsored by The Saddlery. 703-361-1339.

SUNDAY/JULY 24

The National Park Service Commemorates the Sesquicentennial of the First Battle of Manassas. The National Park Service will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the First Battle of Manassas with special ranger tours of the battlefield, living history and historic weapons demonstrations, exhibits, lectures, and music.

Exhibition areas include a living history camp area, a three-dimensional photographic exhibit displaying historic images of the battlefield, a medical aid station demonstration area, a youth program tent offering exhibits, programs, and activities and the Civil War 150 HistoryMobile. 703-361-1339.

Pringle House Confederate Field Hospital. 6:30-8 p.m. Ben Lomond

www.CONNECTIONNewspapers.com



PHOTO BY JEFFREY BROWN/CONNECTION PHOTOGRAPHY

wards of this show are well worth the effort. Fortunately we are also blessed with a very talented cast."

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" is noted for being almost completely sung rather than lots of spoken dialogue. The show uses a catchy pastiche of musical styles from 1950's Rock-and-Roll, to Caribbean Calypso, to Country and Western, Disco and other motifs of energy.

Two key roles have been cast with newcomers to the McLean Community Players. Kate Merryman (Herndon High School and George Mason University) is the Narrator and Russell Silber (Woodson High School and James Madison University) is Joseph.

As Narrator, Merryman guides the storyline. In a "Prologue" she sets up the show. Before children on stage, she provides the message "that you can dream and do things; just take what you dream and do it. After all, anything is possible." She reminds everyone that "You are what you feel."

In his role as Joseph, Silber said he "portrays many different emotions through the arc of the production going from funny to serious and in between all while learning to let go so real emotions come through in the singing."

Choreographer Kathleen McCormack said she "developed the dances so the audience would have a good time. Dancing is not just about using dance steps to show off technically. There are even numbers in which the entire cast of 30 is on stage dancing, having fun."

ber of props and costumes and its variety of musical styles is a challenge for any local theater company, but the re-

Historic Site, 10321 Sudley Manor Road, Manassas. Tour a restored hospital used by Confederate forces after the First Battle of Manassas. Not appropriate for age 11 and under. Admission \$15, under age 6 free. 703-367-7872 or www.pwcgov.org/historicsites.

United Daughters of the Confederacy Wreath Laying. 2 p.m. 9027 Center St., Manassas. 703-368-1873 or www.manassassmuseum.org.

Battle of Manassas Reenactment. Pageland Farm, Pageland Lane, Manassas. Modern services to support spectators, event and educational lecture tents, period vendors and large early war garrison-style camps. Tickets available at 703-396-7130 or www.manassassbullrun.com.

Bristow Station Battlefield Tours. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Bristow Station, 10709 Bristow Road, Bristow. Admission \$5, under age 6 free. 703-792-5546 or www.pwcgov.org/historicsites.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association gives tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.

Plant Clinic. 10 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Master Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative Extension answer gardening questions. Adults. 703-790-8088.

Local Author Jyoti Soni. 2 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Soni discusses her book "Lighting the Lamp Within: Illuminating the Path to Greater Spiritual Awareness." 703-790-8088.

Martinez & Guthrie. 5 p.m. Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

8th Annual Asian Food and Tennis Festival. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With 35 multi-cultural food and 150 product vendors. Four showcase villages, Heritage India, Wow Philippines, Image of China and Amazing Thailand. Free admission. info.asianfestvaldc.com.

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Home Life Style

Design for How We Live Now

Interior design for real life: pet-friendly, kid-friendly, family-friendly.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Interior designer Deborah Wiener isn't afraid of a messy house. In fact, she finds the chaos challenging, and says she tackles it with "the common sense of a Jewish mother [and] the muscle of a professional wrestler."

When Winkle Nemeth approached her to get help decorating her McLean home, Wiener was in her element. Nemeth, a mother of two college-aged sons who live at home, wanted new furniture for her living room. The family's two mixed-breed dogs have free rein of the room. Nemeth was searching for stylish yet durable pieces that would accommodate both her active family and her fondness for entertaining friends.

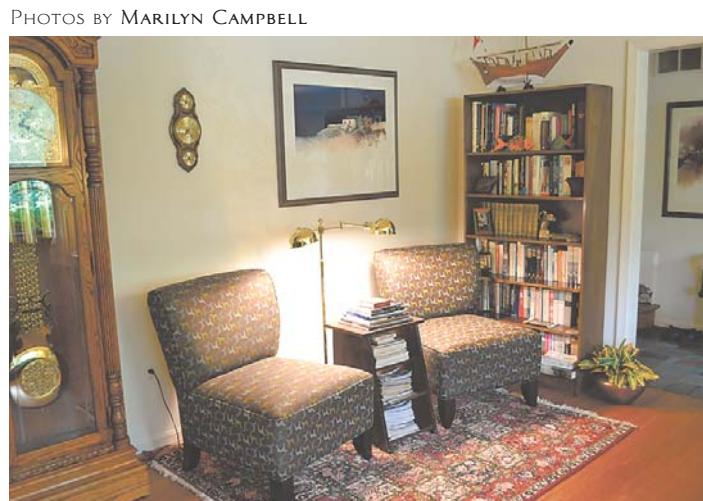
"My two dogs like to get up on the sofa so that they can look out the window," Nemeth said. "Their claws had destroyed



The living room of the Mansfield home in Chantilly. On the sofa are 6-year-old twins Will and Josie Mansfield.



Winkle Nemeth with her dogs Sid (black) and Annie in her McLean living room.



