

Capturing Nature, History of Great Falls

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Photographer Dee Leggett with a collection of her photos at the Great Falls Library. Leggett has released a photography book, "Visions of Great Falls."

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PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Photographer Dee Leggett has released a book of photos, "Visions of Great Falls," that highlights the history and natural beauty of Great Falls.

Nature, History of Great Falls Captured

Photographer Dee Leggett releases "Visions of Great Falls."

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

As a photographer, Great Falls resident Dee Leggett believes that people don't always appreciate the beauty around them, even in their own backyards. So it's only appropriate that her journey as a photographer began literally in her backyard.

"I work a lot at home, so to take a break I like to walk my dog outside. I've always liked butterflies, so I planted a lot of butterfly-friendly plants in my yard, and I started taking pictures of them," Leggett said. "Soon I started sending the pictures as cards to people, and I got some good feedback, so I kept taking photos."

Leggett has released her second book of photography, "Visions of Great Falls." It contains 92 pictures of animals, buildings, streams and valleys, almost everything but human beings.

The photos in her book were taken all around Great Falls, in a variety of settings and seasons. From the bluebells at Riverbend Park in spring to the waters of streams in the winter, Leggett has captured it all.

HER PARTICULAR FONDNESS for butterflies has helped her become somewhat of an expert on the creatures, even learning what species are what by their flight patterns. The butterfly friendly plants in her yard, such as colorful azaleas, also provide her photos with pleasing backdrops.

"The Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, which also happens to be the state insect of Virginia, is much easier to capture in a photo than some others. It likes to find a spot and will sit there for a while," she said. "But something like the Zebra Swallowtail doesn't stay still very long. It lands for a bit, eats a little,

then moves on."

While Leggett's photography began in her backyard, she soon found herself stretching beyond its borders.

"As I drove around Great Falls, I would notice these beautiful gardens in people's yards, and I eventually knocked on some doors and asked if I could take pictures of them," she said. "So many people were so generous to let me take photos of their property, and I always make a point to send them a few postcards with the pictures on it. Some have told me they're too pretty to send away, but I always tell them that it's a joy that's meant to be spread."

Leggett soon began finding photo opportunities all around Great Falls, whether at Great Falls Park, where she enjoys hiking, or just catching the sunlight at the right angle while driving.

"I really like light and fog, particularly the way the sunlight might go through the trees and fog one particular morning," she said. "As I've become a better photographer, I've learned to see things all around me better, to see the mystery and interest of what's around me, to see the drama of the sunset."

LOCAL LANDMARKS in Leggett's book include the Great Falls Grange, the Forestville Schoolhouse, the Great Falls Freedom Plaza, the gazebo on the village green and the falls themselves in various seasons and times of day.

"I tried to include a lot of community focus points, along with the history of the area," she said. "And of course the falls had to be on the cover."

Leggett's first book, "Visions of Peace" includes shots from around the world with Bible quotes that she feels are represented in the accompanying photos. She is also working on her next book "Visions of Light," which will deal more extensively with her fondness for light.

Her photos will also be on display at Katie's Coffee House in Great Falls in the month of May.

Her book can be ordered online in hard copy or as an e-book on www.blurb.com, or by e-mailing her at DeeLeggett@aol.com.



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

From left, Margaret Haddad, Amanda Baird, 15, Caroline Causey, 16, and Tamara Chetwerikova-Moubayed, an examiner for the Russian Ballet Society in England. Baird and Causey were among 60 students at Haddad's ballet studio to be evaluated by Chetwerikova-Moubayed last week.

Dancers Evaluated by Russian Ballet Society

Haddad Studio of Classical Ballet welcomes evaluations from Russian Ballet Society.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Students at the Margaret Haddad Studio of Classical Ballet recently underwent testing for the Russian Ballet Society exams for the first time in two years, the only such exams that take place in the area.

"It's a very intense process that lasts an hour and a half and takes concentration, physical strength and a lot of discipline," said Haddad, who is in her 50th year of ballet instruction. "It's impressive because these young ladies have a lot of other commitments in their lives, sports and other activities, while at many ballet schools around the world they would be practicing all day every day."

Tamara Chetwerikova-Moubayed, an examiner for the Russian Ballet Society in England, visited Great Falls for the second time after administering exams two years ago.

"It was nice to see the



From left, Amanda Baird, 15, and Caroline Causey, 16, dancers at the Haddad Studio of Classical Ballet. The two were among 60 dancers at the studio that were examined by a member of the Russian Ballet Society last week.

progress of the dancers in the past few years, which I attribute to their teacher working hard to spur them along and inspire them," she said. "The ability, dedication and discipline they've gained here is very ap

SEE DANCERS, PAGE 11

THE COUNTY LINE

Bicyclists Pedal Onward, Despite Legislative Losses

FABB promotes extended hours on W&OD Trail.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

As the weather gets warmer and the days get longer, Northern Virginia bicyclists are back on the roads and trails, despite the Virginia General Assembly's antipathy for bike safety bills this session.

"Between us, BikeVirginia, RideRichmond, WABA, RABA, TBA, and other groups across the commonwealth, we put a lot of energy into getting cycling-friendly legislation through during the 2013 General Assembly session," said Michael Gilbert, co-founder of RideRichmond on the VBF website. "Unfortunately, none of it came to fruition."

State Senator Chap Petersen (D-34), who introduced several unsuccessful bike safety bills this session, said he was baffled by the defeat of his "dooring" bill, which would have required motorists to open their doors safely when there is oncoming traffic. The maximum civil penalty for recklessly swinging car doors open was \$100. The bill generated the most attention—and optimism from bike advocates—when it sailed through the Virginia Senate and a House transportation subcommittee.

But the House Transportation Committee swung the door shut on "dooring" when it voted 7-7 on the question of reporting it to the full House, since a tie vote equals a loss in the General Assembly. On his blog—OxRoadSouth—Petersen said his bill was "logical, fair and simple."

"It simply stated that a driver, who is opening a car door near moving traffic, must be accountable for any accidents caused by that open door," Petersen said.

"Why is this relevant? Am I restricting personal freedom? Common sense? No, it's about safety. As bike lanes become more prevalent in our urban areas, 'dooring' has become a major threat to cyclists. ... Since drivers are in the best position to avoid 'dooring' accidents, that is only fair," Petersen said, adding that more than 20 states, including Maryland and D.C., already have this law.

But area bicyclists refused to be sidelined by these legislative defeats. Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling put out its newsletter this weekend, sharing the following in-



PHOTO COURTESY OF FABB

A group of local cyclists take advantage of the good weather during a ride to Tysons Corner. To find "bike-friendly" paths in Fairfax County, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/bike/bikemap.

More Information

Want more information on how to bike locally? Check out these websites:

For a copy of Fairfax County's bicycle maps and trails:

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/bike/bikemap.htm

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/trails/maps.htm

www.fabb-bikes.org/resources.html

❖To help plan your bicycle trip online:

www.ridethecity.com/dc

www.wmata.com/ridertools/tripplanner

❖To get involved in bicycle advocacy:

www.fabb-bikes.org

www.waba.org

(FABB is affiliated with the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, an advocacy group for the D.C. metro area.)

formation:

W&OD Trail Extended Hours

The W&OD Trail is now open from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. between Shirlington and Herndon. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority recently installed signs along the trail showing the new hours and requirements for use after dark.

"This is good news for bike commuters and other people who need to use the trail at night," said Bruce Wright, chairman of FABB. "Most commuters currently ride on the trail after dark because they have few safe alternative routes. ... These new hours are experimental and could be expanded (or restricted) in the future. If you have comments, send feedback to NVRPA."

According to the Extended Hours of Use Requirements, cyclists are required to "wear reflective clothing that can be easily seen from the front and rear" and to have a front and rear light. Trail users on foot are also required to have front and rear reflective clothing and they "must carry a light or wear a flashing light."

Wright said FABB will be out on the trail over the next several weeks offering free lights to trail users. See the FABB blog for more details.

Bicycle Master Plan

The county Bicycle Master Plan was completed in July 2012. "We're hoping the plan goes before the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors this spring," Wright said.

Parkway Trail Now Open

Due to construction of the Fairfax County Parkway overpass at Fair Lakes Parkway, the adjacent paved trail was dug up and closed for many months. Finally a replacement trail is taking shape. While parts of the new trail are not paved yet, the trail is now open between Route 50 and Fair Lakes Parkway. FABB tried to get the county and VDOT to provide a signed detour for trail users through a nearby neighborhood while the trail was closed, but despite numerous attempts, they were not successful. "The Parkway Trail is a major commuter and recreational trail that never should have been closed without a suitable detour," Wright said.

2013 Bike to Work Day

Registration is now open for



PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling Chairman Bruce Wright and long-time cyclist Kerie Hitt get ready to bike to their home in Reston after receiving an award from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors last year.

Bike to Work Day on Friday, May 17. Several events will be held in Fairfax County: Burke VRE Station, Fairfax Corner, Herndon, the new Merrifield-Mosaic District, Merrifield-W&OD Trail, Collingwood Park (new), Reston, and Springfield Metro at Walker Lane, Tysons Corner Center, and Vienna.

"We plan to have FABB reps at each of these events to provide route information, answer questions, and to ask people to sign up for our e-newsletter," Wright said.

Upcoming Events

Many communities hold health and environmental fairs such as Earth Day, Arbor Day, and so forth during the spring, and we encourage everyone to ride your bikes and promote bicycling when you attend these events.

❖Wednesday, March 20—FABB Monthly Meeting

❖Tuesday-Thursday, April 9-11—Fairfax County Budget Hearings

❖Wednesday, April 17—FABB Monthly Meeting

❖Thursday, April 18—Vienna Green Expo

❖Tuesday, April 23—USGS and Freddie Mac Earth Day events

❖Saturday, April 27—Paul's Ride for Life, Clean Fairfax Earth Day event, and Be Fit McLean

❖Wednesday, May 15—FABB

Monthly Meeting

❖Sunday, May 5—Vienna Bike Safety Awareness Day

❖Friday, May 17—Bike to Work Day

❖Saturday, June 1—Tour de Fat

"Since 2006, Fairfax County has become more bike friendly with the adoption of the county-wide bicycle initiative, but cyclists still need better-connected bike routes, secure bicycle parking and education programs to help them travel comfortably and safely," Wright said, adding that passage of the Bicycle Master Plan is the group's primary goal.

"It contains a roadmap for making Fairfax a bicycle-friendly community. Implementing the plan will take a commitment from our community leaders to building a safe, connected bicycle network that will benefit all local residents."

