

Great Falls Goes to Polls

Voters make their decisions at the Great Falls Library Tuesday.

NEWS, PAGE 3

OPINION 8 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 16 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 19 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 21

Langley
Presents 'Grease'

NEWS, PAGE 18

Adeler Jewelers
Opens New
Showroom

NEWS, PAGE 7

Home Life Style

PAGE 11

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Danger Signals from 'New Tysons'

Confusing picture of the redevelopment financing.

BY NICHOLAS HORROCK
THE CONNECTION

As the Fairfax Planning Commission works furiously to establish a Tysons Corner Transportation cost payment plan before more development projects are approved, the commission hearings are sending out danger signals to taxpayers and the citizens of McLean and Vienna, the nearby communities.

At issue is the road and interchange construction to support the so-called "vision" of a new city of 100,000 people rising in Tysons Corner, where now only some 18,000 people reside and where thousands arrive and leave every day by car creating one of major auto tie ups in the United States.

The complicated financing from Dulles Toll Road revenues to special business tax districts to county bond sales, public tax

proceeds and contributions from federal and state governments has created a picture so confusing almost nobody can follow it.

Part of this "vision" is a Metro system of four stations allowing thousands of people to enter and leave Tysons Corner by rail. The first phase of the rail project, the so-called "Silver Line" is already under construction above the ground in Tysons.

Though the rail costs have no direct connection to the ground transportation changes that must be made in Tysons, the large cost overruns of Phase 2 of the Dulles

project that emerged this year has made some tax payers and government officials wary of the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority's management. Phase 2 cost estimates jumped nearly a billion dollars from \$2.5 billion to over \$3 billion.

ONLY TWO WEEKS AGO, after MWAA had reported for months that Phase 1 of Dulles Rail was on time and on budget, the projects executive director acknowledged that it was 194 days behind schedule and could be some \$150 million over budget. Pat Nowakowski told the MWAA board that

part of the overage came from new construction standards imposed after the 2009 accident on the Red Line by the National Transit Safety Board.

Rob Whitfield of the Dulles User Group said the overages were startling, but should not be overemphasized "in a \$3 billion project that is not unusual." But Mark Zetts of the McLean Citizen's Association said if the project is delayed six months past its original completion date of late 2013, the additional labor and material costs could be "very high."

In a series of interviews with members of citizen groups from McLean and Vienna who have tracked the Tysons Corner redevelopment "vision" since its inception, the Connection Newspapers found these sharp questions being posed:

Is the estimated cost of transportation improvements of \$1.7 billion valid?

Zetts, points out that the Planning Commission has assigned the county staff to updating that estimate. "All those estimates were made in 2009 and 2010. The county staff is updating those estimates because they have new methodology of estimating costs."

He said that the Planning Commission

SEE TYSONS, PAGE 5



PHOTO COURTESY METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AIRPORTS AUTHORITY
One of the two blue and yellow trusses has made its way to the median of Route 7 in Tysons Corner where it is building the guideway between the future Tysons Central 7 and Tysons West stations.

Focus Group

The Connection News Focus group included: Thomas L. Cranmer, Dranesville Director, Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance; Rob Whitfield, Dulles Corridor Users Group; Laurie Cole, Vienna Town Council; Fred Costello, Federation of Citizens Associations; Mark Zetts, McLean Citizens Association; and Bruce Bennett, Hunter Mill Defense League.

These are not members of the county, state or national government, but members of civic and taxpayer groups in the nearby communities of McLean and Vienna. In a sense, they are the representatives of tax-payers county wide; the people who will have to pay for much of these two astounding projects.



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Tysons Financing Under Scrutiny

FROM PAGE 4

announced on Oct. 22 that many of the material and the labor costs have gone up since 2009/2010 and it has asked the county staff to update and he expected an answer in about two weeks.

Zetts estimated that bottom line might rise by 5 percent or some \$85,000,000.

But Thomas L. Cranmer, Dranesville director of the Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance, thinks any update assessment of costs will be a lot higher than 5 percent. He said he examined one cost: the widening of Route 7 from Dulles Toll Road to Reston Avenue. The cost set in 2009/2011 was \$160,000,000. But Cranmer checked with the Virginia Department of Transportation and received an email from Mark Gibney at VDOT setting its cost estimate at \$300,000,000.

"That's \$140 million difference," he said, "It makes you think all estimates may be way off the mark too."

The transportation cost estimate does not include the grid of streets in the new Tysons, which theoretically will be built by developers as they lay out buildings and communities.

But Laurie Genevro Cole, a member of the Vienna Town Council, said she is concerned that the public understand that the transportation costs are only a small part of the costs of creating the Tysons Corner envisioned by the planning of the task force that met for five years.

"They still have to have schools, parks, a sewer system, and fire and police services and then there

is the plan for a circulator bus or trolley. All of that has not been considered yet." Indeed, the Tysons task force planning had proposals from almost every county department on what their needs would be in a new city.

THE KEY QUESTION before the Planning Commission is who should pay for all these changes?

Everyone the Connection Newspaper interviewed believed that the proportions mentioned when the 2009/2010 figures came out of 58 percent taxpayers and 42 percent developers was way off the mark of reality.

Fred Costello, who is on the board of directors of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations and the Taxpayers Alliance, said that the vastly increased density levels permitted in the new vision of Tysons will be a windfall in billions of dollars for the developers. "The cost should be borne by the beneficiaries in proportion to their benefit," he argues.

In effect, he and the others pointed out, the county is being asked to fund outlays in today's dollars that will reap millions for others when the projects get built. Costello argues the same point for the Dulles Rail project. "The developers and the rail riders are primary beneficiaries and they can afford to pay," he said.

Bruce Bennett of the Hunter Mill Defense League, and others think that a division of developers paying 75 percent of the cost and the taxpayers picking up 25 percent is more equitable.

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Looking south in Tysons Corner, HOT Lanes crews shifted I-495 North traffic last weekend to a new bridge over Rt. 123. This new overpass at Rt. 123 is one of more than 58 new overpasses being rebuilt as part of the HOT Lanes project. For more information, go to vamegaprojects.com.

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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS



PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Jorge Adeler speaks with a customer during the grand opening of Adeler Jewelers' new showroom, located at the Great Falls Village Centre.

Adeler Jewelers Opens New Showroom

Jorge Adeler calls new space 'firm commitment to this community.'

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

After more than three decades of doing business in Great Falls, Jorge Adeler had a clear goal in mind when building a new showroom in the Great Falls Village Centre.

"We've been here 31 years, and plan to stay at least another 31," he said. "This renovation represents a firm commitment to this community and an expression of gratitude to our customers."

Construction on Adeler Jeweler's new showroom began in April, and it officially opened the weekend of Oct. 28.

The new space is located adjacent to the original shop, and it features two stories, a bigger space and more displays. The décor, consisting of new wood floors, leather chairs and stone walls, is meant to convey a specific feel to Adeler's customers.

"We were searching for a feel, not something overly luxurious, but something that reflects the nature of Great Falls: natural beauty, down-to-earth, warm and friendly," Adeler said.

Shirley Dreisbach of McLean said she was very impressed with the class and simplicity of the store's new look.

"It's very common for jewelry stores to be beautiful, but also a little cold and clinical, but Adeler's is nothing like that," she said. "The fireplace at one end, the beautiful light fixtures and the chairs give off a look of comfort and friendliness, it's a place that seems very welcoming."

Adeler's daughter Val says the renovation is very exciting, "but we're still trying to find all the light switches," she said with a laugh.



From left, Wendy Adeler shows various pieces of jewelry to Katherine Beck and Germaine Louis at the new Adeler Jewelers showroom in Great Falls.

Adeler also had another reason for the renovation: more office space where he can keep his family close by. Adeler's two daughters, Wendy and Val, work at the shop as well.

"We've got offices and facilities so the grandchildren can watch TV, or use their computers, all while being close by," he said. "It helps us continue the family environment we've created here."

Adeler, whose jewelry is regularly worn by Hollywood stars on the red carpet or in magazine photo shoots, said there was never any serious consideration of moving anywhere but Great Falls.

"There's places like Tysons Corner and others, but we have the deepest roots here," he said. "We always wanted to be the jewelers of Great Falls."

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OPINION

On Veterans Day 2011

Honoring those in military service.

More than 6,000 U.S. military service men and women have died in Iraq and Afghanistan since Sept. 11, 2001. More than 50,000 have been wounded.

On Veterans Day, we honor and thank all those who have served in the military, in times of war and peace. It's an important moment to evaluate how we are serving the needs of veterans as well. The Post-9/11 GI Bill dramatically increases the educational benefits extended to members of the military who have served at least three months of active duty since Sept. 11, 2001. Steps to provide better, faster and more responsive health care to veterans, including mental health care are underway, but have a long way to go. Here, we must commit the resources to do better.

More than 175 U.S. military service personnel from Virginia have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan, including several in the last year.

Aaron Carson Vaughn, 30, was one of 30 American service members and 22 Navy SEALs killed Aug. 6, 2011 when their Chinook helicopter was shot down in Afghanistan. Vaughn's family has ties to McLean and Burke. He is survived by his wife, Kimberly, and their two small children.

Spc. Douglas Jay Green, 23 of Sterling, died Aug. 28, 2011, when insurgents attacked his unit using a roadside bomb in Kandahar province, Afghanistan. Green enlisted in 2007, after attending Potomac Falls High School.

OTHER RECENT Virginia deaths:

Staff Sgt. James Ronald Leep Jr., 44 of Richmond, died Oct. 17, 2011 at Forward Operating Base Kalsu near Iskandariya in Babil province, Iraq.