A reading nook in Winkle Nemeth's McLean home.

the fabric on the back of my old sofa."

Wiener came up with a design for the room that took Nemeth's desire for elegance and durability into consideration. She chose substantial furnishings that were chic but sensible and able to withstand everything from spilled soda to muddy paws. She included pieces from Slobproof!, Wiener's own line of furniture that is made from a fabric called Crypton. The designer says it is virtually indestructible and can be easily wiped cleaned.

Color was one of her secret weapons. "Color is camouflage, but beige is like having another child in the house. It needs protecting and watching," Wiener said. "Get out of the beige rut and use color to camouflage spills and stains."

Nemeth settled on a deep blue sofa and pale green arm chairs. Wiener helped her

SEE DESIGN, PAGE 15

Wiener's Tips for Active Households

♦ Laminate your most heavily used dining chairs. Almost any fabric can be laminated. Just ask your fabric store or decorator where to send it. New flat finish laminations provide an invisible, moisture- and stain-proof barrier on fabric, making it virtually indestructible and inconspicuous, too.

♦ Protect wood finishes from wet glasses, hot cups and scratching with clear glass tops made to fit your table tops. Sure, you'll have to wipe them, but you'll protect what's underneath from everything your slob may put on top.

♦ Nothing lasts longer or looks better than a well-finished hardwood floor. Wiener recommends durable wool rugs as well.

♦ For family-friendly furniture, you can't beat protected leather.

For more see
www.mydesigningsolutions.com

Solid Marble Bathrooms?

Seamless stone showers, walls and floors point to new direction in high-end bathroom design.

By JOHN BYRD
THE CONNECTION

Susan Cassell, of Great Falls Design Build, recalls the chain of events that convinced her some of the fundamentals of bathroom design were about to change.

"We were remodeling a bathroom that had been seriously damaged from leakage caused by cracked grout," Cassell said. "This is a common homeowner concern, so I contacted Shawn Daghish at EuroStoneCraft who had developed some ideas for dealing with this longstanding problem."

Cassell had worked with EuroStoneCraft

— a local marble and granite importer and fabricator based in Herndon — for many years. But she'd heard that the firm had a new brainchild — a custom-made solid marble shower floor which they were introducing under a new division, Verona Showers.

"The shower floor pan is a solid stone slab custom-made to your shower width ... so there's no water-exposed grouting, no cracking or leakage," Daghish said. "This means there's no mold build up, and no need for time-intensive maintenance."

"It struck me as a breakthrough," Cassell

SEE SOLID MARBLE, PAGE 15



A Herndon company can create massive slabs of marble or other stone to precise specifications for seamless, groutless bathrooms.

LETTERS

Recognizing Donors

To the Editor:

Each year, McLean High School parents host an All Night Graduation Celebration the night of the MHS senior class graduation ceremony. On behalf of the McLean High School All Night Graduation Celebration (ANGP) Committee and the Class of 2011 students and parents, we extend our thanks and appreciation of the support from local businesses in our efforts to keep our graduates and our community safe and tragedy-free on this important night. This wonderful event, which was held June 16, 2011, is organized, supervised and financed by the parents, without the use of Fairfax County public school money, to help reduce teen drinking and drug use on graduation night by providing a fun, exciting and safe post-graduation party for the seniors of McLean High School. Donations from popular businesses in our community truly helped to make this a successful and special event.

According to the Virginia Department of Education, graduation night is one of the highest-risk nights in a student's school career for alcohol/drug use and accidents. More teens are killed from automobile related injuries the night of prom and graduation than any other time of the year. MHS parents and the PTSAs feel it is very important to offer our students an option, and business and community members too saw the importance of giving our graduates a safe way to say good-bye to their high school years and celebrate all the possibilities their futures hold.

This alcohol- and drug-free celebration lasts all night and into dawn.

In 1987, the Virginia Dept of Motor Vehicles requested that the Virginia Dept of Education develop a program to address the serious issues of high risk driving caused by drinking and drug use. The result was Virginia Operation Prom/Graduation, which established guidelines for all-night celebrations as an alternative to unsupervised parties. Over the years, participation has grown dramatically. This year, more than 60 public and private schools in Northern Virginia, including McLean, representing over 28,000 teens held a supervised all night alcohol-free/drug-free celebration for these high school graduates. Following commencement, over 250 MHS

graduates attended a fun-filled and memorable All Night Graduation Party at the High School.

It was truly a special night.
Our MHS parents, staff, and stu-

dents recognize that the success of graduation night is due to the invaluable contributions of the many local businesses listed below, and we appreciate your commitment to keeping our community safe. On behalf of the Class of 2011, thank you for supporting our efforts to provide a positive and memorable experience for McLean's graduating senior class.