"FABB is clearly focused on improving our quality of life and health by providing better opportunities for biking," said Supervisor Catherine Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill). "(The group) has already completed a key goal of informing the community and providing directions on how to improve biking opportunities with its wonderful guide."

Hudgins, who has backed many cycling initiatives, said she thinks cycling generally helps create more livable, healthy and sustainable communities by "connecting us as people."

AREA ROUNDUPS

Wolf Announces 10th District Art Show

The opening of the annual 10th District Congressional Art Show featuring works by area high school students will be from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, at the George Washington University (GWU) Virginia Science & Technology Campus in Loudoun County, Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10) announced. The show is free and open to the public. The winner will be announced at 7 p.m.

All submitted artwork will remain on display at the campus until April 22. The winning piece will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year alongside other "Best in Show" entries from congressional districts across the country.

The campus is located at 44983 Knoll Square, off Route 7 in Ashburn, and the art show will be held in Enterprise Hall.

For more information about the art show, contact Donna Crowley in Wolf's Winchester office at 540-667-0990 or 1-800-850-3463.

Spring Clean-Up at Claude Moore Colonial Farm

The Claude Moore Colonial Farm, 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean, announces Spring Clean-up on Saturday, March 23 and Sunday, March 24, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Farm's Spring Clean-Up is an opportunity to help the local living history museum and working farm prepare for the 2013 season. Volunteers can rake leaves, clear and mulch paths, haul brush and firewood, move rail fences, waterproof outbuildings, white-wash the colonial farmhouse, split firewood, fill garden pots and more. There are jobs for every age and skill level. Families and groups are welcome. The farm is not handicap accessible due to woodland and gravel setting.

Picnic hot dog lunch and a complimentary pass to one of the farm's 2013 Market Fairs is provided. Bring work gloves and dress for weather. Groups must register by Tuesday, March 19. RSVP to: volunteers@1771.org; www.1771.org.

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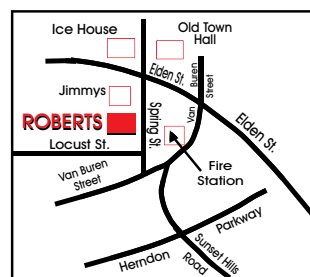
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Monogram Toffee	3/4" X 2 1/4"	126
Bruce Saddle	3/4" X 3 1/4"	280
Robbins Mink	3/4" X 2 1/4"	180
 - **Engineered** **Sq. Ft.**

Bruce	3/8" X 3 1/4"	434
Robbins	1/2" X 2 1/4"	300
Robbins	1/2" X 3"	100
Robbins	1/2" X 3"	196
 - **Laminate** **Sq. Ft.**

Tapestry Maple	15 1/2" X 15 1/2"	74
Canyon	15 1/2" X 15 1/2"	120
Euru Fossil	15 1/2" X 15 1/2"	120
Stain White	15 1/2" X 46"	259

Hybrid Hijinks Discouraging innovation in high-tech Virginia.

Consider this as a possible scenario (although perhaps we should have saved this for April 1): Fewer people are smoking, and many of those who do are smoking less. Virginia's cigarette tax, the lowest of any state at 30 cents a pack, is a declining revenue source. Higher cigarette taxes are proven to reduce smoking. Under current logic in the commonwealth, there would be two courses of action to raise revenue: a) cut the cigarette tax, and b) charge non-smokers a fee to make up the difference and to compensate for the fact that they don't pay cigarette taxes.

This is basically the convoluted approach that leads to the \$100 annual hybrid fee as part of Virginia's proposed transportation plan, to help make up for the reduced tax on gas.

The annual \$100 surcharge for owners of hybrids vehicles should be stripped out of the transportation bill. Something that could add \$1,000 to the price of owning a car over a normal period of time discourages innovation and punishes people who are trying to reduce pol-

lution and dependence on oil.

It also seems likely that the greatest concentration of ownership of hybrid vehicles would be in Northern Virginia, so it's one more way to extract more money from our region.

To replace these funds, plus a little, why not charge an additional \$100 annual registration fee for any vehicle with a purchase price of \$40,000 or more? Or charge the additional \$100 for any personal vehicle with a miles-per-gallon rating of less than 25 miles per gallon highway, especially since the more gas your car burns in Virginia, the more of a break you are receiving on the gas tax reduction. Or charge a sliding fee based on the number of miles driven and the weight of the vehicle (hint: the fee would go up with the miles and weight).

Or raise, rather than reduce, the gas tax and index it to inflation.

Sober on Saint Patrick's Day?

Saint Patrick's Day has always been a holi-

day associated with alcoholic beverages.

You, and/or the young adults in your household, will naturally have a plan to celebrate without drinking and driving. Plan to have a designated driver. Plan to take public transportation home. Plan to party at home or at a friend's house where you can spend the night.

If all of those plans fall through, however, and you end up without a ride home when you've been drinking on Saint Patrick's Day, the Washington Regional Alcohol Program has a safety net for you, SoberRide — Saint Patty's edition.

WRAP's 2013 Saint Patrick's Day SoberRide program will be offered on Sunday, March 17, from 4 p.m. to 4 a.m. on Monday, March 18. To receive a free cab ride home (up to a \$30.00 fare), call 800-200-8294. You must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service. Last Saint Patrick's Day, more than 600 potentially impaired drivers made use of this service. SoberRide has provided more than 57,000 free rides home to people who otherwise might have driven drunk.

See www.soberride.com.

EDITORIALS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Call to Reduce Gun Violence

To the Editor:

Following the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School, a group of Northern Virginia residents, Concerned Citizens Against Gun Violence (CCAGV), has been taking action to reduce gun violence in our nation. In February, CCAGV launched a grassroots effort to gather signatures to show our representatives in Congress that their constituents want action on reasonable measures to reduce gun violence. The group also rated McLean area state senators and delegates on their gun safety voting record and hosted a forum with statewide and local public safety groups to educate the pub-

lic on measures to reduce gun violence.

A recent poll conducted by Mayors Against Illegal Guns found that 88 percent of voters in the 10th Congressional District support background checks and CCAGV's results are consistent: 90 percent of the people we canvassed have signed the petition to our federal elected representatives urging them to support universal background checks for all gun purchases, limit magazine clip size to 10 rounds, and ban military-style weapon sales. More than 1300 of Frank Wolf's (VA-10th) constituents have so far signed this petition. (The houses we visit are not selected for voting history or party affiliation; our volunteers walk neighborhoods every weekend and knock on every door.)

These results should not surprise anyone. Poll after poll shows that a majority of Americans want common-sense gun reform that reduces the number of illegal guns on our streets and keeps guns out of the hands of those who are a danger to themselves and others. People understand that, rather than a means of protection, a gun often is an instrument of escalation, accident, and suicide. Most people we talk to have not realized that some 40 percent of gun sales are made without any background check, enabling militarized assault weapons such as the AR-15 rifle used at Sandy Hook to be purchased by virtually anyone. In the Virginia Tech massacre, Virginians witnessed the horrible consequences of weak gun laws that allow a person legally prohibited

from purchasing a gun easily to obtain one.

Concerned Citizens Against Gun Violence is working with other community organizations including religious organizations, the Virginia Center for Public Safety, Million Mom's March, March on Washington for Gun Control, Coalition to Stop Gun Violence and Moms Rising. Every week, we send an email to individuals in the community with information and actions they can take to support local and national initiatives to end gun violence. Anyone who would like to receive these updates or support the activities of the CCAGV is invited to email ccagv01@aol.com.

Margot de Ferranti
McLean

My Year in The USA

BY NADINE KASSNER

Why are we doing this? Why are we going away from our families for one year and move into a family's house we don't know? We are exchange students and we wanted to learn more about another country, about the culture, the language and the people. With the Academic Year in America we found an organization that gave us the chance to study abroad and that found nice people/families who were willing to host us and who welcomed us as normal family members. We meet our Local Coordinator

Louise Hackman every month.

She always plans interesting and funny things we can do together. Our last meeting was on Saturday, Dec. 15. We spent some time together at the Arlington Cemetery National Wreath Across America Ceremony and learned a lot about it. We also laid down wreaths on the graves. It was an impressive experience how the cemetery looked like after the ceremony. All these new experiences are the reason why this year is/will be one of my best years in my life.

Nadine Kassner is a German exchange student attending Herndon High School 2012-2013.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Exchange students participate in Wreaths Across America Ceremony 2012.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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/MARCH 13

Paul Thorn. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Former boxer turned bluesy rocker Paul Thorn returns with his gritty vocals and powerful Southern beats. \$24. 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org.

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.

2013 Spring Used Book Sale. 1-8 p.m., at Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Friends of Oakton Library hold the sale featuring shelves and shelves of books for bottom dollar. 703-242-4020.

FRIDAY/MARCH 15

2013 Spring Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Friends of Oakton Library hold the sale featuring shelves and shelves of books for bottom dollar. 703-242-4020.

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.

Chatham Baroque: The Discovery Series. 8 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. The Pittsburgh-based chamber music ensemble Chatham Baroque arrives at The Barns at Wolf Trap to perform renditions of 17th and 18th century arrangements. \$35. 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org.

SATURDAY/MARCH 16

2013 Spring Used Book Sale. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Friends of Oakton Library hold the sale featuring shelves and shelves of books for bottom dollar. 703-242-4020.

BandHouse Gigs'

Tribute to Chrissie Hynde & The Pretenders. 7:30 p.m., at The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Bethesda-based BandHouse Gigs joins forces with 35 local musicians to recreate the music of '70s rock legends. \$25. 1-877-WOLFTRAP or www.wolftrap.org.

Gypsy. 8 p.m., at the Oakcrest School,



PHOTO COURTESY OF WOLF TRAP

Chatham Baroque's unique instrumentation (violin, viola da gamba, and theorbo), technical prowess, and gifts of improvisation make their Friday, March 15, performance at The Barns at Wolf Trap a must-hear evening for baroque aficionados.

850 Balls Hill Road, McLean. The McLean Orchestra Concertmaster Nurit Bar-Josef and NSO cellist James

Lee join for a performance of Brahms' Double Concerto for Violin and Cello; post-concert cake and champagne reception. Adults: \$40; Seniors: \$30; Youth: \$15. <http://tinyurl.com/add2k58>.

MONDAY/MARCH 18

Lunch n' Life. Noon, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. ABC7/WJLA-TV Chief Meteorologist Doug Hill speaks on forecasting weather and life at the educational series for seniors and those caring for seniors; blood screenings available from 11 a.m. on. Reservations by March 11. \$10. 703-281-0538, www.scov.org or office@scov.org.

