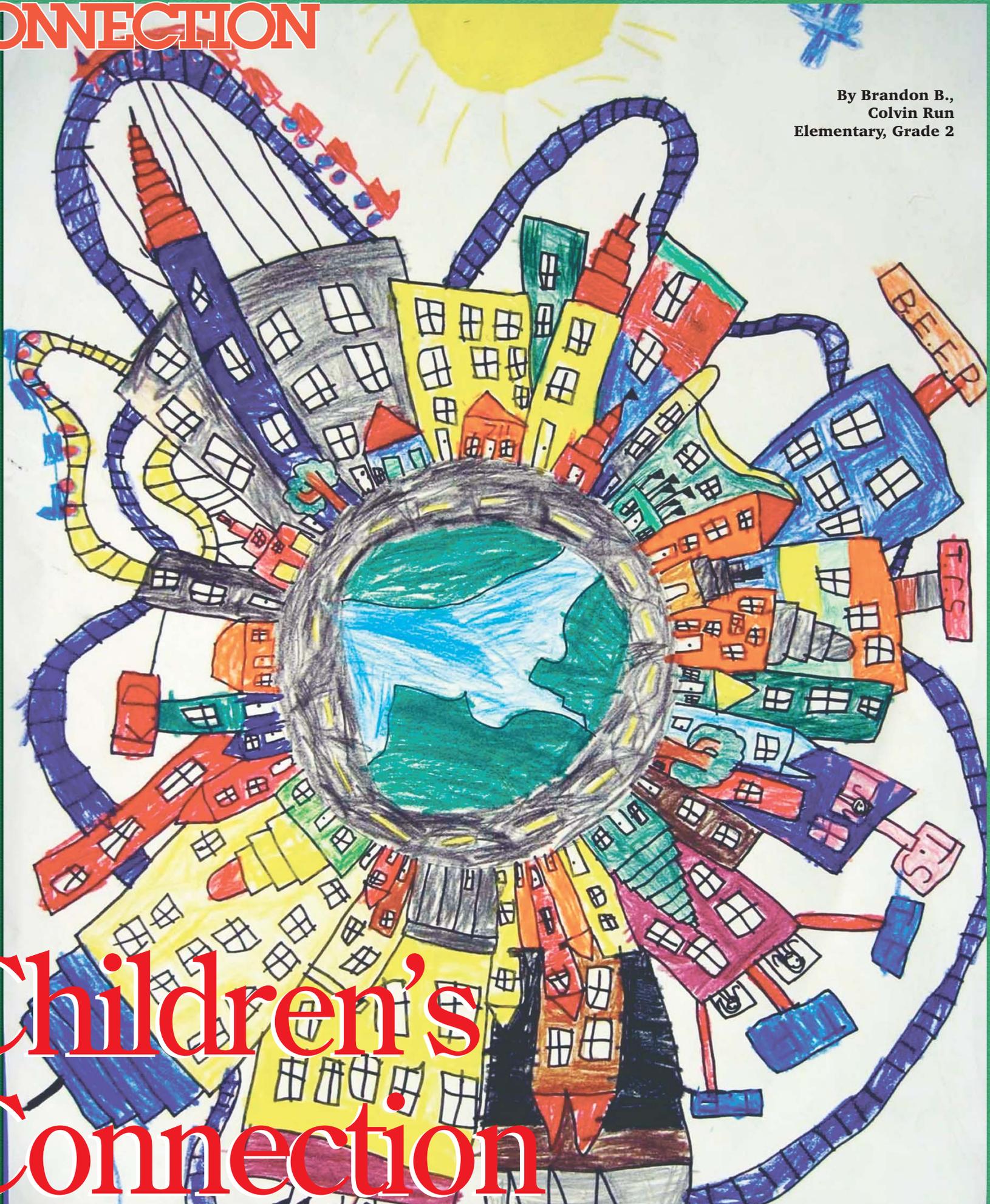


Great Falls CONNECTION

By Brandon B.,
Colvin Run
Elementary, Grade 2



Children's Connection 2011

POSTAL CUSTOMER
ECR WSS
ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
REQUESTED IN HOME 12-29-11

PRSRRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EASTON, MD
PERMIT #322

CIRCULATION
VERIFICATION
COUNCIL

New Year Sale!

Visit our Showroom to view our 2012 Collection!

WALL-TO-WALL CARPET SALE!



HARDWOOD FLOOR SALE!



AREA RUG & STAIR RUNNER SALE!



SERVING YOU SINCE 1998

OPEN SUNDAYS

703-759-9200

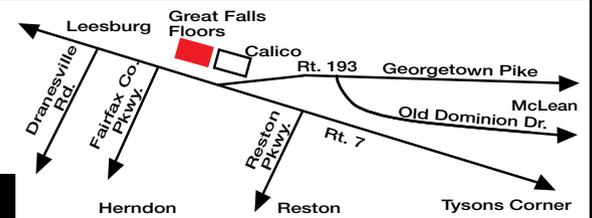
Monday through Saturday 10-6 • Sunday 12-4 • VISA • Master Card • Discover • AMEX

Great Falls Floors

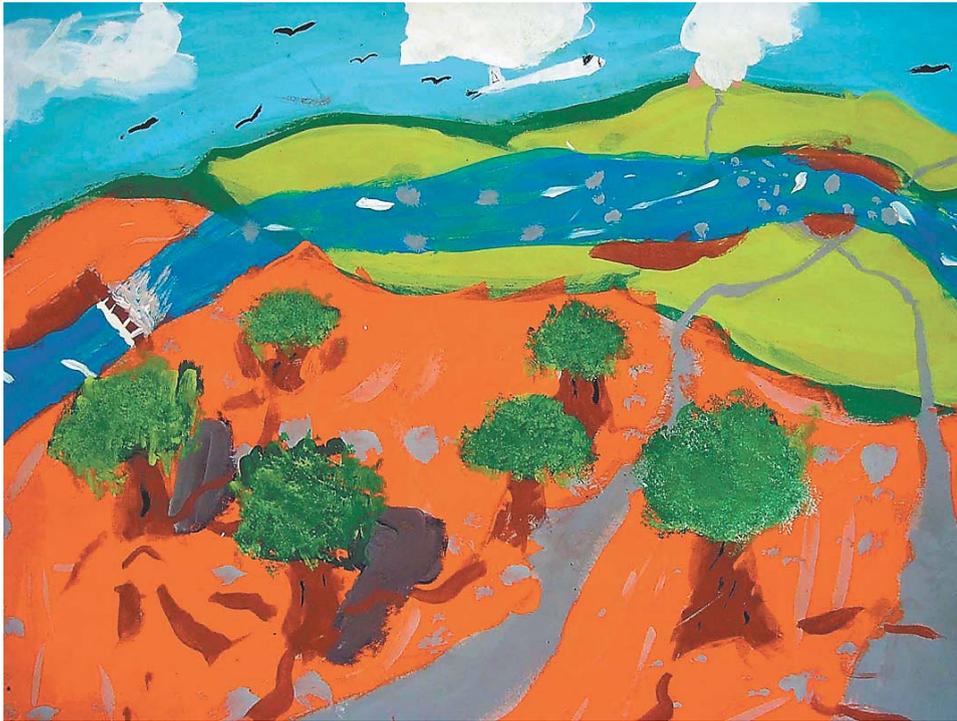
EXCELLENT REPUTATION FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE & SUPERIOR CRAFTSMANSHIP

GREAT FALLS

Rte. 7 and Georgetown Pike (Route 193)
Seneca Square (Next to Calico Corners)
1025-K Seneca Road



CHILDREN'S CONNECTION 2011



By Rohit A., 6th Grade, Colvin Run Elementary

Welcome

Dear Readers:

This week, the Great Falls Connection turns over its pages to the youth and students. We asked principals and teachers from area schools to encourage students to contribute their words, pictures and photos for our annual Children's Issue.

The response as always was enormous. While we were unable to publish every piece we received, we did our best to put together a paper with a fair sampling of the submitted stories, poems, drawings, paintings, photographs and other works of art.

We appreciate the extra effort made by school staff to gather the materials during their busy time leading up to the holidays. We'd also like to encourage both schools and parents to mark their 2012 calendars for early December, the deadline for submissions for next year's Children's Connection. Please keep us in mind as your children

continue to create spectacular works of art and inspiring pieces of writing in the coming year.

The children's issue is only a part of our year-round commitment to cover education and our local schools. As always, the Connection welcomes letters to the editor, story ideas, calendar listings and notices of local events from our readers. Photos and other submissions about special events at schools are especially welcome for our weekly schools pages.

Our preferred method for material is e-mail, which should be sent to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com, but you can reach us by mail at 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 or call 703-778-9414 with any questions.

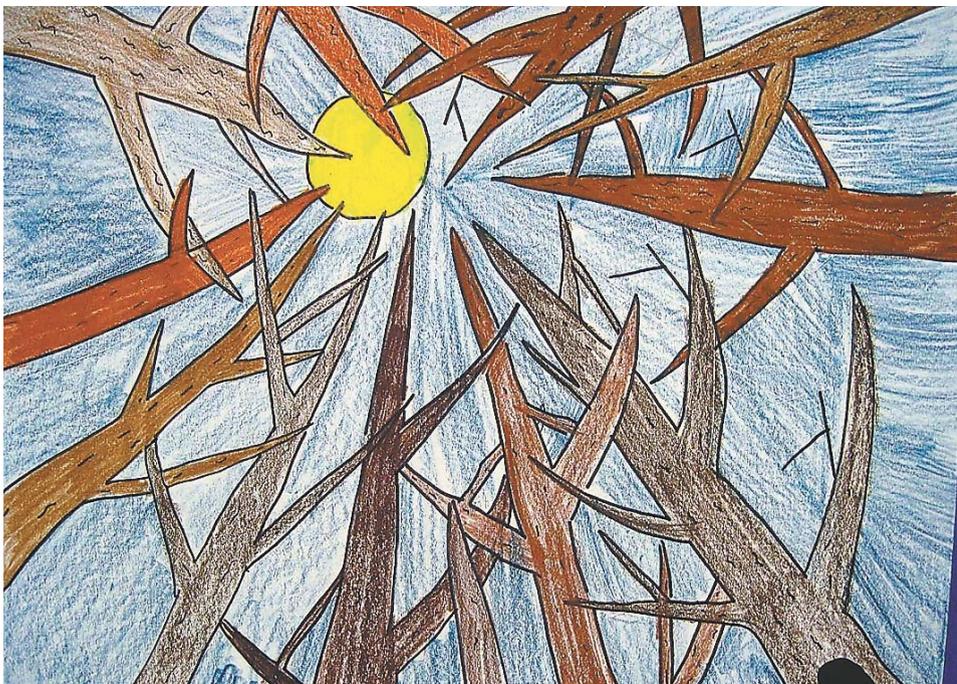
EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHC



By Kate Fitzgerald, Langley High School, age 16



By Isabel Woolston, 2nd Grade, Great Falls Elementary



By Maggie P., 6th Grade, Colvin Run Elementary



By Karli J., 1st Grade, Colvin Run Elementary

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION 2011



Rose Boos, a 2nd grader at Great Falls ES, holding her ornament.

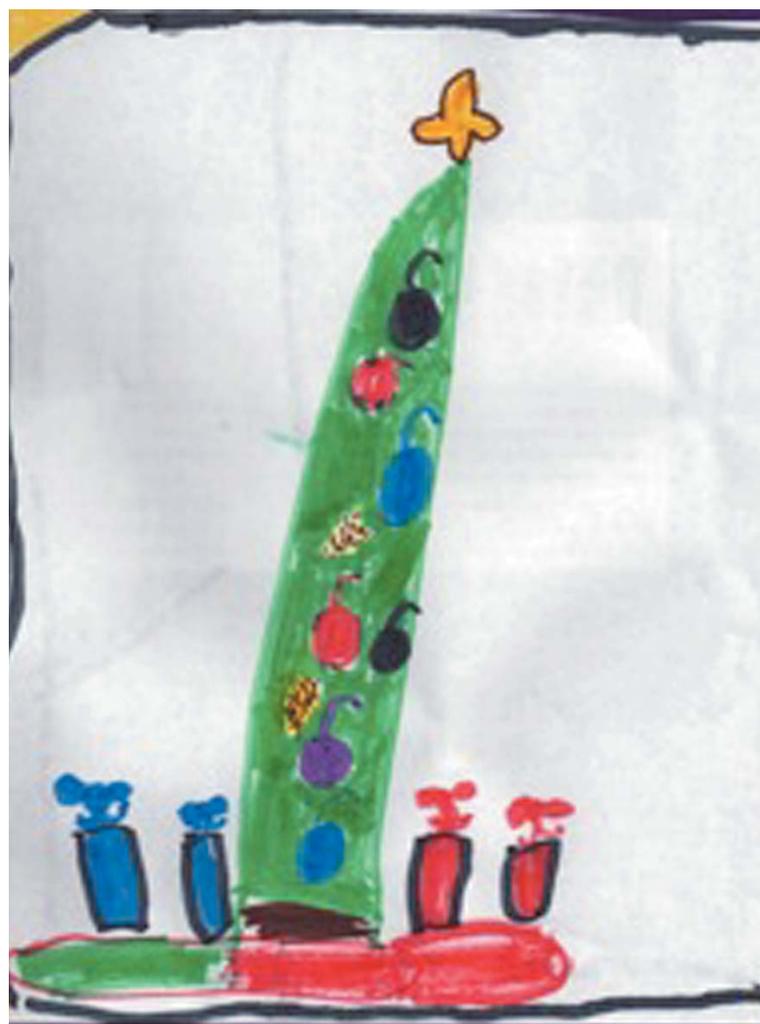


Gloria Boos, a 2nd grader at Great Falls ES, working on her ornament.