Lisa Haas and Natalie Malone

Co-chairs, MHS 2011 All Night Graduation Celebration Committee

Mclean High School 2011 All Night Graduation Celebration Donors

Advance Auto, American Legion Post 270 McLean, The Artisans, Bach 2 Rock, Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, BOWA Builders, Bowl America, Buckingham Style, Buffalo Wing Factory, Burger 7 of Falls Church, Café Oggi, Café Taj, Capital One, Chesterbrook PTA, Chick-fil-A, Chicks'N'Wings, Childs Play Toys, The Chocolate Chick, Clare and Don's Beach Shack, Clay Café, The Container Store, Dalby Tutoring & Test Prep, Data Source Inc., Dessange Salon, Edible Arrangements, Flowers & Plants, Etc., Fluffy Thoughts Bakery, Georgeanne's Hallmark, Giant Food of McLean, Gladstone Management Corporation, Hair Cuttery of Falls Church, Harris Teeter, Heidi's Nails, HH Gregg, Hier and Haines Salon, Dr. Alan Hinkle, DDS, Huckaby Briscoe Group, Ichiban Sushi, Ireland's Four Provinces, Jennifer Bateman Jeweler, Kost Designs, Lazy Sundae, Ledo Pizza, Longfellow PTA, Drs. Love and Miller, Family Dentistry, Luposello & Marzban Orthodontics, Deirdre J. Maull, DMD, MS, MAACo, MadLax Sports, Mangan Jewelers, Mary Kay, McDonald's of McLean, McLean 1910 Restaurant, McLean Animal Hospital, McLean Family Restaurant, McLean Hardware, McLean Insurance Agency, Inc., McLean Pizza, Merrifield Garden Center, Mesmerald's, Nail Magic, Name Dropers, Nordstrom's of Montgomery Mall, NV Electrolysis/Laser Center, Original Pancake House, Pasa Thai, Potomac Nationals, Potomac River Running, Preppy Pink Pony, Robeks, Rodi Salon, Safe Community Coalition, Safeway of McLean, Salona Jewelers, The Spy Museum, Staybridge Suites McLean-Tysons Corner, Stella & Dot, Terra Christa of Vienna, Ultra Zone Laser Tag, Washington Nationals, Wegmans, Wheat's Landscaping, Whole Foods Market, Wok & Roll, Women's Club of McLean.

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Send to:

Letters to the Editor
The Connection
1606 King St.
Alexandria VA 22314
Call: 703-778-9410.
By e-mail:
mclean@connectionnewspapers.com

REAL ESTATE

A Bumpy Recovery

Housing Market for McLean and Great Falls experiencing ups and downs.

BY KAREN BRISCOE

The tallies are in for houses sold during the first half of 2011. The best news occurred in the \$1.25 to \$2 million bracket with 80 homes changing hands, up from 63 in the first half of 2010. As you may recall, the recovery of this price range began in the first quarter of 2011 and fortunately carried over into the second quarter. The total number of sales for McLean and Great Falls was 423, which is down from 446 in the same time period in 2010, a drop of 5 percent. The volume is still down from the peak of the

McLean & Great Falls Market Analysis of Homes Sales

1ST HALF 2011 COMPARED TO 1ST HALF 2010

(Based on Final Closed Price)

	>\$3 Mil.	\$2-3 Mil.	\$1.25-2 Mil.	\$1.25 Mil.	<\$750k
1ST HALF 2011					
22101	1	7	34	• 79	67
22102	5	3	18	• 36	79
22066	3	2	28	• 39	22
Total	9	12	80	• 154	168
Combined Total	101				322

ALL SALES 1ST HALF 2011: 423

1ST HALF 2010

	>\$3 Mil.	\$2-3 Mil.	\$1.25-2 Mil.	\$1.25 Mil.	<\$750k
1ST HALF 2010					
22101	4	3	28	• 82	83
22102	3	7	12	• 35	96
22066	0	5	23	• 51	14
Total	7	15	63	• 168	103
Combined Total	85				361

ALL SALES 1ST HALF 2010: 446

market of 145 properties which changed hands during the first half of 2005.

My prediction for the remainder of 2011 is much the same as the first half of the year: recovery of the housing market will continue, but in a bumpy fashion. Dr. Stephen Fuller, Director of George Mason University's Center for Regional Analysis is the foremost authority on the economy for the Washington DC metro area. Fuller spoke at the Economic Summit for the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors on Sept. 16, 2010 where

he anticipated a rocky recovery. Fuller stated: "Recession is over when you stop declining," he said, "not when you get back to where you were." He predicted that it will be 2012 before we will be in an accelerating economy. Thankfully 2012 is just around the corner!

The good news is that the McLean and Great Falls housing market is on the road to recovery, it just appears to be taking two steps forward and one step backward. Good houses, priced correctly for the current market are selling.

Visit These Houses of Worship Join A Club, Make New Friends, or Expand Your Horizons...

Assemblies of God

Arlington Assembly of God...703-524-1667

Calvary Gospel Church...703-525-6636

Baptist

Bon Air Baptist Church...703-525-8079

McLean Baptist Church...703-356-8080

Memorial Baptist Church...703-538-7000

Buddhism

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Churches- Catholic

St. Agnes Catholic Church...703-525-1166

Cathedral of St Thomas More...703-525-1300

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek

Catholic Church...703-734-9566

Our Lady of Lourdes...703-684-9261

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic

703-979-5580

St Ann Catholic Church...703-528-6276

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Vatican II Catholic Community

NOVA Catholic Community...703-852-7907

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Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM

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PARISH WEBSITE:

www.rc.net/arlington/stann

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Arlington Church of Christ...703-528-0535

Church of God- Anderson, Indiana

Church of God...703-671-6726

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Bloss Memorial Free Will

Baptist Church...703-527-7040

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McLean First Church of Christ, Scientist...

...703-356-1391

Churches-Presbyterian

Arlington Presbyterian

Church...703-920-5660

Church of Covenant

...703-524-4115

Clarendon Presbyterian

Church

703-527-9513

Little Falls Presbyterian

Church

703-538-5230

Trinity Presbyterian

Church...703-536-5600

Westminster Presbyterian ...