TUESDAY/MARCH 19

Good Food, Good People, Good Fun and Some Business. 6:30 p.m., at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Suriyah Shahrill, wife of the deputy chief of mission for the Embassy of Malaysia, accompanied by diplomatic wives in Malaysian dress, shares Malaysian textiles and designs used in traditional attire; cultural and culinary treats as well as the annual branch meeting potluck dinner precede the business meeting. www.mcleanaauw.org.

THURSDAY/MARCH 21

Computer C.O.R.E. Business to Business Networking. 5-7 p.m., at DaDomenico Ristorante, 1992 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. A networking event with light appetizers and door prizes and a cash bar; two hours of networking and meeting new people. \$10 (cash or check). Gina@ComputerCORE.org.

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.

SATURDAY/MARCH 30

America's Next Top Dog Fashion Photo Contest. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Bring in a photo of your dog (real or plush) decked out in the latest fashions, and your pooch could be awarded the title of America's Next Top Dog. 703-938-0405.

FRIDAY/APRIL 5

2013 Asian American Chamber Gala. 6-10 p.m., at The Westin Tysons Corner, 7801 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. AACC Chamber Award Gala recognizing businesses and leaders of Asian & Pacific Island descent who have made outstanding contributions to the D.C.-area business community and economy; cocktails, dinner, auction and cultural performances included. www.asian-americanchamber.org/2013gala.

A Night of Music with Peter Kolkay. 8 p.m., at The Barns, 1635

Trap Road, Vienna. The Wolf Trap National Park presents the bassoonist and first-prize winner of the Concert Artists Guild Competition, Peter Kolkay. \$35. http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/TicketPurchase?agency=WOLF_TRAP&pid=7295869.

SATURDAY/APRIL 6

Gustafer Yellowgold's Rock Melon Tour. 10:30 a.m., at the Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Equal parts pop rock concert and animated storybook, Gustafer Yellowgold concerts are a truly different multimedia experience. \$10. 703-255-1566 or <https://jamminjava.com/events/gustafer-yellowgold-april6>.

Tour of the Bluebells in Memory of Eleanor Weck.

11 a.m., at Riverbend Park, 8814 Jeffery Road, Great Falls. A guided tour of the bluebells in the park in memory of Eleanor Weck, founder of the Great Falls TrailBlazers; light refreshments follow. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend/visitorcenter.htm.

SUNDAY/APRIL 7

Run & Remember 5K Corporate Challenge. 8:30 a.m. (7 a.m. day-of registration), at Tysons Corner Center, 1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Run to benefit TAPS, the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, which honors fallen military heroes by caring for those who they loved and left behind; call for info on sponsorships. 703-281-1333 or www.tysonschamber.org.

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 Alcovere 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 Giryman, tours with her debut solo record, made in the year after losing her 16-year partner and fellow Giryman member Doris Muramatsu to leukemia. www.jamminjava.com.

SUNDAY/APRIL 21

McLean Orchestra Gala Midnight in Paris. 6-11 p.m., at The Hilton McLean, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean. McLean Orchestra's annual gala will feature extraordinary live auction packages and world-class live entertainment. \$250. <http://mclean-orchestra.org/gala/gala-tickets/> or <http://mclean-orchestra.org/gala/>.

FRIDAY/MAY 3

2013 ValeArts Spring ART Show: Jewels of Color. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., at Vale Schoolhouse, 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton. ValeArts hosts the 17th annual art show featuring more than 150 original oils, watercolors, acrylics, and mixed media by nine local artists. www.valearts.com.

SATURDAY/MAY 4

2013 ValeArts Spring ART Show: Jewels of Color. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at Vale Schoolhouse, 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton. ValeArts hosts the 17th annual art show featuring more than 150 original oils, watercolors, acrylics, and mixed media by nine local artists. www.valearts.com.

Garden of Light Reception.

3-6 p.m., at Holiday Inn & Suites on the Rooftop Patio, 625 First St., Alexandria. The Vienna-based Bethany House of Northern Virginia holds a garden party with a silent auction, live music and refreshments to benefit their family assistance program, devoted to helping women and children who have suffered domestic violence regain health and dignity through temporary housing and support services. \$55. 703-658-9500. <http://gardenoflight2013.eventbrite.com> or www.bhvn.org.

SUNDAY/MAY 6

2013 ValeArts Spring ART Show: Jewels of Color. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at Vale Schoolhouse, 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton. ValeArts hosts the 17th annual art show featuring more than 150 original oils, watercolors, acrylics, and mixed media by nine local artists. www.valearts.com.

SATURDAY/JUNE 22

BSA Troop 152 80th Anniversary. 4-8 p.m., at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. The troop sponsored by the Vienna Presbyterian Church celebrates their 80th anniversary at a party open to current and former Scouts, and adult leaders. RSVP. troop152.80thanniversary@gmail.com.



Here's What's Happening at MCC

Silent Film Series

"Buster Keaton: Rare - Reconstructed - Rediscovered"

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



An Alden Production "Raggedy Ann & Andy"

Saturday and Sunday,
March 16 & 17, 3 p.m.
\$10/\$8 MCC district residents

Morning Movies

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



Upright Citizens Brigade Touring Company
Saturday, March 23, 8 p.m.
\$30/\$20 MCC district residents

Spring Break Camps & Trips
Day Camps: March 25-28
Half-Day and Full-Day Options
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.,
McLean, VA 22101
703-790-0123, TTY: 711

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Hearing on the McLean Community Center's FY 2015 Programs
Wednesday, March 20, at 7:30 p.m.

The Governing Board of the McLean Community Center is **seeking input from residents** of Dranesville Small District 1A at its Public Hearing on Programs for FY 2015, which runs July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

The Board is interested in hearing residents' ideas for classes, community events, theatre programs, exhibits, tours and youth and teen activities.

If you would like to speak at the hearing, call the Center to have your name placed on the speakers' list. You also may submit comments in writing to: ellen.barial@fairfaxcounty.gov

The McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean VA 22101
703-790-0123/TTY: 711
www.mcleancenter.org

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HOW TO GET YOUR ORGANIZATION'S SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE CONNECTION

Calendar Listings

The Connection Newspapers contain a Calendar of Upcoming Events every week. While we cannot guarantee that every event we receive information about will be listed, here is the information we need for your upcoming event to be considered for the Calendar. We welcome photographs of similar events held previously, which sometimes appear with Calendar items.

Name of Event:
Day of the Week, Date and Time:
Name of the Place Event will Be Held:
Address of the Place Event Will Be Held:
Name and Phone Number for More Information:
Three Sentences Describing the Event:

Please submit your calendar information at least two weeks before your event. Clear photographs from similar previous events are always welcome. All events should be open to the public. We give first priority to free events. E-mail listings to: greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com or mail to: Calendar, Connection Newspapers, 1606 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

For more information, call 703-778-9410.

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Small items and clothing drop-offs may be made to the front of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Tysons Corner with the Bell Staff. Please indicate that the items are for the Boys and Girls Clubs Rummage Sale. Donation receipts will be available at drop-off.

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For more information, visit our event site.
<http://www.fairfaxbgcgw.org/index.php/rummage-sale>

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THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS



Arlan Jaska, 17, of McLean



Collin Berman, 18, of McLean

McLean, Fairfax Students Win State Cybersecurity Championship

The future of national security may lie in the hands of a high school student who competed in a cyber championship this weekend at George Mason University.

Governor Bob McDonnell invited an elite group of 40 students from across the commonwealth for the first ever “Virginia Governor’s Cup Cyber Challenge.” The students competed in NetWars: a hands-on, interactive learning environment used by the U.S. military.

Virginia’s state champions, from first to third place, are Arlan Jaska, 17, of McLean (Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology), Anirudh Bagde, 16, of Fairfax (Chantilly Academy) and Collin Berman, 18, also of McLean (and Thomas Jefferson High School). These students won scholarships of \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$2,000, respectively. All participants walked away with new information and insights on cybersecurity careers.

This state championship was organized by the Cyber Aces Foundation, a Bethesda, Md.-based nonprofit working to discover and

develop a talented new cybersecurity workforce.

That workforce is already highly in demand, with cyberattacks increasing faster than technologists can counter them. Former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta warned of a “Cyber Pearl Harbor,” adding, “Our most important investment is in skilled cyber warriors needed to conduct operations in cyberspace.”

“Similar to our shortage of fighter pilots at the start of World War II, now we have a critical shortage of skilled cyber defenders,” said Cyber Aces Founder Alan Paller. “And like the pilot training programs of that era, Cyber Aces initiatives like this state championship are how we will create the specialists we need.”

The 40 state championship participants were the top performers in a series of online tutorials and quizzes completed by more than 700 Virginia students. The championship tested them in system hardening, packet analysis, digital forensics and vulnerability assessment.

Virginia’s was the first in a growing series of state championships.

FAITH NOTES

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

Epiphany United Methodist Church, 1014 Country Club Drive, Vienna, holds an Easter Egg hunt, rain or shine, on Saturday, March 30, at 10 a.m. open to students in preschool through sixth grade. 703-938-3494.

Great Falls United Methodist Church, 10100 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, holds an Easter sermon series based on Adam Hamilton’s The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus. The series focuses on baptism and temptation, healing ministry, proclaiming the kingdom, calming the storm, sinners, outcasts and the poor, from Lent, Feb. 17 to March 24, at the 10 a.m. service. 703-759-3705 or www.greatfallsumc.org.

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 Road, Vienna. 703-209-0658.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, offers a 9 a.m. traditional service and a 10:30 a.m. contemporary service on Sundays. Also offers two services during the summer, both of which will include children’s sermons. 703-356-3346.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, at the intersection with Westmoreland Street has Sunday worship with Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m., traditional style worship; 9:45 a.m., contemporary style worship; and 11 a.m., traditional style worship. Sunday School and Adult Forum is at 9:45 a.m.

