

Lily Flint, a second-grader at Colvin Run Elementary, sounds the gong signifying 1,000 meals packaged at the school's Stop Hunger Now event Sunday, Jan. 22. Hundreds of volunteers helped package more than 25,000 meals during the event.

## Searching the Night Sky in Great Falls

WINTER FUN, PAGE 10

# Colvin Run Uses Service Learning

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## Moderate Mutiny

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OPINION 8 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 14 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 16 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 18

PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

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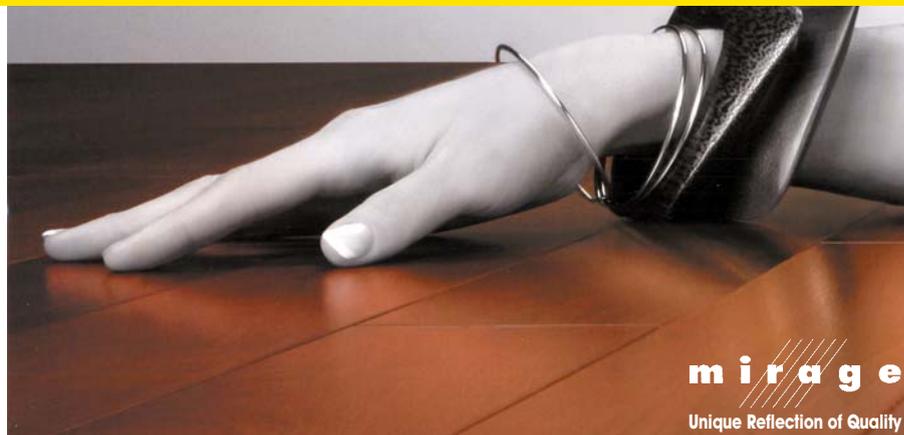
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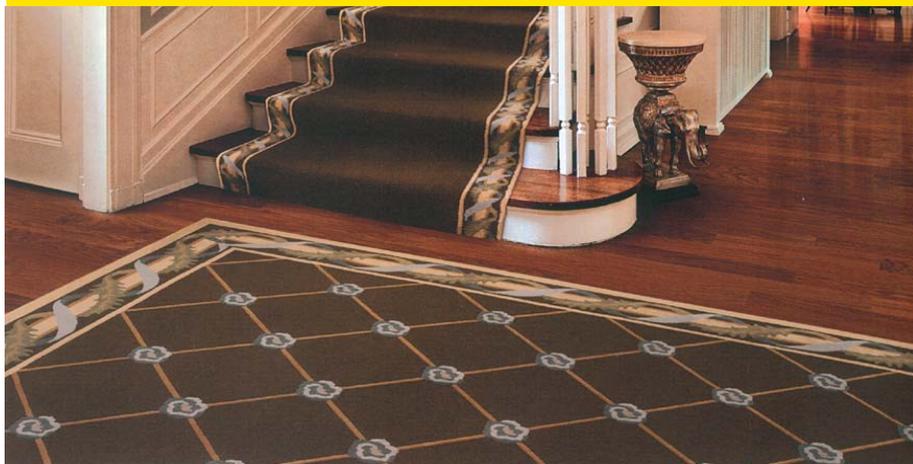
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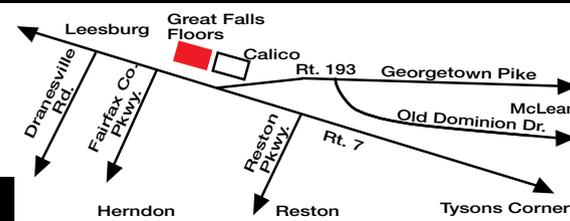
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## Moderate Mutiny

BY MICHAEL LEE POPE  
THE CONNECTION

**W**ith the sluggish economy at the forefront of voters' minds this year, former Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine hopes to put fiscal issues at the top of his campaign to fill the seat vacated by Democratic U.S. Sen. Jim Webb. In an interview on Thursday, Jan. 19, Kaine said he hopes to promote a "talent economy" in Washington. It's a reality the former governor says has become evident in the last few decades, when Virginia moved from being one of the lowest median income states to being one of the wealthiest.

"How did Virginia move from sluggish economy to strong economy?" asked Kaine. "I would argue that the main thing that moved it for us was that we decided to become a talent economy."

For Kaine, the key to pursuing the talent economy and fixing the broken economy is education reform. One example would be creating accountability reports for every state's public education system, an effort he said would create a

labor and Pensions Committee to push his talent agenda.

"Kaine's agenda sounds like a very classic Democratic argument," said Kyle Kondik, political analyst with the University of Virginia Center for Politics. "It's aimed at improving people's prospects without endorsing socialism."

**KAINE'S CAMPAIGN** is aimed solidly at budget issues and the economy, hoping to capitalize on lingering uncertainty from the global economic crisis and persistently high unemployment figures. Kaine says balancing the budget will involve tax increases and

## Former governor wants to impose Virginia "talent economy" on Washington; increase bipartisanship.

continuing to hurt Virginia families and businesses, we need a voice in Washington that will represent Virginia values," said Del. Ron Villanueva (R-21). "George Allen will fight every day to unleash our energy resources for jobs and security and that's why we need him in the U.S. Senate."

**KAINE'S OPPONENTS** are also focused on the economy, although they're attacking the former governor from the right. Last week, Kaine's decision to back President Barack Obama's decision to reject an application to build the Keystone XL oil pipeline

braska, "You've got to have this whether you like it or not," said Kaine. "I frankly think in terms of energy policy that there are a lot more immediate and likely successful strategies."

**ASIDE FROM TRYING** to help the sluggish economy by pushing a talent economy, Kaine hopes to find common ground in the Senate, which he calls a "broken institution." If elected, Kaine said he wants to find a Republican senator elected at the same time and join the bipartisan and moderate Gang of Six, potentially making it a Gang

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION



Former Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine discusses his goals if elected to U.S. Senate.

**"How did Virginia move from sluggish economy to strong economy? I would argue that the main thing that moved it for us was that we decided to become a talent economy."**

— Former Democratic Gov. Tim Kaine

sense of competition between the states that would improve education nationwide. He would also invest more money in career and technical education, and he's critical of the Obama administration for failing to take action in this area. Kaine's vision of the talent economy also expands beyond education reform, encompassing a broad range of economic policy including everything from workforce development to comprehensive immigration reform. And he hopes to land a spot on the Health, Education, La-

budget cuts. Kaine said he would let the massive tax cuts created by former President George W. Bush expire at the top end. Specifically, Kaine said, he would propose eliminating the Bush tax cuts for those who make more than \$500,000.

"Higher income earners are job creators," said David Logan, economist with the conservative Tax Foundation. "So Kaine is talking about taking money from people who are most likely to invest in the economy."

On the issue of cutting the budget, Kaine, trumpeting his time as governor, said he had a better record than Allen. When asked what kinds of cuts he would make in Washington, Kaine said he wants to allow the federal government to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies to reduce the price of drugs covered by Medicare. And he anticipates cost savings associated with a smaller military as the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan draw down. He would also like to close some overseas bases, although he couldn't say which ones or how much money would be saved. Critics say it's a flawed agenda.

"With unemployment stuck above 8 percent for months on end and high fuel prices

brought criticism from former Republican Gov. George Allen and Del. Bob Marshall (R-13). Both campaigns hoped to use the issue to tie Kaine to Obama and portray the Democratic Party as irresponsible.

"The Keystone pipeline could produce thousands of American jobs, reduce American dollars going to regimes with little sympathy for western democratic governments and increase America's energy security," said Marshall. "What is the real reason Tim Kaine and Barack Obama are in a rush to avoid constructing this pipeline?"