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Churches-Unitarian Universalist

Unitarian Universalist Church

Reconstructionist Community ... 571-271-8387

Churches-United Methodist

Arlington United Methodist Church

...703-979-7527

Trinity United Methodist Church

of McLean...703-356-3312

Charles Wesley United Methodist

Local REAL ESTATE

Top Sales in May

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

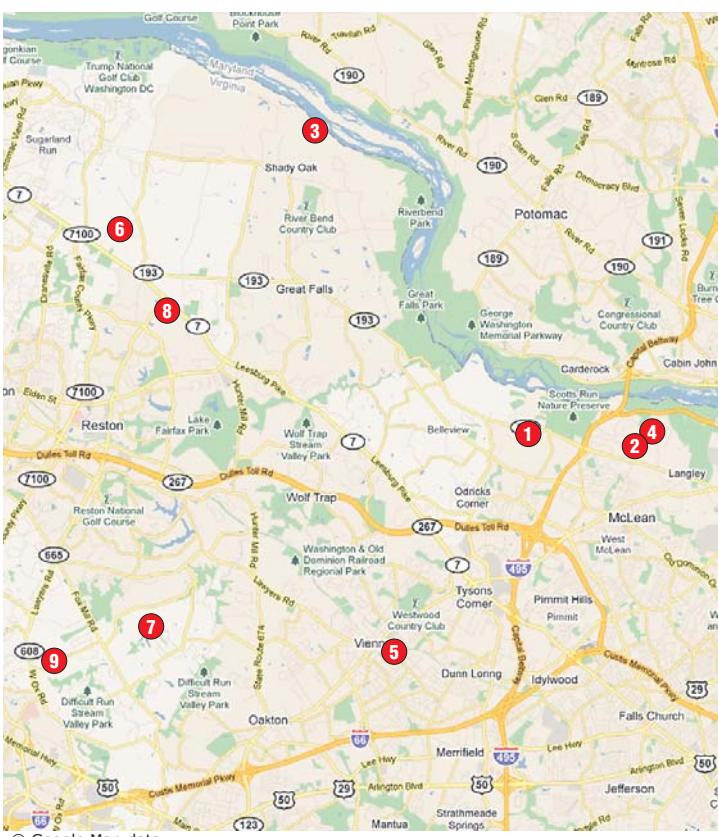


3 9885 River Chase Way, Great Falls — \$2,400,000



7 2781
Marshall Lake
Drive,
Oakton —
\$1,675,000

5 401 Park Street Southeast, Vienna — \$2,018,190



8 1163 Fieldview Drive,
Reston — \$1,185,000



9 3198 Upper Wynnewood Place,
Oak Hill — \$1,063,150

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1 884 ALVERMAR RIDGE DR	6	6	1	MCLEAN	\$2,600,000	Detached	0.97	THE RESERVE	05/09/11
2 903 DOUGLASS DR	4	5	2	MCLEAN	\$2,450,000	Detached	0.51	LANGLEY FOREST	05/23/11
3 9885 RIVER CHASE WAY	5	6	2	GREAT FALLS	\$2,400,000	Detached	2.01	RIVER CHASE	05/25/11
4 6644 HOLLAND ST	5	5	3	MCLEAN	\$2,235,000	Detached	1.02	LANGLEY FOREST	05/02/11
5 401 PARK ST SE	4	5	1	VIENNA	\$2,018,190	Detached	0.40	VIENNA	05/21/11
6 11548 TRALEE DR	5	5	2	GREAT FALLS	\$1,715,000	Detached	1.75	TRALEE ESTATES	05/31/11
7 2781 MARSHALL LAKE DR	5	5	3	OAKTON	\$1,675,000	Detached	1.83	TIMBER LAKE	05/17/11
8 1163 FIELDVIEW DR	5	4	1	RESTON	\$1,185,000	Detached	0.63	ESTATES AT WYNDHAM HILLS	05/12/11
9 3198 UPPER WYNNEWOOD PL4	4	4	1	OAK HILL	\$1,063,150	Detached	1.26	O C DOWNS	05/13/11

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Design for How We Live Now

FROM PAGE 12

arrange the furniture to create a sense of openness in the room, and suggested a brightly colored area rug to cover the existing hardwood floors.

Wiener said the goal is to design living spaces that match the realities of your life. "I am not your typical designer," she said. "I am not there to judge a client's budget or taste. I am there to give them advice to make their lives better."

Wiener's advice also comes in the form of unconventional design tools such as Wite-Out and permanent ink markers.

"Keep Wite-Out on hand at all times," said Wiener. "It may be obsolete for correcting typos, but it's a miracle when it comes to camouflaging dings and scuff marks wherever you have white trim around your house — like door frames, baseboard molding or chair rails. Permanent ink markers can cover a lot of dings and scratches."

Melinda Mansfield said that she has one of the most active households in her Chantilly neighborhood. She and her husband Rob have 6-year-old twins, two dogs and three cats.

"I have a face painting and glitter tattoo business for children," Mansfield said. "I am the troop leader for my daughter's Girl Scout troop, and my husband is the leader of our son's Boy Scout troop. All the kids in the neighborhood come to my house to play."

Mansfield said that she likes a lively household, but not the mess that often comes with the territory. She wanted to decorate her home to accommodate the chaos without sacrificing style. "I like really nice things," said Mansfield. "I always have. I wanted a fresh, clean look with good fabrics that will stand the test of time."

When Mansfield found interior designer Wiener, she knew that she'd found a good match. Wiener

I am not there to judge a client's budget or taste. I am there to give them advice to make their lives better.

— Deborah Wiener



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

For one couple, furniture that can stand up to life with two Great Danes.

started Designing Solutions to specialize "in real life, pet-friendly, family-friendly design."

