

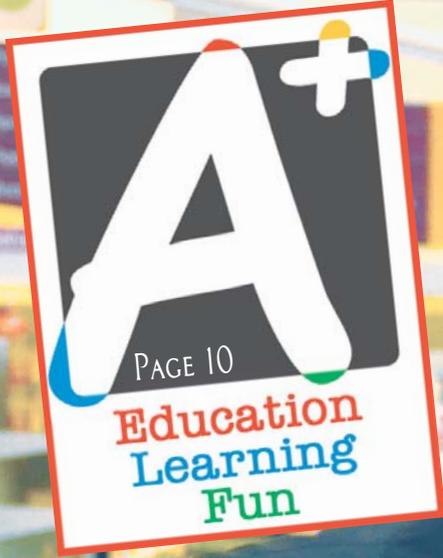
# McLean CONNECTION

Theater in the Great Outdoors

NEWS, PAGE 8

'Messy Monday' at McLean Strings Camp

A+, PAGE 10



Brian McCarthy of McLean is handed a check from Virginia Lottery Executive Director Paula Otto at the Elden Street Giant in Herndon August 10. McCarthy won the \$107 million Mega Millions jackpot with a ticket he purchased at the Giant. McCarthy, who lives in McLean, decided to take the lump sum of \$68.4 million.



# McLean Man Wins \$107 Million Jackpot

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PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

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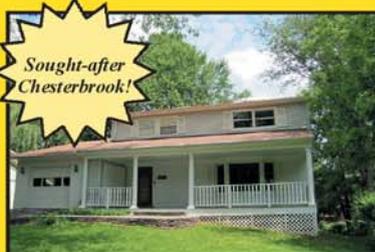


**McLean Woods!**

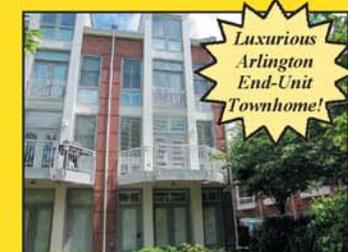
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PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

From left, Jasmine Faubert, secretary and treasurer of the Herndon Optimist Club; lottery winner Brian McCarthy of McLean; Herndon-Reston FISH President Janet Hyman; and Herndon Mayor Steve DeBenedittis at the Elden Street Giant Aug. 10. McCarthy won the \$107 Mega Millions jackpot with a ticket purchased at the Giant, and donated \$25,000 each to FISH and the Herndon Optimist Club.

## McLean Man Wins \$107 Million Jackpot

BY ALEX MCVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

It was a typical day for Brian McCarthy, 25, of McLean, when he stopped at the Elden Street Giant in Herndon to withdraw money from the ATM. Next to the ATM was a Virginia Lottery machine, where he decided to purchase five tickets. Little did he know that this transaction would prove more profitable than any trip to the ATM ever could.

On the morning of July 2, a day after the drawing and two days after moving back in with his parents in McLean, McCarthy woke up and checked Facebook on his phone. He came across an article saying the winning ticket had been purchased at the Elden Street Giant.

"At that point I jumped out of bed and emptied my wallet, and I had the ticket, and I was shaking a bit when I realized what it was," he said. "It was a great feeling."

**AFTER DISCOVERING** he had won, McCarthy told his grandmother, who was the only one home at the time, and his grandmother immediately offered him a congratulatory grilled cheese sandwich.

"It was one of the best grilled cheeses I've ever had," he said.

McCarthy decided to take the lump sum, which was about \$68.4 million, rather than 26 annual payments. So far he's spread the

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wealth around, taking his brother on a golf trip to Ireland, and his sister on a cruise to Alaska.

McCarthy, who was working as an account manager for PepsiCo when he bought the winning ticket, also made one purchase for himself: a custom built BMW M3.

"It's a lot of money, so you can't make any rash decisions," he said. "I'm just going to take it slow, help my family and talk to some financial advisors and make some sound decisions."

He received his check at the Giant Aug. 10, and also took the time to put some of his winnings to good use. He donated \$25,000 each to Herndon-Reston FISH and the Herndon Optimist Club. McCarthy grew up right down the street from the Giant, and said he wanted to support local nonprofits.

"The kids of Herndon who play sports, who participate in our education programs, our environmental stewardship programs, our law enforcement partnership programs are going to be so thankful," said Jasmine Faubert, secretary and treasurer of the Herndon Optimist Club. "We're so surprised and so grateful."

Janet Hyman, president of FISH, said McCarthy's donation comes at a very good time for them.

"The last two months we've been giving out more than we've been taking in, and we've been dipping into our reserves," she said. "We were even considering reducing the amount of donations to families, but it looks like that won't be

necessary right now."

McCarthy said he plays the lottery fairly regularly. He estimated he'd spent \$20 to \$30 a week sometimes, and has even won some smaller (\$1,000) amounts before.

"My dad and my mom always said 'why do you buy those things, you'll never win,' but I always said you'll never win if you're not in the game," he said.

**MCCARTHY'S GOOD FORTUNE** came as a result of random, computer-generated numbers, which picked out the winning 12-17-30-35-47 combination, as well as the Mega Ball number 26.

"This is the third-largest prize ever awarded by the Virginia Lottery and the seventh Mega Millions jackpot won in the commonwealth," said Pamela Otto, Virginia Lottery executive director. "In the time it took for the jackpot to grow to this level, from May 28 to the July 1 drawing, Mega Millions sales raised more than \$4.4 million in profits for Virginia public schools." As far as his future plans, Virginia's latest millionaire philanthropist said they involve more charity donations, as well as a donation to his alma mater, Penn State.

"We'll do some investments, help some charities, help out my alma mater," he said. "There's a lot you can do with this kind of money, and I have a good family, good friends and good people around me, so I think we can do some good things."



Tour Co-Chairman Kay Burnell, Club President Ginny Sandahl, and special guest Caroline Evans Van Wagoner.

## McLean Woman's Club Holds Annual Kickoff Tea

The Woman's Club of McLean held its annual "Christmas in August" Kickoff Tea on Thursday, Aug. 11, to preview its 45th Holiday Homes Tour in early December. This year's tour will feature homes in Evans Farm village, which was created about 10 years ago from the 24-acre Evans Farm, well-known to McLean residents at its location between Dolley Madison Boulevard (Route 123) and Chain Bridge Road.

Club members specially welcomed Caroline Van Wagoner, daughter of Ruth and Bayard Evans, former owner of Evans Farm. Members were also pleased that Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) attended the event. Foust and his wife, Dr. Marilyn Jerome, are longtime supporters of the Woman's Club and offered their house for the Holiday Homes Tour in 2009. Other guests at the tea were the owners of three of the homes on this year's tour, owners of homes featured on past tours and Marcia Twomey, of the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce. The tea was held at the McLean house of Col. Ray L. Burnell and Kathlyn Burnell, a Woman's Club member and one of this year's tour co-chairmen. The tour in December 2011 will feature four large houses in Evans Farm decorated for the holidays and highlighting family life in McLean. A fifth structure, known as "the old stone house" and dating from the original farm, will also be

on display. A "Chinese auction," in which visitors can purchase chances on a variety of merchandise and services, will be another attraction. Further, visitors may be able to purchase last-minute holiday decorations and gifts. There will probably be Christmas music in or around the homes.

Woman's Club members have been working on preparations since February, when they began soliciting advertisements for the tour brochure. Additional efforts over the summer included selection of the homes, brochure preparation, publicity arrangements and plans for decoration.

All proceeds will be donated to local charities and nonprofit organizations, such as Share, Inc., Alternative House, the McLean Project for the Arts (The Children's Outreach), Claude Moore Colonial Farm, the McLean Volunteer Fire Department, Fisher House and the McLean Symphony, as well as used for scholarships and education. The tour will take place on Thursday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets will be available in early October at local businesses including Mesmeralda's Gifts of McLean, Karin's Florist of Vienna and Great Dogs of Great Falls. They may also be ordered on the website for the Woman's Club of McLean, [www.mcleanwc.org](http://www.mcleanwc.org), or be obtained at one of the homes on the tour.

— LAURA SHERIDAN



From left: Tour Co-Chairman Kay Burnell, District Supervisor John Foust, and Tour Co-Chairman Rosemarie Lazo



McLean resident and Washington, D.C. attorney Cliff Harrington calls himself a “vintage pen guy.” He’s been collecting fountain pens since the mid-1980s.



A collector-dealer in Reston has a collection of vintage and unique fountain pens. This pen, produced for one-year-only in the 1930s, has a “highly desirable” sword clip and herringbone design.