Visit These Houses of Worship

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

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 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
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 Music: grades 3 - 7
 10:25 a.m. Sunday School Grades 3 to 12
 Music 4 years to 2nd grade
 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
 5:00 p.m. Come Just as You Are Contemporary Service

Nursery care provided at 9:00 a.m. service

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

Great Falls United Methodist Church
 10100 Georgetown Pike ~ Great Falls, VA
 703-759-3705 ~ www.greatfallsumc.org

Sunday Schedule
 Worship Services ~ 10:00 am
 Children’s Sunday School ~ 10:00 am
 Adult Sunday School ~ 9:00 am
 Nursery/Childcare ~ 9 to 11:00 am
 Youth Group ~ 5-7 pm

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Assembly of God
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 Cristo Es Mi Refugio...703-675-0144

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

Baptist
 Global Mission Church ... 703-757-0877
 Peace Baptist Church ... 703-560-8462
 Bethel Primitive Baptist Church ...
 ... 703-757-8134
 Cartersville Baptist Church ... 703-255-7075
 Fellowship Baptist Church ... 703-385-8516
 First Baptist Church ... 703-938-8525
 The Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877
 Vienna Baptist Church ... 703-281-4400
 New Union Baptist Church... 703-281-2556

Buddhist
 Vajrayogini Buddhist Center... 202-331-2122

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

Catholic
 Our Lady of Good Counsel ... 703-938-2828
 St. Athanasius Catholic Church ... 703-759-4555

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

Charismatic
 Christian Assembly ... 703-698-9777

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

Disciples of Christ
 Antioch Christian Church ... 703-938-6753

Episcopal
 Church of the Holy Comforter ... 703-938-6521
 Church of the Holy Cross ... 703-698-6991
 St. Francis Episcopal ... 703-759-2082

Jehovah’s Witness
 Jehovah’s Witnesses ... 703-759-1579

Lutheran
 Emmanuel Lutheran Church...703-938-2119
 Christ The King Lutheran Church...703-759-6068
 St. Athanasius Lutheran Church... 703-455-4003

Methodist
 Andrew Chapel United Methodist ... 703-759-3509
 Christ The King Shepherd ... 703-281-3987
 The Vine Methodist Church ... 703-573-5336
 Epiphany United Methodist ... 703-938-3494
 Great Falls United Methodist... 703-759-3705
 Oakton United Methodist ... 703-938-1233

NEWS

Dancers Evaluated

FROM PAGE 3
parent.”

Dancers as young as four up to several college graduates participated in the exams over four days last week.

“Almost every part of the preparation is stressful, but the feeling you get at the end is very rewarding,” said Amanda Baird, 15. “Remembering all the combinations and having the stamina to perform them for an hour and a half is very draining.”

Caroline Causey, 16, said she believed the process helped her grow as a performer.

“As hard as it is to prepare, the challenge makes you a better dancer for sure,” she said.

Haddad said she was proud of the way her students approached the daunting task.

“Their pride was very apparent

right away, as they all showed on time dressed perfectly and ready to work,” Haddad said. “This kind of process gives them a lot of confidence and pride in the work they do, and it fosters a healthy respect

for the art form, as well as respect for each other.”

Normally the Russian Ballet Society exams are administered each year, but Haddad’s studio puts on two shows per year, and she said she felt an annual exam

would leave too little time for learning techniques.

The Haddad Studio will hold their annual spring show Sunday, May 11, at the Madeira School. It is called “Down Memory Lane” and will contain selections from shows Haddad has overseen in her career, which spans three countries over five decades in the U.S., Lebanon and Kenya.

“Almost every part of the preparation is stressful, but the feeling you get at the end is very rewarding.”

—Amanda Baird, 15



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Langley Boys' Lax Looking for Fifth Straight State Title

Defense figures to be Saxons' strength in 2013.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Earl Brewer, who enters his 19th season as head coach of the Langley boys' lacrosse program, has led the Saxons to four consecutive state championships.

Brewer, whose Saxons have also captured two region crowns and nine district titles under his guidance, prefers a positive approach to coaching and likes to keep in perspective that real pressure is faced by parents paying a mortgage rather than students playing a game. That being said, Brewer knows anything short of a fifth straight state title would result in some unhappy campers.

"I think the expectations are going to be if we don't win a state championship, people are going to be disappointed—the fan base, the student body, the players themselves," Brewer said. "We have some seniors on this team that have been on three straight state championship teams. For them, to



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBTZEL/THE CONNECTION

The Langley boys' lacrosse team will open its season Friday at home against Dominion.

leave the legacy not to win it I think would be sad for them."

Senior captains Brad Dotson, Robby Byrne and Luke Salzer were part of the last three Langley state championship teams. Byrne said past success creates motivation.

"I don't think it puts more pressure (on the team), it just makes us want to continue that legacy," he said. "It gets the young kids

going, gives them something to work toward."

Byrne, at 6-foot-3, and Dotson, who stands 6-foot-6, are part of a physical Saxon defense which figures to be the strength of the team. Dotson was selected first-team All-Liberty District and first-team All-Northern Region last season and will play lacrosse at Bucknell University. Senior Tyler Kovacs (6-3)

and junior Hunter Yates (6-0) will also be contributors as defensemen. Senior Clay Kennedy is the Saxons' goalkeeper.

"My defense is very big," Brewer said. "... They look like a college team when you see them on the field. And they're talented too—they're not just big lummoxes. They can run, they can dodge and shoot, themselves. They play great

one-on-one [and] they're all smart."

Salzer, a midfielder, had 25 goals and 46 assists last season. He will play collegiately at the University of Delaware.

"He's got the whole package," Brewer said. "We call him an old-school middle because he can play middle, he can play defense and offense, he runs the field [and] he's a tough guy, too."

Seniors Brian Ochoa and Jack Reilly will also contribute as midfielders.

Junior attackman J.T. Meyer returns for his third season on the varsity and is one of the Saxons' top offensive threats. However, Meyer suffered a knee injury prior to the season and could miss some time. Junior Billy Orme, seniors Nick Guglielmo and Patrick Kearney, and sophomore Weston Simonides will also look to contribute.

Langley opens the season with a home game at 6 p.m. on Friday, March 15, against Dominion—the Saxons' first test in their quest for a fifth consecutive state championship.

"We're out here having fun and all," Dotson said, "but at the end of the day, we're here to get business done."

Oakton Baseball to Open Against National District Opponents

The Oakton baseball team scrimmaged defending state champion Lake Braddock on March 9 for the Cougars' final preseason tune-up.

Afterward, Oakton head coach Justin Janis said the team needs to make some changes. The Cougars will have a chance to show they've improved when they travel to face Yorktown for the regular season opener at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, March 13. Oakton will face another National District opponent two days later when the Cougars host Washington Lee at 6 p.m. on March 15.

"I thought today was a good learning experience for us," Janis said after the Saturday scrimmage. "Any time you go up against a good opponent like [Lake] Braddock, I think that gives you a good chance to kind of see what you're made of."

Senior right-hander Matt Gregor will be Oakton's No. 1 starter on the mound.

"The biggest thing is he just throws strikes," Janis said. "He's a competitive kid, he's very composed out there, he's a good leader—just by his body language he makes his teammates confident."

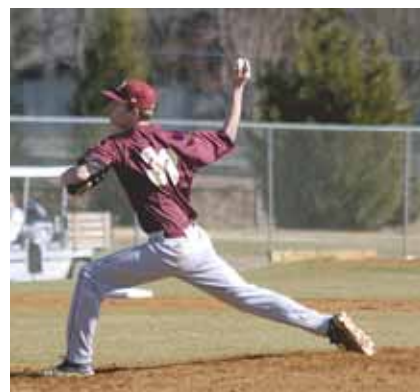


PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBTZEL

Oakton senior Matt Gregor enters the season as the Cougars' No. 1 pitcher.

Janis is also looking for significant contributions from senior middle infielders Joey Bartosic and Mitchell Carroll, and senior right-fielder Brian Burns, who was a first-team All-Northern Region selection last season.

"We're looking for (Burns) to step up again as a leader," Janis said, "and hopefully have the same kind of production that he had last year."

—JON ROETMAN



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Seventh grade girls from Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Vienna on their basketball team in Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) in the Arlington diocese: back row, coach Duane Knauf and assistant coach Ray Mills; middle row from left, Kristen Jones, Cate Latessa, Tracey Mills, Katie Skoff, Kirsten Knauf and Grace Atiyeh; and front row from left, Hannah Gaffney, Rachel McFaul, Megan Nayak, Kelsey Shea, and Emily Cannon.

Seventh Grade Girls Win Eighth Grade Division

The seventh grade girls from Our Lady of Good Counsel School (OLGC) in Vienna, playing in the Division 1 eighth grade Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Arlington diocese basketball league, were tied with St. James' eighth grade team for the season. When the team of 11 seventh grade girls went to the championship game on Sunday, March 3, at Annandale High School and played the eighth grade St. James girls, OLGC beat their opponent out, winning the championship 38 to 35. They are the CYO

varsity champions for Division 1 in the Arlington catholic diocese. Duane Knauf was their coach and Ray Mills was the assistant coach.

The girls are ages 12-13 and are all seventh graders. They started out in the seventh grade Division 1 league for the Arlington Catholic Diocese. As a result of the team's large-margin wins, the commissioner decided to move the team up to the eighth grade Division 1 team to give them more competition.

NEWS



PHOTO COURTESY OF LEAH PUBLISHICK

Langley Science Olympiad Team

Langley Places Second in Regional Science Olympiad

Langley High School placed second in a regional Science Olympiad tournament held in Vienna Saturday, March 2. Gold medals were awarded to seniors Kelvin Niu, Aishvar Radhakrishnan and Tim Tsai, juniors Cliff Crawford, Na He Jeon, Leah Surratt and Katherine Tan, and sophomores Andrew Chen and Andrew Makris. Team members earned an additional 30 medals. Sponsor of the Division C team (ninth-12th grades) is Langley High Chemistry teacher Leah Puhlick.

A total of 17 teams competed in 20 events testing members' knowledge of science skills, processes and applications. The wide range of science disciplines included biology, chemistry, physics, technology, earth science and mathematics.

By Saturday, March 16, three regional Division C tournaments will have been held in the common-

wealth. On April 27, 2013, 15 students from each regional section's participating schools will advance to the state finals at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg. Then the winning team from one high school will spar in the National Science Olympiad Tournament at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio May 17-18, 2013.

The National Science Olympiad is an academic, interscholastic competition designed to increase student interest in the STEM disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and to improve the quality of science education. Nationally, over 350,000 students are involved in the Science Olympiad program.

Donations to fund the Langley High team's preparation for and travel to the state tournament may be made to: Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101, phone number 703-287-2700. Write "Science Olympiad" on the memo line.

Eight Scouts Honored for Heroic Deeds

Eight boys from National Capital Area Council (NCAC) Boy Scouts of America (BSA) received National Court of Honor Lifesaving and Meritorious Action Awards in 2012 for remaining calm in a crisis, making quick use of Scout training and for living up to the words "to help other people at all times," which is part of the Scout Oath.

National BSA awards for lifesaving and meritorious action are only bestowed for outstanding acts that demonstrate unusual heroism, skill or bravery and reflect scouting ideals. For purposes of the awards, "heroism" is defined as conduct exhibiting courage, daring, skill and self-sacrifice. "Skill" is defined as the ability to use one's

knowledge effectively in execution or performance, with special attention given to skills earned in scouting.

Griffin Howland, Star Scout, Troop 1539, chartered to American Legion Post 180 in Vienna, received the Heroism Award for providing emergency first aid to his golf instructor.