Meet Rose and Gloria



Rose and Gloria Boos, 2nd graders at Great Falls ES, with their Papa, Archie Rader, making ornaments at Riverbend Park.



By Lily Zavrel, age 5, of Great Falls. In kindergarten at Colvin Run Elementary School.

The True Meaning of Christmas

By CLARE DABALDO
COOPER MIDDLE SCHOOL/
GRADE 8

women, boys, and girls of all ages came together for cookies, decorating crafts, and singing classic Christmas tunes.

What comes to your mind when you think about Christmas? Is it the presents? A huge feast that will leave you feeling stuffed? A rosy cheeked Santa all dressed in red, accompanied by his trusty reindeer? For some people Christmas is the most hectic and stress-filled time of the month. But has everyone forgotten what Christmas is all about? I certainly did until I did some community service.

This December I went over to southeast DC to St Timothy's Church with a few friends. I helped tons of elementary and middle school children decorate stockings, draw pictures, and put stickers onto candles. While cheery kids were making their Christmas presents, just about everyone said that their creations were for mommy, daddy, grandma, or grandpa.

While children were happily making their gifts, parents and grandparents went downstairs to get presents for the kids. Sneaking to the church basement, adults filled up with gifts, dumped them into shiny black trash bags so their kids wouldn't be able to see, and retreated back upstairs to join the craft making festivities. Men,

To me all I was doing was teaching people how to make crafts, and helping talkative little kids glue pom-poms onto tiny red felt Santa hats. But these people were grateful. Almost everyone I helped said thank you and Merry Christmas.

Many of the people at St. Timothy's were at one point of time homeless. This was the only shopping that they were going to do for Christmas. These people weren't going to have a big tree. They weren't going to have a feast on a long table filled with decadent sweets. But they weren't upset. The community was happy to be with their family, singing carols, and decorating ornaments.

This experience hit me deep inside; Christmas isn't about receiving, and getting what you want. Christmas is about helping those around you to have the best holiday ever. The true meaning of Christmas is really all about love and giving. Also, the best gift is the gift of giving, because no matter how much something costs or how "cool" it is, nothing is better than the feeling you get after you help someone.

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION

Her Melody

BY RONNA TAHAN
COOPER MIDDLE SCHOOL/GRADE 7

Music has more power than many people give it credit for. It has the ability to move us to tears, or bring out peals of laughter. It can change our perspective about something in a split second. The notes we hear can change a happy moment into one of sadness, and the best part about it is that no two songs or pieces are the same, nor are two people.

If someone sees my sister and I, they would not think we are related, and once they get to know us, they would have no doubt that we aren't related, when in fact we are. My sister has inspired me to be a perfectionist, never settle for second best, but to continue to work hard at what I want. Even though I love her deeply, I used to get a little jealous of her. No matter how hard I worked to be like her, I never was.

My whole family has dark brown hair, then you see me; yeah, I'm the one with the burst of rustic red hair between all of them. The first thing most people ask me is, "Did you dye your hair?" and my answer never changes, it has always been "No". At home I'm the loud one that always fills the silence but at school I'm shy and get nervous to speak up. My sister is quite but full of emotion inside, continuing to always get the best scores possible. The perfect student every teacher wishes they had, and once I get into their class they always say, "Oh, how is your sister? Is she enjoying high school? Tell her I said hi!" Then there I am, getting mostly perfect- but not all perfect- grades, and I feel like I'm a failure.

She is amazing at the piano and every time people come to our house they always ask her to play a song, while my guitar and I go unnoticed. At first it really hurt my feelings so it motivated me to work harder at it. Not to mention, she is great at science and math, so if you haven't guessed it, I paid extra attention in those classes too. But it wasn't until fifth grade that I realized that yes all my hard work paid off, but my real passion isn't in numbers or equations, but in the simplicity and elegance of writing.

Once I felt sure that writing is what I want to do for the rest of my life, I told them about how I have been in a constant fight with myself to be better than my sister, and to my surprise, they laughed! I couldn't believe my ears when

SEE MELODY, PAGE 6



'Cause you never know what you might run into.

Kyle Knight Ins Agcy Inc
Kyle Knight, Agent
11736 Bowman Green Drive
Across from Reston Town Center
Reston, VA 20190
Bus: 703-435-2300
Fax: 703-435-0630

I'm your agent for that.
Having me as your agent means having a real person there to help you when you need it. So when accidents happen, you have someone you can trust to get the job done right, and right away. Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there. **CALL ME TODAY.**



1001177 State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company • Bloomington, IL

Maplewood Grill

Serving Our Neighbors and Friends for Over 27 Years

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER
3 Course Dinner
Champagne with Dessert
6pm - 11pm
\$65
Reservations Highly Recommended

Gift Certificates Available

Live Entertainment Mon thru Sat
703-281-0070

Brunch Every Sunday

132 Branch Road, S.E. • Vienna, VA
Visit www.maplewoodgrill.com for Specials

Mae's Dress Boutique

Washington's Premier After 5 Boutique

Why customers come 100's of miles to Mae's

SERVICE - SELECTION - SERVICE

Over 1000 Formal Gowns & Evening Separates

The styling can range in size from 4 to 24 - Missy • PLUS • Petite

No one is too difficult to fit - Three outstanding seamstresses



Be the Hit of the Party!

You will always make a dramatic entrance with a stunning Gown from our fabulous selection of formals. Over 1,000 looks to choose from: Long & Short Gowns and Evening separates. Petite-Missy-Plus sizes.

Mother of the Bride/Groom • Brides Again
Bar/Bat Mitzvahs • Entertainers • Grandmothers

Customer Appreciation

\$200.00 Gift Certificate
Plus Five Second Place prizes

Drawing the first Tuesday of the each month at 11:00 AM
No Purchase necessary-Not necessary to be present to win.
First Drawing - February 7, 2012 at 11:00 AM

Visit WWW.MAESDRESS.COM to sample over 100 Gowns



20% OFF

MISOOK KNIT SEPARATES

Daytime - Evening
Missy & PLUS Sizes

6707 Old Dominion Dr.
McLean, VA 22101

703-356-6333

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10am to 5:30pm

Winter Sale

Separates/Blouses **70% off**

\$50 off

Any purchase
of \$100.00 or
more of non sale
merchandise

Not Valid with any other
offer. One coupon per household

Coupon Expires January 28, 2012

CONN 12/28/11

Directions: NORTH on the Beltway take Exit 46B onto Rt. 123N.-McLean. Go 3 miles & turn right onto Old Dominion Dr. (Rt. 309). Go 1/2 mile thru 2 traffic lights. We are on the right next to Shell Gas. SOUTH from Md.- Cross the amer. Legion Br.-Take the VERY first Exit on the LEFT - Exit 45B Go 1/2 mile - Take Exit 19B (NOT Exit 19A) onto Rt. 123N for 1.4 miles - Right on Rt. 309. Go 1/2 mile to 6707.

Benches, Fountains, Statues, Bonsai, Cactus & Succulents **25% OFF** **Trees, Shrubs & Perennials, Wallstone, In-Stock Pavers**

50% Off **Camellias, Nandina, Crepe Myrtle, Azaleas, Aucuba, Japanese Maples, Evergreen Magnolias, Blue Atlas Cedar & Select Shade Trees** **FREE Landscape Estimates** *Off-Season Pricing*

Million Dollar Pottery Inventory **60-75% OFF** **Washington Area's Best Selection!**

Cravens Nursery & Pottery **9023 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, Virginia**
 2 miles west of I-495 on Rt. 50.
 1 mile from I-66 (Vienna Metro)
703-573-5025
 www.cravensnursery.com
 Open 9-5, 7 days a week

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION 2011



By Vibha Sankavaram, age 8.

My Dream

BY VIBHA SANKAVARAM
 GREAT FALLS, AGE 8

I wish my dream would come true
 And the sky would be cerulean blue.
 It would be a dream of History
 And I would see mysteries.
 I would see Nancy Drew
 She would find clues.
 I would travel all over the world
 And find a precious pearl.
 I would get a million dollars
 And with half the money buy collars
 For my six dogs in the fog.
 I would be the Travelocity girl
 And travel the world.
 For if my dream came true
 My face would glow.
 I would be gleaming through the world
 Because I have the precious pearl.

BITA MOTESHARREI, MD, FACOG
 Obstetrics, Gynecology & Infertility



Preconceptional Counseling
Adolescent Gynecology
Premenstrual Disorders
High Risk Obstetrics
Menopause
Sexual Disorders
Routine Prenatal Care
High Risk Pregnancy

Diplomate of American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Clinical professor of OBGYN at George Washington University & Virginia Commonwealth University

Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

Women's Global Health of Northern Virginia

(703) 356-7700
 1515 Chain Bridge Rd. McLean, VA
 www.womensglobalhealth.com

Pediatric & General Dentistry

Children love our entertainment center with video games and NEW pinball machine

Bi-Monthly Drawing for No-Cavity-Club Winner

LASER procedure for fillings. Many pediatric patients can be treated without novocaine!

- Bleaching
- Nitrous Oxide
- Wi-Fi Available
- Special Needs Patients
- Cosmetic Restorations
- IV Sedation Available

Heidi Herbst, DDS
Howard Mitnick, DDS
Nooshin Monajemy, DDS

Sterling, VA
703-444-3710
 www.sterlingvasmiles.com

Gentle Touch Dental Care For Over 20 Years!

Melody

FROM PAGE 5

my sister said that she always admired my hair color and wished she didn't have a boring color, or how she also admires my determination. That day I realized that I never will be like her, nor do I want to. I learned that no two people are

the same and that I don't have to be like her to be perfect, no one is perfect, but everyone is themselves, and you should never try to change that.

I think of my sister and me as a kind of Yin-Yang. While we're two totally different people with two totally different personalities, it's

nice to know we share at least one thing in common, our love for each other. While we continue to get older and change, one thing will stay the same, the support that we give each other. I know one thing for sure... her melody will always be with me.

A HAPPY & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

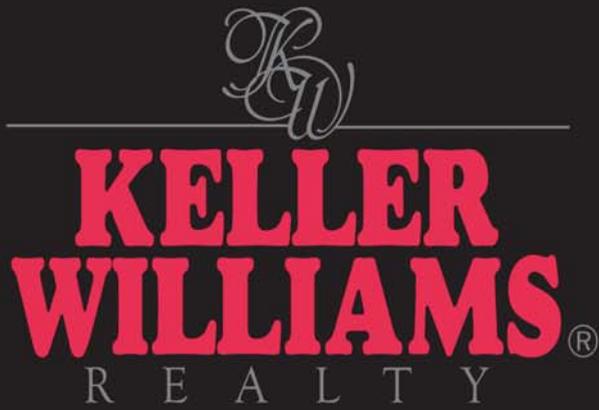


27th Anniversary

Our Thanks to Our Customers for Their Support Throughout 2011. We Look Forward to Satisfying Your Flooring Needs in 2012.

VIENNA FLOORS

ESTABLISHED IN 1984
 208 DOMINION ROAD • VIENNA, VA
 HARDWOOD - CARPET - WOOD LAMINATES - CERAMIC TILE - SHEET VINYL
703-938-3160
 WWW.VIENNAFLOORS.COM



**KELLER
WILLIAMS**
REALTY



Bob Nelson



Michele Cornejo



Tim Anderson



Kelly Putz



Tim Heil

The Bob Nelson Team

www.BobNelsonTeam.com ~ 703-999-5812 ~ 703-636-7300

744A Walker Road, Great Falls, VA 22066



MLS # FX7602459 - \$1,075,00 - Great Falls
630 Utterback Store Rd, Contemporary hideaway
on 2 acres, pool detached garage, sport court



Just Listed!
FX7742665 - \$899,000 11769 Hollyview Dr. - Great Falls
Spacious, fully-finished basement, huge Florida Room,
Perfect for entertaining!