PHOTOS BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

## World’s Largest Pen Show Comes to Tysons Corner

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

Dealers and craftsmen from around the world made it to the Sheraton Premiere at Tysons Corner for the 20th Annual Washington, D.C. Collectible Fountain Pen Super Show held on Aug. 13 and 14. More than 200 exhibitors laid out vintage fountain pens, contemporary pens, and one-of-a-kind pens for 2,000 collectors who browsed, purchased and brought in pens for servicing. If you didn’t know what a “nib” was when you entered the pen show, you sure would know by the time you left.

When looking for pens that hold their value or will likely increase in value, you look for attributes such as uniqueness, distinctiveness or historical significance, several vendors said.

In a glass case, dealer and collector Lee Chait kept several pens possessing those attributes. President George H. W. Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev used a set of two Parker 75 vermeil fountain pens in 1990 to sign the historic arms reduction agreement at the Washington, D.C. summit, in effect, officially ending the Cold War. Chait was selling the set.

**ANOTHER RARITY** Chait had in his case was a Parker 1976 bicentennial fountain pen that incorporated a piece of wood from Independence Hall in Philadelphia. The pewter pens are engraved and



Silver found in a Spanish treasure fleet sunk in 1715 was used to make these authenticated pens first produced in 1965. At that time, the pens sold for \$75. Today, they sell for \$1,500.

numbered, selling for \$500 each.

Yet, another gem was a pen made of silver found in a Spanish treasure fleet that sunk in 1715. The first pens from this cache were made in 1965 and sold for \$75. Today, those pens sell for \$1,500 each.

The two-day pen extravaganza open to the public featured pen and supply dealers, free seminars, on-site repair of pens, including grinding of nibs, and pen appraisals. Nibs are the tips of the fountain pens used to make the pen’s strokes. When they break or flatten, they can be re-ground. So, now you know about nibs.

Jeff Parker of Parker Pens talked

to collectors and signed copies of his book. Exhibitors stopped by one another’s displays to talk about the merchandise. Row after row, aisle after aisle, of shiny, colorful, glistening pens sat neatly arranged.

**CLIFF HARRINGTON**, a McLean resident and Washington, D.C. attorney who has been collecting pens since the mid-1980s, calls himself a “vintage pen guy.” He collects other things, as well, but pens, Harrington said, are both utilitarian and beautiful. “I like to write with fountain pens,” said Harrington. The nibs have their own characteristics, from stiff to flexible to oblique, each rendering a different writing style. “To be a pen collector, a pen has to stir the owner,” he said. There’s also a camaraderie among pen collectors, said Harrington, who counts among his best friends collectors living in other countries.

Mary Beth Williams drove down from Philadelphia to attend her first-ever pen show. She said she began using fountain pens about 10 years ago and now owns approximately 12 of them. Noodler’s Ink is her favorite ink because it will not run when wet, she said.

“Once you start collecting fountain pens, you can’t stop,” said Williams, pulling out of her handbag one of her pens. “It can be addictive.”

For information on the annual pen show in Washington, D.C., go to [www.pentral.com](http://www.pentral.com)

## SCHOOL NOTES

Send School Notes to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

**Gregory R. Epreman** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at Bucknell University of Lewisburg, Pa. The 2008 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School is the son of Jeffrey and Annette Epreman.

**Kelsey P. Linebaugh** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at Bucknell University of Lewisburg, Pa. The 2008 graduate of the Madeira School is the daughter of Craig Linebaugh and Cheryl Person.

**Kendall Larsen** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s honor list at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, Calif. Larsen is majoring in liberal studies.

**Emily Lubin** of McLean has been inducted into Sigma Phi Omega from the sociology and gerontology department at Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

**Emma M. Rocks** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at the University of Vermont in Burlington. She is a senior studio art major.

**Jillian Moynihan** of McLean has graduated from Villanova University of Villanova, Pa.

**Felicia Marwa** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

**Kelly MacKenzie Phelan** of McLean has received a bachelor of arts degree cum laude from Miami University of Oxford, Ohio. She was also named to the spring 2011 dean’s list.

**Leonore Chappell** of McLean has received a bachelor of arts in psychology and Spanish from Southern Methodist University of Dallas, Tx.

McLean residents **Emily Abigail Lubin** and **David Edmund VanHoven** have received a bachelor of arts from Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

**Claire Rita O’Connor** of McLean has graduated with a bachelor of science in business from Miami University of Oxford, Ohio.

**Gurden Batra** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Ga.

**Gabriel Corrochano** of McLean was selected to attend the French Academy at the Governor’s School in Lexington, Va. The Potomac School student is the son of Mariela Buendia-Corrochano.

**Ashley Martin** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at Loyola University Maryland.

Six McLean residents have graduated from Boston University of Boston, Ma. Receiving degrees were **Hannah E. Choi**, master of music in string performance; **Tribbie D. Nassikas**, bachelor of arts in history of art and architecture; **Molly I. Mc Nerney**, bachelor of arts in sociology; **Carol S. Issa**, bachelor of

science in communication, cum laude; **Daniel H. Segal**, bachelor of arts in psychology; and **Allison E. Flaherty**, bachelor of science in special education.

McLean residents **Peter-Christopher Schmidt** and **Lindsay Stuckey** have been named to the honor roll at Southern Methodist University of Dallas, Tx.

**Yasmin M. Atefi** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at Boston University of Boston, Ma.

**Angela Wertz** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at Duquesne University of Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Courtney Helmer** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at Saint Mary’s College of Notre Dame, Ind. She is the daughter of Eileen and David Helmer.

**Bennett Silverman** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at Choate Rosemary Hall of Wallingford, Ct. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Alan Silverman.

**Jun Woo Choi** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at Choate Rosemary Hall of Wallingford, Ct. He is the son of Mr. Byung Wook Choi and Ms. So Yeon Lee.

**George Alexander Mackaronis** of McLean has received a bachelor of arts in psychology from Denison University of Granville, Ohio.

**Timothy J. Donley** of McLean has entered Basic Cadet Training at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo. The training will prepare him to meet the mental and physical challenges experienced by new cadets. The 2010 Langley High School graduate is the son of Chris-Ann and Charles Donley.

**Michelle Zimmerman** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list at Emory College of Atlanta, Ga. She is the daughter of Martha M. Simons of McLean and Michael L. Zimmerman of Centerville.

**Sydney Barron** of McLean has been named to the spring 2011 dean’s list and has received a bachelor of arts from Emory College of Atlanta, Ga. She is the daughter of Michael J. Barron and Amelia K. Barron.

**Gregory DiMattina** of McLean has received a bachelor of business administration from the Goizueta Business School of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. He is the son of Dr. Michael DiMattina and Marian Faye Corey.

**Elizabeth Freeman** of McLean has graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor of arts in biology with emphasis in biochemistry and a minor in modern Hebrew from the College of Arts & Sciences of Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. She is the daughter of Patricia and David Freeman.

**Hayley Milon** of McLean has been named to the merit list at Oxford College of Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. She is the daughter of Mark S. Milon and Bara C. Milon.

# At Intersection of Science and Mythology

## McLean resident James Barney publishes debut novel.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

**A**s a trial lawyer specializing in patents and high technology law, McLean resident James Barney deals with science on a daily basis. In his spare time, he enjoys reading books such as "The Da Vinci Code" by Dan Brown, books that combine the scientific and the mythologic.

Now Barney's name is close by Brown's, at least on bookstore shelves, with the publication of his debut novel "The Genesis Key."

"I've always been interested in the intersection between science and mythology, and how close these myths could be to being real," he said.

The son of a navy pilot, Barney spent his early years moving



McLean resident James Barney has published his debut novel 'The Genesis Key.'

around the world. After graduating from an American school in Portugal in 1986, he attended the Naval Academy. He graduated in 1990 and served six years as a submarine officer.

But after his first child was born in 1996, Barney decided to make a change. He graduated from Yale Law School in 1999, and began his law career.

Released last month, "The Genesis Key" blends cutting-edge science and biblical myth in a fast-paced thriller. His protagonist, biologist Dr. Kathleen Sainsbury, is a fictional alumna of Langley High School and a native of Great Falls.

**BARNEY**, who also has a degree in chemistry, says he wanted to make sure the science depicted in

his book was possible.

"I did a lot of research to make sure what I talked about in the book was accurate, or at least feasible," he said.

This included running a lot of material by a friend of his who is a biologist, as well as taking "constant feedback" from family and friends.

"I gave out a lot of early versions to family and friends, people who I trusted," he said. "I'm lucky to have friends in a lot of areas."

Barney says there were certain times when it was difficult to write from a female perspective. He recalls getting advice from his wife on a scene where she goes out on a date.

