

Pets Teach Families 'Joy of the Moment'

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Foundation Plans For Art Center

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Bulova Presents State of County

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Sophie Young, 13, and Barbara Young, pick up their dogs, Lexie (left) and Tychus (right) at Great Dogs of Great Falls on Friday, Feb. 22.



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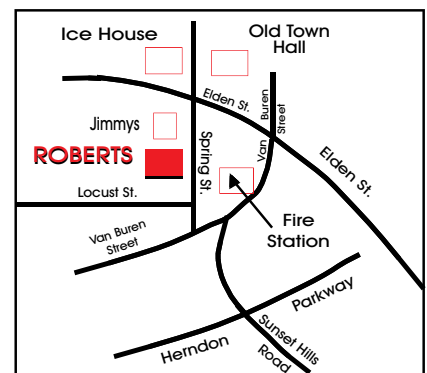
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Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova addresses the current state of affairs in Fairfax County, Feb. 20, at the Fairfax County Government Center.



PHOTO BY
ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

Bulova Presents State of County

Board chairman discusses Tysons future, effects of sequestration.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova premiered her “State of the County” address Wednesday, Feb. 20. In the 20-minute video, Bulova addressed what promises to be an eventful year in the county, one that will see the opening of five new Metrorail stations in Tysons Corner and Reston.

Bulova pointed to several signs that not only has the county weathered the economic storm over the past few years, the future looks promising.

“The county is home to 10 Fortune 500 companies, five of these have relocated within the last four years. Consumer confidence is rising and the number of foreclosures is falling,” she said. “Home sales are up and unemployment is down, well below the national average of nearly eight percent. While we are not yet out of the woods from the impacts of the recession, clearly we’re on the right track.”

Bulova said that the county’s future is tied to the redevelopment efforts going on now and planned for the future, with transportation changes a major part of that development.

“As Fairfax continues to mature, it’s important that we accommodate our future growth and existing population in ways that make it easier for our residents and workers to live, work and play without always needing to get behind the wheel of a car,” she said. “Aging commercial centers near mass transit, like Tysons, present especially valuable opportunities for attractive, transit-oriented mixed-use revitalization.”

Planning principles used in Tysons redevelopment are also being used for other areas undergoing rede-

velopment and revitalization around the county.

But while the Metro and some related development will be opening this year, Bulova mentioned that it would be a number of years before all the changes are in place.

“The transformation of Tysons is going to be an evolutionary process. The transportation plan we have adopted and the funding mechanisms the board adopted are meant to serve the community over the next 20 or 30 years,” she said. “You’re not going to see the development happen at once, and just as that will happen over time, so will the transportation improvement. Developers are working with the county on establishing a grid of streets, and they are dedicated either a right-of-way or building as part of their application, segments of the grid of streets.”

Bulova said by 2050, “but hopefully before,” the grid of streets in Tysons would be operational.

In a follow-up to the official State of the County address, Bulova also discussed the county’s concern when it comes to federal spending cuts that could be happening as early as March 1 as a result of sequestration.

She said there is an “absolute concern” about sequestration, and the county is already seeing effects in terms of budget planning and government-related business decisions on things like renting new office space. She said the county is looking at diversifying its economic base.

“One of the things that Fairfax County has been doing is to increase our commercial base in areas that are not necessarily federal or defense related. One thing we were happy to see was the move of the Hilton Headquarters to Fairfax County, which is a new commercial opportunity,” she said. “We’re also working with the EPA and INVOA Health Systems to restore opportunities for personalized and translational medicine. The name of the game is finding areas that make us more diverse than we’ve been in the past.”

The entirety of Bulova’s State of the County address can be found online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cable/channel16/vod.htm>.

“While we are not yet out of the woods from the impacts of the recession, clearly we’re on the right track.”

— Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

The Great Falls Foundation for the Arts’ school, which they hope to eventually move to a center for the arts at Turner Farm.

Foundation Plans For Art Center

Community Center for the Arts possible at Turner Farm.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

The Great Falls Foundation for the Arts was founded in 2007 with the goal of eventually bringing an arts center to the community. Since then, they have run a school, working studio space and a gallery space on Walker Road, all while planning for the future.

The organization is now ready for the next step into the future, creating plans for the Great Falls Community Center for the Arts, which would be located on the grounds of Turner Park.

“Thanks to events like our Great Falls Studios Tour and a thriving community of artists, Great Falls has become known

as a destination for the arts,” said Mollie Vardell of the foundation. “And the goal of a community center is to make it a full-time destination, not just something that happens over a weekend or for special events.”

The foundation started coming up with plans for the center in December 2011, eventually enlisting the help of architect Robert Mobley. The plan is laid out in phases, five so far, that will create a campus-type center, with detached buildings, a garden and other features.

It would be located in the northern section of the property, closest to Georgetown Pike. There would be a small parking lot and road that will go from the existing entrance

SEE ART CENTER, PAGE 15



A concept drawing of the first phase of a 10,000 square foot community arts center, which the Great Falls Foundation For the Arts hopes to locate at Turner Farm.

PEOPLE & PETS



COURTESY OF PILE AND RENE ANVELT

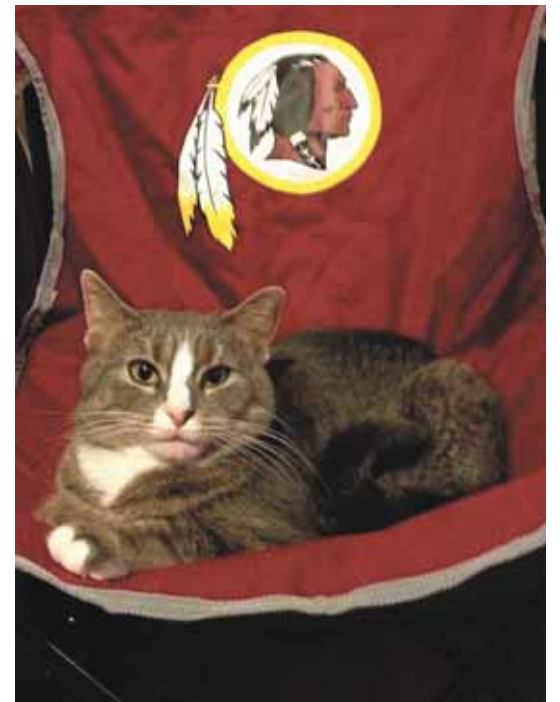
Marta Anvelt of Great Falls, a kindergartner at Colvin Run Elementary, drew a picture of her two cats Tiger and Jaguar, who she is in charge of feeding breakfast and dinner. Marta said that her cats sometimes try to trick her sister, mom or dad into giving them food at other times.