Kevin McCormick, Eagle Scout, Troop 55, chartered to St. Francis Episcopal Church in Great Falls, received the Heroism Award for pulling an unconscious camper out of a pool.

Gerard Allen Souser III, Ordinary Seaman, Ship 1115, chartered to Immanuel Bible Church in Springfield, received a Medal of Merit for preventing a boat from sustaining damage during a violent storm.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send School Notes to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Sally Storch, of Great Falls, a junior international relations major at William Smith College and a member of the swimming and diving team, has made the Upper New York State Colle-

giate Swimming Association All-Academic Team. To earn a spot on the UNYSCSA All-Academic Team, student-athletes must be at least a sophomore, have an average grade point average of 3.3 over the previous two semesters, and be a participant in the UNYSCSA Championship meet.

OPEN HOUSES SATURDAY/SUNDAY, MARCH 16 & 17

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

Burke

7023 Veering Ln.....\$559,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808
6203 Gemini Ct.....\$379,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

Centreville

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

Chantilly

42344 Astors Beachwood...\$830,000.....Sun 1-4.....Vera Buonafede.....Weichert..703-501-5015

Clifton

12646 Water St.....\$1,125,000.....Sun 1-4.....Carol Hermandorfer...Long & Foster..703-503-1812
13912 Rock Brook Ct.....\$589,900.....Sun 1-4.....Lisa Clayborne...Long & Foster..703-502-8145

Fair Lakes

4435 Fair Stone Dr #202...\$189,500.....Sun 1-4.....Mike McDonald...Samson Props..703-400-2598

Fairfax Station

10005 Rough Run Ct.....\$774,950.....Sun 1-4.....Kathleen Quintarelli.....Weichert..703-862-8808

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19396 Susquehanna Sq.....\$479,900.....Sun 1-4.....Sara Helmke...Samson Props..703-217-6181

Manassas

7996 Knightshayes Dr.....\$550,000.....Sun 1-4.....Karen Paris...Keller Williams..571-220-7503

Reston

12393 Copenhagen Ct.....\$617,000.....Sun 1-4.....Kirk Harper...Long & Foster..703-585-8405

Springfield

6582 Forsythia St.....\$615,000.....Sun 1-4.....Dallison Veach.....RE/MAX..703-477-7920
7415 Jervis St.....\$524,900.....Sun 1-4.....Christine Shevock.....RE/MAX..703-475-3986

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21127 Brookside Ln.....\$629,900.....Sun 1-4.....J. Graeme MacHorton...Long & Foster..703-777-2900

Vienna

2078 Hunters Crest Way...\$1,595,000.....Sun 1-4.....Casey Samson...Samson Props..703-508-2535
9924 Browns Mill Rd.....\$1,349,000.....Sun 1-4:30.....Pat Bryant...Keller Williams..703-893-9811
314 George St SW.....\$1,175,000.....Sun 1-4.....Mansoor Dar...Keller Williams..703-564-4000
8183 Carnegie Ct #207.....\$316,500.....Sun 1-4.....Vinh Nguyen.....Westgate..703-208-9999

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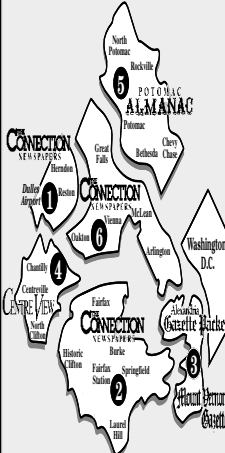
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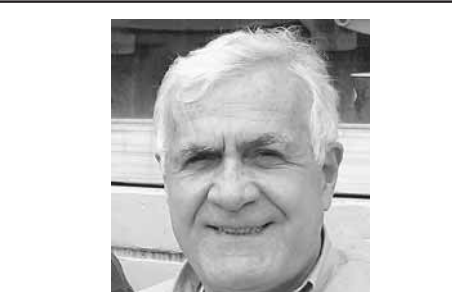
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21 Announcements



Ronald E. Jerro,
September 5, 1936 – March 3, 2013

Ronald E. Jerro, 76, president of REJ Associates – a life and health insurance agency, passed away peacefully on Mar. 3 at Virginia Hospital Center surrounded by his family and close friends after a long fight with myelodysplastic syndrome.

Ron was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY and graduated from Georgetown University in 1958. He served 3 years active duty in the USAF and 25 years in the USAF Reserve before retiring with the rank of Lt. Col. After active duty, he worked in NYC for the family shoe manufacturing business for 3 years before entering the life and health insurance industry where he continued to work for 50 years. He also served as a volunteer and director for numerous non-profit organizations and was a Member of the Knights of Malta. He was married for 23 years, has 3 children and lived in Northern Virginia since 1966.

Ron was an avid pilot and scuba diver but more importantly he was a devout Catholic with a kind heart who spent the majority of his life helping people. He touched many lives and was so special to many in different ways...a loving Father, caring brother, loving uncle, best friend, big brother that some never had, mentor, hero, incredible source of inspiration; and his unique sense of humor and enthusiasm were contagious.

Ron is survived by his brother John; ex-wife Susan Jerro of McLean, VA; three children, Will Jerro of McLean, VA, Kimberly McCorry of Arlington, VA and Melissa Jerro-Hencken of Catonsville, MD; eleven grandchildren, Billy, Lizzy, John, Luke, Patrick, Ella, Eli, Dean, Jack, Peter and Colin; and hundreds of other family members and close friends. He is loved and cherished by many, and he will never be forgotten.

Viewing is on Mar. 19 between 9:00-11:00am and 1:00-3:00pm at Murphy Funeral Home - 4510 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA; Funeral is on Mar. 19 at 7:30pm at Holy Transfiguration Church Melkite Greek-Catholic Church - 8501 Lewinsville Rd, McLean, VA and Prayer Service and Burial is on Mar. 20 - prayer service is at 8:45am at the Fort Myer Memorial Chapel -101 McNair Rd, Arlington, VA 22211 immediately followed by the burial at Arlington National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please send tax deductible contribution checks made out to Gonzaga College High School and designated for the Ronald E. Jerro Endowed Scholarship. The school's address is 19 Eye Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001.

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21 Announcements

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MWB DEVELOPMENT 1, LLC trading as World of Beer, 901 N. Gleve Road, #105, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1853. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Mixed beverages on premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Evan Matz, Managing Member.
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200

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Writing What Four



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

As far as anniversaries go – and I hope this one “goes” a lot further; acknowledging, dare I say, celebrating, my four-year survival anniversary from “terminal” stage IV (inoperable, metastasized) non-small cell lung cancer, a diagnosis I initially received on February 27, 2009, along with a “13-month to two-year prognosis” from my oncologist, is certainly column-worthy.

Not that I haven’t mined these emotional depths before; end of years one, two and three if truth be told, but I’m sure I can be given a pass, given the subject matter. And what matters more than a characterized-as-terminal cancer patient outliving his prognosis – by years? Not too much, from my perspective. Quite frankly, this is content of a column I can get used to writing – repeatedly, if need be, and I’m hoping the need be. Oh, I don’t suppose I’ll be recycling material from previous anniversary columns, even though the sentiment would be familiar: amazing good fortune, gratitude, anxiety concerning an unpredictable future, etc. Nevertheless, I’ll risk expressing some feelings here that might be somewhat reminiscent of columns and anniversaries gone by.

Being diagnosed with lung cancer two and a half months after my widowed mother succumbed to her old age – thereby making my brother Richard and I orphans, as it were (my father had died two years earlier, almost to the day of my mother’s passing) seemed a bit unfair, especially considering how much my brother and I had sacrificed as we cared and concerned ourselves with the last years of our parents’ less-than-ideal lives. But “fair” has never really entered into my equation. That’s not how I look at things. I look at things the way I’ve heard – on sports talk radio, anyway, how football players describe their attitude toward a starting player being injured: “Next man up.” There are no excuses. It’s not exactly poker, but you play the cards you’ve been dealt. And so, in my four years of living with cancer since February, 2009, I have not pursued justice, nor have I declared my independence, but I have tried to live my life with good humor, and liberty and happiness – when I could manage it.

Not always have I achieved these goals or maintained the balance necessary to counter the emotional weight and physical toll receiving a terminal diagnosis – and the treatment protocol, can impose. I’ve had my moments, to be sure, but overall, I’m proud of how I’ve changed – for the better, and persevered. Though cancer has proven over the years to be an equal-opportunity-disease, my diagnosis has never caused me to feel doomed (a little gloomy, maybe). Moreover, I’ve always felt hopeful and as such have tried to be proactive, open and compliant in order to give myself every possible advantage in this life yet to be lived.

Woe is not me. Why is of no concern. How it could have happened – is of no particular interest. Reviewing my past transgressions never mattered to my oncologist. His only concern was the future and treating me forward. For the most part, I have embraced that/his philosophy; except this time of the year: my still-living-with-cancer anniversary when I revisit the past – hopefully as a prelude for the future. That’s my intent, anyway.

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

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2 ♦ GREAT FALLS CONNECTION ♦ [HomeLifeStyle](http://HomeLifeStyle.com) Spring 2013

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PHOTO COURTESY OF NARI

This McLean kitchen by BOWA took top honors in the “Residential Kitchen Over \$120,000” category. The homeowners wanted to create a free-flowing, light-filled space.

Virginia Garden Week to Feature NoVa Gardens

80th Historic Garden Week, April 20-27, 2013.

Historic Garden Week 2013 will feature approximately 200 private homes and gardens open on 32 separate tours throughout the state of Virginia over eight consecutive days. It is the largest ongoing volunteer effort in Virginia and represents the coordinated efforts of 3,400 club members. One hundred percent of tour proceeds are used to enhance Virginia’s landscape. For 80 years, the grounds of the Commonwealth’s most cherished historic landmarks have been restored or preserved with help from proceeds from Historic Garden Week including Mount Vernon, Monticello and the grounds of the Executive Mansion in Richmond. In addition to the amazing interiors and gardens on display, Garden Club of Virginia volunteers will create more than 2,000 spectacular floral arrangements to decorate the rooms. Visit www.vagardenweek.org.

The Region’s Best Home Designs

Local contractors get top honors for remodeling projects.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

From designing a kitchen with a concave glass tile backsplash to creating a backyard with a fire place and pool, some local home remodelers were honored recently with the National Association of the Remodeling Industry’s (NARI) 2013 Regional Contractor of the Year awards for design acumen. Winning projects ran the gamut from historic preservation projects to environmentally conscious conceptions.

A MCLEAN KITCHEN by BOWA took top honors in the “Residential Kitchen Over \$120,000” category. The homeowners were looking to create a free-flowing, light-filled space.