Kaine rejected criticism from Allen supporter Del. Terry Kilgore (R-1) that his support of the Obama's decision on the pipeline shows that he is a "reflex liberal," citing his elimination of the estate tax and Forbes Magazine description of Virginia as the most business friendly state all four years he was governor. Kaine also said that the Keystone decision needed to be thoroughly analyzed, and he criticized Congress for trying to force a decision in a short period of time and tying it to the payroll tax extension. He was also critical of Kilgore and Allen for pushing the pipeline when Nebraska was opposed to it.

"I'm not going to be a senator telling Ne-

braska, "You've got to have this whether you like it or not," said Kaine. "I frankly think in terms of energy policy that there are a lot more immediate and likely successful strategies."

of Eight. By casting himself in this role, Kaine hopes to find what he calls "common ground" with Republicans rather than holding up nominations such as the administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, which has been vacant since 2006.

"Under both presidents under both parties, the advice and consent process in the Senate has fallen apart because they utilize secret holds and cloture," he said. "But more than that, they just don't work together."

He acknowledged that a freshman senator wouldn't be able to do much about secret holds and cloture, although he said something had to be done about excessive partisanship and an unwillingness to work together. Because of the dynamics of the House of Representatives, he said, that would not be the place where the culture of Washington begins to change. The Senate, on the other hand, operates more on personal relationships, and so it would be a more logical place to begin increasing bipartisanship in Washington.

"More senators want to work together, but their chafing under each of their respective sets of leadership," he said. "The president says this, that we're four or five votes away from a mutiny in the Senate, and that would be a good thing."

## NEWS

# Saving Dolphins in Great Falls 'Dolphin Tale' rescuer visits Forestville Elementary.

BY MARY GRACE OAKES  
THE CONNECTION

**O**n Wednesday, Jan. 18, Aquatic first-responder and educator Brandon Paquin spoke to students at Forestville Elementary. Paquin is one of the marine biologists who helped to rescue and rehabilitate Winter, the dolphin featured in the film "Dolphin Tale." He shared Winter's

story with the students, describing how after becoming entangled in a crab-trap rope, Winter lost her tail due to blood loss.

"As she tried to fight it more and more, the rope grew tighter around her tail. This stopped the blood flow, and the tissue died. Although the movie said that they had to amputate her tail, in reality her tail fell off because the tissue was dead," Paquin explained.

SEE INSPIRED TO PROTECT, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY MARY GRACE OAKES

From left, Taylor Betts and Brandon Paquin speak to Forestville Elementary students about the ways they can help to protect the environment.

# When a warm blanket just isn't enough.



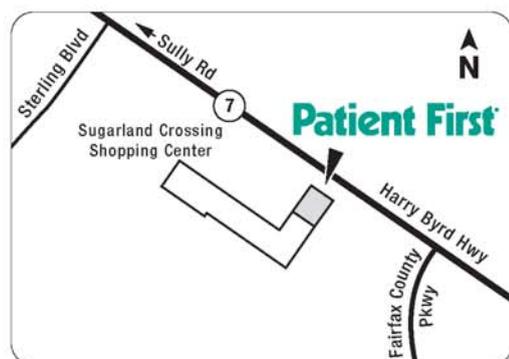
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# Inspired to Protect

FROM PAGE 4

After a short film featuring footage of Winter's rescue and rehabilitation was played, Paquin led a discussion about protecting the environment, calling fourth-grader Taylor Betts, a Youth Ambassador for the Wyland Foundation for the Environment to the stage. Taylor, who says she "got started" by "organizing a creek cleanup in my backyard", offered advice to her schoolmates on how to become involved with environmental protection efforts.

"Visit wylandfoundation.org...that kind of gets you started and knowing what's going on. Then, find an animal that you really like, and read about them. Once you see what's actually going on, you see that you can help," she said.

In the discussion, Paquin emphasized environmental responsibility, saying, "We make garbage. If we make it, it's also our responsibility to throw it away in its proper place." He told students how they can help to save dolphins.

"Here in Virginia, you guys have dolphins, just like Winter...Do you guys want to be dolphin rescuers with me?" Paquin asked a crowd of cheering students. "Then...if you're walking outside and you see a can or a bottle or plastic on the ground, go pick it up and put it in the garbage. And guess what? Right there, you've saved dolphins," he said.

Many students left the assembly enthusiastic about protecting the environment. Third-grader David Monseratii said, "It's important not to litter!", and Faith Ann Finch, a third-grader who "studies dolphins a lot," said she believes "it's important to protect the environment so we don't hurt animals."

The Wyland Foundation for the Planet is a non-



**Forestville Elementary fourth-grader Taylor Betts, pictured with Brandon Paquin, shows the audience the medal she received for her involvement with the Weyland Foundation's Youth Ambassador Program. Taylor, who says she has "already started studying" to be a marine biologist, expressed concern that if water pollution continues, "I'm not going to be able to do what I love most when I grow up."**

profit organization that is dedicated to helping "children and families around the nation to rediscover the importance of healthy oceans and waterways" and to providing children with "the tools they need to become a more creative, positive, and solution-oriented." Visit [www.wylandfoundation.org](http://www.wylandfoundation.org)

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## BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to [greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.

### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 25

**McLean Community Center Governing Board Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Tax district residents (Small District One A-Dranesville) who wish to speak during the "Citizen Comment" portion of the meeting are asked to call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY 711 to be placed on the agenda. [www.mcleancenter.org/contact/governing.asp](http://www.mcleancenter.org/contact/governing.asp).

### SATURDAY/JAN. 28

**Federal Job Application Workshop.** 10 a.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E., Vienna. \$25-\$35. Federal opportunities, federal sources of information, usajobs.gov, federal application process, federal-styled resume and more. [komeara@thewomenscenter.org](mailto:komeara@thewomenscenter.org).

### SUNDAY/JAN. 29

**Virginia Sierra Club, Great Falls Group.** 3 p.m. 1605 Maddux Lane, McLean. Join the Executive Committee for its annual planning meeting and get involved. Staff and volunteer leaders will provide overviews of issues and where volunteers are needed. Refreshments provided. 703-506-4310 or [linda@lburchfiel.com](mailto:linda@lburchfiel.com).

**Real Estate Seminar Series.** 1 p.m. Keller Williams Realty, 774-A Walker Road, Great Falls. "What Every Seller Needs To Know". Get tips from a professional stager, home inspector, appraiser and more. Reserve at [lyonsmcguire@TeamGreatFalls.com](mailto:lyonsmcguire@TeamGreatFalls.com).

### TUESDAY/JAN. 31

**Building Self Esteem.** 10 a.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Five week course, \$90-\$100. Learn techniques to help build self-esteem and develop a more positive identity. [komeara@thewomenscenter.org](mailto:komeara@thewomenscenter.org).

### FRIDAY/FEB. 3

**Armand Cabrera: Learn to Paint Anything.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Great Falls School Of Art, 1144 Walker Road, Suite D, Great Falls. Three day workshop with artist, illustrator and teacher Armand Cabrera. Register at [www.greatfallsfoundationforarts.org](http://www.greatfallsfoundationforarts.org).

### TUESDAY/FEB. 7

**Vienna Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce TIPS Luncheon.** 12:15 p.m. Shula's Steakhouse, 8028 Leesburg Pike, in the Tysons Corner Marriott. Every Tuesday. 703-862-4895.

**Woman's Club of McLean Monthly Meeting.** 1 p.m. Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Discussion and book signing with former White House Press Corps correspondent Helen Thomas. Free and open to the public. Reserve at 703-356-0089.

### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 8

**Virginia Chronic Pain Support Group Meeting.** 1:30 p.m. at Kaplan Center for Integrative Medicine, 6829 Elm St., Suite 300, McLean. Group leader, Jodi Brayton, LCSW. 703-532-4892.

**Multiple Sclerosis Support Group.** 7 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., NE, Vienna, VA. A group for anyone with multiple sclerosis, their family and friends. Sponsored by the National Capital Chapter of the MS Society. The group meets the second Wednesday of every month. Free. 703-768-4841.

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# Scandal Highlights Child Sex Abuse

**Fairfax County police say reports, concerns rose in wake of scandal.**

BY VICTORIA ROSS  
THE CONNECTION

The fallout from the Penn State child sex abuse scandal - arrests, firings and the disgrace of a sports icon - has also promoted a heightened awareness of child sexual abuse.

Since the scandal broke in November, national child abuse and neglect hotlines have reported steep spikes in calls from parents, educators and victims asking questions and seeking help.

Fairfax County has also felt the impact.

According to statistics kept by Fairfax County Police Department's (FCPD) Child Abuse Unit, reports to the department's seven-member Child Abuse Squad have doubled since December 2010 - from 19 to 39 reported cases.

During 2011, officers investigated 329 cases covering child rape, sodomy, aggravated sexual battery and indecent liberties with a juvenile.

Fairfax County's Office for Women's Do-



**On Wednesday, Jan. 18, Fairfax County held an online forum to address the topic of child sexual abuse. For 90 minutes, 2nd Lt. Josh Laitinen, supervisor of the FCPD child abuse squad and Kathleen Kelmelis, program manager for the Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services answered a wide range of questions from about 20 posters.**

mestic and Sexual Violence also reports an increased number of calls asking for advice and counsel since the scandal broke.

"Child sexual abuse is more common than many people think, but there is also a lot of shame and a hesitancy to come forward and talk about it," said Lucy Caldwell, an FCPD officer who spearheaded an online forum to the topic on Wednesday, Jan. 18. She said

national attention surrounding the Penn State allegations coupled with the rise in local reports and concerns provided the impetus for the online discussion.

"We felt it was important to reach out to tell people that they are not alone. There are resources available," Caldwell said. "In some cases, victims can take police action against their offenders... We do suspect, however, that many cases go unreported for many, many reasons."

According to the National Children's Advocacy Center, sexual abuse is the nation's most under-reported crime. Various studies show 40 to 60 million Americans have been sexually abused, and national experts estimate that nearly one out of every three girls and one out of every six boys will be sexually assaulted by age 18.

The online discussion was originally scheduled for one hour, but there were so many questions from posters - all of whom chose to remain anonymous - that the discussion continued for more than 90 minutes.

Kathleen Kelmelis, program manager for the county's Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services and 2nd Lt. Josh Laitinen, supervisor of the FCPD child abuse squad, answered a wide range of questions from those who identified themselves as victims, as well as parents and educators seeking information about how

to help children and when to report suspected cases of child sexual abuse.

One poster asked: "Why do you think children don't tell their parents or the police when bad things happen to them? How should they handle these situations? What should we be doing as parents to ensure their safety?"

"In 93 percent of cases of child sex abuse, the abuser is someone the child knows. Nearly half the time these abusers are family members," Kelmelis responded, adding that abusers are masters of manipulation.

"They manipulate in many ways, through threats such as, 'If you tell, I will kill your family or your pet.' Or through promises - 'If you do this for me, I will take you out to the arcade,'" Kelmelis said. She also gave tips on guiding a child through the conversation.

"Give the child a safe environment in which to talk to someone with whom trust has been established. When talking with a child, try to guard against displaying emotions that would influence a child. Reassure the child that they have not done anything wrong and they are not to blame for what happened to them," she said.

Another poster wanted to know who, in addition to doctors and teachers were "mandated reporters."

SEE ONLINE FORUM, PAGE 13



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# OPINION

## School Board Needs Your Input

BY JANIE STRAUSS  
CHAIRMAN, FAIRFAX COUNTY  
SCHOOL BOARD



### COMMENTARY

Recently, Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Jack Dale presented the School Board with his proposal for next year's budget. The proposed \$2.4 billion budget outlines programs and services for our growing student population, which is projected to be 181,608 students for the school year 2012-13. It also includes funds to give eligible employees a step increase and a 2 percent market scale adjustment.

Our population is projected to grow by more than 3,900 students, and many of these students face great challenges. In addition, we are opening two new schools: a middle school

at the South County site in Lorton and an elementary school at the Lacey site in Annandale. To meet our enrollment growth and other critical needs, the budget proposes to add 721.3 positions, the overwhelming majority of which are school-based positions.

Superintendent Dale has included in his proposal a request to the Board of Supervisors for an increase of 8.4 percent, or \$135.8 million, in the transfer of funds over the FY 2012 level. This reflects costs associated with student growth and state requirements, and a compensation increase for staff, and small increases in some programs that we cut during the recession.

The Fairfax County School Board has shown

great fiscal responsibility during these tough economic times. During the past four years (FY 2009-FY2012), we took reductions and cost avoidances totaling more than \$475 million and eliminated more than 1,400 positions.

Now the School Board needs to hear from you as we consider the Superintendent's proposal over the next few weeks, then move to adopt the advertised budget on Feb. 9. Here's what you can do to get involved. First, learn more about the budget by visiting [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu) where you'll find details on all aspects of the budget and the process. Second, sign up to speak at the board's public hearing on Jan. 30-31. Or third, send your school board member an email with your comments.

The quality of our public schools is important to our children's well-being and the economic strength of our county. We look forward to hearing from our citizens.

## Facing Teen Dating Violence Battles to Preserve Voter Access

BY NYKA J FELDMAN

Every parent remembers their first date or their first relationship. Many of these are fond memories – racing hearts, jittery nerves, and feelings of excitement. Our hearts pound no less when we see our teens off on dates with their boyfriends or girlfriends. But, more than just excitement, parents and teens also must recognize that things can go wrong. February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, a good time for parents and teens to communicate about healthy relationships.

Teen dating violence is defined as physical, sexual, or psychological violence within a close relationship. One in three teens report knowing a friend who has been abused by a dating partner. Two-thirds of teens who are in an abusive relationship never tell anyone about the abuse. Yet, 81 percent of parents believe teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they don't know it's an issue. The stark disconnect between teens and their parents is one that we can ill afford.

The Safe Community Coalition (SCC, [www.safecommunitycoalition.net](http://www.safecommunitycoalition.net)) provides resources and brings together experts and partners to address this and other issues affecting our youth in the Langley and McLean communities. One of SCC's key partners is Dating Abuse Stops Here (DASH, [www.datingabusestopshere.com](http://www.datingabusestopshere.com)), which was founded in 2009 by Lynne Russell, the mother of 19-year old Siobhan Russell who was

murdered by her ex-boyfriend in Oak Hill. DASH provides resources, facts, and information to help teens, their parents and friends understand more about this growing problem.

When relationships go wrong, it rarely starts with violence. Instead, the warning signs, often ignored, are more likely to be emotional and verbal abuse. Parents and friends should be aware of the signs, which can range from withdrawal from friends and family to giving up hobbies once enjoyed, to more serious signs including one partner insulting the other in public to threatening to harm him/herself or their partner if they ever try to break up.

Prevention starts with a conversation. Parents need to communicate in clear terms what their expectations are in how their teens should be respectfully treated in a relationship. Friends and other caring adults in our teens' lives need to listen when a teen seeks help or they should speak up when they suspect a teens' relationship is in trouble. And teens need to learn what a healthy relationship looks like and what to do if they need to seek help.