Spc. Levi Efrain Nuncio, 24 of Harrisonburg, died June 22, 2011 when enemy forces attacked his unit with small-arms fire in the Narang district of Kunar province, Afghanistan.

Capt. Michael Wray Newton, 30 of Newport News, died June 11, 2011 in Meymaneh, Faryab province, Afghanistan.

Capt. Charles A. Ransom, 31, of Midlothian was one of eight airmen who died April 27, 2011, at the Kabul International Airport, Afghanistan, from gunfire. Sgt. Sean T. Callahan, 23, of Warrenton was one of two Marines who died April 23, 2011 in combat in Helmand, Afghanistan.

Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Venetz Jr., 30, of Prince William died Jan. 28, 2011 in Afghanistan, in a non-combat incident. Venetz had been seriously wounded months before.

Spc. Sean R. Cutsforth, 22, of Radford died Dec. 15, 2010 in Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire.

Spc. William K. Middleton, 26, of Norfolk, was one of two soldiers who died Nov. 22 in Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked with an improvised explosive device.

Staff Sgt. Christopher F. Cabacoy, 30, of Virginia Beach, was one of two soldiers who died July 5, 2010, in Kandahar, Afghanistan, when insurgents attacked their vehicle with an improvised explosive device.

Pfc. Benjamin J. Park, 25, of Fairfax Station, Va., died June 18, 2010 at Zhari district, Kandahar, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when insurgents attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device.

May 12, 2010, Donald J. Lamar II, 23 of Fredericksburg, was killed in Afghanistan. Christopher D. Worrell, 35 of Virginia Beach, was killed

in Iraq on April 22, 2010. Steven J. Bishop, 29 of Christianburg, was killed March 13, 2010 in Iraq. Kielin T. Dunn, 19 of Chesapeake, was killed Feb. 18, 2010 in Afghanistan. Brandon T. Islip, 23 of Richmond, was killed Nov. 29, 2009, in Afghanistan. Stephan L. Mace, 21 of Lovettsville, died Oct. 3, 2009 in Afghanistan.

Bill Cahir, 40 of Alexandria, died Aug. 13, 2009 of a gunshot wound while conducting combat operations in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. After 9/11, Cahir left his career as a journalist to join the Marine Corps, and got a special exemption from Congress after his application to become a Marine was denied because of his age.

Fairfax Station resident Pfc. Dillon Jutras, 20, was killed in combat operations in Al Anbar Province of Iraq Oct. 29, 2005.

Lance Cpl. Daniel Ryan Bennett, 23 of Clifton died Jan. 11, 2009, in Helmand province, Afghanistan. "He loved his country, and we're so proud of him," said his mother.

2nd Lt. Sean P. O'Connor of Burke died Oct. 19, 2008 while stationed at Hunter Army Air Field, Savannah, Ga. O'Connor was an athlete in soccer, baseball and football who attended Fairfax County Public Schools and was a 1999 graduate of Bishop Denis J. O'Connell High School in Arlington.

Pfc. David Sharrett, 27 of Oakton, died Jan. 16, 2008 in Iraq. On Oct. 24, 2008, his father, David H. Sharrett, was on hand along with former U.S. Rep. Tom Davis (R) as the Oakton Post Office on White Granite Drive was renamed to honor his son.

Four months after the knock on the door that notified David Sharrett Sr. that his son had been killed fighting in Iraq came a second knock, informing him his son might have been killed by friendly fire. The father's four-year efforts to learn the truth about his son's death are part of a movie titled, "A Second Knock At The Door."

Army 1st Lt. Thomas J. Brown, a George Mason University graduate and Burke resident, died on Sept. 23, 2008, while serving in Iraq. His unit came under small arms fire, and Brown, 26, died from his wounds.

HERE ARE the names of some of the local men and women who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan. We repeat these names at least twice a year on Memorial Day and Veterans Day to honor their service and to keep their memories in our consciousness.

If you know of someone who should be included in this list, or if you would like to share how you are honoring the memory of a family member or friend lost, or about the progress of someone injured, please let us know.

Sgt. Scott Kirkpatrick, 26, died on Aug. 11, 2007, in Arab Jabour, Iraq. Kirkpatrick, who graduated from Park View High School in Sterling, and also considered Herndon and Reston as his hometowns, was a champion slam poet. His father, Ed Kirkpatrick, calls him the "warrior poet," and he and his wife help injured vets at Walter Reed through the Yellow Ribbon fund (www.yellowribbonfund.org).

Ami Neiberger-Miller of Sterling lost her brother, U.S. Army Spc. Christopher Neiberger, in August 2007 when he was killed by a roadside bomb while serving in Baghdad, Iraq. He was 22. Since her brother's death, Neiberger-Miller has devoted herself to the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (www.taps.org), which provides emotional support and other services for families of the fallen.

Staff Sgt. Jesse G. Clowers Jr., 27, of Herndon, died when an improvised bomb exploded near his

vehicle in Afghanistan on Aug. 12, 2007. Jonathan D. Winterbottom, 21, of Falls Church, died in Iraq on May 23, 2007, when an IED exploded near his vehicle.

Nicholas Rapavi, 22, of Springfield, died Nov. 24, 2006, of wounds received during combat in Anbar province in Iraq. Army Cpl. Andy D. Anderson, 24, was killed by enemy fire in Ar Ramadi, Iraq on Tuesday, June 6, 2006.

Airman 1st Class Lee Bernard E. Chavis, 21, was killed Oct. 14, 2006, by sniper fire in Iraq, trying to protect civilians from a roadside bomb.

Spc. Robert Drawl Jr., 21, a 2003 graduate of T.C. Williams High School, was killed by a bomb in Kunar, Afghanistan, on Aug. 19, 2006.

U.S. Army Specialist Felipe J. Garcia Villareal, 26 of Burke, was injured in Iraq and flown to Washington Hospital Center, where he died Feb. 12, 2006. He was a graduate of Herndon High School.

Capt. Shane R. M. Mahaffee, 36, a 1987 graduate of Mount Vernon High School, died May 15, 2006. He was a lawyer, married, with two children. His parents live in Alexandria.

U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Nicholas Kirven, 21, was killed in Afghanistan in 2005 during a firefight in a cave with insurgents. He enlisted while still in high school after 9/11. Maj. William F. Hecker III, a 1987 graduate of McLean High School, was killed in action in An Najaf, Iraq, Jan. 5, 2005. Staff Sgt. Ayman Taha, 31, of Vienna, was killed Dec. 30, 2005, when an enemy munitions cache he was prepping for demolition exploded. Army Capt. Chris Petty of Vienna was killed Jan. 5, 2006.

Staff Sgt. George T. Alexander Jr., the 2,000th soldier to be killed in Iraq, was literally born into the Army here in Northern Virginia at DeWitt Army Hospital at Fort Belvoir. Alexander died at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 22, 2005, of injuries sustained in Samarra, Iraq, Oct. 17.

Lt. Col. Thomas A. Wren, 44, of Lorton, died in Tallil, Iraq on Nov. 5, 2005. Marine Capt. Michael Martino, 32 of the City of Fairfax, died Nov. 2, 2005, when his helicopter was brought down in Iraq.

1st Lt. Laura M. Walker of Oakton was killed on Aug. 18, 2005, in Kandahar, Afghanistan. CW4 Matthew S. Lourey of Lorton died from injuries sustained on May 26, 2005 in Buhruz, Iraq.

Operations Officer Helge Boes of Fairfax was killed on Feb. 5, 2003, while participating in counterterrorism efforts in eastern Afghanistan.

Among other local lives lost: Lance Cpl. Tavon Lee Hubbard, 24, of Reston; 1st Lt. Alexander Wetherbee, 27, of McLean; 1st Lt. Jeff Kaylor, 25, of Clifton; Coast Guard Petty Officer Nathan B. Bruckenthal, 24, of Herndon; Army Chief Warrant Officer Sharon T. Swartworth, 43, of Mount Vernon; Command Sgt. Maj. James D. Blankenbecler, 40, of Mount Vernon; Capt. James F. Adamowski, 29, of Springfield; Sgt. DeForest L. Talbert, 22, of Alexandria; Marine Cpl. Binh N. Le, 20, of Alexandria; Staff Sgt. Russell Verdugo, 34, of Alexandria. Army Capt. Mark N. Stubenhofer, 30, from Springfield; Marine Gunner Sgt. Javier Obleas-Prado Pena, 36, from Falls Church; Marine Sgt. Krisna Nachampassak, 27, from Burke; Army Staff Sgt. Nathaniel J. Nyren, 31, from Reston; Marine Lance Cpl. Tenzin Dengkhim, 19, from Falls Church; Navy Chief Joel Egan Baldwin, 37, from Arlington; Maj. Joseph McCloud, of Alexandria, and Major Gloria D. Davis, 47 of Lorton.

— MARY KIMM

THE CONNECTION

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WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

Veterans Day Ceremony at Great Falls Freedom Memorial

On Friday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m. the Great Falls Freedom Memorial Committee will hold its annual Veterans Day Ceremony at the site of the Freedom Memorial (behind the Great Falls Library at 9830 Georgetown Pike).

The speaker will be Great Falls resident Lawrence McKinley, who served as a rotary wing aviator in a Medical Evacuation Company in the Army and the Army National Guard and in combat in the Vietnam War and Desert Storm. An active volunteer in several organizations, McKinley was honored by the Fairfax Resolves Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution as its 2010 Citizen of the Year.