Work on "The Genesis Key" consisted of a lot of biblical research as well, as Sainsbury searches for a possible scientific explanation for a biblical myth.

The Book of Genesis Chapter six, verse four refers to beings that existed "when the sons of God went to the daughters of humans and had children by them." In the New International version, they are called the "Nephilim," in the

King James Bible they are referred to as "giants."

"In Genesis, there's a passage about these beings, the Nephilim, and there are bodies of literature just about this one passage," he said. "The main character, a biologist finds herself involved in the crosshairs of a lot of people after a discovery that could explain these beings."

In between his day job and family time — Barney is married and has two children — time to write could be hard to come by for Barney. He says he does a lot of writing late night and early morning.

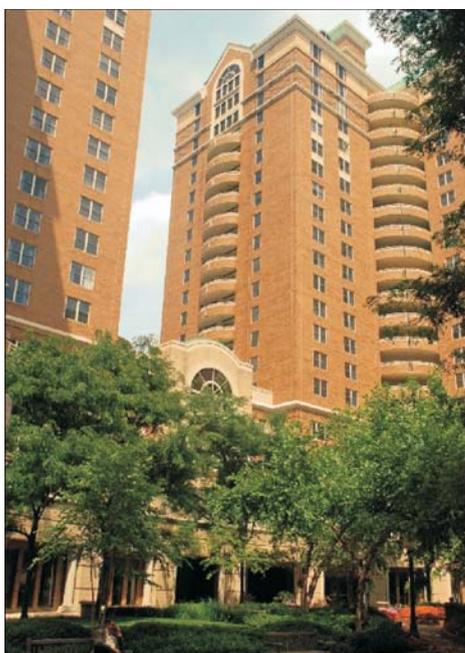
"I don't really have the luxury of having a 'process.' I have to scrap for all my time," he said. "If I can wake up around 4 or 5 a.m., that's when the house is most quiet, even the dog isn't awake."

Even with one novel finished, Barney still says he battles the occasional self-doubt.

"There's always times when you become riddled with self-doubt, you start thinking, 'What am I doing with this? I should just put it

SEE GENEROUS, PAGE 15

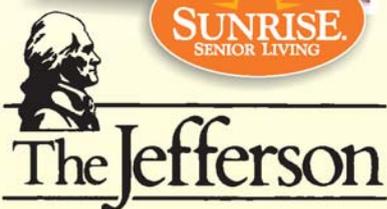
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## Partners in Ending Homelessness

**Government can lead the fight to end homelessness, but success achieved with community partners.**

BY U.S. REP. GERRY  
CONNOLLY  
D-11

The following guest editorial is part of special edition of the Connection Newspapers on the topic of Ending Homelessness. Read more at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/).

As the nation's economy continues to struggle, we should find hope in one recent bit of news reported by Fairfax County: The local homeless population declined 15.6 percent during the last four years despite the worst economic recession since the 1930s.

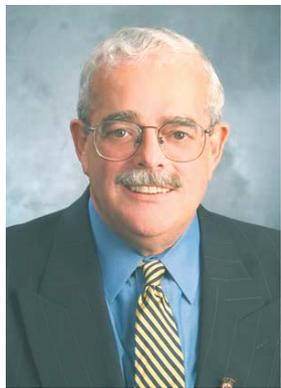
While the growth in the homeless population has slowed nationally, Fairfax County is one of the few localities to actually reduce the rate of homelessness, and this success is the product of a years-long effort by Fairfax County and its community partners.

When I was first elected chair-

man of the Board of Supervisors in 2003, there was growing concern about the increase in the local homeless population. Particularly alarming was the fact that 60 percent of homeless adults in families already were employed. It highlighted the need to address the shrinking number of affordable housing units.

Knowing government could not tackle these challenges alone, we convened separate community summits to devise action plans to preserve affordable housing and to prevent homelessness. The results were innovative partnerships with the non-profit, faith and business communities that yielded positive results, among them the preservation of more than 2,200 affordable housing units, which doubled our initial goal.

Given the success of this program and the benefits it has pro-



FILE PHOTO  
**U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11)**

vided to Fairfax families and our entire community, I believe the county should reconsider its decision to scale it back.

Another part of that success story is the 10-year plan we adopted to prevent and end homelessness and the hiring of a coordinator to oversee all local efforts to

assist the homeless. One important element of that plan is the annual hypothermia program, in partnership with local churches, which provides warm meals and temporary shelter for those most at-risk. It also helps provide vital medical and mental health support services in a stable environment, supplementing the mobile medical outreach we initiated to reach the chronically homeless.

Last year alone, the county's Housing Opportunities Support Teams helped prevent nearly 900 people from becoming homeless. These efforts keep families off the street and they are cost-effective. At the federal level, I've sponsored legislation in the U.S. of Representatives to replicate the Fairfax County model with the aim of preventing homelessness for all Americans.

Even in a region as fortunate as Northern Virginia, which has weathered the recession better than most metropolitan areas, there continue to be tremendous needs. I wish I could bring some of my colleagues from Congress to Fairfax to witness the value of these investments firsthand. As you know, we are in the midst of an important national debate about how much the federal government ought to be supporting such community efforts. There are some in Congress, who have proposed eliminating funding for a program that provides assistance to homeless veterans. I have fought this proposal on the House floor and will continue to do so because our veterans deserve better.

As we learned in Fairfax, government alone cannot solve the problem, but it can play a critical role in convening the private sector, non-profits, educators and other community partners to address the serious challenges we face. And as the recent data on homelessness shows, those efforts are making real progress and benefiting our entire community.

Gerald E. Connolly represents the 11th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives and served 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including five as chairman.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Chief Justice Remembered

To the Editor:

Recently, I attended the last meeting of the Commission on Mental Health Law Reform. I was filled with mixed emotions: pride in all we had accomplished, disappointment that the Commission was ending when there is still so much to do, and deep grief that the courageous man who created it has died so young.

Since 2006 the Commission has been meeting regularly and making major changes in how we treat persons with mental illness who come in contact with the law. Every branch of state government has been deeply involved. We changed the whole system for the better.

The Commission was the idea of Virginia Chief Justice Leroy Hassell. He was outraged by how poorly the legal system responded to mentally ill persons. Shackling was not uncommon and many conditions in the jails and prisons seemed barbaric to him. The sys-

tems that dealt with mental health were disjointed and severely underfunded. Far too many people were in front of judges mainly because they were not receiving needed treatment.

Justice Hassell and I were allies in this endeavor from the beginning. He came to my home in 2005 and we strategized how to address the issues. He knew that there would be those who said the courts had no business involving themselves and that he was overstepping his authority. I knew that without all branches of government working together there would be no real progress and encouraged him to proceed.

As expected, many legislators attacked the Commission idea and Justice Hassell personally. He refused to yield and put the whole weight of the court system behind it. We began deliberations with extensive work groups. Everything from civil commitment procedures to transporting persons with mental illness to treatment

delivery was under review. Recommendations for improvements were hammered out.

And, then, the terrible tragedy of Virginia Tech happened. Overnight, the work we had been doing so quietly was suddenly viewed as very important. We increased the pace of our efforts.

Over the next three years we totally overhauled the system. I am very proud to have been the chief Senate patron of almost all the legislation that the Commission wrote. Virtually all the bills passed. Had the economy not deteriorated, I believe we would have been able to make significant investments in our system. Unfor-

tunately, those investments have not happened.

Over a year ago it became obvious that the Chief Justice was very ill. He continued his support for our work despite his illness. I know he took pride in the accomplishments of his Commission. Tragically he died before our job was finished.

I remain committed to improving how Virginia treats persons with mental illness. But it will be more difficult without the leadership and friendship of Chief Justice Leroy Hassell.

Sen. Janet Howell  
(D-32)

### Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors. Send to:

Letters to the Editor • The Connection  
1606 King St., Alexandria VA 22314  
Call: 703-778-9410.

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# NEWS

## Thanksgiving in July at St. Dunstan's

SHARE, the non-profit, non-sectarian relief group based in McLean, finds the summer months to be the most challenging of the year for keeping food available for the needy in the area. Under the leadership of Outreach Committee members, pictured from left to right Rev. Anna Scherer, Joan Morton, Pat Moore and Elizabeth Lee, St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Rd., McLean stepped up and ran a Thanksgiving in July food drive that resulted in several hundred pounds of food, as well as cash donations, for SHARE.



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## CRIME REPORT

Activities reported by the McLean police department through Aug. 12.

### GRAND LARCENY

**Police arrested a man for stealing a woman's phone** in the 8000 block of Tysons Corner Center, around 5 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 4. An 18-year-old male of the 3700 block of South George Mason Drive in Falls Church, was charged with grand larceny and possession of stolen property with the intent to sell. The victim was not injured.