Miina Anvelt of Great Falls, a second grader at Colvin Run Elementary, drew a picture of herself with her adopted cat Tiger. Miina says Tiger is friendly, full of love and three years older than her. Tiger was adopted with his brother Jaguar as a tiny kitten and Miina says Tiger still acts like a kitten, always playing—but that Tiger is old enough to keep an eye on Miina and her sister Marta.



Gloria Boos of Great Falls with Star in the foreground; her sister Rose and Skeeter in the background on the Riverbend trail.



Rose Boos of Great Falls is an avid Redskins fan. She is a third grader at Great Falls Elementary School (GFES) and she took the picture of Lily hanging out on the Redskins chair.

Boos Sisters and Their Pets



Star (greyhound in M&M coat), sisters Gloria and Rose Boos, and Skeeter (greyhound in lightening coat): In this picture the hounds are taking the girls for a walk (not the other way around).



Dustin is a rescue from the Berkley County Animal Shelter in Berkley, W. Va., who was dropped off with 12 of his brothers and sisters and mother the day before the Losselyongs adopted him. All Dustin's brothers and sisters found adoptive homes as well through Coonhound Rescue Group.



Dustin gets along well with the Losselyong's other dog, DB, an 11-year-old rescue from Iraq. The two friends play morning til night, the Losselyongs say.



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Kelly Putz



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FAITH NOTES

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

Great Falls Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, offers a Lent-themed sermon series "Walk in the Footsteps of Jesus," on Sundays at 10 a.m. with adult Sunday school preceding at 9 a.m. 703-759-3705 or www.greatfallsumc.org.

On Sunday, March 3, at the **Church of the Good Shepherd**, 2351 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna, Christian ethics professor Sondra Ely Wheeler will be a special Lenten lecturer. Wheeler is the Wesley Theological Seminary Martha Ashby Carr professor of Christian ethics and will preach at the 11 a.m. service

and at the 9:45 a.m. class on "What is it that makes ethics Christian?" The church will hold an 8:30 a.m. communion service. GoodShepherdVA.com.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, Mclean, holds Wednesday services with a meal and childcare provided from 6:30 to 7:10 p.m. during the season of Lent. The church studies the book of Genesis, looking at familiar stories through a different lens: "Adam and Eve as Stewards," on Wednesday, Feb. 20, "Cain and Abel—Value of Different Gifts," on Wednesday, Feb. 27, "Abraham and Sarah—Never Too Old," on Wednesday, March 6, "Jacob and Laban: Worth the Wait," on Wednesday, March 13, and "Joseph and Pharaoh and Times of Plenty/Lean Times," on

Wednesday, March 20.

Emotions Anonymous, a 12-step recovery program, offers weekly step meetings in Vienna for recovery for couples from a wide range of problems. Join on Mondays from 8-9 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Rd., Vienna. 703-209-0658.

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.

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Supporting Safe Community Coalition

The Safe Community Coalition (SCC) has received a grant from Rotary Club of McLean and its foundation. A solid supporter of Sixth Grade Ethics Day for many years, this year the SCC hosted nearly 1,200 sixth grade students who attend the public schools that feed into the Langley and McLean High School pyramids. Also included in this group for the second year was The Langley School. In picture: McLean Rotary Foundation presents donation to Service Project Partner, the Safe Community Coalition. In addition to financial support, McLean Rotary members provide hands on volunteers for SCC's Sixth Grade Ethics Days. Pictured from left: Diane Pechstein, SCC board member and program director of Sixth Grade Ethics Day; Nyka Feldman, SCC executive director; Jan Auerbach, president, Rotary Club of McLean; Vance Zavela, Rotary Club of McLean; John McEvilly, McLean Rotary Club Foundation trustee.

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OPINION

All's Well That Ends Well

BY KENNETH R. "KEN" PLUM
STATE DELEGATE (D-36)

Not only did the 2013 session of the General Assembly end on time last Saturday, but it also ended on a high note. Having sat through a couple of decades of failed efforts to pass meaningful legislation addressing our transportation needs, I was not optimistic that we would be successful this year. The governor's proposal to fix a billion dollar problem with a revenue-neutral solution did not give me much hope. I was both amazed and delighted when the House passed a transportation funding bill by a vote of 60 to 40 that provides new revenue to meet road and transit needs. In addition to providing new money, the bill also addresses other problems by switching the gas tax from a per gallon amount to a percentage to help it keep up with future needs. The bill also provides for additional monies to be raised in Northern Virginia and spent in our region. While the bill will not



totally resolve our transportation congestion, it does provide money for mass transit and \$300 million towards the cost of the Silver Line that will help to keep the tolls down.

There are aspects of the omnibus transportation compromise that I do not like. The charging of

a \$100 per year fee for hybrid vehicles—because their fuel efficiency reduces the gas tax collected on them—is in conflict with policies we should be adopting to encourage the use of such cars. The planned reliance on the tax on internet sales that has yet to be passed by the U.S. Congress is open to question although there is a mechanism for making up for lost funds if the tax is not enacted.

Equaling the transportation bill in importance was a compromise approved in the clos-

ing hours of the session that opens the way for the expansion of the Medicaid program in Virginia to provide insurance for about 400,000 individuals. Governor McDonnell had opposed passage of the Affordable Care Act and had refused to go along with accepting an expanded Medicaid program until reforms were put into place. The compromise bill establishes a joint committee of legislators who will approve Virginia's entry into the program as soon as certain reforms are made. It is expected that the state could enter the program as soon as the summer. Thanks to the many persons who called and wrote to the conferees and the governor; your voice did make a difference.

As is the case with most legislation, the final results are compromises. What was reassuring about this session that I had not seen in recent years was a willingness on the part of the majority to compromise with those of us in the minority. That made for an outcome that was better for everyone. I will be writing about other outcomes of the session in future columns and will be holding public meetings to report back to you.

GUEST
EDITORIAL

Move in The Right Direction

"This is a great step toward addressing the transportation challenges we face in Fairfax County and the Northern Virginia region.

The Transportation Bill passed yesterday fulfills the call made by mayors and chairs of the Urban Crescent (the Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads areas) for new, sustainable funding to address our critically under-funded transportation needs.

I applaud the efforts of Sen. Richard Saslaw, Sen. Janet Howell, Del. David Albo, Del. Vivian Watts and others for reaching agreement on a funding strategy that moves us in the right direction. I am especially pleased with the commitment of \$300 million for the Silver Line, which will help to keep tolls in the Dulles Toll Road affordable for Northern Virginia motorists.