Members of the Great Falls Village Green Day School kindergarten class will lead the Pledge of Allegiance and the Madrigal Choir of Langley High School will provide music for this event.

This ceremony is open to all and ample parking is available in the library parking lot. In case of rain, the ceremony will move into the library's meeting room.

Essay Contest Winners To Be Announced

This past summer, the Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial conducted its First Annual Essay Contest. The contest was open to all rising 5th and 6th grade students at the three elementary schools serving the Great Falls community and Great Falls students who are home-schooled or enrolled in a

private school. The students were invited to describe "A Virginia Hero!" using three of the words encircling the Freedom Memorial. Winners will be announced on Friday, Nov. 11, 2011, at the Veterans Day Ceremony to be held at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial.

The Essay Contest Awards Ceremony will be held on Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011, at 2 p.m. in the Great Falls Library.

Checkpoint Strikeforce Marks 10th Anniversary

The Fairfax County Police Department is participating in the Checkpoint Strikeforce campaign to stop drunk driving through a combination of public education and stepped-up enforcement. This year marks the 10th year of the Checkpoint Strikeforce campaign and the campaign is paying life-saving dividends: Since 2001, Virginia has seen a 23 percent decrease in alcohol-related fatalities and a 32 percent decrease in alcohol-related injuries.

Throughout this fall, Fairfax police are focused on keeping roads free from drunk drivers. This year, Fairfax law enforcement efforts will include sobriety checkpoints, saturation patrols and heavy enforcement around the holidays. Their next event, a sobriety checkpoint, is scheduled for Nov. 5.

Across Virginia in 2010, 32,760 drunk driving arrests were made, which resulted in 29,063 convictions — an average of one DUI conviction every 18 minutes.

Learn more about Checkpoint Strikeforce at www.checkpointstrikeforce.net.



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The Brainy Bunch recently held a food drive and donated the food to SHARE kitchen. From left, Aly Luckett, Andy Zhao, Ryan Gottwald, Jordan Ganley, Arthur Tisseront and Dhriti Vij.

Brainy Bunch, Scionic Smarties Promote Food Safety

The Brainy Bunch is a group of six 8th-graders at Kilmer Middle School from Great Falls and Vienna who decided to tackle 2011 First Lego League challenge: Food Safety. In addition to building and programming robots using NXT MINDSTORMS technology, the Brainy Bunch team members — Jordan Ganley and Aly Luckett of Vienna and Ryan Gottwald, Arthur Tisseront, Dhriti Vij and Andy Zhao of Great Falls — have been researching and interviewing health professionals in pursuit of learning about food safety problems and solutions. They are working on innovative solutions for milk safety. The Brainy Bunch recently held a food drive and donated the food to SHARE kitchen. In addition, the Brainy Bunch designed a food-safety flyer that was included in the Vienna Halloween Parade's goody bags and distributed at the parade. The Brainy Bunch has been giving presentations on the importance of food safety and hand washing at local schools. Their philosophy is "Raising food safety awareness is the first step toward prevention of

foodborne illness."

Scionic Smarties is a group of five elementary school children from Great Falls and Vienna who have been actively researching about the 2011 First Lego League research topic, Food Safety. Scionic Smarties team comprises Aaraj Vij, Alex Tisseront, Anvitha Metpally, Siona Prasad and Vishnu Murthy. They have been interviewing health professionals and scientists about issues related to food safety. The team has researched about corn safety and the problems related to the storage of corn. They have created an affordable storage solution for corn farmers in developing countries after having discussed the feasibility of their solution with scientists from Purdue University. Scionic Smarties have conducted a survey to gauge the food safety awareness in the community. They are brainstorming strategies to improve food safety awareness in the community. They believe that their corn storage solution will reduce the wastage of corn thus helping reduce world hunger. Their philosophy is "Prevention is better than Spoilage and Wastage."

FAITH NOTES

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

every month at 10:15 a.m. allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Epiphany United Methodist Church, 1014 Country Club Drive, N.E. in Vienna, will hold its Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, Nov. 20 at 11 a.m. The sermon topic is "Why Me, Lord." office@epiphanyumc.com or 703-938-3494.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean. The third Sunday service

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

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—Miguel de Cervantes

Kitchen Confidential

Many approaches, most include green-design elements.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Whether used to sip morning coffee or to host a large dinner party, the kitchen is often the most occupied room in a home. Local interior designers and the National Kitchen and Bath Association say the trendiest kitchen design elements of 2011 and 2012 are glass, cabinetry with dark finishes, energy-efficient lighting and accessories, double-wall ovens, walk-in pantries and induction cook tops.



PHOTO COURTESY 2 IVY LANE INTERIORS

WHEN PASSIONATE COOKS with a flair for coordinating colors and a commitment to energy efficiency collaborate on a kitchen design project, it is no surprise that the end result incorporates current trends. That is what happened when David Bauer, an environmental consultant, and Joanne Bauer, a museum curator and artist, hired Alexandria-based architect Laura Campbell to remodel their Reston home.

This Fairfax County kitchen, designed by Alex Deringer and Courtney Cox of 2 Ivy Lane Interiors, has a dramatic skylight and large windows to let in natural light.

The couple had lived in their home for 20 years when they decided to do a major renovation.

"The kitchen was so small that you could only open one appliance at a time," said Joanne Bauer. "I cook

SEE CREATING DREAM KITCHEN, PAGE 12

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Home Life Style

Creating Dream Kitchens

FROM PAGE 11

a lot, and we entertain a lot. When we had a lot of people over, I was always holed up in the kitchen while everyone else was having a good time [in another part of the house]."

The Bauers wanted their kitchen to be a spacious room in which family and friends could flow in and out freely.

"[Our new kitchen] is the kind of kitchen where [there is room for] people to help with cooking. It has an open floor plan and works well for entertaining," said Bauer. "Now what was once our kitchen is a walk-in pantry."

Because their appliances can be seen from the living room, the Bauers covered them with flat-faced cherry wood cabinet fronts and attached brushed stainless steel pulls for opening and closing.

Their choice of an induction cooktop as well as their lighting selection underscores the couple's desire for energy efficiency. Campbell put in LED under-counter lights that provide drama and task lighting without adding heat or using much energy.

"They have a beautiful, wooded yard," said Campbell. "... [W]e placed the sink and island to take advantage of [the view], adding a skylight over the island."

The couple, who are hikers, chose colors that are reminiscent of their outdoor treks. "The granite countertops remind us of stone we've seen on our hikes. We love the integrated colors."

Campbell created a niche just outside the kitchen where Joanne Bauer could display art, including her own.

"The kitchen is open, and it flows," said Bauer. "But it's like a cooking show; if I screw up, everyone will know."

LET THERE BE LIGHT (AND GLASS)

When Alexandria-based designers Alex Deringer and Courtney Cox of 2 Ivy Lane Interiors designed a kitchen in Fairfax County recently, they took a light approach.



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

The homeowners wanted a spacious and elegant room for entertaining that also accommodated their children.

The result was a kitchen with white marble counters and white, custom-designed, painted wood cabinets, including some glass-front cabinets with interior lighting. The island has a rosewood counter surface, creating a dramatic contrast against the light-hued wood.

"The appliances have cabinet overlays, so they blend in with the rest of the cabinetry," said Cox. "Custom cabinets give you a more refined look."

The most dramatic feature in this room is the colossal skylight above the island. Other large windows add additional natural light.

"[This owner] is a very light-driven person," said Deringer.

GO GREEN

When Holly and Rick Wolff bought a second home in their North Arlington neighborhood, they gutted and remodeled it. Having lived across the street in a smaller home for 30 years, they wanted more space, especially in the kitchen.

"[Our previous house] had a tiny kitchen, and I wanted a big kitchen with an island where our family could congregate and talk and relax," said Holly Wolff.



DONATED PHOTO

When remodeling their Reston home, Joanne and David Bauer chose an induction cooktop as well as LED lighting. Alexandria Architect Laura Campbell designed a spacious room in which family and friends could flow in and out freely.

Environmentally active since they started a paper recycling program as students at George Washington University, the Wolffs hired green architect David Peabody, to design the new kitchen.

"Almost everything in the kitchen is green," said Holly Wolff. "Our cabinets are bamboo. We have a cork floor that is sustainable. Our counters are Riverstone concrete."

Peabody, an Alexandria-based architect,

added a long wall of windows and placed the sink in the middle. The breakfast room, which was once a screened porch, is now enclosed in glass and adjoins the kitchen.

"What we decided to do was to expand the kitchen out in the back about six feet and then enclose the porch so it is one streaming room," said Holly Wolff. "It added all this light to the back end of the house. We put windows everywhere we could. Now we have light everywhere: sun tubes, skylights. David is a firm believer in light."



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL

Alexandria based interior designer Sarah Pak used custom cherry wood cabinets and honed black granite counters when she remodeled the kitchen of this Old Town Alexandria home. The homeowner wanted the kitchen to be an open, flowing workspace with a large island and room for a family dining table.