### LARCENIES

**9400 block of Blake Lane.** Keys

stolen from business.

**1900 block of Chain Bridge Road.**

Purse stolen from business.

**1900 block of Chain Bridge Road.**

Purse stolen from business.

**1900 block of Chain Bridge Road.**

Credit card stolen from business.

**1500 block of Forest Villa Lane.**

Pearl necklaces stolen from residence.

**1900 block of Gallows Road.**

Laptop computer and computer bag stolen from vehicle.

**6600 block of Old Dominion Drive.**

Bicycle stolen from vehicle.

**7600 block of Savannah St.** Bicycle

stolen from residence.

**7900 block of Tysons Corner Center.**

Shoes stolen from business.

### VEHICLE THEFTS

**8900 block of Leesburg Pike.**

Toyota Camry.

Activities reported by the Fair Oaks police department through Aug. 12.

### LARCENIES

**2700 block of Hatmark St.**

Laptop computer, video game system and pellet gun stolen from residence.

### VEHICLE THEFTS

**4600 block of Cambryar St.**

1998 GMC.



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Kate Lyn Broom, 11th grader at McLean High School, and Marc Rosen of Bethesda, having fun with an improv game.



Jeanne Harrison, Director of the Traveling Players Ensemble, is presented with flowers after the summer festival; this summer's last performance for most of the campers. "I love the children," she said of the campers. "I will miss them."

# Theater in the Great Outdoors

BY LORI BAKER  
THE CONNECTION

It's hard to say what's most remarkable about the Traveling Players Ensemble program. First-time visitors may notice signs of the previous night's campout — small piles of backpacks and rolled up tents, flattened-out grass and smoothed-over campsites. Or perhaps it's the small groups of middle- and high-school campers spread about the campus, practicing lines and cracking each other up with their improv interpretations that makes it special.

But above all, the one thing that stands out is the confidence and contentment in every one of the campers, qualities that do not come naturally to teens and preteens. In fact, this was one of the reasons that Jeanne Harrison, Producing Artistic Director of the Traveling Players Ensemble, founded the program nine years ago.

Harrison is a self-described camper who loves the outdoors. She is a dramatic arts professional who has taught at numerous colleges, and high schools. She has also taught at the Folger Shakespeare Library, Interlochen, and in DC public schools. The Traveling Players Ensemble is the product of her two passions: theater and the outdoors.

"Bringing the kids outdoors allows us the opportunity to teach them very black and white skills, packing, camping, setting up tents...If you teach them those skills you give them confidence," Harrison said. "If you give them confidence, you can attack things more boldly."

"It's a unique theater experience unlike any other," said fourth year camper and rising 9th grader at Langley High



PHOTOS BY LORI BAKER/THE CONNECTION

School, Christopher Baughman. Baughman has been involved in theater for nine years, and is currently working on his 10th play. "The camp has incredibly good theater instruction," he said. "All the counselors help one-on-one with character and physicalization."

**THE CAMP**, based at the Madeira School, is a drama camp for rising 6th through 12th graders who love the outdoors. Throughout the summer, the 100-or-so children who attend one of the camp sessions, are broken into various groups or ensembles, and learn from experienced professionals. The Traveling Players Ensemble is a nonprofit organization that relies solely on grants, contributions and registration fees for its operations.

The training is serious, but the mood is fun. Harrison hires only professional directors and designers. And she calls it the "most challenging program in the D.C. area." Students learn a lot with the 1-to-4 instructor-to-student ratio.

McLean High School junior, Kate Lyn Broom, has been acting for several years. She has performed in other shows. But it's the outdoor

McLean resident Christopher Baughman (bottom left) takes a break with other members of his ensemble group. From left - from top: Ryan Fields, Jeremy Pryzbys, Christian Osbourne, Christopher Baughman, Justin Smilan, and Patrick Joy.

Harrison explained that historically a lot of theater happened around campfires, in the "cloak of darkness. It's a place in which people tell stories in safety."

Sometimes the children camp off-site, when the performance takes place farther from the school. They have performed at Shenandoah National Park, Douthat State Park, and Lime Kiln Theater in Lexington, Va., just to name a few. They have performed at Colonial Williamsburg, and have also performed at a Retirement Home, South Gate community Center in Reston, and Children's Inn at NIH.

Tess McCabe, a junior at Bishop Ireton in Alexandria talked about sliding down a natural rock waterfall the day before. "The people and things you do are very special here."

**THE MID-AUGUST** summer festival marked the last day of camp for most of the children. The ensemble groups performed three classical comic plays; Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors," Flaminio Scala's "The Tragic Events," and Moliere's "Sganarelle." The children were well-prepared for the plays, and the performances were enjoyed by the audience and the campers themselves. "It's a really great time," said Christopher Baughman. "There's always some fun to be had."

Tonya and Edwin Fields, parents of George Mason High School 10th-grader, Ryan Fields, along with Ryan's sister Shelby, were watching the end-of-summer performance. Tonya felt sure that Ryan would return to the camp next year. "His favorite thing about the program is the people," Tonya said. "I've seen him grow as a result of this camp."

## ENTERTAINMENT

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

### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 17

**Chris Botti.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. American jazz trumpeter. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### THURSDAY/AUG. 18

**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. Wild Swans by Jung Chang. Adults. 703-242-4020.

**Lighters and Matches are Tools for Grownups Only.** 2 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. A puppet show presented by the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. Participants will each receive a helmet, activity book and parent brochure. Ages 3 1/2-7 with adult. 703-790-8088.

**Paul Anka.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Singer/songwriter. \$48 in-house, \$25 lawn. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### FRIDAY/AUG. 19

**Jammin' Java's Mid-Atlantic Band Battle 5: Finals.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**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.

**Writing Group.** 11 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Freewriting. 703-790-8088.

**Gipsy Kings.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Flamenco guitarists and singers from the Reyes and Ballardo families. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### SATURDAY/AUG. 20

**DC Fest with Michael W. Smith and Steven Curtis Chapman.** 3 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Also with Kutless, Big Daddy Weave, Matthew West, Sidewalk Prophets and Jonny Diaz. Tickets \$15-\$99, available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and 703-573-SEAT. [www.patriotcenter.com](http://www.patriotcenter.com).

**The Grandsons.** 5 p.m. Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

**Big O and Dukes Live.** 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice. 703-293-6227.

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Horticultural tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.

**Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Masters Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative Extension answer your

gardening questions. Adults. 703-790-8088.

**Summer Movies at the Library!** 1 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Call for title. Ages 16 and up. 703-790-8088.

**Gipsy Kings.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Flamenco guitarists and singers from the Reyes and Ballardo families. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

### SUNDAY/AUG. 21

**American Legion Auxiliary Unit 180 Breakfast Buffet.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. 330 Center St. N., Vienna. Adults \$7, children \$3. Omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon and more. Open to the public. 703-625-5736.

**Colonial Tobacco Harvest.** 1-4 p.m. Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Help the Colonial Farm Family clean the leaves, and watch how they cut and split the stems. Help gather the cut plants and hang them on tobacco sticks to cure. \$3 adults, \$2 children and senior citizens. Complimentary admission with Farm membership. Free parking. Weather permitting. [www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org).

### MONDAY/AUG. 22

**Game On Afternoon Edition.** 3:30 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Test your prowess at our Wii Mario Kart or Wii Super Smashbros. Brawl Tournament. Age 6-16.

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

### TUESDAY/AUG. 23

**English Conversation Group.** 7 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-293-6227.

**One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 2 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Adults. 703-242-4020.

**Conversations with the Director.** 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Meet Sam Clay, Director of Fairfax County Public Library, and share your view of what the future should hold for our library system. Adults. 703-242-4020.

**Personalized Internet Training.** 2:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. A 45-minute training session with a technology volunteer. Call for appointment. Adults. 703-790-8088.

**Practice Your English.** 6:30 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Conversation group for adults learning English. 703-790-8088.

### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 24

**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.

**Summer Party.** 2 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Celebrate the end of the Summer Reading Program. Bring a t-shirt to decorate and enjoy refreshments. All ages. 703-790-8088.

### THURSDAY/AUG. 25

**An Evening with The Greencards.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Patrick Henry Book Club.** 1 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. "Alphabet Juice" by Roy



Gipsy Kings perform at the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna, on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 19-20, 8 p.m. Flamenco guitarists and singers from the Reyes and Ballardo families. \$42 in-house, \$25 lawn. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

Blount, Jr. Adults. 703-938-0405.

