

Vienna and Oakton
CONNECTION

Day Prom at Waterford

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OPINION, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 13 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 18 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 15

Oakton High School students
Kyler Reese and Mike Charlton
participate in a popular line
dance during the "Day Prom"
organized by Herndon High
School and held in Fairfax at
the Waterford at Fair Oaks.

'Connecting the Dots' On Climate Change

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Mother's Day Photo Gallery

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Home Life Style

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PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

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— Actual ClearChoice patient

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Actual ClearChoice Patient



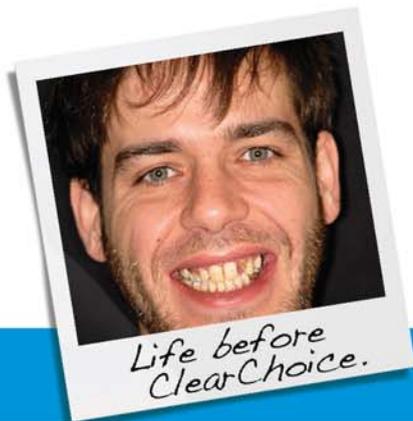
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— Kurt C., real ClearChoice patient

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The climate change activists take their case and their signs to the Vienna Farmer's Market. The group, with signs in hand, marched from the Patrick Henry Library on Maple Avenue to the Market via the W&OD Trail.

PHOTOS BY
ANDREA WORKER/
THE CONNECTION

'Connecting the Dots' on Climate Change

Northern Virginians join in Global Climate Change Day.

What could Los Cayes, Haiti; Lancaster, Texas; Geraldine, New Zealand; Alexandria, Egypt; London, England; Dumaguete, the Philippines, and Vienna, Va., all possibly have in common? They are all communities where on May 5 people came out to "Connect the Dots" between carbon emissions, insufficient emphasis on renewable energy, climate change, severe weather, and life-threatening risk to the planet and all its life forms. Involving concerned citizens in 188 countries, the Climate Change Day was the brainchild of 350.org, an organization dedicated to building a global grassroots movement to solve the climate crisis. Their name, 350.org, refers to their goal to reduce the CO2 in the atmosphere from its current number of approximately 392 parts per million to less than 350.

In Vienna, the action began in the Patrick Henry Library meeting room, sponsored by the Northern Virginia Climate Change Action Network (NOVACAN). NOVACAN is a coalition of local organizations that formed in 2009 to educate the public on the immediate and future effects of climate change in the area and to address climate change policy at the federal, state and local levels. As NOVACAN Chairperson Linda Burchfiel noted in her opening remarks to the gathering, "Each of the member organizations has a different emphasis, a different spe-

cific focus, but the one thing that unites us is the negative effect climate change is having on Northern Virginia and the things each group is dedicated to protecting. We all believe in the need for advocacy and education."

THE EDUCATION PORTION of their mission was fulfilled by a variety of speakers and by the plentiful availability of written materials provided by several coalition members. First up on the agenda was Del. David Bulova (D-37). Bulova served on the Virginia Commission on Climate Change at the request of then Gov. Tim Kaine. The panel met numerous times throughout 2008 and studied climate change in Virginia from every possible angle, ultimately producing a lengthy report containing more than 100 recommendations aimed at reducing carbon emissions, developing more efficient renewable sources of energy, and planning for the growth and development of the state. Most of those recommendations, according to Bulova, are still awaiting real implementation or have just been shelved.

Del. Bulova went on to highlight the predicted impact of climate change on key natural resources in the state, as well as on business, agriculture and even human health as temperatures rise and the state experiences more severe weather patterns. During his tenure on the commission, he was greatly influenced by 3D modeling images presented by the US Navy. "It was really eye-opening," he said. "You watched whole portions of the coastline just disap-

SEE CLIMATE, PAGE 8

Del. David Bulova (D-37) was a member of the Virginia Commission on Climate Change and brought an in-depth look at the issues to the audience at the NOVACAN Climate Change Workshop.



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Neeraj Prasa, of Vienna, practices for the FIRST LEGO® League (FLL) competition, one in which young students design robotics and solve "real-life" challenges.

Vienna Teen a Robowiz

Local team scores big in robotics in international competition.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Neeraj Prasad, a Vienna 13-year-old 7th-grader, loves science and technology so much so that he lives for science and technology. For three years, Neeraj has participated in the FIRST LEGO® League (FLL) competition, a partnership of the LEGO® Company and non-profit FIRST [For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology]. And this year, Neeraj and his fellow Robowiz team members were in Florida to compete in the 2012 FLL World Open Invitational Championship held at Legoland.

"Math and science are my favorite subjects," said Neeraj. "I like math and science because of their real-world value. Both are essential in not only expanding our knowledge, but to conquer problems plaguing society today."

Robowiz was one of two VA/DC Region teams invited to the May 3 to May 6 FLL Florida competition, hosted by the University of South Florida, All Saints' Academy, Legoland Florida, and AT&T Inc. Neeraj is the only Vienna-area student on the Robowiz team; the other team members live in the Chantilly area.

Neeraj's mother reported from Florida that Neeraj and his team did "extremely well" in the FLL World Invitational Competition. They were the third-place grand champions, beating out 63 other teams. There was a substantial inter-

national presence with teams from Spain, France, Holland, Germany, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Japan, China, South Africa, Brazil, Denmark, Canada, Israel, and the U.S. commonwealth of Puerto Rico, among U.S. state champions.

FIRST's robotic competition programs are designed to inspire school children to excel in math and science. FLL challenges children aged 9 to 14 to create robotics programs using Mind Storms NXT robotics kits. Each team buys or borrows a reusable NXT kit, essentially the "brain" of the robot.

THE FIRST LEGO® League competition covers three components and teams begin competition at the regional level in the fall and move on to state competition. State champions are invited to the world competition.

In Neeraj's sun room is a table mat replicating the steps all teams' robots will face. It takes Neeraj just minutes to design a program that will command his robot to perform a simple-looking challenge. The robotics component is the "fun" part for the participants.

The "real-world" challenge component for the 2011-12 FLL competition was "Food Factor," an exploration of techniques and research that scientists use to keep the food supply safe. Team Robowiz produced a patent-pending grocery bag, referred to as C.L.E.A.N. (Combat Lettuce-E. coli Awesomely

SEE PASSION, PAGE 8



DESIGNER

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More Than Just Chili Dogs, Check Out Our Menu!

North Carolina BBQ Smoked In-House

Breakfast

- *One Egg, Home Fries and Toast
Choice of Sausage, Scrapple, Bacon or Ham
- *Two Eggs, Home Fries and Toast
Choice of Sausage, Scrapple, Bacon or Ham
- *Three Eggs, Home Fries and Toast
Choice of Sausage, Scrapple, Bacon or Ham
- *Egg Beaters, Home Fries and Toast
- *Country Ham and Two Eggs, Home Fries and Toast
- *Tenderloin Steak and Two Eggs, Home Fries and Toast
- Cream Chipped Beef on Toast or Home Fries
- *Salami and Two Eggs Scrambled, Home Fries and Toast
- Fat French Toast
- Hotcakes (made the old-fashioned way)
- Chocolate Chip Hotcakes
(Sorry- No poached eggs)

Sandwiches

- *Egg on Toast with Cheese
Choice of Sausage, Scrapple, Bacon or Ham.
- *Steak & Egg Sandwich with Provolone
(Sorry- No special orders)

Beverages

Apple, V8, Cranberry, Grapefruit, Orange Juice
Hot Tea, Hot Chocolate and Coffee

Our high mountain blend, hazelnut and decaffeinated coffees are freshly ground.