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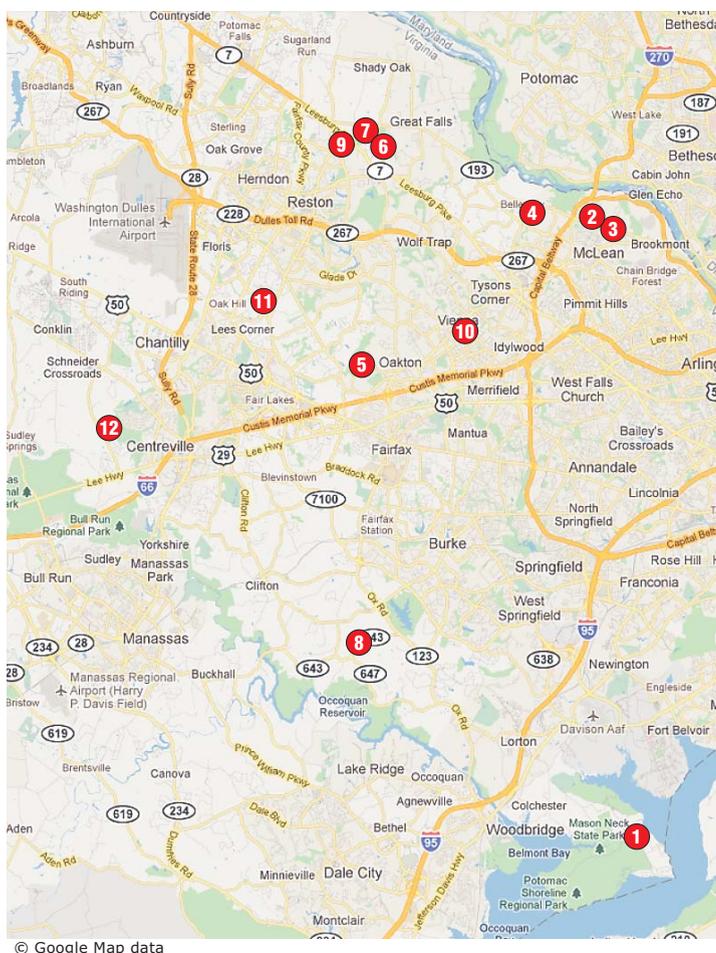
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HomeLifeStyle

This home, purchased by former Hewlett Packard chief executive Carly Fiorina sits on 5.1 acres and has six bedrooms, eight bathrooms and two half-bathrooms. It has spectacular views of the river from virtually every room.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUE GOODHEART, OF MCENEARNEY ASSOCIATES



\$6.1 Million for Waterfront Home

High profile buyers acquire top properties.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Some waterfront and Alexandria real estate gems have been scooped up recently. Former Hewlett Packard chief executive Carly Fiorina shelled out \$6.1 million for a home along the Potomac River on Gunston Road in the Mason Neck section of Alexandria.

The house, which originally listed for \$7.7 million, sits on 5.1 acres and has six bedrooms, eight bathrooms and two half-bathrooms. It sold in September.

"This home is located on a particularly beautiful part of the Potomac River," said listing agent Sue Goodheart of McEneaney Associates. "The lot was leveled so that you can have direct access to the water. In every room you have a spectacular view of the river. There are a lot of open areas and open stairwells." Goodheart says the home is in a gated community, offering privacy.

Ferry Point is the location of another Alexandria water-front property which sold recently. Originally listed at \$10.7 million, the 7,000-square-foot home sold in August for \$8.2 million. It sits on 11.7 acres and has six bedrooms, five bathrooms and one half-bathroom. A winding, tree-lined driveway leads visitors through the lush grounds to the main the house. The property includes a carriage house with a two-bedroom, one-bathroom guest apartment.

The main house features four fireplaces including one outdoor fireplace, a pool, a green house, stables



and a boat dock.

In Old Town, a five-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bathroom home in the historic district sold for \$3.5 million, originally listed at \$4 million. The four-story home includes a pool, 12-foot ceilings and eight fireplaces. It still has the original woodwork and floors. Ideal for entertaining, the home has a library and a large library that overlooks the gardens.

"It was built in 1870 and has ... eight fireplaces and beautiful gardens," said Goodheart. She says the double lot, large for the area, was another attraction for buyers.

While those homes are no longer on the market, Goodheart says there are others that are just as spectacular. She names, a \$4.85 million home on Fairfax Street in the heart of Old Town with six bedrooms, four bathrooms, two half-bathrooms and an air-conditioned two-car garage.

Originally built in 1770, it is an 8,000-square-foot home on a quarter-acre lot. The home has built-in book cases, antique limestone mantels on six fireplaces and ceramic tile in the bathrooms. It has grand rooms for entertaining. Other amenities include an historic smokehouse and a chef's kitchen with an adjoining breakfast room.

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10604 Goldeneye Ln.....\$589,000.. Sun 1-4.....Diane Lenahan.....Wolf Run.. 703-283-7328
4644 Hummingbird Ln.....\$499,000.. Sun 1-5.....Lena Restivo.....Weichert.. 703-855-7341

Great Falls

11300 Seneca View Way ..\$1,725,000.. Sun 1-4.....Carol Ellickson.....Weichert.. 703-759-6300
10911 Belgavia Ct.....\$2,095,000.. Sun 1-4.....Said Zangeneh.....Weichert.. 703-759-6300
10914 Belgavia Ct.....\$859,000.. Sun 1-4.....Carol Jones.....Weichert.. 703 201 5952

Herndon

12124 Eddyspark Dr.....\$500,000.. Sun 1-4.....Jason Wolin.....RE/MAX Allegiance.. 703-505-6886
3100 Bronzeagate Ct.....\$1,299,000.. Sun 1-4.....Tonya Nelson.....Weichert.. 703-569-7870
12007 Meadowville Ct.....\$754,900.. Sun 1-4.....Karin Ebner.....Weichert.. 703-899-7952

Leesburg

18944 Woodburn Road.....\$499,900.. Sat 12-3.....George Azzouz.....Samson Props.. 703-728-0843
18944 Woodburn Road.....\$499,900.. Sun 1-4.....George Azzouz.....Samson Props.. 703-728-0843

Lorton

8810 Hampton Station Ct.. \$734,950.. Sun 1-4.. Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert.. 703-862-8808

McLean

6429 Georgetown Pike...\$1,650,000.. Sun 1-4.....Monica Gibson.....Keller Williams.. 703-944-3434

Oak Hill

2831 Mustang Dr.....\$849,000.. Sun 1-4.....Anne Lefevere.....Weichert.. 703-402-7595

Oakton

3515 Willow Green Ct.....\$799,000.. Sun 1-4..Liane Carlstrom MacDowell..Brookside Realty.. 703-803-8335

Reston

1509 Autumn Ridge Cir.....\$394,900.. Sun 1-4.....Sheri Daniel.....Keller Williams.. 703-489-2656
1535 Woodcrest Dr.....\$289,900.. Sun 1-4.....Teresa Kidwell.....Century 21.. 703-818-0111
11930 Sentinel Point Ct.....\$410,000.. Sun 1-4.....Sheila Cooper.....Weichert.. 703-759-6300
2411 Albot Rd.....\$324,900.. Sun 1-4.....Brian Lester.....Weichert.. 703-264-0000

Springfield

9194 Forest Breeze Ct.....\$319,950.. Sun 1-4..Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert.. 703-862-8808
8011 Parklane Ct.....\$465,000.. Sun 1-4.....Monica Adams.....RE/MAX.. 703-434-9400

Sterling

20974 Flatboat Ct.....\$622,000.. Sun 1-4.....Dina Azzam.....Re/Max.. 703-403-3830

Vienna

9794 Meadow Valley Dr.....\$824,000.. Sun 1-4.....Jean Woods.....Re/Max.. 571-223-2664
9314 Robnel Pl.....\$765,000.. Sun 1-4.....Paula Stewart.....Weichert.. 703-408-5854

To add your FREE Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please contact Salome Gaibler at 703-778-9421 or salome@connectionnewspapers.com All listings are due by Monday at 3 P.M.

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Here's What's Happening at MCC



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35th Annual McLean Antiques Show & Sale

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Sunday, Nov. 13, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Admission: \$7, good both days

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November 18 and 19, 8 p.m.
\$10/\$5 district residents

Rated PG-13. An evening of comedic one-act plays by Alden Theatre's Studio Rep.



Sunday Soiree Happy Thanksgiving

Sunday, Nov. 20, 3-5 p.m.
Admission: \$5 at the door

Dance or just listen to the music of The Wayne Tympanick Trio. Refreshments will be served.

From Scotland Puppet State Theatre Company's The Man Who Planted Trees

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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/NOV. 9

Canadian Folk Singer Dala. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1635 Trap road, Vienna. \$20. www.wolftrap.org.

The Supervillains and The Movement. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Travel to the Jungle. 10:30 a.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Stories and activities to take you on safari. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-356-0770.

Getting Ready for Hibernation. 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Some animals are busy preparing for winter. Meet an animal and find out about hibernation. Ages 2-5 with adult. 703-757-8560.

THURSDAY/NOV. 10

Jonathan Tyler & The Northern Lights and Robert Ellis. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Eric Brace & Last Train Home. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1635 Trap road, Vienna. Roots rock. \$20. www.wolftrap.org.

Storyteller and Artist Nancy Hannans. 7:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Free. 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

"The Adventures of Robin Hood." 7:30 p.m. The Langley School, 1411 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Robin and his Merry Men attempt to outsmart the Sheriff of Nottingham and rescue Maid Marian. Tickets \$7, available at www.langleyschool.org.

"Eurydice." 7:30 p.m. G. C. Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. The tale of Orpheus, told from the perspective of his wife, Eurydice, in Hades. \$10 adults and \$5 students and seniors. asideat52@yahoo.com.

