

Fall Fun

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Observatory Park Eye on The Sky

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Children pose with the Great Falls fire truck at the annual Spooktacular event, which will take place at the Great Falls Village Centre on Oct. 31.

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FALL FUN

GREAT FALLS CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHC
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Great Fun This Fall in Great Falls

Country Fair, Spooktacular highlight Fall events.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Great Falls offers a host of activities this Fall, including several well-known annual events. St. Francis Episcopal Church will host its annual Country Fair Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will feature games and activities for children, live music, a book and clothing sale, a quilt show and more. This year's fair will also include a new and improved petting zoo.

"The petting zoo is big with families, and it will be much better this year, with more animals, including a 60-pound tortoise," said John Lowe of St. Francis. "There will also be food so visitors can feed the animals as well."

Local bands J.C. and the Hepcats, The Big Cheese will perform throughout the day. The book and children's clothing sale will go toward the churches local and international outreach programs.

More than 100 quilts will be on display as part of the quilt show, which is entering its 27th year. They are made by locals as well as national award winners. One of the quilts made by a St. Francis member will be raffled off.

Admission is free, and game tickets are 50 cents, or \$20 for an all-day wristband. More information is available at www.thecountryfair.org.

The annual Spooktacular will take place

at the Great Falls Village Centre Monday, Oct. 31, from 5-7 p.m. This year's event will be sponsored by Celebrate Great Falls.

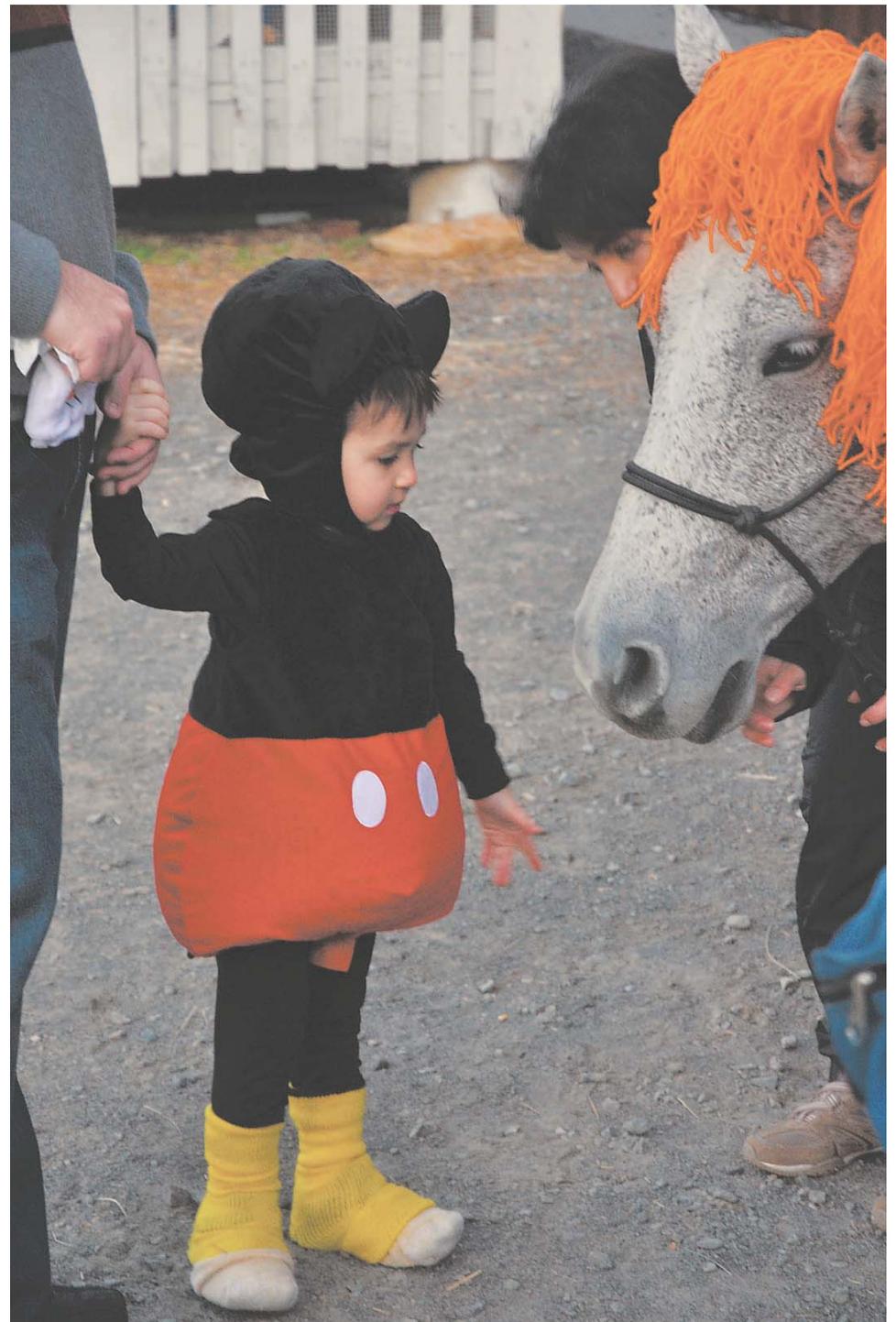
"The Spooktacular was launched over 20 years ago, by members of Great Falls Friends to provide younger children with a central, convenient place in Great Falls to have fun trick-or-treating," said Joda Coolidge of Celebrate Great Falls. "It was because of their initiative that still today we have Great Falls vendors offering candy around the Village Green as well as the Safeway shopping center at the corner of Georgetown Pike and Walker Road."

Hamburgers, hot dogs and popcorn will be for sale, and Hill Signature Portraits will have a booth taking photos of children and families.

"In a place like Great Falls, it's not really practical to walk around a neighborhood getting candy from house after house, we'd end up walking 10 miles," said Ed Eaglen of Great Falls. "That's why it's great to have an event like the Spooktacular, to give the kids a chance to do some good old-fashioned trick-or-treating with all their friends."

Part of the Village Green will be dedicated to the annual Haunted House, put on by the Great Falls Newcomers and Woman's Club. Last year was its debut from the Newcomer's Club, and since then, the two organizations have merged.

More information on the Spooktacular can be found at www.celebrategreatfalls.org.



Geordi Pimentel, 9, lines up his shot on the giant slingshot at the St. Francis Country Fair. This year's fair will take place Oct. 1 at St. Francis Episcopal Church in McLean.



Haunter Lauren Abraham, 14, attempts to scare Hunter Borchering, 7 and Bob Sampson in the Great Falls Newcomers Club's Haunted House. This year, the Great Falls Newcomers and Woman's Club have teamed up to put on the haunted house at the Great Falls Spooktacular.

Fall Events in Great Falls

- ❖ **Oct. 1:** "Rock and Roll in the Hay" Barn Dance and Dinner, 964 Walker Road, 7 to 11 p.m. Western Electric and Benny Potter will play, dinner and soft drinks included. There will also be a raffle and auction to benefit the Great Falls Optimist Club. The cost is \$60 per person.
- ❖ **Oct. 8:** Showing of "Shenandoah" and "Friendly Persuasion," on the Great Falls Village Green, 7 p.m. The former is a story of the Civil War told from a Virginia farming family's perspective, the latter a story of Civil War from the perspective of an Indiana Quaker family. Part of the Great Falls Historical Society's Civil War Film Festival.
- ❖ **Oct. 15:** Showing of "Glory" and "Red Badge of Courage," Great Falls Village Green, 7 p.m. "Glory" is the story of the first African American soldier regiment, and "The Red Badge of Courage" is told from the perspective of a young soldier. Part of the Great Falls Historical Society's Civil War Film Festival.
- ❖ **Oct. 16:** Eighth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tour the studios of a number of Great Falls artists and browse art for sale. For more information, visit www.greatfallsstudios.com.
- ❖ **Oct. 22:** Showing of "Gettysburg," Great Falls Village Green, 7 p.m. A film about the decisive battle in the Civil War from both Union and Confederate perspectives. Part of the Great Falls Historical Society's Civil War Film Festival.
- ❖ **Nov. 11:** Veterans Day Ceremony, Great Falls Freedom Memorial, 11 a.m. Great Falls' annual recognition of Veterans Day.

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NEWS

Making Their Own Rules

Village Green Day School Students celebrate Constitution Day.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Students at the Village Green Day School in Great Falls conducted their annual Constitution Day on Friday, Sept. 23. As the first assembly of the year for the students, ages 2 through 6, they came up with “amendments” for their own classroom.

This is the fifth year the school has put on the event, which is part of its Cultural Literacy program.

“Each class makes its own ‘classroom constitution’ and promise to abide by the rules they set up,” said Paula Shapiro, director of curriculum for the school. “It’s become quite the tradition here, and one we plan on continuing.”

The students paraded into the assembly room and many classes added their own patriotic twist to the proceedings. Some fashioned Uncle Sam hats from



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Students from the Panda class at the Village Green Day School take part in the school’s annual Constitution Day.

paper, some carried in homemade flags and the Panda class even spelled out “Respect” on posterboards they wore.

After the students said the Village Green Day School promise, the adults responded by reciting the preamble of the Constitution to the students.

Amendments the students wrote included such things as “we say please and thank you,” “no talking when the teacher is talking” and “keep Tae Kwon Do in the studio.”



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Kala Leggett Quintana, member-at-large of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board; Sachin Muralidhar, student at Great Falls Elementary School and Sidharth Muralidhar, Colvin Run Elementary School; Del. Barbara Comstock (R-34); William Bouie, chairman, FCPA Board (Hunter Mill); Charles Olin, president, Analemma Society; Jacque Olin; Fairfax County Board Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville); Mary Blessing, planetarium director, Herndon High School; and School Board Chairman Janie Strauss (Dranesville).

Promoting Science Through Astronomy

Astronomy program at Herndon, Thomas Jefferson high schools to work with Analemma Society on automated, remote access to new Observatory Park telescope.

BY JEAN T. JIANOS
THE CONNECTION

Mary Blessing has worked with scientists during research flights aboard NASA's Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA), "the largest airborne observatory in the world," according to SOFIA's website.

To qualify for SOFIA's Airborne Astronomy Ambassadors program, Blessing had to explain how she planned to use her SOFIA training and flight experience. Her selection for the program was an acknowledgment of what she has successfully been able to do as planetarium director and teacher of astronomy at Herndon High School — bring the excitement of scientific research in to the classroom and to the wider community.

On Saturday morning, Sept. 24, Blessing was one of the featured speakers at the Observatory Building ribbon cutting ceremony at Observatory Park, Turner Farm, Great Falls, the Fairfax County Park Authority's only observatory. The Park Authority recently completed Phase I of a multi-phase improvement plan for Observatory Park by replacing the observatory dome and automating it for future remote access.

The nonprofit Analemma Society has worked with the Park Authority on the improvement and operation of Observatory Park from the time the park was established. As part of Phase I, Analemma donated

the observatory telescope, telescope mount, related equipment and technical expertise. As explained by Jacque Olin, Analemma Society member and Great Falls resident, fund raising is currently underway for Phase II, bringing computer systems on line that will enable astronomy students at Fairfax County Public Schools, and other users county-wide, to configure remote access control of the Observatory dome, telescope and digital imaging, from their classroom or other remote location, according to their research needs. "We are going to need continued support to complete this remote access in our schools," Olin said.

Blessing and her astronomy students at Herndon High School, together with Thomas Jefferson High School planetarium teacher Lee Ann Henning and students in the Thomas Jefferson Senior Research Astronomy Tech Lab, will be working on the year-long, remote access pilot program.

Herndon High School astronomy students also lead sky tours of the constellations on stargazing evenings when Observatory Park is open to the public. Members of the Analemma Society and the Northern Virginia Astronomy Club share their telescopes and their expertise. Blessing anticipates that those family nights will resume on Fridays in October.

Charles Olin, president of the Analemma Society, formed in 1998, gave a talk at Herndon High School in the early years of the society to further its stated mission, "to develop awareness, appreciation and understanding of science through astronomy."

When, a few years later, Blessing was looking to extend the learning experience of her astronomy students beyond her classroom, the Analemma Society and the Fairfax County Park Authority gave them that opportunity through the newly established Observatory Park. "It has been great for not only the school system, but the public in Northern Virginia," Blessing said at the ribbon cutting ceremony.

As the final speaker of the morning, Charles Olin expressed the belief that Observatory Park would continue to give students. "Some idea and appreciation for how science works, and for the joy and endeavor that is required in science, to know that you can learn yourself without looking it up in books," he said.