“Their kitchen was not as open as they would have liked,” said Josh Baker, founder and co-chairman of BOWA. “They wanted to make it more integrated and useful for the family.”

To accommodate a larger kitchen, the design team, which included BOWA’s George Hodges-Fulton, built an addition and added a sitting room, screened porch

and additional windows to allow an abundance of natural light to stream into the space. The new kitchen also included a butler’s pantry and a family dining area.

What is the key to turning one’s home into an award-winning, showcase house? Baker, who founded BOWA with his college friend Larry Weinberg, says an open dialogue is essential to a successful remodeling project. “The key is finding a person or company

that you communicate very, very well with and whose process is in line with how you like to do business,” he said. “This is a customer service business. It is not just a construction business. The entire process is important, not just the end result.”

FAIRFAX-BASED FIRM RJK Construction, Inc. received top honors in the category of
SEE DESIGNS, PAGE 4

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SEE VIRGINIA GARDEN, PAGE 10



PHOTO COURTESY OF MORGAN HOWARTH

An outdoor fireplace is the focal point for an award-winning remodeling project by Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF FAIRFAX

This home in the Vienna/Oakton area is featured on Virginia’s 80th annual Historic Garden Week tour in Fairfax County.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MORGAN HOWARTH

This backyard oasis, designed by Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc., won a Contractor of the Year Award in the “Residential Exterior, \$100,000 and Over” category. The homeowner wanted a backyard space with a place to sunbathe near the pool, a dining room, a living room with a heat source and a place to play cricket.

The Region’s Best Home Designs

FROM PAGE 3

“Residential Addition \$100,000 to \$250,000” for a home in the Mantua area of Fairfax County. Company president Robert Kalmin says the homeowners’ goal was to blend their interior and exterior spaces. “They wanted to make their exterior landscaping a visual point because they entertain a lot,” he said. “The windows act as murals to the exterior landscaping bring the outdoors in and the indoors out.”

The owners requested an open floor plan that allowed guests to move freely between the kitchen and the backyard. “They were very specific about how they wanted people to meander from the outside to the inside,” Kalmin said. “We had to relocate the powder room so that people are able to use the restroom without having to go anywhere else.”

An abundance of windows allows natural light to flow throughout the home. “The kitchen has red oak

flooring and other colors and finishes that complement the natural scenery outside,” said Kalmin.

HARRY BRASWELL of Harry Braswell, Inc. in Alexandria, was named Contractor of the Year in the “Entire House \$500,001 to \$1,000,000” category for the renovation of a home that had not been updated since the 1950s. “The house was outdated, too small for the family’s needs,” he said.

The renovation included a kitchen outfitted with cabinet-front appliances and porcelain sinks including an apron farm sink and an island sink in a pale aqua. “That color is carried throughout the house,” said project manager Gretchen Brown.

A concave glass tile backsplash surrounds the durable, brown-toned quartzite counter. “Quartzite doesn’t stain easily,” said Brown. “It is strong like

SEE DESIGNS, PAGE 5

Harry Brawell of Harry Braswell, Inc. in Alexandria, was named Contractor of the Year in the “Entire House \$500,001 to \$1,000,000” category for renovating a home that had not been updated since the 1950s. Braswell and his team installed cabinet-front appliances and a concave glass tile backsplash that surrounds the durable, brown-toned quartzite counter. The kitchen also features porcelain sinks, including an apron farm sink.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NARI

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The Region's Best Home Designs

FROM PAGE 4

granite, but is more expensive.”

The Braswell team also got a nod for energy efficiency for this project, which was named “NARI Green Project.” Brown noted that the team installed energy efficiency lighting and energy star appliances.

“The homeowners had specific criteria about wanting to meet [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design] certification because they are dedicated to protecting the environment,” said Braswell.

CABIN JOHN, MD., BASED firm Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. received kudos in the “Residential Exterior, \$100,000 and Over” category for a backyard space that includes a pool and fireplace. “The homeowner wanted four separate living spaces in the backyard,” said company spokeswoman Danielle Frye. “He wanted a dining room, a living room with a heat source, a place to sunbathe near his pool and a place to play cricket on his lawn.”

Frye said the Wilder team, which included architect George R. Bott and lead designer Anthony Wilder, developed a backyard plan that replaced overgrown grass with flagstone and a badly worn fence with foliage to create a sense of privacy. “There is a sundeck and spaces for a sofa and dining



This kitchen, designed by Grossmueller's Design Consultants, Inc. and A.R.T Design Build in Bethesda, Md., was part of a remodeling project that earned a 2013 Contractor of the Year award. The homeowner's goal was to create a free-flowing kitchen, dining and family room space.

“The key to a successful project is finding a person or company that you communicate very, very well with and whose process is in line with how you like to do business.”

— Josh Baker, founder and co-chairman of BOWA

table, but the fireplace is the focal point,” said Frye. “We used really tall bamboo to shield the view from the hotel across the street.”

A BETHESDA HOME ADDITION garnered a top prize in the “Residential Addition Over \$250,000” category for A.R.T Design Build Inc. with team member Grossmueller's Design Consultants, Inc.

“The client wanted to expand their one story house to have a separate area for [bedrooms] and create a more functional first floor with more communal spaces, the kitchen, family room [and] dining room,” said Cindy G. McClure of Grossmueller's Design Consultants, Inc.

The design team added a new second floor to the home, which accommodates a laundry room, a master suite, two additional bedrooms and a bathroom. A stair tower and cathedral foyer create an open floor plan and connect the first and second levels.

“Elements of the old house, like the wide chimney on the front and the contemporary 1960 style were played upon and accentuated,” said McClure. “The result is a functional home that meets the needs of today's family, remained within budget and was completed on time.”

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HomeLifeStyle

Demand for Incremental Improvements

Over time, some owners makeover the entire house — one phase at a time.

By JOHN BYRD

If you compare the current home remodeling market to 2007, it's clear that homeowners are less likely to execute a top-to-bottom makeover in a single stroke than they were five years ago.

Home resales are rising again, but the belief that every dollar spent on a Northern Virginia home will be quickly recovered has been suspended — if only temporarily — as homeowners reassess.

For most local homeowners, a house is an asset of enormous personal appeal: an expression of identity and aspiration, periodically adapted to life's changes.

While the scale of the average project may be smaller, it's evident that many homeowners middle age or older have come to see the home as a long-term — even life-long — work in progress, one that

they take up passionately, and at regular intervals.

Veteran remodeler David Foster calls these homeowners “incremental” improvers, and has come to see them as the primary focus of a home improvement enterprise he started 30 years ago.

As president of Foster Remodeling Solutions in Lorton, Foster regularly coaches his team on the importance of understanding what these homeowners need, what they are expecting and how to articulate their best options with clarity.

“Providing an experience that the homeowner will value unequivocally is probably our most important marketing activity,” Foster said. “Our core belief is that there are many homeowners who will make a notable home improvement every two to five years, so we place a high priority on earning that person's trust. In this



PHOTO BY DIMITRI CANAS

The plans for a kitchen remodel were complicated by the fact that the home's rear elevation backs into a woodland set-aside and a notably precipitous drop.

sense, there is nothing more important than outperforming expectation.”

WHILE THERE MAY BE many

reasons why a homeowner will remodel in stages, Foster said that the typical incremental improver has a pay-as-you-go orientation — often driven by evolving family re-

quirements.

Vienna resident Kelly Grem, for instance, has executed four re-

SEE DEMAND, PAGE 7

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Demand for Incremental Improvements

FROM PAGE 6

modeling projects with Foster starting with a kitchen addition in 2003.

"We bought the house in 1995 when I was pregnant," Grems explains. "My husband [Ed] and I had been living in a much smaller house in Maryland, but envisioned a traditional home that would offer our growing family lots of useful activity areas."

A kitchen with a sizable breakfast room was the first item on the "wish list," an assignment complicated by the fact that home's rear elevation backs into a woodland set-aside and a notably precipitous drop.

"The ground level decking was already in place," Grems said. "But David showed us a plan for an elevated breakfast room extension built on pilings that wouldn't require a ground level foundation. Turns out, this solution created a welcome canopy for the ground level patio. And it was also a more sensible, economical choice for us at the time."

Grems said her first step was handing Foster a file of articles on kitchen interiors she had clipped from Southern Living; the Foster Remodeling design staff then took over, helping the couple visualize design ideas with the aid of a CAD computer program. The team also provided an array of relevant finish work choices, mostly pointing to readily available considerations on display in the company's showroom.

"The selection and pricing process was transparent, and really anticipated what we needed," Grems said. "When you're as busy as we are, you appreciate this quality of support."

Apart from budget considerations, Grems said taking a pause between projects allowed the couple to pay more attention to how the family is actually using the house, and to develop ideas that work for everyone.

The recently completed family room upgrade didn't become an immediate action plan, for instance, because the family design process was fomenting slowly — again starting with magazine articles and other sources.

"We're particular; we let *the look* come to us piece by piece," she said.

In the end, Foster Remodeling Solutions designers created interior elevations that bear no resemblance to the original.

The half-brick floor-to-ceiling backwall was replaced by perfectly symmetrical built-ins, crown molding and an elevated hearth with a marble surround and Edwardian-style mantle.

"It's an entirely different mood from the sun room," Grems said, "and perfectly satisfies another dimension of our lifestyle."

ON A SIMILAR NOTE, south Alexandria resident Sandy Nusbaum attributes

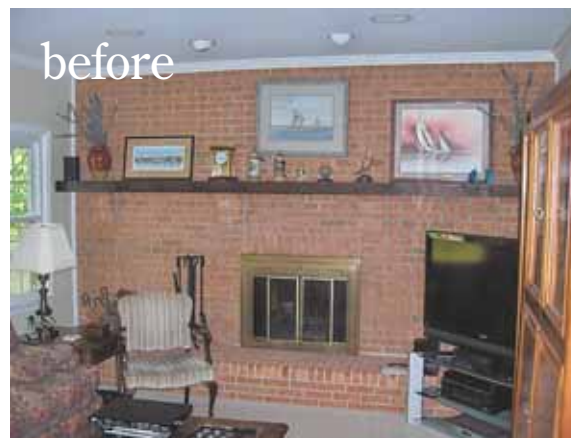


PHOTOS BY DIMITRI GANAS

The Pipers' new powder room includes a Mediterranean-style foot bath ringed in glass and mosaic tiling. It is primarily decorative, but proves a convenience in the summer. A vessel basin with exposed copper piping, marble floors and a coffered ceiling with concealed lights complete the portrait.