Resources are available. School counselors, faith leaders and mental health professionals are prepared to help. Online resources are easy to find, including: [www.teendvmonth.org](http://www.teendvmonth.org), [www.breakthecycle.org](http://www.breakthecycle.org), [www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org), and [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dsm/dvviolence/teen\\_dating\\_abuse.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dsm/dvviolence/teen_dating_abuse.htm).

Nyka Feldman is the Executive Director of the Safe Community Coalition.

BY CHAP PETERSEN  
STATE SEN. (D-34)

The 2012 General Assembly is in full swing. The committees are selected and legislation filed. Some of the sharpest battles are forming on the issue of voter access.

Before reviewing these bills, it's important to know the background of voting in the Old Dominion:

Even as the New World's oldest democracy, Virginia has historically limited its franchise. In colonial times, voting for the House of Burgesses was limited to white male freeholders who paid land taxes.

In the early days of statehood, our Constitution limited voting rights to landowners holding at least fifty acres. (The "reform" constitution of 1828 dropped that requirement to twenty-five acres). Only white men were allowed to vote.

After the Civil War, legal rights theoretically expanded as the Commonwealth, like all Southern states, adopted the Fourteenth Amendment which guaranteed equal protection of the laws to all citizens. However, there was little change in voting patterns.

The "poll tax" still kept out thousands of voters, mostly black. Local registrars were hard to find — and had no mandate to enroll new



voters. Elections were a closed affair.

Fast forward to 2012. We live in a democracy in which enrollment at the DMV takes a few minutes. Polling locations abound. Election information can be found on-line. Voting

has never been easier. Is this a problem? Apparently. In 2012, the Assembly is seeing numerous bills to limit participation at all levels of voting:

Some limitations are fundamental (SB 1 — requires voter to show a photo i.d. and removes ability to sign affidavit affirming identity), some are intrusive (SB 62 — requires voters to declare a party when they register and restricts their rights to vote in primaries), and some are pernicious (SB 63 — criminalizes the solicitation of absentee ballot applications in nursing homes).

Selling Ocean City time shares at a nursing home? Legal. Handing out absentee ballot applications? Illegal.

That makes no sense.

We've fought hard to establish an open system in Virginia, from our primaries to our local races. Under that system, every person has an opportunity to vote and participate in choosing the best candidate. Registration rates have never been higher.

The current system works. Let's not change it.

## Great Falls CONNECTION

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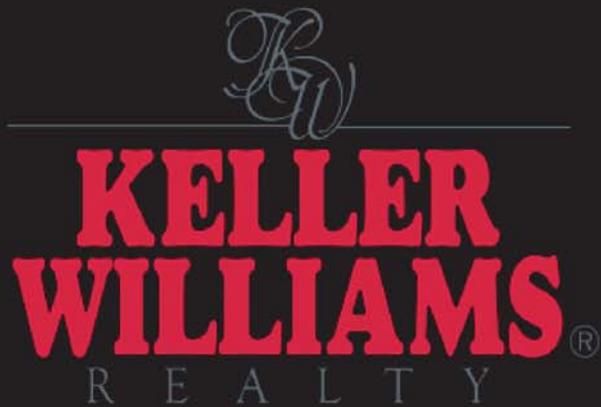
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MLS # FX7586288 - \$485,000  
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Join us on for dinner on January 30 at our next

### Military Appreciation Monday (MAM)

event at The Old Brogue in Great Falls.

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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.

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Come see me at the Old Brogue for  
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# WINTER FIIN Chocolate Festival Comes to McLean

Inaugural festival to be held Jan. 29 at Community Center.

Like chocolate? The McLean Rotary club, along with the Governing Board of the Community Center, is calling all chocolate lovers to the McLean Community Center on Sunday, Jan. 29 from noon to 5 p.m. for the inaugural McLean Chocolate Festival. Vendors will be selling all things chocolate: candy, cookies, fudge, chocolate-dipped fruits and other morsels, cupcakes, cheesecake, fudge sauce, and chocolate drinks. Local retailers Fluffy Thoughts and Greenberry's will be on hand, as well as national marketers Godiva, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory and Schokolad Chocolate Factory. In addition, a number of local enterprises such as Dave's Candy Kitchen and SpagnVola Chocolatiers will be there. Sprinkles Cupcakes is coming from

Georgetown. Even the Dogma Gourmet Dog Bakery is coming from Arlington to sell carob treats for your dog. There will be a refreshment room where you can eat your treats on site, or you can take them home. In another room, students from the Interact Clubs at McLean and Langley High Schools will be conducting chocolate-related games for children while parents watch. The event is intended to bring the community together for a fun event for the whole family. It will also raise money for local and international charitable projects since 25 percent of all proceeds will go to Rotary to be used for charitable purposes. For more information, you can visit the festival's website, [www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org](http://www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org).



McLean Chocolate Festival will be held on Sunday, Jan. 29, noon to 5 p.m. at the McLean Community Center.

## McLean Chocolate Festival Jan. 29

McLean Chocolate Festival will be held on Sunday, Jan. 29, noon to 5 p.m. at the McLean Community Center. Taste the specialties of area Chocolatiers while children play chocolate-related games. Admission \$1. Children under age six are free.

Sponsored by the McLean Rotary Club and the McLean Community Center.

The generosity and participation of

the McLean community in the festival will help the McLean Rotary Club support numerous local organizations, including: Timber Lane Elementary School Reading Program, Homestretch, Langley Residential Support Services, Literacy Council of Northern Virginia, Alternative House, Chesterbrook Residence, Falls Church McLean Children's Center, Lewinsville Senior Center, High School Scholarships, Stop

Hunger Now.

The following vendors are scheduled to participate:

Godiva Chocolatiers, SpagnVola Chocolatiers, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Connie's Chocolate Confection, Schokolad Chocolate Factory, Dave's Candy Kitchen, C & D Sweets, Capitol Chocolate Fountains, Greenberry's Coffee & Tea, Sprinkles Cupcakes and Dogma Gourmet Dog Bakery and Boutique.

# Searching the Night Sky in Great Falls

Observatory Park hosts weekly viewings.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

The winter skies are clear for the viewing at Observatory Park in Great Falls. Every Friday night through April 15 the park will host a viewing from 7 to 9:30 p.m. where prospective astronomers can bring their equipment to examine the night sky.

"It's hard to believe such a place exists in Fairfax County, so far away from the light pollution of this area," said James Crawford of Vienna.

The viewings are hosted by the Analemma Society, which helped the park get the roll top observatory that is currently there, and is working on expanding the offerings.

Jacque Olin, one of the founders of the society, said



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Analemma Society founders Charles and Jacque Olin at Observatory Park, which hosts weekly sky viewings on Friday nights.

the society aims to "stimulate curiosity by making it easy to learn."

Viewings are not held if there is snow on the ground, or if the tem-

perature falls below 20 degrees. According to the Analemma Society, if stars are visible on a given night, it's a good night for viewing.

More information, including a Clear Sky Clock which shows night sky viewing conditions, can be found at [www.analemma.org](http://www.analemma.org).

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# Fairfax County Public Schools FY 2013 Proposed Budget News

Coming in February: School Nutrition News

January marks the beginning of the budget process for the Fairfax County School Board. Superintendent Jack Dale released the FY 2013 Proposed Budget based on priorities set by the School Board. The \$2.4 billion proposed budget is a 9 percent increase (\$202.3 million) over the FY 2012 budget.

### This Just In:

The total number of FCPS students taking AP and IB exams continues to rise. More than 16,100 students (5.4 percent increase) took AP exams and more than 2,600 students (2.1 percent increase) took IB exams in 2011.

The proposed budget includes 721.3 new positions, most of which are being added to address rising enrollment -- projected to be 181,608 students in FY 2013. In addition to increased

enrollment, the proposed budget also takes into consideration changes in student demographics, including an increase in the number of students receiving English for

Speakers of Other Languages services and the number of students eligible for free and reduced-price meals. Extended learning time for students and extended time for teachers are also included in the budget.

"We continue to dedicate the majority of our budget, 85.9 percent, and the majority of our positions, 94.6 percent, directly to instructional programs," said Dale. The proposed budget includes a 2 percent market scale adjustment and a step increase for eligible employees as well as a salary adjustment for custodial positions. "It is imperative FCPS stay competitive in the marketplace in order to attract the best employees to support student success," said Dale.

FCPS receives the majority of its funding from Fairfax County and this year will request an increase of 8.4 percent over FY 2012. The FY 2013 Proposed Budget includes an increase in state funding due to increasing enrollment and the state's update to the Local Composite Index. However, federal revenue is decreasing due to the loss of

one-time Federal Education Jobs funding.

The projected cost per pupil for FY 2013 will be \$13,654, an increase of 6.5 percent over FY 2012. FCPS ranks fifth among 10 area school systems in cost per pupil and has the lowest percentage of leadership team and management positions in relation to total positions of all Washington area school systems for FY 2012, according to the Washington Area Boards of Education.

FCPS operates 196 schools and centers including 139 elementary schools, 23 middle schools, 3 secondary schools, 24 high schools, and 7 special education centers. Two new schools will open in FY 2013, an elementary school at the Lacey site in Annandale and a middle school at the South County site in Lorton.



### Getting To Know Us

FCPS Budget Coordinator  
**Matthew Norton**

Determining an operating budget for a school system the size of Fairfax County is a lengthy and detailed process. A critical component of the budget is calculating the number of staff needed at each school based on student enrollment and the services provided.

Matthew Norton, a coordinator for budget services, works closely with the schools to determine appropriate staffing levels for each school and its programs.

"My job involves collecting large amounts

of data from various sources including enrollment, free and reduced-price meals eligibility, special education services and enrollment, square footage of

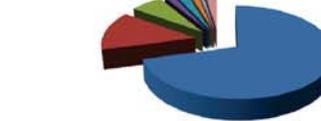
buildings, and other information and assimilating it so we can determine the number of teachers, instructional assistants, special education assistants, assistant principals, administrative, custodial, and other positions that will be budgeted for each school building," said Norton.

He also works with the Department of Special Services to calculate how many students will need special services and what will be the cost of providing those services.

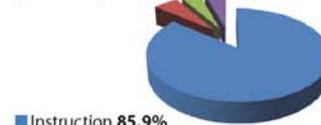
Norton has worked for FCPS for more than 12 years. He says his greatest challenge is working with the large volume of data and helping schools understand the process and the calculations used to determine staffing.

"One of the challenges is that the budget process is very fluid from the time Dr. Dale proposes the budget, through finding out how much the county government will transfer to the school system, to the time the budget is actually approved by the School Board," said Norton. "But it's a detailed process I enjoy being a part of."

FY 2013 Proposed per Pupil Expenditure (\$ in millions)\*



FY 2013 Proposed Operating Expenditures (\$ in millions)\*



### Upcoming Important Dates

<b>January 30, 31</b>	School Board Budget Public Hearings (Jackson Middle School)	<b>April 10</b>	School Board Presents Budget to County Board of Supervisors
<b>February 2</b>	School Board Budget Work Session (Jackson Middle School)	<b>May 1</b>	County Board of Supervisors Approves the FY 2013 Adopted County Budget, Transfer Amount to Schools
<b>February 9</b>	School Board Adopts FY 2013 Advertised Budget	<b>May 10</b>	School Board FY 2013 Approved Budget Presented for New Business
<b>February 21</b>	County Executive Releases FY 2013 Advertised County Budget	<b>May 15, 16</b>	School Board Public Hearings (Jackson Middle School)
<b>February 21</b>	County Board of Supervisors Advertises Tax Rate	<b>May 17</b>	School Board Budget Work Session (Jackson Middle School)
<b>April 10-12</b>	County Board of Supervisors Budget Public Hearings	<b>May 24</b>	School Board Adopts FY 2013 Approved Budget
		<b>July 1</b>	FY 2013 Begins



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### Want to Get Involved?

- Learn more at the FCPS budget website at <http://www.fcps.edu/news/fy2013.shtml>
- Attend School Board meetings or watch live on Red Apple 21.
- Speak at a School Board public hearing ([http://www.fcps.edu/schlbld/meetings/request\\_speak.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/schlbld/meetings/request_speak.shtml)).
- Speak at a Board of Supervisors public hearing ([www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker\\_bos.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm)).

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## Online Forum on Child Sex Abuse

FROM PAGE 7

Laitinen responded that anyone employed in a public or private school, child care employees, mental health professionals, law enforcement officers, hospital professionals, emergency medical personnel are required to report suspected cases of abuse or neglect to child protective services.

He noted that there are several pieces of legislation before the Virginia General Assembly that would require coaches and others involved in youth organizations to be added to the list. He also advised parents not to rely solely on organizations to prevent child sexual abuse.

"Parents need to be involved, know what adults their children are with. For example, consider becoming a leader or volunteer; take the time to stay at the music lesson or sporting event/practices. No amount of concern is too great for the welfare of your child," he said.

Another person asked what efforts are currently underway between Fairfax County police and other agencies to address the recent rise in cases?

Laitinen said the police department and Fairfax County's Department of Family Services are working together to address this increase.

The level of shame, discomfort and fear surrounding the issue was apparent in many

### Where to Get Help: Fairfax County Resources

- ❖ For information on child abuse prevention, intervention and treatment, call the Childhelp Hotline at 1-800-4-A-CHILD.
- ❖ To report abuse, call the Child Protective Services (CPS) hotline at 703-324-7400. If you are under 18, and want to make a police report, you can also call CPS, and report anonymously.
- ❖ For information and support, call the 24-hourline with the Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services at 703-360-7273.
- ❖ To make a police report on the FCPD non-emergency line, call 703-691-2131.
- ❖ For information on counseling and

mental health services, call Fairfax County's Victim's Assistance Network at 703-360-7273.

❖ For information about a wide range of counseling services, call the Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services at 703-324-5730. The office recently started a support group for men who were sexually assaulted as children. For more information, call Chris Davies at 703-704-6727.

❖ For more information, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrencyouth/sexualbehaviorchildren.htm#final](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrencyouth/sexualbehaviorchildren.htm#final)

of the questions. Several questions were from adults who said they were abused as children, asking how they could cope as adults with the residual effects of abuse, such as depression, self-loathing, guilt and shame.

Kelmelis said the Office for Women's Domestic and Sexual Violence Services provides no-cost counseling and support for people whenever the abuse occurred.

"Often people find that the effects of the sexual abuse can impact them at different times during their life. Triggers such as reading a news report or knowing someone who has been sexually assaulted will sometimes cause feelings of anxiety and depression or

will cause flashbacks to be triggered," she said.

One question was from someone who identified herself as an illegal immigrant:

"I am illegally here, but I'm being sexually abused. What will happen to me if I report it? Will me or my family be deported?"

Laitinen urged the poster to report the abuse, and said an undocumented immigrant does not lose his or her rights as a victim. "The Fairfax County Police Department does not consider immigration status when any crime is reported to us. There are laws that protect undocumented immigrants in the U.S.," he responded during the

discussion.

Laitinen acknowledged the "difficult situation," but said that a "mandated reporter" could face serious consequences for failing to report suspected abuse. "The child's welfare is paramount," he responded.