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FALL FUN



Great Falls oil painter Hwa Crawford interprets the Virginia countryside in her paintings. This one is called 'Haystacks II.' Crawford is one of 48 local artists participating in the Great Falls Studios Tour, Oct. 15 and 16.

DONATED PHOTO

Great Falls on Canvas

Artist Hwa Crawford gears up for Great Falls Studio tour.

As the annual art event approaches, local painter HWA Crawford fends off a venomous spider to create landscapes.

Like Spider-Man, the superhero who was bequeathed with supernatural powers when he was bitten by a radioactive spider, painter Hwa Crawford is racing at superhuman speed these days, in her case, to turn out exquisite landscapes for the upcoming Eighth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour and for other art exhibitions. Only the spider that bit her was not radioactive.

Crawford, a plein air, or outdoor, artist was painting in the Virginia countryside last June on a new landscape when she was nibbled by what doctors think was a venomous arachnid. This unexpected spider interaction sent her to the emergency room, a hospital stay and a long recovery.

Now, like four dozen other artists in Great Falls, she is creating like crazy. She just has to work a little harder to make up for lost time as the Studio Tour approaches on Oct. 15 and 16.

The Tour is a free annual arts event that has catapulted Great Falls into the forefront of the visual arts scene in Northern Virginia. Visitors come from around the region to visit the studios of artists who live here and who create in workplaces scattered across the community. In all, the arts groups Great Falls Studios has 101 members, and this year 48 are taking part in the Tour. Many are painters, like Crawford, but the group also includes potters, jewelry makers, sculptors, quilters, photographers and others working in many different mediums.

To gear up for the Tour means sprucing up studios. But most importantly, it also means building an inventory of artistic works. In Crawford's case, that translates to creating landscapes, which are her specialty. Although she still hasn't recovered

completely from the spider bite, she estimates she has finished some 30 oil paintings recently. Each captures some aspect of rural Virginia, including scenes in Great Falls.

Crawford came to the United States from South Korea shortly after earning a college degree in public accounting. At the time, she didn't speak a word of English. Now she has impeccable command of the English language and its odd idioms. A Great Falls resident for 15 years, she also has a full-time career working for an intellectual property firm, and a family with two sons. Family comes first in this juggling act, but the urge to paint is overwhelming.

"Painting is an addiction, albeit a healthy one," she said.

And Crawford gets into it big time. Her husband is a gifted musician, as are her sons. She watches them move and bob to their music, a technique she has adopted as a painter. "Everything I see, every shape I create, I'm moving with my body, hips and head, as if creating music, at least emotionally," she said.

Crawford needs inventory not just for the studio tour but for two other ongoing exhibitions. Her work is on display from Oct. 1 to 16 at Art At The Mill, an artists' venue at Millwood, Va., where appreciators of rural Virginia are buying her landscapes. Her paintings are also on exhibit at Barrel Oak Fine Art Gallery & Tasting Room. She has a reception on Nov. 5, from 5-8 p.m., at the display venue in Middleburg, Va., which is associated with a large winery. The gallery is at 8 East Washington St.

For those interested in meeting Crawford and seeing her work during the Great Falls Studio Tour, she's at venue #24. This is the Artists' Atelier, a group studio, where 16 artists, mostly painters, work in a loft space. Crawford, one of the Atelier's resident artists, will be giving landscape-painting demonstrations during the event.

To find out about more about the Great Falls Studios Tour and the location of 28 other venues, many in unusual properties throughout Great Falls, visit www.GreatFallsStudios.com.

LETTERS

Supporting Strauss

To the Editor:

I'm writing on behalf of my mom, Janie Strauss, who is running for re-election for the Dranesville District seat for the Fairfax County School Board this Nov. 8.

There is not a time that I can remember that did not include my mom fighting to make schools better. My mom has been the Dranesville District School Board member since 1996 and is now the current standing chairman for the second time. I watch her in admiration as she spends countless hours every day answering e-mails, taking phone calls, meeting with parents, teachers and students alike. Her experience as a parent, as an educator, as a school Board member and her undeniable compassion and consideration is why she has held this seat for so long. And somehow she still finds time to also be the Board Chair at The Country Day School, a private preschool in McLean, where she supports and leads the very best in early childhood education. My mom is also the International Chair for the Cappies, a high school theater and journalism program, in which she attends high school plays and musicals every weekend during the school year throughout the Washington, D.C., metro area and mentors student critics.

Her dedication and passion for the betterment of our community is not reserved only to schools either. I remember in 2005 watching the news when Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast and left thousands of people homeless. Within a few hours my mom was on the phone trying to figure out how she could help. The next day she met with the leaders of Fairfax County, dozens of organizations, private businesses and any and all families that wanted to help. Together they created Fairfax Families Care to assist those affected by Hurricane Katrina. Hundreds of people attended Katrina Aid, a benefit concert put on by students and alumni from all over Fairfax County. All the money raised went to Hurricane Katrina victims who were displaced to our area. The countless hours she dedicated to selflessly organize a way to bring our community together when another community needed our help is immeasurable.

Please visit her website for more: www.janiestrauss.com.

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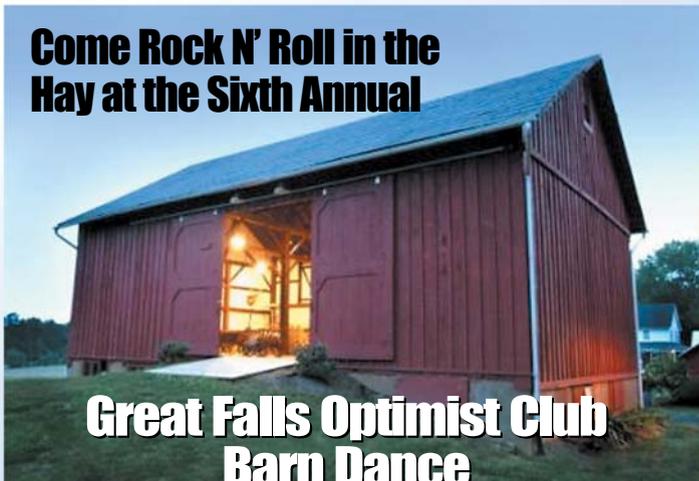
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Overabundance

If you've lived almost anywhere in Northern Virginia for 10 years or longer, you probably remember when it was a bit of a thrill to catch sight of a deer.

Now in some neighborhoods, it can be a bit surprising if you don't see half a dozen deer in a mile at dusk. With the automobile the only active predator, and a remarkable 24-hour buffet set on nearly every block, the deer population is growing. Along with the growing deer population come serious impacts on people, as well as the deer and other plants and creatures.

If you drive in suburban Washington, chances are you know someone who has hit a deer, or had a deer hit them while driving. This has proved to be fatal for the driver in a small number of cases, but nearly always results in death or serious injury for the deer, plus often thousands of dollars in damage to the vehicle.

Lyme disease is an increasing problem, which can have serious health consequences if untreated. Lyme disease is often overlooked as a diagnosis.

The large deer population is hard on other flora and fauna. Not only do the deer consume vegetable gardens and landscaping, they damage habitat needed by other wildlife and impact native plants and young trees.

But even as we admit that something needs to be done about the deer population, it's difficult for many to embrace hunting in urban/suburban areas. Some residents have safety concerns, some are concerned about the suffering of the deer.

EDITORIAL

Last year, Fairfax County's archery program killed 452 deer in 11 county parks, more than half the 815 deer killed through the county's deer management program on parkland. Last year marked the most deer killed since the deer management program began in 1998. Sharpshooting operations, conducted at 15 parks by Fairfax County police, killed another 226 deer. Managed hunts killed 137 deer at four parks.

Bow hunting allowed on private property is also part of county efforts to keep the deer population in check. With the deer population likely more than 25,000, it's not clear that such numbers will make enough of an impact.

Fairfax County will again use bow hunting, sharp shooting and managed hunts from now through March 2012 in efforts to control the population of deer. The sharpshooting and managed hunts will be conducted at selected park sites throughout the county.

Bow hunting began last weekend and will run until February in parks in every part of Fairfax County: Lake Accotink and Accotink Stream Valley park in Springfield; Wakefield Park in Annandale, Eakin Park in Fairfax, Laurel Hill Park and golf course in Lorton, Pohick Stream Valley, South Run Stream Valley and Lake Mercer in Springfield; Burke Lake Park in Fairfax Station, Confederate Fortifications Historic Site and Johnny Moore Stream Valley Park near Clifton; Eleanor C. Lawrence Park and Cub Run Stream Valley Park in Chantilly;

Adapting suburban, urban sensibilities to controlling deer; adapting deer control to suburban, urban sensibilities.

Sully Woodlands Park and Sully Historic Site; Colvin Run Stream Valley and Difficult Run Stream Valley parks, along with Riverbend Park in Great Falls; Difficult Run Stream Valley and Clark's Crossing parks in Vienna; Sugarland Run Stream Valley park in Herndon, and Huntley Meadows in Mount Vernon. Bow hunting is also used at Fort Belvoir, Mason Neck, and on private property. It is a continuous program with bow hunting allowed six days a week from just before dawn until sunset.

Managed hunts will go forward in two county park authority parks, Sully Woodlands on Nov. 17 and Jan. 12, and Scotts Run Dec. 14-16.

More research is needed. U.S. Rep. Frank Wolf (R) sponsored legislation that would direct more funding to develop a better test for Lyme disease. There are methods under study to apply some insecticide to deer to kill the ticks that spread Lyme disease. Some breakthrough method of curbing reproduction would be a welcome addition to deer management.

What are your thoughts? Have you seen bow hunters in the parks you frequent? Do you have an anecdote to relate about deer? We also welcome your photos.

MARY KIMM,
MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clarification

To the Editors:

A clarification may be in order regarding my photos of the "white" deer appearing on page 14 of the Sep. 21-27 of the Great Falls Connection. After submitting the photos, we learned that the deer is more accurately described as a "piebald" deer. The coloration, predominately white with areas of brown or black, is a rare genetic defect. It is often accompanied by other abnormalities or deformities, including dwarfism, which would account for the small size of the deer.

Paul Kirchner
Great Falls

Strong Leadership

To the Editor:

Fairfax County School Board Chairman Janie Strauss (Dranesville) helped lead our schools through the recession. She made tough but wise decisions. In spite of constrained revenues, she brought full-day kindergarten to all our McLean/Langley schools

and helped end the pay freeze for our hard working teachers. Our teachers will get an average a 3.5 percent raise.

The central office has been reorganized and downsized to save classroom positions and is at a 10-year low. Since FY2007, our student population has increased 8 percent, our school based staff has increased by 4.5 percent, while the central office staff has decreased by 7.5 percent. Our strong FCPS curriculum is intact and has not been narrowed to close large deficits.

What makes Fairfax Schools thrive, a robust program of math, science, language arts, social studies, foreign languages, technology, the arts and Career and Technical Education (CTE), as well as plenty of athletics and extra curricular activities such as music and theater, is due to Janie's strong leadership and support. Businesses continue to locate to Fairfax in part because of the strength of our schools. Janie has kept focus on student achievement and our students are the winners. Fairfax County Public Schools consistently rank within the top 6 percent of the nation.

We need to keep Janie with her

strong leadership and years of experience on the board. Good schools don't just happen. Good schools that survive tough times need exceptional leadership, and Janie Strauss is that leader.

Frederick S. Mittelman
Past President
McLean High School
Theater Boosters
McLean

Incumbent Chairman Fails Community Values

To the Editor:

Exactly 3 months prior to the inauguration on Dec. 13, I advised the Board of Supervisors to address public safety. According to public safety advocates, Fairfax County needs to properly staff our ladder trucks with at least four firefighters. The incumbent chairman [Sharon Bulova (D-At-large)] has us standing alone as our nation's only large locality who fails to meet this standard. We are accountable to our community as

an integral component of our national capital region.

The speaker immediately before me was Del. Scott Surovell (D-44) advocating for 100 children to be removed from a pre-school waiting list of 3,000 children throughout Fairfax County living in poverty.

As a candidate for Fairfax County chairman, I work with community leaders like Del. Surovell who stand up for our community's highest priorities and give voice to children, to people in need.

What is the excuse the incumbent chairman gives firefighters and children? Funding. Who is responsible for funding? The Board of Supervisors. How much would it cost to create 42 needed firefighter jobs in this economy? About \$4.2 million. Pre-school? About \$830,000 for 100 children, not counting matching state support.

What did the incumbent chairman do instead? She hoarded \$28.69 million for unspecified use in 2013. She did this two days after we commemorated the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001.