Contract
MLS #FX7190444 \$6,400,000 - 472 Riverbend Rd., Great Falls
18,000 sq ft, Estate Home, with your own pub, billiards room, theatre,
fitness center, game hall and wine cellar. That's just the basement!



MLS #FX7712839 \$3,950,000 - 119 Clarks Run Rd, Great Falls
To-Be-Built Contemporary designed by Wahl Architects and
Sillub LLC holistic builder, designed around your tastes
Geothermal option available



SOLD
FX7704523 - \$889,000 5844 Upton St.,
McLean, Meticulously maintained 5BR /3BA
home w/2 fireplaces on large beautiful lot,
less than 1 mile to DC!



Price Reduced
MLS # FX7706345 \$719,000 - Great Falls
1028 Challedon Rd, corner lot, updated
kitchen hardwood main level,
carpeted upstairs, walkout basement



SOLD
MLS #FX7678466 - \$1,199,000 - 9028 Jeffery Rd, Great Falls
2.9 acres, pond and waterfall, 5BR, 5.5BA, 7,000 sqft
private apt above carriage house, walk to Riverbend Park



MLS # FX7596260 - \$675,000
902 Cattle Lane, Great Falls
Motivated sellers!
4BR in heart of Great Falls,
gleaming hardwoods,
quiet cul-de-sac



MLS # FX7322897 - \$405,000
13506 King Charles, Chantilly
3BR, 2.5BA, finished basement with
rough-in bath, cul-de-sac,
plantation shutters, home warranty,
NEW carpet, NEW windows



MLS # FX7426580 - \$450,000
3304 Chicamuxen, Falls Church
4BR, 3BA, 2 fireplaces,
finished basement with home
theatre, pool, cul-de-sac.
Larger than it looks!



Contract
MLS # FX7691523 - \$900,000
8307 Wolftrap Rd., Vienna
Professionally Maintained Short Sale,
Partial View of Potomac, minutes to
Dunn Loring,
Move-in Condition



SOLD
MLS #LO7683917 - \$485,000
26050 Sarazen Dr., Chantilly
Stunning brick Colonial, screened
front porch, ornate staircases,
hardwood floors, fenced
back yard



Contract
MLS #FX7578729 -
\$1,800,000 - McLean
6000 Clairborne Drive,
within minutes of DC,
2200 sq ft in upgrades,
with LL club room and
theatre



SOLD
MLS #FX7553828 \$1,925,000
938 Leigh Mill, Great Falls,
6BR, 5.5BA, 4+ acres,
Carriage house, In-law
suite, Hampton Style
Custom Home



SOLD
MLS # FX7586288 - \$485,000
7805 Idylwood Rd, Falls Church
Built 1990 w/ significant
renovations, 4 BR, detached garage,
new patio, upgraded kitchen
and bathrooms

Join us on for dinner on January 30 at our next

Military Appreciation Monday (MAM)

event at The Old Brogue in Great Falls.

We will be hosting the **Yellow Ribbon Fund**.

The Old Brogue is located at the corner of Georgetown Pike and Walker Road in Great Falls.

Call (703) 759-3309 to reserve your table at either the 5:30 or the 7:30 seating,
and please RSVP to Bob@BobNelsonTeam.com.

Bob and his co-sponsors will each make a 10% matching donation of your dinner tab!

THANK YOU to everyone who
helped make this year's
Christmas Gift Wish List come true!

Bob Nelson

Realtor, Keller Williams Realty
A Lifetime of Service to Community & Country

Office: 703-636-7300

Cell: 703-999-5812

Bob@BobNelsonTeam.com

www.BobNelsonTeam.com



CHILDREN'S CONNECTION 2011

My Virginia Heroes of Sept. 11

BY LIZZIE HOLT
FORESTVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

My heroes are the men and women who work at the Pentagon in Arlington, Va. These include the men and women who died in the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, and the ones who were on the plane that crashed into the Pentagon that day.

I recently attended the Great Falls 10th anniversary ceremony of 9/11 in honor of those who lost their lives that day. My family and I went to the Freedom Memorial at the Great Falls Library right before the ceremony, and we saw the 31 words surrounding the Freedom Memorial. The words I would choose to describe my heroes would be "country," "courage" and "sacrifice."

The word "country" means to me a place where a nation lives, and I think these men and women represent country because they serve our country on a daily basis. On 9/11 no one expected what happened that day because we were not even in war.

Everyone thought they were in a safe place, but it was proved not to be. When the plane crashed into the Pentagon, a lot of people who had been rescued were trying to get back into the burning building to save the people who were trapped.

The very next day everyone who had survived the crash at the Pentagon came into work because they knew that we were starting a new war. They knew they had to get to their station and work to try and save our country.

After the terrorist attacks that day, a lot of people showed great "courage," another word at the Freedom Memorial. There were many firefighters who

were brave to fight the fire in the building. Many of the survivors from the building tried to go back into the burning building to save their co-workers. The firefighters had to keep them from going into the building before it collapsed.

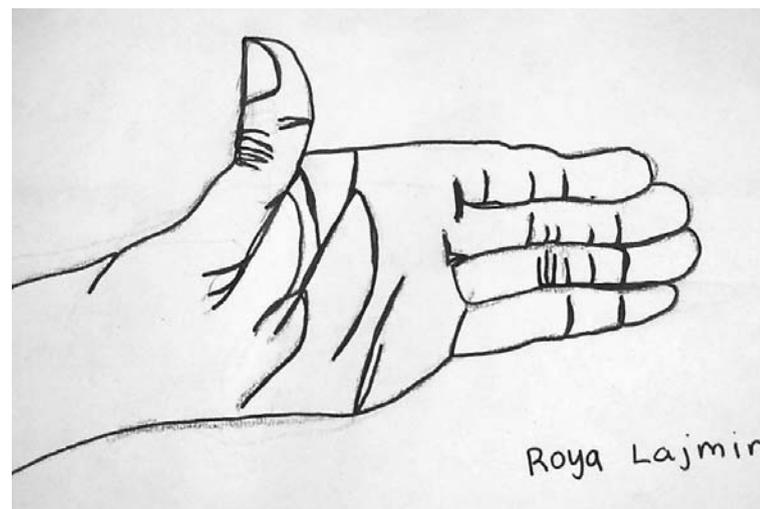
This made them angry with the firefighters. If it had not been for the firefighters' courage to stand strong, those people might have died, too. Also, the passengers on the plane must have shown great courage that day. Six of those passengers were from our community of Great Falls.

"Sacrifice" is another word that surrounds the Freedom Memorial. It also represents my Virginia heroes because sacrifice became more meaningful when they were all trying to save their fellow workers. Many of them knew that they may sacrifice themselves to fight for our freedom, but on that particular day it was not about that. It was about saving their friends.

This also includes the people who died in the Pentagon and the passengers on the plane who all made the greatest sacrifice that day.

Even though I was too young to know what was going on that day, I have grown and learned about it. My dad is a civilian contractor working at the Pentagon with the military and has taught me a lot about them. All of the men and women of the military are my heroes, but I feel particularly close to the ones who work in the Pentagon and who were there on Sept. 11, 2001. They care for this nation and the people in it.

They are my heroes because they are fighting for our freedom, not just for themselves but for everyone.



By Roya Lajmiri, 5th Grade, Colvin Run Elementary

POETRY CORNER

Love

KATIE BELLASCHI
COOPER MIDDLE SCHOOL/7TH GRADE

Love is a strong word
that is beyond anyone's description.
Not one person,
or even a group of people, has the ability
to describe it in words.
Love can be shown
in many different ways,
at many different times,
by many different people.
From the warm, silky fur
of a new puppy
to the first peek at a newborn sibling,
love is defined by you.
Love is what you imagine it to be,
so live life imagining.

Christmas Eve

BY KATHERINE ALEXIS ROHLOFF
LANGLEY HIGH SCHOOL/9TH GRADE

Snow floats gently down from the vast, open sky
A small town's sparkling lights twinkle nearby
Houses are decorated with annual Christmas cheer
That lasts for the rest of the year
Within the last house in the happy small town
There is quite a lot of sound
The twins, Martha and Kelly sing merry Christmas songs
While little Danny puts the plate of cookies where it belongs
Father puts the finishing touches on the log fire
While Mother sets her antique Santa statue out for all to admire
Soon it will be time for Santa Clause to come by
And all the kids listen to the clock hours slowly chime
The whole family gathers next to the fire
And reads Christmas stories with tales that inspire
All too soon, it is time to go to sleep
But it is very hard for the young children not to make a peep
Soon they find themselves traveling down the sweet road of
Christmas dreams
Past candy canes, chocolate, and whipped cream.

Lessons Learned in an Uncomfortable Fashion

BY LILY BROCK
COOPER MIDDLE SCHOOL/8TH GRADE

Among my John Hughes-style crushes, Jerry McAdams will forever stick with me. A gentleman hated by teachers and loved by all wide-eyed girls. I tried to resist for a while, but I was no match for the allure of his bad attitude and flawlessly styled hair. There I was, everyday-hoping he would ask if he could borrow a pencil or if he could ask the pretty girl in block three if she'd go out with him. I was and partially still am sure his school picture will be in People magazine's "Celebrities at Fourteen" section one day.

Unfortunately, I have never been the cat's pajamas. To be honest, I've always been kind of like the armadillo's formal attire. If you don't get that analogy- I apologize. I won't even try to deny that I'm on the global scale of cool, I'm like a seven and a quarter while Jerry is probably a nine plus. So it may not come as much of a surprise to you that my master plan to make Jerry McAdams my husband failed wretchedly.

One Tuesday afternoon, I found myself nearing Jerry in the halls. Deciding I would have to be closer if he would be able to turn around and propose to me, I moved faster to catch up. I see now that objectively, I was a closer proximity to him than I should ever be to a person I admire that much. Bam! It happened. He turned around, making complete eye contact with me. Flabbergasted, I began wondering if we should invite my crazy Aunt Lynn to the wedding or not.

Just as I was bordering yes, he spoke.

"Okay, could you maybe stop following me around? I don't like anything about you! So just leave me alone." He ended all this with one, very unnecessary, derogatory term which I will not repeat to preserve the dignity of this publication. Also, it was at that point that I noticed a smile beginning to rim the corners of his mouth. Not his attractive, Brad Pitt smile that I was used to gaze at- from a distance, of course. It was a defined smirk.

"Yeah, I wasn't even....you know what? I...ummm.... Right back at you," my response was understandably awkward. It was then that I noticed several of his friends and female companions had formed a semi-circle several steps behind him. I thought this a good time to turn on my heels and start to gain as much distance from the location of my humiliation as was humanly possible.

It took some time for me to realize it really doesn't matter. I don't mean to sound like an obnoxious facebook status, but it's true. The world is full of people who aren't going to like your Koala bear sweatshirt and combat boots. The important thing is that you don't spend the majority of your time trying to make them turn your way. There is a choice: obsess over their acceptance or walk away and spend some of our new free time doing something you actually like. One last thing- for any young ladies who find themselves following around their "soul mate," give it a rest. I'm sure you can find some friends that don't require surveillance equipment to see.



KELLER WILLIAMS®

R E A L T Y

Happy Holidays from the Keller Williams Realty Great Falls Office
We are proud to be part of the Great Falls/McLean Team of 200 Agents, and Growing
Call us to take care of all of your Real Estate needs!