**Portrait Painting Demonstration.** 7 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Jonathan Linton will select one of the audience to be his model. Free. 703-319-3971 or [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

### FRIDAY/AUG. 26

**Movies in the Park.** 8:45 p.m. Glyndon Park, 300 Glyndon St. N.E., Vienna. Call for film and weather information. Free admission, bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating. 703-255-7842.

**Joe Pernice.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**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.

**Writing Group.** 11 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Freewriting. 703-790-8088.

### SATURDAY/AUG. 27

**149th Anniversary of Second Manassas.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Manassas National Battlefield Park, 6511 Sudley Road, Manassas. Special ranger tours of the battlefield, military demonstrations of musketry and artillery firing, cavalry demonstrations of maneuver and carbine firing, and music mark this anniversary event at Brawner Farm and various locations throughout the park. "Manassas's Own" Artillery (representing Confederate battery) and infantry troops will portray Union and Confederate soldiers. 703-361-1339.

**The Military Bugle during the Civil War and the Origin of the Call 'Taps'.** 2 p.m. Historic Blenheim Estate, Address: 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. The trumpet became a symbol for mounted rifles in the early nineteenth century, and the bugle as a symbol for infantry during the Civil War. The field music of fife, drummers and buglers was necessary for telling the time of duties in camp and guiding the actions of

troops in battle. By the end of the war the bugle had replaced the fife and drum as the primary signaling instrument in the United States military. Jar Villanueva will demonstrate many of the bugle calls and explain their usage during the war, and discuss the origin of the call, performance practices and more. 703-591-0560.

**Billy T's Time Machine.** 5 p.m. Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Ave., McLean. Free. 703-288-9505.

**Ben Tufts and Friends: Craig Tufts Memorial Fundraiser.** 4 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**The Pietasters and The Thrilltones.** 9:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice. 703-293-6227.

**Microsoft Excel.** 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Introduction to creating spreadsheets with Microsoft Excel. Adults. 703-293-6227.

**Neighborhood Plant Clinic.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Horticultural tips and strategies. 703-242-4020.

### SUNDAY/AUG. 28

**149th Anniversary of Second Manassas.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Manassas National Battlefield Park, 6511 Sudley Road, Manassas. Special ranger tours of the battlefield, military demonstrations of musketry and artillery firing, cavalry demonstrations of maneuver and carbine firing, and music mark this anniversary event at Brawner Farm and various locations throughout the park. "Manassas's Own" Artillery (representing Confederate battery) and infantry troops will portray Union and Confederate soldiers. 703-361-1339.

**Hot August Night: A Tribute to Neil Diamond.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. With Jammin' Java's Songwriters Circle featuring Shane Hines, Todd Wright, Anthony Fiaco and Luke Brindley. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

**McLean Community Center Governing Board**

**Finance Committee of the Whole Meeting and Public Hearing on FY2013 Budget**  
(July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013)  
**Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Center**

Residents who wish to speak at the Public Hearing are asked to call 703-790-0123, TTY: 711, to be placed on the speakers' list. Copies of the draft budget proposal will be available during the committee meeting and public hearing.

Written comments may be delivered to the Center's address shown below, marked "Attention: Executive Director," or sent by email to [2013budget@mcleancenter.org](mailto:2013budget@mcleancenter.org). Written comments must be received prior to the Governing Board meeting, which starts at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 27.

**The McLean Community Center**  
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101  
703-790-0123/TTY: 711  
[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)



**Clockwise from back, Vanya Barrer, seventh grader of Cooper Middle School; Takehiro Mochizuku, seventh grader of Longfellow; Bryan Bedell, sixth grader of Spring Hill Elementary; and Bradley Kim, sixth grader of Spring Hill Elementary prepare to play one of their concert pieces.**



PHOTOS BY LORI BAKER

## ‘Messy Monday’ at McLean Strings Camp

BY LORI BAKER  
THE CONNECTION

It's not often that an audience sees a monster playing classical music. But for those who are part of the Music masters Summer Strings Camp, it's a normal part of the program.

“Messy Monday” is one of the themes for the 10-day string orchestra camp. The camp, directed by Ruth Donahue, is a fun way for students with at least one year of experience to learn many different types of music. They learn everything from classical to rock. On “Messy Mondays,” they dress in crazy costumes and make-up to rehearse.

Donahue has been running the camp for 30 years. This year's camp had 49 campers. Donahue enjoys the camp as much as the students do. “One of the joys of teaching kids this age is everything is exciting to them,” she said.

Sixth grade violinist Sarah Champness enjoys the music and the other camp activities. “I love the kickball games. That's my favorite part,” she said.

Though having fun in their monster costumes and silly get-ups, they were busily preparing for their final concert, which would be held the next night. The students' sense of pride is as buoyant as that of the camp director. And it is a well-earned pride. “They are all enthusiastic,” said Donahue. “It makes them better players. They are learning music at harder levels. It a challenge for the kids.”

**Fifth grader Kendall Smith of Kent Gardens Elementary school waits for her cue to play. The campers enjoy the ‘Messy Monday’ theme, which gives them a chance to wear crazy costumes and accessories.**



**Violinists Karina Atkins, sixth grader from Westbriar Elementary and Anna Nguyen, fifth grader of Spring Hill Elementary, have learned new pieces in the Summer Strings Camp.**



**James Shen and Delaney Bond, both fifth graders from Spring Hill Elementary, concentrate on a challenging piece. Behind them are violinists Terry Keffer, Bryan Zhao and Griffin Hover.**

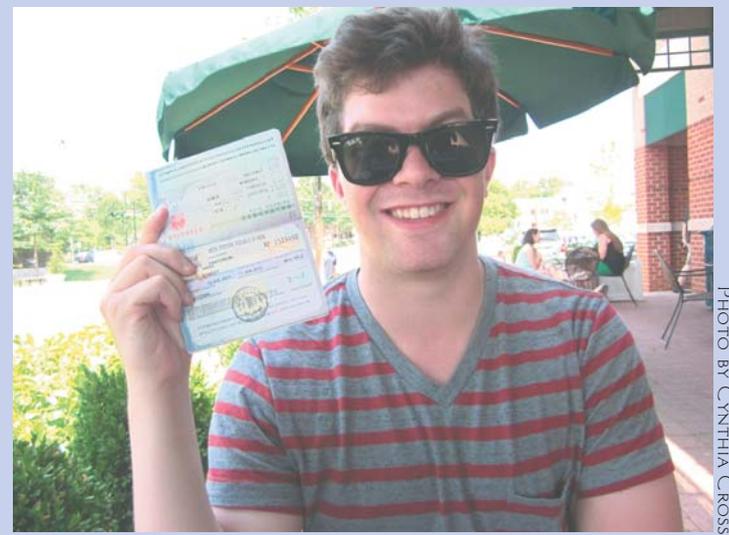


PHOTO BY CYNTHIA CROSS

**Samuel Faktorow will visit 14 countries in 111 days, beginning in Morocco and including Ghana, South Africa, Mauritius, India, Malaysia, Vietnam, China, Japan, Costa Rica and Cuba.**

## Local Student Prepares For Semester at Sea

BY CYNTHIA CROSS  
THE CONNECTION

For most area college students, the first stop on campus this fall will be their dorm, the college bookstore or a friend's apartment. For Samuel Faktorow, Great Falls resident and a junior at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, this semester's first stop will be a camel ride and mosque visit in Morocco. Faktorow, a 2009 graduate of Langley High School, will be circumnavigating the globe with the Institute for Shipboard Education's Semester at Sea program. Faktorow will visit 14 countries in 111 days, beginning in Morocco and including Ghana, South Africa, Mauritius, India, Malaysia, Vietnam, China, Japan, Costa Rica and Cuba.

Faktorow first heard about the Semester at Sea program from his older sister, who participated in it several years ago as a student at the University of Denver. He recalls how the journey changed her worldview. “I definitely saw a difference in my sister,” he said. “I think it elevated her sense of what it is to be part of the world rather than just this country.” Then 16 and a sophomore at Langley, he resolved to experience it himself.

Faktorow will join approximately 500 other students aboard the “MV Explorer,” a cruise ship converted into a “floating campus,” which will leave from Montreal on Aug. 26. Students will take classes aboard the ship to fulfill their semester's course requirement — including one mandatory

class titled “Global Studies” — and will venture out on excursions of their choosing at all 14 ports of call. In Morocco, for example, Faktorow plans a camel trek in Marrakesh and a visit to the massive Hassan II Mosque in Casablanca. He will stay with a family for three days in the small village of Senase, Ghana; will do a service project in a South African township; and plans to visit Robben Island, Cape Town, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned. The excursions are meant to reinforce the trip's theme of “globalization and change” by allowing students to see globalization from the perspective of each country they visit. “My understanding,” says Faktorow, “is that the ship is a place awash in thought and provocative discussion about all the things that people are seeing and experiencing. It's not like, ‘Oh we're going to Morocco one day and we're going to forget about it the next.’ There is apparently a lot of lively discussion among the students.”