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 9

1 number

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The Race To Watch

Longtime Democratic official to face off with up-and-coming Republican.

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE
THE CONNECTION

County Board member Barbara Favola emerged from a bruising Democratic primary with a depleted campaign chest and a divided Democratic Party. As she heads into the general election for the state Senate's 31st district against Republican Caren Merrick, she's facing an opponent with proven fundraising ability in a district that became significantly more Republican during this year's redistricting. The race could become one of the closest in Northern Virginia and a bellwether as to whether or not Democrats are able to keep control of the state Senate.

"Barbara Favola is favored to win, but this could be a competitive race," said Kyle Kondik, political analyst with the Virginia Center for Politics. "Her primary was so divisive that some Democrats might choose to stay home rather than vote for her, which could lead to an upset."

Meet the Candidates



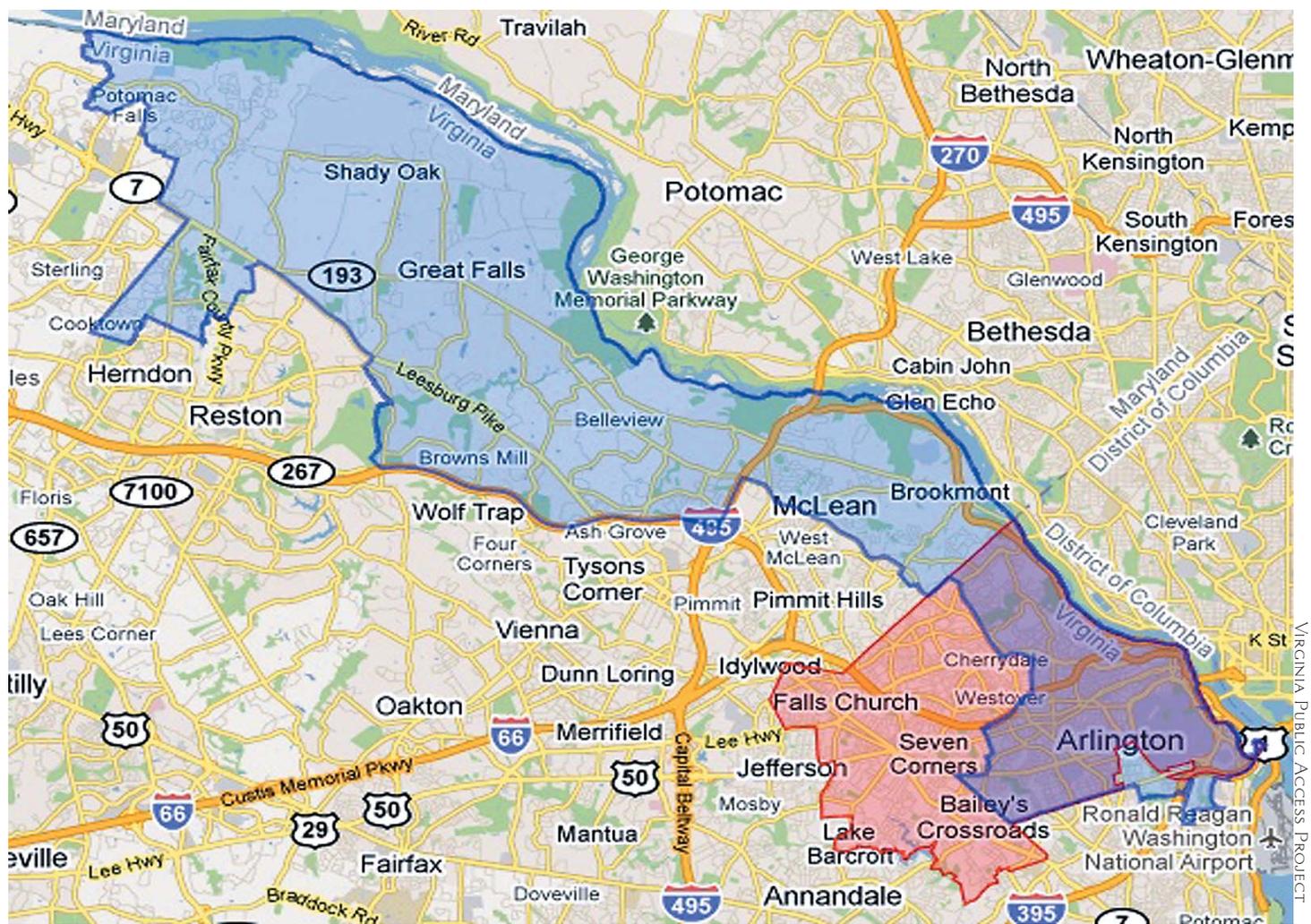
Barbara Favola

Barbara Favola, 55: A native of New London, Conn., Favola moved to Arlington in 1982. She has a bachelor of arts in political science from St. Joseph's College and a master of arts in public administration from New York University. First elected to the Arlington County Board in 1997, Favola currently serves as chairwoman of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Chesapeake Bay Committee and as a member of the Virginia State Board of Health. She is also part-time employee of Marymount University. Favola lives in the Park Lane Precinct and votes at the Key School.



Caren Merrick

Caren Merrick, 51: A native of Santa Clarita, Calif., Merrick moved to McLean in 1992. She has a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a certificate of director education from the National Association of Corporate Directors. She was a co-founder and chairman of webMethods Foundation, and she is currently a partner at Bilbury Partners. Merrick lives in the Cooper Precinct, and she votes at Cooper Middle School.



The blue parts of the map show the new areas of the district, which now stretches through Great Falls into Loudoun County. The red areas show parts of the old district that are no longer in the 31st District, which include parts of Falls Church and Bailey's Crossroads.

Last month, Favola beat challenger Jaime Areizaga-Soto by amassing a total that was almost twice as many votes — 3,575 to 6,549. That was a resounding victory for Favola, who won with more than 64 percent of the vote in what many were predicting could have been a close race. The campaign featured harshly negative campaigning on both sides, with candidates

accusing each other of everything from being influenced by campaign contributions to resume padding.

"There weren't a lot of differences policy-wise from me and Jaime," Favola said after winning the primary. "But the difference was that I have 14 years of experience working on local and regional issues and a record of accomplishing my goals."

THAT EXPERIENCE is now at the heart of the choice before voters in the 31st Senate District, which stretches from Arlington through Great Falls and Dranesville into Loudoun County. Merrick's campaign hopes to present the Republican challenger as an alternative to the Democratic career politician who has been an elected official for more than a decade. Although Favola hopes to use her experience as an asset, Merrick hopes to use that same attribute as a wedge.

"Carren Merrick has had a variety of experiences that include everything from starting a business to founding a nonprofit," said campaign manager Patricia Thiergartner. "Barbara Favola has been a member of the County Board for 14 years."

While the Republican candidate is hoping to ride the anti-incumbent mood of the electorate, Favola's campaign is doubling down on her years of experience. Favola's campaign hopes to present the longtime County Board member who is a seasoned elected official who knows how to broker a deal. The bitter and divisive primary campaign left her party divided and her campaign war chest depleted. Campaign finance records show that she has less than \$15,000 of the \$300,000 she raised since launching her campaign for the state Senate.

"We don't expect to outraise her. She's a millionaire and the Republicans have lots of resources," said Favola campaign man-

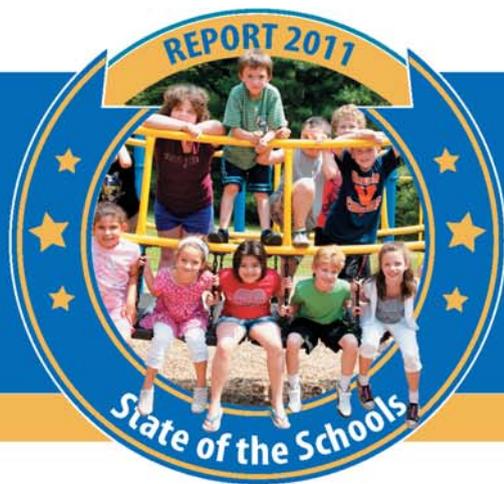
ager Adam Scott. "But we are out-work her."

CAMPAIGN FINANCE documents show that the Arlington County Board member has raised \$298,000, mainly from real-estate developers, property managers and the Democratic Party. Her top contributor is developer John Shooshan, a major property owner in Ballston who regularly appears before the County Board for official business. During the primary, some of the Democrats supporting Areizaga-Soto tried to make an issue of Democratic Party support, which included \$17,000 from Democratic Senate Majority Leader Dick Saslaw (D-35).

"They are so incensed by his candidacy that they have spent tens of thousands of dollars to attack him that could otherwise be used to defend their tenuous Democratic majority," said Del. David Engin (D-45), whose wife's consulting firm received more than \$27,000 for advising the unsuccessful campaign. "This smacks of an earlier era of good-old-boy Virginia Democratic politics that most of us soundly rejected long ago."

Meanwhile, Merrick had no primary opponent and heads into the general election with more than \$288,000. The candidate is the top contributor, chipping in more than \$51,000. Other major donations include \$10,000 from McLean businessman Robert Hisaoka, \$10,000 from Great Falls businessman Gary Nakamoto and McLean businessman Larry Pratt.

"She's very attractive, and she's not another white male," said former Alexandria Republican Committee chairman Chris Marston, who is waging a campaign to unseat longtime Democratic incumbent Alexandria Clerk of Court Ed Semonian. "She's also a really aggressive retail candidate, and she's out there knocking on doors every day."



There's Never Been a Better Time to Be a Student in Fairfax County Public Schools!

The Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) bus comes to a stop at the curb in front of the school. The engine continues to hum as the brakes let out a hiss. Standing eagerly at the curb are three smiling staff members waiting to greet the students. Students gather their backpacks and line up in the aisle. The students wait patiently as each child before them carefully navigates the steps off the bus. Their orderly line soon turns into a happy-go-lucky stride as they swing open the door to school, looking forward to seeing their classmates and teachers.



In every classroom, teachers are channeling the enthusiasm of their students and taking them on a journey that will inspire, motivate, and prepare them with knowledge and skills they will need for the future. Everyday, FCPS teachers help their students learn skills that will allow them to succeed in personal, community, and workplace environments and to understand and

participate in the global economy. Teachers adjust their methods and techniques to meet the unique needs of individual students and challenge all students.

Look inside a classroom. An elementary school teacher leads a language arts class discussion on synonyms and antonyms. The teacher is using an interactive white board to demonstrate how the words are similar or opposite. Observe other classrooms where students work quietly in centers, or designated areas of a classroom, allowing for small group instruction and learning.

Visit a middle school and observe 8th grade students in the science lab using computers and probeware to study temperature change during chemical reactions. The geometry class down the hall is hard at work using theorems to determine if lines are parallel.

Take a seat in a high school auditorium where students are participating in a seminar about the Cold War, listening to speakers who share their stories as influential players during the war. In another classroom, students log onto their computers and access their online social studies textbooks that offer extra learning resources and interactive maps to enrich their learning.

Hear a tune coming from the band room down the hall? Open the door and your ears fill with the music of Frank Ticheli's *Vesuvius* played by the high school concert band. Beginning in grade 4, FCPS students can play an instrument and be part of the band



or orchestra, or even choose to sing in their school's chorus.

For many students, their day does not end with the learning in the classroom. Thousands of FCPS students participate in extracurricular activities which can enhance what they learn in the classroom and also provide important lessons in teamwork, cooperation, and problem solving.

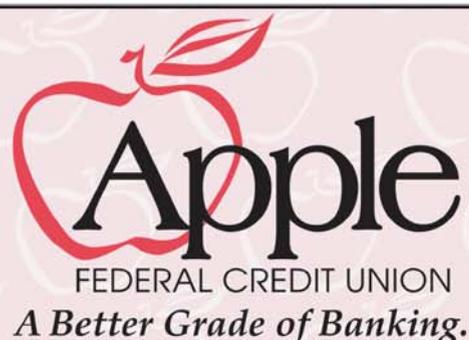
The clapping in the auditorium is coming from yet another sold-out performance of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Secondary and high schools throughout Fairfax County have established well-known theater programs that produce popular plays and shows.

The athletic fields and gymnasiums at FCPS schools are buzzing with activity most of days of the week as soccer, lacrosse, football, basketball, volleyball, and many more sports teams are

meeting to prepare for their next match.

Students can participate in a wide variety of activities as early as elementary school as members of the safety patrol, student government and school publications. At the middle and high school level, students can choose to get involved with the student newspaper or yearbook, join clubs, run for student government, try out for performance groups and athletics, and become a member of an honor society.