Breakfast Served
Monday - Friday
7am - 11am
Saturday: 7am - Noon
Sunday: 9am - Noon

All menu items available for Carry-Out
T: 703-938-9548 F: 703-938-9546
Visit our website at www.viennainn.com

Omelettes
Our omelettes are made with two large Grade A eggs and are with home fries and toast.

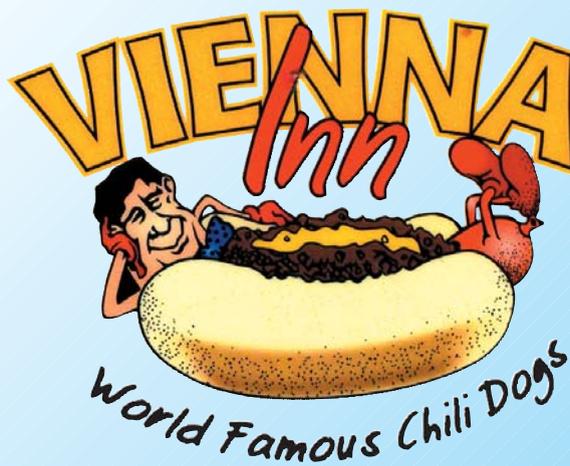
- Cheese Omelette
Choice of American, Cheddar-jack, Provolone or Alpine Lace Swiss.
- Ham and Cheese Omelette
- Tex Mex Omelette
With cheddar cheese and salsa.
- Western Omelette
With peppers, onions, and ham, add cheese (extra).
- Veggie Omelette
With tomatoes, onions, peppers and cheese.

Side Orders

- *One Egg
- *Two Egg
- Toast
- Home Fries
- Bacon, Ham, Sausage or Scrapple
- Country Ham
- Grits

Danish

- Apple
- Cinnamon-Raisin
- Raspberry



Breakfast Served
Mon-Fri 7am - 11am
Sat: 7am - Noon
Sun: 9am - Noon

Appetizers

- Buffalo Chicken Wings
With carrots, celery, and bleu cheese dressing (Hot or Extra Hot).
- Boneless Wings
- Buffalo Shrimp
Battered shrimp with our wing sauce with carrots, celery and bleu cheese dressing.
- Fried Red Chili Peppers
With our habanero sauce.
- Fried Mozzarella Sticks
- Fried Mushrooms
With ranch dressing.
- Fried Zucchini
With ranch dressing.
- Quesadillas
with Grilled Chicken Breast (extra).
- Nachos
- Hummus with veggies and warm pita.
- Fresh Made Potato Chips
with bleu cheese dressing.

Chili (Sorry, No bean or veggie chili on dogs)

- Chili-Dog
Mustard, diced onions and chili.
- Chili-Cheese Dog
- Chili with Red Beans
Cheddar Cheese and diced onions.
- Vegetarian Chili
Made with five different Heartloom beans and vegetables, with cheddar cheese and diced onions.
- Chili-Mac
Spaghetti topped with your choice of regular or vegetarian chili without beans, topped with cheddar cheese and diced onions.

Soup

- New England Clam Chowder
- Soup of the Day

Sides

- French Fries
- Cheese Fries
- Chili Cheese Fries
- Gravy Fries
- Beer-battered Onion Rings
- Potato Salad
- Cole Slaw
- Sweet Potato Fries

Entrée

- *Filet Mignon 5 oz. tenderloin with mashed potatoes and vegetables.
- *Fish of the Day
With rice and vegetables.

Salads

- Green Salad
Red leaf and romaine lettuce with fresh vegetables and choice of cheddar or feta cheese tossed in balsamic vinaigrette.
- Caesar Salad
Romaine, Parmesan cheese, croutons and Caesar dressing.
- Taco Salad
In a crispy fried tortilla shell with sour cream, fresh-made salsa and your choice of chili topped with cheddar cheese.

Specialty Sandwiches

- *Chicken Fajita
Grilled chicken breast, peppers and onions wrapped in a red pepper flour tortilla with salsa and sour cream.
- Smoked Bratwurst
on a potato roll with sauerkraut and potato salad.
- *Blackened Tuna Sandwich
on a seeded roll with potato salad.
- *Hot Beef Brisket
An open sandwich of braised brisket of beef with mashed potatoes and gravy.
- Hot Roast Turkey
An open sandwich with mashed potatoes and gravy.
- Grilled Reuben
on rye bread with lean corned beef brisket, Swiss cheese, sauerkraut and Russian dressing.
- North Carolina BBQ
With Cole Slaw and fries.
- Hot Pastrami
- Beef BBQ Sandwich
Braised lean beef brisket, simmered in barbecue sauce on a roll with cole slaw.
- *Steak and Provolone
Grilled Certified Angus Beef® sirloin steak with onions on a hearty roll with lettuce and provolone.
- Italian Cold Cut Sub
Spicy capicola ham, salami, pepperoni and provolone cheese with lettuce, tomato, onions and Italian dressing.

Burgers

We serve only the finest 1/3 lb. Certified Angus Beef® chuck burgers with shredded lettuce, tomato, red onion and pickles.

- *Sliders with Fries
- *Hamburger
- *Cheeseburger - Choice of Swiss, Cheddar, Provolone or American Cheese
- *Chili-Cheeseburger
- *Bacon-Cheeseburger
- *Turkey Burger
Skinless turkey breast freshly ground, blended with onions, garlic and spices; with potato salad.

Baskets

- Chicken Tenders
With honey mustard and french fries.
- Fried Honey Stung Chicken
With fries.
- Fried Clams
With slaw and fries.
- Fried Shrimp
With slaw and fries.
- Mahi Tacos
With slaw and fries.

Sandwiches

- Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato
Grilled Cheese with fries
- Grilled Chicken Breast
With lettuce and tomato.
- Mexican Chicken Sandwich
Grilled boneless skinless chicken breast with salsa and cheddar.
- Buffalo Chicken Sandwich
Classic Turkey Club
- Tuna Salad Pita with Fries
Pita bread with lettuce and tomato using solid white albacore tuna.
- Tuna Melt with Fries
Tuna on a English muffin with tomatoes and Swiss cheese.
- Catfish Sandwich
Breaded farm raised catfish with slaw.
- Hot Ham and Swiss
Thinly sliced ham steamed with Alpine Lace Swiss cheese.
- Gardenburger Zesty Bean
A spicy black bean vegetable patty with lettuce and tomato.

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THE COUNTY LINE

Housing Discrimination Alert

Officials step up education, outreach efforts to reach immigrant communities about “fair housing” rights.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

Housing discrimination cases have been on the rise in Fairfax County in the past few years. And the Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs (OHREP), the agency that enforces fair housing laws in the county, is shining a spotlight on the problem through seminars for housing providers, realtors, community groups and other interested parties.

“Sadly, housing discrimination is alive and well and we’ve seen an uptick in complaints during the past six years,” said Kenneth Saunders, executive director of OHREP.

In contrast to national trends, discrimination based on nationality made up 25.6 percent of complaints to the county from 2006 to 2010. In comparison, about nine percent of complaints to Housing and Urban Development (HUD) fall under this category.