The trip will include some famous tourist destinations — Faktorow expects to see the Taj Mahal and the Great Wall of China, for example — but his goal for the voyage is not sightseeing, but rather personal growth. “We as Americans have a narrow viewpoint and that's not how I want to be,” he says. “I've never been to a Muslim country.

I've never been to a Third World country. I've never seen the kind of poverty that I'm going to see in India. That's what makes you grow. That's what I hope to accomplish from this trip.”

# FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to [mclean@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:mclean@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

**Alliance Church Centre**, 12113 Vale Road in Oakton, will hold its Vacation Bible School Aug. 24-26 from 8:45 a.m.-1 p.m. The Sonsurf Beach Bash will have Bible stories, crafts, skits, games, songs, snacks and more for nursery school-6th grade. 703-264-1273 or 703-795-8801.

**The Church of the Good Shepherd**, a United Methodist church at 2351 Hunter Mill Road in Vienna, will begin its "Champions of the Faith" series on Sunday, Aug. 28, in the 10 a.m. worship service. The "Champion the Dream" event will be on the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech, the same day the Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial is to be unveiled. Wesley Theological Seminary Professor of Urban Ministry Fred D. Smith, PhD, will lead the 9 a.m. Sunday school class then deliver a sermon at 10 a.m. on the "Beloved Community," the Biblical theme adopted by the civil rights movement. [www.GoodShepherdVA.com](http://www.GoodShepherdVA.com).

**Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church**, 9201 Leesburg Pike in Vienna, has a 10 a.m. Sunday Worship Service through Sept 4. Beginning Sept. 11 Worship is 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m., and Youth Fellowship at 6 p.m. September study groups are Monday night's 'Companions in Christ', and Tuesday 10 a.m. Bible Study. Bell Choir practice is Wednesday at 7 p.m. and choir practice at 8 p.m. Call 703-759-3722 to register for

PreSchool and Mother's Day Out. 703-759-3508.

**Christ the King Lutheran Church**, 10550 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, will mark the beginning of the Sunday School year for all ages on Rally Day, Sunday Sept. 11. To celebrate, the Church will host a Rally Day BBQ on the front lawn following the 11 a.m. service. Members and visitors are invited to join in the fun, including burgers and dogs and all the fixings. [www.gflutheran.org](http://www.gflutheran.org).

**Epiphany United Methodist Church**, 1014 Country Club Drive in Vienna, will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a special worship service on Sunday, Sept. 25 at 11 a.m. [www.epiphanyumc.com](http://www.epiphanyumc.com) or 703-938-3494.

**The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA)** offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. [www.jssa.org/growth-learning](http://www.jssa.org/growth-learning).

**HAVEN of Northern Virginia** offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org) for schedules and registration information.

**McLean Bible Church Fitness Class** at Body & Soul Fitness. Balance is key, energy is renewed and strength is gained. 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. [bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org](mailto:bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org).

**Vajrayogini Buddhist Center** of

fers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or [www.meditation-dc.org](http://www.meditation-dc.org).

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

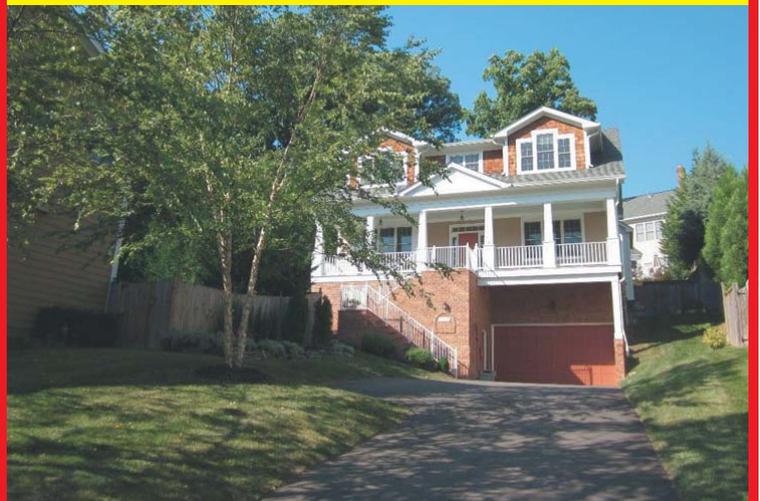
**Vienna Presbyterian Church**, 124 Park St. in Vienna, presents the 12-week program "Passages," for those experiencing separation or divorce. The DivorceCare series meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Cost of materials \$20, scholarships available. 703-938 9050 or [Passages@ViennaPres.org](mailto:Passages@ViennaPres.org).

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

**Vienna Christian Healing Rooms**, every Saturday, 1-5 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779 or [www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com](http://www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com).

**Chesterbrook United Methodist Church** is at 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Worship service is at 11 a.m. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. for adults and children. Rev. Kathleen Card, Pastor. 703-356-7100 or [www.ChesterbrookUMC.org](http://www.ChesterbrookUMC.org).

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# Sharks Make Strong Showing at World Series

**14-under girls' softball squad wins six of eight games in Orlando.**

**T**he Great Falls Sharks 14-under girls' fastpitch softball team recently returned from Orlando after playing in the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) 14U World Series. The Sharks finished 13th place overall among 65 teams from across the country, Canada and Puerto Rico.

The week-long double elimination tournament, played in temperatures ranging in the high 90s, was held at the ESPN Wide World of Sports facility in Orlando.

Great Falls finished 6-2 at the tournament, the capper to an 11-month season which started last September, continued through the winter with hitting clinics, and was followed by a 40-game season and numerous practices throughout the spring and summer.

"The girls were well prepared for the tournament," said Mike Sharkey, coach of the Sharks. "In addition to our schedule and practices, half the team played high school softball, which helped."

Of the 14 girls on the team, seven were freshmen players for their respective high school varsity teams this past spring.

**IN THE FIRST GAME** of the USSSA tournament, the Sharks defeated the Illinois Patriots, of Chicago, 10-3. Starting pitcher Emily Templin was under the weather, so the Sharks second



**The Great Falls Sharks, a 14-under girls' softball team, capped a winning spring-summer season with a successful tournament in Florida.**

pitcher, Kat Eichner, filled in for her.

Eichner tossed a one-hitter and allowed no earned runs to lead Great Falls. Batting highlights included Michaela Wheat hitting a bases-loaded triple and Katie Cynkar connecting on a two-out, two-run single.

Templin was back in action for game two, taking the mound against the Jupiter Seahawks (Florida), the top-ranked team in Great Falls' pool play division. The Sharks and Templin, who utilized her stellar fast ball, put together a strong all-around game and defeated Jupiter, 7-0.

Jupiter's biggest scoring threat came in the first inning. Following a leadoff single, a Seahawks' player sent a ball down the first base line and all the way to the right field corner.

But a well-executed relay to the

plate resulted in the lead runner being tagged out at home. Thereafter, Jupiter had just two singles off of Templin the remainder of the game.

The Sharks, meanwhile, hit the ball well throughout the game. Offensively, they were led by Katie Cynkar's (2 hits, 2 RBI) and Sarah Fadeley (2 hits). Defensively, Great Falls received steady play from shortstop Maggie Natal and second base Tatum Martinez.

The Sharks followed that win up with a 7-3 victory of the Georgia Trouble in their third game of pool play. They jumped out to a 5-0 lead and Great Falls never lost the advantage. Eichner, the Great Falls starter, pitched well to earn the win.

The Sharks' defense came through in the fifth inning. Georgia had gotten a couple runs in the fourth and one more in the fifth

to get within 7-3. The Trouble was threatening to score more in the fifth before the Great Falls infield turned a huge double play - shortstop Maggie Natal and first baseman Lindsey Turner teaming up on the twin killing to get the Sharks out of the inning.

Templin, pitching in relief, was on the mound for the sixth inning to earn the save.

**NEXT, IT WAS** on to bracket play and a meeting versus the Diamond Dolls of the Bronx, N.Y. Following a three-hour rain delay, the Sharks bats came alive and they soundly defeated the Dolls, 18-3. It was, according to coach Sharkey, Great Falls' best played game of the season.

Templin got the start on the mound and kept the Dolls off balance at the plate. The Sharks' bats, meanwhile, were red hot.

Michaela Wheat led the charge with five hits, including a triple and two doubles. Also for Great Falls, Gabi Pijaca had three hits, including a pair of doubles, and Katie Cynkar, Meg Garland, Maddie Kelly and Mel Dronfield each had two hits.