I appreciate Gov. McDonnell's leadership in making transportation funding the focus of this General Assembly Session. The successful result required compromise on both sides of the political aisle. The stars were aligned this session to make something happen but political courage and leadership were required on many fronts to pull it off."

—FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS CHAIRMAN SHARON
BULOVA

Creating Safer Environment, Preventing Another Tragedy

BY TIMOTHY D. HUGO
STATE DELEGATE (R-40)

After the Virginia Tech shooting in 2007, I became committed to addressing mental health issues so that many of our young people could receive the help they need in the hopes of preventing another tragedy. Working with my colleagues in 2008, the Virginia General Assembly enacted comprehensive mental health legislation including several pieces of legislation that I co-sponsored. Last year, the governor signed my legislation, HB 1075, which requires community service boards to provide hospitals with informational materials on substance and alcohol abuse services to minors.

During this year's General Assembly session, I introduced HB 1609, which strives to improve the coordination between public four-year higher education institutions, mental health facilities, and local hospitals. I introduced this legislation at the request of Centreville residents, Angel Fund President Lu Ann McNabb and Board Member Greg Richter. Angel Fund (www.angelfundva.org) was established in honor of one of the Virginia Tech victims, Westfield High School graduate Reema Samaha. The fund seeks to create an atmo-



sphere of acceptance where schools and communities have a caring, supportive, and inclusive environment to help young people.

HB 1609 ensures that all four-year public colleges and universities have mechanisms in place in order to expand services available to students seeking treatment. Specifically, it allows universities and community services boards to work together so that there is no-

tification when a student is involuntarily committed, or when a student is discharged from a facility and he consents to such notification.

During the bill's hearings, Virginia's universities unanimously testified in support for HB 1609. As this article goes to print, my legislation, along with Senator Chap Petersen's identical legislation, is before the governor for his signature.

I believe that ensuring the mental health of our children is of the utmost importance. This year's legislation is important as it will strengthen the connection between higher education institutions and mental health facilities. It will also create a safer and more supportive environment for students and may help to prevent future tragedies.

If you would like additional information on this issue, please contact me at 703-815-1201 or delthugo@house.virginia.gov.

Write Us

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. Send to:

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NEWS



Global Messenger for Special Olympics Kevin Ogletree (far left) prepares to present his global message to open the 13th annual Benefit Bowling Tournament with the help of fellow Special Olympians.

Fairfax Softball and Special Olympics Raise Funds Bowling

Participants, family, friends and supporters of Fairfax Adult Softball, Inc. (FAS) came together on Sunday, Jan. 27, for the 13th Annual Bowling Tournament to benefit Northern Virginia Special Olympics and Fairfax County Park Authority field improvements. Over 250 participants contributed their time and spirits to raise nearly \$14,000 in the tournament.

As the largest softball group in the metro area, FAS was approached by Eunice Kennedy Shriver and her staff in 1988 to assist in establishing a pilot program where Special Olympians play softball alongside FAS volunteers, known as Special Partners. This commitment of FAS continues today. Hundreds of Special Olympians over the years have gained not only the enjoyment of competitive sports, but also the camaraderie, training and health

benefits that only sports can offer.

FAS President John Carney, who attends and volunteers annually at the bowling tournament said, "This is our 22nd year of raising funds for Special Olympics and the Park Authority. I am overwhelmed by the generous businesses and dedicated volunteers who continually undertake the commitment to give back to our community."

Also in attendance was the Northern Virginia Special Olympics Area 26 Chairman Bill Ogletree. He said, "The bowling event on Sunday featured one of our new Global messengers speaking to the packed house about the importance of inclusion and unity in our community."

Fairfax Adult Softball is a non-profit corporation registered in the state of Virginia that administers the largest adult softball program in the state.

BULLETIN BOARD

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

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 27

RSVP: MADD Power of Parents at Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. A free 40-minute parent workshop on March 2 at 11 a.m. to equip parents/guardians to talk with teens about alcohol. 703-379-1135 or noreen.dinndorf@madd.org.
MCC Governing Board Meeting. 7:30 p.m., at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Residents of 1A-Dranesville tax district can speak during the citizen comment portion of the meeting on the Downtown Committee Report and

the Capital Facilities Committee Summary Report on Ingleside Renovations; call ahead. 703-790-0123 TTY: 711 or www.mcleancenter.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 2

Divorce: Whose Stuff is this Anyway? 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at the Women's Center, 127 Park St. N.E., Vienna. Learn how Virginia courts divide assets and liabilities upon divorce and how to determine whether property is marital or separate as well as what factors the court takes into account in making decisions. \$50; \$40 for members. 703-281-2657 ext. 276.

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PET CONNECTION



Amelia Clark sits with her golden retrievers, Libby (left) and Chessie (right).



Lauren Christenson, 12, with Thunder.



Devin Christenson, 14, right, sits with younger sister, Lauren, 12, and Thunder.



Sophie Young, 13, and Barbara Young pick up their dogs, Lexie (left) and Tychus (right) at Great Dogs of Great Falls on Friday, Feb. 22.



Oliver patiently waits to receive a treat from her owner.



Oliver sits behind the counter next to her owner Linda Waitkus at Great Dogs of Great Falls.

Pets Teach Families 'Joy of the Moment'

Great Falls residents reflect on their experiences with pets.

By JENNIFER BENITZ
THE CONNECTION

Unique in size, shape and personality, pets often times have significant impact on owners. They teach the people around them many lessons—everything from responsibility to love to living in the moment, and bring joy to all ages, as Great Falls residents will say.

Having grown up with pets, animals have always had a place in Amelia Clark's life. The Great Falls resident and mother of two is the owner of two golden retrievers—Libby and Chessie. "Libby's formal name is Liberty Freedom," said Clark. "We adopted them in October 2001, soon after 9/11, so we decided on Liberty Freedom. And Chessie is short for Virginia Chesapeake," a unique combination of two geographical names that serve as a reminder of home for the

Clarks. While they were originally adopted to be hunting companions, Libby and Chessie quickly turned into family pets with a much bigger impact on the entire family.

"One special thing about Libby is that she smiles," she said. "And every morning, she leaves a special gift for us—a glove, sock, always something—on the front carpet. And Chessie is so sweet and loving, too." As a pet owner for much of her life, Clarke believes in the significance of having a pet. "They become one of the family," she said. "It teaches [the kids] not to be afraid of animals and the family to appreciate animals in life. They add another layer of love to the family."