There's never been a better time to be a student in Fairfax County Public Schools!



This year's State of Schools Report courtesy of Apple FCU - 2011 FCPS Business Partner of the Year

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Greetings from Superintendent Jack Dale



Fairfax County Public Schools is fortunate to have the support of an engaged community, involved parents, talented principals and teachers, and motivated students. Our school system ranks among the best in the nation and throughout this State of the Schools Report, you will see why. We are very proud of the hard work and focus of our staff and students, which have resulted in our extraordinary student achievement gains. But there's always more to do to make sure every one of our students is reaching his or her highest potential—academically and personally.

In moving FCPS forward, we have to help each student find his or her element—the meeting point between natural aptitude and personal passion. Our commitment here in FCPS is to provide as many opportunities as possible for students to achieve at the highest levels and help our students discover what possibilities for passion lie within them.

However, the reality is that while the way we educate students remains somewhat static, our world is changing exponentially. Through lots of great interventions and technology, we educate more students to higher levels of success and often at younger ages, but all within the current model of education. I believe it's time to change the paradigm.

What should our education system look like and be like to prepare our students to create the possibilities and opportunities to succeed in the 21st century? We will start to have these conversations during this school year throughout our community. I invite you to join in that conversation by visiting a special web site we have set up where you can share ideas and comments about what the future should look like for FCPS at <http://fcps.uservoice.com>. Ideas will be posted on the site throughout the year. School system employees, parents, and members of the community are welcome to weigh in on these topics, vote for the ideas they prefer, and include their comments.

Thank you for your continued support of our school system, our families, and our students!

FCPS Focuses Relentlessly on Student Achievement....

FCPS has established three student achievement goals as a framework to prepare students for the world of college and beyond:

Academics - Students will integrate academic knowledge and 21st century skills, allowing them to succeed in personal, community, and workplace environments and to understand and participate in the global economy.

Essential life skills - Each student will demonstrate the ability to work with others and develop relationships through effective communication, cooperation, negotiation, honesty, and ethical behavior.

Responsibility to the community - Students will demonstrate an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, and rights specific to a democratic society such as expressing ideas, act-

ing responsibly toward self and others, making informed decisions, accepting accountability and consequences for actions, and practicing honesty and treating others with respect.

Each year, the School Board receives reports on how the school system is progressing toward reaching each of these goals.

... That Results in High Performance

- For the 2010 Standards of Learning tests, 92 percent of FCPS students passed mathematics and 93 percent of FCPS students passed reading.
- FCPS had the second highest graduation rate (91.2 percent) among the nation's 50 largest school districts.
- 91.7 percent of 2010 graduates are attending post-secondary programs.
- 65 percent of 2010 graduates earned advanced studies diplomas.

- All FCPS schools were in the top 6 percent of all American high schools as measured by their student participation in Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams, according to the 2011 *Washington Post* rankings.
- A record 234 National Merit Scholars semifinalists were named from the class of 2011, the most in FCPS history.
- FCPS students earned more than 7,000 industry certifications during the 2009-10 school year, an increase of 86 percent from the previous year.

SAT Scores (Class of 2011)



THE TALENTS OF FCPS STAFF

FCPS employs 22,980 staff (92.9 percent school based and 7.1 percent non-school based).

Just as every student brings individual strengths and needs to our classrooms, our teachers and staff bring unique skills and talent to prepare students for the future. More than 9,700 (64 percent) of teachers have master's degrees and more than 360 FCPS teachers are certified by National Board of Professional Teaching Standards, the highest credential a teacher can earn.

Our principals provide strong leadership and focus on creating collaborative teams that use the best teaching practices to raise the bar

for all students and close the achievement gap. Principals also collaborate throughout the school system to share leadership strategies and success stories.

FCPS has the lowest ratio (0.8 percent) of non-school-based management positions to total school system positions in the entire metropolitan region. So while FCPS enrollment increased by 13,000 from 2007 to 2012, we hired 906 positions in the schools and decreased non-school positions by 130.

177,629 students



THE FACES OF FCPS STUDENTS 2011-12 Projected Enrollment: 177,629 students

Fairfax County Public Schools is the 11th largest school system in the United States with nearly 200 schools and centers.

Diversity is one of FCPS' greatest strengths and is an important part of creating resilient, caring, and innovative citizens of a global community. Our schools support more than 23,000 students who receive services for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and more than 24,000 students who receive special education services. One in four students (or 45,000) is eligible for free or reduced-price meals, the federal measure of poverty.

More Ways Why FCPS is a World-Class School System

- Closing the achievement gap between black and white students and Hispanic and white students is a priority for FCPS. Over the past three years, the black/white achievement gap on Standards of Learning (SOL) reading tests continues to decline from 13 percent to 10 percent. The Hispanic/white achievement gap on SOL reading tests increased from 10 percent to 11 percent. On SOL math tests, the achievement gap between black students and white students declined from 15 percent to 13 percent. The Hispanic achievement gap also declined from 16 percent three years ago to 11 percent.
- FCPS is one of eight school divisions in Virginia to be recognized with 2011 **Excellence Award from the Virginia Board of Education**, which recognizes divisions that exceed minimum state and federal accountability standards and meet or exceed a number of performance indicators. In addition, 98 FCPS schools were honored for Virginia Index of Performance Awards.
- Nine students from FCPS won awards at the 2011 **Intel International Science and Engineering Fair**.
- FCPS received the 2011 **CIO 100 Award**, recognizing innovative use of technology, from *Chief Information Officer* magazine. FCPS was honored for creating and deploying the FCPS Electronic Curriculum Assessment Resource Tool (eCART), which provides teachers and school administrators with access to web-based curricula, assessments, tools and resources that support teaching and learning for grades K-12, and are available anytime and anywhere.
- The Broad Foundation recognized FCPS in 2010 as one of the top performing school districts in the nation for improving African-American and economically disadvantaged student achievement.



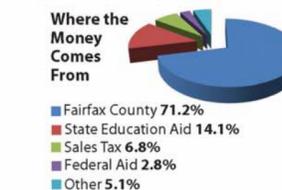
FCPS Manages Its Resources Responsibly

Two primary budgets help to fund the programs and facilities of Fairfax County Public Schools—the annual school operating budget and the Capital Improvement Program budget.

The school operating budget, which is approved by the Fairfax County School Board every year, provides for the day-to-day operations and maintenance of the schools.

In FY 2011, FCPS ranks in the middle of other school districts in the Washington metropolitan area with a cost per pupil of \$12,597, a decrease of \$301, or 2.3 percent, from \$12,898. This decrease was due primarily to a lower county transfer and budget reductions. This represents the third consecutive year of declining per-pupil spending, with an overall decrease of \$810, or 6.0 percent, from FY 2008 to FY 2011.

2011-12 Fiscal Year Operating Budget -- \$2.2 billion



FY 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Program -- \$805 million

Student enrollment continues to grow each year. More than 177,629 students attend FCPS, an increase of 2,333 students in one year alone. Enrollment has increased by 13,000 students since 2007. Additional space is needed to accommodate our growing student population and the accompanying normal wear and tear on buildings.

Since 2007, FCPS has built three new schools, renovated 10 schools, and completed three school building additions and eight modular additions. In 2011-12, FCPS is currently building two new schools and renovating 10 others. We will begin renovations on nine other schools this year.

Did You Know ?

65 percent of FCPS graduates complete college-level courses in high school.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM THE PAST YEAR



Student Rights & Responsibilities Handbook Update

Fairfax County Public Schools is committed to the safety of all students and providing a secure learning environment at school. The *Student Rights and Responsibilities (SR&R)* handbook helps students understand both their right to be educated in a safe environment, and their responsibility for proper behavior. This year, the booklet has been updated to reflect recent Fairfax County School Board decisions about the discipline process. Some of the changes include:

- Principals will have increased discretion regarding consequences for possession of prescription drugs at school.
- Ensuring that before a student is reassigned from his or her base school, other disciplinary options would be considered, including loss of privileges.

- Providing, if feasible, academic support and other services to a student on out-of-school suspension to maintain academic progress.

Priority Schools Launch

As part of the school system's commitment to closing the achievement gap, 30 elementary and middle schools were designated as Priority Schools. These schools receive additional support in training, resources, and staff to ensure that all their students achieve at high levels. Support teams composed of central office staff provide new ideas and extra attention to the Priority School principals and teacher leaders so that any barriers are removed that might impede success. First-year results show significant gains in reading and math in many of the priority schools.

Online Textbooks for Social Studies

All FCPS students in grades 7-12 began using online textbooks this year in all core social studies classes. Online textbooks offer resources to differentiate and enrich student learning and can include built-in features such as read aloud, highlighting, dictionaries, glossaries, videos, and flashcards.

Full-Day Kindergarten Rollout

Beginning this fall, children entering kindergarten will attend a full-day program in every one of our 137 elementary schools. The completion of the implementation of full-day kindergarten in the remaining 36 elementary schools this year was a critical step that ensures all of our youngest students will receive the same educational opportunities.

CHALLENGES AHEAD

Closing the Achievement Gap

While FCPS has made progress on closing the achievement gap, we haven't reached our goal of all students achieving at high levels. School system data show that black and Hispanic students still do not perform academically, as a group, as well as their white and Asian counterparts. A steady focus on best teaching practices, collaborative teams, and using data to drive decisions on teaching and learning strategies will result in the continued narrowing of the gap.



Larger Class Sizes

Fairfax County continues to be one of the fastest growing counties in the United States. This year's budget provided for an increase of more than 2,300 additional students for the 2011-12 school year at a cost of \$28.4 million. As FCPS enrollment continues to grow, more resources will be needed to accommodate more teachers, learning materials, and classrooms.

Did You Know ?

Approximately 70 percent of high schoolers participate in student activities, and nearly 40 percent participate in Virginia High School League (VHSL) athletic or academic activities.

Teacher Compensation

More is demanded of teachers every year. They consistently update their professional training to improve their teaching skills, and are required to keep up with technology changes in their classrooms and new ways of collaborating together to ensure every child succeeds. In FY 2012, FCPS teachers (and all other employees) received their first salary increase in two years. FCPS believes in its teachers and wants to compensate them for the increase in demands of their jobs.

Fairfax County School Board

We Believe in Our Children

- Each child is important and entitled to the opportunity to realize his or her fullest potential.
- High expectations promote high achievement.

We Believe in Our Teachers

- Effective teachers are essential to student success.
- Learning occurs best when instruction is tailored to individual needs.

We Believe in Our Public Education System

- Adults and children thrive in a vibrant, safe, enriching, and respectful environment.
- A well-rounded education enables students to lead fulfilling and culturally rich lives.
- An educated citizenry is critical to sustaining our economy and our system of self-governance.

We Believe in Our Community

- A dynamic partnership among students, parents, teachers, staff members, and the community is critical to exceptional student achievement.
- Our diversity creates resilient, open, and innovative citizens of the global community.



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Chairman,
Dranesville District



Ilryong Moon
Vice Chairman,
Member At Large



Elizabeth T. Bradsher
Springfield District



Brad Center
Lee District



Sandra S. Evans
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Patricia S. Reed
Providence District



Kathy Smith
Sully District



Dan Storck
Mount Vernon District



Tessie Wilson
Braddock District



Parents, Citizens Invited to Education Summit on Saturday, October 15

Education is moving away from the traditional industrial model and evolving into an era of customization in which individual student goals drive the learning process. The second annual **Fairfax Education Summit** will explore student goal setting, project-based learning, and new ways of measuring student success. Superintendent Jack Dale will lead a discussion panel composed of educators, students, and business leaders.

Please join parents, school system leaders, and community members at Woodson High School on October 15 from 8 a.m. to noon for this program, "Moving to the Next Level: Customizing Public Education."

For more details, visit www.fcps.edu

Getting to Know Us

Middle School Teacher **Jamie Sawatzky**



For Rocky Run Middle School history teacher Jamie Sawatzky, every new school year is like the opening day of baseball season. The year is a fresh start, a chance to work with a new group of students and help each of them hit an academic homerun.

Sawatzky, the Fairfax County Public Schools 2011 Teacher of the Year, brings history lessons to life for seventh graders at his school. Not only do his students learn about historical events, they participate in role play exercises to reinforce the lesson. For example, his students are assigned a position to debate the merits and expenses of the Social Security program while studying the New Deal or they each assume the identity of an immigrant arriving at Ellis Island.

Sawatzky also serves as a coach in FCPS' Great Beginnings, a comprehensive program that provides support to new teachers through mentoring and professional learning opportunities.