FRIDAY/NOV. 11

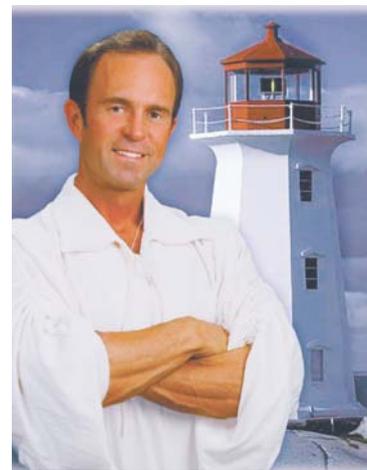
The 10th Annual Jazz 4 Justice: Celebrating the Music of WWI. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With selections from George and Ira Gershwin, Sholom Secunda, Sammy Cahn, Woody Herman and Joe Bishop, Wycliffe Gordon, Jerry Bock and Larry Holofcener. \$20, \$15 students and seniors. www.music@gmu.edu.

Charlie Mars and Nate Ihara (solo acoustic). 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

"The How and the Why." 8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. On the eve of a prestigious conference, an up-and-coming evolutionary biologist wrestles for the truth with an established leader in the field. Tickets \$25. www.1ststagetysons.org or 703-854-1856.

Wolf Trap Debut Artist: Robert Belinic. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1635 Trap road, Vienna. Croatian guitarist performing classic works from Bach, Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Antonio Lauro and more. \$35. www.wolftrap.org.

"The Adventures of Robin Hood." 7:30 p.m. The Langley School, 1411 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Robin and his Merry Men attempt to outsmart the Sheriff of Nottingham and rescue Maid Marian. Tickets \$7, available at www.langleyschool.org.



Baritone Charlie Zahm (pictured) and fiddler Tad Marks will have two performances on Sunday, Nov. 13, at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., at The Snuggery of the Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road in Great Falls. Tickets are \$15. Reserve at 703-759-3309. www.charliezahm.com or www.oldbrogue.com.

"Eurydice." 7:30 p.m. G. C. Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. The tale of Orpheus, told from the perspective of his wife, Eurydice, in Hades. \$10 adults and \$5 students and seniors. asideat52@yahoo.com.

SATURDAY/NOV. 12

7th Annual Fairfax County History Conference. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. With the theme of "Fairfax Divided" the Fairfax County History Commission in 2011 will focus on Fairfax County's Civil War heritage. With Steve Potter on Civil War Archaeology, Gar Schulin on Gen. Robert E. Lee, Susan Hellman on Woodlawn & Quaker life at the onset of the Civil War, and David Blake on Buckland, early skirmishes of the war, and preservation of present day Buckland. Breakfast and lunch provided. Admission \$25. 703-293-6227 ext. 6.

Bobby Long and Rayland Baxter at 8 p.m.; Aziatix and SNRG at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Rock Band Daughtry. 7:30 p.m. American Freedom Festival Washington, Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Tickets range from \$39.50-\$139.50, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. Military tickets will be available at a discount through www.patriotcenter.com.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. With harpist Yolanda Kondonassis. Mozart's Symphony No. 10, Barber's Adagio for Strings, Ginastera's Harp Concerto, Barber's First Essay for Orchestra, and Schubert's Symphony No. 5. Free pre-concert discussion for ticketholders at 7 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$55. info@fairfaxsymphony.org.

VVFD Auxiliary Fall Bazaar. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, 400 Center St. South, Vienna. Crafts, holiday decorations and more. Lunch and homemade baked goods available for purchase. Proceeds help the fire department purchase fire and rescue equipment. 703-309-3468 or Dancers1023@aol.com.

"The How and the Why." 2 p.m. and

8 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. On the eve of a prestigious conference, an up-and-coming evolutionary biologist wrestles for the truth with an established leader in the field. Tickets \$25. www.1ststagetysons.org or 703-854-1856.

The 51st Annual Harvest Bazaar Fall Festival and Craft Show. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry Street, S.E., Vienna. Over 75 crafters and vendors. Bake sale and children's activities. All proceeds benefit the Vienna Women's Club's youth scholarship fund. Admission \$1. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

The Bobs. 7:30 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1635 Trap road, Vienna. A cappella madness. \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

"The Adventures of Robin Hood." 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The Langley School, 1411 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Robin and his Merry Men attempt to outsmart the Sheriff of Nottingham and rescue Maid Marian. Tickets \$7, available at www.langleyschool.org.

Music: An Insider's Guide Lecture. 4 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. Brass Bands and the Civil War. Presented by A. Scott Wood, conductor of the Amadeus Orchestra. Adults. 703-356-0770.

Saturday Storytime. 11 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Stories, songs, and fingerplays. Age 2-3 with adult. 703-757-8560.

Sweat for a Vet. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Tysons Sport&Health, 8250 Greensboro Drive, McLean. A three hour cardio fundraising event with competitions on rowing machines, KRANKcycles and indoor bikes. Proceeds will be donated to help wounded warriors at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. 703-519-1600 ext. 103 or www.sportandhealth.com.

"Eurydice." 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. G. C. Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. The tale of Orpheus, told from the perspective of his wife, Eurydice, in Hades. \$10 adults and \$5 students and seniors. asideat52@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY/NOV. 13

"The How and the Why." 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. 1st Stage, 1524 Spring Hill Road, Tyson's Corner. On the eve of a prestigious conference, an up-and-coming evolutionary biologist wrestles for the truth with an established leader in the field. Tickets \$25. www.1ststagetysons.org or 703-854-1856.

McLean Orchestra: Holiday Mozart. 4 p.m. St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Mozart's Jupiter Symphony directed by Maestro A. Scott Wood. Flutist Emma Resmini will perform Mozart's Concerto for Flute No. 2 in D Major. Preceded by "Tea Time with Scott and Emma," and a reception follows the concert. All proceeds benefit the McLean Orchestra Musician Fund. www.mclean-orchestra.org/holiday-mozart.

Amadeus Concerts American Tribute. 7:30 p.m. Saint Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean. The Washington Symphonic Brass with Douglas Mears, conductor, perform music of the era in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. Tickets \$25, age 17 and under free. www.amadeusconcerts.com or 703-759-5334.

Baritone Charlie Zahm and Fiddler Tad Marks. 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. The Snuggery of the Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760-C Walker Road, Great Falls. Tickets \$15. Reserve at 703-759-3309. www.oldbrogue.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Town Meeting on Long Range Planning

To the Editor:

We are writing to inform you of a Town Meeting on Nov. 15, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at the Great Falls Grange, at which a draft of a Long Range Plan for Great Falls, will be presented for community discussion.

The ideas for this draft plan came from the community in 2007 during the 2020 Vision Survey and a meeting of leaders of the many community volunteer groups and businesses, in November 2010. The intent of this effort is to develop a plan on possible ways that Great Falls can become a better place to live, work and play, in the future. This draft also shows preliminary concepts of improvements in the commercial area near Walker Road and Georgetown Pike, including underground utilities, improved walking capability throughout, candidate locations for a possible community center/performing arts center, and possible avenues for funding.

We are at the beginning of a public discussion process, during which we hope to determine the extent of public support for the various elements. The draft plan and concept map are also available for download from the Great Falls Citizen's Association website, gfca.org, in the section called "Long Range Planning." Please come to the meeting, and participate in a good turnout and discussion on Nov. 15.

Glen Sjoblom and **Doug Cobb**, Co-chairs
Long Range Planning Committee, GFCA

Trick or Treat: Social Networking at its Worst

To the Editor:

On Saturday, (Oct. 29, 2011) we were awakened at around midnight by traffic sounds, loud music, and the sounds of drunken revelry. From our front door, we could not believe the sights. Georgetown Pike was at a standstill, traffic inching along; unknown cars parked in our driveway and on the narrow swale on both sides of Georgetown Pike, Miller, and Ellsworth avenues. Young people were carrying what appeared to be sacks of beer and bottles down Georgetown Pike, while others were walking across the darkness of our front yard heading to the "party," as they insisted. Taxis were dropping off and picking up passengers dressed in Halloween costumes; cars were haphazardly abandoned in the travel portion of the Pike; Fairfax County Police were at work clearing an accident East of Miller Ave.; and, a wrecker was hauling a car out of the steep shoulder alongside the Pike in front of our property. Although no damage or injury was apparent, the two occupants of that car appeared incoherent and unfazed. Incredibly, the attendees were from all over the Metropolitan region, D.C., Maryland, Northern Virginia, Pennsylvania and even California, judging by the tags on the cars parked in our yard.

Waving off traffic at the entrance to our driveway, well past midnight, we were joined by our neighbors to the south. Together, we stood guard keeping the determined drunken revelers from parking in our yards. There were already seven cars in there by the time we were alerted to this situation.

Several hundred attendees, by our best estimate, were coming and going for hours. It was a night of opportunity for underage drinking, driving while impaired, and just plain stupidity. We believe we saw it all.

This "house tearing bash" took place on property that was, until recently, occupied by a quiet and distinguished couple who resided in Great Falls for more

than thirty years. But, the times have changed. Now, their home has been acquired by someone who plans to build another Great Falls mansion. From what we read, it was apparently his idea to throw this bash. We now know this because all the details are out there on the Internet, where the invitations were posted.

This modern day version of Woodstock occurred on what the postings describe as a "venue." The message posted on the WWW states: "The property has been bought by one of our friends and has two houses. The main house will be bulldozed after the party (the owner actually contemplated how cool it would be to blow it up in the wee hours of the night... oh, I don't think that's going to be a good idea!)." The new owner is also quoted in the post as stating: "I want you to throw a hell of a party." The advice in the posting covered everything from the type of alcoholic beverages to be served, the music to be played and the event's expected end time (5 a.m.).