Although discrimination based on race remains an issue, Saunders reports that in recent years he has seen an increase in the number of complaints received by his office that are related to national origin or involve disability-related issues.

“If you’re still thinking this is only about color and race, you’re way behind the curve...more recently, there has been an increase in discrimination cases involving national origin and disability related issues,” Saunders said.

DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS, Saunders said, are not filed by one particular group. “It runs the gamut. We have complaints from Latin Americans, Asians and Pacific Islanders, as well as individuals from the Continent of Africa.”

During the past decade, Fairfax County has become more diverse. Today, 48 percent of county residents are ethnic or racial minorities, and in 2009, one-third of new residents were immigrants.

“In Fairfax County we consider our diversity to be one of our greatest assets,” said Fairfax County Board of Supervisor’s Chairman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large). “It is so important for us to make sure the rights of our minority communities are respected.”

When it comes to complaints related to disabilities, the problem matches state trends. In Fairfax County, these complaints accounted for 28.4 percent of cases from 2006 to 2010. Similarly, disability-related discrimination comprised 27 percent of complaints to the Virginia Fair Housing Office in 2010.

When it comes to disability-related issues, the county’s housing stock may contribute in part to the problem. Three-quarters of the county’s housing was built prior to 1990.



From left, Steven Paikin, a HUD official; Patricia Stephan-Fawcett, with the County’s Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs (OHREP); Kenneth Saunders, executive director of OHREP, and Ernest Dawson, a HUD official, attended a Fair Housing Conference/Training Session in April for housing providers, realtors and others providing housing-related services hosted by OHREP.

“If you’re still thinking this is only about color and race, you’re way behind the curve...more recently, there has been an increase in discrimination cases involving national origin and disability-related issues.”

— Kenneth Saunders,
executive director of OHREP

The Fair Housing Act was amended in 1988 to include disability as a protected class. Fair Housing Accessibility Requirements for new multi-family buildings did not go into effect until 1991, and many of the existing structures were not originally built to meet modern-day requirements.

Although many cases may go unreported, conservatively there are four million incidents of housing discrimination in the U.S. per year, according to estimates by the National Fair Housing Alliance.

In addition to its education and outreach activities, OHREP investigates and enforces fair housing laws through the Human Rights Commission. The agency also investigates complaints related to employment, public accommodations, education and credit.

Saunders said his staff does a significant amount of education and outreach to communities with limited English proficiency. Brochures detailing rights and how to file a complaint are published in six languages – Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Vietnam-



During a Fair Housing Conference last month, Kenneth Saunders (center), executive director of OHREP, presents Thomas Perez, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights with U.S. Department of Justice, with a Fair Housing poster created by a Centreville High School student.

ese and Amharic, the second most-spoken Semitic language in the world, after Arabic, and the official language of Ethiopia

“Some landlords are uninformed about relevant fair housing laws, which is why we have a proactive education and outreach program for both sides – leasing agents landlords, and prospective tenants,” Saunders said.

WHAT HAPPENS when the office receives a complaint?

OHREP has 11 full-time investigators, most of whom are attorneys who are juggling 35-45 cases at any given time. When someone makes a discrimination complaint, both parties are given the option to participate in mediation. If mediation doesn’t resolve the issue, the investigation continues.

County Ordinance

Under the County’s Human Rights Ordinance, it is illegal to discriminate and deny housing based on:

- ❖ Race
- ❖ Color
- ❖ National Origin
- ❖ Religion
- ❖ Sex
- ❖ Familial Status (families with children under the age of 18, or who are expecting a child)
- ❖ Disability (if you or someone close to you has a disability)
- ❖ Age (age 55 or older)
- ❖ Marital Status

For more information about how to file a complaint or to become educated about protections under the Fair Housing Act, contact the Office of Human Rights and Equity Programs at 703-324-2953, TTY 03-324-2900 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ohrep/hrd

“A large percentage of our cases are resolved through mediation and conciliation, where both parties agree to meet and settle complaints,” Saunders said. “It is very rare for one of our cases to go to court.” Saunders said there’s usually a paper trail to give investigators enough evidence to determine if a case has merit.

While some cases involve blatant discrimination, others are more nuanced, a matter of one or more parties not understanding the law.

For example, in April 2010, a Fairfax County woman filed a complaint with the OPEHR alleging discrimination based on her disability, which required a dog as an “emotional support animal.”

The property manager of the rental apartments where the woman lives told her that the association has a “no pets” rule. According to the property manager, the woman did not provide any details that showed the dog had been trained as a “service animal,” and asked her to leave within a month if the dog remained in the apartment.

However, there’s a crucial legal difference between animals governed under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) which requires animals to be trained so they can be out in public - and animals governed by the Fair Housing Act (FHA), said Patricia S. Fawcett, a human rights specialist and attorney with OHREP.

“Under the Fair Housing Act, you have to demonstrate that you are disabled and that you have a need for an emotional support animal that’s connected to your disability,” Fawcett said, stressing that even if there is a “no pet” policy, a person still has a right to have an emotional support animal living with him or her under the FHA.

The confusion in this case is not uncommon among property managers.

“This was an opportunity for education... In fact, I was educated about this when the complaint was filed, and I contacted HUD for guidance,” she said. “There’s a lot of confusion out there with housing providers and the public about what’s protected and allowed under the Fair Housing Act, and what the ADA allows and requires.”

In this case, an OHREP fair housing outreach and education specialist provided free training to the property manager, and the woman was able to keep the dog in her apartment.

“The important point here is to know your rights under the Fair Housing Act,” Fawcett said.

OPINION

Transparency, Technology and Tolls

With E-Z Pass transponder on the windshield, you should know what you're about to pay; whatever it is, it's going up.

Despite the high number of drivers in Northern Virginia who already have an E-Z Pass transponder, when the HOT-Lanes open on the Beltway, there will be pressure for many more drivers to subscribe.

VDOT is now proposing to tack on an additional \$1 a month fee for each E-ZPass transponder. Note that is per transponder, not per account, so in a household with multiple cars and multiple transponders, the additional annual charge could be \$36, \$48 or \$60.

There are 900,000 transponders in use in Virginia now, with an expected need for more than 400,000 more coming with the new I-495 Express Lanes.

Driving through the E-ZPass lane on the Dulles Toll Road without stopping while cars without a transponder line up to slog through

EDITORIAL

is one advantage. The two other places one can use the E-ZPass in Northern Virginia are the Dulles Greenway and, soon, the "express lanes" on the Beltway.

One of the disadvantages of using the E-ZPass is that you seldom know how much you are paying, and it's significant. Signs with full information about tolls are few and far between, and so far nonexistent on some roads.

Motorists will need an E-ZPass transponder to ride in the Beltway express lanes. Vehicles with three or more people will be able to drive in the express lanes for free if they have a Flex transponder which has a switch that identifies carpoolers, but which also costs more than a regular transponder.

It is worth noting that 100 percent of the tolls from the Beltway HOT-lanes will be col-

lected by the private company that is building them, without any revenue sharing with the Commonwealth. If it is really VDOT's responsibility to maintain the system to collect those tolls, then that is a failure in the crafting of the contract to build the lanes. Apparently all E-ZPass account holders will be paying for the contractor's collection of funds.