"It is an extensive program designed to inspire teachers who are new to FCPS," he said. "The level of excitement in the new teachers is just great. Fairfax County recognizes that teaching is a profession and they provide the resources to help us on that journey."

Sawatzky has been teaching for 12 years. He is also the recipient of The Washington Post Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award for educational excellence.

Strengthening Schools with Business and Community Partners

More than 350 businesses, community organizations, and individuals have partnered with Fairfax County Public Schools. Through generous donations or time, each person makes a valuable contribution to creating a world-class school system and an environment that values learning. To date, 130 schools, supporting 3,800 students, have active mentoring programs.

If you would like to partner with FCPS, here are five ways to get involved:

- Mentor a child
- Partner with a school
- Partner systemwide
- Support an existing partnership
- Help develop or advance an educational initiative

To learn more about how your business or community group can support the schools, please visit www.fcps.edu.

For more information on Fairfax County Public Schools, visit www.fcps.edu.

Be sure to look for regular updates about Fairfax County Public Schools every month right here in your Connections/Gazette newspaper!



Become a fan of the Fairfax County Public Schools on Facebook



Follow **FCPSnews** on Twitter

Did You Know ?

In partnership with the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce, the Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools was launched this year to support the mission of the world-class school system to inspire, enable, and empower students to meet high academic standards, as defined by the superintendent, through resource development and business partnerships.

Learn more at <http://www.fairfaxchamber.org>

High School Senior **E. J. Coleman III**



E.J. Coleman's week is similar to many other high school seniors. He's an active member of the Mount Vernon High School debate team, the National Honor Society, the Men of Vision and Purpose program and many other clubs. He is enrolled in the International Baccalaureate program at his school and he serves as a Battalion commander in the Marine Corps JROTC. He's even a licensed pilot. But the one thing that sets him apart from other seniors? He's the student representative to the Fairfax County School Board.

Coleman said he wanted to serve on the School Board because he is interested in politics.

"I saw it as a way for me to help other students in Fairfax County Public Schools in a more direct way. Before I was elected to the position I spoke at different public hearings and that was a way to help other students. This position allows me to have more of a positive impact on a larger group of my peers," he said.

Coleman has served as class president and was elected Governor at Boy's State last summer. His experience at Boy's State gave him the opportunity to meet students from around the country.

"I'm especially proud to say that Fairfax County Public Schools is one of the best school systems in the country and that it has been recognized internationally," he said. "I am also proud of the fact that some of the best students in the country would give me the honor of representing them on the school board."

Lifelong Partners Through Education Apple Federal Credit Union and FCPS

Apple FCU is pleased to sponsor FCPS' outreach efforts in the *State of the Schools* initiative. This year, Apple and the Apple FCU Education Foundation were named the FCPS Business Partner of the Year and we're honored to be associated with this premier school district.

Serving the Education Community Since 1956

No one understands educators, students and their families better than Apple FCU. Our commitment to the education community is evident through our exclusive product and service offerings and support for student achievement and academic success.

19 Student Run Credit Unions (SRCU). Apple FCU was the first credit union in Virginia to deploy an SRCU program at Robert E. Lee HS in 1995, providing students with invaluable money management skills and financial literacy acumen.

Sponsorship of the Junior Achievement Finance Park. Apple hosts a storefront to provide practical skills and financial education to approximately 14,000, eighth-grade students.

Stuff the Bus School Supply Drive supports Fairfax County families in need with school supplies and backpacks.

FREE Money Management Workshops. Monthly workshops are provided to assist FCPS employees in meeting their financial dreams.

Apple FCU Education Foundation's partnership with the Great Beginnings New Teacher Induction Program.

For details, visit AppleFCU.org or call 703-788-4800.



Jack Dale To Retire in 2013

Superintendent Dr. Jack Dale to retire at end of current contract.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Jack Dale announced Thursday, Sept. 22 that he would retire in June 2013, at the end of his current contract. Dale, who has been in education for more than 40 years, has been superintendent since July 2004.

As Fairfax County has developed, Dale said he believes Fairfax County Public Schools have become a “destination district,” and “there are pressures that come with that.”

“People and businesses move here to have access to Fairfax County Public Schools, which brings pressure,” he said. “But pressure is what we need to maintain the excellence that has become one of our hallmarks.”

Dale served at a time when budgets went down as school enrollment went up. He said while making cuts were tough, it was important for the school system to know its values.

“When it came to making cuts, I asked the board to prioritize their core values,” he said. “And what was near and dear to their heart was their quest to serve needy children, knowing that if they’re successful, Fairfax County Public Schools will be successful.”

He also said the cuts made in the school’s central office could have long-term affects.

“By diminishing our central office, we’re eliminating opportunities for research and development, and we’ve always been proud of our research and development,” he said. “When you eliminate the ability for R and



Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Jack Dale announced that he would retire in June 2013, at the end of his current contract.

D, that’s going to create a long term challenge for future school boards and superintendents.”

In the seven years since Dale took office, technology has been a driving force in education, often requiring rapid changes to curricula. New tools such as Smartboards require teachers that are trained to use them most effectively, he said.

“Also, technology gives kids access to so much information, it falls to us to show them how to sift through and find the right information,” he said. “We used to have encyclopedias, now we have Wikipedia, and there’s a huge difference in the accuracy of each.”

Dale also said that he considers Fairfax County’s growing diversity is an asset.

“I’ve spoken to high schoolers who come

back and say ‘college wasn’t as diverse as high school,’” Dale said. “I think it allows students to learn so much about the world just from their classmates.”

Dale’s tenure was not without controversy, as issues such as changing grading scales drew much discussion within the community.

“From my view, changing the grading scale to change the weights of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate classes helped kids get more merit scholarships,” he said.

On Friday morning, Sept. 23, Dale attended the White House when President Barack Obama and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced that states could seek waivers from the No Child Left Behind Act. Dale said he would give the act an A-

or B+ in intent, but a D or F because of components that he believed would fail over time.

“You have that expectation that 100 percent of students on any given day will pass a test, and if they don’t, your school is deemed to be failure,” he said. “I think Virginia will probably apply for a waiver and create its own accountability.”

Dale says future county staff must figure out a way to deal with the expected growth of the county.

“I never looked at it as a job, but as a passion.”

— Dr. Jack Dale,
FCPS superintendent

“Birth rates are increasing, and we currently have more kids in kindergarten classes than are seniors,” he said. “As we go through our plans for future renovations, we’ll need to add more space, but not even that might satisfy the need. We could look at building new schools, but we don’t have the land.”

Dale said he plans to spend his retirement visiting family around the country, golfing and flying a plane he co-owns with several other pilots. While he said he would enjoy his retirement, the four plus decades spent in education were well worth it.

“I thought about going into education when I was in college, and since then, I rarely thought about it as going to work, more like going to school,” Dale said. “I never looked at it as a job, but as a passion.”

SCHOOL NOTES

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

James McGrath of McLean has been selected to be a McDonough Scholar at Marietta College this fall. The program helps students gain a deeper understanding of leadership, practice leadership skills and grow as engaged leaders.

Ten Langley High School students have been named as 2011 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists: **Allison S. Brady, Saba Eskandarian, Jimmy J. Fang, Jamison G. Fox-Canning, Nathaniel C. Howe, Dylan J. Kriz, Debbie R. Pan, Spencer C. Shabshab, Holliday L. Shuler** and **Andrew J. Stewart**.

Six McLean High School students have been named as 2011 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists: **Nana-Kwabena A. Abrefah, Daniel J. Lee, Eric R. Leimkuhler, Elizabeth McGrady, Justin Nam** and **Brian Tong**.

Michael P. DeSantis of the Potomac School has been named as a 2011 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist.



Progress at the Tysons East Metrorail Station

Dulles Transit Partners crews work with forms for escalator pit walls for the ground floor lobby escalators that will lead to the mezzanine deck above at the Tysons East Metrorail Station under construction along the northwest side of Route 123 at Scotts Crossing near the Gates of McLean condo community.

PHOTO BY STEPHEN BARNA/
DULLES CORRIDOR METRORAIL PROJECT



**McLean
Community
Center**
The Center of It All



Here's What's Happening at MCC



4th Annual McLean 5K Run, Walk & Roll

Saturday, Oct. 1

Registration begins at 6:45 a.m.
Race begins at 8 a.m.

\$30 until 9/30 at mclean5k.com; \$35 race day

Pull on your running shoes and come join Century 21 New Millennium and MCC. Proceeds from the race will benefit four charities this year: Children's National Medical Center, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Wounded Warrior Project, and Habitat for Humanity.

MPA Artfest

Sunday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Free Admission

McLean Central Park will reverberate with the sights and sounds of art and music at the 5th annual MPA Artfest.

McLean Uncorked

Saturday, Oct. 15
Tastings & Festival Hours, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wine-and-Dine-Around, 5-10 p.m.
Free Admission

Wine Taster's Wristband:

\$40 per person/\$30 McLean district residents

Here's your chance to learn about wines from around the world. Featuring, Food Network's Own "Gastrophysicist" Alton Brown and Special Guest Bob Kinkead of Kinkead's Restaurant.

Fish & Explore Trip

Saturday, Oct. 15, 12:45-8:30 p.m.
\$130/\$110 tax district residents

Catch fish on the Chesapeake Bay with our Coast Guard-certified charter captains.

Old Firehouse Teen Center 21st Annual Block Party

Saturday, Oct. 22, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Free Admission

With live entertainment, amusements, food concessions and the first ever "McLean Teens Got Talent Show," it's sure to be a blast!

The McLean Community Center



703-790-0123, TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org



ENTERTAINMENT

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

WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 28

OBG's 15th Anniversary Party. 12-3 p.m. Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. Oldies But Goodies Cocker Spaniel Rescue benefit. www.cockerspanielrescue.com or 703-533-2373.

Big Apple Circus. 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

Rocknoceros. 10:30 a.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Séan McCann (of Great Big Sea) & The Committed. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Butterflies and Dragonflies. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Reds, yellows, and greens dance through the air. Find out about these beautiful insects, enjoy activities and do the insect dance. Presented by Riverbend Park. 703-356-0770.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 29

Big Apple Circus. 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

Kids Show: Oh Susannah. 10:30 a.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

River James and Mike Mangione &

The Union. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 30

ValeArts Fall Art Show Reception. 7-9 p.m. Vale Schoolhouse, 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton. More than 150 paintings by nine artists. Free. www.valearts.com or 703-860-1888.

"Social Security." 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theater, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. An adult comedy about the shattering of yuppie bliss, romance and an aged Jewish mother. \$10-\$15. www.mcleancommunityplayers.org.

Big Apple Circus. 7 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

Barefoot Truth and Jamie Kent at 7 p.m., **Dubstep Dance Party Featuring Andre Jetson and Special Guests** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

"Don't Dress for Dinner, or Pajamas for Six." 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road in Tyson's Corner. A farce by Marc Camoletti about mistaken identity and infidelities with more twists than a corkscrew. Tickets \$25. www.1ststagetysons.org/jeeves or 703-854-1856.

Fall Greek Festival. St. Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church. Foods and sweets, Greek wines and beers, a live Greek band, watch youngsters perform traditional dances or learn Greek dances yourself, children's games and more. The priest, Father Costa Pavlakos will arrange tours of the sanctuary. Greek crafts and

products for sale. 703-671-1415.

SATURDAY/OCT. 1

Vienna Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce Oktoberfest. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Vienna Town Green and Church St., Vienna. Live entertainment on two stages, beer garden, food vendor area, live music, free children's activities and a festival marketplace with crafts and gifts. Free admission. www.viennaoktoberfest.com

"Social Security." 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theater, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. An adult comedy about the shattering of yuppie bliss, romance and an aged Jewish mother. \$10-\$15. www.mcleancommunityplayers.org.

Big Apple Circus. 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

McLean Kids: Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. 2 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. \$10-\$15. www.mcleancenter.org.

Motorbike & BodyArt MusicFest at 11 a.m., **Ben Rector and Graham Colton** at 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

"Don't Dress for Dinner, or Pajamas for Six." 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road in Tyson's Corner. A farce by Marc Camoletti about mistaken identity and infidelities with more twists than a corkscrew. Tickets \$25. www.1ststagetysons.org/jeeves or 703-854-1856.

The 73rd Annual Potomac Rose

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 17



**October 7 - 8, 2011
Lorton, Virginia**

BLM Meadowood Special Recreation
Management Area
10406 Gunston Road

Friday preview: 2pm - 7pm

Saturday adoption: 8am - 5pm

Adoption is first come, first served

Directions: From Route 1, take Gunston Rd (East) 2.4 miles
Past the BLM Meadowood main entrance to right on Harley Rd.