Anne Marie Charaoui
703-597-6350



Bob Nelson
703-999-5812



David Buckley
703-839-0950



Glynis Canto
703-395-2355



Hayley Sterling
571-334-7992



Jeanne Mullahy
703-728-5222



Kathy Shea
703-795-3946



Kelly Putz
703-961-8663



Kevin Canto
703-338-9416



Nacer Benzekri
202-341-9271



Robyn Carton
703-622-0004



Ryan Donovan
301-717-6519



Sheri Daniel
703 489-2656



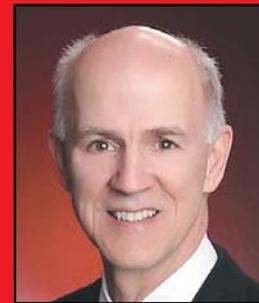
Steve Wright
703-201-0441



Tim Anderson
703-927-2121



Vivian Lyons & Deborah McGuire
703-406-9009

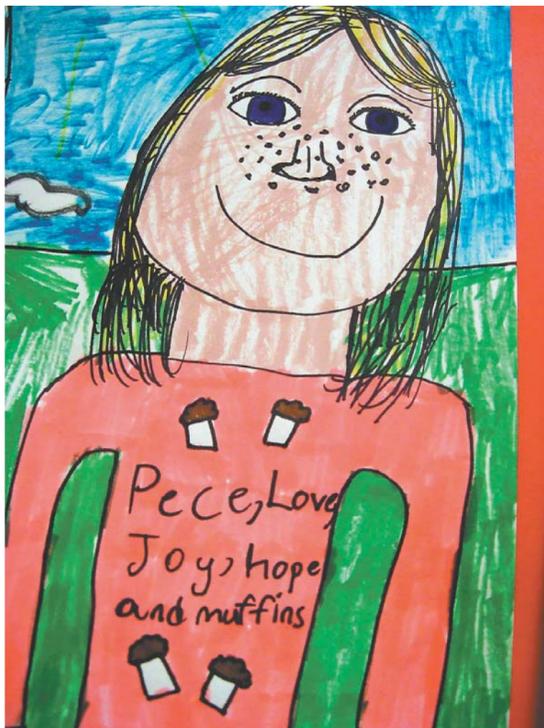


Tim Heil
703-307-7177

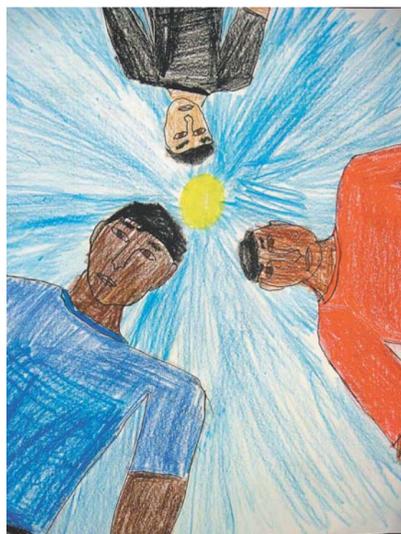
774-A Walker Road, Great Falls, VA 22066

Please call Kathy Shea if you are interested in joining our team in Great Falls at 703-636-7300 

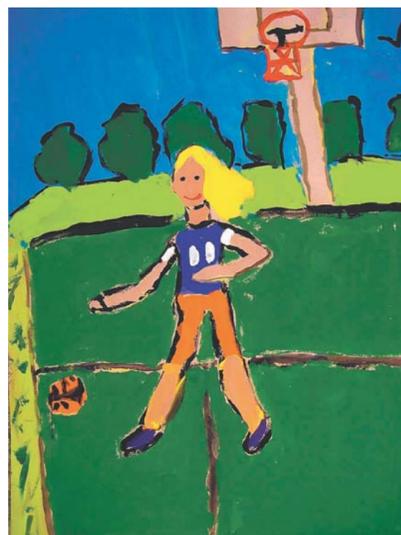
Colvin Run Elementary: Art Gallery



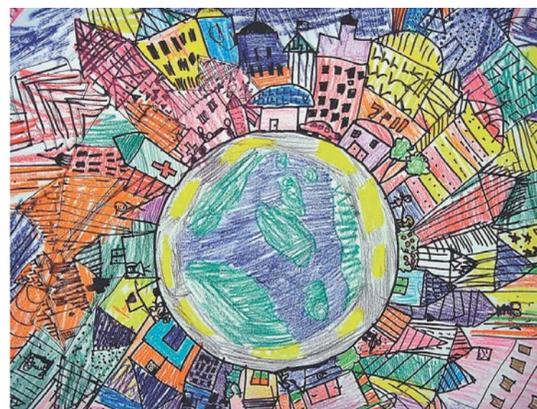
By Amanda M., 2nd Grade, Colvin Run Elementary



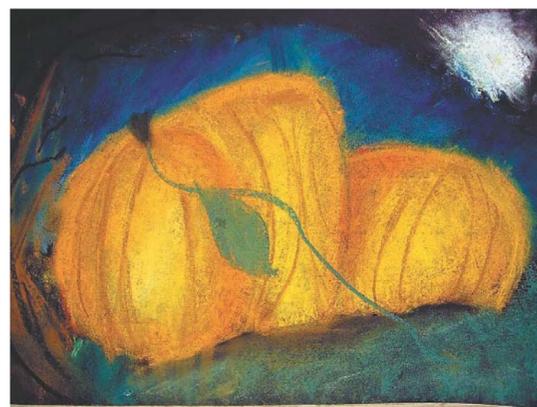
By Joshua O., Colvin Run Elementary



By Natalie E., 4th grade, Colvin Run Elementary



By Zoe M., 2nd grade, Colvin Run Elementary



By Michael W., 5th Grade, Colvin Run Elementary

A Man of Courage, Perseverance and Vision

By AARAJ VIJ
COLVIN RUN ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

The Great Falls Freedom Memorial states "The community of Great Falls, Virginia honors those who have given themselves in service to the cause of liberty and freedom." Liberty, freedom and a chance for a better future is what Arthur Ashe gave to our youth and society.

He fought a different kind of war and lived a commendable life helping the underprivileged youth realize their dreams.

Arthur Ashe was a native of Virginia who lived in a time when racial discrimination against African-Americans was widespread. However, he chose to rise above this and did not let the era define who he was.

Every single word carved in stone at the Memorial is a quality Arthur R. Ashe Jr. possessed and exhibited in great magnitude throughout his life. The three words chosen are especially applicable.

Arthur Ashe lost his mother at the tender age of six. Her loss was a tragic blow in his life, but instead of giving up, he showed courage. His courage inspired him to complete high school and earn a tennis scholarship to college.

Ashe was also an active civil rights supporter. He was a member of the delegation of 31 prominent African-Americans who visited South Africa to observe political change in the country as it approached racial integration. He was even arrested a few times but he continued fighting for civil rights, showing courage once again.

Arthur served in the army for two

years during the time of the Vietnam War, which took a lot of courage. Most notably, he demonstrated courage by sharing that he had HIV at a time when society was no so open about it. Ashe's three-volume history, "A

Hard Road to Glory," is about African-American athletes who overcame obstacles from the days of black colleges to the present. He thus made an excellent contribution by delivering a message on courage via literature. It was published in 1998 and soon adapted for television, ultimately winning an Emmy award. Arthur Ashe once commented on courage, "Every time you win, it diminishes the fear a little bit. You never really cancel the fear of losing; you keep challenging it."

PERSEVERANCE PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE in Arthur Ashe's life. He did not believe in giving

up. People discouraged him from playing tennis, but he ignored their nasty comments and kept practicing hard to achieve his goals. Arthur became a great tennis star at a time when all African-Americans were discouraged from going to college, let alone playing tennis.

What made him stand out was that not only did he both go to college and play tennis, he became a world champion along the way.

In Arthur's words "Some folks call tennis a rich people's sport or a white person's game. I guess I started too early, because I just thought it was something fun to do. Later, I discovered there was a lot of work to being good in tennis. You've got to make a lot of sacrifices and spend a lot of time if you really want to achieve with this sport, or any sport, or in anything worthwhile."

However, for Arthur Ashe, ten-

nis was a means to an end. Although he had a very successful tennis career, it always meant more to him than personal fame and awards for himself. He used his status as a popular tennis player to speak out against the moral inequalities that existed in the world. Ashe sincerely wanted to bring about change in the world.

Arthur Ashe had grand vision. He dreamed of providing children and youth with real-life role models as an example of how successful and fulfilling life can be if one worked hard for it. His understanding of a child's emotional and social needs was remarkable.

Arthur's philosophy was to help build a child's self-confidence and instill strong values in order to prepare that child for success. He said "One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation."

Arthur Ashe Jr. – an inspiring story.

In 1991, Arthur Ashe furthered his vision by founding Virginia Heroes, Incorporated, a non-profit organization. Their mission is to inspire youth to achieve, and to encourage development of sound values by providing interaction between middle school students and mentors on a regular basis.

Arthur Ashe strongly believed that the experiences in middle school years leave an everlasting imprint on a child. He realized that having a trusted adult to share was the best to help the underprivileged children realize their true potential.

He resolved to make this idea work and today this is a flourishing program touching the lives of many children- our future generation.

Virginia Heroes Incorporated was a product of Arthur Ashe's unrelenting patience, sacrifice, sense of humanity and service. He

cared for and respected youth enough to devote countless hours for their betterment.

Arthur Ashe Jr. was a true Virginia hero, who made a difference in many lives. In 1979, Arthur Ashe was inducted into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. The Hall mentions that, "Arthur Ashe was certainly a hero to people of all ages and races and his legacy continues to touch the lives of many today."

His famous words, "I know I could never forgive myself if I elected to live without humane purpose, without trying to help the poor and unfortunate, without recognizing that perhaps the purest joy in life comes with trying to help others" resonate in my mind and inspire me to walk in his footsteps and help others less fortunate than myself.

SAVE the DATE

OUTER BANKS WEDDING EXPO 2012 • JAN 6-8
FEATURING DAVID TUTERA - HOST OF WE-TV'S MY FAIR WEDDING WITH DAVID TUTERA

Outer Banks WEDDING ASSOCIATION

The Outer Banks continues to grow as one of America's top wedding destinations! There is a setting here for every bride that decides she wants something a little untraditional and yet as personal, quaint and charming as the Outer Banks itself. North Carolina offers one of the most beautiful places to plan a perfect beach wedding.

www.obxwa.com
email@outerbanksweddingassoc.org • PO Box 1067 • Kill Devil Hills, NC • 27948

G. STEPHEN DULANEY

State Farm Insurance
IN GREAT FALLS

AUTO • HOME • LIFE
HEALTH • FINANCIAL SERVICES

24 HOUR GOOD NEIGHBOR SERVICE

Like A Good Neighbor,
State Farm Is There.®
www.gstephendulaney.com

703-759-4155

731-C WALKER RD. • GREAT FALL, VA
State Farm Insurance Companies • Home Office Bloomington, Illinois



Transportation News and Inclement Weather Guidelines from Fairfax County Public Schools

Coming in January: The Superintendent's Proposed FY2013 Budget

FCPS Buses by the Numbers

FCPS operates one of the largest publicly owned fleets in the country. More than 1,500 school buses, using 6,500 separate routes, transport more than 110,000 students to school each day.

The average FCPS bus is 8.1 years old. Depending on the school district budget, FCPS purchases an average of 95 buses a year. When it comes time to replace a bus, the FCPS transportation department purchases buses that meet or exceed federal and Virginia state safety standards, have a record of reliability, have low projected average total cost of ownership with durable parts to minimize down time, and is sold by a dealership that provides an acceptable level of service and

responsiveness. The average purchase price for a new bus is \$114,000.

Did You Know?

Only New York City Department of Education transports more students by bus than Fairfax County Public Schools every day.



When the Weather Outside is Frightful

The holidays may be almost behind us but there is still plenty of winter ahead of us. Are you prepared?

Hat and mittens? Check. Shovel? Check. Ice scraper? Check.

But if you have children in Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS), do you know where to get information about school closings and delays due to the weather conditions?

Whether snowflakes are fluttering or raindrops are pouring, Fairfax County Public Schools monitors weather conditions all year round. Weather conditions may necessitate schools open two hours late, close two hours early, or that school will be canceled for an entire day.

Students use various methods to get to school – they walk, take a bus, get dropped off by a parent, ride with another student, or drive themselves. The safety of students, staff, and parents is the primary consideration when FCPS is making a weather-related decision about schools.

If an impending weather event is forecast, FCPS staff gathers information about

weather, road conditions, mobilization plans from transportation sources, and other information to determine the impact on the school system. Weather conditions can vary significantly in different parts of the county. Often major roadways are in good driving condition, but neighborhood roads may be treacherous. The Superintendent is given the most up-to-date information from various sources in an effort to make

a decision by 4:30 a.m. on whether to delay opening schools or cancel school for the day. If weather conditions worsen during the school day, the Superintendent may make a decision to close schools two hours early. Once the decision is made, the information can be found in the following locations:

- www.fcps.edu
- Red Apple Channel 21
- Keep in Touch email and text notifications
- FCPS Facebook page
- FCPS Twitter page
- Local tv news and radio stations

If school is canceled, the School Aged Child Care (SACC) program run by the Fairfax County Government, is also canceled for the day. Parents should have a plan for any last-minute child-care arrangements if schools and SACC programs are closed.

This Just In

The Fairfax County School Board approved the 2012-13 school calendar. The first day of school will be Tuesday, September 4, 2012, and the last day of school will be Tuesday, June 18, 2013. View the complete calendar by visiting www.fcps.edu and click on Calendars.



Getting To Know Us

FCPS Bus Driver Art Hurlock

Art Hurlock spends his days transporting more than 100 students to and from Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS).