Both Laitinen and Kelmelis repeatedly urged victims to call the CPS hotline or 911 when posters said they or their children were currently being sexually abused.

"We urge you to report this to police at 703-691-2131 first. (If there is an immediate matter of safety, contact 911!) The police will work hand-in-hand with Child Protective Services in conducting an investigation. If you would like to contact CPS as an anonymous caller, call their hotline at 703-324-7400 anytime day or night. Whomever you decide to call first, your situation will be addressed and you will get the help you need. Please call," Laitinen said.

Caldwell said the team was very pleased with the response, and more outreach efforts are planned.

"It's a sensitive subject, but one that parents, educators and all those who come into contact with children need to know more about," Caldwell said.

To review the transcript from the online discussion, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/askfairfax/Archive/ArchiveDiscussion.aspx?roomid=28](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/askfairfax/Archive/ArchiveDiscussion.aspx?roomid=28).

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803 Crews Rd.....\$1,399,000..Sun 1-4.....Glynis Canto.....Keller Williams.....703 395 2355

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 2663 Manhattan Pl #309..\$370,000..Sun 1-4.....Ron Fowler.....Weichert.....703-598-0511  
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 All listings are due by Monday at 3 P.M.

## ENTERTAINMENT

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

### WEDNESDAY/JAN. 25

**Ingram Hill, Matt Duke and Sarah Miles.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### THURSDAY/JAN. 26

**Ari Hest with Sarah Siskind.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Indie-folk. \$18. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**Griffin House and Matthew Perryman Jones.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### FRIDAY/JAN. 27

**"Man of La Mancha."** 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Inspired by Don Quixote, suitable for age 16 and older. Tickets \$18-\$20. 703-790-9223 or [www.mcleanplayers.org](http://www.mcleanplayers.org).

**River North Dance Chicago.** 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Jazz-based contemporary dance ensemble. \$21-\$42. [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu).

**"Circle Mirror Transformation."** 8 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. Comedy-drama about four New Englanders in a six-week drama class. \$11-\$13. 703-255-6360 or [www.viennatheatrecompany.org](http://www.viennatheatrecompany.org).

**Animals Underground.** 10:30 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Learn about animals that live underground. Presented by Riverbend Park. Age 2-6 with adult. 703-757-8560.

**Friday Afternoon Chess Group.** 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Players of all ages and all skill levels welcome. 703-757-8560.

**McLean Art Society Meeting.** 10 a.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. With watercolorist Catherine Hillis as featured artist. 703 790-0123.

**Bill Kirchen & Too Much Fun.** 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolftrap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. An eclectic blend of rock, country, blues, western swing and California honky-tonk \$22. [www.wolftrap.org](http://www.wolftrap.org).

**Elizaveta at 7 p.m.; Future Says Farewell To Charlie Bucket** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

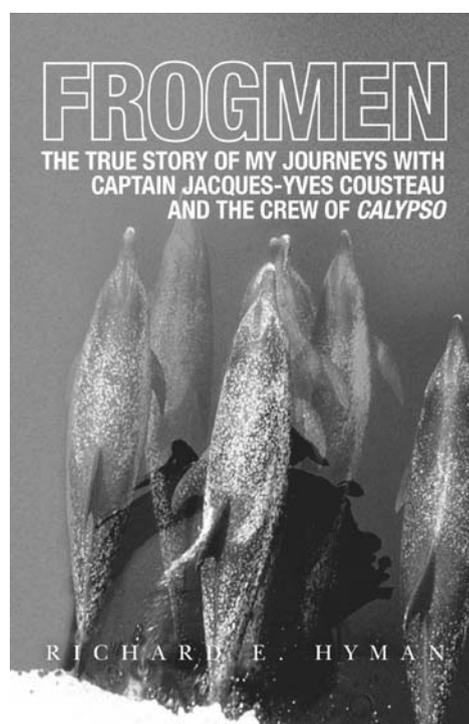
### SATURDAY/JAN. 28

**Puppet Festival.** 1:30-3:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. For age four and older and their families. Grey Seal Puppets will perform The Emperor's New Clothes at 1:30 p.m., Crabgrass Puppets will perform Smart and Small Conquers All at 2:30 p.m. Puppet making stations open 1:30-3:30 p.m. \$10, age 24 months and under free. Registration required at [sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**"Man of La Mancha."** 8 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Inspired by Don Quixote, suitable for age 16 and older. Tickets \$18-\$20. 703-790-9223 or [www.mcleanplayers.org](http://www.mcleanplayers.org).

**Aquila Theatre: Macbeth.** 8 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts Concert Hall, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Shakespeare's classic tragedy. \$20-\$40. [www.gmu.edu](http://www.gmu.edu).

**"Frogmen: The True Story of My Journeys With Captain Jacques-Yves Cousteau and the Crew of Calypso"**



**"Circle Mirror Transformation."** 8 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. Comedy-drama about four New Englanders in a six-week drama class. \$11-\$13. 703-255-6360 or [www.viennatheatrecompany.org](http://www.viennatheatrecompany.org).

**VITA Tax Assistance.** 10 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Tax help. IRS-certified volunteers help taxpayers who earned up to \$50k. Adults. 703-790-8088.

**Concert from Kirkwood.** 3 p.m. Kirkwood Presbyterian Church. 8336 Carleigh Parkway, Springfield. The GMU School of Music Piano Quartet, with violinist Peter Haase, violist Nancy Thomas, cellist Kenneth Law and pianist Kelly Ker Hackleman, performing works by Mozart, Schubert, and Fauré. Free, reception to follow. [kirkwoodconcerts@gmail.com](mailto:kirkwoodconcerts@gmail.com) or 703-451-5320.

**Merrifield Records Presents: An All Ages Afternoon Show** at 1 p.m.; 3MTs at 6:30 p.m.; **The Highballers, The Resistance EP Release and The WeatherVanes** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

**Ars Nova Performs Mozart, Beethoven and Bach.** 7:30 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., N.E., Vienna. Beethoven's Coriolan Overture, Bach's Brandenburg Concerto and Mozart's great G Minor Symphony No. 40. \$20, seniors and students \$15, under age 16 free. [marcusljordan@gmail.com](mailto:marcusljordan@gmail.com).

**Chinese New Year Festival.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. Presented by the Asian Community Service Center. Dragon Parade, Asian performances, dragon and lion dances, Asian cuisine, Asian arts and crafts, kids games, workshops on Chinese handicrafts, language and cooking and more. Free admission. 703-868-1509, [tiny.tang@verizon.net](mailto:tiny.tang@verizon.net) or [www.ChineseNewYearFestival.org](http://www.ChineseNewYearFestival.org).

### SUNDAY/JAN. 29

**McLean Chocolate Festival.** 12-5 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Taste the specialties of area Chocolatiers while children play chocolate-related games. \$1 admission, age 6 and under free. Sponsored by the McLean Rotary Club and the McLean Community Center. [www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org](http://www.mcleanchocolatefestival.org).

**"Man of La Mancha."** 2 p.m. McLean Community Center Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Inspired by Don Quixote, suitable for age 16 and older. Tickets \$18-\$20. 703-790-9223 or [www.mcleanplayers.org](http://www.mcleanplayers.org).

**"Circle Mirror Transformation."** 2 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St., Vienna. Comedy-drama about four New Englanders in a six-week drama class. \$11-\$13. 703-255-6360 or [www.viennatheatrecompany.org](http://www.viennatheatrecompany.org).