We thought that permits were necessary for any event where alcoholic beverages were dispensed — apparently not for this one. Yet, other details were not overlooked — even the bathroom accommodations were detailed in the description provided by the promoters. The internet posting states: "BATHROOMS: Another obvious question from the ladies. There are 3 clean bathrooms, with paper. We'll encourage the men to use alternatives outside." Alternatives outside? That must have meant that people would be encouraged to relieve themselves on the lawn, as no port-a-potties or other sanitary facilities were provided. Incredible! Welcome to Great Falls!

E.P. Falcone
Great Falls

Commercialization Of Our Parks

To the Editor:

It was an unbelievable admission by the Fairfax County Park Authority that the policy of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is that the Park Authority is authorized to commercialize our parks and more stunning, they do not have to inform the public or the Board of Supervisors. Additionally, they don't have to conduct environmental impact studies and they don't have to conduct traffic studies before they sign contracts for commercialization.

The Fairfax County Park Authority recently signed a contract which allows an amusement park developer to build a commercial enterprise (GoApe) in Riverbend Park and supplement the attraction with food and clothing sales.

Supervisor Foust either knew about this before the contact was signed and failed to take action to stop it or else he and the Board failed to institute appropriate safeguards requiring the Park Authority to notify and obtain approval from the Board of Supervisors before signing a contract that will have such an enormous impact on the community. To make matters even worse, the neighbors impacted by the new facility were never notified, an environmental impact study was never done, and a traffic study was never conducted.

Riverbend Park is a neighborhood, regional and national asset. I think a commercialization program at Riverbend Park is terrible idea. But even for those who think it is a good idea, the process for doing it (no notification, no studies) is horribly flawed.

Bill Smith
McLean

Produced by Pappabello Shows
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Fri, Nov 18	Physical Education, 12:15 - 1 pm	RSVP: Bethany Baker • bbaker@w-e-s.org	

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Fri, Nov 11 9:00 am

HOW TO GET YOUR ORGANIZATION'S SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE CONNECTION

Calendar Listings

The Connection Newspapers contain a Calendar of Upcoming Events every week. While we cannot guarantee that every event we receive information about will be listed, here is the information we need for your upcoming event to be considered for the Calendar. We welcome photographs of similar events held previously, which sometimes appear with Calendar items.

Name of Event:

Day of the Week, Date and Time:

Name of the Place Event will Be Held:

Address of the Place Event Will Be Held:

Name and Phone Number for More Information:

Three Sentences Describing the Event:

Please submit your calendar information at least two weeks before your event. Clear photographs from similar previous events are always welcome.

All events should be open to the public. We give first priority to free events. E-mail listings to:

greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com

or mail to:

Calendar, Connection Newspapers
1606 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314.

For more information, call 703-778-9410.

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SCHOOLS

Langley Presents 'Grease'

Fall musical tells tale of teen love in the 50s.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Langley High School senior Andrew Jones has seen the film "Grease" plenty of times. But when it came time for the school's theater department to stage the play as their fall musical, he realized there was more than meets the eye.

"When you look at the movie, it doesn't seem too complex," said Jones, who plays Kenickie. "But after putting it on, it's surprisingly difficult. There's a lot of implied plot that happens around everything else that's going on."

The musical, written in 1971 and turned into a hit film in 1978, tells the story of two teens dealing with the aftermath of their romance in the summer of 1958. While Danny and Sandy deal with the reality that follows their summer fling, their friends deal with issues of their own.

The cast and crew of the show acknowledge that they took a while to get the production off the ground, but by their Friday rehearsal they feel like they finally clicked.

"We had to do a lot of rehearsals in the cafeteria, but once we were able to get on set, it came alive,"

said Phyliss Jaffe, the school's theatre arts director. "It's a good play because there are a lot of parts, and it's one of those shows that the kids suggest year after year, and we felt it was time."

Jaffe said she encouraged members of the T-Birds and the Pink Ladies to hang out together outside of school and play rehearsal, to create more believable interaction. "As the Pink Ladies, we went out to dinner together, and tried to really form a bond," said senior Caroline Callahan, who plays Jan. "I think it worked, we have a very 'Kumbaya' kind of cast."

Senior Alex Lichtenstein plays the lead role of Danny Zuko. "It was kind of a dream role for me, and not just because I thought I could pull the hairdo off," he said.

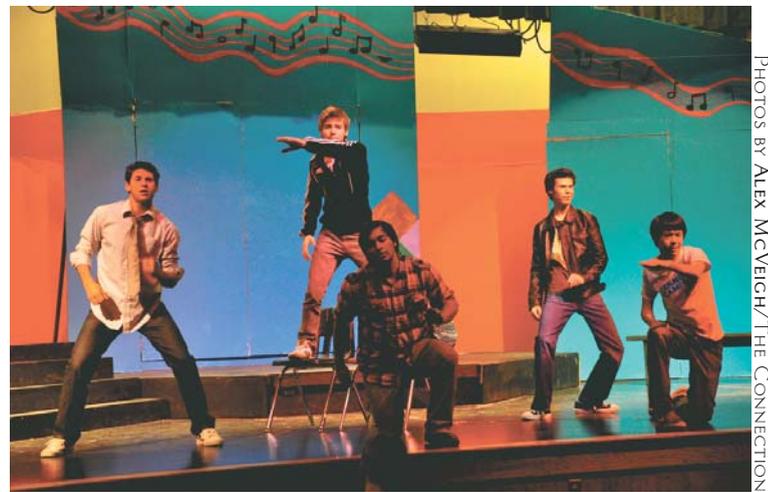
Jaffe also said the play was a learning experience for the cast, who were born almost 20 years after the play was written and almost 40 years after the play's setting.

"It was interesting watching their exploration of 50s culture, like [1950s teen idol] Fabian and things like American Bandstand," she said.

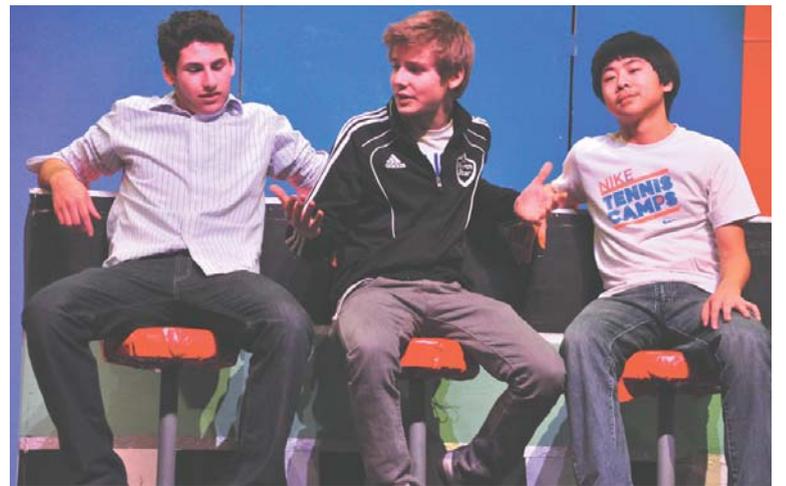
Senior Kevin Moussau-Najad, who plays Roger, said "Greased Lightning" was his favorite song to perform.

"It's sort of the high point when it comes to the energy of the play," he said.

Callahan says "Born to Hand Jive" was her favorite. "When you're onstage performing it, it sort of feels like being a part of Cirque de Soleil," she said.



Cast members from Langley High School's production of "Grease" perform "Greased Lightning."



From left, sophomore Sam Houmaoui, senior Andrew Jones and junior Brian Niu, members of the T-Birds, talk at the burger shop during Langley High School's production of "Grease."

Showtimes

Langley High School will present "Grease" on Thursday, Nov. 10, Friday, Nov. 11 and Saturday, Nov. 12, with all shows beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the school's auditorium.

More information, including how to buy tickets, can be found at www.saxonstage.com.

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For more information please contact:
Bekah Atkinson at 301-592-0567, x12 • batkinson@thesienaschool.org
www.exceptionalschoolsfair.com

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Langley senior defensive lineman Bob Nobakht (55) attempts to catch McLean's Daniel Hecht during last Friday night's Liberty District football game played at McLean High School. Hecht scored a touchdown in his team's win.

Upset Minded McLean, Langley Ready for Football Playoffs

Highlanders take on unbeaten Yorktown and Saxons meet Stone Bridge in Div. 5 quarterfinals action.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Local high school football teams Langley and McLean, both members of the Liberty District, have qualified for the eight-team Div. 5 Northern Region playoffs, set to get underway this Friday night with first round (quarterfinals) games.

McLean (6-4), under head coach Jim Patrick, will travel to No. 2-seed and unbeaten Yorktown, an Arlington school and champions of the National District. The Highlanders, who concluded their regular season last Friday night with a rousing 21-0 district home win over cross-town rival Langley, enter the playoffs as the No. 7-seed. Langley (5-5), the No. 8-seed, will play at top-seeded and defending region champion Stone Bridge (9-1).

The Saxons and Highlanders, in last Friday's season finale meeting, were both looking to clinch regular season winning records and gain as good a seeding as possible for the Div. 5 playoffs.

Both teams will be big underdogs in their respective playoff games on Friday.

Langley, in going up against Stone Bridge, will be looking to turn the tables on a Bulldogs' team which defeated the Saxons, 28-0, back in week six. Stone Bridge, which almost annually wins the region title and qualifies for the state playoffs, experienced just one loss this season, that coming at Chantilly, 22-14, in a week two non-district contest. The Bulldogs were 7-0 in district play, including a 35-20 win over Madison in a week nine showdown game in which both teams entered with 6-0 district marks.