Kristen Fontaine will be conducting gentling demonstrations at the Lorton, VA adoption on October 7-8, 2011.

866-4MUSTANGS (866-468-7826) blm.gov
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U.S. Department of the Interior
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ENTERTAINMENT



The Fairfax Festival of the Arts will be at Fairfax Corner, 11900 Palace Way, Fairfax, on Saturday, Oct. 8 from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 9 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Over 10,000 pieces of art will be for sale, including paintings, sculptures, photographs, jewelry, glass, fiber and ceramic art and more. Admission is free. paragonartevents.com/fairfax2/

FROM PAGE 16

Society Rose Show. 1-6 p.m. Merrifield Garden Center Fair Oaks, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Exhibitors must place rose specimens by 9:30 a.m. Saturday, judging follows. Consulting Rosarians will answer questions. Free. 301-869-4948 or kay.george@verizon.net.

Book Sale. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com or 703-790-8088.

Fall Bazaar. 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. McLean Korean Presbyterian Church, 7144 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Korean bbq, dumplings, kimchi and other prepared foods. Yard sale with books, clothes and household goods. Free admission. 703-893-8651.

Northern Virginia Light the Night Walk for Leukemia & Lymphoma. 5-9 p.m. Reston Town Center, Pavilion and Market Streets, Reston. Celebrate and commemorate lives touched by cancer to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Funds raised support the ongoing mission to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Children's games, local restaurants, live music and entertainment until 2-mile walk begins at dark. Register at 703-960-1100, 1-877-LTN-WALK or leukemia-lymphoma.org.

The Insider's Guide to Music. 4 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. A pre-concert lecture on Beethoven's "Pastoral Symphony," which will be performed by the Amadeus Orchestra on Sunday, Oct. 2 at Saint Luke Catholic Church. With violinist Josef Spacek, concertmaster of the Czech Philharmonic, and his brother, cellist Petr Spacek, founder of the Prague Cello Quartet. www.amadeusconcerts.com.

Violinist Dr. Rami Kanaan and Pianist Bettye Cooley in Concert. 6 p.m. Oakton Church of the Brethren, 10025 Courthouse Rd., Vienna. The duo will perform Three Sonatas for Violin and Piano, op. 137 by Franz Schubert. Free admission, donations accepted. www.oaktonbrethren.org or 703-281-4411.

Adopt-A-Lab Event. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Weber's Pet Supermarket, 11201 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Meet

Labrador retrievers from shelters, humane societies and more. Bring the family and you may be able to adopt the same day. Event organized by Lab Rescue of the Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac Inc. Free admission. 703-385-3766 or www.lab-rescue.org.

NAMI Walk for Mental Illness Awareness. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. The Walk begins at 10:30 a.m., check-in at 9:30 a.m. Raise awareness about mental illness and funding for programs that support those affected by mental illness. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Northern Virginia provides educational programs, support groups, a helpline, and outreach to schools and the community. Naminorthernvirginia.org.

Great Falls Optimist Club Barn Dance. 7 p.m. 964 Walker Road, Great Falls. Classic rock and rockabilly by Western Electric & Bennie Potter. Dinner, soft drinks, and dancing. Cash bar, raffles and auction. Proceeds benefit the GF Optimist Youth Fund. www.GreatFallsOptimist.org or 703-759-2959.

The Michael Weiss Foundation Presents Ice Champions Live! 5 p.m. Kettler Capitals Iceplex, 627 N. Glebe Road, Arlington. With Brian Boitano, Ilia Kulik, Richard Dornbush, Sinead and John Kerr, Steven Cousins. Kimmie Meissner and more. The Michael Weiss Foundation provides scholarships to assist aspiring Olympians in training and competition with an emphasis on continuing their education. Tickets \$30-50. www.MichaelWeiss.org or 866-468-7630.

St. Francis Country Fair. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Live entertainment, quilt show, market, silent auction, bake sale and more. Games and activities include a giant slingshot, dunking booth, moon bounce, crafts, and petting zoo. Free admission, \$20 for all-day games. 703-759-2082.

The 19th Annual Fall For Fairfax KidsFest. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Interactive and educational programs, entertainment and activities for families with elementary and pre-K children. Free admission. 1-800-880-6629.

Y'Art Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Vienna Art

Center, 115 Pleasant St., N.W., Vienna. Meet the artists as they sell original artworks, jewelry, and other art-related items. 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Sheriff's Children's ID Program. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Community Room, McLean Governmental Center, 1437 Balls Hill Road, McLean. The Fairfax County Sheriff's office provides a free laminated card about the size of a driver's license, including a photo, thumbprints and other vital information for authorities to use in case a child goes missing. The ID process takes less than four minutes and uses clean, inkless technology. The Sheriff's Office recommends that parents tuck away the card for safekeeping and have it updated with a new photo once a year. 703-246-3673 or Stacey.Kincaid@FairfaxCounty.gov.

SUNDAY/OCT. 2

Amadeus Concert: Tempest and Tranquility. 4 p.m. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Amadeus Orchestra, A. Scott Wood, conductor. Violinist Josef Spacek and cellist Petr Spacek perform the "Double Concerto" by Brahms. \$25, age 17 and under free. Reception to follow. www.amadeusconcerts.com.

Joe Brooks and Chelsea Lee. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Big Apple Circus. 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Dulles Town Center, 21100 Dulles Town Circle, Dulles. Performers from around the globe. 888-541-3750 or bigapplecircus.org.

"Don't Dress for Dinner, or Pajamas for Six." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road in Tyson's Corner. A farce by Marc Camoletti about mistaken identity and infidelities with more twists than a corkscrew. Tickets \$25. www.1ststagetysons.org/jeeves or 703-854-1856.

Book Sale. 12-3 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Bag sale and clearance. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com or 703-790-8088.

The 73rd Annual Potomac Rose Society Rose Show. 12-4 p.m. Merrifield Garden Center Fair Oaks, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Consulting Rosarians will answer questions. Free. 301-869-4948 or kaygeorge@verizon.net.

McLEAN UNCORKED

FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 15

Tastings & Festival Hours
10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wine-and-Dine-Around
5-10:30 p.m.

Admission:
Free

Wine Taster's Wristband:
\$40 per person
\$30 McLean district



Here's your chance to learn about wines from around the world.

Featuring, Food Network's Own "Gastrophysicist" Alton Brown.

With Special Guest, Bob Kincaid of Kincaid's Restaurant.

Advance Registration is required for wine pairing sessions. Check our Website for a complete listing.



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SATURDAY/SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 & 2



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Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times.



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Herndon

414 Madison Forest Dr.....\$589,000...Sun 2-5.....Bob Lovett....Choice Properties..703-690-0037

McLean

6004 Woodley Rd.....\$939,000...Sun 1-4.....Jane Price.....Weichert..703-628-0470

Oak Hill

3154 Mary Etta Ln.....\$1,493,850...Sun 1- 4.....Keith Harris..Samson Properties..703-395-6601

Oakton

3031 Borge St #105.....\$309,000...Sun 1- 4.....Casey Samson..Samson Properties..703-508-2535

Potomac Falls

11409 Coyote Ct.....\$2,195,000...Sun 1-4.....Janean Buchner.....Re/Max..703-444-5979

Reston

2385 Generation Dr.....\$392,900...Sun 1-4.....Daniel Rosas.....Total Resources..703-392-9093
11673 Bennington Woods Rd...\$1,044,000...Sun 2-5.....Carina Slepian.....Weichert..703-919-6364

Vienna

228 Commons Dr NW.....\$449,900...Sun 1-3.....Lynda Neil.....Re/Max..703-648-1870
1837 Batten Hollow Rd.....\$729,900...Sun 1-4.....Deborah Sevier.....Jobin Realty..571-243-4743
11809 Dawson St.....\$739,000...Sun 1-4.....Bettina Dee.....Premiere Realty..703-748-0001

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

COMMUNITY



PHOTOGRAPH BY AL REITAN

A painting of the eastern bluebird, the newly 'elected' Great Falls symbol, changes hands during a ceremony at Great Falls Library. From left are Jonathan Fisher, administrator of the Great Falls bird election; Jill Norvell of Turner Framing; artist Jennifer Duncan; Rainie Turner Coons of Turner Framing; Daniela Dixon, branch manager of the Great Falls Library; and Laura Nichols, president of Great Falls Studios. Duncan's painting was selected to hang in the library after a yearlong competition.

Bird Painting Presented to Library

**Great Falls Studios' artist
Jennifer Duncan wins
competition for permanent
exhibition.**

In a ceremony Wednesday at the Great Falls Library, the community's artists donated a painting of the eastern bluebird — the new official Great Falls bird symbol — to the library to hang permanently.

The art by Great Falls painter Jennifer Duncan was the culmination of a year's worth of exhibitions, school projects and photography involving nine local organizations, two schools and the National Audubon Society. It resulted in community-wide voting in which residents selected the bluebird over six other popular bird species as the town symbol. An outside juror selected Duncan's painting as the best of many entries depicting the winning bird and came with a \$500 prize.

The painting was unveiled at a meeting of Great Falls Studios, the overall organizer of the bird election. The art group's president, Laura Nichols, presented the painting to Daniela Dixon, branch manager of the library, on behalf of the 101 artist members of the organization. Also taking part in the presentation was artist Duncan, as well as Jill Norvell and Rainie Turner Coons, representing Turner Framing, a store on Georgetown Pike at Seneca Road that donated framing of the piece.

For the next month, the painting will be on display at Turner Framing, 1025-J Seneca Road. Then it will move to its permanent home in the library as a reminder of the importance of both art and wildlife to Great Falls and the significance of the bluebird to the village. The eastern bluebird is now a comeback species, thanks to continuing human intervention to provide it with nest boxes safe from other invading species. According to bird-election

organizers, it symbolizes the helping spirit of the community and its conservation consciousness.

Duncan's painting is called "Backyard Blues" and depicts two bluebirds in a backyard environment. It is acrylic mixed medium. In addition to the acrylic paint, it was created using collage, charcoal and wax-pastel crayon. Duncan's work is often characterized by wry humor and delightful colors in a whimsical, abstract style. "I'm honored to have won," she said. "A lot of good art has been part of the competition, so that made this prize even nicer."

The unusual framing was selected by Turner to highlight the painting. It incorporates museum glass for anti-reflection and extra protection from ultraviolet rays, allowing optimum display of the vibrant colors. Turner, a long-time supporter of local artists, produces high-end framing for discriminating clients.

The bird election, also known as "Vote 2011: Wings Across Great Falls," illustrates the importance of art to a community's quality of life, and the various art activities leading up to the election show how local groups can partner for the good of the community. In addition to the Audubon Society and Great Falls

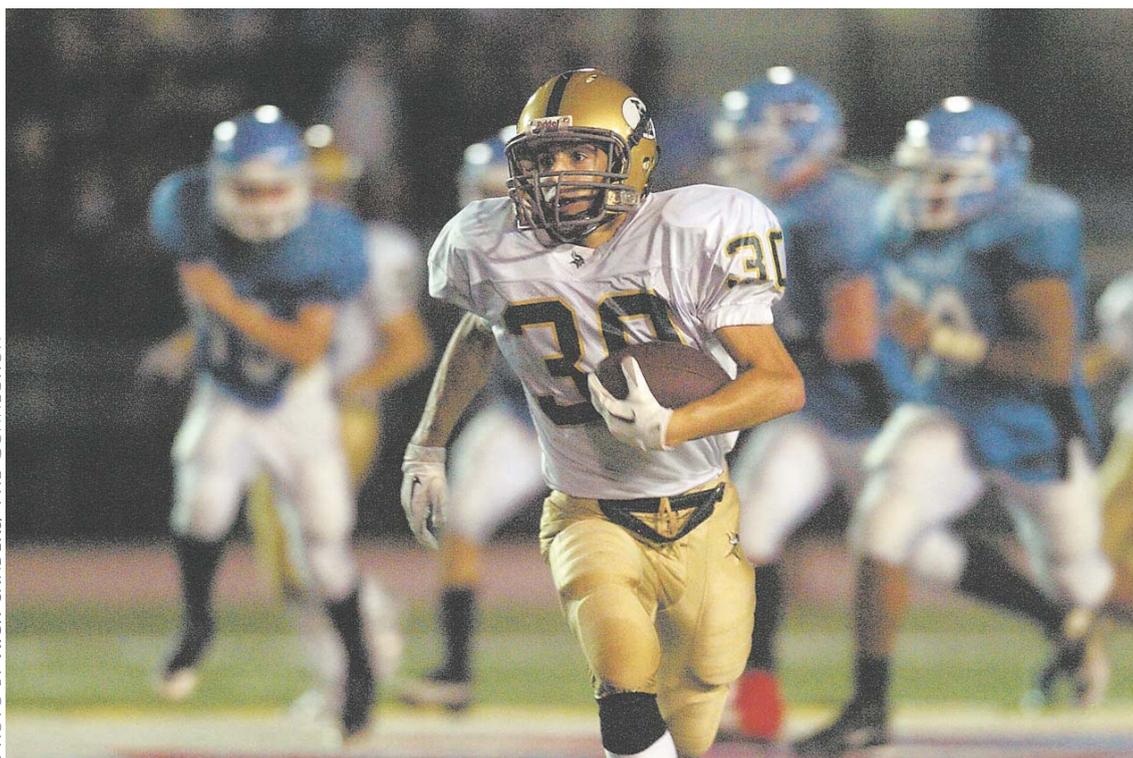
Studios, the participating groups were the Great Falls Citizens Association, Great Falls Business and Professional Association, Great Falls Foundation for the Arts, Great Falls Community Library, Great Falls National Park, Friends of Riverbend Park, Audubon Society of Northern Virginia and Great Falls Elementary School Art Enhancement Program. The two schools involved were Great Falls and Forestville elementary schools.