CARLENE STEPHENS and her husband Gary Sturm live in Alexandria with two Great Danes who have free rein of the house. She was searching for stylish but durable pieces that would accommodate both her active household and desire for fashionable furniture.

"I was so tired of having messed-up furniture or no furniture at all," Stephens said.

Sturm and Stephens had completed a home renovation project and added an open kitchen, dining and family room space. Wiener came up with a design for the room that took the couple's desire for style and durability into consideration.

"She began with a rug," said Stephens. "And the other furniture was chosen around it."

Stephens said her furniture has already passed one important test.

"When the furniture arrived my dog had just taken a drink from his water bowl and was dropping water on the new sofa. It was like watching Niagara Falls coming from this Great Dane's mouth. I wiped it up quickly with no evidence that [the water] had been there."

Solid Marble Bathrooms?

FROM PAGE 12

said. "I've found this a really effective solution for bathrooms, and the color options are impressive. I've been regularly introducing it to my clients."

EuroStoneCraft's already well-honed milling capabilities mean "everything they offer is one of a kind," Cassell said.

The firm's skill at shaping natural stone, granite or marble to precisely fit surface specifications eliminates any need to sectionalize or use exposed seams requiring grout.

Homeowner Lisa Schultz is pleased with the EuroStone/Verona design advantages, which allowed her to distinguish the interior of her spacious Great Falls colonial while greatly reducing maintenance needs. Schultz selected an array of custom-fitted surfaces for strategic parts of the house throughout an extensive five-month remodeling process, including finishing the master bath in contrasting shades of Verona marble hand-picked from the EuroStoneCraft showroom.

"The vanity, shower floor and tub surround are stunning — a very original shade of dark brown," Schultz said. "The floor, tub facing and shower walls

are a kind of mocha. The whole is nicely balanced — there's a restful symmetry."

The bathroom's "invisible shower" consists of a custom-made MarbaFloor pan, two solid marble walls converging in one corner and dual sheets of unframed glass forming the other.

Schultz said the master bathroom's new interior seems substantially larger than its previous incarnation, even though the footprint is mostly unchanged.

Schultz added a prized oriental rug, just for effect.

After 15 years at the same address, Schultz said the changes have reinvigorated her appreciation of her surroundings: "It feels like a whole new custom house, which is exciting."

Describing personal benefits accruing from her own recent master bathroom makeover, Stacy Smith was especially pleased at the relief from perennial grout-replacement duties.

"After years of contending with the predictable problems of mosaic tile — cracking grout, mold buildup, and grit — there's just no substitute for a solid maintenance-free stone surface."

David Prakken of Fairfax was impressed with both the functional and aesthetic outcome resulting from Verona Shower upgrades to his 25-year-old bathroom.

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20366 Broad Run Dr \$657,000 Sat 2-5..Cathy Poungmalai..... FranklyRealty..703-786-5776

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1115 Drake Street.....\$499,000..... Sun 12-4..... Lou Leslie..AG Capital Realty..703-901-4172

9625 Scotch Haven Dr\$449,000..... Sun 1-4..... Yanji Lama.....ERA..703-395-3693

To add your FREE Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please contact Trisha at 703-778-9419, or trisha@connectionnewspapers.com

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

SPORTS

Once Again, Legion All-Star Baseball Game is a Hit

Nationals team victorious in Fourth of July showcase.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The grand old game of baseball was once again on Vienna's center stage earlier last week on Independence Day as the annual American Legion All-Star Game was played in the heart of town at Water's Field. A big, laid back crowd was on hand to take in the District 17 (Northern Virginia) league's holiday showcase game, which began at 10 a.m. and was played in pleasant, overcast conditions.

As usual for the July 4th contest, made up of high school and first year college aged players, winning was not so much the day's priority for either team — the Nationals or the Americans — as much as simply enjoying the game and giving those on hand a good show.

"It's a game where you get to go out on the Fourth of July and play with and against the best players in the league," said Springfield Post 176 catcher/infielder Nathan Slater (Lee High School), who lined a single into left field in a first inning at-bat for the Americans. "Everyone wants to win and everyone out here is competitive. But at the end of the day it's about having fun."

Slater said the atmosphere was fantastic for the Legion All-Star game.

"It's nice seeing there's still support for baseball in the area," he said, after the game. "This place is packed."

Bill Murphy, in his 12th year as the District 17 baseball commis-

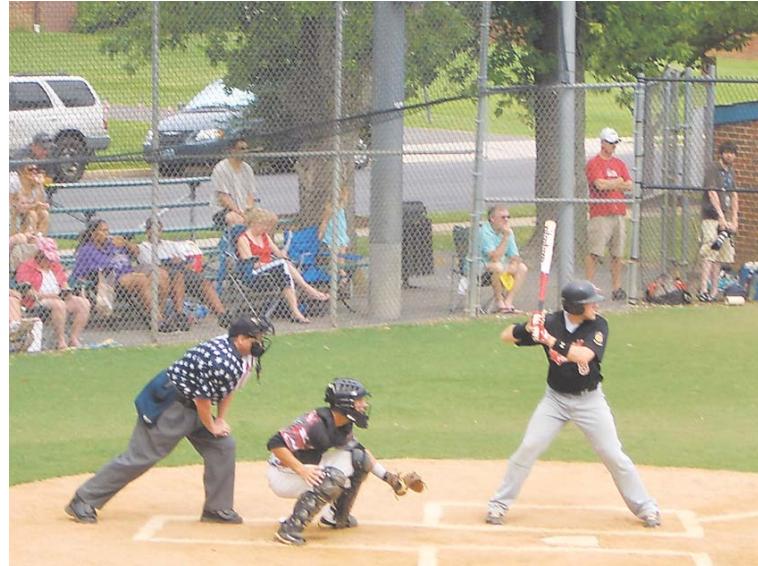


PHOTO BY RICH SANDERS/THE CONNECTION

Nathan Slater readies for the pitch during first inning action of the annual District 17 American Legion All-Star Baseball Game held on Independence Day at Waters Field in Vienna.

sioner, was the public address announcer for Monday's All-Star game.