FOR DEVIN CHRISTENSON, 14, having pets has taught her responsibility. With two horses, Thunder and Ezzra, a dog, Paco, and a rabbit, Thumper, the

O'Connell High School freshman is more than comfortable around animals. "We grew up with Thunder, so it is like having another family member," she said. "It's taught me a lot of responsibility—we have to take care of them all year round. They are good to have around," she said.

Ariana Ragonese, owner of a 7-year-old beagle, will agree. "She's taught me responsibility," said the British School of Washington freshman. "I need to think of when to feed her dinner, if she's okay, and take her out. It's like having another person to look after and teaches me not to just think of myself." After spotting her at Run Away Rescue in Sterling a year-and-a-half ago, Ragonese couldn't help but fall for the dog. "She's very, very sweet."

Oakcrest School ninth grader Stephanie Dolan, 14, has also grown up with pets—having everything from dogs to fish to a bird in

her house over the years. The pet that has had the biggest impact on her, though, is her black Labrador retriever, Lucky—a name that proved true to her nature after she survived being hit by a car as a young puppy, sustaining only a broken hip.

"Lucky was the smallest one of the litter," said Dolan. "We drove all the way to West Virginia to get her." Now at 12 years old, Lucky continues to hold a special place in the Dolan family. "We love her. When we go for walks or even now, we're just sitting [with] her doing our homework, she always keeps us company."

One Great Falls resident who can truly testify to the significance a pet can have in one's life is Great Dogs of Great Falls owner Linda Waitkus. Located in the Great Falls Town Center, Waitkus welcomes customers and their pets with her own 7-year-old golden retriever Oliver sitting nearby. As an animal enthusiast,

she's been around pets, particularly dogs, for much of her life. After moving out of a city and into a more open environment, she was able to give in to her sense of devotion to a pet once again. Determined to find a Golden Retriever, she soon found more than just a companion.

"Not only did it bring joy to my life, but it changed my career," she said. As the former general manager of Bloomingdales at Tyson's Corner Mall, Waitkus decided to take her skills and match it with something she has always been passionate about—dogs. "Because of my deep love and affection for that dog and all that I did to learn about what a dog needs, I decided to take the best of my retail career and my love for dogs and put them together, and here we are." Now the owner of her third dog since then, Waitkus is the first to admit that she's learned a lot as a pet owner.

"They keep on teaching me the joy of the moment. They are definitely in the moment animals," she said. "They don't worry about the future or the past. They worry

about what's going on right now and as humans, that's really hard for us. I work hard to understand that. I just enjoy them—enjoy what they're into; all their goofy-ness. They make you happy and they do make you laugh."

Oliver seems to epitomize being a great companion and wonderful customer service, often coming out from behind the desk and having fun when visitors and other dogs

come into the store. "He is an outstanding shop dog. He's so calm," said Waitkus. "He's only 1 year old and he's calm already. He loves people and other dogs; he loves to be loved."

STEPHANIE YOUNG, 13, knows the feeling. With three dogs—two 18-month-old Jack Russell terriers, Lexie and Tychus, and a 10-year-old Siberian Huskie, Boris—at

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SCHOOLS

Winning the Spelling Bee at Great Falls Elementary

Great Falls Elementary held its annual School Spelling Bee on Wednesday, Feb. 6. The winner, Devika Puri, won the two-hour long competition on the word "electioneer." Puri will represent Great Falls Elementary at the Fairfax County Spelling Bee on March 12.



From left—Devika Puri (first place); GFES Principal Ray Lonnett; Nick Hodge (runner-up).

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



Educator Michelle Kriebel speaks to parents at Spring Hill Elementary School Thursday, Feb. 21, about dealing with peer pressure.

PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION

Spring Hill Hosts Parental Presentation

Michelle Kriebel gives strategies on dealing with peer pressure.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Parents from Spring Hill and Churchill Road Elementary School got a few lessons in parenting Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Spring Hill Elementary School. Educator and presenter Michelle Kriebel spoke to more than 40 parents about strategies parents can take to set boundaries for their young children and deal with external factors such as peer pressure.

She started the presentation by asking parents to think back to times when they were affected by peer pressure. The phrase "everyone else is doing it" is something parents hear a lot, she said.

"There's a tendency for children to believe in generalization, the term 'everyone' can drive us adults crazy, but it's very real to them," Kriebel said.

She was also careful to point out that peer pressure sometimes "gets a bad rap," meaning it isn't always a negative thing, giving an example of her son, who wanted to start wearing a necktie, to emulate his father.

Kriebel also stressed the importance of parents using the word "no."

"If you haven't said 'no' to your child lately, you're not being much of a parent," she said. "Because if you're not modeling a

way to say no to your children, it's going to be very hard for them to say that to their peers later in life."

Kriebel said that it might be easy to say no when it comes to matters of safety, but parents must look to expand their scope.

"The idea of saying 'no' is easy when it comes to telling them not to cross a busy street alone," she said. "But when it's not related to something that's a safety threat, it gets harder. It's a gray area, but it's important to remember who the parent is."

Parent Kathie Schoff said that Kriebel's talk emphasized principals of parents that she felt it was important to keep in mind.

"I think she did a great job going into detail about how we as parents have to continually model behavior for our children," she said. "These are things that we have in our heads, but it's always important to keep them at the forefront."

The Safe Community Coalition, a non-profit that provides resources and programs for parents and youth, particularly in the Langley, McLean and Thomas Jefferson school pyramids, provided a grant which allowed Kriebel to appear.

"Michelle Kriebel is someone who is getting a lot of notice and has a lot of success in speaking to parents," said Nyka Feldman, SCC executive director. "We're hoping to do more programs like this in the future, in order to reach broader audiences."



Parents listen to presenter and educator Michelle Kriebel at Spring Hill Elementary School Thursday, Feb. 21. Kriebel spoke to parents from Spring Hill and Churchill Road Elementary about parenting issues.



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**To Buy Or
Not To Buy**



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

That is my question. And though I can't quite quote Shakespeare the way I can quote The Three Stooges: "Moe, Larry, the cheese. Moe, Larry, the cheese," "tis nobler" to ask it nonetheless. Still, if Hamlet had been diagnosed with a terminal form of cancer, as I have, perhaps he wouldn't have been contemplating suicide but rather allocating his monthly budget - as I do every day, with nearly every purchase. That's my dream, "perchance" or otherwise.

Given that I'm not heir to a fortune, but rather fortunate to still be here, what dollars I earn - and in turn spend, are dollars whose expenditure has to make sense (at least add up, anyway). As a result, I'm always thinking "what if," as in "what if" I'm spending money now on relative incidentals, money that I might need later for more important health and welfare-type costs? And I'm not discussing comfort foods, either. I'm discussing in-home care and/or miscellaneous other cancer-related expenses that can't exactly be paid out of petty cash. Expenses that generally don't take care of themselves any more than cancer takes care of itself. Moreover, though little I know about health and fitness and subsequent complications, I do know my medical ABCs: Anything But Cancer.