The existing half-brick floor-to-ceiling backwall was replaced by perfectly symmetrical built-ins, crown molding and an elevated hearth with a marble surround and Edwardian-style mantle.



her periodic home upgrade inclinations to a gradual but decisive recognition that the four bedroom colonial she has occupied for 28 years with husband Mike is the last single family residence the couple will ever own.

"We raised three children here, and when the last of them moved away, we looked at other houses in the area and even a retirement village in North Carolina," Nusbaum said. "That's when I renewed my appreciation for the many advantages of this house. I recognized that everything we wanted was already here; we just needed a few pointed improvements to take us into the foreseeable future."

Initially that meant introducing an open, "kitchen-centric" plan in the back half of the house, and creating an outdoor component — in the form of a 16-by-16-foot back screen porch — that allows for easy warm-weather circulation.

Replacing a wall between kitchen and dining room with a three-stool dining counter proved an effective starting point to delineating a more interactive entertainment space. The new surface is also well-positioned as a serving station for *al fresco* porch dining.

Although the needed structural changes were relatively minor, a new shelled-in niche for the refrigerator allows for additional storage. Maple cabinets with a Barton door style and honey-spice stain evoke a clean linear look within a softly lit ambiance. Likewise, the Silestone quartz surfaces in ebony pearl provide a tonal and textural contrast.

With a better rationalized kitchen in place, a few years on the Nusbaums began planning a follow-on phase: an extension of the rear family room, an open-air grilling deck and a layout that permits children, grandchildren and many guests to circulate freely through a now wide-ranging entertainment suite.

SEE DEMAND, PAGE 12

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Great Falls Blue Ridge Mountain Views \$1,595,000
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Virginia Garden Week to Feature NoVa Gardens

FROM PAGE 3

walled gardens. The full tour ticket includes free admission to George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate (entrance is normally \$15 per person), as well as six other notable historic sites in Alexandria on the day of the tour. Refreshments are offered from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the historic Lloyd House and garden. Adding further convenience for tour visitors is the free King Street Trolley that travels from the Metro station down our main commercial street to the Potomac River every 15 minutes.

Tickets are \$40 and available at the Ramsey House Visitors Center at the corner of King Street and North Fairfax Street on the day of the tour. For advance tickets contact Mrs. Donald Rocen Virginia.rocen@comcast.net

703-684-3876. For more information, please contact Tour Chairmen Mason Bavin at mbavin@mcnearney.com, Twig Murray attwig@twigweb.com or Catherine Bolton at 4boltons@comcast.net

TUESDAY APRIL 23, 2013

Fairfax: Oakton/Vienna
Sponsored by The Garden Club of Fairfax
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Fairfax County communities of Oakton and Vienna have emerged from small rural towns into thriving family-oriented neighborhoods with homes and gardens reflecting a wide range of architectural and personal style. Ticket price includes admission to the Cosby Home, the Unger Home and Garden, the Buster Home and Garden, the Kampa Home and Garden, the



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE GARDEN CLUB OF FAIRFAX

This home in the Vienna/Oakton area is featured on Virginia's 80th annual Historic Garden Week tour in Fairfax County.

Rosenthal Home and Garden and Meadowlark Botanical Gardens.

Advance tickets are \$20 through April 9. Contact Marty Whipple at mwhip155@aol.com. For more information

about the tour, contact Bonnie Rekemeyer at chezdarbon@aol.com.

Information, restrooms and refreshments on the day of the tour at Church of the Holy Comforter, 543 Beulah, Road, NE, Vienna.

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Orange County/Somerset – Dolley Madison Garden Club

Sunday, April 21

Nelson County/Albemarle – The Charlottesville, Albemarle and Rivanna Garden Clubs

Chatham – Chatham Garden Club

Monday, April 22

Nelson County/Albemarle – The Charlottesville, Albemarle and Rivanna Garden Clubs

Waterford – The Leesburg Garden Club and the Fauquier-Loudoun Garden Club

Tuesday, April 23

Oakton/Vienna – The Garden Club of Fairfax

Fredericksburg – The Rappahannock Valley Garden Club

Lynchburg – Hillside and Lynchburg Garden Clubs

Richmond – Chatham Hills/Windsor-on-the-James – The Boxwood, James River and Three Chopt Garden Clubs and

The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton
Williamsburg - Kingsmill Resort and the Colonial Area – The Williamsburg Garden Club

Petersburg – The Petersburg Garden Club

Wednesday, April 24

Harrisonburg – The Spotswood Garden Club
Martinsville – The Garden Club Study and the Martinsville Garden Club

Hampton-Newport News – The Huntington and the Hampton Roads Garden Clubs

Northern Neck/Northumberland County – The Garden Club of the Northern Neck
Richmond – Laburnum Park – co-sponsored by The Council of Historic Richmond Foundation and

The Boxwood, James River and Three Chopt

Garden Clubs and The Tuckahoe Garden Club of Westhampton
Virginia Beach – The Princess Anne and Virginia Beach Garden Clubs

Warrenton – The Warrenton Garden Club

Thursday, April 25

Danville – Gabriella Garden Club and The Garden Club of Danville

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Karen Washburn (703) 759-2199

All in the Family

BY JOHN BYRD
FOR THE GAZETTE

With solid planning and skillful remodeling, seniors convert personal residence into a multi-generational household.

More

Sun Design Remodeling frequently sponsors workshops on specific remodeling topics as well as tours of recently remodeled homes. Headquartered in Burke, the firm recently opened a second office in McLean. Call 703-425-5588 or visit www.SunDesignInc.com.

Durosko and team designed a 650-square-foot wing adjacent to a newly formed rear courtyard. The perfectly-integrated one-level addition features two large bedrooms, a master bath and large reach-in closets. A former family room now serves as the couple's sitting room.

By extension, Meg and the grandchildren inherit sleeping quarters in the existing bedroom wing — a configuration of rooms that affords everyone with the sufficient convenience and living space. Both families share the newly upgraded kitchen.

The makeover also allowed the Warrens to introduce a number of Universal Design features. Hallway widths in the new wing have been expanded to 44 inches; doors are 34 inches wide — compliant with American Disabilities Act requirements. The rear entrance has, likewise, been designed to accommodate a ramp, should a wheelchair be required in the future.

"We're just thinking ahead," Mary Warren said.

More recently, Mindy Mitchell — Sun Design's certified Aging-In-Place Specialist — followed Universal Design principals in renovating the original circa 1960s kitchen. Revisions included removing unneeded walls, widening doors and hallways and introducing roll-out cabinets with drawer pulls. There's also task lighting, easily maneuvered faucets and a multi-level island suitable for standing or sitting.

"The new kitchen feels significantly expanded, yet it's very efficiently designed — a great solution for a family like ours," said Mary Warren. "The changes have made life easier for everyone."



PHOTOS BY BRYAN BURRIS PHOTOGRAPHY

The multi-generational solution introduced by Sun Design Remodeling includes a one level seniors wing supplemented by a sitting area that exits through French doors to the newly formed courtyard. Hallways and doors in the new section are wheelchair friendly.



Initially, the Warrens were not sure if the existing three-bedroom split level could be converted to a larger home accommodating their new plans.

"The program was certainly tricky," Durosko said. "The Warrens wanted a functionally independent suite that would include a luxury bath, lots of custom built-ins and interior design improvements. Our thought was: if we could satisfy this requirement from the ground up, Meg and the grandchildren could take over half of the existing house as their own wing."

"We particularly liked the consideration to everyone's privacy needs," Mary Warren

said. "Their plan allows for independence where you want it."

Thus, stripped to its essentials, Durosko's solution called for converting the three-bedroom split-level into a five bedroom two-level structure that provides the Warrens with private quarters, yet also incorporates transitional zones suitable for easy everyday interaction.

TO ACCOMMODATE the elder Warrens,

Challenging times demand creative thinking — so you don't have to look far to find homeowners executing remodeling projects with far-reaching objectives.

Take, for instance, the case of Mary and Harry Warren of Mount Vernon, both in their mid-70s.

Scrolling back a few years, the Warrens where weighing various retirement options when they learned that their daughter and three grandchildren would be moving back to Virginia from the midwest and might be amenable to participating in a three-generation household.

"There was really a lot for us to consider," said Mary Warren. "Harry and I thought that if we expanded the house to incorporate the extended family, we could eventually pass it on to the next generation. We could also make some changes that would help us to move around as we get older."

On the other hand: the more the Warrens scrutinized the existing property, the more they wondered if their vision was even feasible.

FOR STARTERS, at 1,500 square feet, the three-bedroom split-level the couple had occupied since 1994 was neatly centered on a small lot in a neighborhood with strictly observed set-back requirements.

To provide all three generations with the necessary space and privacy, the Warrens figured they would have to increase usable living space by 40 percent or more.

A carefully planned addition along the property's western side offered promising possibilities. But even if you could find the needed lot space, the floorplan configuration that would satisfy everyone's privacy requirements remained elusive.

It was at this juncture that the Warrens turned to Craig Durosko, founder and principal of Sun Design Remodeling.

Demand for Incremental Improvements

FROM PAGE 7

Then, just last year, the largely unused lower level was converted into a multi-purpose suite that serves as both an exercise room and guest accommodation.

"The built-ins include closets on either side of a new Murphy bed — one exclusively for guest use," Nusbaum said. "We also made the laundry room more functional and added a full bath with handicapped access."

Meanwhile, Nusbaum uses the remade lower level for her daily treadmill workouts: "It's a luxury having so many useful things exactly where you want them."

OF COURSE, CONSIDERATIONS to

functional and aesthetic improvements aside, the long term remodeler also may venture into non-essential, even quite personal, "tweaks" to the existing property from time to time.

After comprehensive upgrades to their kitchen and master bath, for instance, Alexandrians Steve and Diane Piper decided that their eclectically re-designed powder room should include a Mediterranean-style foot bath ringed in glass and mosaic tiling.

The artfully-executed first floor facility — planned with an assist from Foster designer Sarah Wolf — includes a vessel basin with exposed copper piping, marble floors and a coffered ceiling with concealed lights.

The Pipers — who often travel internationally — say the foot bath is a pleasant

convenience in the summer when they are often wearing sandals.

"I wouldn't say a footbath adds anything to re-sale value," Diane Piper said, "But we do plan to be in this house for at least another ten years."

AND SPEAKING OF PERSONAL vision: after re-doing the front elevation — and before remodeling the kitchen — the Baldinos of Springfield had Foster design a screen porch with a floor-to-ceiling stone hearth. The porch is closed on three sides and features a 15-foot cathedral ceiling with an overhead rotating fan. The project included an extensive flagstone patio, a privacy fence, a retaining wall and landscaping.