Terrific defensive plays were made by Cynkar, who made a catch on a deep fly ball to left field, and a final inning 1-6-3 infield double play.

With four wins under their belts, the Sharks next met the West Virginia Wild. Great Falls, on another hot, draining day, won again, this time by a 10-3 score. The Wild mustered up 11 hits and benefited from three Sharks' errors. Nevertheless, they still managed just the three runs.

Meanwhile, the Shark' offense continued to roll, building up an 8-1 lead after four innings. Offensively, everyone contributed for Great Falls.

Great Falls experienced its first loss of the tournament in its following game, a defeat to the Redstick .007s from Baton Rouge, La.

The Sharks, the following day, rebounded nicely with a 6-5 win in seven innings over the Brewster Rockets from New York. Later that same day, Great Falls lost to PTC Poison (Atlanta), 7-3, to wrap up their tournament.

"I am very proud of the way the girls played," said coach Sharkey. "We went 6-2 and the two teams we lost to finished 5th and 7th, respectively."

The 14-under Sharks consist of Emily Templin, Sarah Fadeley, Lindsay Turner, Tatum Martinez, Maggie Natal, Gabi Pijaca, Katie Cynkar, Melanie Dronfield, Michaela Wheat, Maddie Kelly, Julia Chirite, Katrina Eichner, Meg Garland, and Katie Studebaker.

PHOTO/COURTESY OF SHARKS

## SPORTS ROUNDUPS

**Langley's Golf Team** placed first in the team competition at ServPro Invitational at Twin Lakes (299-281=580) to win for the 2nd straight year. Chantilly placed 2nd (299-290=589). Langley also had 3 individuals in the top 5: Will Byrne won the individual medalist (71-68=139); Chris Brugge tied for 3rd (78-66=144) and Matt DiSalvo placed 5th (75-71=146). Brugge's 2nd round of 66 was the low round of the tournament.

**At the Dominion Country Club League (DCCL)** All-Star swim meet held at Westwood Country Club in Vienna two weeks ago, the following RiverBend swimmers won gold medals: Will Koeppen (50-meters free and 25-fly), Davis Riffe (25-breaststroke), Olivia McDonnell (25-breaststroke), Emma Grassi (50-breaststroke), Haley Smith (25-fly), Micaela Grassi (50-fly),

and Connor Smith (100-IM).

In addition, the following StingRays also posted top six times at All-Star finals: Ryan Bond, Carter Bennett, Jake Trautwein, Jack Hall, Thomas Youngkin, Devlin Wesolowski, Eliza Pastore, Anna Phillips, Olivia Elkas, Lauren Bell, Tommy Rogers, John Youngkin, Andrew Blankingship, Ryan Windus, Luke Bennett, Julian Villacorta, Grant Youngkin, Michael Djourup, Maggie Duff, Anna Takis, Natalie Peele, Charlotte Bell, Amanda Maruca and Delany Bond. Will Koeppen broke both a league and team record in 50-meters fly with a time of 16.25, and Micaela Grassi lowered two team records in the 50-free and 50-back events with times of 30.07 and 34.24, respectively.

**McLean Youth Soccer (MYS)** fall 2011 registration has begun on MYS' website at [www.mcleansoccer.org](http://www.mcleansoccer.org) for all returning and new

families. MYS offers various programs for children ages 4 thru 18 including Recreation, Travel, McLean Premier Soccer, Travel, U5 for Pre-K players, and TOP Soccer for children with special needs. The season will begin the week of Sept. 12 and extend thru mid-November. Please contact the MYS Club Administrator at [admin@mcleansoccer.org](mailto:admin@mcleansoccer.org) for more information or call the MYS Office at 703- 506-8068.

**The McLean Marlins** set eight new team records and two new Northern Virginia Swim League (NVSL) records at the NVSL Div. 1 Championships held two weeks ago at McLean Hamlet pool. Isabella Rongione set a team record in the 11-12 girls 50-meter butterfly with a time of 31.86, beating the previous record of 32.00 set in 1974 by Kathy McQuaid. Rongione also set a new team record in the 11-12 girls 100-Individual Medley

with a time of 1:11.86, beating the previous record of 1:13.00, also set by Kathy McQuaid in 1974.

JJ Horsfield set a new team record in the 8-under boys 25-butterfly with a time of 18.34, besting his own record set earlier in the season. In the 11-12 boys 50-breaststroke, Timothy Wu set a new team record with a time of 36.36, beating the record set last year by Henry Brooks. Stephen Seliskar set two new team records: in the 15-18 boys 50-backstroke with a time of 26.96, beating his own record set last year; and in the 15-18 boys 100-Individual Medley with a time of 1:00.28, beating his own record set last year.

Finally, Andrew Seliskar set two new team and NVSL records in the 13-14 boys 50-butterfly with a time of 26.40, and in the 13-14 boys 100-Individual Medley with a time of 1:00.29.



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Needed for child, 13, for 2011-12 school year. School pickup, homework help, drive to/from activities, light housework, Mon-Fri: 2:30-6 pm. Must have own car, citizenship, non-smoking. Salary \$18/hr. Call 703-798-3109.

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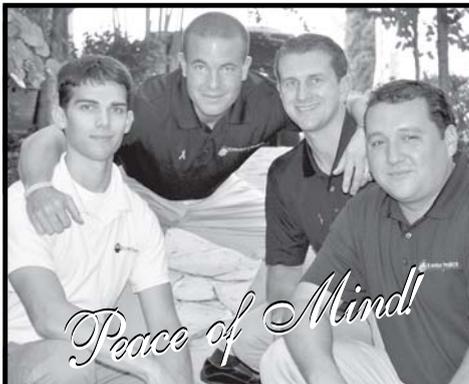
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**21 Announcements**

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## Registration Begins for MCC Fall Classes

The McLean Community Center (MCC) will open registration for its fall session classes, events and activities soon. Residents of Small District One A-Dranesville, who pay a special real estate tax to fund the Center, can begin registering on Monday, Aug. 22; all others can begin registering on Monday, Aug. 29. The Center is located at 1234 Ingleside Ave.

MCC is offering a wide range of classes for adults, teens and children this fall.

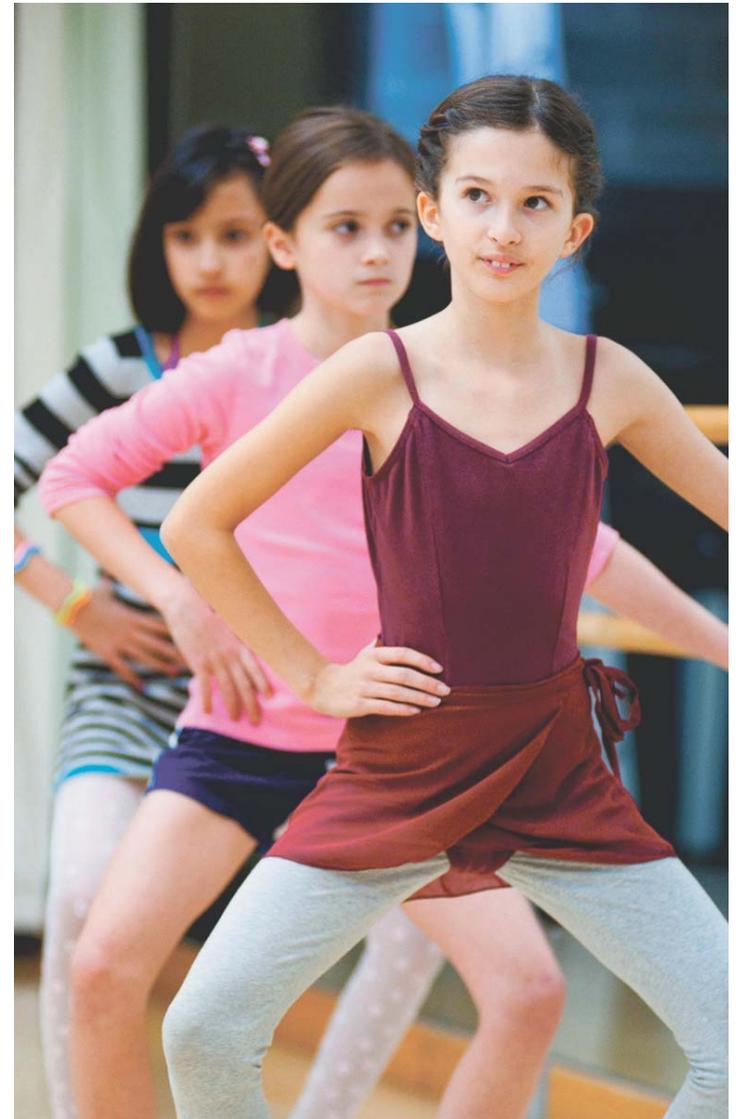
Children's classes include a new art class, Tell a Tale, in which students will learn to create picture books. Image Tomorrow computer classes are being offered at the Center for the first time. Instructors from Play, Click, Learn will lead classes structured to each child's academic and technical abilities. Outdoor Adventure fishing trips by Fish & Explore are new offerings for children as are Thimble 'n' Thread sewing classes.