"Duncan's painting was one of hundreds of pieces of bird art and photographs generated during the election process by both adults and children in Great Falls," said Jonathan Fisher, an artist member of Great Falls studios who was instrumental in organizing the event. "Increasingly, Great Falls is becoming known as a center for the arts, and this yearlong celebration of the community's creative side clearly illustrates that the arts are a community asset. An active art scene helps make a community a better place to live."

**"A lot of good art
has been part of
the competition,
so that made this
prize even nicer."**

— Artist Jennifer Duncan

PHOTO BY RICH SANDERS/THE CONNECTION



Marshall sophomore wide receiver Kevin Wood runs ahead of the field after catching a pass during the Saxons' game against Marshall last Friday night.

Bittersweet Football Win

Saxons, in win over Marshall, lose starting QB to injury; McLean loses tight contest to Madison.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Langley High defeated Marshall last Friday night, 35-0, in a Liberty District road game. With the win, the Saxons improved their record to 3-1 on the season. Their prior wins had come over Herndon and Jefferson with the only loss coming to Chantilly in week three.

Unfortunately, Langley starting quarterback Austin Vasiliadis injured his knee on a first quarter play and is out for the season. Backup quarterback Nick Casso stepped in and played a good game in place of the injured starter.

"It's a shame," said Langley coach John Howerton, of the injury to the senior signal caller. "He's a great athlete for us and a premier basketball player. You get sick watching something like this. He's a great kid. He was not only playing quarterback for us but fulfilling a leadership role for us too."

Vasiliadis, on the play he was injured, was running around the end on a potential pass play. He ended up running instead. Although he was not hit by a defensive player, Vasiliadis made an awkward cut, according to Howerton.

"He was going around end and cut and landed funny and extended his knee," said the coach. "He tore an ACL and is out for the year."

For Langley, which has played good, solid football over the season's first half, the injury loss of Vasiliadis is a tough blow.

But Casso stepped into Friday's game nicely. The Saxons took control of the game early on with two first quarter touchdowns and another in the second quarter to carry a 21-0 lead into halftime at Marshall.

They added touchdowns in both the third and fourth quarters to put the final touches on the victory.

Casso, a sophomore, had an outstanding game, completing 11 of 14 passes for 205 yards and tossing three touchdown passes. The scoring passes were caught by senior tightend Colin Pitts from three yards out, A.J. Holtberg from 12 yards, and Joey Robinson on a 39-yard play.

"He's a sophomore and looked very good," said Howerton. "There were a couple of times he moved the wrong way or mishandled the ball. But he threw the ball very well. He did a great job and didn't seem nervous at all. He has a pretty good group [of linemen] up front and pretty good running backs."

Langley running back Phil Mun ran for scores of 33 and 18 yards and finished the game with 74 rushing yards.

Howerton was proud of the play of his team's defense and earning a shutout.

"We're trying to improve our defense every week and every year so we can be successful against any offense," he said. "We're starting to come together. We're always trying to shut out our opponent, of course, but this is our first one this year. It was a key to the win to be able to shut Marshall down."

Langley, with Casso behind center, will be on the road this Friday night when it meets an improving Madison team under first year head coach Lenny Schultz. The Warhawks were beaten soundly in their first game of the season at Oakton, 55-17, on Sept. 2 but have played three good games since. They beat Woodson, 24-0, before losing a tight game to Hayfield, 29-27. Then they edged McLean last Friday. The Warhawks will be looking to get over the .500 mark when they play at home versus Langley. Madison will be celebrating its homecoming.

THE MADISON HIGH Warhawks beat McLean, 17-16, in a fiercely-contested Liberty District high school football game last Friday night that was finally decided late in the fourth quarter when Madison recovered a McLean fumble to thwart the Highlander's last drive.

SEE WINNERS, PAGE 23



PHOTO COURTESY OF FOXCROFT SPORTS

Vienna's Caroline Harris was recently named Athlete of the Week at Foxcroft School in Middleburg.

SPORTS NOTES

The Madeira School (McLean) volleyball team captured first place at the recent Flint Hill Girls' Volleyball Tournament. Madeira defeated its first round opponent, Madison High, by scores of 25-9 and 25-21. In its next match, the Snails were winners over Liberty Christian, 2-1 (25-18, 18-25, 15-11).

Madeira continued its solid play with match wins over both Holy Cross (26-24 and 25-15) and Fredericksburg Christian Academy (25-16 and 25-20). That put the Snails into the finals against host school Flint Hill. In that championship match, Madeira defeated the Huskies, 25-15 and 25-11.

Named to the All-Tournament team from Madeira were seniors Nicole O'Donnell (setter) and Catherine Humphrey (outside). Senior Bre Atkinson (outside) was named the tournament MVP.

Madeira, going into this week's action, is unbeaten. Prior to its tournament action at Flint Hill, the Snails had earned wins over Pope John Paul the Great, Maret, Bishop O'Connell, Episcopal, and Bishop Ireton.

The Flint Hill School football team defeated visiting team, John Paul The Great, on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 24, by a score of 35-13. The Huskies trailed 3-0 in the second quarter before getting a pair of touchdowns, a 22-yard run by Trevor Ogundepo, and a 7-yard scoring pass from quarterback Andy Rehberger to Nick Bazzarone, to give the home team a 14-3 halftime lead.

Flint Hill put the game away with a pair of long touchdown plays in the third quarter. The first came on a 92-yard kickoff return by Chrystian Brown. The latter score came on a 55-yard scoring pass play in which Rehberger connected once again with Bazzarone. That made the score 28-3 going into the final quarter.

The Huskies got a 2-yard scoring run in the final quarter by Jerrod Reed, helping offset the 10 points scored by the guests over that final quarter.

Huskies kicker Hunter Windmuller converted all five of his extra point kicks in the win. He also had punts of 71, 48, and 43 yards.

SEE SPORTS NOTES, PAGE 23

SPORTS

Area Runners Shine at Oatlands Meet

McGorty captures first place in boys' race; Kolonich earns third in girls' race.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

The annual midseason Oatlands Invitational high school cross country meet took place Sept. 17 at Oatlands Plantation in Leesburg. Numerous schools from the Northern Region participated in the huge showcase event.

In the varsity "A" boys' meet, consisting of 46 teams, Chantilly High, led by junior Sean McGorty, earned a second place overall finish with 197 team points, finishing behind champion Albemarle High (146 points) of Charlottesville. Other Northern Region teams competing in the "A" boys' race included fourth place Oakton (265), 11th place Jefferson High (282) of Alexandria, 15th place Hayfield, and 20th place Stone Bridge. South County finished 26th and Annandale 28th. Madison, Westfield, Langley, Fairfax, and Marshall High Schools were also among the schools that competed.

Chantilly's McGorty captured the individual title with a time of 15 minutes, 30 seconds, finishing ahead of second place finisher Ahmed Bile, a senior from

Annandale. Chantilly junior Logan Miller also had an outstanding race with a third place finish at 15:49. South County senior Jeff Puhek finished 10th place overall.

Three-hundred sixteen runners in all participated in the boys' race. Other good outings from Northern Region runners included: Stone Bridge sophomore Brady Guertin (23rd); Marshall High sophomore Mackenzie Haight (41st); Westfield High junior Jeff Edmondson (47th); Chantilly sophomore Peter Malander (also 47th); Oakton seniors Greg Petruncio (33rd), Pratik Singh (37th), Chris Jewell (52nd), and Patrick Eberhart (55th); and Hayfield High's Jacob Miller (58th).

IN THE GIRLS' "A" RACE, McLean, Madison, and Jefferson High Schools finished eighth, ninth, and 10th, respectively, in a field of 41 teams. Other Northern Region schools finishing in the top 25 were Oakton (15th), Washington-Lee (16th), Langley (17th), and Stone Bridge (22nd).

Top area individual finishers, included: Lee sophomore Bailey Kolonich (3rd place); Jefferson senior Katherine Sheridan (22nd); Oakton sophomore Hailey Dougherty

(25th); Westfield senior Leidy Arias (32nd); McLean junior Hannah Dimmick (36th); South County junior Mary Gate Scully (40th); Madison freshman Amanda Swaak (45th); Langley senior Mary Fouse (50th); and McLean senior Alexa Tabackman (51st).

IN THE VARSITY "B" BOYS' RACE, Oakton finished sixth overall among 66 teams. Also among the top 25 teams were 11th place Centreville, 12th place Jefferson, and 14th place McLean. Top local individual finishers were: Centreville junior Chan Young-Lee (19th place); Lee High sophomore Biruk Amare (23rd); Oakton sophomore Jack Stoney (43rd); Jefferson's Elliot Simon (45th); and McLean senior Jason Richards (46th).

IN THE VARSITY "B" GIRLS' RACE, Chantilly High captured the team title with 81 points, finishing ahead of second place Briar Woods of Ashburn and third place Centreville High. Oakton (seventh place) and Hayfield (eighth) finished among the top 10 as well.

Oakton freshmen Allie Klimkiewicz captured the individual title with a first place finish. Chantilly had three runners finish in the top 10. They were junior Kendall Crowe (fifth), freshman Xaveria Hawvemarle (sixth), and senior Carolyn Carlson (10th).

FAITH NOTES

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

Oakton United Methodist Church, 2951 Chain Bridge Road in Oakton, will cancel services on Sunday, Oct. 2 to participate in Faith in Action (FIA), a four-week ministry that invites Christians to mobilize and "Be the Church," by practicing their faith in a way that uniquely serves their immediate community. Many members of Oakton UM Church will serve at local agencies helping persons and households affected by poverty and other life transitions. Sponsored by three Christian organizations, World Vision, Outreach and Zondervan, FIA culminates in a community outreach Sunday where regular services are cancelled and the entire congregation engages in service projects in, and with, the community. The program also helps Christians invite members of their community to join in serving. The theme for Oct. 2 will be "Don't go to church: Be the church!" oaktonumc.org.

Epiphany United Methodist Church, 1014 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, is celebrating its 50th anniversary with a special worship service on Sept. 25 at 11 a.m. Reserve by Sept. 10 for luncheon after services. office@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.

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 for schedules and registration information.