"We wanted space that brings us into the

outdoors, and the fireplace keeps the porch surprisingly comfortable in cooler weather," said Nancy Baldino. "It's a great place to watch the game."

The Baldinos, who have lived in their circa 1970s split-level for 24 years, say that their four remodeling projects have always been focused and budgetable.

"We love the neighborhood, so the improvements are just a natural result of efforts to make the house feel even more like home."

Staff at Foster Remodeling Solutions periodically offer workshops on home improvement topics at the Lorton showroom. Call 703-550-1371 or visit www.FosterRemodeling.com.

Recycle, Reuse, Remodel

BY JOSHUA BAKER
BOWA



Remodeling of ten affords an opportunity to re-purpose existing materials by donating to those less fortunate. Ask your remodeler if there is a plan or policy for saving materials for re-use rather than sending it to a land fill. Every project is different. And some materials are more easily removed and saved than others. Here are a couple of organizations that accepted used materials.

A WIDER CIRCLE

This organization provides basic-need items to families transitioning out of shelters and those living without life's necessities. A Wider Circle furnishes the homes of more than 1,000 children and adults each month. If you wish to donate furniture and other home essentials that are in good condition (no rips or stains), you can drop off items at their Center for Community Service in Silver Spring, Md. You can also schedule a pickup in most areas throughout greater Washington, D.C. Refer to their website for a full list of accepted items and their "wish list" of the most needed items at www.awidercircle.org. Some impressive 2011 stats:

- ❖ 13,000: Number of homes furnished
- ❖ 1,500,000: Pounds of furniture and home goods recycled
- ❖ 10,000: Number of volunteers who assisted

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – RESTORE

ReStore is a resale business that sells new and used building materials and home items to the general public. All donations are tax deductible and donated by individuals, local retailers, building contractors and suppliers. Donated items are then sold at 50-90 percent off the retail price, with all proceeds benefiting Habitat for Humanity, an organization that provides safe and affordable housing to low-income families. ReStore accepts appliances, furniture, cabinets, roofing and flooring materials, exercise equipment, countertops, electronics, lighting and plumbing fixtures, among many others. All materials and items must be in good and working condition. Items may be dropped off at ReStore locations during their business hours or for larger donations you may schedule a pickup. For store hours and locations and for the complete list

of acceptable items you can check out the following websites:

- ❖ Northern Virginia: Stores in Alexandria and Chantilly - www.restorenova.org
- ❖ Loudoun County: Store in Purcellville - www.loudounhabitat.org/restore

GOODWILL

Founded in 1902, Goodwill accepts gently used clothing, furniture, housewares, working electronics, and other household items. These items are then sold at their retail locations, with the proceeds used to fund employment, job training, and placement services for the disadvantaged and those with disabilities. To view their full list of goods accepted, and for the list of donation centers and stores, visit www.dgoodwill.org. You may also schedule a pickup online for larger items or multiple items you don't have the resources to transport.

SALVATION ARMY

Although the Salvation Army is involved in many community programs, proceeds from items donated to their stores will benefit their Adult Rehabilitation Centers, which help those who have lost the ability to cope with their problems and are unable to provide for themselves. Each rehabilitation center offers residential housing and work, along with individual and group therapy. This enables many to be reunited with their families and resume a normal life. Items commonly donated include appliances, clothing, furniture, and household goods. For more information on their donation program, please visit www.satruck.org.

BOWA HOME CLEANUP DAYS

As a thank you to the neighbors in the communities in which we work, from time to time BOWA hosts Home Cleanup Days. Home Cleanup Day is a great opportunity to donate and recycle gently used household items, toys and clothing, and dispose of any debris or other unwanted clutter. A BOWA employee will help folks unload their items and a Goodwill representative will be on hand to accept donations and provide receipts.

To find a BOWA Home Cleanup Day in your area, please visit our <http://info.bowa.com/communityblog/>.

Josh Baker is founder of BOWA, learn more at www.bowa.com.

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PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

January, 2013
Top Sales in
Great Falls,
McLean, Reston,
Oak Hill, Oakton
and Vienna



1 1036 Aziza Court, Great Falls — \$5,115,693



3 8305 Fox Haven Drive, McLean — \$3,125,000



5 9720 Arnon Chapel Road, Great Falls — \$1,800,000



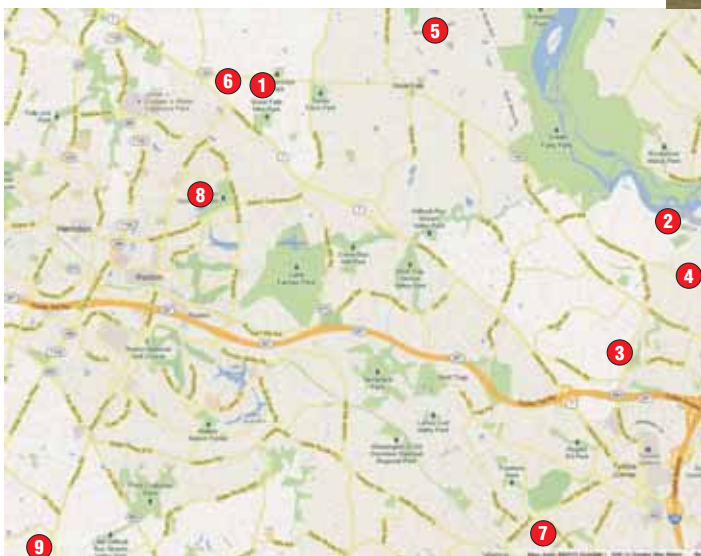
9 12705 Autumn Crest Drive, Oak Hill — \$965,000



7 400 Berry Street SE, Vienna — \$1,402,735



8 11580 Greenwich Point Road, Reston — \$1,000,000



© Google Map data

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 1036 AZIZA CT	5	5	3	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$5,115,693	Detached	0.84	22066	PUTNAM FARM ESTATES	01/04/13
2 710 BULLS NECK RD	6	6	1	MCLEAN	VA	\$5,000,000	Detached	5.00	22102	BULLS NECK HUNDRED	01/16/13
3 8305 FOX HAVEN DR	5	6	2	MCLEAN	VA	\$3,125,000	Detached	0.83	22102	FOX HALL OF MCLEAN	01/04/13
4 845 CANAL DR	5	5	2	MCLEAN	VA	\$1,900,000	Detached	1.18	22102	OLD GEORGETOWN ESTATES	01/25/13
5 9720 ARNON CHAPEL RD	6	6	3	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$1,800,000	Detached	2.46	22066	HARMON FARM	01/15/13
6 11301 LANDY LN	5	5	1	GREAT FALLS	VA	\$1,734,604	Detached	1.47	22066	CHANEL ESTATES	01/04/13
7 400 BERRY ST SE	5	4	1	VIENNA	VA	\$1,402,735	Detached	0.51	22180	MURMURING PINES	01/29/13
8 11580 GREENWICH POINT RD	4	2	1	RESTON	VA	\$1,000,000	Detached	0.31	20194	RESTON	01/02/13
9 12705 AUTUMN CREST DR	5	4	1	OAK HILL	VA	\$965,000	Detached	0.30	20171	FRANKLINS TRUST	01/04/13

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Decorating for Easter

Easy ideas to welcome spring into your ahome.

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

From floral arrangements that burst with pastel blooms to candles that fill one's home with scents reminiscent of warm weather, local style experts offer suggestions for accents that welcome spring.

Turn simple twigs and greenery into a harbinger of Easter. "Welcome guests into your home with a spring wreath on the front door decorated with

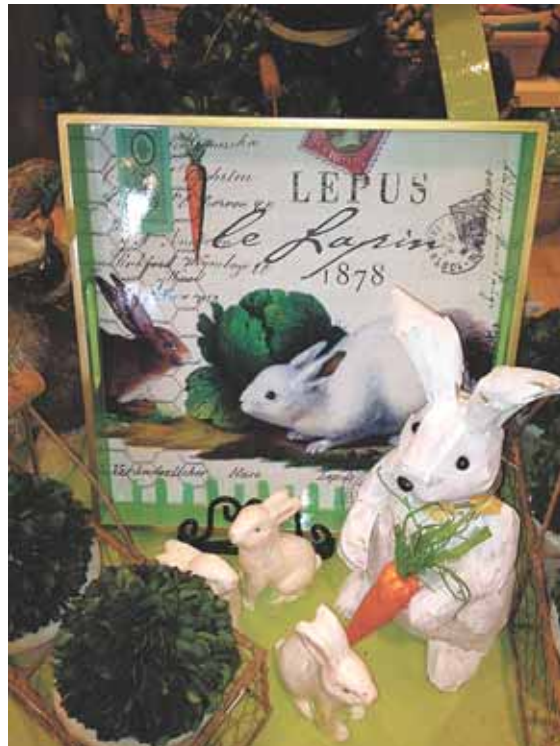


Hydrangeas in white or soft green, daffodils, tulips in yellow, hyacinths in pink or blue, Esperance roses and white or pink hybrid lilies are popular for Easter.



Welcome guests into one's home with wreaths made of twigs, greenery, spring flowers and wooden eggs in colors like bright green and lavender.

PHOTOS BY MARILYN CAMPBELL/THE CONNECTION



Local design experts suggest using serveware imprinted with produce like lettuces that herald the new season.

"Welcome guests into your home with a spring wreath on the front door decorated with greenery, flowers or eggs."

— Ann O'Shields

greenery, flowers or eggs," said Ann O'Shields of The Nest Egg in Fairfax. "Scents of spring are a sure way to alleviate the end of winter."

Laura Smith of The Dandelion Patch in Vienna, Reston and Georgetown recommends filling air with crisp, fresh aromas. "There are candles with really nice spring scents, like jasmine or gardenia and lemongrass. Citrus scents are also very big in spring and summer."

Smith suggests setting one's table with serveware imprinted with spring produce like lettuces that herald the new season. "You can use cutting boards with artichoke prints or platters with asparagus prints. They are entertaining and fun accessories," Smith said.

Festive baskets filled with paper grass, wooden eggs, bunnies and flowers make ideal home accents. "Using seasonal blooms are a great way to welcome spring," said O'Shields.

A floral arrangement displayed in baskets covered with spring flower petals make a chic centerpiece for one's dining table. "When it comes to floral arrangements, people are often driven by what their home décor is," said Potomac, Md., based floral designer Evelyn Kinville. "The most popular flowers for Easter are hydrangeas in white or soft green, daffodils, tulips in yellow, hyacinths in pink or blue, Esperance roses, which are large pink and cream two-toned in color, and White or pink hybrid lilies."

O'Shields said, "Pick one flower style and repeat it in various places throughout the room for the most impact."

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