**Anvil "Monument of Metal" Tour, Division, Rome In A Day and Defending Cain.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### MONDAY/JAN. 30

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

**Gabe Dixon, Lelia Broussard and Kayte Grace.** 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### TUESDAY/JAN. 31

**Creatures of the Night.** 2 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Puppets, games and activities help us understand the wildlife that is asleep while we are sleeping. Led by a Fairfax County Park naturalist from Riverbend Park. 703-242-4020.

**One-on-One Computer Tutoring.** 3 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn the basics of the Internet, Word and Excel. Call for appointment. Adults. 703-242-4020.

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

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

**Book Talk for Book Lovers.** 7 p.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Book discussion. The Elegant Gathering of White Snow by Kris Radish. Adults. 703-790-8088.

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

**Down with Webster, FreeSol and Zak Downtown.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

### WEDNESDAY/FEB. 1

**Panel of Experts, A Hero Poetic and The Duskwhales.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave E Vienna. [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## SCHOOLS

From left, Colvin Run Mill Elementary second-graders Melanie Lindsey, Lily Flint and Katharine Trottingham take a break between shifts at the school's Stop Hunger Now event Sunday, Jan. 22.



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

# Colvin Run Uses Service Learning

Volunteers package more than 25,000 meals at Stop Hunger Now event.

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

Colvin Run Elementary School Principal Stephen Hockett thought everything was all set for the school's Stop Hunger Now event Saturday. Friday evening he was putting the finishing touches on the setup in the gym when the alert came out: Fairfax County Public Schools were closed Saturday.

"We had everything unloaded and set up, when I got the text," he said. "We tried to get the word out about moving it to Sunday, but that also meant we had to move everything into the cafeteria, because we have basketball in the gym on Sundays."

But the delay didn't deter hundreds of members of the Colvin Run community from showing up to package 25,000 nonperishable meals for starving people around the world.

Stop Hunger Now is a nonprofit that provides community groups with the means to package meals that include rice, soy protein, freeze-dried vegetables and a vitamin-enhanced seasoning. The meals are good for up to three years.

Over the two 1.5-hour shifts, volunteers turned the 50-pound sacks of protein and rice into packed boxes which will be put into a shipping container and sent to the nearest place of need.

"It was a great response, especially with the last minute change, we didn't know what to expect," said

Dominic Alexander of Stop Hunger Now. "But people showed up in droves and really worked hard."

The meals cost 25 cents apiece, and students used any and all means at their disposal to raise money for them. They did chores, sold lemonade and saved their change.

"It was a fun event, and pretty easy to do," said second-grader Lily Flint. "I liked pouring the cups of rice into the bag."

One of the parents made up a batch of meals for people to sample what they're feeding others with. Many said it tasted like chicken-flavored Rice-A-Roni. "It's pretty good, I could eat it for school lunch if I had to," said Katharine Frothingham, a second grader.

Hockett said the event was a perfect activity for the environment the school is trying to foster.

"There aren't many things that entire families can participate in and make a real difference," he said. "As part of the school's character education program, we're trying to get every grade involved in service learning."

Almost 90 percent of Stop Hunger Now meals go into schools, which gives parents an incentive to send their children to local schools. Alexander said statistics suggest that enrollment in schools can double and triple "almost overnight" when parents discover their children can be fed at schools.

"The fact that they're putting meals into schools to help starving children eat and learn definitely makes it a special interest for us," said Assistant Principal Ray Lonnente. "The kids get the message that they can help feed someone with as little as a quarter, and it makes them think about the real impact they can have on the situation."

More information on Stop Hunger Now can be found at [www.stophungernow.org](http://www.stophungernow.org).



Dominic Alexander of Stop Hunger Now shows hundreds of volunteers how to package nonperishable meals to be sent to starving people around the world at Colvin Run Elementary School Sunday, Jan. 22. The volunteers packaged more than 25,000 meals during the event.



Sophia Ambrose, 6, pours a scoop of soy protein into one of 25,000 meals packaged at Colvin Run Elementary School Sunday, Jan. 22, as part of the school's Stop Hunger Now Event.

Just in time for Valentine's Day!

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# McLean Edges Saxons In Girls' Basketball

Langley boys, meanwhile, remain unbeaten in Liberty play at 8-0.

BY RICH SANDERS  
THE CONNECTION

In a girls' high school basketball cross-town rival matchup last week, the McLean Highlanders edged the Langley Saxons, 40-38, in the Liberty District contest played at Langley High School.

McLean, with the win, improved its overall record to 8-7 overall and 4-3 in the district. Langley, meanwhile, saw its record fall to 5-11 and 4-4.

"The key [to the win] was playing strong defense to keep the game within reach until we started to make some shots," said McLean head coach Mike O'Brien, whose club trailed by 10 points at one point in the second half before rallying to win.

The Highlanders trailed 30-22 after three quarters before outscoring the home team Saxons 18-8 to pull off the comeback.

Junior forward Lisa Murphy, McLean's leading scorer and rebounder this season, led the Highlanders with 20 points, while both Lexi Slotkoff, a junior forward, and Christy Warren, a sophomore wing, contributed eight points. Slotkoff, who came off the bench, scored all of her points in the game-turning fourth quarter. Defensively, O'Brien said his team was led by senior guard Caroline Gray and junior point guard Evelyn Robinson.

Langley, which was ahead 20-14 at halftime, received 14 points from Jessica Stewart and 12 from Grace Goettman.

McLean has dealt with its share of injury struggles. Warren is coming off a summer in which she underwent knee surgery. The Highlanders have been without point guard Elena Karakozoff (ACL injury), who was injured during a holiday tournament, and post player Maia Lee (foot injury).

McLean has not been able to put together any win streaks of more than two games. On the other hand, the Highlanders have also averted any losing streaks of more than two games. The team's wins this season have come over Washington-Lee (National District), Westfield (Concorde District), South Lakes, Stafford High (Northwest Region), Lake Braddock (Patriot District), Marshall, Jefferson, and Langley.

The victories over South Lakes, Marshall, Jefferson, and the Saxons were all district contests.

This past Friday night, in the second meeting of the season against South Lakes, McLean lost at home to the Seahawks, 54-43. The Highlanders led 15-14 after one quarter before South Lakes outscored the host McLean team 15-8 in the second quarter to take a 29-23 lead into the halftime. South Lakes outscored McLean 25-20 in the second half.

McLean's top scorers in the South Lakes game were Murphy (16 points), Gtay (12), and junior guard



**The McLean High girls basketball team was scheduled to play one game this week, that coming on Monday, Jan. 23 at Liberty District opponent Madison. The Warhawks, under head coach Kirsten Roberts (pictured), are one of the premier teams in the Northern Region. McLean will be home again next Tuesday, Jan. 31 versus Marshall High.**

Shellie Kanuit (8).

McLean was scheduled to play just one game this week - on Monday, Jan. 23 at district opponent Madison. The Highlanders' next home game is scheduled for next Tuesday, Jan. 31 versus Marshall.

**THE LANGLEY HIGH** boys' basketball team improved its unbeaten record in the Liberty District to 8-0 last Friday night when the Saxons won on the road at Jefferson, 58-50. It was the sixth straight win for Langley, which is 10-5 overall.

Langley, which scored seven points to Jefferson's two in a low-scoring first quarter, received a balanced scoring attack in the win which included solid games from junior guard Justin Galiani (14 points), senior guard Joey Robinson (14), senior guard Tristan Evans (13), sophomore guard Garrett Collier (9), and senior guard Daniel Dixon (6).

Earlier last week on Tuesday, Jan. 17, Langley defeated visitor and district rival McLean in overtime, 55-52. It was just the third loss of the season for McLean (14-3 overall, 6-2 district), which bounced back three days later with a 66-53 district win at South Lakes.