Langley was jarred midseason when senior starting quarterback Austin Visiliadis was injured and lost for the season. Backup Nick Casso, a sophomore, has handled signal caller duties since and done a fine job. The Saxons' defense has been good throughout the season and will need their best outing of the season if the Saxons have a chance to bring down the

Bulldogs.

Langley's wins this fall have come over Herndon, Jefferson, Marshall, South Lakes, and Fairfax. The win over Fairfax, 14-13 two weeks ago, was the Saxons' lone victory over a team with a winning record. The losses have come to Chantilly, Madison (overtime), Stone Bridge, Yorktown and McLean.

Langley head coach John Howerton, whose team won two of its final three games of the regular season, said his squad has learned to practice hard consistently, and as a result has gotten better over the course of the season. Now, the Saxons are ready for the postseason.

"I think the key for this group has been their ability to improve in practice and accept that fact that in order to play better in a game you have to do it in practice first," said Howerton.

"I think we have the ability to challenge and beat any team in Div. 5," said Howerton. "We need to be at full strength from injuries and the willingness to improve must continue."

MCLEAN goes into this week's playoff contest at unbeaten Yorktown with good momentum following its huge 21-0 district home win over Langley in last week's regular season finale. The victory assured the Highlanders of a winning season and also helped avenge last year's 56-12 loss at Langley in week 10.

The Highlanders, who scored touchdowns in each of the first three quarters in the victory, had a huge night running the football as Hunter Eckrod (118 yards, TD) and Ryan McColgan (117, TD) both had big games running the football behind McLean's solid offensive line blocking. Meanwhile, McLean did a stellar job on defense slowing down standout Langley running back Philip Mun (21 yards rushing).

McLean will need to play at a high level to knock Yorktown off the unbeaten ranks and advance in the playoffs. The Patriots, this year's National District champions, are coached by longtime head coach Bruce Hanson.

Highlander Girls Solid at Regionals

McLean finishes seventh place at 16-team field.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Both the McLean High girls' and boys' cross country teams competed at the Northern Region Championships postseason meet last Thursday, Nov. 3 at Burke Lake Park. Both Highlander squads had qualified for regionals by finishing among the top four teams in their respective Liberty District meets a week earlier.

At regionals, the McLean girls, who had finished third at districts, earned a solid seventh place finish among the field of 16 teams. While the Highlanders did not qualify for upcoming states — the top four team finishers at regionals advance to states this Saturday in The Plains — they did put together a good overall showing in finishing among the top half of teams.

According to McLean head coach Jason Simoni, the seventh place team finish at regionals is the Highlander girls' best in at least 30 years.

"I am especially pleased with the success of the girls' team," said Simoni. "I have records of the Northern Region cross country championship that go back to 1981. Our seventh place finish is the highest that the McLean girls' team has accomplished going back to 1981."

The top four girls' team finishers at Thursday's regionals were champion West Potomac (86 points) and second place finishers Oakton, West Springfield, and Jefferson, all three of whom scored 117 points. Chantilly (140) and Lake Braddock (145) were the fifth and sixth place finishers, ahead of McLean (175). Rounding out the top 10 were Washington-Lee, T.C. Williams, and Madison.

McLean's top finisher was Hannah Dimmick, who finished 20th overall. The Highlanders' next two finishers were Madalyn Harper (36th place) and Megan McCormack (37th). McLean's fourth through seventh runners were Alexa Tabackman, Katherine Mont-



McLean High's Hannah Dimmick (left) was the Highlanders' top finisher at regionals. Here in the region race, she is running next to Madison's Amanda Swaak.

gomery, Samantha Downey, and Mary Buser.

Simoni said the overall field of girls' runners across the region ran a fast race on Thursday.

THE MCLEAN BOYS, who were fourth at districts, finished 15th overall at regionals. The Highlanders' top finisher was Jason Richards (64th overall). Richards was followed by teammates Bikal Paudel, Lewis Millholland, Matthew Howard, Eric Leimkuhler, Dylan Johnson, and Wisher Paudel.

The Oakton boys won the team title with a score of 72 points. The other state qualifying (top four) boys' teams were second place Robinson (87 points), third place Chantilly (101), and fourth place Thomas Jefferson (126).

Overall, Coach Simoni said both his varsity boys and girls teams worked hard throughout the season, resulting in two region-qualifying squads.

"I am very happy with the progress that the McLean cross country team has made this season," said Simoni. "I am also excited about next year," said the coach.

LANGLEY'S girls finished 13th place overall at regionals. The Saxons' top finisher was Jessica Miles, who finished a solid 45th place in the field of 119 runners. The Saxons' other runners at regionals were Allison Brady, Jacquelyn Hulett, Rebecca Powell, Blair Purdy, Mara DeTrani, and Caroline Mahoney.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



The three Chairs of the Turf Field Committee and Langley Principal Matt Ragone. From left: Leslie Anderson, Mary Jane Novak, Principal Ragone and Sarah Kearney.



Tease played at the "Barn Bash" fundraiser in Great Falls on Saturday, Oct 22. Band members are Mike Novak, Jim Volpicelli, Mike Helget and John Mooney.

PHOTO BY JENNIFER LEE

Langley Launches Turf Field Initiative

Community mobilizes to support school athletes.

BY CYNTHIA CROSS
THE CONNECTION

It's a scenario all too familiar to Langley high school athletes and their families: a day or two of rain drenches fields and causes a home game to be postponed or relocated to an opponent's turf field. The change not only wreaks havoc with students' schedules, but dramatically reduces attendance and eliminates the coveted home field advantage. "Rainouts," as lacrosse team captain Sean Ahearn puts it, "are a bummer."

But if a well-organized and determined group of volunteers, with the support of Langley's administration and coaches, have their way, the rain-out scenario will be a thing of the past for the Saxons. Langley's Turf Field Initiative was launched late last spring with the formation of a committee of administrators and current, past and future Langley parents united in the cause of raising the roughly \$750,000 necessary to install a turf field by the end of next summer.

SUPPORT FOR A SYNTHETIC FIELD at Langley has been building for years. Varsity men's lacrosse coach Earl Brewer, whose team has earned three consecutive state championships, recalls momentum for turf building during a rain-soaked 2009 post-season, when Langley's sodden fields forced the team to practice for a week on one of Marshall High School's two turf fields. "We all began to see the need for turf back then," he said. Brewer has become adept at minimizing the disruptive effects of bad weather on the team's schedule — the Saxons' first scrimmage every year is against Flint Hill "because in addition to being a good program, they've got turf so I know we'll get a game in," he says. But schedule management can only go so far, and Brewer says that too often he sees players' disappointment when a home game has to be scratched. "I've just come to feel that not only Langley but all programs should have this," he says. "You just feel for the players when there's a

cancellation. The kids just want to play the games."

Langley will be the first among local public high schools to pursue financing through private donations, rather than partnering with local sports organizations who would share field usage. Geoff Noto, Langley's Director of Student Activities, says that the committee "is looking out for what is best for Langley." He said, "We want our students — our athletes, our band — to have full use of this field. They come first."

Turf fields, though expensive to install, are far simpler and less costly to maintain. Noto notes that Langley fertilizes its grass fields twice a month during spring, summer and fall; mows them up to five times a week in the summer and early fall; paints them in season weekly and waters them every day during the summer. Athletes do relish the pristine grass that results — Ahearn calls the Langley grass field "awesome" and his teammate, senior goalie Andrew Spivey, said he actually prefers a well-maintained grass field like Langley's to turf — but the annual expense and maintenance are hugely burdensome. And while injuries certainly occur on turf (Langley's starting quarterback Austin Vasiliadis recently tore his ACL in a game on Marshall's turf field), a three-year study conducted by the American Journal of Sports Medicine concludes that generally, turf is safer for athletes than grass.

And since several other District schools have turf — in addition to Marshall's two, Madison and Fairfax each have one — there is a distinct competitive advantage that is not lost on the athletes. Samantha Sterling, a senior varsity field hockey and soccer player, recounted a crucial recent District field hockey game against Fairfax being moved from Langley to Fairfax. "We had been practicing indoors because of the rain, and indoor field hockey is a

completely different game — you can't even drive the ball indoors. Fairfax is a turf team; they play on turf all the time. And they had lots of people there to support them." The Saxons lost a close game and "it was a downer."

Varsity football coach John Howerton agrees that his team suffers from the constraints of grass. "Our fields get broken down very quickly when it's wet and we have sometimes 150 kids out there. We'll practice indoors because you don't want to risk injury on a wet, muddy field, but that's very limiting. With turf, once you have it down, it's always playable."

LANGLEY PARENTS Mary Jane Novak, Leslie Anderson and Sarah Kearney chair the committee tasked with raising the funds by May 2012. They recently held a "Barn Bash" fundraiser in Great Falls and will hold a silent auction at Riverbend Country Club (open to members and non-members) in late March. The field is being sold by the square yard and the Committee reports that hundreds of yards have been sold so far. Plans are in place for the display of a "Field of Progress" in front of Langley showing the level of funds raised. And the Langley Boosters have already made a significant contribution towards a new, state-of-the-art scoreboard.

The Committee is targeting both individual and corporate donors, trying to target as broad a base as possible for the funds. "What we're doing is expanding this way beyond Langley itself," Novak said. "We have liaisons at all five feeder elementary schools as well as at Cooper [Middle School]."

"We want the entire community involved," says Anderson. "We want to bring everybody in, because this is really for the future of Langley."

