

Full of Fun Musical Comes to Alden

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Elle Woods (Kate Merryman) and Bruiser (Gobi) prepare for Harvard Law in the upcoming McLean Community Players' production of "Legally Blonde, The Musical."

Storms Leave 2 Dead, Power Out

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Outgoing MCA President Honored

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OVER 50 HOMES SOLD SO FAR THIS YEAR!

Tree crushes cars along Rt. 123 in Oakton. Storms uprooted mature trees, blew down limbs, brought down numerous power lines and also broke power poles.



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/
THE CONNECTION

Storms Leave 2 Dead, Power Out

At least two dead in Fairfax; 285,000 residents still without power after Friday night's hurricane force winds.

BY KEN MOORE
THE CONNECTION

Winds of more than 70 miles per hour swept through Fairfax County Friday night. Power went out as the storm blew into the area around 10:30 p.m. with hurricane force winds sounding like a freight train.

The sound made some residents think a tornado was upon them, and many took refuge in basements.

THERE WERE AT LEAST TWO DEATHS in Fairfax County, both in the West Springfield area.

A 27-year-old Burke man, Khiet Huyen, died when a tree fell directly on top of his car on Old Keene Mill Road near Bauer Drive, according to Fairfax Police. He was declared dead at the scene of the accident.

A 90-year-old West Springfield woman who was lying in bed died when a tree fell on her home on Carr Street at 11 p.m. Friday night. Another person in the home called 911 but was unable to reach the woman. Police and fire and rescue units responded to the home, but they needed a construction crane and specialized tree removal equipment to continue the recovery operation.

On Saturday early morning, 429,868 of Dominion Power's Northern Virginia 831,900 customers were without power. Among those affected was the Fairfax County emergency 911 service.

The Fairfax County emergency 911 phone system was down around noon Saturday, according to the Fairfax County Emergency Alert system. "Many other forms of communications to include cellular, land line and texting are intermittent. If you have an emergency, we ask that you go to your local police or fire station for assistance," according to Fairfax County officials.

Emergency 911 service was working by Sunday,



PHOTO BY ANNA REHMATULLA/
THE CONNECTION

One person was killed while driving at the intersection of Old Keene Mill Road and Bauer Drive in Springfield.

and police ask that residents call 911 only in a true emergency, and to call the Fairfax County non-emergency numbers, 703-691-7561 and 703-691-3680 to report less urgent public safety problems. These are not the numbers to call to report a power outage; call Dominion at 866-366-4357.

Many traffic signals are out throughout the region. In Fairfax County, 130 traffic signals were without power on Saturday, according to county officials, who remind drivers to treat any intersection with a dark signal as a four-way stop sign.

Residents who get their water from the Falls Church Water system in portions of Tysons, McLean, Vienna, Dunn Loring and Merrifield were advised to boil their water before drinking it. Multiple water pumping plants throughout the region were without power, leading to calls for water conservation.

It will take at least several days, possibly as long as a week, to restore power to most customers, Dominion power warned.

By Saturday night, there were about 340,000 Dominion customers in Northern Virginia still without power. By Sunday morning, that number was down to 285,000 households.

With temperatures predicted to be 100 degrees or greater, there were hyperthermia concerns about residents who are older or with disabilities.

STORMS UPROOTED mature trees, blew down limbs, brought down numerous power lines and also broke power poles.

Neighbors were urged to check on seniors and those with disabilities.

Call 911 for reports of "hot" or sparking electrical wires, especially those on roadways.

Call Dominion Power to report outages at 1-866-366-4357.

SEE LOCAL STORM COVERAGE, PAGE 10



PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

Rob Jackson, outgoing president of the McLean Citizens Association, was recognized as Lord of Fairfax for the Dranesville District.

Outgoing MCA President Honored

Rob Jackson named Lord of Fairfax for Dranesville District.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Rob Jackson, who served the most terms as president in the history of the McLean Citizens Association, was honored by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors as Lord of Fairfax for the Dranesville District. Jackson, the outgoing president, became involved in community affairs after a random encounter years ago.

"I went to a birthday party to pick up my son and met an MCA member who mentioned they were looking for someone to be on the Budget and Taxation committee," he said. "It was supposed to be limited to a one night a week thing, and had you told me then that I'd eventually be president, I would have laughed."

Jackson said he's always had an interest in good government, and that he just happened to be in "the right place at the right time" when it came to the MCA and its increasing involvement in planning long-term issues like Tysons Corner redevelopment.

"I enjoy working with people who might not necessarily agree, but have good intentions," he said.

Jackson said the work that sticks out the most in his mind was the work on Tysons Corner, where the MCA was able to get a seat at the table and work with the county as the new plan was developed.

"Working on the Tysons Task Force certainly sticks out in my mind, when that plan was endorsed and adopted it was of

major significance, and it was great to see county staff so willing to work with residents," he said. "It sank in when I got a call from a reporter from Time magazine about Tysons Corner and the work that was being done. I appreciated that because it showed that the MCA as an entity was working as a problem solver for the community, we weren't just something that was putting up roadblocks."

Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville) said he chose Jackson because of his many contributions to the community during his tenure at the MCA, particularly as president.

"Rob led the MCA's successful efforts to ensure that the concerns of the McLean community were considered as the comprehensive plan for Tysons was revised," he said. "I also wanted to recognize Rob's support for the county's efforts to finally resolve the long-simmering issues with Falls Church Water."

Foust, who has served as MCA president as well, said he can appreciate how tough the job can be, and commended Jackson for being the longest tenured president.

Though he has handed off the reins of the MCA, Jackson will be joining the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations as First Vice President.

"I like the things [President] Tania Hossain is trying to do, and after some soul searching, I decided I wanted to be a part of it," he said. "I guess compared with the MCA, it's a new-comer, it's only been around 71 years."

PEOPLE

McLean Dancer Wins Gold, Contract

Albert Gordon wins Gold at the Boston International Ballet Competition.



PHOTO BY THEO KOSSENAS

Albert Gordon began dancing at The Washington School of Ballet at age 10.

The Washington Ballet (TWB) announced that dancer, Brooklyn Mack, won a Gold medal at the 2nd Annual Boston International Ballet Competition (BIBC) in Boston, Mass., on Sunday, June 17. The Washington School of Ballet (TWSB) student, Albert Gordon of McLean, also won a Gold medal at BIBC.

The Ballet's dancers competed against a field of 90 dancers from 16 countries.

Gordon competed as a soloist dancing two classical solos in the first round, the compulsory contemporary in the second round and two classical solos and one contemporary solo in the final round. Gordon won the Gold medal in the Junior Male Division, and was awarded a contract with the Boston Ballet II for the 2012-2013 season. Gordon has chosen to stay at TWSB until he finishes high school next spring.

"I am very proud of our dancers at The Washington Ballet," said Kee Juan Han, TWSB's Director. "It was a grueling few days of competition. We had a Washington School of Ballet student, Albert Gordon, win gold along with our professional winner, Brooklyn Mack. It shows the quality of training at The

Washington Ballet, especially in our Men's program."

The Boston International Ballet Competition (BIBC) was founded in 2011 by Valentina Kozlova to allow student and professional dancers ages 13 to 25 years an opportunity to perform and compete in a positive and encouraging atmosphere before a distinguished panel of international judges. BIBC awards professional contracts, scholarships, monetary and other special prizes to competitors.

Among the panel of judges at BIBC were Oleksi Bessmertni, Founder and Director of the International Dance Festival TANZOLYMP; Andris Liepa, famous Russian dancer and choreographer; Mikko Nissinen, Artistic Director of Boston Ballet and Boston Ballet School and Septime Webre, Artistic Director of The Washington Ballet.

Gordon began dancing at The Washington School of Ballet at age 10. Since 2006, he has been studying under the instruction of Kee Juan Han, Director of The Washington School of Ballet. Gordon has danced key roles with The Washington Ballet including the role of The Nutcracker Prince, in "The Nutcracker."

Madeira Student Named Horse Show Youth Ambassador

The Washington International Horse Show (WIHS), a national equestrian event based in Washington, D.C. since 1958, has announced Hanna Powers of Potomac Falls, Va., as Youth Ambassador of the 2012 show.

Powers, 15, is a sophomore at The Madeira School in McLean, and competes on the varsity Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) team. She has attended WIHS for many years with her friends and family. Powers brings a wealth of knowledge of equestrian sport to her new role.

As the 2012 WIHS Youth Ambassador, Powers will oversee the WIHS Junior Committee and work with show management to reach out to the local youth in the community. She will help give WIHS a youth perspective as the show develops new youth-related programs from young rider events to Kids' Day. The Junior Committee consists of students from public, charter and private schools in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Washington International Horse Show received many ap-



2012 WIHS Youth Ambassador Hanna Powers with Raven.

plications from very qualified students in the D.C. Metro area and beyond. Powers will serve as the fourth WIHS Youth Ambassador following Jamal Brown, Anna Rossi and Shannon Miglarese.

The 54th annual Washington International Horse Show will be held Oct. 23-28, 2012 at Verizon Center in Washington, D.C.



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Pamela Danner was named 2012 "Friend in Deed" by the Friends of the McLean Community Center.

Pamela Danner Named 2012 'Friend in Deed'

The Friends of the McLean Community Center organization named McLean attorney Pamela B. Danner the recipient of its 2012 "Friend in Deed" award. Danner is the 19th person to receive this recognition "with gratitude for outstanding leadership and support of the McLean Community Center." She received a plaque at the Friends' June meeting, which was held on Monday, June 11, at the Center. In addition, a plaque with her name will be added to the "Friend in Deed" wall in the Center's main lobby, located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue.

Danner was elected to the McLean Community Center Governing Board in 1986, where she served

until 1992 and was elected its Treasurer. She served on the Board of Directors of the Friends of the McLean Community Center organization from 2002 to 2006 and has served as its pro bono legal counsel and registered agent since that time.

Danner is a principal of her law firm, Danner & Associates. Her practice is concentrated in full service business and nonprofit association representation, and estate planning. In 2011, she was the Democratic candidate for the Virginia House of Delegates, 34th District, which runs from McLean, and includes parts of Vienna along the Toll Road, all of Great Falls, and Sterling and Potomac Falls in Loudoun County.

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New Laws, Assault on Freedom?

Voting restrictions, abortion restrictions, DUI restrictions, fewer gun restrictions, more go into effect July 1.

A plethora of new laws will go into effect in the Commonwealth on July 1, including restrictive new procedures for voting, and the loosening of multiple gun regulations.

Drivers convicted of driving while very intoxicated and anyone convicted of DUI for the second time will now be required to have ignition locks installed on their vehicles which will check their blood alcohol levels and keep them from driving if they have been drinking. Hopefully this technology will keep drunk drivers from getting behind the wheel.

Women seeking abortions will be required to have a sonogram 48 hours before the abortion. The debate over this bill was one of the most publicized pieces of state legislation in the nation, and the focus of many jokes, protests and outrage. But still the bill passed and the Governor signed it into law.

Voters will be required to present identification, and if they arrive at the polling place without identification, they will cast a provisional ballot that will only be counted if the voter attends a meeting of the electoral board the next day to present his or her identification. Previously signing an affidavit swearing to your identity was sufficient.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fourth of July Celebration

To the Editor:

As a former federal worker with 11 years of service at the Department of Defense, the Fourth of July is an important day for me. Since the dawn of our nation, federal workers have played a significant role in America's achievements.

The contributions of federal workers will be very much in evidence this week as Americans prepare to celebrate our nation's birthday. Millions of Americans will check a weather report prepared by the National Weather Service, grill meat inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and fly in skies kept safe by the Federal Aviation Administration and the Transportation Security Administration. Others will enjoy time outdoors in our National Parks, travel with children protected by car seats inspected by the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and visit post offices to mail letters and packages to loved

ones serving in the military.

My fellow federal workers and I are proud of the jobs we've done for America for the last 236 years. We wish you, and the nation we love, a happy Independence Day.

Lawrence Goldschmidt
Springfield

Carbon Monoxide Alarms Can Help Prevent Tragedies

To the Editor:

Four adults and five children were hospitalized on June 14 after experiencing the effects of carbon monoxide poisoning in their apartment in Oakton. Luckily, these lives were saved, but this isn't always the case.

Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in America. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CO

Fortunately, your concealed weapons permit will count as your voter identification. But the law provides less sanction for carrying your concealed weapon without having your concealed weapons permit in your possession (\$25 civil fine) than for not having your identification to vote in your possession (disenfranchised, your vote is not counted).

These two provisions, counting concealed weapons permit as voter identification and limiting the penalty for not having your permit with you while carrying your concealed weapon, were just a few of the laws passed that lessen restrictions on guns in commonwealth. Some examples, effective July 1: Eliminate the prohibition on purchasing more than one handgun in a 30-day period (there are no limits now); provide that nothing in the Emergency Services and Disaster Law shall limit or prohibit the otherwise law-

Independence Day Coverage Online, Next Week

This week's Connection papers were printed on Monday and Tuesday July 1-2 because of the timing of the July 4/Independence Day holiday.

On Monday, at least half of our readers were still without power after Friday night's 80-mile-per-hour wind storm, and at our office, we are coping with intermittent power and related computer problems. Our website has been updated with storm information, www.ConnectionNewspapers.com, and our twitter accounts kept followers up to date during the aftermath.

While the hard copy of our papers won't get to readers until after the Wednesday holiday,

ful possession, carrying, transportation, sale, or transfer of firearms; provide that any locality that participates in any gun-buyback program offer the firearms acquired for sale by public auction or sealed bids to a person licensed as a dealer; allow local government employees to store a lawfully possessed firearm and ammunition in a locked private motor vehicle; remove the option for a locality to require that an applicant for a concealed handgun permit submit fingerprints as part of the application.

And something that will affect all of us, although it does not go into effect until September 2013, a new law that will require Virginians to pay sales tax on purchases from Amazon. This is only fair to local retailers.

The Virginia General Assembly enacted more than 700 new laws in 2012, many of them worthy of discussion.

those papers will not include coverage of independence day events, which will hopefully all be held despite the ongoing cleanup.

Digital replica (free) subscribers will receive their papers before July 4. Digital subscriptions are available without charge. Sign up at connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Our website is updated daily, www.ConnectionNewspapers.com. We would love to get your storm photos, email your name, town name and what's happening in the photo to editors@connectionnewspapers.com.

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

you have fuel-burning appliances inspected, never idle your vehicle in an attached garage or operate a generator indoors, and remember to install CO alarms in your home. For more information, visit <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/firesafety/AboutCO.asp>.

Dave Rohr
Fire Chief
City of Fairfax Fire Department

Write

The Connection welcomes views on any public issue. The deadline for all material is noon Friday. Letters must be signed. Include home address and home and business numbers. Letters are routinely edited for libel, grammar, good taste and factual errors.
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ENTERTAINMENT



Margot (Margaret Berkowitz), Pilar (Kim Braswell) and Serena (Courtney Drake), the Greek Chorus, hitting the books.

Full of Fun Musical Comes to Alden

PHOTOS BY TRACI J. BROOKS PHOTOGRAPHY

McLean Community Players to present "Legally Blonde, The Musical."

By DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

"Such a sassy show, with so much fun" is Kate Merryman's description of the McLean Community Players' production of "Legally Blonde, The Musical." "It is just totally upbeat, an inspiration to see." The storyline of "Legally Blonde, The Musical" is about a California sorority girl, Elle Woods, who doesn't like to take "no" for an answer. When her boyfriend leaves her for someone supposedly smarter she still doesn't give up. She studies hard and heads to Harvard Law to win back her ex. Elle rapidly adapts, takes the legal world by storm learning her true value along the way.



Elle Woods (Kate Merryman) and Emmett Forrest (Matthew Lincoln-Bugg) discuss class schedules.

Where and When

McLean Community Players present "Legally Blonde, The Musical" at Alden Theater, 1234 Ingleside Ave in McLean. Performances: July 13- July 29, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Sunday Matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$ 18-\$20. Call 703-790-9223 or visit www.mcleanplayers.org

and Kathleen McCormack the large cast will sing and dance through an energetic score of about two dozen songs backed by a 12 member band. The band includes keyboards, horns, reeds and violin. In the lead role of Elle, Kate Merryman, gets "to play an iconic role, a role in which the character grows before the audience. She may be naive at the beginning, but she is not stupid! She just hasn't had the experiences outside of her small world. But then she becomes more aware. Through an 'aha' moment thinking of what she really wants, Elle begins to learn that she has much to offer the world."

"We want the audience to feel so good and have a delightful time," said a co-producer Lynne Lawhead.

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

WEDNESDAY/JULY 4

4th of July Fireworks Celebration. 8 p.m. Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean. See Northern Virginia's best fireworks display to honor our nation's 236th birthday. Receive an American flag from McLean American Legion Post 270. Shuttle buses available from St. John's Lutheran Church on Douglass St. and Georgetown Pike and the McLean Community Center. sabrina.anwah@fairfaxcounty.gov.

25th Annual International Holy Convocation of the New Born Lighthouse Church of the Apostolic Faith, Inc. Services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Sheraton Premiere at Tyson's Corner, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. www.nblchurch.org or 301-499-2105.

Town of Vienna Celebrates July 4th. 5 p.m. Southside Park, 1315 Ross Drive SW, Vienna. Activities from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. will include food and drink for sale, games and rides, arts and crafts vendors, community organization booths, antique cars, a chili cook-off and music. Fireworks show will begin at 9:15 p.m. Spectator seating areas open at 5 p.m. www.viennava.gov.

THURSDAY/JULY 5

Elizabeth Mitchell. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings artist. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Wolf Trap Opera Company: Don Giovanni. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.

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FRIDAY/JULY 6

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BULLETIN BOARD

THURSDAY/JULY 5

St. Mark ESL Program & Citizenship Preparation Classes. St. Mark, 9972 Vale Road, Vienna. St. Mark English as a Second Language (ESL) program is seeking new volunteers now for the 2012-13 academic year. st.mark.esl@gmail.com.

TUESDAY/JULY 10

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.

Tyson's Corner Kiwanis Club Meeting. 7:30 p.m. at George C. Marshall High School, Room 124, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Meeting is public and individuals



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE 1st STAGE

Doug Wilder and Rex Daugherty in the original production of "The Prince and the Troubadour," playing at the 1st Stage [see listings for Saturday and Sunday].

Leesburg Pike, Vienna. www.nblchurch.org or 301-499-2105.

Broadway Rocks! 8:15 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20-\$52. www.wolftrap.org

SATURDAY/JULY 7

Vienna Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Vienna Caboose, 131 Church St. N.E., Vienna. Producers only, Saturdays through Oct. 27. viennafarmersmarket.com.

Elizabeth Mitchell. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Smithsonian Folkways Recordings artist. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Wolf Trap Opera Company: Don Giovanni. 7 p.m. Wolf Trap Center

for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Preshow talk one hour before performance. www.wolftrap.org.

Social Ballroom Dance. 7 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. First Saturday every month. 703-759-2685 or www.colvinrun.org.

Maria Spearman (Health/Stretch). 8-9 a.m. Free outdoor event at the Palladium Civic Place Green, 1450 Emerson Avenue, McLean. 703-288-9505.

"The Prince and the Troubadour." 2 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email boxoffice@1ststageysons.org.

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

looking to volunteer in their community welcome. Meetings the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. www.tysonscornerkiwanis.org.

Avoiding Divorce Court I - How to Negotiate or Mediate a Property Settlement Agreement. 6:30-9:30 p.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St., NE, Vienna. Learn how to negotiate or mediate your Separation, Custody or Property Settlement Agreement without setting foot in a courtroom. Registration Fee \$40, Members \$30, Couples Registration Fee \$70, Couples Members \$50.

Faith and Spirituality as a Therapeutic Resource in Abuse Recovery on Wed., July 18, from 6-10 p.m. Vienna Presbyterian Church. Committed to Freedom provides holistic empowerment and spiritual

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

The Music of John Williams. 8:15 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20-\$52. www.wolftrap.com.

Alte Kameraden "Palladium Square" Concert. 5 p.m. 1450 Emerson Avenue, McLean.

Stars & Stripes Ballroom Dance. 8-9 p.m. Colvin Run Community Center. 703-759-2685 or www.colvinrun.org.

SUNDAY/JULY 8

Matisyahu and Dirty Heads. 3 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$38 in-house, \$29 lawn. www.wolftrap.com.

"The Prince and the Troubadour." 2 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email boxoffice@1ststageysons.org.

Hawaiian Music. 5 p.m. 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd, McLean. The Aloha Boys play an acoustic, down-home, backyard-style Hawaiian music, a style that includes everything from the very traditional to contemporary songs and styles.

TUESDAY/JULY 10

Coal Train Railroad. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. A Nashville, Tennessee ensemble takes children and families into the world of jazz. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Seal; Special Guest: Macy Gray. 8 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$30-\$45. www.wolftrap.org.

WEDNESDAY/JULY 11

Coal Train Railroad. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. A Nashville, Tennessee ensemble takes children and families into the world of jazz. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Barenaked Ladies, Big Head Todd & The Monsters. 7 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. With Ben Harper, Los Lobos, JJ Grey & Mofro, The Lumineers, North Mississippi Allstars, The Wood Brothers, James McCurry, David Lindley, Nathaniel Rateliff, Matthew Curry and more. \$30-\$75. 703-255-1900 or www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/JULY 12

Aaron Nigel Smith. 10:30 a.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. High-energy, interactive show. Designed to get kids moving. \$8-\$10 at 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org/TITW.

Buddy Guy with Special Guest: John Mayall. 8 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$25-\$42. www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/JULY 12

Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce LeadShare Meeting. 7:30 a.m. Chesterbrook Residences, 2030 Westmoreland St., Falls Church. LeadShare events will be held the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month. Register at 267-346-1885.

Avoiding Divorce Court II - Provisions of Settlement Agreements. 6:30-9:30 p.m. The Women's Center, 127 Park St., NE, Vienna. This course picks up where Avoiding Divorce Court I leaves off and provides a more thorough discussion of Separation, Custody and Property Settlement Agreements. Registration Fee \$40, Members \$30, Couples Registration Fee \$70, Couples Members \$50.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

FRIDAY/JULY 13

Argentine Tango. 7 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Every Friday. 703-759-2685 or www.colvinrun.org.

Spaghetti Dinner. 5:30 to 8 p.m. Vienna American Legion-330 Center St, N, Vienna. \$8. 703-938-9535.

Hamlisch Goes Gershwin; Marvin Hamlisch, conductor; Melissa Errico, vocalist; Kevin Cole, piano. 8:15 p.m. Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. \$20-\$52. www.wolftrap.org.

"Legally Blonde - the Musical" 8 p.m. McLean Community Center's Alden Theatre-1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean, VA 2210. \$18-\$20. www.mcleanplayers.org.

The Jimmies. Wolf Trap Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$8 - \$10 and children under two are free. 703-319-2300.

SATURDAY/JULY 14

Model Railroad (HO Scale) Open House and Display. 1-5 p.m. Historic Vienna Depot, 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. The layout depicts the Western North Carolina Railroad (now a portion of the Norfolk Southern) during the period of transition from steam to diesel. Free, donations accepted. www.nvmr.org or 703-938-5157.

West Coast Swing Dances. 7 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Second and third Saturday every month. 703-759-2685 or www.colvinrun.org.

"The Prince and the Troubadour." 2 p.m. 1st Stage Theater, 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean. All tickets are for general admission seating. \$10. 703-854-1856 or email boxoffice@1ststageysons.org.



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Storms Leave Thousands Without Power

Derecho hits McLean, Great Falls area causing massive damage.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

After a night of watching blinding flashes of lightning, sheets of rain and pieces of trees flying around his yard, George Matmos of McLean sought out Saturday morning normalcy the best he knew how: with a cup of morning coffee.

"I figured I'd grab a cup of coffee and then go back and assess the damage at my place and start cleaning up before it got too hot," he said. "But I guess several hundred others had that same idea."

The several hundred all lined up at the Starbucks kiosk at the Giant in McLean, which was one of the only local places with power Saturday morning. Residential power, traffic lights and almost all businesses in the area stood dark throughout the day as they waited for the damage to be cleared up.

"I never thought I'd see the day

a 7-11 was closed," said Karen Bernard of McLean, as she tried to go into the 7-11 at the corner of Old Dominion Drive and Spring Hill Road. "No gas pumps, no hot food available anywhere, thank goodness we have a manual can opener at home."

The storm, known as a derecho, is an especially violent thunderstorm characterized by extremely high winds. The National Weather Service recorded gusts up to 89 miles per hour in nearby Reston.

With the only working traffic lights courtesy of backup generators installed at major intersections, such as Dolley Madison Boulevard and Old Dominion Road, most intersections were reduced to four-way stops with cars to alternate.

Even though the roads were congested and intersections tough to navigate, many people resorted to their cars as their only source of power.

"My laptop is dead, so is portable DVD player the kids have,

and there's no outlet to plug them into a charge," said Brady Walter of Great Falls. "I've got my iPhone and an iPod, which I can plug into my car, which is basically just a generator at this point. Usually I'd jump at the chance to cruise around Great Falls on a nice summer day, but I've run into several roadblocks, and I haven't seen many workers out, so who knows when it will be cleared up. I guess I'll just look for a shady spot in the driveway."

Georgetown Pike was blocked off just east of Leigh Mil Road as of Sunday afternoon, as a group of trees took down several power poles near the intersection, and another one was broken a few hundred yards down the road.

At one point, more than 40 percent of the customers served by Dominion Power were without electricity, though as of Sunday afternoon Dominion said about half of those had been restored. As of Sunday evening, most of Vienna, Great Falls and parts of McLean were still without power.

Dominion uses a list of priorities when they start repairs, based on a descending order of custom-



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Cars maneuver around a blocked off area near a broken electric pole on Great Falls Street in McLean, which was damaged during the Friday, June 29 storms.

ers affected. First they look at the transmission lines, which affect more than 10,000 customers. From there, they work down to substations (which serve around 6,000 customers), main circuits (which serve 1,500), residential

lines (which serve around 50 customers), individual transformers (which serve one to eight customers) down to individual households.

More updates can be found at www.dom.com.

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NEWS

Winning the Eagle Scout Badge

On Saturday, June 9, Eagle Scout candidate Ezzy Sriram installed a cement base to anchor the composters that are utilized by the students at Churchill Road Elementary School. Ezzy was joined by members of Boy Scout Troop 869 to complete this activity. They also weeded the schools raised beds, collected trash, and stained some of the wooden benches on the school's campus. This project is the final step in Ezzy's effort to earn the Eagle Scout badge.



From left: Stephen Sponseller, Will Baxley, Ezzy Sriram, Suddy Sriram, William Todd, John Baxley (the adult), Cameron Hohl, and Thomas Bascom.

PHOTOS BY
SUBRAMANIAN SRIRAM

Churchill Road Principal Don Hutzel and Ezzy Sriram.

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SPORTS

Tennis Opportunities Abound in McLean, Great Falls Area

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Local clubs tailor instruction for player's individual needs.

BY SANDY JOLLES
THE CONNECTION

Children, teenagers, and adults alike can experience the instruction of certified professionals in McLean and Great Falls tennis facilities. When teachers are not supervising and covering backhands, volleys, serves, overhands, and forehands, players learn the dynamics of team competition and match games.

In the McLean and Great Falls area, there is a range of tennis opportunities for players of all ages and skill levels.

In tennis clubs, like Tuckahoe and McLean Swim and Tennis, clinics and camps tailor to each student's levels of experience. For even the youngest of players, country clubs and tennis camps have developed programs that delve into hand-eye coordination, balance and movement, such as the Munchkins mini-camp at Tuckahoe Recreation Club.

Nick Baker, a pool manager at McLean Swim and Tennis, remembers when he played for the Summer Junior Tennis Team. Though he may not play the same level now, he still carries with him the skills he learned.

AT MCLEAN SWIM AND TENNIS, the Junior Tennis Team nurtures a competitive spirit, as the team plays weekly against other neighboring tennis teams. Baker recalls their most common and recognized opponent: Tuckahoe.

Tuckahoe, and other tennis clubs, recruit certified teaching professionals to lead and supervise each tennis workshop and clinic. Baker notes the collective term that these teachers go by is "tennis pro." Mani Barajas-



Nebryu Retta serves up a ball.

Alexander is the director of tennis at Tuckahoe and is a part of the United States Professional Tennis Association.

Nebryu Retta, the assistant director of Tennis and the assistant coach for the Langley High School tennis teams, is a part of the United States Professional Tennis Association and the Fairfax Racquet Club Multicultural and Diversity Committee.

"I have been a Director at Tuckahoe since its first years alongside Mani B-Alexander. Together, we have been responsible with the formation, development and growth of tennis," Retta said.

Retta focuses on developing player's specific goals and needs with strokes, drills, and lessons tailored to each individual.

"I like to gear my lessons to the specific goals and needs of the player," Retta said.

The instructors, much like Retta, typically endure a 60-80 work week on and off the court.



Students pose for Tuckahoe Tennis Kick-Off.

"Tuckahoe allows me to share my passion for the sport of tennis with those looking to learn the game or sharpen their skills," Retta said.

Griff Lamkin is an instructor at McLean Racquet and Health. Once ranked number one in Virginia, Lamkin grew up on the court, and has continued to share his passion.

A graduate of University of South Florida, Lamkin began teaching junior and adult camps in 1973.

The Army Navy Country Club, All-America Sports Tennis Camps, and Camp Racquet were only a handful of the teaching endeavors he took up.

Following college, Lamkin was forced to make a decision between touring and teaching. In 1977, Lamkin was drawn to Racquet and Health due to the "friendly atmosphere" and the owner, Kevin Tithe.

"The tennis programs here put on these

membership assessments that show where each person needs to improve or how far they've come," Lamkin said. "It gives the club a very individualized feel."

While it offers classes both to young and older children, the styles of teaching differ significantly. For the younger tennis aspirers, teachers apply the Quickstart Program as an introductory device.

Of course, camps or clinics are not the only source for playing tennis. Swim and tennis clubs allow members to reserve courts, and play on their own time and money.

CHESTERBROOK SWIM CLUB, for instance, allows any tennis enthusiast to sign up for a court for the cost of five dollars.

Whether you're a more experienced tennis enthusiast, or just stepping on the court, McLean and Great Falls offer a slew of options and programs.

Bandits Win Kyle's Kamp Tournament

The 10-under Northern Virginia Bandits baseball team outfought a talented SYA Mets team over the Memorial Day weekend to win the Kyle's Kamp Tournament. The Bandits finished third in pool play and then fought through three tough teams to gain the tournament trophy.

In the quarterfinals, the Bandits came back from a 6-0 deficit to oust the Manassas Mad Dogs. In the semifinals, Loudoun South nearly overcame a 6-0 deficit before the Bandits prevailed 8-7 in extra innings. And in the finals, SYA and the Bandits traded the lead five times before the Bandits went ahead for good in the fourth inning and then held on for a tense 6-5 victory.

The Bandits are a regional travel team that includes talented 10-year olds from around Northern Virginia. Players include Zach Perkins, Raden Perry, James Triantos, Brendan Albrittain, Garrett Newsome, Jack Hoeymans, Cal Begeny, Anthony Avvisato, Phlay Moravek, Jack Selman, and Rohan Cherukuri. The team is coached by Jim Triantos (manager) and assistants Frank Avvisato, Chris Albrittain, Leon Newsome, Ryan Perry, Dan Perkins, and Kiran Cherukuri.

Overall, the Bandits are 34-3 and have won 25 games in a row. They are currently in first place in the Future States Prospect Baseball League at 8-0.

The Bandits are made up of players from throughout Northern Virginia.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BANDITS

WELLBEING

Finding a Home For the Golden Years

Experts offer advice on choosing a retirement community.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When Jim Upp's wife Jeannie died in 2006, the Fairfax senior citizen found himself surrounded by a lifetime of memories in the spacious home where the couple had raised three children.

"We lived on a one-acre lot with plenty of trees all by ourselves," said Upp. "I was alone, and there was a large house and an acre of land to take care of. It took me about five days to realize that wasn't where it wanted to spend the rest of my life."

Upp moved to a retirement community, which he called a one-stop center for medical care, activities from bowling to television production, and socializing with people with similar backgrounds.

"I did not know a soul when I came here, but I know hundreds of people now," said Upp. "There are more than 200 activities here on campus. There are five or six doctors here everyday. If I have a problem, I can just go down and see a doctor anytime."

WHILE UPP'S TRANSITION was uncomplicated, methodical and borne out of a self-made decision, other moves are not so seamless.

Deciding that one can no longer live alone, selling a house that has been a home for decades and relocating to retirement facility can be an emotionally charged and physically challenging feat. Recognizing the warning signs that a change might be necessary and developing a plan can help make the move less complicated.

"There is usually a crisis that bring someone into a facility," said Catharine A. Kopac, Ph.D., a certified geriatric nurse practitioner and chair of the graduate nursing program at Marymount University in Arlington. "Often the family gets no counseling and the move is made in a hurry."

Knowing when it is time to transition to a professionally run living environment is a decision with which many struggle. Gerontology professionals say there are a few red flags. Topping the list is the risk of vulnerability. "Is the person safe?" asked Andrew Carle, executive-in-residence, at George Mason University's Program in Senior Housing Administration. "Are they are on [multiple] medications and it's hard for them to manage? Are they at risk for falling or do they have Alzheimer's and are at risk of wandering?"

If the answer to any of these questions is "yes," it might be time to move. An inability to perform daily activities such as eating, bathing and driving is another indicator.



Residents at Vinson Hall McLean, participate in water sports. Experts say many people would be happier in an assisted living facility, where they have activities and friends, than they are living alone.

SELECTING THE RIGHT TYPE of facility requires knowing the choices: independent living, assisted living and nursing homes.

Independent living is generally regular housing specifically designed for seniors whereas residents at assisted-living facilities can get aid with daily activities such as bathing and medication management. They often include kitchens, but meals and transportation to medical appointments and other errands are usually provided as well.

"Many people don't understand the difference between a nursing home and assisted living," said Carle. "Unless a person is bedridden, they probably don't need a nursing home."

Identifying a person's specific needs and finding a facility that is equipped to meet those requirements is vital. "If one needs any rehabilitation, then you would want to choose a facility that offers rehab services or therapy," said Dr. Jean Glossa, M.D., medical director for Fairfax County Community Health Care Network and Molina Healthcare. "If one has dementia or Alzheimer's disease, then you would want a facility that has trained and experienced staff in working with patients who suffer from either disease."

Geriatric care specialists, who can be found through the National Association of Geriatric Care Managers, can help assess a person's needs and help match him or her with an appropriate community. The Assisted Living Federation of America is another source for information on facilities, and experts recommend visiting www.medicare.gov when looking for a nursing home.

"CMS [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services] has the Nursing Home Compare



Jim Upp displays his late wife's paintings at an art fair at Greenspring, a retirement community in Springfield. Upp downsized from a large home to an independent living facility after his wife died. "I did not know a soul when I came here, but I know hundreds of people now. There are more than 200 activities here," he said.

website, which provides basic data about nursing homes, including staffing, past violations in recent surveys by the licensing agency, quality measures and more," said Glossa.

Experts say it is important to visit multiple communities before making a decision: "You should always tour at least three," said Carle, who lives in Herndon. "It is like test driving a car. You don't just test one car and buy it."

Meet those who run the facility. "A com-

munity is only as good as its administrator," said Carle. "Have the administrator give you a tour. It doesn't matter if the facility has a glass chandelier or a baby grand piano. As you're walking around, if the administrator doesn't know their own employees or residents, that would tell you a whole lot more than any brochure would. Families should look for an administrator who clearly has a love for seniors."

When meeting the staff at retirement facilities or nursing homes, there are key questions to pose. "Ask about the longevity of the staff and the average years of employment in the facility, the community's philosophy on aging in place, transition expectations as the person declines and needs additional services," added Karen Boyce, the administrator at Renaissance Gardens at Greenspring in Springfield. She also recommends staying for lunch or another activity "to experience the sense of community, and staff interactions with other residents and each other."

LOCATION AND ACTIVITIES are other key considerations. "Is the facility close to family?" said Dave DeClark, director of marketing at Vinson Hall in McLean. "Is it close to a social network or former business associates? Is it in a geographic location that they find desirable?"

DeClarke suggests contemplating social aspects. "What type of environment would the individual or the couple really thrive in? What are their outside friends like? What are some of the things that they used to do and would like to continue doing?"

The cost of the facility is important too. "Discussing payment methods in advance also helps alleviate financial issues in the future," said Glossa. "If you or your family member has Medicaid or Medicare, make sure the facility accepts residents on either or both programs."

Experts say such moves require sensitivity and planning. "Don't take control. Leave control in the hands of the elder like when to move, what to take, what to buy new, all the details, no matter how long it takes or how weird it may sound to you," counseled Potomac resident Linda Berg-Cross, Ph.D., a professor of psychology at Howard University.

Carle added that guilt is a common barrier to assisted living or nursing home placement. "Many people feel that they should be taking care of their parents," said Carle. "But families need to be honest with themselves and understand that the world is different now than it was one or two generations ago. Many people would be happier in an assisted living facility where they have activities and friends than they would be living all by themselves. We should look at this as helpful and not something to feel guilty about."



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran joins local and state officials, community advocates for ribbon cutting.

Pedestrian Bridge Opens at Wolf Trap

Congressman Jim Moran (D-8) spoke at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new pedestrian bridge over the Dulles Toll Road, connecting the two main facilities at the Wolf Trap Performing Arts Center.

“With roughly 500,000 visitors expected to visit Wolf Trap this season, the new pedestrian bridge is a welcome addition to the area,” Rep. Moran said. “Beginning today, Wolf Trap patrons, cyclists and pedestrians can safely travel between the Barns and Filene Center.”

Since 2004, Moran has worked to secure more than \$2 million in funding for the project. Last year, the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) released the remaining \$1.5 million funding installment.

Construction began in November. Prior to the pedestrian bridge, Wolf Trap’s Barns and Filene Center were separated by a nar-

row road with no sidewalks. The pedestrian bridge will also enable residents to travel to Metro stations currently under construction at Tysons Corner.

“Today’s opening shows what government can do for a community when local officials listen to and work with their constituents,” Moran continued. “This is the kind of thing

we should be doing all over the country and I’m sure glad we’re doing it here.”

Wolf Trap Performing Arts Center was established in 1971 to bring important cultural, theatrical, and educational works to the National Capital Region.

Built on land donated by Catherin Filene Shouse, the Filene Center houses a 6,800-seat indoor/outdoor theater

showing an average of 90 performances each year. The Barns at Wolf Trap, a 382-seat indoor venue, serves as a year-round center for the performing arts.

“With roughly 500,000 visitors expected to visit Wolf Trap this season, the new pedestrian bridge is a welcome addition to the area.”

— U.S. Rep. Jim Moran (D-8)



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PUBLIC NOTICE:
PROPOSAL TO MODIFY CORRECTIVE ACTIONS AT AN UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (UST) SITE. There has been a release from an underground storage tank system at the Former Pentagon Industrial Complex, 1201 South Fern Street, Arlington, Virginia. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has requested preparation of a Corrective Action Plan Addendum to address cleanup of petroleum fuel contamination at this site. If you have questions regarding the cleanup, please contact: John P. Diehl, Environmental Consultants and Contractors, Inc., 43045 John Mosby Highway, Chantilly, VA 20152, (703) 327-2900. The Corrective Action Plan Addendum was submitted to the Remediation Division of the Northern Regional Office of the DEQ May 17, 2012. If you would like to review or discuss the proposed Corrective Action Plan with the staff of the DEQ, please feel free to contact Mr. Randy Chapman of the DEQ at (703) 583-3816 after the date of the Corrective Action Plan Addendum submittal. The DEQ Remediation Division will consider written comments regarding the proposed Corrective Action Plan Addendum until July 30, 2012, and may decide to hold a public meeting if there is significant public interest. Written comments should be sent to the DEQ at the address listed below. The DEQ requests that all written comments reference the tracking number for this case: PC # 96-3200. Department of Environmental Quality, Remediation Division, 13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193.

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-Dean Acheson

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Writing On!



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

It was June '09 when I published my first column in the Connection Newspapers about being diagnosed with cancer. It was actually a column detailing the diagnostic steps I had taken during the first few months of the year attempting to identify the pain I had initially felt under my right-side rib cage in late December. Once that pain migrated from one side to the other, accompanied by difficulty inhaling and bending, my wife and I decided that a trip to the Emergency Room was warranted. I wasn't in any distress, and it certainly wasn't an emergency; nevertheless, it did seem the sensible thing to do.

During this diagnostic process (which took about two months), I continued to write and publish my regular weekly column as usual (not at all about cancer). Privately, however, I had been writing about this evolving situation ever since it began in the Emergency Room in December. Given all that the diagnostic process had involved, and the range of emotions I had experienced, I had ample feelings on which to write, eventually accumulating more than a handful of columns I have come to characterize as my "cancer columns." These columns remained unpublished until June. My feeling had been that once I published a column about such serious matters, how could I ever again fill my space with the mundane minutiae that had characterized much of its content the previous 10 years, award-winning though some of them had been, as voted on by members of the MDCC Press Association (Maryland/Delaware/D.C.) and the VPA (Virginia Press Association)? Besides, chemotherapy was set to begin in early March, so I just decided to simplify my life and submitted for publication more of the non-cancer columns which I had written during less complicated days. After all, as you regular readers know, if I can write about anything, I can write about my life, its relative interest notwithstanding; so I had a stack of unpublished columns ready to carry me for a few months until I felt better or different and decided to go public with my diagnosis, which eventually I did.

After I published that first column in June: "Dying to Find Out, Sort Of," I just continued with the "cancer columns." It seemed easy enough and I did have a bit of a story to tell/share. Although I had no idea or intention of using my space to chronicle the journey per se, of a terminal cancer patient attempting to survive the emotional, physical and spiritual toll such a diagnosis (stage IV lung cancer) and prognosis ("13-months to two years") can have, apparently, that's exactly what I've done. All I knew then was that writing about my experiences provided me a much-needed outlet. And for all I know now, writing so openly about my life as a cancer patient may have in fact extended that life; I have survived way beyond my oncologist's initial prognosis.

And as I have continued to survive, I have continued to write about having cancer. Once I started (published that first column), I couldn't stop (again, it was my life, so...). Three years later, nearly 150 columns have been published. Occasionally, I'll get off the cancer train (if only it were that easy) and write a non-cancer column but when your life is consumed by something (as much as I wish it weren't and as hard as I try to prevent it), it's sort of difficult to ignore. Writing helps, for me. Part catharsis, part selfish, part greater good, but mostly because it brings me pleasure. And when your diagnosis is terminal, sometimes pleasure is hard to find.

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

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