"A lot of the players really look forward to this," said Murphy, a former President of the Vienna Little League. "The All-Star game gives the players incentive and pride, and something to shoot for. Every year people around town will come up to me and ask, 'Are you still having the Fourth of July All-Star Game?'"

ON THIS DAY, the Nationals team, made up of players from Alexandria Post 129, Arlington Post 139, Vienna Post 180, and Annandale Bicentennial Post 1976, lit up the scoreboard and defeated the Americans by a tune

of 15-6. The American squad was made up of players from Falls Church Post 130, Springfield Post 176, Fairfax Post 177, and Centreville Post 1995. Both teams also had players from Alexandria Post 24.

Throughput much of the game, patriotic band music could be heard from the grounds of the Vienna Community Center beyond the outfield fence as preparations were being made for the upcoming day-long festivities.

There were a myriad of offensive highlights for both teams. The Nats, in a seven-run top of the second inning, knocked around four doubles, the two-baggers coming from 1976's Joe Warren (St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School),

Post 139's Ryan Dicht (Washington-Lee High), Post 24's Robert Banks (Hayfield Secondary), and Alexandria Post 129's Adam Forrer (T.C. Williams). During that same half inning, Alexandria Post 24's George Palacio (Mount Vernon High) and Vienna Post 180's Eli Facenda (Madison High) both had singles. Eleven players batted in all during that breakout second inning.

The game's lone home run came by Warren, a towering fly ball over the center field fence to lead off the fifth inning and give the Nationals an 8-4 lead. Warren would finish the day with three hits.

The Nationals displayed some aggressive base-running in a four-run sixth inning. Vienna post 180's Chris Hanson (Oakton High) began the big inning with a high fly double into shallow left center field. Two batters later, the hustling Hanson scored from second base on a groundball out to shortstop off the bat of Vienna Post 180's Mason Hauser (Oakton). Later in the inning, Forrer, who earlier reached base on a hit's batsmen, stunned the fans and American Leaguers with a dash towards home on the pitchers' windup. Forrer slid safely onto the plate for a rare steal of home. Later that same inning, Alexandria Post 129's James Clark (T.C. Williams) roped a line drive double into left center field to plate two more runs, giving the Nationals a commanding 12-4 lead.

The Nationals would go on to tally three more runs in the eighth, the big blow coming off the bat of left-handed hitting Facenda, who tripled down the right field line for two runs. Earlier in the game, Facenda, who

was the Nationals' starting pitcher, singled the opposite way down the left field line.

THE AMERICANS also had some big at-bats. In their three-run bottom of the second, Springfield Post 176's Joe Townsend (South County Secondary) pulled a ball into deep left field and off the left field fence for a double. But a fine defensive relay play on the extra base hit resulted in a base-runner being thrown out at the plate, the tag applied by catcher Hanson.

In the American third inning, Falls Church Post 130's Danny Zdancewicz (Bishop O'Connell) doubled home a run. The Americans, later in the game, scored single runs in both the sixth — an RBI single by Centreville Post 1995's James Wiltshire (Paul VI) — and seventh innings — a sacrifice fly by Falls Church Post 130's Bruce Beatty (McLean High).

The Americans used nine different pitchers (one inning apiece). Tossing shutout innings were Post 176's JT Williamson (West Springfield High), Falls Church Post 130's Phillip Morris (McLean), Springfield Post 176's Matt Keen (Lee High), Springfield Post 176's Justin Drechsel (Hayfield), and Beatty.

The winning pitcher for the National League was Facenda, a southpaw who worked both the first and second innings.

McLean High graduates Phillip Morse (2012) and Bruce Beatty (2011) were members of the American All-Star team from Falls Church Post 130. Outfielder/catcher Dan Ashley (Falls Church Post 130), a 2011 graduate from Marshall High, also played for the American team.

SWIM REPORT

In Dominion Country Club League action last Saturday, the RiverBend StingRays beat Country Club of Fairfax, 372-143. Will Koeppen broke two of his own team records in the Boys 9-10 50 Backstroke and 25 Fly with times of 39.51 and 16.56, respectively. In addition, Jack Hall also broke his own RiverBend team record in Boys 15-18, 50 Fly, lowering the mark to a 28.56.

Savie Seibold, Will Koeppen, Eliza Pastore, Ryan Windus, Micaela Grassi, and Jack Hall each won first-place ribbons in four events. Anna Phillips won three blue ribbons while Ryan Bond scored two first-place finishes. Other first place winners included: Thomas Youngkin, Tommy Rogers, Allan Spiegel, Sabrina Slavin, Emma Grassi, Davis Riffe, and Devlin Wesolowski.

The StingRays dominated many events,

sweeping first, second and third places in Boys 8-under 25 Free and 25 Backstroke races; Girls 9-10, 50 Free, 50 Backstroke, and 100 IM; Girls 11-12 50 Breaststroke; Boys 13-14, 50 Backstroke; Boys 15-18, 50 Backstroke, 50 Breaststroke, and 50 Fly.