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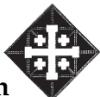
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21 Announcements
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO FILE A PETITION PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 8.01-324
American Community Newspapers II, LLC doing business as the Sun Gazette (for McLean, Vienna, Oakton and Great Falls) a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Fairfax, Virginia, will petition the Circuit Court of the County of Fairfax for the authority to publish ordinances, resolutions, notices or advertisements in accordance with Virginia Code Ann. Section 8.01-324

21 Announcements
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
Friday, October 7, 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 of or 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, of 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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Chasen & Chasen
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21 Announcements
ABC LICENSE
SIFS, LLC trading as Bean Good! Coffee Pub, 1737 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Wine and Beer on premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Shain Nourali, President

28 Yard Sales
Multi-neighborhood Garage Sales in Oakton, Sat., Oct. 1, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Rain or shine. Maps available at 11708 Flemish Mill Ct., and 11449 Bronzedale Dr., Oakton.
Yard sale, Sat 10/1, 8-2, 2740 Linda Marie Dr, Oakton, VA

21 Announcements
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO FILE A PETITION PURSUANT TO VIRGINIA CODE SECTION 8.01-324
American Community Newspapers II, LLC, doing business as the Arlington Sun Gazette, a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Arlington, Virginia, will petition the Circuit Court of the County of Arlington for the authority to publish ordinances, resolutions, notices or advertisements in accordance with Virginia Code Ann. Section 8.01-324

21 Announcements
Notice of Availability: Draft Environmental Assessment
Navy Annex/Federal Office Building 2 (FOB2) Land Transfer at Arlington, Virginia
Agency: Department of Defense
Public Comment Period: October 1 - 30, 2011
SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 USC 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and Department of Defense Instruction 4715.9, Washington Headquarters Services has prepared and issued a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Navy Annex/FOB2 Land Transfer. The Secretary of Defense, as authorized by Congress, proposes to transfer approximately 42 acres currently occupied by the Navy Annex/FOB2, the Navy Exchange Service Station, and associated parking lots, to the Secretary of the Army for Arlington National Cemetery use. The Navy Annex/FOB2, the Navy Exchange Service Station, and associated parking lots are to be demolished and all improvements removed from the property. The land would then be restored to open green space for cemetery use. Arlington County and the DoD may exchange equivalent acreage within the land transfer area, which will allow for the removal of Southgate Road from Columbia Pike to Gate 3 of Joint Base Myers-Henderson Hall, provide a site for a museum that honors the history of the freedmen's village and county heritage, and also provide for the building of a new access road from Gate 3 to Columbia Pike, along the western edge of the Navy Annex/FOB2 complex. The analysis found the implementation of the land transfer plan Alternative Options has no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative effects on the quality of the natural or human environment.
Where Draft EA May Be Reviewed: The EA is available on the internet at <http://www.whs.mil/fds/safety/index.htm> and in paper copy at the following libraries:
* Arlington County Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy Street, Arlington, VA 22201
* Aurora Hills Library, 735 S. 18th Street, Arlington, VA 22202
* Columbia Pike Library, 816 S. Walter Reed., Arlington, VA 22204
ADDRESSES: Please send written comments on the EA to:
Michael Dangerfield
100 Boundary Channel Drive
Arlington, Virginia 22202-3700
Email: Michael.Dangerfield@whs.mil
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Dangerfield at the address listed above or by phone on 703-692-1207 during normal business hours Monday through Friday.

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"Confliction"



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

I know I need to get out more, as in go places – out of town, specifically, and do more things (while I'm able), but I'm conflicted. Since my diagnosis, back in February 2009, my life has evolved into a variety of cancer-targeted pursuits whose goal was to survive the original 13-month-to-two-year prognosis I was given; from adhering to the standard cancer-treatment protocols with which most people are familiar: chemotherapy and/or radiation, lab work, diagnostic scans, regular and recurring appointments with my oncologist, etc., to lifestyle and diet changes: alkaline diet, alkaline water, miscellaneous pills and supplements, baking soda, apple cider vinegar, pureed asparagus, probiotics, exercise and so forth. And largely, given the 30-month point at which I am presently still living and breathing, these changes/modifications have had a presumably positive effect on my life expectancy.

In considering the facts/feelings and wondering still (always) about the future (and the present, too; let's be honest here), I feel like I'm at a crossroads of sorts: what to do/where to go next? If I want to live longer and hopefully prosper, perhaps something in my life needs to change. But change is difficult for me, especially when changes that I've made previously have apparently (not definitively) extended my life way beyond that rather grim and discouraging prognosis I received two and a half years ago.

Nevertheless, stagnation is probably not good for the soul, either. And if I want to continue to pretend that nothing is really wrong with me, staying in my routine, as much as I've come to embrace it, might not be the best long-term answer. I can't imagine that being afraid to live outside my cancer-fighting cocoon is the best revenge, as they say. But breaking free of some of these cancer-induced boundaries is risky – in my head, anyway, and worrisome, too; as in why mess with success? But if I don't, there's an ever-increasing sense that the mental restraints that I am self-imposing will weaken my resolve somehow and provide a type of aid and comfort to the enemy which I – and so many others, are fighting.

I can't stop thinking that to do so would be a leap of faith, however. And though I've had faith and belief in what I've been doing to support my immune system in fighting this insidious – and incurable disease (stage IV lung cancer), I still want to think and act like I'm open to, and always doing, more – without leaping too much. But if more (something new and different – for me) causes me to do less of what I have already been doing and what I perceive has been successful in keeping me alive/enabling me to outlive my original prognosis, then I start using some of my deceased father's made-up words, which means I don't have any of my own real words to accurately describe the stress, anxiety, fear, uncertainty and "confliction" I feel. And even though invoking my father's memory – in almost any context is a good thing, invoking it here, with respect to one of my cancer conundrums seems disturbing somehow, as if I'm involving him in something I'd rather spare him from knowing. Do you know what I mean?

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

SPORTS

Winners and Losers

FROM PAGE 19

The game was originally supposed to be played on McLean's home field. But due to the rainy weather the contest was moved to Madison's turf field in Vienna.

With the loss, McLean fell to 2-2 overall. It marked the second week in a row in which the Highlanders have lost a down-to-the-wire game. Two weeks ago, McLean lost a tough district game at Fairfax in overtime, 19-16. Madison, meanwhile, improved its record to 2-2 overall and 1-0 in the Liberty District.

McLean came up with some big plays in the first quarter of the game, getting a blocked field goal on one occasion and recovering a fumble deep in its own territory on another Madison attempt to put points on the board.

McLean opened the game's scoring in that opening quarter with an eight-play drive capped by a two-yard scoring run by Nathaniel Fletcher to take an early 6-0 lead.

Madison, however, got its offense untracked in the second quarter with a 10-yard touchdown run by Jacob Hall and a 22-yard field goal by Nick Dorka to take a 10-6 lead at the half.

Madison began the second half with a successful onside kick and seemed poised

to take control of the game, but a tipped ball interception gave the ball back to McLean, which went on to convert the turnover into a touchdown when Hunter Eckrod found the end zone on a two-yard touchdown run. Chris Rosenbaum added the extra point kick and McLean had the lead at 13-10. Later in the third quarter, Rosenbaum nailed a field goal from 45 yards out to increase the Highlanders' lead to 16-10.

But before the third quarter was through, Madison would score the touchdown which would prove to be the difference when quarterback Dan Powers found his favorite target, Tom House, for the game-winning 14-yard scoring pass.

In the fourth quarter, McLean, which had lost its starting quarterback, Ryan McColgan, to an injury in the first half, twice drove the ball into Warhawk territory. But Madison's defense ultimately came up with some big plays to end the threats.

McLean's leading ball carrier on the night was Eckrod, who rushed for 65 yards. Through the air, John Burke completed five-of-11 passes for 71 yards.

McLean will be home again this Friday night and be looking to break the .500 mark when it hosts the Marshall Statesmen at 7:30.

SPORTS NOTES

FROM PAGE 19

Rehberger, the Flint Hill QB, completed 7-of-12 passes for 86 yards and the two touchdowns. The Huskies' leading ball carrier was Ogundepo (11 carries, 93 yards, 1 TD).

Ben Kase, who had seven tackles and also two pass deflections, led the Flint Hill defense.

Caroline Harris, of Vienna was named the Foxcroft School (Middleburg) Athlete of the Week for the period ending Sept. 17. A senior and tri-captain of the varsity volleyball team, Harris recorded 15 digs and connected on 93 percent of her serves in Foxcroft's 3-1 victory over St. Michael the Archangel High School on Sept. 8 in Fredericksburg. The win ended a 16-game match losing streak for Foxcroft. Seven days later, Harris volunteered to run in a Delaney Athletic Conference cross-country race when Coach Matthew Mohler invited students to participate in the opening meet. Even though Harris had never competed before in a cross country event, she covered the arduous 3.1-mile course with a time of 26 minutes, 57 seconds, good for the top spot among Foxcroft's nine runners.

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics

The following are results of the ongoing Northern Virginia Senior Olympics taking place throughout the area:

SWIMMING: held Sept. 17-18 at Claude Moore Recreation Center in Sterling and the Washington-Lee High School Aquatic Center in Arlington. Gold medal winners on the men's side in freestyle went to: McLean's Chuck Dimeglio (ages 50-54); McLean's Roderick Uveges (65-69); Springfield's John Dineen (70-74); Great Falls' Paul Gesswein (75-79); Burke's Phil Case (80-84); and McLean's Chester Myslicki (90-94). Gold medals for women in freestyle: Herndon's Sandy Powers (55-59); McLean's Carmen Decarli (70-74); Fairfax Station's Minna Hamner (85-89).

Men's breaststroke winners: Herndon's Bret Bailey (50-54); Sterling's Eiji Yasuhara (60-64); McLean's Roderick Uveges (65-69); Springfield's John Dineen (70-74); Burke's Phil Case (80-84). Women's breaststroke winners: Herndon's Bobbe Duquette (55-59) and Fairfax Station's Minna Hamner (85-89).

Men's backstroke champions: McLean's Chuck Dimeglio (50-54); McLean's Roderick Uveges (65-69); Fairfax Station's Rufus Harris (70-74); Great Falls' Paul Gesswein (75-79); Burke's Phil Case (80-84). Women's champions: Sterling's Marion Marris (50-54); Herndon's Sandy Powers (55-59); McLean's Carmen Decarli (70-74); Fairfax Station's Minna Hamner (85-89).

Men's half-mile swim champions: Herndon's Bret Bailey (50-54); Burke's Ben

Viellel (55-59). Women's champions: Herndon's Sandy Powers (55-59); McLean's Carmen Decarli (70-74); Springfield's Gertrude DeRosa (75-79).

Gold medals (men's diving): Fairfax's Duane Clayton-Cox (65-69). Women's side: Sterling's Marion Marris (50-54).

TABLE TENNIS, yo-yo-tricks, miniature golf and cribbage (held Sept. 17-28 at James Lee Community Center in Falls Church). Men's Tennis Gold Medal Winners: Herndon's Qu Weishuang (60-69). Women winners: McLean's Jenny Chang Lang (55-59).

Men's yo-yo tricks: Burke's Dante Simbulan (novice division); Miniature golf, held at Oak Marr Mini Golf in Oakton. Men's gold: Reston's Christopher Dettmar (50-59); Cribbage: Springfield's Paul McFarland (gold).

WII BOWLING, Bunco, Billiards, Golf, held at Greenspring Retirement Committee, Sept. 20-21: Gold Medals went to Springfield's Clint Lambert (men's 60-69); Springfield's Ted Campbell (men's 80-89); Springfield's Ray Kaminski (men's 90-99); Springfield's Joan Matteson (women's 70-79).

Lincolnia Senior Center in Alexandria hosted the two-day billiards competition, Sept. 19-20. Men's Gold winners: Springfield's Joseph Clement (70-74); Springfield's Joseph Griffin (80-89). Anne Zvijac of Burke won a gold in bunco competition at the Hollin Hall Senior Center in Alexandria. In golf, held at Osprey Golf Club

in Woodbridge, on Sept. 21, gold medals went to Springfield's George Mazuzan (men's 70-79) and Clifton's Judy Landolt-Korns (women's 60-69).

WAKEFIELD PARK in Arlington was the site for racquetball and softball hit and throw. Men's racquetball gold medalists were: Fairfax's Kevin Quinley (55-59); Fairfax's Jay Wald (60-64); McLean's Peter Andrews (65-69). Women's gold winners: Sterling's Mabel Chin (75-79). Men's Softball Throw Champions: Fairfax's Andrew Dixon (70-75); Fairfax's Harry Deitz (80-84); Oakton's Tom Sullivan (65-69); Fairfax's Renold Beck (75-79). In women's competition, Sterling's Anita Stowe (55-59) earned gold.

Ten Pin (held at Bowl America Shirley) men's gold winners: Fairfax's Jerome Jackson (60-64); Springfield's Ted Crews (65-69); Centreville's William McSweeney (70-74). Horseshoes (held at Hollin Hall) men's winners: Fairfax's Bruce Fisher (60-64); Fairfax's Frederick Walker (70-74); McLean's Robert Stotz (75-79); Springfield's Leonard Kalkwarf (80-84); cycling, held Sept. 17-28 at the Vint Hill Community Center in Warrenton, Sept. 18. Gold medals went to: Oakton's Howard Van Houten (men's 55-59).

Line Dance, held Monday, Sept. 19 at the James Lee Community Center in Falls Church. Gold medals went to the Heatherwood Hotties (80-plus) of Burke, made up of Rita Marie Caruso, Connie Connell, Hilda Petersen, Jean Andrews, Dorothy Habermehl and Louis Fahey.

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