Meanwhile, we're still not sure what it will cost to drive in the express lanes, but we do know that the amount will vary depending on traffic. We can only hope that signs will make it clear how much it will cost.

Today VDOT approved four new signs for the Greenway that will at least let drivers know how much they are paying. The answer is more than \$5 each way, not counting the new fee per transponder.

VDOT will not hold public hearings on this, although it should. It will be accepting emailed comments. Visit www.virginiadot.org/e-zpass or submit comments directly to vdotinfo@vdot.virginia.gov.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Scary Business in Vienna

My wife, Diane, and I were just about to go out for dinner at about 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 3, and we were giving the boys some last-minute instructions. She and Liam, 12, were at the computer in the living room in front of the house and she heard what sounded like a car accident. She assumed it was on Follin Lane behind us so she came into the Sunroom in the rear where I was with Sean, 15, and his friend, and she asked us what that noise had been. We had no idea. A minute later she told me that I needed to come out front — that someone had just driven into our house. I thought she was joking, but obviously she was not. The truck had struck the house just 15' from where she and Liam had been.

Luckily no one had been in the front yard. The driver told the police officer that he had had a coughing fit and passed out behind the wheel.

When Diane heard the accident noise she assumed that it had come from the busy road behind our house. She never dreamed that it had come from our quiet cul-de-sac Mashie Drive. And she never dreamed that it had been a truck plowing into the front of our home. You read about this sort of thing happening to someone else...but never think that it could actually happen to you.

Scary business. The kids always play right there. Diane often gardens right there. Whew!

Ken Foley
Vienna



Luckily no one had been in the front yard when the truck struck the house.

Competing for Students

To the Editor:

Gerry, each paragraph in your emotional appeal [Gerry Connolly - Protecting Student Loans, May 02-08, 2012] warrants refutation. For brevity I will settle on your last paragraph; arguably the most important. Subsidizing higher education through cheap money actually drives up the cost of going to college. Universities raise their tuition rates to cover increasing costs to include staff, teachers, utilities, and programs. They also raise their rates as a result of the devaluation of the dollar due to the

subsidy that you are championing. This results in the overall devaluation of the college opportunity. Without the subsidy, the value of the education would actually be higher and the real costs would be lower; especially as universities realized the need to compete and to do so with their own, less artificial money. Lenders, too, would learn to compete for the students who want to borrow for higher ed. You claim the importance of competition but dismiss it's paramount importance within the actual model. Yours is another example

of emotional pandering and kicking the can down the road of any mature, responsible attempt at dealing with the "higher education" bubble that has swelled due to such rhetorical, emotional pressures. Must you continue to bait

your constituents into following similar calamities such as housing, healthcare, energy, food price bubbles to name a few?

Brent Emory
Vienna

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CONNECTION

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BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

SATURDAY/MAY 12

Brinker Toastmasters. 9:30 a.m. at Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Meets second and fourth Saturday of the month. brinker.wordpress.com.

Fairfax CASA Information Session. 11 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) information session. 703-273-3526 ext. 22 or ekosarin@casafairfax.org.

"The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens" Workshop. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Vienna Community Center, 120 Cherry St. S.E., Vienna. For age 12-19. Provide teens with tools to deal successfully with real life issues, gain greater control over their lives and make smarter decisions and get the competitive edge with college and job applications. \$175-\$200 plus the book for \$15. 703-255-6360 or www.viennava.gov.

TUESDAY/MAY 15

Safe Assured Identification Kits for Children. 12-4 p.m. City of Fairfax Police Headquarters, 3730 Old Lee Highway. Parents receive a full-color photo ID and a mini-CD with digital fingerprints, a digital photo, video showing movement and mannerisms, a general physical description, vital personal information, and a family codeword. Private information is encrypted and is accessible only by law enforcement personnel. Free. Appointments required at 703-385-7966.

PIO@Fairfaxva.gov.
Five Hills Garden Club. 10 a.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church, 124 Park St., Vienna. Meets third Tuesday of every month. 703-988-9324 or mariansanders@cox.net.

Capital Area Franchise Fair. 12:30-5 p.m. The Tower Club, 8000 Towers Crescent Drive, Suite 1700, Vienna. Workshops and a Resource Fair to educate aspiring entrepreneurs about some of the non-conventional options in franchising. \$35-\$45. Register at <http://franchiseexpo2012.eventbrite.com>.

The Providence District Council meeting at the Dunn Loring Administrative Center, 2334 Gallows Road, 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. Program: State Sen. Dick Saslaw (D-35) and Del. David Bulova (D-37) will discuss the recently concluded session of the Virginia General Assembly. Before the program, a brief discussion will be held from 7:15-7:30 p.m. on possible meeting topics for the rest of 2012.

www.providencedistrictcouncil.org

FRIDAY/MAY 18

Cat Adoptions. 6:30-8:30 p.m. PetSmart, 8204 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. Every Friday. Sponsored by Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation. www.lostdogrescue.org.

THURSDAY/MAY 24

Fairfax County presents Legal Tools for Caregivers. 7 p.m. Thomas Jefferson Library, 7415 Arlington Boulevard, Falls Church. Free. Register at 703-324-5205, TTY 711, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices or caregiver@fairfaxcounty.gov.



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NEWS

Leading the march along the W&OD Trail in Vienna, NOVACAN Chair Linda Burchfiel holds the "DOT" sign as part of 350.org Global Climate Day.



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/ THE CONNECTION

Climate Change Addressed in Vienna

FROM PAGE 3

pear, particularly in areas like Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Hampton Roads. You may not see the tides rise in Vienna, but you sure will feel the effects. I am here to ask you to take action," he added. "The science is solid. And if we're wrong, what are we left with? Cleaner air, more jobs, more security. Only good things can come from taking our climate crisis seriously."

After Del. Bulova's talk, it was time for the group to add their voices to the global outreach. Taking up handmade signs, including the "DOT" that was the 350.org theme for the worldwide event, most of those in attendance exited the library, marched up Maple Avenue and down the Washington and Old Dominion Trail to the Vienna Farmer's Market. They were well received by passers-by in cars, on foot, and even the cyclists on the Trail, as well as patrons of the Market.

EVENTUALLY, the group headed back to the library and continued with the program. Keith Thirion, Lead Virginia Organizer with Chesapeake Climate Action Network presented the case of Dominion Power Company as Virginia's main polluter and a major obstacle to the development of local renewable energy. Seth Heald, Community Climate Activist and Kate Pollard of the Sierra Club spoke about carbon pollution and the EPA. The program ended with a workshop, paneled by several of the coalition members on how to take personal action by developing relationships with legislators, writing letters and petitions, and making presentations within individual communities.

"There is something for everyone to do, whatever skill level, interest, time constraints, or comfort zone," said NOVACAN Chair Linda Burchfiel. The NOVACAN website is a good place to start, with links to all of their member organizations. For a wealth of related information, and to see photos of climate change activists "connecting the dots" all across the globe, visit the 350.org website.

Passion for Science

FROM PAGE 3

& Naturally) Grocery Bags. The C.L.E.A.N. grocery bag solution kills foodborne bacteria like E. coli on the surface of any produce, such as lettuce. Studies show that oil extracted from coriander seeds can kill many foodborne disease causing bacteria like E. coli, Salmonella enterica and MRSA.

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vent and kill foodborne pathogens. Robowiz's solution is a global semifinalist after it was voted second place in the 2012 FLL Global Innovation Award.

"My team researched the subject thoroughly, eventually finding a solution in coriander oil," said Neeraj. "In doing this, I visited many professors and scientists, fostering my appreciation for math and science."

NEERAJ GOES FURTHER in his passion than competition and that is what gives the Longfellow student a distinctive edge. Neeraj partnered with two fellow Longfellow students to create their own kind of math mentoring program for the young teens who frequent the Town of Vienna's teen center, Club Phoenix. Once a week, every week since January, the budding scientists spend 30

minutes working with about 15 of the 20 regular Club Phoenix participants. The mentors are basing their teaching on the Math Counts program.

"We're doing this because most of the kids are learning the regular math taught in the schools, but we're trying to teach problem-solving techniques and tricks to solve harder problems," said Neeraj.

Neeraj and his partners are teaching algebra, number theory, counting, probability and geometry, areas the typical sixth or seventh-grader does not examine.

"We're definitely challenging them more than what they get in school, but, we're also exposing them to concepts they never would have learned in school, so far."

To learn more about Robowiz, see bit.ly/vote4rrms. For details on FIRST Lego League, go to www.firstlegoleague.org.



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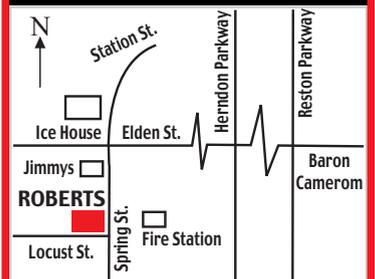
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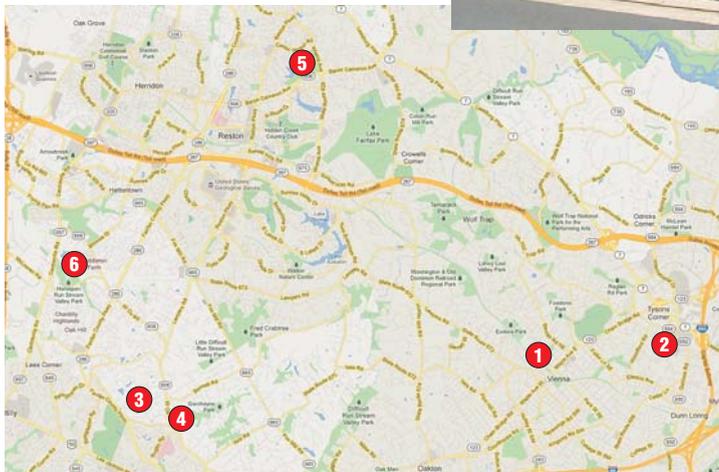
2 2019 George Washington Road, Vienna — \$1,406,546



5 1425 Waterfront Road,
Reston — \$889,000



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3 3401 OAKTON CHASE CT	5	6	1	OAK HILL		\$1,245,000	Detached	0.83	20171	OAKTON CHASE	03/16/12
4 3400 NATHANIEL OAKS CT	5	4	1	OAK HILL		\$1,050,000	Detached	1.12	20171	WEST RIDGE	03/16/12
5 1425 WATERFRONT RD	4	3	1	RESTON		\$889,000	Detached	0.21	20194	RESTON	03/28/12
6 2844 CHERRY BRANCH LN	5	4	1	HERNDON		\$855,000	Detached	0.30	20171	MIDDLETON FARM	03/01/12

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Home Life Style

A kaleidoscopic landscape encourages lounging outdoors. David Watkins of Merrifield Garden Center says such spaces are created with vibrantly colored planters and vivid flowers like knockout roses and endless summer hydrangeas.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MERRIFIELD GARDEN CENTER

The Best Seats Outside the House

Local designers offer tips for creating a spectacular patio or deck.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

Warm weather means more time spent lounging by the pool or grilling on the patio. A winter-worn outdoor space can make popular warm weather pastimes less than appealing.

Creating a space that provides both comfort and style can be a daunting undertaking. Local designers are offering suggestions for creating a luxurious retreat fit for relaxing or outdoor entertaining.

When a home's interior flows effortlessly into its outdoor surroundings, a patio or deck becomes an extension of the house. "Accessories are now focused on bringing indoor luxuries outside," said McLean-based designer Shanon Munn of Ambi Design Studio in McLean. "Outdoor furniture is now made larger and more comfortable, and outdoor fabrics are more beautiful than ever. We're really able to match the outside more closely to a home's interior."

Lamps, mirrors and even chandeliers are among the trendiest alfresco accents. Outdoor rugs deliver an instant elegant impact. "Another nice luxury is an outdoor articulating fan," said Munn. "Those work twofold. They keep you and your guest cool and keep mosquitoes away."

INDULGENCE WAS THE THEME on a Potomac patio designed by Jim Rill, principal of Rill Architects. He furnished the space with kitchen appliances and a television, all built for outdoor use, and topped it with a stained wood ceiling. "It's like having a living room outdoors," said Rill. "The spaces are connected to the outside, while also protected from the



PHOTO BY MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE CONNECTION

Trendy alfresco accents like outdoor lamps, mirrors and even chandeliers can help make a patio or deck feel like an extension of a home's interior. McLean-based designers Shanon Munn and Amanda Welch, of Ambi Design Studio, incorporated these elements into the master deck of the D.C. Design House.

elements."

When designing the patio of an Alexandria home, Landscape architect Stephen Wlodarczyk of Botanical Decorators incorporated flowers in bursts of color. "I see the use of bold colors being the trend," he said.

Wlodarczyk said that growers are developing "designer" flowers in hues that span the color spectrum.

SEE PATIO, PAGE 12

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

Home Life Style

Patio with 'European Feel'

FROM PAGE 11

He has a penchant for coneflowers, which bloom throughout the summer and come in varieties with names like hot lava, gumdrop and Maui sunshine.

David Watkins, a Fairfax Station resident and manager of Merrifield Garden Center in Fairfax, Gainesville and Merrifield agrees that brightly colored blooms pack a powerful punch. "We're adding vibrant colors to landscapes with flowers like knock-out roses and endless summer hydrangeas," he said.

The trend extends to patio furniture. "We're going from patio umbrellas and chair cushions in browns and blacks to colors like magenta," said Watkins.

TO MAKE A PATIO or deck child-friendly, Nancy Towmey, principal designer of Finnian's Moon Interiors, an Alexandria-based firm, suggests weather-proof storage ottomans and child-sized tables and chairs. "Kids like to be comfortable just like everybody else," she said. "Ottomans are great for holding their toys."

Don't skimp when it comes to quality. "I would encourage people to buy something decent. It is usually worth the money to invest in something decent," she said.

Gina Benincasa, landscape designer with D&A Dunlevy Landscapers, Inc. says that when building



PHOTO COURTESY OF D&A DUNLEVY LANDSCAPERS, INC.

When building this McLean patio, designers with D&A Dunlevy Landscapers combined stone and foliage. "Trendier patios are now very detailed," said landscape designer Gina Benincasa.

the patio of a McLean home recently, her team paid particular attention to the foundation. "Trendier patios are now very detailed and use all different kinds of stone like limestone and travertine stone," she said. "Adding a pebbled mosaic as part of the patio or in some cases the whole patio is really decorative and can give it a European feel."



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ENTERTAINMENT

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

THURSDAY/MAY 10

Candyrat Guitar Night with Trevor Gordon Hall, Sergio Altamura, Owen Van Larkins and Pino Forastiere. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

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

One-on-One English Practice. 2 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Call for appointment with an ESL volunteer. Adults. 703-242-4020.

eBook/eReader Instruction. 7:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn about library ebooks and how to access them with your compatible device. Call for an appointment. Adults. 703-242-4020.

FRIDAY/MAY 11

An Evening with The Avett Brothers. 8 p.m. George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. \$39, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 1-800-745-3000. Accessible seating is available for patrons with disabilities at 703-993-3035.

Melanie at 7:30 p.m.; Square Trio CD Release Party and Irresponsible at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

"The Happy Movie." 7 p.m. Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. 703-300-1857.

English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. English conversation group. Adults. 703-938-0405.

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Learn and play. Age 5-18. 703-938-0405.

A Studio Rep Production: Make 'em Laugh. 8 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. "Sure Thing" and "The Philadelphia" by David Ives, "An Ongoing Examination of the True Meaning of Life" by S.W. Senek and "Penitent," an original play by Samantha Downey. Presented by Studio Rep, a company of local high school students. For age 12 and up. \$10-\$15. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

SATURDAY/MAY 12



"Red, White & Blue," acrylic by Pauline D. Lorfano. The Vienna Arts Society, 115 Pleasant St. N.W. in Vienna, will hold their annual benefit raffle, showcasing original art donated to raise funds, at a reception on Saturday, May 19 at 4 p.m. A silent auction will run Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., through May 19. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the American Legion's emergency fund for military families in distress. 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax.

With pianist Adam Golka. Britten's Sinfonia da Requiem, Debussy's La Mer, Ravel's Concerto for the Left Hand, and Elgar's Enigma Variations. Free pre-concert discussion for ticketholders at 7 p.m. Tickets \$25-\$55. info@fairfaxsymphony.org.

Northern Virginia Chapter, International Plastic Modelers Society Model Classic 2012. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Museum quality scale models, a modeling contest consisting of over 80 categories, model kit, book and

supplies vendors. Raffle prizes, Make & Take event for children, doll houses, Lego, HO and N scale model railroads, radio control models and more. Food concession on site. \$8 adults, \$10 entire family. www.novaipms.org.

Celebrate Communication 2012. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. George Mason University's Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The area's premier expo for the deaf and hard of hearing communities, with 50+ exhibitors on all topics relating to deafness and hearing loss, including the latest in hearing assistive technologies and wireless

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 17



McLean
Community
Center
The Center of It All



Here's What's Happening at MCC

Jammin' Junior Concerts

Wednesday, May 9, 16, 23, 12:30 p.m.
Free; McLean Central Park

Vanessa Trien and
the Jumping Monkeys
Wednesday, May 9

Two of a Kind
Wednesday, May 16

Peter McCory
Wednesday, May 23

For Rising 7th Graders

Old Firehouse Teen Center Open House

Thursday, May 10
7-8:30 p.m.
1440 Chain Bridge Rd.

A Studio Rep Production "Make 'Em Laugh"

Friday & Saturday, May 11-12, 8 p.m.
\$10/\$5 MCC district residents



McLean Kids Series Alex & the Kaleidoscope Band

Saturday, May 12, 2 p.m.
\$15/\$10 MCC district residents

Silent Film Series

Douglas Fairbanks in "The Thief of Baghdad"

Wednesday, May 16, 8 p.m.
\$10/\$6 MCC district residents

It's the Place to Be!

McLean Day 2012: Celebrating Our Hometown

Saturday, May 19
Festival: 11 a.m. -5 p.m.
Governing Board Election: 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
at Lewinsville Park

The McLean Community Center

1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA 22101
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www.mcleancenter.org



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**McLean Community Center
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 May 16**, to be counted.



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PHOTOS BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

Oakton High School Students (from left) Sarah Arthur, Sarah Metzendorf, Sarah Smith and Jennifer Becker dance together at the "Day Prom" organized by Herndon High School and held in Fairfax at the Waterford at Fair Oaks.

Day Prom at Waterford

On Thursday May 3, Herndon High School hosted a very special prom at the Waterford at Fair Oaks in Fairfax. Called the "Day Prom" the event is held for students with special needs that might not be able to attend their general education prom. "It is also a learning event. Students get a socialization experience and practice skills that will transfer to any social or family event, from the RSVP, to how to dress, to how to behave, dancing, eating and interacting with new people," said Kathy Khair of Herndon High School, who organized the event. Now in its 11th year, the Day Prom was conceived by two teachers at Herndon High School: Chris Pascarella and Anna Albsta, and four schools attended. This year, 179 students from eight schools participated in the 3.5 hour event: Herndon High School, Oakton High School, Fairfax High School, Westfield High School, Lake Braddock High School, Kilmer Center School, South Lakes High School and Centreville High School.



Herndon High School students Sara Rodrigues (left) and Briana Payne trip the lights fantastic on the dance floor during the 11th "Day Prom" held at the Waterford at Fair Oaks in Fairfax on May 3.

Herndon High School 'Best Buddies' Gabi Muniz, Kelsey Fineman, Marie Gardiner, Courtney Guengerich dance in a conga line at the "Day Prom" organized by Herndon High School and held in Fairfax at the Waterford at Fair Oaks.



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"I'm Fine"



By **KENNETH B. LOURIE**

Mostly. All things considered, and as a stage IV (terminal) lung cancer patient, it's impossible – for me, to not consider all things.

What I'm considering in this column is how – and why – I typically respond to well-meaning inquiries regarding my health. Generally speaking, I'm not going to give any in-depth answers to most people who ask. I am happy to provide a relatively curt, but courteous answer. I'm not inclined (nor do I feel the need) to give any unsuspecting – or even a suspecting and sincere questioner, both barrels: diagnosis, prognosis, appointments, scan results, treatment protocol, etc. It's "T.M.I." It's not that I'm uncomfortable or even unwilling – or unable to respond in this kind of detail, it's more that I'm unenthusiastic. I'd really rather, unless compelled by a particularly persistent person, to not bother/bore anybody with chapter and verse about how I got to where I am. It's not exactly that I don't feel it's anybody's business (obviously I do, given the content of my weekly column), it's more that I'm selfish, sort of. My delusion is, the less I talk about having cancer, the less serious my circumstances are. It's a reworked version of George Costanza's advice to Jerry Seinfeld on how to beat a lie-detector test: "It's not a lie, if you believe it." If I don't blather on about it (having cancer), it's not that serious. Alternatively, the more I talk about it, the more believable it becomes and the more inevitable are the consequences. If I don't give it life (by talking about it), perhaps it dies and I don't.

Don't get me wrong, I will talk about having cancer (I certainly write about it enough), but it doesn't really bring me the kind of joy that most opportunities to talk about oneself generally do. Oh sure, I have a pretty good story to tell; having outlived my original prognosis by years, but perhaps the less said, the better. Sometimes I feel as if I'm flying under the radar and the fact that I was diagnosed with incurable, stage IV lung cancer in February, 2009 has slipped through the cracks somehow and been forgotten. To that end, as much as possible – in public, I try not to dwell on having cancer. I have it. Next. If I don't publicize it, maybe I don't hasten its apparently delayed effect.

There's so much that goes on, psychologically – in my head, when it comes to having cancer. Accepting it is one thing – which I've done, but being victimized by it is quite another and something I will not allow. Of course I have some physical issues that prevent me living a "normal" life, but I view them more as opportunities to make the best of a bad situation rather than making the worst of it. Where's the future in that? There isn't, at least in my strategic plan. And though I joke about pretending and being in denial about having cancer; the truth is, I'm quite comfortable with my circumstances – and my attitude. I really am "fine" with all of it.

Sometimes, most times in fact, I'd simply rather not talk about it. I'd rather talk about something else, anything else. It's actually therapeutic to do so. Thanks for asking though, but not for the reason you might think. Oddly enough, though it's a question I realize will be asked, as often as not, it provides me an opportunity to give an answer that you might not expect: it's not always about me, and it shouldn't be, in spite of my circumstances. Life goes on – for all of us, and that's what interests me.

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

FROM PAGE 13

technologies. Free. boleary@nvr.org.

Children's Show: Dirty Sock Funtime Band. 10:30 a.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

Washington Area Folk Harp Society Concert. 7:30 p.m. Knox Presbyterian church, 7416 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church. "The Harp goes to Appalachia," with the Heatherwood Harp Ensemble, Sue Richards, Barbra Bailey Bradley and the Alfano String Quartet and Mimi McNeel. \$15, seniors and students \$10. www.wafhs.org.

Great Falls Garden Club Plant Sale and Flower Show. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Plant sale 9 a.m.-1 p.m., flower show 1-4 p.m. Free admission. 703-759-3130 or joanburkgren@cox.net.

Vienna Lions Club Spring Bazaar. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Thoreau Middle School, 2505 Cedar Lane Vienna. Over 30 crafters and vendors. 703-938-7716 or n.volpe8@verizon.net.

Dragonfest Spring Festival. 2-6 p.m. Green Hedges School, 415 Windover Ave., Vienna. Inflatable rides, games of chance, face painting, cake walks, food and more. www.greenhedges.org.

Great Falls Citizens Association 3rd Annual Walk along the Potomac River. 1 p.m. Fraser Preserve, 101 Springvale Road, Great Falls. See some of the largest trees in Virginia, led by Tree Commissioner Bob Vickers. See marshes, woodlands, a variety of birds and more. Free. Wear good walking shoes and bring a water bottle. bcanis@yahoo.com.

Victorian Hanging Baskets. 10 a.m. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, 9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna. Fill moss-covered baskets with a variety of foliage and flowering plants. \$30. Pre-payment required at 703-255-3631.

Master Gardeners Plant Clinic. 10 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Experts answer gardening questions. 703-242-4020.

Master Gardeners. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax.

Horticultural tips, information, techniques and advice for home gardeners. Adults. 703-293-6227.

Using Library eBooks and eAudioBooks. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. One-on-one instruction on selecting, checking out and using Fairfax County Public Library eBooks and eAudioBooks available through OverDrive. Call for appointment. Adults. 703-938-0405.

Plant Clinic hosted by the Master Gardeners. 10 a.m. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Answers to gardening questions. Adults. 703-790-8088.

A Studio Rep Production: Make 'em Laugh. 8 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. "Sure Thing" and "The Philadelphia" by David Ives, "An Ongoing Examination of the True Meaning of Life" by S.W. Senek and "Penitent," an original play by Samantha Downey. Presented by Studio Rep, a company of local high school students. For age 12 and up. \$10-\$15. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Rummage Sale. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Vienna Aquatic Club, 625 Marshall Road S.W., Vienna. Proceeds benefit Boy Scout Troop 1539. 3scoutfamily@gmail.com.

Starshine Theater: Folk Tales USA. 7 p.m. The Grange Theater, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Starring local students. Reception follows. Reserve at 703-790-9050 or Pat@StarshineTheater.com.

The Snow Queen, A Two Act Children's Ballet. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Madeira School, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Presented by the Studio of Classical Ballet. Tickets: Adults \$20, seniors and student \$18, children \$15. 703-759-3366.

Church Yard Sale. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Charles Wesley United Methodist Church, 6817 Dean Drive, McLean. Hot dog lunch served mid-day. Sponsored by the United Methodist Men of Charles Wesley UMC. www.charleswesleyumc.org.

Bids Benefiting Kids Concert at 1:30 p.m.; An Evening with David Lindley at 7:30

p.m.; **In The Lobby Bar with SNRG presents "Simple Variety"** at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/MAY 13

Clarinetist Robert Patterson and Pianist Audrey Andrist. 3 p.m. Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The Bernstein Clarinet Sonata, the Brahms Clarinet Sonata No. 2, Debussy's Premiere Rhapsodie and more. Free. 703-620-9535 or 703-324-8344.

Songs of Mothers From the Bible. 5 p.m. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. An original cantata by Jane R. Cooper. Donations accepted to benefit African women with HIV and AIDS. 703-795-6068.

Breakfast Buffet. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Vienna American Legion, 330 Center St, N, Vienna. Adults \$8, children \$3. Omelets, scrambled eggs, blueberry pancakes, bacon and more. Open to the public. 703-938-6580.

Alleghany St., Dan Fisk, Crossover 757 and Brian Franke at 1:30 p.m.; Garrison Starr CD Release Show and Erick Baker at 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

MONDAY/MAY 14

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

Small Wonders. 10:30 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Stories, rhymes, songs and activities. 12-23 months with caregiver. 703-938-0405.

Woof, and Paws - Read to a Dog. 4 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. Sign up to read with a reading therapy dog. Age 6-12. 703-938-0405.

John Parr (St. Elmo's Fire) and Anthony Da Costa. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. East, Vienna. www.jamminjava.com.

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Madison Softball Playing Shut Down Ball

Warhawks edge Saxons 1-0 behind stellar defense and one-hit pitching gem by Kelsey Ross.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Since its eight-game win streak ended with a loss at Liberty District opponent Stone Bridge High in Ashburn on Friday, April 27, the Madison High Warhawks girls' softball team has gotten back into the win column with a pair of district shutout wins. Both victories came last week.

Madison, under head coach John Schneeberger, opened the week with a 4-0 win at South Lakes in Reston on Monday, May 1, then defeated visiting Langley High, 1-0, last Friday night, May 4. The wins improved Madison's overall record to 14-4 and put the Warhawks at 10-2 in the district. Both Liberty setbacks have come to Stone Bridge.

The eight-team Liberty District tournament is set to begin next Wednesday, May 16. Madison will host a first round quarterfinals game at 6:30 that evening.

But prior to the start of the postseason, Madison was set to wrap up its regular season schedule this week with its final two district games - home versus rival McLean High (Senior Night) on Tuesday, May 8, and at Jefferson this Friday night, May 11 at 6:30.



Earlier this season the Madison High girls' softball team held special 'Teacher's Night' festivities during pre-game ceremonies of the Warhawks' Liberty District home game versus Fairfax on April 20. Left to right, Madison High senior captains Janice Yahner, Jessica Darst, and Ally Grasso, along with freshman Allison Krisko, assist Madison Principal Mark Merrell (center) and head coach John Schneeberger (white, long sleeved shirt) in presenting the pre-game awards to the teachers.

"I think we are ready to go," said Schneeberger, of his team's focus on wrapping up the regular season in strong fashion and its readiness for the upcoming district tournament. "Everyone is working hard right now. We won a tough game against Langley. We play McLean on Tuesday which will be another good game."