The Highlands Whomping Turtles remained undefeated in Division 2 swimming with a 259-143 victory over the Hunter Mill Sharks. Double winners from Highlands were Claire Collins, Diego Cruzado, Hayden Evans, Colton Heuple, Chris Hylton, Chuck Katis, Allison Martin, Olivia Tripodi, and Helen Yablonski.

Highlands' single winners were Scott Callander, Maggie Campion, Xenia de Cazotte, Maria Huisenga, Jayme Katis, Griffin Romanek, Greer Schuman, Sydney Stocks, and Zach Tripodi.

The 13-14 girls 100 Medley Relay team of Sydney Stocks, Claire Collins, Xenia de

Cazotte and Rachel Tate set a new team record of 1:03.49, and the boys mixed age 200 Freestyle Relay team of Colton Heuple, Diego Cruzado, Scott Callander and Chuck Katis set a team record with their time of 1:55.28.

The McLean Marlins hosted their last home meet of the season with a victory over McLean Hamlet, 212-189, last Saturday. Double winners for McLean were: JJ Horsfield, Olivia Gore, Dereck Charles, Timothy Wu, Andrew Do, Libby Ulrich, Christopher Murphy, Will Soobert, Andrew Seliskar and Stephen Seliskar. Single event winners for McLean were: Natalia Rongione, Hannah McCarron, Bill Kim, Nick Loria, Abby Lucas, MJ Ulrich, and Jake McCarron.

Andrew Seliskar set a new team record in the 13-14 boys 50-butterfly with a time of 27.28. The 8-under boys Freestyle relay

team of Ellison Soobert, Nick Loria, Quin Frew, and JJ Horsfield set a new team record with a time of 1:12.30. The 13-14 boys Medley relay team of Christopher Murphy, Andrew Seliskar, Justin Nguyen, and Jack Saunders set a new NVSL record with a time of 54.85.

The Langley Wildthings (1-1) lost to Lakevale Estates, 223-179, in an NVSL Division 4 meet. Double winners for Langley were Jinwon Bailar, Schuyler Bailar, Meghan Overend, Katie Robinson and Izzy Schone. Single winners were Jack Hoeymans, Nate Johnson, Christopher Paul and Emily Wallach. Three Langley records were broken: Jinwon Bailar in the 11 - 12 free (27.94) and back (31.14); and the girls 8-under free relay by the team of Liliana Schone, Kate Walter, Addison Collins and Audrey Wallach (1:22.53).

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TRUSTEE'S SALE OF VALUABLE IMPROVED REAL ESTATE

Improved by the premises known as
6616 Melrose Drive, McLean, Virginia

In execution of a Deed of Trust from Ana Maria V. Clarke and Paul F. Clarke, Jr., dated October 18, 2010, and recorded November 20, 2010, in Deed Book 21361 at page 78 among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia, the undersigned substitute trustee will offer for sale at public auction at the front entrance of the Judicial Center for Fairfax County, at 4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, Virginia, on

Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

the following property being the property contained in said Deed of Trust, described as follows:

Lots 38, 39 and 40, Section B, Water Heights Subdivision, as per plat thereof recorded in Deed Book T-9 at page 247, among the Land Records of Fairfax County, Virginia.

Commonly known as 6616 Melrose Drive, McLean, Virginia 22101.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of \$100,000.00 or ten percent (10%) of the sale price, whichever amount is less, in the form of cash or its equivalent will be required of the purchaser at the time and place of sale; the balance of the purchase money being due and payable within fifteen (15) days after sale, time expressly being of the essence, with interest at the rate of 4.0 percent per annum from date of sale to date of settlement. Provided, however, that if the holder of the secured promissory note is the successful bidder at the sale, no cash deposit shall be required, and part or all of the entire indebtedness, including interest and costs, secured by the Deed of Trust, may be set off against the purchase price.

Any defaulting purchaser shall forfeit the deposit and stand the risk and cost of resale.

Sale shall be made subject to all existing easements and restrictive covenants as the same may lawfully affect the real estate. Sale is further subject to mechanic's and/or materialman's liens of record and not of record. The property will be sold subject to all conditions, covenants, restrictions, rights of redemption of federal lienholders or encumbrances, and agreements of record affecting the same, if any.

In the event the undersigned trustee is unable to convey to the purchaser good title, then purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy shall be in the refund of the deposit paid at the time of sale.

The subject property and all improvements thereon will be sold in "as is" condition without warranty of any kind. Purchaser shall be responsible for any and all building and/or zoning code violations whether of record or not of record, as well as for all unpaid and enforceable homeowners' or condominium owners' association dues and assessments, if any. Purchaser also shall be responsible for obtaining possession of the property at his/her expense. Purchaser shall assume the risk of loss and shall be responsible for any damage, vandalism, theft, destruction, or the like, or to the property occurring after the time of sale. Conveyance will be by special warranty deed. Conveyancing, recording, transfer taxes, notary fees, examination of title, state stamps, and all other costs of conveyance are to be at the expense of purchaser. State and local taxes, public charges, and special or regular assessments, if any, shall be adjusted to the date of sale and thereafter shall be assumed by the purchaser.

The undersigned trustee unconditionally reserves the right: (i) to waive the deposit requirement; (ii) to approve or disapprove the creditworthiness of any bidder and/or purchaser; (iii) to withdraw the property from sale at any time prior to termination of the bidding; (iv) to extend the time for bidding; (v) to reject any or all bids; (vi) to postpone or set over the date or time of sale; and (vii) to extend the period of time for settlement hereunder.