However, cancer has become the name of my game and living with it the greatest challenge of my life. Do I ignore it? Do I give in to it? Do I adjust to it? As much as I want to "live long and prosper," and live as normally with my diagnosis as I would live without it, that compromised life expectancy/mortality thing tends to rear its ugly, uncontrollable head. The subconscious control it exerts over me is not so much scary as it is uncomfortable - and somewhat uncharacteristic of who I am and how I want to be. Unfortunately, I can't change the way I think now/how I'm influenced any more than this life-long member of Red Sox Nation can become a New York Yankee fan. It's almost as if your personality profile/tendencies are genetically transformed because of the mutations in your cells brought about by the cancer being triggered somehow. You know what you're doing. You think you know why you're doing it. But you still can't stop yourself from doing it. This preoccupation seems to manifest itself most when I am spending money. I always ask myself if I really need that item now. And if I do need it now, how long might I actually need it for. And how long I might need it for determines the level of financial commitment I'm willing to make. After all, are we talking days, weeks, months or years?

A few decisions that have consumed me of late, involving value versus actual need: Eight pack of soap. Yes, I need to be clean, but at what cost and for how long?

A 150-count "Mega" pack of tall kitchen bags. We use a bag a week, approximately. This purchase counts for three years. Who benefits from that?

Pills/supplements I buy. Do I supply myself with one-month, two-month, three-month, or longer? Yes, the unit cost goes down but my true cost may go up because my time might be up.

My AARP membership. One-, three- or five-year renewal. Again, the more years I prepay, the less the cost. But at what cost? Who's the beneficiary? Me or my beneficiary?

What to do? Live like having cancer matters or live like it doesn't? Either way, "I'm a victim of soicmstance."

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

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HOME SALES

In January 2013, 19 Great Falls homes sold between \$5,115,693-\$639,000.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision
1036 AZIZA CT	5	5	3	GREAT FALLS	\$5,115,693	Detached	0.84	22066	PUTNAM FARM ESTATES
9720 ARNON CHAPEL RD	6	6	3	GREAT FALLS	\$1,800,000	Detached	2.46	22066	HARMON FARM
11301 LANDY LN	5	5	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,734,604	Detached	1.47	22066	CHANEL ESTATES
1078 MILL FIELD CT	6	4	3	GREAT FALLS	\$1,630,000	Detached	1.09	22066	COLVIN MILL RUN
11300 SENECA VIEW WAY	5	4	2	GREAT FALLS	\$1,565,000	Detached	5.79	22066	SENECA VIEW
708 ELLSWORTH AVE	6	5	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,470,000	Detached	1.42	22066	GREEN ACRES
788 STEPHANIE CIR	5	5	0	GREAT FALLS	\$1,445,000	Detached	0.67	22066	HICKORY VALE FARM
650 KEITHLEY DR	5	6	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,325,000	Detached	5.20	22066	SENECA
10216 EISENHOWER LN	3	2	1	GREAT FALLS	\$1,125,000	Detached	2.88	22066	OLD MILL ESTATES
9416 ARNON CHAPEL RD	4	3	0	GREAT FALLS	\$912,500	Detached	0.92	22066	RIVERSIDE MANOR
734 ELLSWORTH AVE	4	4	3	GREAT FALLS	\$890,000	Detached	0.70	22066	GREEN ACRES
1125 TROTTER HORSE LN	6	3	1	GREAT FALLS	\$879,000	Detached	0.90	22066	LOCUST HILL
910 ROLLING HOLLY DR	5	3	1	GREAT FALLS	\$835,000	Detached	0.51	22066	HOLLY KNOLL
11112 COROBON LN	5	4	1	GREAT FALLS	\$790,000	Detached	5.05	22066	TALLY HO
729 CLEAR SPRING RD	4	2	1	GREAT FALLS	\$750,000	Detached	5.00	22066	VALLEY STREAM
1266 KENMORE DR	3	3	1	GREAT FALLS	\$720,000	Detached	0.77	22066	KENMORE
10522 BREVITY DR	5	3	0	GREAT FALLS	\$685,000	Detached	0.56	22066	LEXINGTON ESTATES
11913 HOLLY SPRING DR	4	2	1	GREAT FALLS	\$641,900	Detached	0.52	22066	HOLLY KNOLL
901 HOLLY CREEK DR	4	3	1	GREAT FALLS	\$639,000	Detached	0.48	22066	HOLLY KNOLL

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Art Center Contemplated

FROM PAGE 3

on Springvale Road between the farmhouse and old barn.

THE FIRST PHASE, the one the foundation is focusing on at the moment, features a 10,000 square foot building that will have an atrium and artist studio space.

"We're thinking of the center as not just a place for visual arts, but for performing arts, music, theater and hopefully we can provide meeting space for some of our other local nonprofits that are always struggling to find space," Vardell said.

The building would be just north of the barn, and would also feature an additional section, a 1,000-square-foot gallery space.

The second phase would take the existing barn and turn it into a high-ceilinged space that could be used for theater performances, farmer's markets, art shows and more.

The third phase would add another 1,000-square-foot gallery wing to the phase one building, giving it wings to the north and south. It would also add the first of several small artist studios. The small studios, which would be about 15 feet by 15 feet, could be used by groups of artists who specialize in certain media.

Phase four would add at least six of the small artist studios, arranged in a horseshoe pattern to the west of the primary building, as well as a garden area.

"We're looking to connect with local gardening clubs to help fill the garden areas with some of our



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

The Great Falls Artists' Atelier on Walker Road, one of the functions of the Great Falls Foundation for the Arts that they hope to eventually move to a community arts center at Turner Farm.

best local plants," Vardell said. "At this moment, we don't have any plans for the current farmhouse, that's something the county and the Fairfax County Park Authority are working on."

She also said one of the benefits of locating the center at Turner Farm is to mesh with the park's other functions.

"We looked at everything the park offers, and we feel that an arts center complements the existing uses, the equestrian facility, paths, Observatory Park, very well," she said. "Soon people will be able to go to Turner Farm to see horses, jog, visit the arts center and stay to see the stars at night. That's a pretty unique experience."

Julie Casso, executive director with the foundation, said she hopes the capital campaign, which

will kick off in early March, will last from 12-18 months, and they hope to raise about \$1.5 million for the first phase of the project.

"We've tried to approach this endeavor one step at a time, which is why we've stretched the project out in phases," she said. "By going step-by-step, we hope to show our supporters, the county and the community that this thing is feasible, and we're taking the entire process very seriously."

THE FOUNDATION'S CAPITAL CAMPAIGN will kick off with an Art Night Out Thursday, March 7, at 7 p.m., at a local residence, and they hope to host a tent event on the site in the fall. More information can be found at www.greatfallsart.org/art-night-out-fundraiser.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



From left—Devika Puri (first place); GFES Principal Ray Lonnett; Nick Hodge (runner-up).

Winning the Spelling Bee at Great Falls Elementary

Great Falls Elementary held its annual School Spelling Bee on Wednesday, Feb. 6. The winner, Devika Puri, won the two-hour long competition on the word "electioneer." Puri will represent Great Falls Elementary at the Fairfax County Spelling Bee on March 12.

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OPEN HOUSES

SATURDAY/SUNDAY, MARCH 2 & 3

When you visit one of these Open Houses, tell the Realtor you saw it in this Connection Newspaper. For more real estate listings and open houses, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com and click on the "This Week in Real Estate" link. **Call Specific Agents to Confirm Dates & Times**

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Centreville

6487 Trillium House Ln.....\$964,900..Sun 10-4.....Jean Marotta.....Birch Haven..703-402-9471

Clifton

8215 Cub Den Ct.....\$699,999....Sun 1-3.....Lisa Clayborne...Long & Foster..703-502-8145

Fairfax Station

7102 Laketree Ct.....\$914,950....Sun 1-4..Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808
8610 Running Fox Ct.....\$899,999....Sun 1-4.....Billy Thompson..Samson Props..703-409-0340

McLean

7386 Hallcrest Dr.....\$649,900....Sun 1-4.....Morgan Knull.....RE/MAX..202-431-9867

Potomac Falls

21123 Brookside Ln.....\$649,000....Sun 1-4.....Glynis Canto..Keller Williams..703-395-2355

Sterling

47331 Vista Ct.....\$625,000....Sun 1-4.....Leslie Thurman...Long & Foster..703-904-3700
20509 Morningside Terr.....\$349,900....Sun 1-4.....Marlene Baugh...Long & Foster..703-433-7552

Vienna

2840 Edgelea Rd.....\$725,000....Sun 1-4.....Donny Samson..Samson Props..703-864-4894

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

GREAT FALLS CONNECTION ❖ FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 5, 2013 ❖ 15

ENTERTAINMENT

Looking for activities for your child during **SPRING BREAK?**
MCC offers Spring Break Camps for ages 4 to 9, and Trips for grades 5-9.

March 25-28 Children enjoy supervised games, arts and crafts, activities, music and special events throughout the week.
Half-day and Full-day options available.
Camp will be held at Churchill Road Elementary School.

Spring Break Camp

March 25-29 **Rebounderz** Monday, March 25
Sahara Sam's Waterpark Tuesday, March 26
Funland Wednesday, March 27
Top Golf/Shadowland Thursday, March 28
Double Feature @Tysons Friday, March 29

Spring Break Trips
Sign-up for one trip, or all five!

The McLean Community Center
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org



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PERFORMANCES
Friday, Mar. 1, 2013
7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Mar. 2, 2013
11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

SPRING OPEN HOUSE
Tuesday, Apr. 16, 2013
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka

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

WEDNESDAY/FEB. 27

Celtic Crossroads. 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Foot-stomping Irish beats and literal step dancing under dramatic lighting at a bluegrass-gypsy-jazz performance. \$27. www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/FEB. 28

Celtic Crossroads. 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Foot-stomping Irish beats and literal step dancing under dramatic lighting at a bluegrass-gypsy-jazz performance. \$27. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/MARCH 1

Essay Contest: What freedom do I enjoy most? The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 180 accepts submissions from third through 12th graders through March 1; call for rules, prize amounts and info. 703-242-7082.

Smith Chapel Coffee House. 7-8:30 p.m., at Smith Chapel, 11321 Beach Mill Road, Great Falls. Smith Chapel will hold a Coffee House evening of music in their fellowship hall, featuring Chrissie and Clint Dalton. www.SmithChapelUMC.com.

Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka. 7:30 p.m., at Oakcrest School, 850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Roald Dahl's timeless story of the world-famous candy man and comes to life in this stage adaptation of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. \$10 for adults; \$5 for students. www.oakcrest.org/student-life/fine-arts/upper-school-show/index.aspx.

Parker String Quartet. 8 p.m., at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. The Grammy Award-winning quartet plays Mozart, Britten and Dvorak. \$35. www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 2

McLean Symphony Orchestra. 3 p.m., at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Songs from the latest generation of Broadway musicals and Hollywood hits presented with student compositions arranged for full orchestra in cooperation with the Northern Virginia Music Teachers Association. 703-790-0123 or www.mclean-symphony.org.

Buskin & Batteau. 7:30 p.m., at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. The humorous folk-pop duo debuts tracks from their recently released album Love Remembered, Love Forgot. \$22. www.wolftrap.org.

SUNDAY/MARCH 3

Golden Calidore String Quartet. 4 p.m., at St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. A concert of masterpiece quartets including Haydn's Op. 76 No.1 and Mendelssohn's Op. 13 No. 2. \$30; free for students 17 and under. www.amadeusconcerts.com.

Party with a Purpose. 6-8 p.m. at Grevey's Restaurant, 8130 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church. Learn about Lost Dog & Cat Rescue Foundation volunteer opportunities for 10 weekly adoption events, fostering, transport or taking care of cats and kittens in adoption centers; door prizes and refreshments. lismarierescue@hotmail.com or lostdogbarb@gmail.com.

THURSDAY/MARCH 7

Helen Reddy. 8 p.m., at The Barns at



"Great Falls in Summer" captures the power and grandeur of the community's namesake. This photo, taken from Leggett's book, "Visions of Great Falls," is on display at the library through March.

Photography Show and Book Signing at Great Falls Library

"Visions of Great Falls," an exhibit of photos included in the book Visions of Great Falls, by photographer and author Dee Leggett, is on display through March at the Great Falls Library. This is the second in her "Visions of ..." photojournal series, and the only known book in print about the Great Falls community. Leggett will be avail-

able Saturday, March 9, from 2-4 p.m. to tell the stories behind the photographs and to sign her book. The exhibit is on display and can be viewed during normal library business hours. Leggett is a member of Great Falls Studios and has been exhibiting her photography for more than 10 years. Visit [Dee LeggettPhotography.vpweb.com](http://DeeLeggettPhotography.vpweb.com) or call 703-430-8680.

Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. The "Queen of '70s Pop" revives her legacy at The Barns at Wolf Trap by singing her favorite uncharted tracks. \$45. 877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org.

political satire benefits the Class of 2013's drug and alcohol-free All-Night Grad Party. \$25-30. madisoncapitolsteps2013@gmail.com.

TUESDAY/MARCH 12

Vienna Arts Society's Children's Printmaking Workshop. 4-5 p.m., at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Children ages 7-12 will print a fish, create reliefs, mono-prints, and other prints with the help of a dozen local artists. 703-938-0405.

THURSDAY/MARCH 14

Paint with Paper! 10 a.m.-noon, at the Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St. N.W., Vienna. Collage artist Megan Coyle demonstrates her mixed media method of creating landscapes and portraits with paper. 703-319-3971 or www.ViennaArtsSociety.org.

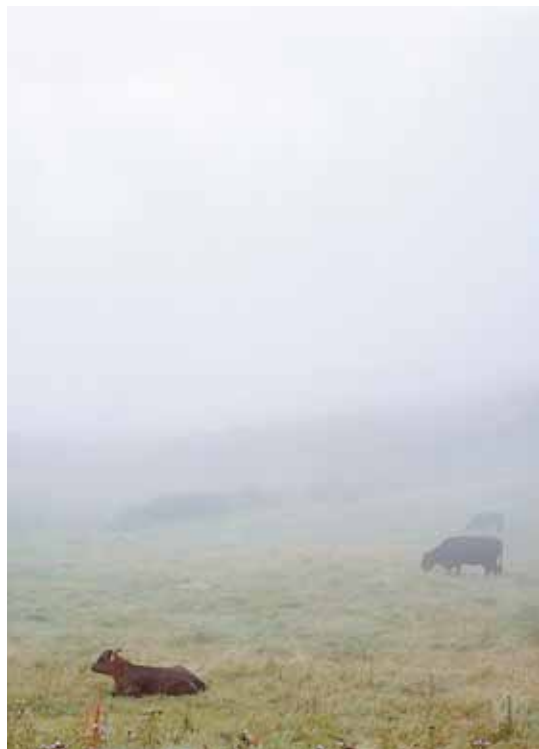
FRIDAY/MARCH 15

Johnnie Walker Whisky Night. 6:30 p.m., at Wildfire, Tysons Galleria, third floor, McLean. Join for a special evening at Wildfire, when we explore and enjoy the most widely distributed brand of scotch whisky in the world, Johnnie Walker; featuring Ewan Morgan. \$90. 703-442-9110.

FRIDAY/MARCH 22

"Never the Sinner." 8 p.m., at 1st Stage in Tysons, 524 Spring Hill Road, Tysons Corner, McLean. Playwright John Logan's riveting first play about the 1924 "crime of the century." General: \$25; students: \$15. or 703-854-1856 or www.1ststagetysons.org.

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 17



While in residency in Ireland, Christin Boggs used her camera to observe quiet moments in a new landscape.

Christin Boggs Exhibits at Katie's Coffee House

Great Falls Studios Artist Christin Boggs will present a selection of images from her series *Ag-fás*, March 1-31, 2013, at Katie's Coffee House, The Old Brogue Irish Pub, 760 Walker Road in Great Falls, 703-759-3309.

The artist traveled to Ireland during the summer of 2011 as a visiting artist at Cow House Studios—a teen art program and artist residency located on a working farm in Wexford. She lived on the farm for the majority of the summer, working with the students in the art studio. Boggs also traveled to Dublin and out to the West Coast. While in residency, she used her camera to observe quiet moments in a new landscape, impressed by the raw strength and vitality of the land. Some im-

ages come from the Cow House vegetable garden. Other images were taken in Dingle, Cape Clear Island and the Aran Islands.

Christin Boggs explores traditional and recently developed urban food practices, with an emphasis on ecologically beneficial growing systems. Her photographs have been displayed nationally in solo and group exhibitions, in both traditional galleries and public spaces, as well as print and online publications. She holds an MFA in imaging arts from Rochester Institute of Technology and a BFA in art and visual technology from George Mason University. Boggs is currently a professor of photography at George Mason University and George Washington University.

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 16

FRIDAY/APRIL 12

MoveMENT: Christopher K. Morgan and Artists. 8 p.m., at the Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. As part of the Artist-in-Residence at the Alden program, choreographers and dancers bring athletic, contemporary dance; a collaboration between male choreographer and composer/cellist

Ignacio Alcover perform with special guests. \$25; \$18, MCC residents. www.aldentheatre.org.

SATURDAY/APRIL 13

Tylan. 7 p.m., at Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Tylan, previously of folk-pop group Girlyman, tours with her debut solo record, made in the year after losing her 16-year partner and fellow

Girlyman member Doris Muramatsu to leukemia. www.jamminjava.com.

ONGOING

Straight Ahead Jazz. 8 p.m., at the Maplewood Grill, 132 Branch Road, Vienna. Every Monday drummer Karl Anthony hosts a night of straight ahead jazz featuring guest musicians and open to sit-in musicians. www.maplewoodgrill.com.

The Capitol Symphonic Youth Orchestras



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McLean Community Center
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Here's What's Happening at MCC

2013 Philadelphia Flower Show

Monday, March 4
6:45 a.m.-8 p.m.
\$133/\$128 MCC district residents



An Alden Production "Raggedy Ann & Andy"

Saturday and Sunday,
March 9, 10, 16 & 17, 3 p.m.
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Silent Film Series "Buster Keaton: Rare - Reconstructed - Rediscovered"

Wednesday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.
\$10/\$6 MCC district residents

Take a Day Away The Phillips Collection

Wednesday, March 20
9:15 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
\$54/\$48 MCC district residents
Sponsored by MCC and McLean Project for the Arts

Morning Movies
"Tootsie"
Wednesday, March 20, 10 a.m.
Free admission

Spring Break Camps & Trips
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Old Firehouse Teen Center Day Trips:
March 25-29

The McLean Community Center
www.mcleancenter.org
Home of the Alden Theatre
www.aldentheatre.org



1234 Ingleside Ave.,
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SPORTS



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Marshall senior Grant Leibow scored 24 points against McLean in the Liberty District championship game on Feb. 15. Leibow was awarded the MVP of the tournament.

Marshall Boys' Basketball Wins Liberty District Title

Statesmen hold off defending champion Highlanders at South Lakes High.

BY ALEX VAN REES
FOR THE CONNECTION

The Marshall boys' basketball team captured the first Liberty District championship in program history on Feb. 15 when the Statesmen defeated the McLean Highlanders 60-45 in the district tournament championship game at South Lakes High School.