The Alden Theatre is offering a new series of theatre workshops for children as well on the topics of Stage Makeup, Puppets, Juggling and How to Audition. These one-time workshops are two hours or less in length and allow children to learn a new skill without making a long-term commitment.

Teenagers who have interest in writing can take advantage of The Writer's Center Creative Writing for Teens, a new offering. Other teen classes offered this fall include Drawing: Learning from Masters, and other safety, outdoor adventure and technical theatre classes.

A new adult art class, Color in Interiors, will teach students how to prepare a cohesive color palette in their homes. Monitoring Today's Teen Technology helps adults learn about new technologies and offers advice and provides resources for monitoring teen use of these products. By popular demand, the Center has added a Zumba class on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning and a new series of enrichment classes, including Meditation for Everyone. Sing to your Baby® creators Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer are presenting a music class for new and/or expecting parents in October. In addition, The Writer's Center returns to MCC with several new classes this fall including Introduction to Poetry, Playing with Point of View and Writing about Animals.

For more information, call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY: 711. For a full listing of MCC fall classes, visit: <http://www.mcleancenter.org/classes-trips/classes.asp>.



MCC is offering a wide range of classes for adults, teens and children this fall.

## Generous Reviews

FROM PAGE 5

back on the shelf," he said. "But you have to shake that off and fight through it. Nobody's ever accused me of taking criticism well, but I learned that when people told me they didn't like something, I had to think what I could do, because they're the reader."

Barney remembers a prologue he had written in the original version of "The Genesis Key" that he felt was a crucial part of the book.

"I loved the prologue, I thought it was absolutely essential to the book, but the editor said to cut it," he said. "But as a debut author, I was so thrilled to be involved in the process that I did what they said."

Barney is currently working on a second book, which he says is "similar in theme, but different characters." He says the process for the second one is much different.

"With your debut novel you don't have many deadlines, now I've got a lot of them. But it's forcing me to write in a good way, more concisely," he said. "But now there are expectations, I want to make sure it's as good as or better than my first one."

For a first time novelist doing promotion

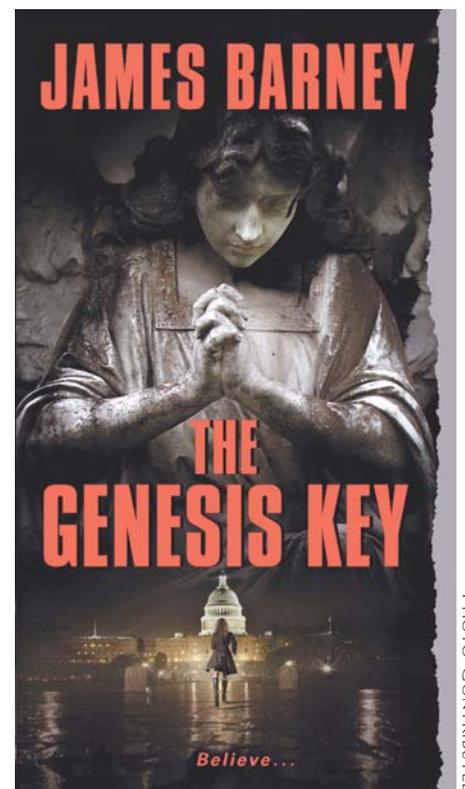
— Barney had about 14 radio interviews to do over five hours a few days ago — he says it has been more work than he thought, but in a good way. He has also participated in several literary events, where he has been featured alongside writers such as Ken Follett, R.L. Stine and Jeffrey Deaver.

**ONE OF HIS FAVORITE AUTHORS,** New York Times Bestseller Steve Berry, even reviewed his book, and was generous in praising the book.

"The Genesis Key" is a solid blend of science, myth, history and suspense. It's remarkable and unconventional, which together make for a great tale," Berry said. "There's an intense brand of storytelling here, utilizing all the elements I love. I can't wait for more from James Barney."

While Barney is hard at work on his sophomore novel, he still says is enjoying the experience of having his first novel out there. He says he gets e-mails and calls from friends all the time when they see his book.

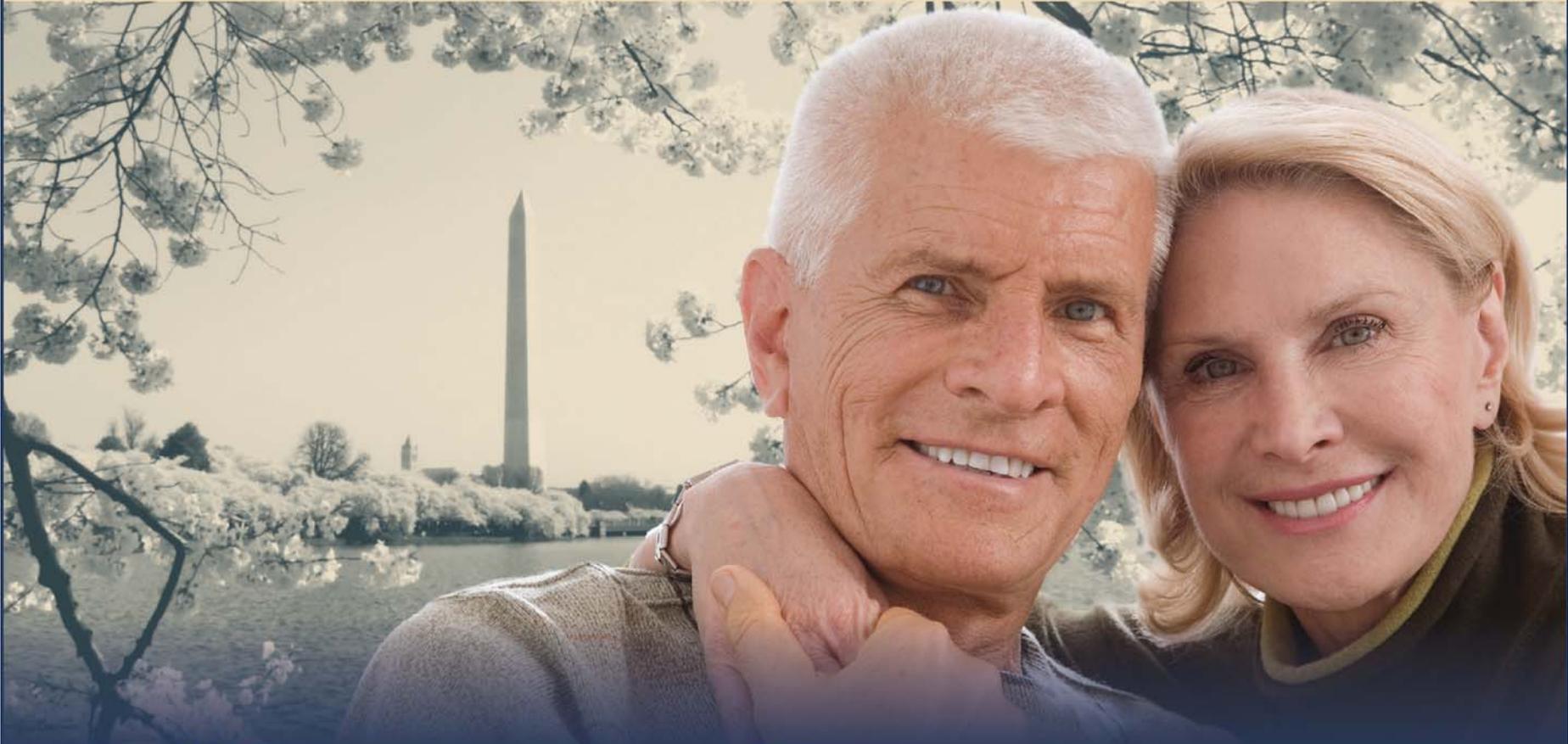
More information on Barney, including future appearances in the area, can be found at [www.jamesbarney.com](http://www.jamesbarney.com), or at [www.facebook.com/authorjamesbarney](http://www.facebook.com/authorjamesbarney).



**'The Genesis Key' is the debut novel from James Barney, a McLean resident and lawyer specializing in patent and technology law.**

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