Hurlock became a FCPS driver 11 years ago after managing the automobile maintenance shop for a large company. Although his wife would like him to join her in retirement, he says he has no intention of retiring any time soon.

"I really enjoy it. I like driving and I like the kids," he said. "That's why I'm still here."

FCPS has one of the largest school bus fleets in the nation traveling on more than 2,700 miles of roadway in Fairfax County.

"It's pretty amazing how the school district creates bus routes to make sure all the kids get to school," he said.

Knowing parents are relying on him to transport their children safely to and from school is not something Hurlock takes lightly. He admits the traffic in Northern Virginia is particularly challenging on snowy days.

"When I get home after driving in snowy weather, I just say, that was some day. I'm not just thinking about the 30 kids on my bus, but there are 60 parents who are counting on me too," Hurlock said.

He's been driving the same bus for the more than four years and logged more than 100,000 thousand miles on it.

"I really like what I do. I like the kids. I would say 99 percent of the kids are good and the parents are good to me too," he said.

Safe Routes to Schools

Fairfax County Public Schools is proud to participate in Safe Routes to Schools, an international effort to encourage more families to get out of their cars and onto their feet to enjoy the many benefits of safely walking and bicycling to school. Parents are encouraged to accompany their children to school and to work with their PTA or PTO to organize walking events.

"Walking is a simple way to incorporate exercise into your day," said FCPS Superintendent Jack D. Dale. "We encourage all FCPS students and families to participate in this program and walk or bike to school whenever possible."

The program promotes physical activity, pedestrian safety, and concern for the

environment. Several Fairfax County public schools have established a Safe Routes to School program and participate in bike and walk to school challenges.

For more information visit www.saferoutesinfo.org/.



Be a School Bus Driver for Fairfax County Public Schools

Fairfax County Public Schools has more than 1,200 bus drivers on its transportation team. Their primary goal is to ensure that students are transported safely to and from school. If you have a good driving record, enjoy working with children of all ages, can pass a physical exam and drug and alcohol screening, and have the ability to complete training, you are eligible to apply for a position. Starting pay begins at \$17.07 per hour, with five weeks of paid training. Learn more about how to become an FCPS bus driver at www.fcps.edu and click on Work for FCPS.

Stay informed about all the latest news from FCPS at www.fcps.edu. Check us out on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

Watch the most recent School Scene and Insight broadcasts on Red Apple Channel 21.



www.AppleFCU.org
703-788-4800

This year's State of Schools Report courtesy of Apple Federal Credit Union



2011 BUSINESS PARTNER OF THE YEAR

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION 2011

The Comeback

BY JACK BONHAM
COOPER MIDDLE SCHOOL/7TH GRADE

The whistle blew as the jump ball of the game was tossed. My team was the Great Falls Sharks and we were facing a very good team in the play-offs. This game determined who played in the championship. The opponents were bigger, more athletic, and were considerably better than us and it was showing. We were down by probably around 10 points at halftime, but it felt more like 20. The opponents had gotten more rebounds, had gotten better possessions, and every point we scored was either lucky or very hard-earned. Not to mention they had missed some easy opportunities. I felt fairly powerless, sitting there sweating with a water bottle, and a short-handed team. But, I knew that this thing wasn't over yet, we still had a shot.

Coming out of the first half was even worse, because we were playing extremely hard, yet every time we scored they answered right back. I was exhausted but continued to play hard and kept the deficit within reach... sort of. The team's momentum drew them closer to victory each minute. The other team's proud parents were hollering obnoxiously every time their team scored which made it worse.

I had a decision to make. Was I going to give-up and let the other team walk all over mine, or was I going to pick up my enthusiasm and hustle, and play like this was my last game. I decided to choose the latter of the two. Even though my shots weren't falling I played my heart-out, playing great defense, making good passes, and being a good teammate. It paid-off. With about five minutes remain-

ing, I found hope. My team found hope. We were chipping away at this 15 point game. Too little, too late? Not at all. With tenacity and confidence, my team was soaring behind the roar of the crowd. Meanwhile, the team that once looked like pros were looking worse than we did in the first half, arguing amongst each other, panicking, and obviously losing their poise. Four minutes ago it had felt like our team was on the verge of being routed, but now we were only down by two. My teammate unexpectedly made a ridiculous hook shot. Crunch time arrived and we were all tied up. I wasn't going to let my team lose.

A good defensive possession and a foul later, my friend was shooting two from the line. One goes in and then the other. The opposition had 15 seconds to tie or take the lead. They raced up the court. The ball was received by their big man. Not a clumsy big man, this guy was a beast. Not to mention he was an absolute freight train. The only thing that separated him from the basket was me. He caught turned and drove right into me. I was knocked to the floor, stunned from the collision. The whistle blew. Offensive foul!

My teammates ran and helped me up as we pulled off the remarkable feat. It was like a miracle. I didn't have a great game, but I played my hardest. My teammates were smiling and jumping around. Our proud parents gave us high fives and the usual compliments. We then prepared for the championship game. Although we went on to lose the championship, it didn't really matter. The previous game was the game that defined our season anyway. The game still reminds me of the late coach Jim Valvano in his speech saying "Don't give up. Don't ever give up."

Daddy's Girl, Daughter's Man

BY SOPHIE HOLSINGER
COOPER MIDDLE SCHOOL/
7TH GRADE

with my family and I.

I've learned a lot from my dad because he taught me that family goes first. Even if you have a party, or a hobby that you want to go do, family and parents are what matter. Some day you won't have your parents standing by you all the time and they won't always be there to fix your mistakes.

That is why it's important to spend time with family now rather than later. I'm not trying to tell you that you always have to be with your family and you can't ever go to the mall with your friends, but sometimes it nice to just hang out with family even if it's not your favorite thing in the world. Your parents love you and they want to spend time with you, you just have to be open to it.

My dad and I now watch the University of Virginia play football on TV every Saturday afternoon. While we are watching the game my dad does some of his work, and I text my friends and catch up. It's our new tradition that we will forever continue to do. And every once in a while, when we can rearrange our schedules, we go down to Charlottesville and we watch a game together.

I know that me and my dad will forever be close, and I know that he will always be there for me. I know that my dad loves me and I love him to because he gave up everything for my family and I.

When I was little I drove down to Charlottesville every Saturday in the fall with my dad, to watch the University of Virginia play football. We had so much fun tailgating, watching the game, and eating junk food together. I remember us doing some really crazy cheers, screaming at the top of our lungs, and having a ball together.

When I was about 11 years old I didn't get to spend all of that time with my dad. I started to do after school activities that created so many different conflicts. I had a full schedule every weekend filled with soccer games, birthday parties, and school events. I barely had enough time to do homework and my dad also had lots of work to do with his new job. I never went to a Virginia football game with my dad again.

My dad is a very family oriented guy. If no one else in the family is doing it, he's not either. He stopped getting season tickets to the Virginia games because he didn't want to go to the games without me or the family, and he sure wasn't going to miss any of my soccer games!

Going to Charlottesville, being with old college friends, and watching football, that was what he loved to do. But he gave all of that up to be

Visit These Houses of Worship

To Highlight Your Faith Community call Karen at 703-917-6468

SMITH CHAPEL UMC CHURCH

11321 Beach Mill Road
Great Falls, VA 20165

It's like coming home

smithchapel@verizon.net
www.SmithChapelUMC.com

Rev. D. J. Zuchelli, Pastor

WORSHIP HOURS SUNDAY: 11:00 AM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VIENNA

450 ORCHARD STREET
VIENNA, VA
703-938-8525
fbcvoffice@verizon.net
www.fbcv.org

Dr. KENNY SMITH,
PASTOR

SUNDAY WORSHIP, 7:45 AM & 11:00 AM
MIDWEEK SERVICES, WED. 7:00 PM



Assembly of God

Vienna Assembly of God ... 703-938-7736
Washington Christian Church... 703-938-7720
Cristo Es Mi Refugio... 703-938-7727

Baha'i

Baha'i Faith for Northern Virginia ... 703-821-3345

Baptist

Global Mission Church ... 703-757-0877
Peace Baptist Church ... 703-560-8462
Bethel Primitive Baptist Church
... 703-757-8134

Cartersville Baptist Church ... 703-255-7075

Fellowship Baptist Church ... 703-385-8516

First Baptist Church ... 703-938-8525

The Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877

Vienna Baptist Church ... 703-281-4400

New Union Baptist Church... 703-281-2556

Buddhist

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center... 202-331-2122

Church of the Brethren

Oakton Church of the Brethren
... 703-281-4411

Catholic

Our Lady of Good Counsel ... 703-938-2828

St. Athanasius Catholic Church ... 703-759-4555

St. Mark's Catholic Church ... 703-281-9100

Charismatic

Christian Assembly ... 703-698-9777

Church of Christ

Berea Church of Christ ... 703-893-7040

Disciples of Christ

Antioch Christian Church ... 703-938-6753

Episcopal

Church of the Holy Comforter ... 703-938-6521

Church of the Holy Cross ... 703-698-6991

St. Francis Episcopal ... 703-759-2082

Jehovah's Witness

Jehovah's Witnesses ... 703-759-1579

Lutheran

Emmanuel Lutheran Church... 703-938-2119

Christ The King Lutheran Church... 703-759-6068

St. Athanasius Lutheran Church... 703-455-4003

Methodist

Andrew Chapel United Methodist ... 703-759-3509

Church of the Good Shepherd ... 703-281-3987

The Vine Methodist Church ... 703-573-5336

Ephiphany United Methodist ... 703-938-3494

Great Falls United Methodist... 703-759-3705

Oakton United Methodist ... 703-938-1233

Vale United Methodist ... 703-620-2594

Progressive & Welcoming

ST. ANNE'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH • Reston



7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Sunday school/Music: preschool - grade 2
10:25 a.m. Sunday school/Music: grades 3 - 12
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

Nursery care provided at 9:00 and 11:15 services

The Rev. James Papile, Rector
The Rev. Jacqueline Thomson
The Rev. Denise Trogdon
703-437-6530
www.stannes-reston.org
1700 Wainwright Dr., Reston



Church of the
Holy Comforter
(Episcopal)

The Rev. Richard A. Lord, Rector, Welcomes you to
worship, learn & enjoy fellowship with us!

Saturday - 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
Sunday - 7:45 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

On the first Saturday of the month, please join us for
wine & cheese after the 5:00 p.m. service.

543 Beulah Road, NE, Vienna, VA 22180
703-938-6521 www.holycomforter.com



GOOD SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Making more and better disciples of Christ

1133 Reston Avenue, Herndon, VA 20170
Worship: Sunday, 8:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.

Rev. Dr. William H. Flammann, Pastor

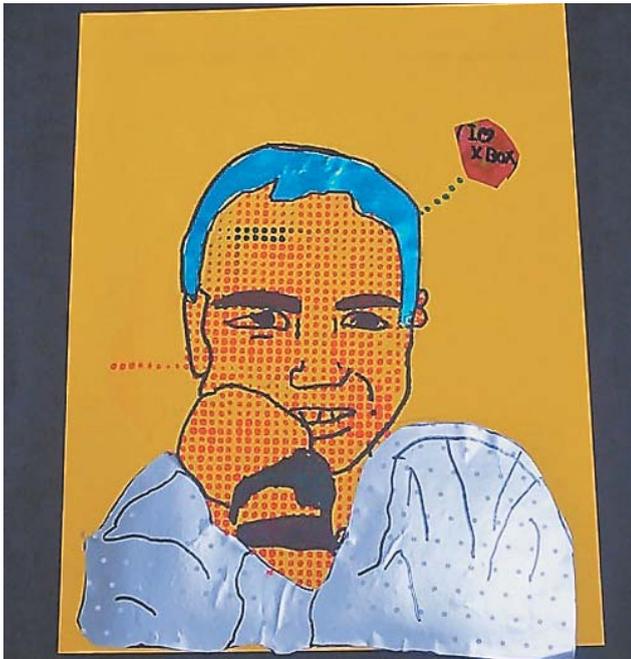
Church Office: 703.437.5020
Preschool: 703.437.4511