Across the board, Schneeberger said his

team is playing well as the seasons most important stretch - the playoffs, districts followed by the Northern Regionals - will soon be underway.

"Pitching is steadily improving and we have two good pitchers," said the coach. "Our defense gets better every day and it is solid. We are getting key hits from different players. I'm very proud of what the girls

have accomplished so far this year. They play as a team and everyone contributes every night.

"Our goal for the playoffs is to get to play on Memorial Day," said Schneeberger, of the festive, holiday slate of region quarterfinals (second round) playoff games. "After that, anything can happen. The ultimate goal always is to win a district, region and state championship."

IN FRIDAY'S PITCHING duel win over the Saxons, which lasted just one hour, 10 minutes, both Madison's Kelsey Ross and Langley's Emily Templin were terrific on the mound for their respective teams.

Ross, in the complete game win, allowed just one hit - a two-out, line drive triple into right field off the bat of Saxons No. 9 hitter Maggie Natal in the top of the sixth inning of a scoreless game. Ross struck out the following Langley batter to end the scoring threat and retire the side.

Madison, in its half of the sixth, scored what would prove to be the winning run. Alex Alvarez, Madison's No. 9 batter, started things off with a long double to right field which nearly left the park. She then advanced to third base on teammate Kat Olson's ground ball out to second base. Two batters later, Ally Grasso knocked a solid single up the middle to score Alvarez and give the Warhawks a 1-0 lead.

Ross retired the Langley side in order in the Saxons' final at-bats in the top of the seventh - all on groundball outs to third baseman Mary Bolinger - to end the game.

Along with the big late-game base hits from Grasso and Alvarez, Madison's other hits in the game came from Jackie Yahner and Ross.

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

The **Oakton High girls' basketball team**, which captured its first-ever Virginia State AAA championship crown this past winter season, was presented with the Army National Guard national ranking trophy during the school's Spring Sports Rally last Friday, April 27. The national honor was part of the fifth annual MaxPreps Tour of Champions for Girls' Basketball, presented by the Army National Guard. Oakton is one of just 10 schools across the country to be so honored.

The Cougars finished the season as the No. 31 ranked team in the country by MaxPreps, a California-based company that ranks more than 20,000 high school girls' basketball teams.

"On behalf of MaxPreps, I would like to congratulate head coach [Fred] Priester and the Oakton girls' basketball team on an amazing season," said President Andy Beal. "MaxPreps is once again honored to partner with the Army National Guard in saluting 10 of the top girls' basketball teams in America. With the continued support of the Army National Guard, the Tour of Champions has become one of the most recognized awards programs in the country."



Madison High concluded its Liberty District boys' tennis regular season schedule with a 6-3 win at Fairfax High last Monday, May 2. One of the Warhawks' individual wins came at No. 2 singles play where senior John Nothaft (pictured) defeated his Rebels' opponent by a 10-4 score.

PHOTO/COURTESY OF MADISON TENNIS

Oakton beat nemesis Princess Anne High (Virginia Beach), 58-39, in this year's state AAA championship game in Richmond. While the Cougars have, over the years, been one of the top teams in both the Northern Region and state, they had never before gained the coveted state crown until this winter.

In Oakton's two prior trips to the state tournament, it lost to Princess Anne in the 2009 finals and the same team in the 2010 semifinals.

Along with winning the state title this year, Oakton also captured both the Concorde and Northern Region crowns. It was the Cougars' 14th district title and fifth region crown over the past 18 years. Oakton finished an incredible 31-0 for the 2011-'12 season. "Being honored by MaxPreps and the Army National Guard is an amazing thing," said coach Priester. "We were stunned when we found out. National recognition like this is not common for schools like us. And with the Army National Guard and MaxPreps to recognize us for what we did is very special. The kids and our community are very excited, proud and grateful for this honor."

Oakton was led this past season by the Coyer twins, senior guards Caroline and Katherine Coyer. In fact, the siblings led the Cougars in each of their four years with Oakton basketball. In those

four years, the team recorded 110 wins and lost just five games.

Caroline, this past season, was named both the district, region, and Gatorade (Virginia) Player of the Year, as well as Co-Player of the Year in Virginia, as selected by the Coaches' Association. Coyer, who was also named First Team All-Met, averaged 15 points and five assists per game. In her career she scored 1,580 points, set the state record for assists at 593 and grabbed 362 steals.

Meanwhile, Katherine Coyer was named MVP of the district, region and state final games and was named First-Team All-District, First Team All-Region and Second-Team All-Met. She was also a four-time Defensive Player of the Year recipient. Her career stats include 1,180 points, 349 assists and 206 steals.

Both Katherine and Caroline will play college basketball at Villanova University next school year.

George C. Marshall High School is pleased to announce the hiring of Sarah Baker as its new head gymnastics coach. Coach Baker brings with her 12 years of competitive experience and most recently served as an assistant with both the Marshall and McLean High coaching staffs. Last season, McLean finished first in the Liberty District and Marshall was third. As the new head

coach for Marshall, Baker will continue to develop Statesmen student athletes to become the best they can be in both the classroom and in gymnastics.

The **Madison High boys' tennis** team concluded its regular season with a 6-3 victory at Liberty District opponent Fairfax High last Wednesday, May 2. With the team victory, the Warhawks finished the regular season with a winning record of 8-6.

The final season match versus the Rebels provided an opportunity for Madison to insert many substitute players into its lineup, meaning the Warhawks have utilized 17 different players in official matches this year.

Madison's singles winners were: John Adam over John Choe, 10-5, at No. 1 singles; John Nothaft over Jisoo Kim, 10-4, at No. 2; Alec Ostapovicz over Tyler Zane, 10-3 at No. 3; Matt Bosco over Adam Cook, 10-5 at No. 4; Ben Haines over Andrew Arnold, 10-7 at No. 5; and Thomas Roades over Alex Petit, 11-9 at No. 6.

Competing in doubles for Madison were: John Adam and freshmen Ben Cliff (No. 1 doubles); Nothaft and junior Wyatt Surbey (No. 2); and freshmen players Mark Mark Fertal and Neil Feeny (No. 3).

MOTHER'S DAY PHOTO GALLERY

Aurora and John Chagoury of Vienna with their Grandma, Cindy Fuller, at Legoland, Fla.



My two favorite girls, Monica and Hailey Fleming.



— TONY FLEMING,
VIENNA

FAITH NOTES

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

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers three Sunday services and a host of musical, educational, outreach, and fellowship ministries to enrich spiritual growth. 7:45 a.m. Worship Service without music; 9 a.m. Worship Service, Children's Chapel and Children's Choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum; and 11 a.m. Worship Service with Adult Choir. 703-759-2082.

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean, Sunday worship services are at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for adults is at 9:30 a.m. and for children during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Youth Group for grades 7-12 meets Sundays at 6 p.m. A 20-minute service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at 12 p.m. 703-356-3312 or umtrinity.org.

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

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. Contact 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org for schedules and registration information.

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body & Soul Fitness. Balance is key, energy is renewed and strength is gained. 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students.

bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center offers ongoing classes on meditation and Buddhist philosophy, Mondays at 7 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. \$10 per class. 202-331-2122 or www.meditation-dc.org.

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

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

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

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

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