For Langley, the win over McLean gave it some breathing room in the Liberty District standings. The Saxons' scoring leaders versus the Highlanders were Dixon (18 points), Galiani (15), Evans (10), and junior center Brad Dotson (8).

Dixon scored six of his points in the extra session to lead Langley to the win.

For McLean, Thomas Van Wazer scored 14 points, Sango Amolo 12, and John Pascoe eight. Daniel Lewis and Gordon Rogo both scored five each.

In action this week, McLean will travel to Stone Bridge for a district game on Thursday, Jan. 26. Langley, meanwhile, was set to play district home games versus South Lakes on Monday, Jan. 23 and Fairfax on Thursday, Jan. 26.

## SPORTS ROUNDUPS

**The McLean High ice hockey team**, coached by John Sherlock, holds a one game lead over cross-town rival Langley in the Adams Division of the Northern Virginia Scholastic Hockey League (nvshl.org) standings. McLean is the defending Adams Division champion and was the runner-up in the NVSHL finals last season.

McLean had two big recent wins - on Tuesday, Jan. 10 over Herndon 12-8, and Friday, Jan. 13 by an 8-4 score over rival Madison. Seniors Nick Baker and Maury Winter, and junior Grady Paine led the way for McLean.

In the win over Herndon, Baker set a school record for most points (nine) in a game with four goals and five assists. Winter added a hat trick of his own along with two assists, while Paine had two goals. McLean spread the wealth with points from freshman Taylor Saffer (1 goal, 1 assist); senior Paul Forest (1 goal, 1 assist); junior Remi Paine (2 assists); senior Craig Pritchard (1 goal); junior Ajmal Behsudi (1 assist); and freshman Filip Lindberg (1 assist). Freshman goalie Jon Bikoff notched his first career NVSHL win in the contest.

In the Friday night game versus Madison, Grady Paine had another big night with a hat trick, as did Baker (4 assists). Winter had two goals and an assist. Senior Cam McLaughlin added a goal and two assists, freshman Lindberg scored his first two career NVSHL goals, and freshman Ryan 'The Brick' Waugh had his first career NVSHL assist.

**McLean Youth Volleyball registration** is open through March 9 for girls in grades five through eight. The season starts the week of March 19 and will run through early June. Instructional skills clinics will precede a match play season. Online registration and complete information are available at [www.mcleanvolleyball.org](http://www.mcleanvolleyball.org).

**The McLean Magic girls' 14-under travel softball team**, under head coach Damian Rodriquez, has been conducting softball skills clinics for youngsters within the McLean Little League organization. The clinics were organized by the Magic coaching staff and the McLean Little League. But it has been the Magic players who have instructed the youngsters attending the clinics.

"My expectations have been exceeded by how well this is working out," said Magic assistant coach Joe DeFranco. "The McLean Magic players are doing an outstanding job of teaching and the younger players are responding to them in a very positive way."

One more clinic session is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 29 - within the gymnasium at The Potomac School. The clinic time will be 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

**Great Falls Soccer Club (GFSC)** spring 2012 registration continues on the GFSC website at [www.greatfallssoccer.com](http://www.greatfallssoccer.com) for returning players and new families in the area. Great Falls Soccer offers a variety of programs for children ages three through 18, including Little Kickers (ages 3-4); Recreational teams for players five to 16; travel teams playing in multiple local leagues; and an adult league.

All recreational teams have professional soccer trainers working with volunteer coaches to help develop players. Travel teams are coached by professional coaches. The season begins the week of March 26 and ends in mid-June. Register no later than Jan. 31 to avoid late fees. For more information, please contact the Club Administrator at [administrator@greatfallssoccer.com](mailto:administrator@greatfallssoccer.com).

**Great Falls Soccer** also announces "Try Us and Love Us" travel program. The organization's travel teams conduct open training sessions year round that are available to children from the U9 through U19 age groups. SFL and travel players from other leagues are welcome to try the travel program out. Youngsters can drop in for a winter practice or a spring practice before the official spring tryouts. Contact league Technical Director Sam Bader ([hussam81@hotmail.com](mailto:hussam81@hotmail.com)) for more information on travel soccer or attending an open practice session

# For All I Know...



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Skipping my monthly targeted treatment (Avastin) because my kidneys are under stress might be a good thing. It might mean my body doesn't need (it certainly doesn't want) to be infused. Alternatively, it might mean that, after nearly 33 months of it, it can't take it anymore (even though it may need it). Outliving your original prognosis and existing between the cracks – and beyond the cracks – of heretofore standard protocols/life-expectancy for stage IV lung cancer patients who live years longer than anticipated, presents its own unique set of problems (maybe challenges would be a better description). Although many books have been written on the lung cancer subject, the number of chapters written about individuals who don't succumb to their disease – according to the statistical history of similarly diagnosed patients, is unfortunately a function of supply and demand/cause and effect: there aren't enough survivors.

As one of the few-and-far-between survivors, my treatment is subject to change and subject as well to how I/my body tolerates what is going into it and how that is measured coming out. Whatever I think I feel is not nearly as important as what the lab work indicates is happening – internally. Absent any complaints/observations from me concerning my symptoms – or lack thereof, the tale of the tape is the blood and urine that I provide every month. After providing an early morning sample, later that day or mid morning the following day, I will have received confirmation that my ongoing treatment can proceed or that it can't. Sometimes my treatment has been delayed a week, other times by as long as a month; waiting for levels to return to semi normal – for me, under treatment, that is.

Given that I am now officially an anomaly: still alive; what happens next, what timetable for treatment will likely follow, what schedule of medications and/or scans will occur going forward, is cast in quicksand. Ever-changing, always in the pursuit of prudence and of not causing collateral damage/making matters worse by being too aggressive or unresponsive to what my body (via the lab work) is indicating, is the bane of my rather fortunate existence. Commonsense medicine becomes the order of the day, and the night, too. It's all one big definite-maybe, a process with which I am happy to live (live being the operative word).

I remember the early days of my diagnosis/prognosis when I was undergoing the heavy-duty (I call it "Big") chemotherapy, an every-three week, six-hour cocktail infusion of three drugs which naturally took its toll. Like the Fairy Tales, my prognosis was grim. I recall asking my oncologist for a scenario-type assessment of my future. He was not particularly encouraging; he was honest, as I asked him to be. Nevertheless, I persisted and when the opportunity presented itself, I would ask him if it was still OK for me to buy in bulk. As I continued to not decline, his answer was always "Yes." Nearly three years post-diagnosis, I can't help wondering if skipping treatment because a certain level of something or other is off the standard charts (high or low), should I stop buying in bulk or rather continue what I'm doing because whatever it's been, with my oncologist's help, it's been working?

I don't want to make too little of what's now not happening as regularly as it once did, but it's becoming increasingly difficult to not make too much of it, either.

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

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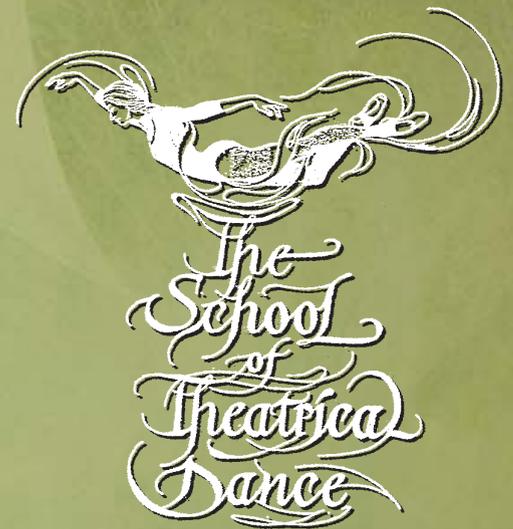
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