www.gslcva.org

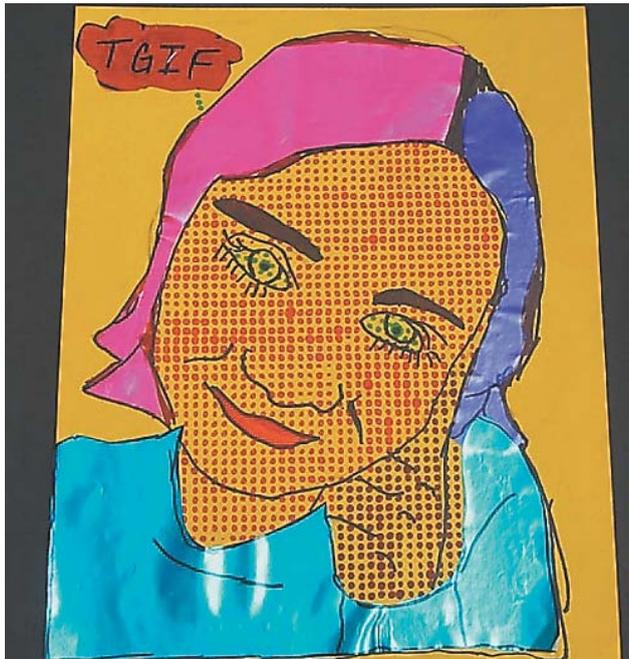
Child care
available at
all services



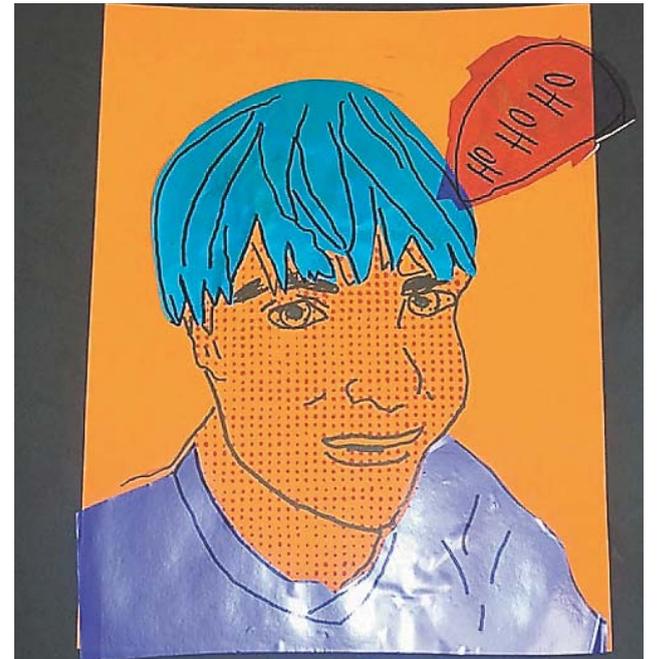
CHILDREN'S CONNECTION 2011



By Brian Cerretani, Great Falls Elementary, grade 2.



By Taylor Maguire, Great Falls Elementary, grade 2.

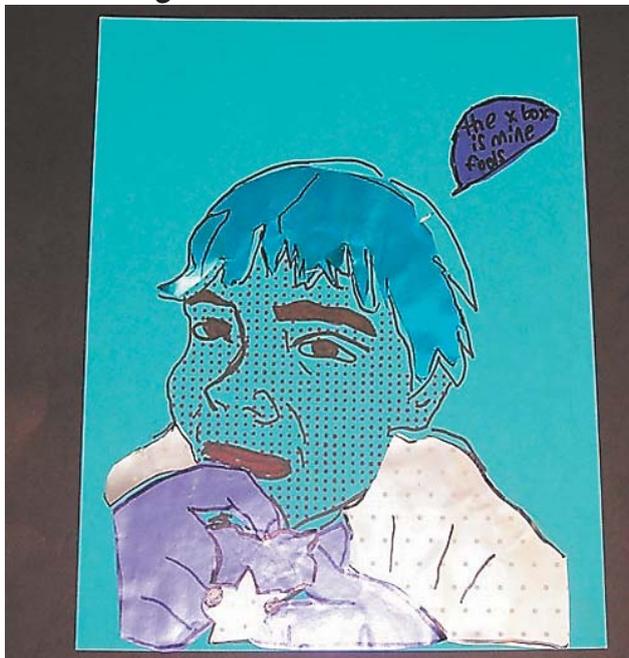


By Bennett Volanth, Great Falls Elementary, grade 2.

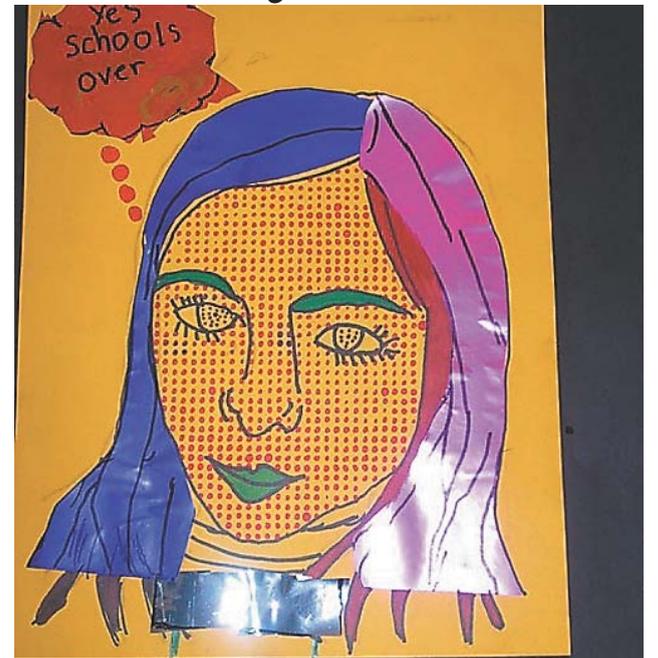
Great Falls Elementary: Grade 2 Art Gallery



By Trent Walmsley, Great Falls Elementary, grade 2.



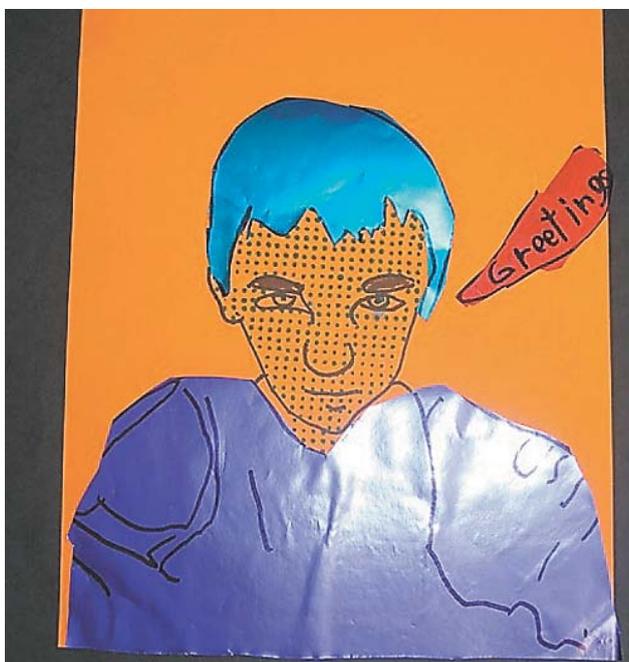
By Kai Wakeman, Great Falls Elementary, grade 2.



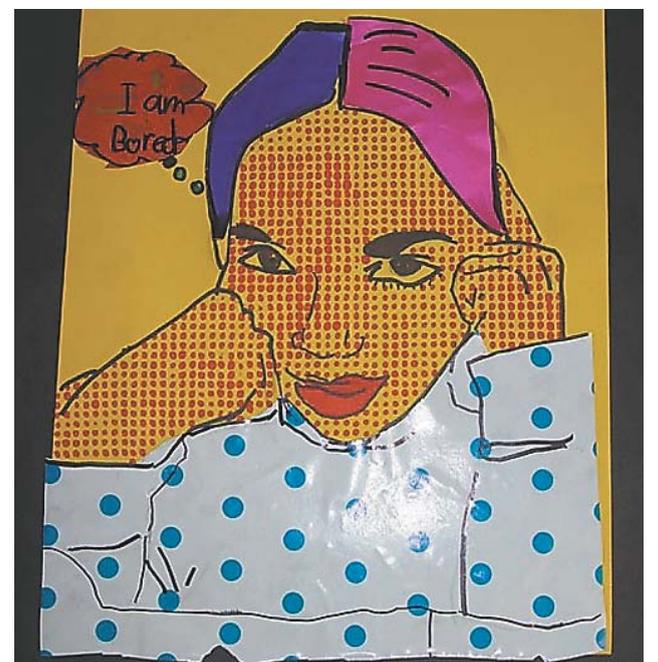
By Kate Murray, Great Falls Elementary, grade 2.



By Donovan DiLenge, Great Falls Elementary, grade 2.



By David Lamont, Great Falls Elementary, grade 2.



By Avery Perez, Great Falls Elementary, grade 2.



By Kate Fitzgerald, Langley High School, age 16

A Virginia Hero

BY SAMMY SOBICH
GREAT FALLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

A hero is someone who is full of patience, compassion and courage. I chose my hero, Asra Nomani, because she is a person who lives these qualities every day. Around the world, she is known as a journalist and speaker. To me, she is a real hero at our school and in our community.

She has worked hard in her life to represent other people and today I would like to do the same for her. She is my "Virginia Hero" and I would like to tell you more about her.

The first time I met Ms. Nomani was at an after-school program called the Journalism Club. In the Journalism Club you interview people, make videos and learn how to set up a paragraph for newspapers and other things. Ms. Nomani was the teacher and she was great.

She inspired me to write and to express myself. She showed us some of her books and they were very thick books. She also showed us some of her newspaper articles and told us stories about being a journalist. She is a very successful person but she was still full of patience with me and my classmates. We all felt very lucky to learn about journalism from her. She did this all as a volunteer.

Ms. Nomani is also very compassionate. She was a reporter for the Wall Street Journal for 15 years and is currently a professor of journalism at Georgetown University. According to Ms. Nomani's biography, following Sept. 11, 2001 she began a reporting assignment in Pakistan. Ms. Nomani says "she (Nomani) was inspired by tragedy and hope following the kidnapping and murder of her friend Daniel Pearl, in Karachi, Pakistan,

where Pearl was staying in a house with Ms. Nomani and other reporters when he was kidnapped. Nomani is actively involved in the investigation."

Following Pearl's death, Ms. Nomani returned to the United States and wrote a book called "Standing Alone: An American woman's struggle for the soul of Islam." She also began a program at Georgetown University called the Pearl Project, a faculty-student investigation into the kidnapping and murder of Daniel Pearl.

Ms. Nomani is also the founder and creator of the Muslim Women's Freedom Tour. She has said "We are standing up for our rights as women in Islam. We will no longer accept the back door or the shadows. At the end of the day, we'll be leaders in the Muslim world. We are ushering Islam into the 21st century."

According to PBS, "Ms. Nomani's work is the subject of a documentary, the Mosque in Morgantown, which aired nationally on PBS."

Throughout her life, Ms. Nomani has always been courageous. She was born in 1965 in Bombay, India. She came to the United States when she was only four and didn't know a single word of English. She was raised in New Jersey, and when she was ten she and her family moved to Morgantown, W.Va. Ms. Nomani received her B.A. in Liberal studies from West Virginia University in 1986 and her M.A. from American University in International Communications in 1990.

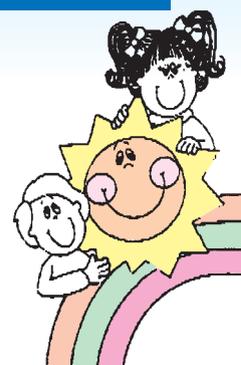
In November 2003, Nomani became the first woman in her mosque to insist on the right to pray in the male-only hall. The New York Times ran a front page article about

SEE HERO, PAGE 16

Great Falls United Methodist Preschool

Now Accepting Applications for Fall 2012

- Classes for 2's, 3's, 4's & Pre-K
- Morning half-day sessions beginning at 9:15
- Optional fourth hour
- Highly experienced and qualified teachers
- Low student-teacher ratio
- Children's chapel
- Creative movement class
- Music class
- Two-week camp



Visit our Web site: www.gfump.org



From
Nursery School
to
Rocket Fuel

A Strategic Curriculum That Prepares Students To Be Standouts.



WASHINGTON EPISCOPAL SCHOOL
Nursery through Grade 8

5600 LITTLE FALLS PARKWAY, BETHESDA, MD 20816
→ (301) 652-7878 → www.w-e-s.org

JOIN US at an
OPEN HOUSE

Sun., Jan. 8 1 PM

THE LANGLEY SCHOOL

Discovering, amplifying, and embracing
the talents of *Every Child, Every Day*



Now Accepting Applications
for 2012-2013!

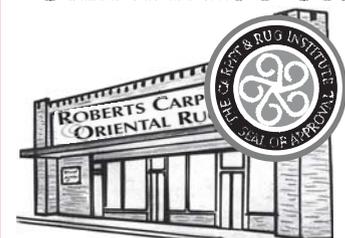
Application deadline is January 12, 2012

1411 Balls Hill Road
McLean, Virginia
(703) 848-2782

www.langleyschool.org

A coed preschool to grade 8 day school founded in 1942

ROBERTS CARPETS ORIENTAL RUG CO.