Langley's principal Matt Ragone is a vocal supporter of the turf campaign. "Turf is not a luxury anymore," he says. "We need it for safety, for economic reasons and for convenience, and really convenience is the least of it."

"We want to bring everybody in, because this is really for the future of Langley."

— Leslie Anderson

More

Information on Langley's turf initiative is on the Committee's website, www.langleyturf.org.

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

Joseph Oleniacz of Great Falls has received the Dean's Scholarship from York College of Pennsylvania. Oleniacz is a graduate of Langley High School.

Tarun Sharma of Great Falls has been elected to serve as a freshman representative to the Student Senate at Hampden-Sydney College. The graduate of Langley High School is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Srinivas K. Sharma.

Navy Lt. **Kathryn E. Buikema**, a 1995 graduate of The Madeira School in Great Falls, recently checked into the Navy Information Operations Command (NOIC), Ft. Meade, Md. Buikema will fill the position of NOIC's general manager officer.

Caitlin Leigh Sheldon of Great Falls has received a bachelor of science in animal science from Cornell University. Sheldon is the daughter of Ray and Sharon Sheldon.

Candice Ray Sheldon of Great Falls has received an MD degree from Brown Medical School, and is in a pediatrics residency. Sheldon is the daughter of Ray and Sharon Sheldon.

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**.

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

LEGAL NOTICE
 Notification is hereby given that HSBC Bank USA, National Association, 1800 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 50, McLean, VA 22102, will file an application with the Comptroller of the Currency on Thursday, October 27, 2011 as specified in 12 CFR 5 for permission to establish a limited service branch at 1600 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 807, Arlington, VA 22209. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Director for District Licensing at 340 Madison Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10017-2613 or NE.Licensing@occ.treas.gov within 30 days of the date of this publication.

LEGAL NOTICE
 The Virginia Department of Historic Resources will hold a Public Information Hearing to discuss the proposed Dominion Hills Historic District in Arlington County, VA. The Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, November 14, 2011, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Arlington County Office Building, Arlington County Boardroom on the third floor at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201. Public comment regarding the proposal will be taken at the time of the hearing or can be sent to: Director Kathleen Kilpatrick, VA Department of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221. This proposal has been recommended eligible for the Virginia Landmarks and National Register. Proposals will be presented to the State Review Board and the Historic Resources Board on December 15, 2011 in Richmond, VA. For a copy of the proposal and/or a boundary map, contact Marc Wagner, VA Department of Historic Resources, 804-482-6099 or marc.wagner@dhr.virginia.gov.

26 Antiques 21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

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21 Announcements 21 Announcements 21 Announcements

Fairfax Water
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2012 BUDGET
 Fairfax County Water Authority (Fairfax Water) is proposing a \$141.3 million budget for calendar year 2012.
 On Thursday, December 15, 2011, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed 2012 Budget in its offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax. The public hearing will begin at 6:30 p.m. A copy of the proposed budget can be viewed on our Web site at http://www.fairfaxwater.org/. Those wishing to speak at this hearing or desiring a copy of the proposed budget should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Revenues are expected to be \$141.3 million in 2012. Water sales are expected to provide \$121.9 million. Approximately \$19.4 million is expected from connection charges, investment income and other sources.

	-- \$1,000s --	
Category	2011	2012
Personal Services & Employee Benefits	\$44,812	\$46,934
Power and Utilities	10,813	11,802
Chemicals	5,958	7,463
Fuel	822	862
Postage	407	416
Insurance	1,211	1,175
Supplies and Materials	3,891	4,044
Contractual Services	8,569	8,480
Professional Services	1,112	1,151
Other	2,130	2,224
Sub-Total	79,725	84,551
Transfer to Improvement Fund	(9,391)	(9,559)
Total	70,334	74,992

Net revenues are expected to be appropriated as follows:
 Debt Payment \$40,798,000
 Improvement Fund \$11,000,000
 General Fund \$13,629,000

1 Fairfax Water's Board will continue to monitor economic factors and review revenues and expenditures at mid-year to determine if additional action is needed.

What Is It, Exactly?

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



And do I really want to know? Is it cancer or just middle age? Is it normal, all things and my diagnosis considered? Or is it in fact, my diagnosis rearing its ugly and insidious head, figuratively speaking? And however I answer either of these preceding questions, am I supposed to update my oncologist with any of the answers, thoughts, what-abouts? I don't want to overact, but at some point denial is no longer a prudent course of non-action. Presumably, there is occasional cancer-related relevance to something I'm feeling – or thinking, isn't there? I mean, I'm terminal. I'm not supposed to skip merrily along as though I've not outlived my original prognosis by months/years, depending on when you start counting: "13 months to two years." (I've just passed my 32-month anniversary; some anniversary.) Something's got to give, or is there something I'm supposed to get?

However, if I were actually to listen – and react to what I'm writing (thinking/feeling/saying), I'd probably tell myself to shut up already and worry/wonder about something else, not expend so much mental energy anymore on things I can't control (although with lifestyle choices/changes I've already made, I am attempting to affect my prognosis). To be honest though, it's much easier written/said than it is to do. That's my struggle: being sensitive to or ignorant of. (Sort of like that last sentence, ending with a preposition.)

But as you regular readers know, ending a sentence with a preposition is the least of my problems. Though it may sometimes be characteristic of my writing, my columns are nonetheless an honest account of the vicissitudes of life in the cancer lane: up, down, back, forth, high, low; literally, figuratively and generally speaking. "Life goes on" is the best news I can receive, but oddly enough, living with a terminal disease/stage IV lung cancer is not all it's cracked up to be, and does offer its own unique set of challenges.

Challenges which I've mostly been able to manage; I wouldn't say overcome or conquer. I guess I would admit that I have learned to live with them though. Not to embrace them necessarily, but to accept – and expect – them and try to assimilate them into my "new normal" life. And just because I can explain – and understand what and how I'm rationalizing what I'm doing/how I'm adjusting, don't think for a second that I'm convinced that what I'm doing is correct or easy. It is what it is and it's what I can live with it being. Not a day goes by or a column written that doesn't – in some context, question what I'm doing or what I'm reacting to – or as in this column, what I'm not reacting to.

I suppose, at the end of the day (heck, at the beginning of the day, too), life as a cancer survivor/patient is all about doing whatever/however it takes to enable you to get through the day – and night. For me, that battle has not been so much about pain management (thank God!) as much as it has been mental and emotional. I'm a thinker and being diagnosed with lung cancer at age 54 is a lot to think about – and wonder about. And so I do, all the time. Being middle age sort of complicates it. Separating everything. But I can live with it. For how long is the question. (See, I can't leave well enough alone.)

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



Children in costume gather around the temporary attoo table at the Great Falls Spooktacular Monday, Oct. 31.



From left, Hannah, 8, Claire, 4, and Tyler Abele pose on the old Great Falls Fire Truck during the annual Spooktacular on the Village Green.

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Hauntings Take Place Around Great Falls

Annual Spooktacular, fundraising Haunted House highlight Halloween events.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Ghouls, ghosts and goblins descended on the Great Falls Village Green Monday, Oct. 31 for the community's annual Spooktacular. This year's celebration was hosted by the nonprofit Celebrate Great Falls, and featured trick or treating at storefronts and two haunted houses.

"As far as a community event goes, I think this is your textbook definition," said Arnold Forrester of Great Falls. "It gives the kids a chance to trick or treat all together and see their friends, and as adults, we see our neighbors and usually meet new people."

Most storefronts at the Great Falls Village Centre distributed candy, and children could participate in various activities, including photographs in costume, a chance to climb Great Falls' old fire truck, or take a journey through haunted houses.

The Great Falls Friends and Neighbors put together one house in the middle of the green, where visitors could walk through foggy hallways before being rewarded with candy on the other side.

"It was hard to see, but it wasn't too scary," said Henry Atkins, 6. "I just kept waiting for people to jump out at me."

Elsewhere in Great Falls that night, another Haunted House provided even more scares. Seneca Square Shopping Center used an open space to raise money for Jill's House, a local nonprofit that provides respite for children with intellectual disabili-



From left, Janet Green, Ashwani Ahluwalia and Chase Klein, 15, at the Haunted House at Seneca Square Shopping Center Monday. The house, which was built by volunteers and staff at Brix American Bistro, raised more than \$1,000 for local nonprofit Jill's House.

ties and their families.

"We tried to find a way to bring the community together for a good cause," said Ashwani Ahluwalia, owner of nearby Brix American Bistro, who helped coordinate the house. "We had at least 600 people in the three nights we were opened, and raised about \$1,000 for Jill's House."

Landlord Bill Waldee allowed Ahluwalia to take over the space for three days last weekend. The Seneca Square Haunted House featured various gory scenes, such as a bloody dinner table and a haunted farm, and local student volunteers dressed up to provide additional scares.

"It was a lot of fun sneaking around and then just popping up on people," said Chase Klein, 15, one of the volunteers.

Janet Green, a hostess at Brix, served as the haunted hostess during the Haunted

House. She donned a leather jacket and red demon's mask as she gave the grand tour of the grisly surroundings.

"One family came in really worried about how their 4-year-old would react, but the first time someone jumped at them, it was her dad that screamed and ran away," Green said. "She just yelled at the ghost 'Stop killing my dad!' From what I've seen, the men have gotten scared the most."

William Campos and Milos Petrovic, other members of the Brix staff, helped create the scene, by hanging plastic to separate the various sections and placing several motion activated displays around the area.

"It was a great experience and we got so much help from so many people, students, staff and families," Ahluwalia said. "Hopefully we'll be able to get bigger and better next year."



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