Right out of the gates, the No. 4 Highlanders picked up the early lead within five seconds by driving down the court and getting on the board first, 2-0.

However, that lead would not last for long.

"We didn't come out the way we wanted to tonight," said McLean junior guard Joey Sullivan, who finished with five points. "We turned the ball over too much. I think we just let the hype of the game get into our heads and that's not the way we wanted to come out. We tried to adjust after the half and made it to within eight points, but they held on."

THE FIRST PERIOD went back-and-forth the entire eight minutes with little scoring taking place; it was a great testament to how well these teams can play defensively.

"I think we proved a lot of people wrong this season," said Sullivan. "If you were to ask some of the coaches around the league, I don't think many of them would have said that we would be back in the district championship. Just getting here, we accomplished many goals and proved people wrong."

At the end of the first period, the No. 2 Statesmen took a 9-7 lead, and that was the closest the Highlanders would come to the title. As the game progressed, Marshall continued to build its lead and by the end of the half, the Statesmen had pulled away by 11 points, 26-15.

"All tournament I think we played really well," said

Marshall senior guard Grant Leibow, who led the team with 24 points. "We definitely turned it up this tournament. We had a couple down points in the season when we lost a couple of games in the row, and that just motivated us to do better. We knew we had a chance to win."

The Statesmen burst out of the gates and were ready to get the second half underway; they posted 18 points in the third period, the most in a single period the entire game. Not to mention, they only allowed the Highlanders to tally 13. After three periods, Marshall held a 16-point lead, 44-28.

Heading into the final period, the Highlanders had one last chance for a comeback, and they outscored the Statesmen 17-16. However, that was not enough as Marshall defeated the defending Liberty District champs 60-5.

"It feels great to win the championship finally because the last two years, we were eliminated in the first game of the tournament," said Marshall head coach Dan Hale, who was named the coach of the year for the Liberty District boys. "For them, it's a real testament to them about how much work they have put in, both in the off-season and throughout the year on and off the court. Everyone has a role and they each filled that tonight. They are a very dedicated bunch."

Leibow was awarded the MVP of the tournament and was named to the second-team all-district. Senior forward Doug Turpin and junior guard Towner Hale both finished second on the team with nine points.

"Even though we were the higher seed, I think that took pressure off of us," said Leibow. "No one expected us to win, and I think we proved a lot of people wrong. We had never been here before, so we didn't know what to expect."

SENIOR CENTER JOHN PASCOE, who was named to the first-team all-district, led McLean, the defending district champion, with 17 points and seven rebounds. He and senior guard Samer Abdelmoty, who posted 11 points, each made the all-tournament team.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Marshall's Morgan Stahl placed fourth on beam at the VHSL state gymnastics meet on Feb. 16 at Centreville High School. Stahl placed third in the all-around competition.

Stahl Places Third at State Gymnastics Meet

As a freshman in 2012, Marshall's Morgan Stahl competed at the VHSL state gymnastics meet, but failed to place in the top eight in an event.

As a sophomore, Stahl earned a trip back to the state meet. This time, she walked away with some hardware.

Stahl placed third in the all-around competition at the state gymnastics meet, earning all-

state honors with a total of 38.325 on Feb. 16 at Centreville High School. Stahl placed second on floor (9.725), fourth on beam (9.675) and finished in a tie for fifth on vault (9.725).

Stahl also finished 15th on bars (9.2).

"It feels really good," Stahl said. "Last year I was here as a freshman and I didn't place on anything, so it was nice to come back and improve so much."

SPORTS ROUNDUPS

Langley Boys' Basketball Falls in Quarterfinals

The Langley boys' basketball team lost to Wakefield 46-44 in the Northern Region quarterfinals on Feb. 20, ending the Saxons' season.

Langley held a one-point lead in the closing seconds, but lost on a buzzer-beater by Wakefield's Re'Quan Hopson.

The Saxons won nine games in a row entering their regular season finale against rival McLean. Langley lost to the Highlanders, 42-35, which proved to be the start of a rough ending to the Saxons' season. Langley dropped three of its final five games, including a pair of losses to McLean, which beat the Saxons in the Liberty District semifinals.

Langley finished the year with a 20-6 record ended the regular season atop the Liberty District standings.

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, Langley had three players finish the

season averaging double-figure points: Brad Dotson (11.5), Justin Galiani (10.5) and Garrett Collier (10).

McLean Boys, Girls Lose in First Round

After each finished Liberty District runner-up, the McLean boys' and girls' basketball teams lost in the opening round of the Northern Region tournament.

The McLean boys lost to Robinson 49-37 on Feb. 18, three days after the Highlanders lost to Marshall in the Liberty District title game.

The McLean girls lost to Oakton 42-33 on Feb. 18, three days after the Highlanders lost to Madison in the district final.

According to stats from the Washington Post's Web site, John Pascoe led the McLean boys with 15.3 points per game. Lisa Murphy led the McLean girls with an average of 15.3.

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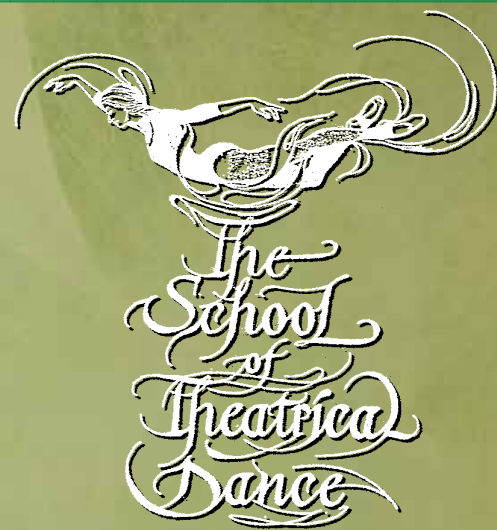
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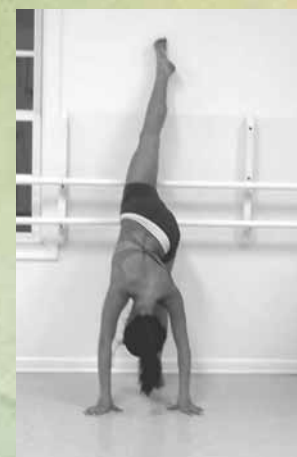
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- Summer Co.III (Ballet and Contemporary)
July 22- 26, 5-8pm
- Summer Co. IV (Ballet and Contemporary)
July 29-Aug 2, 11-2pm
- Summer Company V (Broadway)
Aug. 5-9, 11-2pm
- Summer Company VI (Pointe and Variations)
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- Summer Co. VII (Hip Hop and Jazz)
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