At Same Location,
Under Same Ownership
for 48 years

ALL HARDWOOD
on SALE



Wall-to-Wall Carpet

Karastan
Since 1928

Xtra Lite Carpet

- 100% Continuous Filament Nylon
- 100% Stainmaster
- 25 Yr. Guarantee
- Extensive Color Selection

\$46.³⁷ Sq. ft. Exp. 1/7/12

- Includes:
- Installation w/6lb pad
 - Take Up & Haul Away Old Carpet

All Oriental Rugs
on Sale!

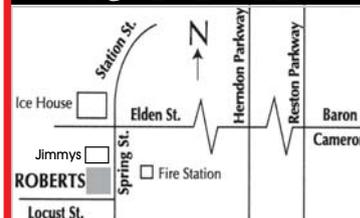
Oriental Rug
Cleaning

- Plant on Premises
- Washing
- Refringing
- Repairs
- Reweaving
- Appraisals

20%
OFF
Expires 1/7/12

FREE Pickup & Delivery
for Rolled & Ready Rugs

681 Spring Street
Old Town Herndon
Hours: Mon., Tues.,
Thurs. & Fri. 9-6
Wed. 9-5, Sat 10-3
703-471-7120



www.RobertsCarpets.com
Installation by Certified
Installers/Employees

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION 2011

Irene Morgan: A Wonderful Woman

BY MARISA MIHORI
GREAT FALLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Irene Morgan was an African-American woman. She was born on April 19, 1917 in Gloucester County, Va. and died on Aug. 10, 2007 in the same place.

When she was a young woman, in the summer of 1944, Irene Morgan got sick. She was sent to a doctor in Baltimore. In order to get to Baltimore from Virginia, she had to take a bus. On the bus, Irene was told she had to give her seat to a white person. When she refused to give up her seat, she was arrested and sent to jail.

After she got out of prison, Irene sent two lawyers to ask the Supreme Court for help. The Supreme Court agreed with Irene and changed the laws. Although she was not well known for her act at the time, on Aug. 5, 2000, volunteers researching local history for the county's 350th anniversary came across her connection to Gloucester. In 2001, President Bill Clinton awarded her the Presidential Citizens Medal.

She is perseverant because even after she was arrested, her mother paid a \$500 bail to get Irene out of jail. After that, she went to court where she pleaded guilty to the accusation of resisting arrest and was fined \$100.

She refused to plead guilty to violating Virginia's segregation law. Her attorney argued that segregation laws unfairly jeopardized interstate commerce. That means that the laws went against state-to-state business.

The case was significant in that what she and the defense were trying to do was break down segrega-

tion. Irene was found guilty and fined \$10. Even after all that, Irene sent a lawyer named Thurgood Marshall to the Supreme Court. Thurgood Marshall later became the first African-American to serve on the Supreme Court.

Irene Morgan is courageous because even though she was at risk of losing her case, she was courageous and fought for herself and her people. She and her lawyers argued, "Virginia's segregation law was an improper charge in interstate industry."

After much persuading, the Supreme Court ruled in Mrs. Morgan's account in 1946, making a landmark decision striking down Jim Crow segregation in interstate transportation. Jim Crow laws are any state laws that show prejudice against African-American people. In today's society, we think these are very unfair laws.

Irene was strong because even though it was against the law at the time, she was not afraid to say no and do the right thing. Even when the sheriff tried to arrest her, she defended herself and stayed in her seat.

She also prevented the woman sitting next to her from getting up. That is a very brave thing to do, and I would have just gotten up. Even when she got arrested, she did not stop doing the right things. From then on she was an inspiration to all of us.

I think it is especially extraordinary that Irene was an African-American woman, because at the time neither African-Americans nor women had been given the opportunity to make many accomplishments.

The bottom line is that even though she was not well known for what she did at the time, she definitely changed the way we treated blacks forever, and that is why I think Irene Morgan is perseverant, courageous and strong.

A Virginia Hero

FROM PAGE 15

this entitled "Muslim Women Seeking a Place in the Mosque." The article chronicled Nomani's "Rosa Parks-style" activism.

Ms. Nomani moved to Great Falls three years ago. She lives with her son Shibli who also goes to Great Falls Elementary School.

I am proud to write about Asra Nomani. She represents the impor-

tant qualities of a hero- patience, compassion and courage. The Great Falls Freedom Memorial is a wonderful tribute to our heroes. I hope you consider Ms. Nomani a true Virginia hero.

PLEASE JOIN US

We lead. We serve. We excel.



Middle School Open House
January 11
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

All School Discovery Day
January 25
9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.



Follow us!
Twitter @holychildmd
Facebook www.facebook.com/HolyChildMD

CONNELLY SCHOOL OF THE HOLY CHILD

*Become a young woman of action!
Visit Connelly School of the Holy Child!*

Call us to shadow a student and be a Tiger for a Day!
9029 Bradley Boulevard • Potomac, Maryland 20854 • 301.365.0955

www.holychild.org

Camp Olympia



SUMMER DAY CAMP
June 18 – August 24
(2-week minimum)

CO-ED AGES 3½-15 • INSTRUCTIONAL SPORTS PROGRAM
Horseback Riding • Swimming • Gymnastics
Tennis • Soccer • Basketball • Mountain Biking and more

EXTENDED DAY • DOOR-TO-DOOR TRANSPORTATION
YEAR-ROUND HORSEBACK RIDING

Open Houses
Saturdays: January 14, February 4 & February 25
Spring Break Camp: April 2-6 & April 9-13

301-926-9281 5511 Muncaster Mill Road
Rockville, MD 20855
www.camp-olympia.com

WinterFest Parade



Thank you, McLean!

To all our parade entries, donors and residents who shared in the fun and festivities of McLean WinterFest 2011, we appreciate your support.

Join us next year on December 2nd for WinterFest.....McLean's only community parade!

www.mcleanwinterfest.org

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling
We Bring the Showroom to YOU!!




Select your remodeling products from our Mobile Kitchen and Bathroom Showroom and Design Center!!

Standard & Premium Bath Specials!
Starting at \$4,950
Visit our website for details!

Free Estimates 703-969-1179

www.twopoorteachers.com
Fully Insured & Class A Licensed EST. 1999

ZONE G: • ARLINGTON • GREAT FALLS
• MCLAN • VIENNA/OAKTON

EMPLOYMENT

703-917-6464

ZONE G AD DEADLINE:
TUESDAY 11 A.M.

ZONE G: • ARLINGTON • GREAT FALLS
• MCLAN • VIENNA/OAKTON

CLASSIFIED

703-917-6400

ZONE G AD DEADLINE:
MONDAY NOON

Love to Decorate?

Decorating Den Interiors was chosen Best of the Best by Entrepreneur Magazine. Home based, flexible schedule, low overhead, wholesale accounts. Call for more information on how you can turn your passion into a business.



703-239-8112

www.Decoratingden.com

Give me where to stand,
and I will move the earth.
-Archimedes

EDUCATION TRAINING

Pharmacy Technician Trainees Needed Now!

Pharmacies now hiring. No experience? Job Training & Placement Assistance Avail. 1-877-240-4524 CTO SCHEV

DENTAL ASSISTANT TRAINEES NEEDED NOW!

Dental Offices now hiring. No experience? Job Training & Placement Assistance Avail. 1-800-381-1734 CTO SCHEV

MED BILL & CODING Trainees NEEDED NOW

Medical Offices now hiring. No experience? Job Training & Placement Assistance Avail. 1-800-385-2615 CTO SCHEV

Part-time Interviewers

WESTAT, a national research firm, seeks individuals to interview respondents for a literacy study. Applicants will collect information from scientifically selected people in their homes using a laptop computer. Part-time, up to 25 hours/week, mostly nights and weekends; car required. Must be able to attend out-of-town training in early January 2012. Pay rate based on experience; mileage reimbursed. Assignment runs from early January 2012 to end of March 2012. EOE

www.Westat.com/fieldjobs
Enter Job ID: 4503BR



FARMERS

Open House

Come. Explore our new state of the art Agency Point facility. Network with industry professionals and learn more about agent career opportunities.

When: Wednesday, January 11th, 2012 6-7:30PM

Where: 11091 Sunset Hills Rd STE 800 Reston, VA 20190

Please RSVP to: allison.scheel@farmersinsurance.com

Farmers is committed to building small business in Northern Virginia

21 Announcements

ABC LICENSE
Aladdin's Eatery of VA Inc., trading as Aladdin's Eatery 4044 Campbell Avenue, Arlington, VA 22206-3424. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Mixed Beverages on premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Raja Atalla, Vice President
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

26 Antiques

We pay top \$ for antique furniture and mid-century Danish/modern teak furniture, STERLING, MEN'S WATCHES, jewelry and costume jewelry, paintings/art glass/clocks. Schefer Antiques @ 703-241-0790. Email:theschefer@cox.net

34 Pets

Kittens/Cats all vetted adorable adoption fee 1-703-608-2605 Save us Please!

110 Elderly Care

ELDERCARE / CHILDCARE Seeking employment to care for your loved one. 10 + yrs exp. I have excellent refs. Licensed. 540-829-0513 703-759-2215, 540-522-9250

21 Announcements

Fairfax Water
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CONNECTION RULE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION/REDEVELOPMENT
On December 6, 2011, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) held a public hearing regarding an ordinance to establish exclusive water service areas and maximum allowable rates, fees, and charges within Fairfax County for water service. At the same meeting, the BOS enacted the ordinance as Section 65-6-13 of the Code of Fairfax County. Section (a) of the ordinance provides that effective 12:01 a.m. December 7, 2011, Fairfax Water will be the provider of retail public water service within Fairfax County, Virginia, for any new construction or redevelopment of any dwelling unit and any residential or non-residential structure, unless Fairfax Water determines it cannot make water service available due to a utility-related reason.

The ordinance requires that any determination by Fairfax Water that it cannot make service available be made in accordance with policies, rules, or regulations established by Fairfax Water for the purpose of establishing when a utility-related reason exists that prevents it from supplying water. The ordinance further requires that the policies, rules, or regulations be adopted by Fairfax Water after notice and a public hearing.

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 12, 2012, Fairfax Water will conduct a public hearing on its proposed CONNECTION RULE FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION/ REDEVELOPMENT. The hearing will be held in Fairfax Water's offices at 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax, VA.

A copy of the proposed rule 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 rule should call Ms. Eva Catlin at 703-289-6017. Interested parties may submit written comments to PublicHearingComments@fairfaxwater.org or mail written comments to:

Fairfax Water
Public Hearing Comments
8570 Executive Park Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22031

All written comments must be received by close of business on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 to be included in the record of the public hearing.

HOW TO SUBMIT ADS TO

THE CONNECTION

Newspapers & Online

CLASSIFIED

DEADLINES

Zones 1, 5, 6.....Mon @ noon

Zones 2, 3, 4.....Tues @ noon

E-mail ad with zone choices to: classified@connectionnewspapers.com or call Andrea @ 703-778-9411

EMPLOYMENT

DEADLINES

Zones 5, 6.....Tues @ 11:00

Zones 1, 3.....Tues @ 4:00

Zone 2.....Wed @ 11:00

Zone 4.....Wed @ 1:00

E-mail ad with zone choices to: classified@connectionnewspapers.com or call Barbara @ 703-778-9413

ZONES

Zone 1: The Reston Connection
The Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
Zone 2: The Springfield Connection
The Burke Connection
The Fairfax Connection
The Fairfax Station/Clifton/Lorton Connection
Zone 3: The Alexandria Gazette Packet
The Mount Vernon Gazette

Zone 4: Centre View North
Centre View South
Zone 5: The Potomac Almanac
Zone 6: The Arlington Connection
The Vienna/Oakton Connection
The McLean Connection
The Great Falls Connection

THE CONNECTION CLASSIFIED

Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:
703-917-6400

Employment: 703-917-6464

E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Donate A Boat or Car Today!

Boat Angel

"2-Night Free Vacation!"

1-800-CAR-ANGEL

www.boatangel.com

sponsored by boat angel outreach center STOP CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN



21 Announcements

21 Announcements

Add a touch of green to a white Christmas!

Advertise through Virginia Press Services' Statewide Display Ad Network.

Place your business card-size ad in more than 65 newspapers and your message will reach more than 800,000 Virginians!