Additional terms and conditions of sale may be announced at the time of sale.

DAVID N. PRENSKY
Substitute Trustee

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Need To Know

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

There are people I know, with whom I interact irregularly, who I would characterize as more than acquaintances but less than friends, who know I've been diagnosed with cancer but who, for a million different and acceptable reasons are not exactly current with my most-up-to-date health circumstances. These are people who fall just outside my social circle but who might fall within that hypothetical concentric circle where the interaction and intersection with my ongoing activities is somewhere between random and likely, depending on varying time intervals. These intervals are months at a time (give or take) and might include health care professionals, local and/or business people I see routinely but not predictably, out-of-town friends, former co-workers, as but a few examples. People who you don't contact, necessarily, and who don't contact you, unless by happenstance, sort of.

Then you see/talk to them and converse as normally as the depth of your relationship/association warrants (I do, anyway). But the elephant in the room, the fact that yours truly has stage IV lung cancer, eventually rears its ugly head. Typically I try to make light of it, say I'm doing fine (which I am, miraculously, comparatively), and segue into some less Kenny-with-cancer-centric topic. All of which is generally no problem, and after 28 months of it (post diagnosis) fairly normal – for me, in my accepted scheme of things.

My thought about these kinds of exchanges has to do with the other party though, not me (mostly). I wonder about the substance of the conversation we're having at that moment, but also whether this person is thinking about how much time has passed since our last interaction and likewise wondering if, having not heard from me/seen me for sooner, perhaps I had succumbed (died is so final) to my disease. I mean, it's reasonable to think that, not having heard from a terminal cancer patient for a few months might not exactly be a benign set of said-happenstance. Silence may be golden, but in this circumstance, it might be permanent. And the nature of our geometric relationship might delay the communication of certain facts.

Obviously it's not something I worry about – too much, but given my rather introspective obsession with my cancer-affected life, it's practically impossible to not focus, more-than-occasionally on the myriad levels of cancer's insidious hold on my (not over me though) life and its effect on others as well. At least that's my working explanation.

Nevertheless, 28 months into an original "13-month-to-two-year" prognosis, I am able to live with, and balance my ongoing obsessions. However since my brain is still working reasonably well (comments from the peanut gallery welcomed), it sort of has a mind of its own and sometimes takes me places I had not intended or anticipated. What brought this column out is an appointment I made recently to get my hair cut with my regular hairstylist, a lady with whom I have minimal – make that zero – contact between my every-three-month's haircut. I wondered, since she knows the seriousness of my underlying problem, if not having heard from me in 11 weeks, approximately, is worrisome for her, as in whether I'm still alive. I'll have to ask her. Her answer will probably generate another column.

I know what I think, but I do wonder what others might be thinking, and who needs to know what – and when.

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



NEWS

McLean Orchestra Salutes Military

Upcoming events announced at the reception.

By NATALIE KIM
THE CONNECTION

On Sunday afternoon, July 10, Del. Barbara Comstock's house was milling with musicians and music aficionados alike. As they tasted an assortment of fine Virginia wines, they discussed the upcoming 40th season of the McLean Orchestra. In fact, the reception's purpose was to announce the Second Annual Concert in the Park: "A Musical Salute to Our Military."

This year's Concert in the Park takes place at Claude Moore Colonial Farm the evening before the 10th anniversary of the September 11th attacks. Wayne Sharp, the president of the McLean Orchestra, shared with the guests the inspiration for "A Musical Salute to Our Military." He says, "As long as there are brave men and women in harm's way, we want to salute our military." The orchestra will play military music and will also be featuring the former director of the Air Force band, Lt. Col. Alan Sierichs, as the conductor. A large portion of the money raised will be donated to the Fisher House Foundation, a charity that facilitates a "home away from home" for the families of wounded soldiers receiving medical treatment.

Sharp also honored a few sponsors of the McLean Orchestra. Comstock and her husband were deemed trustees for their support. Lawrence and Margot Young were recognized as Thomas Jefferson level sponsors, receiving enthusiastic applause for their support for the McLean Orchestra.

Stan Richards, a long-time fan and patron of the McLean Orchestra, says that the McLean community offers great support for this musical group. "25 years ago there were five orchestras based in McLean," Richards says, "There was lots of competition but McLean gets more of an audience than anyone."

"But they could get double," he adds.

The McLean Orchestra will celebrate its upcoming 40th season on Oct. 8, 2011 with its Opening Concert "Season of Celebration." Executive Director John Huling expressed excitement for the "Holiday Mozart" concert on Nov. 13, 2011 at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Great Falls. This concert will feature 10-year-old flutist Emma Resmini. "She is a true child prodigy," Huling said, "it is amazing." He also recommends the McLean Orchestra 2012 Gala, "Venetian Masquerade Ball", in April 2012.

For more information about ticket sales and upcoming events visit www.mclean-orchestra.org.



Musicians Andy Wilson (trumpet), Jay Chadwick (French horn), Jack Tilbury (tuba), Rob Mesite (trombone) and Dave Haglund (trumpet) treat guests to an afternoon of music.

PHOTOS BY NATALIE KIM/THE CONNECTION



Allan Jorgenson, Lilian Jorgenson, Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34) and McLean Orchestra president Wayne Sharp at the reception at Comstock's home.



Burt Heacock, Lawrence Young and Margot Young celebrate the announcement of the upcoming concert 'A Musical Salute to Our Military' with fine Virginian wine. Heacock is the chair of this military-inspired event and Lawrence Young is the Vice President of Administration for the McLean Orchestra.

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