CONTACT THIS NEWSPAPER
or Adriane Long, Virginia Press Services,
804-521-7585 or adriane@vpa.net



21 Announcements

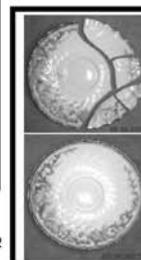
21 Announcements

NOTICE

Edward E. Gahres, MD is closing his medical practice at 5021 Seminary Rd, Ste 109, Alexandria, VA, on December 31, 2011. Patients interested in requesting copies of their medical records should call (703) 931-7515 between 10 am and 4 pm, Mon., Tues. and Thurs.

21 Announcements

21 Announcements



Porcelain Repair

571-221-3493

21 Announcements

21 Announcements

JUNE 30th - 2PM

Norfolk Waterside Marriott • Norfolk, VA

Psychic Medium & Author

John Edward

Tickets: (800) 233-3123

JohnEdward.net or TeleCharge.com

Reading not guaranteed.



HOME & GARDEN

703-917-6400

ZONE 6: • ARLINGTON • GREAT FALLS
• McLEAN • VIENNA/OAKTON

CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

CONTRACTORS.com

ZONE 6 AD DEADLINE:
MONDAY NOON

State of Flux



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As much as I delude myself – and others – into thinking that Kenny's life-living-with-cancer is just another bump in the road, I suppose it's only fair, after two and one half years of weekly writing about it, to admit the truth: I wish it were a bump in the road, but it's more like a sinkhole. Emotionally, physically and every which way including loose.

Most days I manage all that I'm expected to, reasonably well. There are other days however, not so much. Sometimes those days relate to something cancer-related: medication, scan, appointment, chemotherapy – or cancellation or change of any of the preceding; or it can be unrelated, specifically, but related generally, as everything becomes when you're categorized as "terminal."

Having employed various mechanisms – and rationalizations since my initial symptoms appeared in late December, 2009 – which ultimately led to my subsequent stage IV lung cancer diagnosis two and one half months later, compartmentalizing has been my greatest ally. A real-life version of "the vault" from a Seinfeld episode, a place where information is stashed for safekeeping and secrecy. However, "the vault" is all mental. It's not protected by doors and locks. Fort Knox it's not. In fact, gaining entrance is fairly easy. And once inside, it's akin to opening a Pandora's Box of your greatest fears; ruling your roost; beyond your control.

And on those days when control is lost and emotions/energy run down – and negative, and depression sets in: wallowing is easy and giving in to it provides a peculiar sort of calm/a why-fight-it sort of attitude. After experiencing this sort of mental meandering multiple times, I can actually tell/feel when it's happening; not before, definitely during and almost always after. It's never easy. However, it is unfortunately a condition with which I am all too familiar.

Assessing its particular cause, other than the obvious cancer connection, is also part of the problem. Knowing and understanding its origin provides me with another peculiar sort of calm. What I have determined is that, as an adjunct to the compartmentalization I regularly employ, my subconscious is weakening under the continual stress of the diagnosis/prognosis. It works so hard to maintain my calm exterior that occasionally it loses its ability to do so, sort of like a rubber band that eventually loses its elasticity. The pulling and tugging and stretching on me emotionally has the identical physical effect that a rubber band would experience under similar demands. And so I snap, sort of (although I don't shoot across the room): I get sullen and lethargic.

Sometimes, I feel like the character Odo (Rene Auberjonois), the Changeling/shapeshifter from Star Trek, Deep Space Nine. In order for Odo to maintain his "humanoid form" 16 hours a day, rather than exist in his normal, restful, "gelatinous state," it required constant vigilance on Odo's part (emotionally, physically; who knows really, it was Science Fiction). As such, there were moments (episodes) when he just couldn't function normally in his humanoid form; the stress internally to maintain his shape was simply too great. It was only when he returned to his quarters and his bucket that he could relax and regain his composure.

Unlike Odo, I don't have a normal state to return to: I only have my "new normal" (Kenny-with-cancer at age 57). And some days I wonder if pretending I don't have cancer might be causing me more problems than admitting to it would. As Dr. Sidney Freedman from the classic television show M*A*S*H said in his farewell episode, "Ladies and gentlemen, take my advice, pull down your pants and slide on the ice." Or not.

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

Employers:
Are your recruiting ads not working in other papers?

Try a better way to fill your employment openings



- Target your best job candidates where they live.
- Reach readers in addition to those who are currently looking for a job.
- Proven readership.
- Proven results.

THE CONNECTION
to your community

703-917-6464

classified@connectionnewspapers.com

Great Papers • Great Readers
Great Results!

CLEANING

CARE MORE CLEANING SOLUTIONS

Residential & Commercial
10% Senior Citizen Discount
703-862-5904
OR
703-780-6749
caremorecleaning.com

CONCRETE

No Job too Small
Driveways Patios
Stamped Concrete
703-336-7917

HAULING

AL'S HAULING
Junk & Rubbish
Concrete, furn., office,
yard, construction debris
Low Rates NOVA
703-360-4364
703-304-4798 cell
7 DAYS A WEEK

PAINTING

PATRIOT PAINTING
www.PatriotPainting.net
Wallpaper Removal,
Carpentry,
Power Washing,
Int/Ext Painting
Free Est. • Satisfaction Guar.
Lic./Ins. Int./Ext.
703-502-7840
Cell
571-283-4883

ELECTRICAL

K & D ELECTRIC
COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL SERVICE
Family Owned & Operated
Recessed Lighting
Ceiling Fans
Phone/CATV
Computer Network Cabling
Service Upgrades
Hot Tubs, etc...
Licensed/Bonded/Insured
Office 703-335-0654
Mobile 703-499-0522

GUTTER

LAWN MOWING
LAWN MOWING, TRIMMING, EDGING,
SODDING, MULCHING, LEAVES,
GUTTER CLEANING, YARD CLEANUP
PINNACLE SERVICES
"Friendly services for a friendly price"
Lic. Free Est. Ins.
703-802-0483
email: jamie@lawnsandgutters.com
web: lawnsandgutters.com

LANDSCAPING

ANGEL'S LAWN MOWING
• Trimming • Leaf & Snow
• Removal • Yard Clearing
• Hauling • Tree Work
703-863-1086
703-582-3709
240-603-6182

ROOFING

Falcon Roofing
Roofing & Siding
(All Types)
Soffit & Fascia Wrapping
New Gutters
Chimney Crowns
Leaks Repaired
No job too small
703-975-2375
falconroofinginc.com

GUTTER

GUTTER CLEANING
Gutters and Downspouts Cleaned • Small Repairs • Gutter Guards
LEAF REMOVAL
PINNACLE SERVICES
"Friendly services for a friendly price" Inc.
703-802-0483 • Free Estimates
Email: jamie@lawnsandgutters.com
Web: lawnsandgutters.com
Lic • LAWN MOWING, SODDING,
MULCHING, Yardclean-up • Ins.

HAULING

ANGEL'S TRASH REMOVAL
• Junk & Rubbish • Furn.,
Yard, Construction
Debris • Mulch &
Spring Clean Up
703-863-1086
703-582-3709
240-603-6182

Light tomorrow
with today!
-Elizabeth
Barret Browing

TREE SERVICE

ANGEL'S TREE REMOVAL
Brush & Yard Debris
Trimming & Topping
Gutters & Hauling
Angelstreeslandscaping-hauling.com
703-863-1086
703-582-3709
240-603-6182

IMPROVEMENTS

R&N Carpentry
♦ BASEMENTS ♦ BATHS ♦ KITCHENS
Foreclosure specialist/Power washing
♦ Exterior Wood Rot More!
Deck & Fence repair, Screen Porches
No jobs too large or small
Free est. 37 yrs exp. Licensed, Insured
703-987-5096

IMPROVEMENTS

M. C. Lynch
Home Improvement
Family Owned & Operated
Rotten Wood, Wind Damage, Trims,
Windows, Doors, Deck, Stairs, Vanity,
Basement Framing, Garbage Disposal,
Painting, Power Wash, Siding Repairs.
Licensed, Bonded, Insured
703-266-1233

IMPROVEMENTS

Oak Hill
BUILDING & REMODELING
Member Nari/NVBA/HBAV
Lead Safe &
Certified Green Builder
Since 1978
Licensed, Bonded and Insured
www.oakhillbuilding.com
703-591-1200
Specializing in:
• Additions
• Kitchens
• Baths
• Basements
Pre-holiday Sale
\$500.00 off Remodeling
Design, Ends 2011.

LAWN SERVICE

J.E.S Services
LANDSCAPE & CONSTRUCTION
• Patios • Walkways
• Retaining Walls
• Drainage Problems
• Landscape Makeovers
Call: **703-912-6886**
Free Estimates

Now! Complete Print Editions Online!
The full print editions of all 18 Connection Newspapers are now available on our Web Site in PDF format, page by page, identical to our weekly newsprint editions, including print advertising. Go to www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click on "Print Editions."

The HANDYMAN
A DIVISION OF NURSE CONSTRUCTION
BATHROOM REMODELING, DRYWALL,
PAINTING, CERAMIC TILE, CARPENTRY,
POWER WASHING & MUCH MORE
You have tried the rest - NOW CALL THE BEST!!
Proudly serving Northern VA - 46 yrs. exp.
Licensed Insured
We Accept VISA/MC
703-441-8811

MASONRY

3rd Generation Masonry Company
Family Owned & Operated Since the 1950s
MASONRY SPECIALIST, LLC
For All of Your Masonry Needs
Custom Design, Installation, Repairs & Restoration
* Also Offering Custom Carpentry Services! *
BRICK - FIELDSTONE
FLAGSTONE - CONCRETE
EP Henry & Belgard Pavers
Patios, Walkways, Driveways, Retaining & Decorative Walls
703-443-2308
Go to www.masonryspecialist.com for ideas, pictures & coupons!
All Work Guaranteed - Licensed & Fully Insured
Class A License #VA2705087240A

THE CONNECTION
to your community
CLASSIFIED
PRINT EDITIONS

R.N. CONTRACTORS, INC.
Remodeling Homes, Flooring,
Kitchen & Bath, Windows,
Siding, Roofing, Additions &
Patios, Custom Deck, Painting
We Accept All Major Credit Cards
Licensed, Insured, Bonded • Free Estimates • Class A Lic
Phone: **703-887-3827** Fax: **703-830-3849**
E-mail: rncontractorsinc@gmail.com

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS
CLASSIFIED
Classified or Home • Lawn • Garden:
703-917-6400
Employment: **703-917-6464**
E-mail: classified@connectionnewspapers.com

MAISON *Net* JARDIN, LTD.

9867 GEORGETOWN PIKE, GREAT FALLS, VA 22066 703.759.2825

MAISONETJARDINLTD.COM GFCPOS@FINELANDSCAPES.COM



*Do Not Miss Our After Christmas Clearance Event
Starting December 26, 2011- Doors Open 10:00 AM.*



Theresa D'Alessandro,

Director of The School of Theatrical Dance, is very proud to introduce her performing ensemble, Great Falls Dance Theater!

This vibrant young company is comprised of forty SOTD Upper School students, respected instructors, and working professional dancers, actors, musicians, and singers. Great Falls Dance Theater will present the sixth annual *Christmas Eve at the Nutcracker Club* this December.

Four Performances

The Waddell Theater, Loudoun NOVA

Christmas Eve at the Nutcracker Club is a refreshing and exciting departure from the usual tradition. It is a fanciful yet reverent sketch of one enchanted Christmas Eve in 1944 in the imaginary town of Rockwell. Striking the epitome of balance and entertainment, *Nutcracker Club* will take your breath away with its dazzling array of Classical Ballet, Tap, Jazz, and Modern dance to heart-warming melodies and energetic rhythms.

The School Of THEATRICAL DANCE EST. 1980



The curtain opens to a wintery scene just outside of a glowing USO Hall. Snowflakes swirl through the intimate theater to Tchaikovsky's thrilling score, enticing a group of young Ice Skaters to explore the freshly frozen Rockwell Pond.

After midnight, as the USO Hall dims the lights, an enchanted transformation commences... The ornaments, toys, and decorations come to life and mischievous Elves scurry to fill the stockings to the tunes of Louis Prima! Dazzling Tinsel shimmy from the Christmas Tree to the stage to "It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)". Mannheim Steamroller orchestrates a dramatic and explosive Carol of the Bells. The wooden Ballerina Doll and Tin Soldier are reunited in an arresting pas de deux to the hauntingly romantic melodies of Yann Tiersen. And finally, Angels descend from atop the Christmas Tree to dance an evocative tribute to the men and women of the armed services who have sacrificed so much.

Congratulations Dancers on a superb performance. Encore!

THEATRICALDANCE.COM

703.759.5652

tdance.inc@verizon.net

Photography By Vihao Pham
Design By Ashley O'Banion

The SOTD is a non-profit, equal-opportunity 501(c)(3) organization and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin.